

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

ANNUAL REPORT

21 March 1981 - 2 April 1982

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1982**

SUPPLEMENT No. 10



UNITED NATIONS

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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.

**E/1982/20
E/ESCAP/287**

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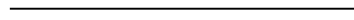
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ABBREVIATIONS

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	MTN	Multilateral trade negotiations
ANRPC	Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
APCC	Asian and Pacific Coconut Community	RCTT	Regional Centre for Technology Transfer
APDC	Asian and Pacific Development Centre	RMRDC	Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations	RNAM	Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery
CCOP	Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas	SEATRADC	Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre
CCOP/SOPAC	Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas	SIAP	Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific
CMEA	Council for Mutual Economic Assistance	SPC	South Pacific Commission
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa	SPEC	South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation
ECDC	Economic co-operation among developing countries	TCDC	Technical co-operation among developing countries
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe	UNCITRAL	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
ECLA	Economic Commission for Latin America	UNCSTD	United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development
ECWA	Economic Commission for Western Asia	UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
EEC	European Economic Community	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
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

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Introduction

1. The annual report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, which covers the period 21 March 1981 to 2 April 1982, was adopted unanimously by the Commission at its 584th meeting on 2 April 1982. It is submitted for consideration by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session, 1982, 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 DECISION FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

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

2. At its 584th 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 1982, the Council:

“Took note of the report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for the period 21 March 1981 to 2 April 1982 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

220 (XXXVIII). Statute of the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific

221 (XXXVIII). Asia-Pacific trade expositions

222 (XXXVIII). Terms of reference of the legislative committees of the Commission

223 (XXXVIII). International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace: implementation and follow-up of the specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year

- 224 (XXXVIII). Incorporation of environmental considerations into the economic and social development activities of the Commission
- 225 (XXXVIII). Charter of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre
- 226 (XXXVIII). Food supply and distribution in Asia and the Pacific: medium-term outlook and regional co-operation
- 227 (XXXVII). Early launching of global negotiations
- 228 (XXXVIII). Role of health in an integrated approach to accelerating development and improving the quality of life of the poor
- 229 (XXXVIII). Role of a unified approach to development planning in the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific
- 230 (XXXVIII). Transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific

Chapter II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION

A. ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES

3. During the year under review, the following subsidiary bodies met: the Committees on Statistics; Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment; Natural Resources; Shipping, and Transport and Communications; and Agricultural Development. Details of the dates and bureaux of these meetings are given in annex III.

Committee on Agricultural Development

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

TCDC Study Tour to Plan Small Farmer Pilot Development Projects for Thailand, April 1981

ESCAP/East-West Center Symposium on Fertilizer Marketing and Adoption in South Asia, Bangkok, June 1981

FADINAP Study Tour to Malaysia to Observe the Operation of Small-scale Fertilizer Mixing Plants, June 1981

Expert Consultation on a Special Study on Food Supply and Distribution Systems in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, July 1981

Seminar on the Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops, USSR, July-August 1981

FADINAP Technical Liaison Officers' Consultative Meeting, Bangkok, August-September 1981

Survey Planning Meeting on Improving the Socio-economic Conditions of Women in Fisheries, Manila, September 1981

FADINAP Study Tour to the Republic of Korea to Observe the Role of Co-operatives in Fertilizer Promotion, September 1981

FADINAP Workshop-cum-Study Tour in the Philippines on the Role of Dealers in Fertilizer Promotion, September 1981

Fourth ESCAP/FAO Joint Annual Review of the Programme of Work and Priorities as relating to Food, Agriculture and Rural Development, Bangkok, September 1981

Expert Group Meeting on Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops, Bangkok, October 1981

Regional Training Course on Fertilizer Marketing, Bangkok, October 1981

Workshop on Women's Participation in Paddy Production and Processing in Malaysia, Kota Bahru, October 1981

Regional Round-up Workshop on Small Farmer Group Marketing in Asia, Bangkok, November 1981

Study Tour on Farmers' Group Marketing in China, November 1981

ARSAP/2/Agro-pesticides Regional Consultative and Evaluation Meeting, Bangkok, November-December 1981

5. Under the agricultural information development scheme, financially supported by the Government of Japan, the *Agricultural Information Development Bulletin* was published on a quarterly basis. The issues focused on assisting developing member countries in improving their agricultural information systems and strengthening their extension services through various communication channels. More than 1,800 copies of each issue were distributed to member countries and interested organizations. The number of copies for distribution is being gradually increased to 2,000. Eighteen member countries have nominated their information correspondents to ensure a two-way flow of information between readers and the secretariat. The project entitled "Regional co-operation on farm broadcasting", which is being implemented under the scheme, assisted Bangladesh, the Philippines and Solomon Islands in organizing training workshops for farm radio programme producers at the national level through the provision of training experts. Around 110 programme producers and staff engaged in supporting activities participated in the workshops. As a follow-up to the regional study on terms of trade between rural and urban areas to strengthen linkages between agriculture and other sectors (1979), a study on rice price policies in selected developing ESCAP countries was conducted focusing on influences of government policy on rice and input prices. The ESCAP/FAO/UNIDO Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP) conducted follow-up studies in Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka of the 1980 inter-country TCDC project on the improvement of lower-level fertilizer distribution capacity in developing countries of the ESCAP region

with the assistance of a consultant from the Federal Republic of Germany. FAO, co-sponsor of FADINAP, seconded a team leader who joined the secretariat on 8 February 1982 and assumed responsibility for both the FADINAP and the agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific (ARSAP) programmes. FADINAP continued to issue its quarterly newsletter *Agro-chemicals News in Brief* and its bi-monthly *Regional Information Support Service* (an abstract of fertilizer documentation). A monthly bulletin entitled *Fertilizer Price and Trade Information* is being issued and distributed to government procurement offices and the Network's technical liaison officers for the benefit of the member Governments in import negotiations. FADINAP produced an updated country report on fertilizer marketing, distribution and use in Sri Lanka. Two special issues of *Agro-chemicals News in Brief* were produced, one on comparative economic indicators of the fertilizer sector in selected developing countries of the ESCAP region and the other on fertilizer supply and demand in the 1970s and the outlook for the 1980s.

6. The Expert Group Meeting on CGPRT Crops discussed the priority action programme required at the national and regional levels, including a preliminary draft work programme for the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of CGPRT Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific. The secretariat intensified its preparatory work on the establishment and operation of the Centre in accordance with the directives of the Commission. The director-designate of the Centre was recruited and joined the secretariat on 21 April 1981. The Government of Indonesia and the United Nations signed a host country agreement at Bangkok on 29 April 1981. The Centre was established and began to operate under the above name with effect from 29 April 1981, as an interim measure at ESCAP headquarters in Bangkok. For the effective operation of the Centre, an understanding was reached between the Executive Secretary of ESCAP and the regional representative of FAO on 30 April 1981 concerning co-operation between the two organizations in respect of the development of CGPRT crops. The detailed work programme of the Centre for phase I (1981-1983) was prepared. The Governments of Australia, France, Japan, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics have provided financial and/or technical assistance to the activities related to this project. UNDP has committed itself to providing a limited amount of funds for the work programme of the Centre. The secretariat continued to explore further financial/technical assistance from bilateral and multilateral donors within and outside the region.

7. Amendments were finalized to article 1 (i) and (iii) of the Agreement Establishing the Asian Rice Trade Fund (ARTF) decided on by its Board of Directors at its third session, held at Manila in October 1978, to open ARTF membership to all members and associate

members of ESCAP, either developing or developed, and simplify procedures for eligible countries to become members.

8. ARSAP, which is funded and technically supported by the Government of the Netherlands, organized training planning workshops for a total of 131 instructors of retail-level agro-pesticides distributors in Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The workshops resulted in the production of ample teaching material in the local languages. A mission was sent to Fiji to prepare for the forthcoming workshop for the South Pacific region. The Centre for Overseas Pest Research of the United Kingdom provided a consultant to two workshops. Within the framework of the ARSAP regional economic survey and information service on the supply, distribution and use of agro-pesticides, country reports were completed for Burma, Malaysia, Pakistan and Thailand. In addition, the *Comparative Study on the Supply, Distribution and Use of Agro-pesticides in the ESCAP Region* was prepared. The ARSAP/2/Agro-pesticides Regional Consultative and Evaluation Meeting recommended that the secretariat ensure the continued collection and analysis of data in an appropriate format. With respect to the training programme, the Meeting recommended the continuation of that ARSAP component because it offered a complete training package which met the need for increased safety and efficiency in the use of pesticides by farmers. The technical support to the project was extended until mid-1982, when the present phase will terminate.

9. Six developing member countries participated in a co-operative effort to define national guide-lines for local-level planning for rural development in the context of each country concerned. National workshops were convened in each of the six countries. A publication entitled *Guidelines for Local-level Planning in Rural Areas* was issued. A fourth phase of this project was planned which would involve the systematic field testing of national guide-lines for local-level planning.

10. A TCDC study tour to plan small farmer development projects (SFDPs) for Thailand was implemented at the request of the Government. A team of specialists from three Thai Government agencies visited Nepal and the Philippines to observe the progress of SFDPs in those countries. ESCAP and FAO also aided the Government of Thailand in the preparation of a project document on small farmer development.

11. A project on measuring the socio-economic benefits of SFDPs was initiated in 1981. The objectives of the project are to investigate the socio-economic benefits accruing to countries where SFDPs are under implementation and to prepare guide-lines indicating the factors which must be considered in appraising SFDP projects. Steps have been taken to prepare the necessary documents on the socio-economic benefits of SFDPs for consideration at an expert group meeting planned for mid-1982.

12. A project on small farmer group marketing in Asia was implemented with the participation of nine member countries in order to promote and train existing or prospective leaders of small farmer group development. After national workshops had been held in participating countries, a regional round-up workshop was held in November 1981. The workshop reviewed the experiences of the national workshops, evaluated the methodology of the training and the conditions under which small farmer group marketing activities could be successful and proposed follow-up activities. As an adjunct to this project, a study tour on farmers' group marketing was held in China. The objectives of the study tour were to give Asian decision-makers and technicians an opportunity to observe farmers' group marketing activities in China and to allow for an exchange of experience among the participating countries on the basis of the Chinese experience. Six member countries participated in the study tour.

13. The small fisheries development project was implemented with the objective of improving the living standard of fisherfolk families by placing emphasis on enhancing the economic role of women in the family unit. Four insular member countries participated in the project. A survey planning meeting was held in September 1981, at which a survey outline and plan of work for each participating country were discussed. The survey is currently under way in each of the participating countries. A meeting to develop pilot projects based on the survey outcome is planned for the third quarter of 1982.

Committee on Development Planning

Development planning

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

Informal Consultation on LINK Models, Bangkok, July 1981

Informal Consultation concerning Choice of Computer Software and ESCAP Country Model System, Osaka, August-September 1981

Consultants' Workshop on ASEAN and Pacific Economic Co-operation, Bangkok, November 1981

Interregional Seminar on Strategies and Measures for Enhancing Capabilities for Development Administration in Developing Countries, Bangkok, December 1981

15. During the period under review, the secretariat prepared the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1981*. Chapters I and II of the *Survey* review the world economy and identify the major constraints on regional progress. Chapters III to VI analyse recent economic performance in the four main developing ESCAP subregions: south Asia and Iran; south-east

Asia, Hong Kong and the Republic of Korea; China and its northern neighbours; and the South Pacific island countries. Chapter VII deals with the region's current social conditions and problems.

16. Active steps were taken during the year to establish an information service on development planning in the ESCAP region. The main purpose of this project is to set up a regular procedure whereby current documentary information on development planning in member countries will be collected, indexed, annotated and stored on computer tapes for dissemination to member Governments upon request. During 1981, missions were undertaken to nine countries to establish focal points and discuss modalities for project implementation, background studies were undertaken on the issues involved in establishing and operating such a system and operating procedures, including computer programs, were devised to make implementation possible. A feasibility report has been completed and provides the basis upon which the information system is to become fully functional in 1982, providing that financial constraints can be overcome.

17. The year also saw the publication of two issues of the *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific* and the completion of a monograph entitled "Development strategies for the 1980s in south Asia". In addition, as one aspect of the information system on development planning, arrangements were made to issue a development planning newsletter on a regular basis for dissemination to planners and policy-makers throughout the region. Also, as part of its work in the field of information, the Development Planning Division provided to Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, a staff course on "Problems of development in Asia and the Pacific" during November 1981-February 1982.

18. In the field of economic and social development policies, the Development Planning Division assisted the Executive Secretary during the course of the year in discharging his responsibilities under Commission resolution 212 (XXXVII) on review and appraisal of the implementation of the new International Development Strategy, in which the Commission, *inter alia*, called upon the Executive Secretary to present to it at its thirty-eighth session a report elaborating regional and subregional strategies in the light of the Strategy and proposing action programmes toward achieving its goals and objectives. In compliance with those instructions, a series of studies was undertaken, culminating in document E/ESCAP/245, prepared for the thirty-eighth session.

19. As further activities in the field of economic and social development policies, the Development Planning Division undertook with the financial assistance of the Government of the Netherlands a project examining issues of domestic stabilization of export instability in major Pacific island countries. As a first phase in this work, a series of country studies was

commissioned to examine the problems created by instability in international trade. A report is to be drafted in mid-1982, drawing upon these studies to present an overview of the issues and suggest appropriate courses of government policy response for consideration by a workshop of government officials to meet later in the year. In the same general field of activities, a study was completed in December 1981 on the role of capital flows in the ESCAP region with special reference to the role played by transnational banks and other transnational corporations engaged in international capital movements.

20. In the field of development planning techniques, a project was initiated in 1981 with the financial assistance of the Government of the Netherlands to examine the integration of tax planning into development planning. The first phase of this project, completed in February 1982, saw the preparation of a series of analytical studies covering six selected countries of the region. These studies were to form the basis for the preparation of a regional issues paper, an expert group meeting and a project report incorporating recommendations on the integration of tax planning and development planning in 1982.

21. Work also continued at an accelerated pace with respect to the development of an econometric modelling framework for medium- and long-term projections of economic performance under alternative policy scenarios. The main objective of this project is to build a system of country models for the region to provide the Asian component of the developing country bloc in the global LINK system of economic projections. This work is being undertaken in close collaboration with UNCTAD and with national and international research institutions, with the financial assistance of the Government of the Netherlands and UNDP. A meeting was held at Bangkok between representatives of Kyoto University, UNCTAD and ESCAP concerning the transfer of projections models from the computer systems of Kyoto University and UNCTAD to the ESCAP computer system. A further informal consultative meeting between ESCAP, UNCTAD and national experts was held at Osaka in August to consider choices of computer software and ESCAP country model systems. The work in transferring these models to the ESCAP computer system is now well under way. The east and south-east Asia country models which are being installed on the ESCAP computer system include Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore and Thailand. In most instances these models are already functioning in appropriate institutions in the countries concerned. Work is also under way to transfer from UNCTAD to the ESCAP computer system models for the principal countries of south Asia, including Bangladesh, India, Iran, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Steps are also being taken to develop new models for Burma, Fiji, Nepal and Papua New Guinea. At the same time work is proceeding

within ESCAP to develop a linkage system based on trade and capital flows between these countries and the rest of the world.

22. In the field of administrative systems for development, short-term regional advisory services on public administration continued to be extended to member Governments up to the separation of the regional adviser from the secretariat in August 1981. During the second quarter of 1981, advisory services were rendered to the accelerated rural development programme of the Ministry of Interior, Government of Thailand. Preparations continued towards the convening of a colloquium on administration of rural development in the ASEAN countries with the commissioning of four country studies and a comparative study on institutional arrangements and processes in the ASEAN countries. Originally scheduled to be convened at Jakarta in October 1981, the colloquium was postponed to October 1982 at the request of the host Government. The Interregional Seminar on Strategies and Measures for Enhancing Capabilities for Development Administration in Developing Countries was convened in co-operation with United Nations Headquarters. Several studies were prepared for it considering the concept of institution building and reviewing major policy changes in the management of public services in the ESCAP region.

23. The secretariat undertook several activities in the field of ECDC over the course of the year. The project on ASEAN co-operation in the automotive sector, carried out with the financial assistance of the Government of Japan, culminated in a final report at the conclusion of 1981. A project examining possibilities for ASEAN and Pacific economic co-operation, also supported financially by the Government of Japan, made considerable progress, with studies under way on various subjects, including food security, energy and minerals, marine and forestry resources, monetary independence, aviation and shipping, and China's role in the subregion. Work was also initiated, pending receipt of extrabudgetary funding, on the scope for co-operation in the fields of trade and investment in south Asia.

Transnational corporations

24. During the period under review, the Joint CTC/ESCAP Unit on Transnational Corporations (TNCs) commenced the following studies and papers mandated by the Commission on Transnational Corporations and intended as inputs into global studies by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (CTC) but also of direct relevance to Governments in Asia and the Pacific: (a) "Transnational corporations and the tourism industry of Thailand"; (b) "Transnational corporations and their impact on economic development in Asia and the Pacific"; and (c) "Aspects of the socio-political impact of transnational corporations in the Philippines".

25. Of the research projects mandated by the Commission and designed for the specific needs of member Governments, the following have been in preparation by the Joint Unit and will be published in its working paper series:

(a) "The costs of technology transfer and restrictive business practices in selected Asian and Pacific countries". Basic research in Thailand has been completed and a preliminary draft of the findings submitted. Similar research is well under way in Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea and once completed will serve as the basis for a consolidated publication on the costs of technology transfer from TNCs in the region and for a regional expert group meeting;

(b) "An analysis of host country costs and benefits from the operations of TNCs in export processing zones in Asia and the Pacific". Potential consultants have been identified and experts consulted on the conceptual framework for the study and the zones to be empirically analysed. Empirical work is expected to begin very soon;

(c) "The role of transnational trading corporations in selected Asian and Pacific countries". The empirical phase of this study was begun;

(d) "Taxation of natural resource-based projects in Asia and the Pacific". Once the final draft has been submitted by the consultant, the Joint Unit will prepare it for publication and dissemination.

26. The second phase of the UNDP-funded ESCAP/ECLA/ECA project on TNCs and primary commodity exports is under way with country and commodity case studies on the following subjects having been initiated by the Joint Unit: (a) transnational corporations and cotton exports from Pakistan, (b) transnational corporations and tea exports from Sri Lanka and India, (c) transnational corporations and sugar exports from Fiji, (d) transnational corporations and bauxite exports from Malaysia and Indonesia, (e) transnational corporations and cotton exports from developing countries, (f) transnational corporations and copper exports from developing countries and (g) transnational corporations and tropical timber exports from developing countries.

27. In addition to carrying out the above studies, the Joint Unit has condensed seven of its case studies on TNCs and primary commodity exports previously completed for the first phase of the interregional project and published them (with an introduction) in a single volume entitled *Transnational Corporations and Primary Commodity Exports from Asia and the Pacific*.

28. The Joint Unit collaborates closely with CTC in organizing and implementing workshops and other advisory projects in Asia and the Pacific designed to enhance directly the negotiating capacities of Asian

and Pacific Governments with TNCs. During the year, in addition to acting as a liaison between Governments and CTC in requests from the former for specific technical advice pertaining to TNC projects, the Joint Unit contributed to the following activities in the region:

Round-table Meeting on Information and Technical Co-operation Needs on Matters Related to TNCs, Bangkok, May 1981

Workshop on Negotiating with Transnational Banks, Singapore, October 1981

Workshop on Regulating and Negotiating with Transnational Corporations in the ASEAN Countries, Bangkok, November 1981

29. In addition, the Joint Unit has commenced substantive preparations for a workshop (to be funded and implemented in collaboration with CTC) on TNCs and economic development in Asia and the Pacific scheduled for June 1982 at ESCAP headquarters in Bangkok. The workshop will immediately precede a proposed *ad hoc* intergovernmental meeting on TNCs for which background and administrative work has also begun.

30. In the area of information, the Joint Unit continued to collect basic information on TNCs and to disseminate it in accordance with its mailing list. In addition, the Joint Unit has begun a feasibility study on the establishment of upgraded information services within the Joint Unit, undertaken a pilot corporate profile of a TNC based in Thailand to be used eventually as a basis for further such third world-based TNC studies, and prepared a fourth accessions list of information within the Joint Unit on TNCs.

31. Publications in the Joint Unit working paper series during 1981/82 were: (a) *Monitoring and Regulating Transnational Corporations in the Republic of Korea* (working paper No. 13); (b) *Transnational Corporations and the Philippine Banana Export Industry* (working paper No. 14); (c) *Transnational Corporations and the Copper Industries of Developing Asian and Pacific Countries* (working paper No. 15); and (d) *Transnational Corporations and the Tropical Hardwood Industry of Indonesia* (working paper No. 16).

Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment

Industry and technology

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

ESCAP/UNIDO Regional Consultative Forum on the Vegetable Oils and Fats Industry, Jakarta, March 1981

Meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Ministers of Industry, Bangkok, July 1981

Technical Advisory Committee of the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (fifth session), Los Baños, July 1981; (sixth session), Manila, November 1981

Seminar on the Development of Project Generation Capabilities and Consultancy Services, Jakarta, November 1981

Seminar on Development of the Electronics Industry in Thailand and in ESCAP Countries, Bangkok, November 1981

Governing Body of the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (fourth session), Manila, November 1981

Third Meeting of National Focal Points of RCTT, Bangalore, India, February 1982

33. The major recommendations made by the ESCAP/UNIDO Regional Consultative Forum on the Vegetable Oils and Fats Industry included proposals for integrated development schemes with participation of smallholders as well as dissemination of available information on such schemes, assistance to the least developed countries through a survey for better utilization of existing oil-seeds and non-traditional oil-bearing materials and elaboration of the following issues for consideration at the next consultation on the vegetable oils and fats industry: (a) measures for improving the quality and quantity of oil-seeds and crops for industrial processing; (b) infrastructure requirements in developing countries for development of the vegetable oils and fats industry and by-products; and (c) downstream processing in the developing countries and the export of value-added products.

34. The second Meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Ministers of Industry provided further guidance to the secretariat on areas in which work should be undertaken. It proposed a minimum programme to be carried out which includes specific activities relating to the four elements identified by the ESCAP Meeting of Ministers of Industry, held in 1977.

35. The Technical Advisory Committee of RNAM focused attention on the draft work programme for the second phase of RNAM, covering the period 1982-1984. It examined the proposed activities and made specific recommendations for their improvement and streamlining. The work programme it approved included the following subprogrammes: (a) establishment and strengthening of national networks; (b) strengthening design capabilities; (c) testing, evaluation and modification of prototypes; (d) promotion of local manufacturing; (e) popularization of improved implements and machinery; and (f) information dissemination.

36. The Seminar on the Development of Project Generation Capabilities and Consultancy Services made a number of recommendations relating to the strengthening of the national manufacturing capabilities

of ESCAP member countries, national and regional programmes of action aimed at enhancing national capabilities in industrial and management consultancy etc. It also unanimously endorsed the ESCAP/UNIDO proposal for a regional network of industrial consultancy and, recognizing its importance, urged its early implementation.

37. The Seminar on Development of the Electronics Industry in Thailand and in ESCAP Countries examined the findings of the ESCAP/RCTT regional study on the electronics industry covering Bangladesh, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand and made recommendations for technological manpower and institutional development in the electronics industry. It urged ESCAP to take the lead in increasing TCDC activities in this area through workshops, visit programmes, fellowships, training courses etc. and suggested extension of the above study to cover other developing countries of the region.

38. The Governing Body of RNAM at its fourth session endorsed the reports of the Technical Advisory Committee on its fifth and sixth sessions and with the full support of the representatives of UNIDO, UNDP and FAO approved the project document, the work programme and the budget for the second phase, covering the period 1982-1984. The participating countries reaffirmed their interest in and support of RNAM and pledged their contributions, which were substantially higher than those for the first phase. The Governing Body gave due attention to the expected shortfall in the budget and endorsed the Technical Advisory Committee's recommendation that the present donor countries should substantially increase their contributions and that potential new donors should be approached. The project document was signed on the spot by some participating countries, while the rest reported that it would be signed at the seats of their Governments. The Governing Body noted that a project manager for RNAM was under recruitment and would be in position in April 1982.

39. Some of the main points emerging from the discussions at the Third Meeting of National Focal Points of RCTT were: (a) the urgent need for institutional support to RCTT; (b) the identification of priorities for RCTT in the next two years; (c) a review and specification of activities proposed for RCTT; (d) the identification and approval of national focal points for specific technological networks of RCTT; and (e) the completion of a tripartite review of the projects assisted by the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development.

40. During the period under review, the secretariat rendered advisory services to China, Fiji, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka in industrial research and development as well as transfer of technology and appropriate regulations thereon, and training facilities in science and technology. Advisory services were also rendered

to China on the acceptability of a joint-venture agreement between a Chinese corporation and a United States company; to Fiji on the role of the public sector in the promotion of small-scale enterprises, subcontracting and industrial development in non-metropolitan areas, on reorganization of the technological network within the country and the setting-up of a national science and technology institution and the introduction of adequate regulations concerning the inflow of technology, and on evaluation of technology for the manufacture of rice-husk boards; to Nepal on revision of the legal structure with respect to technology transfer; to Pakistan on the preparation of contract documents for joint research of the Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research; to Sri Lanka on preparation of contracts for the construction of its second free-trade zone at Biyagama; to Tonga on incentives for the promotion of industrial development in such areas as the outer islands; and to Nepal and Thailand for strengthening project generation and consultancy capabilities. A fact-finding mission was fielded to Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand to determine project generation and consultancy needs and capabilities. A mission was fielded to Singapore to determine the feasibility of establishing a regional tax and investment research centre.

41. The ESCAP/ADB/SPEC industrial survey of the South Pacific was launched. A three-man team completed the first stage of field surveys covering the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

42. During the period under review, the secretariat prepared the following: (a) a regional study on the electronics industry; (b) in co-operation with RCTT, a feasibility study on the establishment of a metal-working industries development centre in Thailand; (c) a paper on rural industrialization policies and programmes in the ASEAN countries; (d) a regional study on production of alcohol from agro-products; (e) a draft manual on licensing procedures; (f) two papers on public enterprise and industrialization in ESCAP countries; and (g) a paper on main industrial trends and industrial policy changes in the developing ESCAP countries on the threshold of the decade.

43. The following publications were issued: (a) *Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*, No. 17; (b) *Foreign Investment and Tax Administration*; (c) *Proceedings of the Symposium on Solar Science and Technology, Bangkok, 25 November-4 December 1980*, vols. I and II; (d) *RCTT Newsletter*, Issue 5, March 1981; Issue 6, July 1981; Issue 7, January 1982; (e) *RNAM Newsletter*, Issue 10, April 1981; Issue 11, August 1981; Issue 12, December 1981; (f) *RNAM Digest 3: Power Units*, 1981; (g) *Integrated Industrialization in Non-metropolitan Areas*, vol. IV, *Thailand: Establishment of Pilot Projects in Khon Kaen and Songkhla Provinces in Support of Integrated Industriali-*

zation in Non-metropolitan Areas; vol. V, *Malaysia: Establishment of Pilot Projects in the State of Kedah in Support of Integrated Industrialization in Non-metropolitan Areas*; vol. VII, *Bangladesh: Establishment of Pilot Projects in the Rajshahi Division in Support of Integrated Industrialization in Non-metropolitan Areas*; vol. VIII, *India: Establishment of Pilot Projects in the Districts of Durg, Kangra, Nalanda, Nalgonda, Mirzapur and Sabarkantha in Support of Integrated Industrialization in Non-metropolitan Areas*; (h) *Manual on Technology Transfer in the Leather Industry*, published in co-operation with the Central Leather Research Institute, Madras, India, 1981; and (i) *Industrial Development News, Asia and the Pacific*, No. 14, 1982.

Human settlements

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

Roving Seminar on Rural Centre Planning in Asia and the Pacific, China, Fiji and Republic of Korea, August-September 1981

Expert Group Meeting to Review the Draft Outline on the Human Settlements Situation in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, November 1981

45. The Roving Seminar on Rural Centre Planning in Asia and the Pacific, held in China, Fiji and the Republic of Korea, was attended by 150 participants from the host countries as well as some other ESCAP member countries. Practical experiences in the planning and development of rural centres were discussed in the light of the guide-lines laid down in the secretariat manual entitled *Guidelines for Rural Centre Planning*.

46. The Expert Group Meeting to Review the Draft Outline on the Human Settlements Situation in the ESCAP Region examined at length the draft outline prepared by the secretariat and offered comments for its improvement. The finalized outline will be used to provide a framework to guide the national counterparts in the preparation of country monographs on the subject.

47. During the period under review, the secretariat prepared reports on transportation for urban and rural areas with emphasis on groups with limited resources and on planning for human settlements in disaster-prone areas and issued a publication entitled *Policies towards Urban Slums*.

Environment

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

Regional Technical Workshop to Consider the Implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, Jodhpur, India, October 1981

Conference on the Human Environment in the South Pacific, Rarotonga, Cook Islands, March 1982 (organized by SPC and SPEC in co-operation with UNEP and ESCAP)

PFA/ESCAP/UNEP Media Seminar for Journalists on Environment and Development with Special Emphasis on the Marine Environment, Bangkok, March 1982

49. On the basis of the Commission's recommendations, the secretariat has continued to strengthen the environmental dimensions of the Commission's activities in various sectoral areas. In addition, it has continued to implement selected activities in the following four priority areas, with assistance from UNEP and other bilateral donors:

(a) Creation and enhancement of environmental awareness;

(b) Development and strengthening of the institutional and legislative framework for environmental protection and management at the national level;

(c) Environmental management of terrestrial ecosystems;

(d) Protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems.

50. As to the incorporation of environmental dimensions into sectoral activities of the Commission, the secretariat has followed up the recommendations of the ESCAP/UNEP/FAO Workshop on Agricultural and Agro-industrial Residue Utilization in the ESCAP Region held in Thailand in 1979. The secretariat incorporated environmental aspects into the guide-lines for the special study on food supply and has completed a study on the environmental aspects of the production and use of fertilizers.

51. As its contribution to the activities of the Natural Resources Division, the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit (ECU) provided assistance in organizing the Working Group Meeting on Environmental Management in Mineral Resources Development held in Thailand in June 1981. A report on the organizational, administrative and legislative aspects of environmental management in mineral resources development was prepared and presented to the Meeting.

52. In the area of statistics, ECU provided assistance and technical inputs in organizing two workshops on environmental statistics, one for the Pacific subregion and the other for the Asian subregion.

53. ECU has assisted the Transport, Communications and Tourism Division in formulating two project proposals on the impacts of tourism development and road transport on the socio-economic and physical environment. It also provided limited inputs into the Intergovernmental Meeting of Highway Experts held

at Bangkok in 1981 on the issue of the environmental impact of highways and highway transport.

54. A study on the methods and costs of industrial pollution control from agro-based, agro-allied and small-scale industries undertaken in consultation with the Division of Industry, Human Settlements and Technology was completed in March 1982. An expert group meeting on the subject will be convened at Bangkok in June 1982.

55. Several possible areas of co-operation were discussed during the period under review which are expected to be operational during the biennium 1982-1983 with the Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Division, the Population Division and the Joint CTC/ESCAP Unit on Transnational Corporations.

56. In the field of creation and enhancement of environmental awareness in the region, the secretariat, in co-operation with UNEP, has initiated training programmes for representatives of the press and the broadcasting media at both the national and the regional levels. The first media seminar on environment and development was held at Bangkok preceding the thirty-eighth session of the Commission in co-operation with the Press Foundation of Asia. At the seminar, participants pledged to take the initiative in forming groups or assisting organizations working for the protection of the environment. They also pledged to remain vigilant at all times in the struggle for the protection of the environment. A similar regional workshop on environment and development for broadcasters, in co-operation with the Asia-Pacific Institute of Broadcasting Development, is at an advanced stage of preparation. In addition, information bulletins on various environmental issues of concern to the region were prepared and disseminated with the assistance of the United Nations Information Service from time to time.

57. With regard to the development and strengthening of the institutional and legislative aspects for environmental protection and management at the national level, the secretariat, in co-operation with SPEC, has completed a comparative study of environmental legislation in the South Pacific subregion. To strengthen its capabilities in the field of legislation, ECU requested and obtained from the Government of Japan the loan of an expert in environmental law for a period of two years on a non-reimbursable basis.

58. With regard to the environmental management of arid and semi-arid lands, the secretariat conducted the Regional Technical Workshop to Consider the Implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, with financial assistance from the Government of Australia and host facilities provided by the Government of India. The discussions at the Workshop reflected the feeling that the order of priorities in the Plan of Action should be rearranged

so as to facilitate more efficient use of resources. The Workshop recommended the following activities: (a) technical and socio-economic research, with special emphasis on the problems and ways of life of the people affected; (b) an integrated monitoring programme to obtain a clearer idea of the extent of the problem through conventional ground surveys, remote sensing techniques and automatic data systems; (c) development of a regional training programme on desertification control by ESCAP; (d) publication of practical handbooks and manuals on various aspects of desertification and its prevention; (e) heightening of public awareness of the problems of desertification through various channels of information collection and dissemination; and (f) increased technical co-operation and information exchange at the regional level and between interested United Nations bodies.

59. As to the management of terrestrial ecosystems, the secretariat has undertaken a survey and assessment of land management in the ESCAP region and a preliminary review of the problems of tropical deforestation in Asia and the Pacific.

60. In the field of protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems, a consolidated project document on phase II of the programme was forwarded to the Swedish International Development Agency for consideration. The project incorporates the recommendations of the various national seminars on the protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems as well as the regional meeting held during 1979-1980, and aims to strengthen, at both the national and the regional levels, efforts, capabilities and awareness with a view to promoting the protection of the environment. The project is expected to receive extrabudgetary assistance from several donor countries, including Sweden.

61. With the assistance of the Government of France, a study tour and country missions to Bangladesh, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore and Thailand were conducted on the application of remote sensing technology for monitoring the marine environment. The report of the study was completed in September 1981. The Government of France has also approved for a period of one year beginning from February 1982 the loan of an expert in remote sensing for environmental monitoring and assessment, on a non-reimbursable basis.

62. As to the development of the South Pacific regional environment programme, the co-ordinating group composed of representatives of the four co-operating agencies (SPC, SPEC, UNEP and ESCAP) held three meetings during the period under review to review progress and finalize the preparations for holding the Conference on the Human Environment in the South Pacific in March 1982. The Conference issued a declaration on natural resources and the environment and adopted an action plan for managing

the natural resources and environment of the South Pacific subregion.

Committee on Natural Resources

Energy resources

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

ESCAP/FAO/UNEP Expert Group Meeting on Fuelwood and Charcoal, Bangkok, May 1981

Regional Expert Group Meeting on the Follow-up of the Nairobi Programme of Action on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, Colombo, March 1982

64. The Expert Group Meeting on Fuelwood and Charcoal stressed the need to manage forests and establish village woodlots, so that a renewable supply of non-commercial energy would continue to be available in the region.

65. In addition, the secretariat actively contributed to global programme activities in new and renewable sources of energy by participating in the preparatory meetings for the United Nations Conference on that theme, held at Nairobi in August 1981, and by providing the services of a regional adviser to countries in connection with the United Nations Conference. The regional response to the Nairobi Programme of Action has been developed as a comprehensive series of activities comprising the regional programme of action. This was discussed at the Regional Expert Group Meeting at Colombo in March 1982 as recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources (E/ESCAP/241). Host facilities were provided by the Government of Sri Lanka and financial assistance by Japan and EEC. The Meeting emphasized the need for regional networks in major areas of new and renewable sources of energy and urged the Executive Secretary to enter into negotiations with member country Governments for the establishment of such networks and also to explore financial arrangements for the implementation of the regional programmes.

66. In response to the mandate given by the Commission at its previous session to act as a focal point in regional energy affairs and undertake new initiatives in the energy field, the secretariat has defined a number of new projects, participated in the finalization of the project documents of the regional and Pacific energy development programmes and defined an appropriate response to the energy challenge in the fields of both conventional and new and renewable sources of energy.

67. The regional and Pacific energy programmes are self-managing priority activities of a regional nature (financed by UNDP) and form an integral part of the current implementation phase of the secretariat's response to the energy challenge. The experts helped to

give focus to the regional energy development programme by proposing more demonstration projects and emphasizing regional co-operation in the fields of conventional and new and renewable energy sources.

68. At an *ad hoc* planning meeting for the Pacific energy development programme, the unique features of this programme were highlighted, and an operational plan for the first preparatory-assistance phase of the programme was finalized. Notable features of the project include strong local involvement (through SPEC), which should ensure the relevance and acceptability of the project, financing of capital equipment by EEC and financing of the technical, managerial and energy planning components by UNDP. This combined package is likely to improve the situation in the region in terms of both energy planning/statistics applications and the increased number of implemented projects in new and renewable sources of energy, which are prime sources of energy supply for isolated island countries.

Mineral resources

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

Meeting on Co-ordination in ESCAP Mineral Programmes (eighth session), Bangkok, March 1981; (ninth session), Bangkok, October 1981

Expert Working Group Meeting on the Third Edition of the Oil and Natural Gas Map of Asia, Bangkok, May 1981

Working Group Meeting on Environmental Management in Mineral Resources Development, Phuket, Thailand, June 1981

Seminar/Study Tour on Drilling, Sampling and Borehole Logging, Donetsk, USSR, September 1981

70. At the two sessions of the Meeting on Co-ordination in ESCAP Mineral Programmes, current and future programmes of the Mineral Resources Section and of related regional projects were considered, and activities of mutual interest were defined.

71. The Expert Working Group Meeting on the Third Edition of the Oil and Natural Gas Map of Asia revised the legend prepared by the Co-ordinator and adopted a detailed work programme. In accordance with the recommendations of the Meeting, the Co-ordinator prepared the revised legend, which, together with the geographical base map, has been sent to member countries with a request to start preparation of their respective parts of the map.

72. Seven countries from the region were represented at the Working Group Meeting on Environmental Management in Mineral Resources Development. Representatives of UNEP, ILO, RMRDC, SEATRADC, the national agencies of Thailand and the mining industry

also attended. The Working Group Meeting made several recommendations for action at the national, regional and international levels emphasizing co-operation and assistance by international organizations.

73. The Seminar/Study Tour on Drilling, Sampling and Borehole Logging reviewed the status of drilling techniques in participating countries of the region. The participants became acquainted with modern drilling methods and technology, drilling equipment, various logging techniques and instruments, and sampling and sample treatment; they also studied the achievements in those fields in the USSR. The Seminar recommended that ESCAP should organize further seminars on (a) methods, equipment and technology for oil and gas drilling and (b) methods of exploration and evaluation of oil and natural gas deposits. It also recommended that the training of national professional personnel be organized for periods of three to nine months and one to two years.

74. In accordance with the programme of work endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-seventh session, the secretariat initiated action for convening at an appropriate date an expert working group meeting on the feasibility of establishing a committee for co-ordination of joint prospecting for mineral resources in Indian Ocean offshore areas.

75. The secretariat continued to provide technical and administrative assistance in the organization and holding of meetings, purchase of equipment and recruitment of experts and other personnel, among other services, to CCOP, CCOP/SOPAC, RMRDC and SEATRADC.

76. *The Map of the Sedimentary Basins of the ESCAP Region*, on the scale 1:10,000,000, was completed and published in 1981. *The ESCAP Atlas of Stratigraphy III*, containing contributions from Australia, Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Solomon Islands and the USSR was prepared for publication as Mineral Resources Development Series No. 48 in mid-1982.

77. The secretariat, with the assistance of a consultant from India, prepared a study on occurrences of heavy crude oil and tar sands in the ESCAP region and prospects for them and presented it at the Second International Conference on Heavy Crude and Tar Sands, organized jointly by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and Petroleos de Venezuela at Caracas in February 1982.

Water resources

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

Expert Group Meeting on Measures to Improve the Performance of Irrigation Projects, Bangkok, May-June 1981

Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific (seventh session), Bangkok, June 1981; (eighth session), Bangkok, November 1981

Roving Seminar on Ground-water Development and Management, Manila, Seoul and Bangkok, July-August 1981

Group Study Visit to China on Methods of Watershed Management for Flood Loss Prevention and Management, September 1981

Seminar on Catchment Management for Optimum Use of Land and Water Resources, Hamilton, New Zealand, March 1982

79. On the basis of case studies of selected irrigation projects in Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand prepared by the secretariat, the Expert Group Meeting discussed the principal factors in the field of engineering, management of irrigation systems, agricultural measures and socio-economic and institutional factors affecting the efficiency of irrigation projects to which attention should be focused by those concerned.

80. The Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific at its seventh and eighth sessions considered likely areas for co-operation in the field of water resources development among its members.

81. The Roving Seminar on Ground-water Development and Management was held successively in the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Thailand, where two participants from Burma also joined it. Through lectures and workshops conducted by three experts whose services were provided by the Government of Israel, about 90 ground-water specialists in the region were trained in modern field practices and analytical techniques in the assessment, development and management of ground-water resources.

82. The participants in the Group Study Visit to China on Methods of Watershed Management for Flood Loss Prevention and Management observed various measures employed in China in this field and, on the basis of their observations, recommended certain measures for action by Governments in the region to improve the effectiveness of watershed management practices for flood loss prevention.

83. At its eighth session (Colombo, February 1981), the WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones decided to implement a regional cyclone operational plan in 1982. A key initial step is to facilitate the issuance of tropical cyclone weather statements and warnings and satellite bulletins by the Regional Meteorological Centre (RMC) at New Delhi and to improve the timely exchange of warnings and special cyclone observations between national meteorological centres and RMC. The Technical Support Unit produced the first issue of the Panel's occasional newsletter, *Panel News*, in March

1981. In October 1981, the Unit transferred its office quarters from New Delhi to Colombo.

84. The Seminar on Catchment Management for Optimum Use of Land and Water Resources discussed problems of catchment management, land use and erosion control measures in some countries of the ESCAP region as well as the essential features of New Zealand's experience in achieving optimum catchment management. It made appropriate recommendations for national and international action.

85. The publications prepared by the Water Resources Section during the year were four quarterly issues of the *Water Resources Journal* and one number in the Water Resources Series.

Committee on Population

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

Regional Seminar on Evaluation of Schemes and Strategies for Integrated Family Planning Programmes with Special Reference to Increased Involvement of Local Institutions, Bangkok, June 1981

Third Study Directors' Meeting on the Study of the Impact of Family Planning Programmes on Fertility: Using Multivariate Areal Analysis, Pattaya, Thailand, July 1981

Preparatory Committee for the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference (second session), Bangkok, August 1981

Second Study Directors' Meeting on the Study of the Relationship between Fertility Behaviour and Size, Structure and Functions of the Family, Bangkok, September 1981

Second Study Directors' Meeting on the Comparative Study on Demographic-economic Model-building for Three Selected Countries of the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, September 1981

Working Group on Data Bases for Measurement of Levels, Trends and Differentials in Mortality, Bangkok, October 1981

Technical Working Group on Migration and Urbanization, Bangkok, December 1981

ESCAP/SPC Conference Seminar on Population Problems of Small Island Countries of the ESCAP/SPC Region, Noumea, New Caledonia, February 1982

87. During the period under review, the secretariat, through its regional adviser, assisted the Government of Maldives in analysing the data collected in the 1977 census, evaluating the quality of the data and preparing the census report, and participated in a UNFPA mission

to assess the needs of Maldives for assistance in population matters.

88. The secretariat provided technical assistance to member Governments in demographic analysis and projections through the services of a demographic adviser funded by the Government of the United Kingdom. The task of monitoring population estimates and trends in the region continued.

89. As part of a United Nations/WHO global programme, the secretariat gathered the findings of mortality studies identified through a 1979-1980 regional survey and reviewed and analysed them in order to provide in-depth knowledge about the trends and differentials in mortality in various countries of the region.

90. In order to provide a better understanding of the interrelationships between population and economic variables, the secretariat, with financial support from the Government of Japan, conducted a comparative study on demographic-economic model-building for three selected countries in the region. A preliminary prototype model based on demographic variables and economic factors was developed for each of those countries.

91. The secretariat prepared a comprehensive regional training programme to increase the awareness and strengthen the capability of national planners and policy-makers in integrated population and development planning for the period 1982-1985. It awarded 15 fellowships to member countries for training at the International Institute for Population Studies, Bombay, and organized four study tours, two for demographers and two for population information officials of the member countries.

92. Country monographs on the population situation in American Samoa and Bangladesh were published and a monograph on Papua New Guinea was sent to the printers. Work was in progress on monographs for Australia, the Cook Islands, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand and Solomon Islands.

93. Under phase I of the project "Comparative study on migration, urbanization and development", the secretariat published two country reports, one for Indonesia and the other for the South Pacific countries. Under phase II, the secretariat published Manual VIII, a guide to the development of data processing systems. In the same series, the first draft of Manual IX on tabulation plans was completed. The secretariat convened the Technical Working Group on Migration and Urbanization at Bangkok in December 1981 to discuss and evaluate different methods and techniques for the analysis of survey data.

94. At its second session, the Preparatory Committee for the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference agreed that the purposes of the Conference, to be held in September 1982, should be to further the understanding of the two-way interrelationships between

population and development; to stress the need to take into full consideration relevant population factors in the formulation and implementation of policies and programmes for achieving over-all national development goals, and to recognize, in particular, the influence of development on population dynamics; to provide a forum for exchange of experience in the formulation of plans, programmes and strategies for integrating population elements in development processes; and to assist countries in evolving appropriate mechanisms for formulating and implementing effective integrated population and development policies and programmes.

95. The study on the impact of family planning programmes on fertility was completed in Indonesia and Sri Lanka in 1981. Major findings of the country-specific studies so far completed were disseminated for use in policy decisions of the Governments concerned, with respect to the formulation and implementation of population policies and programmes. The secretariat also developed an evaluative study for measuring the efficiency of family planning programmes.

96. The pre-test of the study of the relationship between fertility behaviour and size, structure and functions of the family was carried out in New Zealand to examine the applicability of the study design prepared by the secretariat in a local setting. The results of the pilot study were being used to modify the study design in other participating countries.

97. The Regional Seminar on Evaluation of Schemes and Strategies for Integrated Family Planning Programmes with Special Reference to Increased Involvement of Local Institutions made specific recommendations on the conceptual issues, strategies, policy and evaluation of integrated family planning programmes and involvement of local institutions.

98. In collaboration with SPC, the secretariat convened the Conference Seminar on Population Problems of Small Island Countries of the ESCAP/SPC Region, which made specific recommendations on collection and analysis of demographic data and country and inter-country studies for providing a better understanding of the population problems of the small island countries.

99. 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. Three reports were prepared containing comparative analyses of the fertility situation in countries of the ESCAP region, along with the policy implications of the findings.

100. Population information services were extended to Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam through the provision of technical support and training for the establishment and

strengthening of national population information infrastructures. Similar collaborative activities were developed with such subregional groupings as ASEAN and the Pacific islands. At the regional level, the scope of the Population Division Reference Centre was expanded to refine further the introduction of automation through the computerization of the serials collection and bibliographic data. Arrangements were also made to set up a demographic data bank within the Division.

101. The publications programme continued with the production of the quarterly newsletter *Asian-Pacific Population Programme News*; the *Population Research Leads* series; the monthly news-sheet *Population Headliners*, with special supplements for south Asia and ASEAN, and news coverage of the preparations for the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference; the monthly current awareness service ADOPT-Asia and World-wide Documents on Population Topics; and *ad hoc* information brochures on special projects covering such subjects as migration, urbanization and development.

102. New clearing-house project elements included a more specific approach to the selective dissemination of information and research into the problems and constraints faced by countries in setting up and strengthening national population information systems. Information surveys were completed on the evaluation of ADOPT and the *Asian-Pacific Population Programme News*. The reorganized ESCAP population correspondents network was put into effect. A major focus of the clearing-house's supportive activities was the assumption of its role as the executing agency for the UNFPA China project for setting up a national population information centre at Beijing and the Viet Nam project for establishing a population information centre at Hanoi.

Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications

Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing

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

Meeting of Legal Experts on a Model Maritime Code for the ESCAP Region (first session), Bangkok, May 1981, (second session), Bangkok, January 1982

Seminar on Coastal (Domestic) Shipping, Bangkok, May 1981

Country-level Workshop on Planning of Shipping Services, Jakarta, May-June 1981

Country-level Workshop on the Collection and Compilation of Economic Statistics of Shipping (L.2 scheme), Karachi, June 1981

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Inland Ports and Waterways, China, August-September 1981

Seminar on Port Containerization, Tianjin, China, October 1981

Workshop on Shippers' Co-operation: Containerization/Unit Loads – Economic, Operational and Legal Implications for Shippers, Bangkok, October 1981

Country-level Workshop on Shippers' Co-operation: Economic and Operational Decision-making, Shanghai, October 1981

Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shippers' Organizations (fifth session), Bangkok, December 1981

Meeting of Chief Executives of Port Authorities (second session), Bangkok, December 1981

Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shipowners' Associations (fourth session), Bangkok, December 1981

Meeting of Chief Executives of Customs Authorities (first session), Bangkok, December 1981

Joint Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shippers' Organizations, Shipowners' Associations, Port Authorities and Customs Authorities (first session), Bangkok, December 1981

Workshop on the Implementation of the UNCTAD Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences (for shipowners), Kuala Lumpur, December 1981

Seminar on Port Management Information Systems, Bangkok, February 1982

Country-level Workshops on the Legal Framework of Shippers, Calcutta, February 1982; Madras, February 1982

Seminar on Ship Financing for ASEAN Countries, Bangkok, March 1982

Country-level Workshop on Ocean Transport Costs and Negotiating Techniques in Shipping, Bombay, March 1982

104. At its first session, the Meeting of Legal Experts on a Model Maritime Code for the ESCAP region decided that further action should be taken to prepare guide-lines for the drafting of a maritime code or maritime laws with the assistance of IMCO, UNCTAD, ILO, the Comité Maritime International and other relevant international organizations. It also laid down the scope, technique and procedure to be adopted in the preparation of such a code. At its second session, the Meeting gave further consideration to the project.

105. The objective of the Seminar on Coastal (Domestic) Shipping was to apprise member countries of the

latest experiences in that field. The Seminar requested the ESCAP secretariat to organize a follow-up seminar-cum-study tour on coastal shipping in Japan.

106. The Country-level Workshop on the Collection and Compilation of Economic Statistics of Shipping was held with 25 participants representing various departments and agencies concerned with the implementation and collection of shipping statistics. The purpose of organizing this country-level workshop was to discuss and identify national difficulties and problems encountered in the process of implementing economic statistics of shipping in Pakistan.

107. The Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Inland Ports and Waterways recommended that studies be conducted and meetings organized on various subjects relating to inland water transport, particularly ferro-cement technology, methods of towing, especially integrated push-towing, and aids to navigation systems.

108. The Seminar on Port Containerization was convened to assist China in overcoming a series of problems that it had encountered in adopting containerization. The Seminar's objective was the upgrading of management personnel, which had been seen as a priority matter. The lectures covered in depth the development of containerization and the appropriate facilities for different levels of container throughput in addition to documentation, administration and management control.

109. In implementing the ship users' co-operation project, the secretariat organized, during the period under review, one regional workshop and five country-level workshops for shippers and representatives of shippers' organizations of the region with the basic objective of developing resource personnel within the ESCAP region. The subjects of the workshops were containerization/unit loads, including economic, operational and legal implications for shippers; planning of shipping services; the legal framework of shippers; and ocean transport costs and negotiating techniques of shipping.

110. Meetings were convened for chief executives of national shippers' organizations, national shipowners' associations, port authorities and customs authorities to consider problems pertinent to their respective fields of development. A joint meeting of all four groups was subsequently held to consider common problems and activities for mutual co-operation such as the economic implications of currency and bunker adjustment factors, the concept of joint planning in shipping, the legal and economic implications of shippers' contracts and the facilitation of cargo movement by standardization and simplification of document requirements and the Customs Co-operation Council International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures.

111. The skeletal model of the port management information systems project, designed to assist management in decision-making through more effective presentation of information, proposed the setting of specific quantified financial and operational management objectives. Management information could then be precisely tailored to monitoring the attainment of the set objectives, thus saving management from being burdened by excessive quantities of raw data. The Seminar organized on the subject reviewed existing management information systems and evaluated proposals for the system.

112. The Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations at its sixth Executive Committee Meeting, in May 1981, considered setting up a mobile training seminar on the subject most desired by its members and requested the ESCAP secretariat to provide assistance. Following a survey conducted on the shipowners' financing requirements for vessel acquisition, the secretariat organized the Seminar on Ship Financing for ASEAN Countries with the objective of transferring know-how on the subject to the participants.

113. The project on a cargo consolidation scheme in Malaysia was continued through the provision of assistance to Malaysia on the feasibility, strategy and operations of a shipping company to be established. Assistance was also rendered to the Indonesian Shippers' Council in drafting the basic rules of the Council, designing its basic structure, formulating a programme of work for its secretariat and defining the role of the Government with respect to the Council and its objectives.

114. Pursuant to a request made by the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications at its fourth session, the secretariat began updating the study of liner shipping (Liner 81) by executing a pilot project on collecting information on ships and cargoes moving in the trade between Europe and Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. On the basis of the findings of the pilot project, a comprehensive study on the subject will be undertaken in 1982.

115. At the request of the Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shippers' Organizations at its fourth session, the secretariat prepared necessary documentation on currency and bunker adjustment factors and shippers' contracts. The subject was discussed at the fifth session of the Meeting.

116. A study of the factory ship concept in Papua New Guinea commenced in November 1981. The study was one of the recommendations of the Workshop on Shippers' Co-operation: Transport of Copra and Coconut Products, held at Suva in October 1980. The factory ship concept was advanced as a supplement to conventional crushing of copra in the South Pacific area.

117. The services of a regional expert on inland waterways have been provided to developing countries since February 1979 with the co-operation of the French Government. During the year under review, a number of countries of the region received visits and had studies prepared. The secretariat is also working to implement the proposal to establish in Bangladesh a regional centre for the development of appropriate technology for inland water transport in developing countries. Following the recommendations of the Commission at its thirty-seventh session, the secretariat requested interested countries to send it their views and comments on the need for and the scope of the work elaborated by the secretariat.

118. The secretariat has provided assistance to Malaysia and Sri Lanka in establishing national port training centres and, where appropriate, in strengthening existing institutions. There continues to be a lack of expertise and co-operation in the region on the subject. Additionally, the secretariat has organized scholarships for one candidate each from Burma and Indonesia to visit the Port of Rotterdam to evaluate at first hand modern techniques of cargo handling and management.

119. Other advisory services of shipping and port experts were rendered to the Governments of China, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand. Phase II of the study on "Impact of containerization on the transport systems of developing countries in the ESCAP region" was undertaken with a view to investigating the detailed infrastructural and institutional changes involved and to facilitating the movement of containers from the port to inland destinations via inland waterways systems.

120. To develop energy-saving measures and low-energy alternatives in shipping, a project is being initiated to consider the possibility of reducing consumption of fuel by streamlining liner shipping services. Other ways and means such as the use of wind and coal to power ships, changing of cargo ship types and propulsion and increasing port capacity and efficiency will be considered in the future.

121. Following a survey on seafarers' training facilities in India, the Philippines and Thailand in 1979 by a team of Japanese experts, training equipment at a total cost of ¥ 55 million was donated in October 1981 by the Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation (JASIF) to the various maritime training centres in those countries. A similar mission visited China in early 1981. The provision of similar assistance to China as well as further assistance to the three countries referred to above at a total cost of approximately \$US 500,000 is currently under consideration by JASIF.

122. The following publications were issued: (a) *Uniform System of Economic Statistics of Shipping (L.2 Scheme)*; (b) *ESCAP Ship Users' Co-operation Project (SUCOP): Second Series of Regional Workshops on Shippers' Co-operation (1979-1980)*; (c) *Survey of*

Maritime Legislation: Bangladesh, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand; (d) *revisions to the Handbook for Shippers for the Asian and Pacific Region*; (e) *Review of Technical Problems in Port Planning*; (f) *Littoral Drift and Sedimentation Problems of the Ports in Thailand: A Case Study*; (g) *Containerized Import Procedures: A Case Study*; (h) *Documentation for Container Handling: A Case Study*; (i) *Guide to Port Literature: A Selected Bibliography with Partial Focus on the ESCAP Region*; (j) *Handling and Storage Operation of Bulk Cargo Terminals: Some Case Studies*; (k) *Planning and Management of Modern Cargo Terminals: Proceedings of a Seminar, Yokohama, 1980*; (l) *Port Clearance Procedures: Port of Manila*; (m) *The Impact of Containerization in Developing Countries: The Case of Bangladesh*; (n) *PORTMIS: Port Management Information System: Executive Summary*; and (o) *PORTMIS: Port Management Information System*.

Transport and Communications, Tourism and Facilitation of International Traffic Wing

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

Regional Transportation Course, Dacca, February-April 1981

Working Group of Experts to Study the Establishment of an Asian Railway Union, Bangkok, April 1981

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on New Railway Construction, including Tunnelling, Bridging and Operations, China, May-June 1981

Second Workshop on Research towards a Methodology for Defining the Transport Needs of Isolated Communities, Bangkok, June 1981

Regional Consultative Meeting on the Preparation of Manuals on Rural Road Construction and Maintenance, Bangkok, June 1981

Roving Training Course on Signalling and Telecommunication in the State Railway of Thailand and the Bangladesh Railways, September 1981

Seminar on Facilitation Measures for Movement of Goods in International Trade, Bangkok, November 1981

Regional Conference-cum-Seminar on Development and Management of Telecommunications in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, January 1982

124. The Regional Transportation Course for senior officers in project planning and analysis was organized by ESCAP jointly with the Economic Development Institute of the World Bank and the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies to improve the skills of profes-

sionals responsible for planning, appraising and supervising the execution and operation of transport projects of national Governments.

125. The Working Group of Experts to Study the Establishment of an Asian Railway Union carried out an in-depth study on the requirements for and implications of establishing an Asian railway union and recommended that a project/unit be set up within the Transport, Communications and Tourism Division of ESCAP to promote effective co-operation among the railways of the region.

126. The Seminar-cum-Study Tour on New Railway Construction provided railway engineers of the region with an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the special technology in use on Chinese railways.

127. The Second Workshop on Research towards a Methodology for Defining the Transport Needs of Isolated Communities developed a simple methodology based on research for defining the transport needs of isolated communities with emphasis on people's participation.

128. The Regional Consultative Meeting on the Preparation of Manuals on Rural Road Construction and Maintenance was convened to finalize the two manuals drafted by the secretariat, one on rural road construction and the other on rural road maintenance.

129. The Seminar on Facilitation Measures for Movement of Goods in International Trade was organized in co-operation with the International Trade Division of ESCAP to assist countries in simplifying standardization and streamlining the documents and procedures prescribed for the international movement of goods and transport means and reducing the cost involved in complying with these documents and procedures.

130. The high-level Regional Conference-cum-Seminar on Development and Management of Telecommunications in Asia and the Pacific was convened jointly by ESCAP and ITU with the co-operation of UNDP for heads and senior officials of telecommunication administrations in Asia and the Pacific. The Conference proposed measures to overcome obstacles in telecommunication development and to promote training, regional co-operation, better maintenance of equipment, better management, the introduction of digital switching and satellite transmission, and resource mobilization. While noting the recommendation of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications that the Third United Nations Development Decade be declared the "Transport Decade for Asia and the Pacific", the Conference recommended that the Decade be declared the "Transport and Communications Development Decade for Asia and the Pacific" along lines similar to the Decade proclaimed in Africa.

131. In addition to seminars, training courses and fellowships, the secretariat initiated a new programme

of roving training courses to provide training opportunities to a large number of railway personnel in individual countries.

132. A joint roving mission of railway experts to study the modernization of the signalling and telecommunication system of the State Railway of Thailand (RSR) reviewed the proposed new five-year plan, identified the needs and requirements for extending technical assistance to RSR related to implementation of the plan and made relevant recommendations. A joint roving mission of railway experts to study the upgrading of the Pakistan Regional Railway Training Centre identified the detailed needs for that upgrading. A joint roving mission of railway experts to the Malayan Railway on modernization of the signalling and telecommunication system and expanded application of computer technology reviewed the existing situation, identified problem areas and made recommendations thereon. A roving mission to Bangladesh to study the transit route to Nepal via Bangladesh investigated the existing transport facilities for potential transit routes for Nepal's international trade via Khulna and several broad-gauge lines to the Indian border; operational/technical improvement and investment requirements for the traffic were assessed. A roving mission to the Lao People's Democratic Republic to study the possible construction of a railway line from Savannakhet to Da Nang in Viet Nam discussed the necessary preparatory work with the officials concerned, including the finalization of the project document to be submitted to UNDP. A roving mission to Bangladesh on setting up a standards organization for railway rolling stock reviewed the existing situation and made recommendations on establishing such an organization. A further roving mission to Bangladesh to study transshipment of goods between broad and metre gauges at Santahar yard studied the various aspects of transshipment between the different gauges, identified problem areas and made recommendations thereon. A further roving mission to Bangladesh to assist the Government in the finalization of a master plan for rural transport assisted in identifying suitable linkages of the rural growth centres to the arterial/rail/inland water transport system and advised on technology to be adopted for their construction. A mission to Singapore on roads and road transport rendered assistance to the Public Works Department (Road Division) in respect of access control and methods of dealing with accidents and broken down vehicles as well as methods of reducing traffic noise in areas adjacent to expressways. Assistance was also rendered to the Ministry of Communications in respect of energy conservation measures in road transport. A mission to the Philippines on roads and road transport rendered assistance to the Ministry of Public Works and Highways on institutional aspects of roads and road transport development. A mission was fielded to render advisory services to the Governments of Bangladesh and Nepal on simplification and standardization of documents and procedures associated

with the international movement of goods and with transport means.

133. Assistance in public transport was provided to Thailand in September 1981 and three problem areas were identified, namely, manpower development and training, bus franchise management and improvement and maintenance facility development. An action plan was formulated for the country's public transport company to increase its operational efficiency. Assistance was also rendered in connection with tourism development in central and northern Thailand.

134. The following studies were undertaken during the period under review: first review of the railways of the region; study on energy consumption and other relevant economic factors by different modes of transport in the developing countries of the ESCAP region; studies on the organization of motive power maintenance in Malaysia and Thailand; study of the cost-benefit aspects of containerization in relation to surface transport, including intermodal aspects (the initial phase of which was completed); regional study on improvement of hand-tools and equipment for labour-intensive rural road construction, jointly undertaken by ESCAP and ILO to assist member countries in increasing labour productivity in the context of labour-intensive rural road construction; study on guide-lines for planning of rural roads in the context of integrated rural development; study on stonework in manpower-executed rural infrastructure construction related to roads, the report of which has taken the form of a manual illustrating various applications of stonework in the construction of roads, retaining walls, small bridges and culverts, protection works, river draining works, drainage works etc.; study on documentation and procedures associated with movement of goods in international trade, with specific reference to Malaysia and Thailand, prepared to assist the countries in appraising the problems posed by currently prescribed documents and procedures in their promotion and expansion of international trade and how and by what methods such problems can be tackled in both the national and the international contexts; study on a model constitution for national facilitation institutions and on establishing a network of such national institutions, undertaken to help countries to develop national institutions to devise, develop and implement facilitation measures in a systematic manner for the international movement of goods and transport means; study on impacts of tourism development upon the social and physical environment, which analyses the regional peculiarities of tourism environmental impacts and provides recommendations on effective approaches for minimizing the undesirable effects of tourism; and tourism study of central and northern Thailand, which was based on an analysis of tourism development in those areas in 1979 and 1980.

135. In May 1981, the secretariat consulted the authorities concerned in Japan, the Philippines, the Republic of

Korea and Thailand on a study of a model constitution for national facilitation institutions and for establishing linkages between and among the national facilitation institutions of ESCAP countries.

136. The secretariat actively co-operated with the Tourism Authority of Thailand and the Automobile Association of Singapore in organizing the Asian Highway Auto Venture, 1981, between Singapore and Bangkok. The activity was a concrete example of promotion of international road transport through the Asian Highway, the use of ESCAP Asian Highway guidemaps, facilitation of frontier formalities and above all the promotion of international tourism development.

137. The following publications were completed and distributed: (a) *Manual on Rural Road Construction*; (b) *Manual on Rural Road Maintenance*; (c) a new edition of Asian Highway sectoral guidemap No. 3 covering Bangladesh, India and Nepal; (d) a new edition of Asian Highway sectoral guidemap No. 4 covering Indonesia; and (e) Nos. 54 and 55 of *Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*.

Committee on Social Development

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

ESCAP/FAO Round-up Workshop of National Co-ordinators for Promotion and Training of Rural Women in Income-generating Activities, Suva, March-April 1981

Field Study and Attachment of Youth Work Personnel to Rural Institutions and Development Programmes in which Youth are Actively Engaged, China, Malaysia, Mongolia and the Philippines, April-May 1981

Interagency Meeting on Social Development (thirteenth session), Bangkok, May 1981

Workshop on Youth and Social Development in Asia, Hong Kong, August-September 1981

ESCAP/ICSW Training Workshop on Management of Economic Activities of Women, Bombay, September 1981

Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the World Assembly on Aging, Manila, October 1981

Two national workshops on promotion and training for rural women in income-generating activities, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, and Port Vila, Vanuatu, October 1981

Expert Group Meeting on the Contribution of Youth to the Promotion of Social Goals and

Cultural Values in the Development Process, Chiang Mai, Thailand, October-November 1981

Seminar/Training Workshop on Policies and Programmes for Mobilization of Youth in National Development in the Pacific Region, Suva, November 1981

Expert Group Meeting on the Use of Experience in Participation/Law and Participation, Colombo, February 1982

Eighth Asian-Pacific Youth Forum for Community Development, Suva, February 1982

National Leadership Training Workshop for Youth Leaders and Workers, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, February 1982

National Leadership Training Workshop for Youth Leaders and Workers, Thimphu, Bhutan, March-April 1982

139. The Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the World Assembly on Aging adopted a regional programme of action on aging to serve as the region's input into a global plan of action, to be adopted by the World Assembly on Aging, as well as the basis for the Commission's follow-up activities on aging.

140. At its thirteenth session, the Interagency Meeting on Social Development considered interagency collaboration in matters concerned with youth and development; the activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies in connection with the International Year of Disabled Persons; the preparations for the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the World Assembly on Aging; the establishment of a permanent and continuing mechanism for regional interagency co-operation in promoting the role of women in development; and follow-up action to the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women.

141. The Seminar/Training Workshop on Policies and Programmes for Mobilization of Youth in National Development in the Pacific Region reviewed, analysed and evaluated national policies on youth and suggested mechanisms for maximizing youth development efforts in the Pacific region.

142. Activities in connection with people's participation during the period under review were devoted to the implementation of the recommendations of the Workshop on Social Problems of Low-income Groups: Some Legal Approaches, held at Bangkok in February 1981. The most important result of that Workshop had been the development of a conceptual framework for dealing with the problems of the poor. Two workshops were subsequently held to examine that framework in terms of people's participation in relation to law and social change. The first was held at Penang, Malaysia, in June 1981 and the second was held at Baguio, Philippines, in November 1981.

143. A bibliography on participation which will include materials on the relationships between law, participation and development is under preparation.

144. A TCDC fund project to train a small number of strategic social development personnel from Nepal in social policy formulation and programming was implemented with substantive and technical co-operation provided by the Government of the Philippines through its Ministry of Social Services and Development.

145. The secretariat's advisory services in orienting social welfare and community development education to developmental objectives were extended to four countries. In the Philippines, technical advice was provided to a governmental scheme involving four area centres in planning in the use of the concept of the total family in rural approaches. In the Republic of Korea, the Chung-Ang University Welfare Center in Bong Chun Dong has become fully operational with assistance from ESCAP and UNICEF. In Sri Lanka, the School of Social Work under the Ministry of Social Services was assisted in formalizing the programme of training of social workers. In Vanuatu, the National Council of Women was assisted in formalizing its organizational structure: the governing statutes were formulated, and a plan of action, which will be updated yearly, has been prepared for implementation nation-wide. The Ministry of Social Affairs was assisted in the reorganization of its functional structure to make welfare services more responsive to evolving community needs.

146. ESCAP was represented at the Expert Group Meeting on Social Welfare and Development, which was held at Vienna in October 1981 under the auspices of the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs. As the Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, convened by ESCAP at Bangkok in October 1980, was the only ministerial conference convened since the 1968 International Conference of Ministers, its report constituted a significant input into the Meeting.

147. The recommendations of the Technical Meeting and Regional Seminar on the Objectives and Plan of Action of the International Year of Disabled Persons, held at Bangkok in September 1980, constituted a significant regional input at the World Symposium on the Year.

148. As to specific activities concerned with women in development, nearly 40 projects in the region have been funded by the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women. These projects have covered income-generating activities in agro-industry, forestry, animal husbandry and fishery; promotion of and training in fuel- and labour-saving technology; training and/or education to improve the economic activities of rural women and their productivity; upgrading functional and managerial skills of women workers; health and child

care services; assistance to planners in promoting integration of women; and research and publications on these and other related matters.

149. Advisory services financed by the Voluntary Fund were provided to 19 member countries in the ESCAP region in strengthening the social and economic components of the integration of women in the development process and in formulating and implementing national projects on women.

150. Supported by its resolutions 203 (XXXVI) and 211 (XXXVII), ESCAP moved to strengthen its role as the region's lead agency in the integration of women in development. Specifically, several *ad hoc* interagency meetings on women in development were held which developed a framework for establishing a standing mechanism for interagency co-ordination, an inter-divisional task force was established within the secretariat with a view to promoting the integration of women's concerns in all its programme areas, and the first steps were taken to strengthen the functions and organization of the women's subprogramme.

151. In terms of substantive programme activities, the secretariat placed greater emphasis on strengthening the national and regional infrastructure and machineries for carrying out the activities called for in the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women. Details on some aspects of the steps already taken and still to be taken in implementing Commission resolution 211 (XXXVII) are contained in document E/ESCAP/266.

152. ESCAP was represented at the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, which was held at Vienna in February-March 1982 and which, *inter alia*, considered and adopted resolutions concerning the following matters: review and appraisal of the progress achieved in the implementation of the World Plan of Action and the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women; preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, to be held at Nairobi in 1985; and the medium-term programme of work of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs. During the session, eight delegations from the Asian and Pacific region held informal consultations and considered the possibility of conducting regional activities in preparation for the World Conference. Those would include subregional and/or issue-specific technical meetings and a regional intergovernmental preparatory meeting.

153. The secretariat's activities under the subprogramme on the mobilization of youth in development continued to aim at the sharing of country experiences and perspectives for the promotion of youth in rural and urban development, giving attention particularly to the impact of development programmes on the youth

population. A review was made of current problems facing rural and urban youth, such as unemployment, inadequate education and exploitation of the young in the labour market. In addition, general guide-lines have been provided for the establishment and implementation of national youth policies within the context of national development plans.

154. A project on preparation of country monographs on the profile of youth in selected member countries has been under implementation. It is felt that the development of country monographs on the current socio-demographic situation of youth and the participation of young people in various aspects of national and international life would be of value in assisting Governments in assessing the needs of youth and in evaluating programmes and policies to reinforce their efforts for youth development.

155. Activities concerned with information dissemination continue to centre on the three substantive areas covered by ESCAP, namely, the integration of women in the development process, the mobilization of youth in national development, and social welfare. With a view to systematizing all activities connected with information gathering and its dissemination, the secretariat is engaged in the formulation of a conceptual as well as an operational framework for an ESCAP social development information system. The framework will include mechanisms through which member countries can participate to the optimum in the functioning of the system by means of links between regional and national networks.

156. The publication of the *Social Development Newsletter*, three times annually, has continued. The publication is now being increasingly used by member countries as a regional instrument for the exchange of information on social trends. Its computerized mailing list currently contains 1,000 entries and is continually updated.

157. The secretariat's information activities for women include a reading profile on the status of women in Asia and the Pacific comprising an annotated bibliography on issues concerning the economic and social situation of women and their role in development and country case studies on the integration of women in development. For systematic collection of information and its dissemination, the secretariat is preparing, with the assistance of member countries, an additional list of women prominent in the political, economic, administrative and social fields, within and outside government.

158. The secretariat has expanded its role as a focal point for the exchange of information on youth development activities⁹ in the region. The first issue of the *Youth Development Newsletter* was published in August 1981.

159. The following reports/studies were published: (a) the report of the Workshop on Social Problems of Low-income Groups: Some Legal Approaches,

Bangkok, February 1981; (b) the report of the Consumers' Association of Penang/ESCAP Workshop on Legal Approaches to Social Problems of Low-income Groups, Penang, June 1981; (c) an information leaflet on the mobilization of youth for national development; (d) the report of the Subregional Follow-up Meeting for Pacific Women on the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, Suva, October-November 1980; (e) the report of the 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; (f) the report of the Mid-project Evaluation Meeting of the Series of National Training Workshops on the Development of Rural Institutions for the Participations of Youth in National Development, Comilla, Bangladesh, January 1981; (g) the report of the ESCAP/ICSW Training Workshop on Management of Economic Activities of Women, Bombay, September 1981; (h) the report of the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the World Assembly on Aging, Manila, October 1981; (i) the report of the Field Study and Attachment of Youth Work Personnel to Rural Institutions and Development Programmes in which Youth are Actively Engaged, China, Malaysia, Mongolia and the Philippines, April-May 1981; (j) *Mechanisms for Promoting Integration of Women in Development in Indonesia: A Research Study*; and (k) *Women in Development: a Regional Programme of Action*.

Committee on Statistics

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

Seminar on Labour Productivity Statistics, Moscow, August 1981

Industrial Census Training Workshop, Suzhou, China, November-December 1981

Working Group on the Evaluation and Utilization of Population and Housing Census Data, Bangkok, January 1982

Pacific Subregional Workshop on Energy Statistics, Suva, February 1982

161. At the Seminar on Labour Productivity Statistics, a number of useful suggestions and recommendations were made for promoting the development of productivity statistics in the countries of the region.

162. The Industrial Census Training Workshop, which was organized as a preparatory activity for the United Nations 1983 World Programme of Industrial Statistics, discussed all aspects of organizing industrial censuses such as questionnaire design, data collection methods, sampling, data processing and analyses, dissemination of results and uses of industrial statistics. A "minimum programme", suitable especially for smaller countries and those with a developing statistical system, was

also considered. In addition, the organization of surveys to cover cottage or household industries was discussed. It was felt that the Workshop would help most countries of the region in conducting industrial censuses in 1983 or a year close to it, thereby contributing to the World Programme.

163. Almost all countries of the ESCAP region have participated, or will soon participate, in the 1980s round of population and housing censuses. These censuses normally are massive national undertakings and absorb a significant amount of resources. Yet it often happens that data generated by them remain unevaluated in terms of their quality and under-utilized in terms of their potential. The Working Group on the Evaluation and Utilization of Population and Housing Census Data, convened with financial support from UNFPA, addressed itself to those issues. Various techniques of evaluating the quality and consistency of census data were discussed. The uses to which census results could be put, such as for administrative needs, economic and social planning and construction of a sampling frame, were discussed at length and useful suggestions made for the countries to consider and adopt.

164. The Pacific Subregional Workshop on Energy Statistics was attended by users and producers of energy statistics from Pacific island countries. The Workshop, while dealing with statistics on all forms of energy in the context of over-all energy balances, concentrated its attention on traditional and non-conventional energy sources for which data remain extremely scarce. Methodologies for collecting such information were discussed in detail and participating countries were urged to gather more comprehensive information on energy sources and use. Several recommendations were also made, some of which will be particularly relevant to the upcoming Pacific energy development programme.

165. The promotion of the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP) in the region was vigorously pursued. A project proposal for the participation of the Republic of Korea was prepared by a joint ESCAP/United Nations Statistical Office mission and submitted to the Government for its consideration and approval. The project proposal for Thailand was revised and resubmitted. As a starting point for the project, a consultant was engaged to suggest ways and means of integrating the household survey programmes already in operation. The household survey programme, which has been in operation in Sri Lanka for over a year as part of the over-all statistical development programme, was reviewed by a joint United Nations/ESCAP mission in October 1981 and an extension was suggested. For various reasons, the NHSCP projects in the Pacific countries have not made the desired progress; nevertheless, efforts were maintained to revitalize their interest, perhaps through convening a Pacific meeting, and to sort out problems of availability of external funding for NHSCP in those countries. Meanwhile, technical support

was provided to one of the potential participants, Fiji, in the organization of a multisubject household survey with emphasis on labour force, employment and unemployment. A preliminary expression of interest in NHSCP by Mongolia was followed by clarification of the procedures for participation in the Programme, and an exploratory mission will follow soon. A project proposal was drawn up for several training courses to be organized in India in support of NHSCP. The courses will be supported by UNDP in its 1982-1986 programming cycle. A technical monograph on the organization and methods of household surveys was prepared and printed for circulation among the countries of the region.

166. The preparation of a draft manual on the compilation of international trade statistics, incorporating revised international recommendations on concepts and definitions, was completed. An expert group meeting will consider and finalize it in June 1982. The use of such a manual, while assisting in international comparison, would also help in inter-country harmonization and reconciliation of trade statistics.

167. Regional advisory services in national accounts, household surveys, population censuses, civil registration and vital statistics were maintained with increasing effectiveness through the financial support of UNFPA and ILO.

168. The secretariat's statistical publications were released regularly. Their coverage and contents, in terms of both member countries and statistical fields, were extended. New arrangements are being implemented to avoid printing delays and thus improve the timeliness of the publications.

Committee on Trade

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

ESCAP/FIT/CIDA Workshop for Trainers in Export and Import Techniques for ASEAN Countries, Bangkok, March-April 1981

ESCAP/UNCTAD Seminar on Anti-fraud and Anti-smuggling Measures, Bangkok, April 1981

ESCAP/International Pepper Community Meeting of Specialists on a Socio-economic Study on Production and Productivity of Pepper Holdings in the International Pepper Community Member Countries (second session), Jakarta, April 1981

Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement (tenth session), Bangkok, May 1981; (eleventh session), Bangkok, December 1981

Regional Consultation on Consumer Protection, Bangkok, June 1981

Intergovernmental Meeting of Tropical Timber Producing Countries, Bangkok, June 1981

ESCAP/UNCTAD/UNDP Workshop on Special Measures in favour of Least Developed Land-locked Countries, Bangkok, July 1981

Special Body on Land-locked Countries (sixth session), Bangkok, July 1981

Ministerial Meeting on the Least Developed Countries of the ESCAP and ECWA Regions, Bangkok, August 1981

Government Consultation among Jute Producing Countries, Bangkok, August 1981; Kathmandu, January 1982

ESCAP/International Pepper Community Meeting of Specialists on Determination of Remunerative Price Levels of Pepper Products (second session), Jakarta, August 1981

Intergovernmental Working Group Meeting of Tapioca Producing/Exporting Countries, Bangkok, September 1981

Regional Seminar and Study Tour on the Foreign Trade of the USSR, Moscow and Leningrad, September 1981

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Trade Promotion Techniques and Institutions in China, Beijing, Tianjin, Nanjing and Guangzhou, October-November 1981

Seminar on Facilitation Measures for Movement of Goods in International Trade, Bangkok, November 1981

Expert Group Meeting on Trade-creating Joint Ventures in Wood and Wood-based Products, Bangkok, December 1981

Seminar on Long-term Contracts, Bangkok, December 1981

Trade Co-operation Group (TCG) (fourth session), Bangkok, January 1982

TCG Subgroups for: Commodities (Bali, September 1981); Monetary and Credit Co-operation (Bangkok, November 1981); Long-term Contracts (Bangkok, November 1981); Encouragement and Liberalization of Trade within the Region (Bangkok, November 1981); Harmonization of Trade Statistics, Customs Tariff Nomenclatures and Customs and Transport Facilitation Procedures and Documentation (Bangkok, January 1982); Trade-creating Joint Ventures (Bangkok, January 1982); Network of Trade Promotion Centres (Bangkok, January 1982)

UNCTAD/ESCAP Expert Group Meeting on Arrangements for Mutual Administrative Assistance and Co-operation among Customs Administrations of ESCAP Countries for Action against

Customs Fraud and Smuggling, Kathmandu, January 1982

Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Asian Clearing Union (tenth session), New Delhi, February 1982

Meeting of Directors of Research/Scientists and Experts on Standardization and Quality Control of Jute Goods, Calcutta, March 1982

Trade expansion and monetary co-operation

170. TCG and all its Subgroups met during the year. Most of the studies required by the various Subgroups for implementing the programme of action adopted at the Ministerial Conference on Co-operation in Trade for Asia and the Pacific, held in August 1978, have been completed and the remaining few are in their final stages. These studies will lead to decisions on further action to be taken by participating countries in respect of the various components of the programme. Two seminars were organized: one on facilitation measures for movement of goods in international trade and the other on long-term contracts. An expert group meeting was convened to consider policy issues and opportunities for promoting trade-creating joint ventures in wood and wood-based products. Proposals have been submitted to UNDP for continuing assistance in phase II of the programme.

171. At its tenth session, the Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement finalized the modalities and guide-lines for the second round of negotiations among the members with a view to enlarging the product coverage of the Agreement under preferential treatment and expanding its membership. It also finalized a report on the operation of the Agreement for submission to GATT, as required. The report was sent to GATT in October 1981.

172. At its eleventh session, the Standing Committee decided that the second round of negotiations would be held in 1982. It also adopted common rules of origin. As at 30 June 1981, the Asian trade expansion programme, under which the activities of the Standing Committee and the Trade Negotiations Group are being financed, was terminated. A new programme on trade expansion and economic co-operation related to trade among the developing countries of the ESCAP region (RAS/81/068/A/01/80) is under consideration for UNDP financing.

173. The Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Asian Clearing Union, at its tenth session, decided that a technical committee should be set up to consider ways and means of improving the present procedures and mechanisms of the Union and to present its proposals to the Board at its next session. Since the work of this committee would be technical in nature, the Board requested ESCAP to provide substantive and secretarial services to assist it. The technical committee was also

given the assignment of looking into the possibility of channelling payments for petroleum products through the Union. A representative of ESCAP attended and serviced the session.

Trade promotion and development

174. Steps have been taken to implement the first phase of the trade information network programme, which commenced in January 1980. A considerable amount of trade information material supplied by the national focal points was incorporated in the ongoing services of the central focal point, namely, the *Trade Information Sources Data Bank* and the *Trade Information Sources Directory*, both of which are distributed to the national focal points on a regular basis. Since July 1981, the central focal point has also commenced issuing quarterly information under the title, *Prices of Selected Products in Asia and the Pacific*.

175. Advisory services continued to be rendered to the developing ESCAP countries to assess their furniture and equipment needs and other basic requisites for the building up of their libraries or documentation units or to help to improve and strengthen their trade information services. Several country- and regional-level seminars/workshops on various technical aspects of trade and market information were organized, including a workshop on trade information services for participants from the least developed countries in the region at Kathmandu in December 1981. During the year, training courses in trade information services were conducted for participants from 11 developing countries of the region at the ESCAP Trade Information Service at Bangkok. In addition, special training courses in the same field were held at ESCAP for participants from the least developed countries of the region.

176. Training in trade promotion was provided through two regional seminars held in China and the USSR focusing attention on these two large centrally planned economies. Participants in the seminars recommended that trade promotion activities such as mobile seminars, trade missions and trade fairs would not only create new trade opportunities but also facilitate improvement of skills in such trade promotion techniques, particularly in trading with centrally planned economies. In this connection, a guidebook on trading with China is under preparation and is expected to be published and distributed in June 1982.

177. Field missions for advisory services, including consultancy and training activities, were undertaken in six developing and least developed countries. Assistance was provided with regard to the newly established ASEAN Handicraft Promotion and Development Association, by drafting the Memorandum and Articles of Association which have been adopted and in designing a technical assistance project. Assistance was also provided in organizing the ESCAP Regional Consultation on Consumer Protection which was held at Bangkok in

June 1981 in an endeavour to identify the needs of ESCAP developing countries in the area of consumer protection. Assistance has also been provided in promoting inter-co-operative trade between co-operative organizations in developing countries of the region with similar organizations in the developed countries, and also between developing countries themselves. Training has been provided to co-operatives officials in export marketing and development techniques and related topics.

178. A series of case studies on trade promotion between the developing countries in the region were completed and distributed to the trade promotion organizations of the developing countries of the region, namely: (a) "Trade in diesel engines between India and Thailand"; (b) "Printing and writing paper between the Republic of Korea and India"; (c) "Pesticide exports from the Philippines to Indonesia"; and (d) "The low share of Fiji's exports to ESCAP countries".

Raw materials and commodities

179. Under the project on the TCG Subgroup for Commodities, three studies on regional co-operative arrangements in tapioca, shrimps/marine products and silk were completed. The Intergovernmental Working Group Meeting of Tapioca Producing/Exporting Countries was held at Bangkok in September 1981 to consider a report on the study on tapioca. The Working Group approved all the activities recommended in the study and decided that analysis of short- and long-term demand and supply prospects of tapioca products and co-ordination of research and development in the production, processing and marketing of tapioca products and by-products should be assigned high priority. The Group requested the secretariat to take steps to convene the first session of an intergovernmental consultative committee of tapioca producing countries of the ESCAP region as soon as confirmation from at least three Governments was received regarding their willingness to participate in the proposed co-operative activities. The reports of the study and the Working Group Meeting were presented to the Subgroup for Commodities at its fourth session, held in Bali in September 1981.

180. An ESCAP/FAO consultative mission to jute producing/exporting countries in the region, i.e., Bangladesh, Burma, India, Nepal and Thailand, was undertaken in April-May 1981 to identify common problems and formulate proposals on possible co-operative arrangements in jute and jute products. The report of the mission was considered by the Government Consultation among Jute Producing Countries at its session held at Bangkok in August 1981. Eleven specific co-operative activities among jute producing countries were agreed on by the Consultation and a detailed plan to implement those activities was considered and agreed upon by the Consultation at its session at Kathmandu in January 1982. The secretariats of UNCTAD, UNIDO, FAO and ITC have agreed to

assist the jute producing countries in the implementation of those activities. In this connection, ESCAP has been requested by the Consultation to serve as the co-ordinating agency.

181. The Intergovernmental Meeting of Tropical Timber Producing Countries held at Bangkok in June 1981 considered the report and recommendations of the ESCAP/FAO joint mission to major tropical timber producing/exporting countries in the region and agreed that, subject to the concurrence of the individual Governments, a regional co-operative arrangement among tropical timber producing/exporting countries should be established with the main objectives of achieving price stability at fair and remunerative levels for wood and wood products, optimum utilization and development of timber resources and effective marketing arrangements for wood and wood products. As a follow-up of that Meeting, two studies on the marketing of tropical timber and the utilization of lesser-known timber species were completed by the secretariat and will be discussed by timber experts of both producing and consuming countries in the region at the joint ESCAP/SEALPA (South-East Asia Lumber Producers Association) Workshop on the Utilization of Lesser-known Species of Tropical Timber which will be held at Los Baños, Philippines, in June 1982.

182. In accordance with the mandate given by the Commission at its thirty-seventh session, advisory services and assistance were provided to member countries and the secretariats of the regional commodity communities, namely, ANRPC, APCC and IPC, particularly in the implementation of the projects: "Comparative studies on various schemes in ANRPC countries for improvement of processing and marketing of smallholders' rubber"; "Development of a common sales contract form for pepper"; "Intraregional processing and marketing of coconut products"; and "Market study/survey to determine demand prospects of pepper in developing countries".

Facilitation of international trade flows and co-operation in insurance and reinsurance

183. The Subgroup for Monetary and Credit Co-operation at its November 1981 session recommended action to be taken to enlarge the membership of the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) and the Asian Reinsurance Corporation (ARC). ACU and ARC are progressing and the volume of their transactions and business is gradually increasing. The Subgroup also considered the possibility of setting up refinancing facilities for deferred payment exports by developing countries on soft terms. It decided that an in-depth study of the alternatives, direct financing and export guarantees, should be prepared to assist member Governments in taking decisions in respect of various features of the preferred alternative.

184. The ESCAP/UNCTAD Seminar on Anti-fraud and Anti-smuggling Measures evolved a set of arrangements for mutual administrative assistance and co-operation among customs administrations for action against customs fraud and smuggling. It requested the Executive Secretary to convene a high-level expert group meeting to consider the set of arrangements. Accordingly, an expert group meeting was held at Kathmandu in January 1982 to examine the draft multilateral agreement formulated on the basis of the set of arrangements evolved by the Seminar. As recommended by the experts, the revised draft multilateral instrument was transmitted to the members and associate members of ESCAP for consideration and possible adoption.

Least developed, land-locked and developing island countries

185. Under the UNDP-funded project on assistance to least developed land-locked countries (RAS/72/077), the secretariat continued its work, in co-operation with UNCTAD, in dealing with particular problems relating to the transit trade of the land-locked countries. In June 1981 a joint UNDP/UNCTAD/ESCAP evaluation mission was dispatched to the least developed land-locked and transit countries of the region. The main purpose of the mission was to assess progress achieved by the project with a view to designing and formulating follow-up measures for the next phase, 1982-1984, taking into account the views of the land-locked and transit countries. The mission was part of an exercise aimed at rendering greater and more effective assistance to these countries. In July 1981 a UNDP/UNCTAD/ESCAP tripartite review meeting was held at Bangkok to discuss the report of the evaluation mission and also to suggest a work plan for the next phase of the project.

186. The ESCAP/UNCTAD/UNDP Workshop on Special Measures in favour of Least Developed Land-locked Countries was attended by participants from both land-locked and transit countries. The programme consisted of three parts: (a) information on the progress of activities carried out by the UNCTAD and ESCAP secretariats in favour of land-locked countries; (b) discussions on subjects relating to the transit trade of the land-locked countries, including intermodal transport, customs documentation and formalities, clearing and forwarding, insurance, warehousing management, cargo movement, packaging and port facilities and procedures; and (c) an observation tour to the seaport of Bangkok and the river port of Nong Khai in the context of the transit trade of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The Workshop provided a suitable forum for participants from both land-locked and transit countries to appreciate each other's problems and to reach a better understanding among themselves.

187. The sixth session of the Special Body on Land-locked Countries was attended by representatives of the land-locked and transit countries as well as other countries and international agencies. The main purpose

was to examine particular problems faced by the land-locked countries of the region and to recommend ways in which the United Nations system could help those countries to overcome their special problems, in the light of the decisions and resolutions adopted by the international community.

188. Prior to the Ministerial Meeting on the Least Developed Countries of the ESCAP and ECWA Regions, a Meeting of Senior Officials was held to consider the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries. The report of the Senior Officials' Meeting was submitted to the Ministerial Meeting for consideration and approval. The Ministerial Meeting adopted a declaration on the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, in which it, *inter alia*, called upon all the developed countries, developing countries in a position to do so, multilateral organizations and other bodies to make every effort to ensure a rapid increase in the flow of assistance and other measures to meet the over-all requirements of the least developed countries.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

189. The sectoral series oriented towards emerging development issues, which was initiated in 1980 with the first volume on solar energy, was continued through the publication of three further volumes on renewable sources of energy. They covered biogas, wind energy and mini hydro plants. A third volume, prepared in co-operation with the Institute of Pacific Studies of the University of the South Pacific, was published in the multisectoral series on inter-country institutional arrangements for economic and technical co-operation among developing Asian and Pacific countries. It describes over 165 Pacific institutions in different sectors, intergovernmental and non-governmental as well as national, traces the history of co-operation involving Pacific islands and provides useful information on their land and sea areas and the size and density of their populations. The first volume on technological research and development institutions in Asia and the Pacific was also issued.

190. Pending the finalization of its role as the regional arm of the UNDP Information Referral System, ESCAP continued to contribute to a regional information system by publishing the volumes described in the preceding paragraph and to maintain regional files of technological research and development institutions and of inter-country institutional arrangements.

191. The ESCAP supplementary funding facility was used to transport by air a Thai-manufactured outboard motor from Bangkok to Samoa. The motor, supplied by the Thai Government at the request of the Government of Samoa, was given to the Fisheries Division. Other

activities approved for supplementary financing included contributions for the participation of representatives of least developed and land-locked countries in a pilot project planning workshop on improving the socio-economic conditions of fisherfolk through income-generating activities for women, in a regional road maintenance study course organized at Bangkok and in a workshop for trainers of animal health auxiliary personnel and livestock farmers held in Sri Lanka.

192. A project for interregional co-operation was formulated and, as a first stage towards its finalization, discussions were held with the ECLA secretariat. The scope for the secretariat's contributions to south Asian co-operation was studied and the possibilities of extrabudgetary funding to implement promotional and supportive activities were pursued. Possibilities of co-operation with other United Nations agencies, particularly UNIDO and FAO, in the preparation of forthcoming ECDC TCDC publications were kept under constant review. Discussions were held with the UNDP Special Unit for TCDC on co-operation with the secretariat in conducting an orientation seminar for high-level national government officials concerned with TCDC.

193. As part of the system-wide report of UNDP to the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries at its second session, in June 1981, a review was prepared on the secretariat's promotional and supportive activities. A joint statement on behalf of all the regional commissions was made at the session. The secretariat participated in various meetings organized by specialized agencies concerning TCDC.

Information systems and documentation services

194. The Intergovernmental Meeting on Government Information Systems and Data Processing was held at Tokyo in December 1981. This was the first intergovernmental meeting under the ESCAP programme on information and was attended by representatives of 15 countries and five organizations. The Meeting considered that the improvement of computer-based information systems was a task of high priority in government and that it could best be achieved by a considerable measure of regional co-operation organized through ESCAP.

195. As a means for improving the management of information within the secretariat, an Advisory Board on Information Systems was established by the Executive Secretary in May 1981. This Board is convened under the chairmanship of the Deputy Executive Secretary and has the authority to set guide-lines for the development and operation of computer-based information systems; to recommend the pooling of resources of several sectors in the implementation of intersectoral information systems; and to act as a recourse panel on matters of priority

scheduling of data processing services. Under the direction of the Board, an inventory of the secretariat's information systems has been made.

196. Another improvement in the co-ordination of information within the secretariat resulted from the installation of a modern computer system, presented by the Government of Japan, in March 1981. Furthermore, thanks to the services of a library systems analyst provided over the last three years by the Federal Republic of Germany, the secretariat now has a set of common tools for the indexing of documents. Through these various means, the co-ordination and control of documentary information are being improved. As part of documents control, the system for entering document descriptions on the computerized data file has been broadened in scope. The file now contains about 5,000 entries and will expand at the rate of approximately 8,000 entries a year. A union list of serials for all United Nations offices in Bangkok, which UNESCO and UNICEF have initially joined, has also been commenced.

197. The centralized processing of bibliographic data for all substantive ESCAP divisions has begun and sample listings of printouts from the ESCAP bibliographic information system have been produced and disseminated to divisions, including title indexes, corporate body indexes and KWOC (key-word-out-of-context) indexes.

198. The Library has revised the *ESCAP Delegates Handbook* on the basis of suggestions voiced at the sixty-first session of ACPR and responses to a questionnaire. The revised *Handbook* contains more information on rules of procedure, additional information on the organization of the secretariat and the physical layout of the secretariat buildings and information on the responsibility of countries providing host facilities for ESCAP meetings, as well as other information to assist representatives participating in ESCAP meetings.

199. The 1981 version of *ESCAP Documents and Publications*, now published annually, has been prepared by the Library and was issued early in 1982. It contains a list of documents received in the Library up to mid-December 1981.

200. Within the regional programme on government information systems, the regional adviser on administrative information systems and data processing, whose services have been provided for a second year by the Government of France, conducted missions during 1981 to India, Nepal, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand to make recommendations on the establishment and improvement of data banks, time-series systems and systems for the processing of regulatory information.

201. The regional adviser on data preparation and processing of censuses and surveys, whose services are funded by UNFPA, conducted missions to Fiji,

Japan, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, Vanuatu, Viet Nam and the South Pacific Commission, primarily to advise on the design for processing the 1980 round of population censuses and to install computer software packages for editing and tabulating census and survey data.

202. Countries are tending more and more to use software packages for their editing and tabulation needs. With the co-operation of the United States Bureau of the Census, a workshop on the CONCOR computer software package for editing data from population censuses and surveys was held at Bangkok in May 1981.

203. The Government of the Netherlands has extended its support until the end of September 1982 for the project for strengthening information on rural development, which it has been funding since October 1980. Under this project, a systems analyst conducted missions during 1981 to Indonesia, Maldives, the Philippines and Sri Lanka to make recommendations on the organization and management of information needed for rural development planning. The analyst has also undertaken to set up a referral unit in the ESCAP Library for cataloguing, indexing and, where necessary, abstracting incoming material on rural development for entry as a subsystem of the "on-line" ESCAP bibliographic information system. This will provide users in the secretariat and United Nations agencies in Bangkok with access to the material and will enable inquiries from countries of the region to be serviced. Several hundred bibliographic descriptions of rural development literature have so far been entered into the subsystem, and a bibliography compiled from the data base has been prepared as a publication for dissemination in the region to United Nations agencies and selected institutions.

Integrated programme on rural development

204. The approved activities under the ESCAP integrated programme on rural development were implemented with one lead division identified in each case. Out of a total of 45 activities in the work programme for 1980-1981, 14 have been completed, 25 are at various stages of implementation, 4 are still awaiting commitment of funds, 1 has been postponed to 1982-1983 and 1 has been deleted. The Integrated Rural Development Unit of the secretariat has been implementing three core activities designed to strengthen the institutional and organizational framework for integrated rural development, in close co-operation with divisions of the secretariat and concerned international agencies. Under the projects, "Development of low-income groups" and "Improving the accountability of public agencies and local organizations to low-income groups", taken up on a combined basis, nine case studies have been completed in seven countries of the region. These were followed by a regional workshop attended

by selected government officials, national experts and representatives of United Nations agencies at which an in-depth analysis of the socio-economic disadvantages and disabilities faced by different sections of low-income groups was carried out; recommendations were made on ways and means of overcoming such disadvantages and disabilities to enable the poorer sections of society to improve their living conditions on a self-reliant basis. Another activity concerned with analysing how non-bureaucratic organizations can be pressed into service in the planning and implementation of agrarian reform measures at the local level for future policy action is currently being implemented and is expected to be completed by mid-1982.

205. During the period under review, the concerned United Nations agencies co-operated in the implementation of the interagency co-ordinated plan of action for integrated rural development. The Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific held three meetings during the year, at which it reviewed the progress of work and provided valuable policy guidance to the Task Force with regard to planning and implementation. The Task Force met more frequently, on an average once a month, to provide support for implementation.

Country-specific activities completed or undertaken during the year under review

206. *Maldives.* The preparatory assistance already rendered to the Government of Maldives in the formulation of a broad strategy for and preparation of an integrated development project for one atoll was followed by further assistance to the Government in taking follow-up action for the implementation of a long-term project in atoll development.

207. *Nepal.* In pursuance of the policy guidance received from the Interagency Committee to assign higher priority to the development needs of least developed countries and backward areas, the Task Force has formulated a project to assist the Government of Nepal in improving the planning and implementation of integrated rural development in the hilly districts, where the problems of development are compounded by geographical and environmental factors. The project proposals have been submitted to the Government through UNDP in Nepal and the reaction of the Government to the proposals is awaited.

208. *Sri Lanka.* Further consultations were held with the Government on the scope and framework of integrated district development in the perspective of its strategies on decentralized development. In response to a request from the Government, the Task Force formulated another proposal designed to improve the linkage between the village and divisional-level planning as part of an integrated district development plan. In view of this, the implementation schedule of the integrated district development project has been revised

with the agreement of the Government. The Government has selected a district as the project area and completed other preparatory work for the implementation of the project. Field-work is expected to commence soon.

209. *Thailand.* On the basis of detailed consultations with concerned ministries of the Thai Government, the Task Force formulated a project for rendering assistance in planning for integrated rural development at the provincial level. The Government has formally approved this project, has selected two provinces as the project area and has also completed other preparatory work. The Task Force has taken steps to begin field-work.

Inter-country activities

210. As a follow-up to earlier activities completed in this field, a project has been formulated with the objective of assisting two countries of the region, in the first instance, in undertaking a detailed review of their respective methodologies and systems for monitoring and evaluation and in taking steps to improve the participation of the intended beneficiaries, particularly low-income groups, in such processes. The Governments of Indonesia and Sri Lanka have expressed their willingness to participate in the project.

211. During the first phase of the project on "Training of personnel of rural banking institutions", a regional training workshop was held at Chainat, Thailand, in November 1981, and was attended by senior officials of banking institutions and trainers concerned with rural credit from eight countries of the region. Detailed activities during the workshop included a review of existing practices and systems for the delivery of credit, recommending measures to improve the access of low-income groups to institutional facilities in farm and non-farm sectors and a field exercise to improve methodologies for identifying and appraising small-scale projects for the poorer sections of society. On the basis of these activities, the participants from each country formulated a broad outline for national-level training in their respective countries during the second phase of the project. Since then, country-level training has been conducted in Bangladesh.

212. Representatives of Governments and national liaison officers from 10 countries participated in a study tour/seminar to China in June and July 1981 organized by the Interagency Committee, to study experiences gained in rural development in that country and to assess how developing countries of the region could benefit from the experiences of China in the implementation of their own programmes with a sharper focus on mass mobilization and participation.

Technical co-operation and related activities

213. The total value of the regional technical co-operation programmes administered by ESCAP in 1981 amounted to \$US 30.5 million, which represents a con-

tinuing expansion of the volume of these programmes. This growing expansion indicates the increased importance attached by member countries to the operational activities of ESCAP. The bulk of the resources needed by the expanding programme were derived from extrabudgetary contributions by donor countries and organizations. The funds-in-trust contributions for the year 1981 amounted to \$US 21.0 million, including contributions for the regional training and research institutions and the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin. The non-reimbursable loan component of the extrabudgetary assistance in 1981 is estimated at \$US 9.5 million.

214. A group of 13 regional advisers and experts undertook 43 missions providing technical and advisory services to the developing countries of the region, devoting primary attention to the needs of the least developed, land-locked and developing island member countries. The United Nations Development Advisory Team (UNDAT) for the South Pacific enlarged its programme of assistance to the developing island countries of the region and enhanced its co-operation with SPC, SPEC and the University of the South Pacific. During 1981, 37 advisory consultancy projects were arranged.

215. Regional projects financed by UNDP dealt with both recurrent and emerging issues and policies, for example, manpower training and development, agricultural machinery, industrial development, trade co-operation, natural resources and energy, public administration and finance, remote sensing, science and technology, statistics and regional co-operation in shipping, ports and inland waterways. ESCAP also continued to support the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin and co-operated with UNCTAD as associate agency in the implementation of trade-related projects.

216. UNFPA continued to provide institutional support to the ESCAP Population Division and its population information services. Funds were also made available to ESCAP which enabled it to provide regional advisory services on population matters to the countries of the region and technical assistance and training in demography and population statistics, to carry out various studies and prepare country monographs, to provide 15 fellowships for demographers of ESCAP developing countries to train at the International Institute for Population Studies in India and to organize the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference.

217. Organizations such as UNICEF, ILO, UNESCO and WHO also co-operated with ESCAP and contributed to its achievements. The Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women supported seven projects in 1981 and UNEP supported two projects. The United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development also provided institutional and programme support to RCTT.

Regional training and research institutions and special regional projects

Asian and Pacific Development Centre

218. In accordance with Commission resolution 215 (XXXVII), the secretariat pursued action on the two outstanding issues in the draft Charter of APDC. This action included exploratory discussions with the host Government of Malaysia, representatives of other Governments and the Office of Legal Affairs at United Nations Headquarters, as well as the convening of an informal meeting of permanent representatives of Governments to ESCAP with a view to resolving the outstanding issues.

219. APDC was officially inaugurated on 17 August 1981 by His Excellency Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia. A work programme for 1982-1983 was approved by the Management Board at its second session, held in August 1981. The transitional research and training work programme of APDC for 1981 was implemented. Six training seminars and workshops were organized in various Asian countries, in addition to several collaborative efforts with other institutions. A conference on development perspectives in the 1980s was conducted at Kuala Lumpur in December 1981. Activities related to the recruitment of staff and raising of funds for APDC programmes continued. The Management Board met for the third time in February 1982 to review progress.

220. The Management Board, at its first session, decided that, in order to contribute innovative ideas and new insights in the field of development planning, APDC should concentrate on a few selected areas for research and training and avoid spreading its limited resources too thinly over a wide area. The areas selected for policy research and training by the Board were (a) energy planning and management, (b) food security, (c) human resources mobilization and (d) integration of women in development.

Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

221. The eleventh general course, which commenced in October 1980, ended in March 1981. The twelfth general course commenced in October 1981 and ended in March 1982. The Institute also conducted two advanced seminars for senior statisticians as well as two training courses on automatic data processing and five country/subregional courses.

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

222. The Interim Mekong Committee held three sessions during the year under review. The twelfth session was held at Vientiane in September 1981. In particular, the subject of UNDP institutional support for the period 1982-1985 was discussed. The thirteenth session was held at Hanoi in January 1982 and the

fourteenth session was held concurrently with the thirty-eighth session of the Commission in March-April 1982.

223. The work programme for 1982, which was approved by the Committee at its twelfth session, conforms to the general framework of the indicative basin plan. It is comprised of six sectoral programmes: hydrology and meteorology, basin planning, land and water resources development, navigation improvement, agriculture and fisheries, and power, industry and minerals. These programmes are divided into 20 subprogrammes, which, in turn, are subdivided into 102 separate activities.

224. The secretariat has continued to receive support from UNDP through its ongoing institutional support project as well as from co-operating countries and agencies which provide expert services, fellowships and other assistance in cash and in kind. In the fifth phase of the UNDP project, which covered a three-year period from May 1979 to March 1982, about 60 per cent of all secretariat costs, as distinct from costs incurred for field projects and special projects executed by the secretariat, were covered by the UNDP contribution. In addition to approximately 40 per cent of the cost of secretariat operations, co-operating countries and organizations provide substantial resources to supplement the budgets of field projects undertaken by the riparian countries or, where predominantly regional activities are concerned, by the Committee itself.

225. A working group was set up within the secretariat in March 1981 with the initial task of critically examining the key sections of the indicative basin plan and selecting the data that require verification and/or updating. The working group met at regular intervals during the year and various areas of the indicative basin plan were identified for research and revision.

226. The highlights of the activities undertaken by the secretariat during the year are as follows: three phases of studies on the Nam Pong environmental management research project were completed and a simulation model for the Nam Pong system was also formulated; a study was completed to update the current cost estimates for the Pa Mong project and to review all previously conceived ideas regarding ownership, management and financing arrangements to implement the scheme; additional studies on Khone Falls and Stung Treng were carried out; in the Mekong pump irrigation project, 32 electrically powered pumps were installed at 11 pump stations and 19 pumps were in operation during the 1980/81 dry season, construction of laterals at each pump station was started and an operation and maintenance team was set up; construction equipment was obtained and operations began on the flood protection and swamp reclamation project on the Vientiane Plain, and a technical study on the reclamation of the swamp area was initiated;

construction, for the Lao People's Democratic Republic, of a new ferry for the Nong Khai/Thanaleng crossing was completed and a topo-hydrographic survey of the Nong Khai/Thanaleng ferry crossing was again conducted by a joint team from the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand in preparation for dredging operations; and construction work, biological investigations, fishing trials and extension activities progressed in the Nam Ngum fishery development and management project in the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

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

227. The eighteenth session of CCOP was held at Seoul in September-October 1981. In conjunction with the session, several related meetings were held, including the seventeenth session of CCOP's Technical Advisory Group and the seventh meeting of the Northwest Quadrant Panel of the Circum-Pacific Map Project. In addition, a tripartite review of the project on regional offshore prospecting in east Asia (RAS/80/003), designed to strengthen the activities of CCOP, was held jointly by representatives of CCOP member Governments, ESCAP and UNDP.

228. The Committee reviewed the project's activities in the fields of petroleum resources, tin and other heavy detrital minerals, Quaternary geology, other sub-sea resources, project MAGNET, remote sensing, isotopic dating, compilation of gravity and magnetic maps, compilation of sea-floor and continental margin geological maps, the marine environment, consultancy services, training of technical personnel and technical publications.

229. Close co-operation was maintained between the Project Office and national and international organizations. External assistance was obtained from co-operating countries of CCOP, namely, Australia, Canada, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, in addition to Japan, which is also a member of CCOP.

230. UNDP continued to provide the main support for CCOP activities, and it was hoped that it would continue to provide similar support during the period 1982-1984.

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

231. CCOP/SOPAC, at its tenth session, held at Port Vila, Vanuatu, in October 1981, discussed the following important matters and issues: (a) the establishment of a working group to foster and implement research programmes in the South Pacific on science, tectonics and resources; (b) its terms of reference and legal status, taking note of the views expressed by the United

Nations Office of Legal Affairs; (c) the offer by the Governments of Australia, New Zealand and the United States to the South Pacific Forum of a programme of geophysical and oceanographic surveys and research in close collaboration with CCOP/SOPAC; (d) an earth science training programme at the University of the South Pacific; and (e) the work programme for 1981-1982, the offshore cruises for 1983 and 1984 and the resources required to implement the programmes, including staff and equipment items, taking note of the different priorities expressed by the member countries.

232. As a result of the decisions of CCOP/SOPAC at its tenth session, the secretariat is taking the following steps: (a) helping to examine the legal status of the Committee; (b) following up on financial and other forms of support, including the services of experts from donor Governments and other sources; (c) endeavouring to secure from the Government of New Zealand contributions to the TCDC funds for earth science courses for member country nationals; and (d) facilitating the implementation of joint survey cruises.

Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre

233. Three specialists joined the Centre during the period under review and four additional specialists are under recruitment.

234. During the period under review, 43 technical advisory missions were carried out to 14 member countries and 23 technical reports were submitted to the national agencies concerned. Since 1973, the Centre has issued 159 technical reports.

235. A Workshop on Geoscience Information: Practical Applications was held at Bandung, Indonesia, in May 1981 and a Symposium on Tungsten Geology was held in Jiangxi Province, China, in October 1981.

236. There has been an increase in the activities of RMRDC and in its impact on mineral and ground-water exploration and exploitation efforts within the ESCAP region. Several special programmes were initiated in 1980 and 1981, including the experimental geochemical exploration programme in Indonesia, the rock magnetism project in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand and the age-dating network project.

237. Three *Newsletters* have now been published and the fourth is being prepared.

238. The financial status of the Centre is being discussed and emphasis given to the urgent need for increased cash contributions to cover the local operational expenditure at Bandung and to the problem of funding the post of co-ordinator after 1982.

239. The resource situation of the Centre is both encouraging and problematic. It is very encouraging to note the steeply increasing allocation in the form of services of specialists from donor countries, as well

as the increased UNDP support for programme activities. However, the situation is very precarious when the cash contributions made by developing countries of the ESCAP region are considered, and these countries are the direct beneficiaries of the activities of the Centre. Such cash contributions are the only source for the local operational expenditure at the Centre's headquarters at Bandung. In the eyes of the other funding sources, such cash contributions constitute a demonstration of the seriousness of the interest of the developing countries in continuing and expanding the activities of this regional centre. The interest demonstrated through cash contributions, however modest, will reflect directly on the willingness of donor countries to place specialists at the disposal of the region through the Centre.

240. The present level of cash contributions of about \$US 25,000 per year is grossly inadequate in terms of the expenditure requirements of the Centre and compares unfavourably with the contributions of services and facilities made by donor countries amounting to over \$US 1 million per year. So far, only 10 out of 37 developing member countries have made cash contributions.

241. The expanded activities of RMRDC, from which all member countries can benefit, should be supported by additional cash contributions from developing member countries. It is therefore strongly urged that member countries which have not so far contributed should do so and that those which are already contributing should try to increase their contributions to help RMRDC to meet its local operating costs.

Typhoon Committee

242. The fourteenth session of the Typhoon Committee was held at Manila in November 1981. The Committee decided that it would organize a seminar on flood vulnerability analysis in 1982 and that the ESCAP secretariat would collaborate with WMO in supporting the preparations of the members of the Committee for the Typhoon Operational Experiment.

Regional Centre for Technology Transfer

243. RCTT started to implement a regional project involving \$US 1,242,000 allocated by the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development, aimed at assisting ESCAP developing countries in strengthening their institutional and policy frameworks and their capabilities in science and technology, including the transfer of technology.

244. RCTT participated in regional meetings in co-operation with relevant international bodies, e.g., the Commonwealth Secretariat/RCTT workshop on organizing traditional light engineering industry for agriculture and the UNCTAD/SIDA/RCTT workshop on technology policies for technological transformation.

RCTT also organized a meeting on metal industries development centres at Bandung and assisted ESCAP in carrying out a feasibility study on the same subject for Thailand. In consultation with ESCAP, it rendered advisory services to the Governments of Bhutan and Nepal to strengthen their scientific and technological capabilities. It commissioned from the National Science Development Board of the Philippines a report on the feasibility of developing hydrocarbon-producing plants as a source of energy in Asia and the Pacific and initiated a programme to assist the Government of Malaysia in developing mini hydro power generation. It continued to publish RCTT newsletters, technical digests and acquisitions lists on a regular basis.

Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery

245. As recommended by the Governing Body at its third session, RNAM carried out two sets of activities during the period under review: (a) the continuation and completion of activities started in the first phase and (b) the preparation of a project document and work programme for the second phase, covering the period 1982-1984.

246. With respect to ongoing activities, the testing, evaluation and modification of the Chinese reaper and the International Rice Research Institute manual rice transplanter made good progress. A team of technical experts from China visited the Philippines and Thailand to conduct field demonstrations on the reaper and to discuss areas for further co-operation between China and RNAM. Further progress was made on the programme on mutual exchange of prototypes, with several machines and implements being exchanged between participating countries. The training programme and information dissemination activities continued and were well received.

247. Intensive preparations were made during the period under review in formulating a new project document and work programme for the second phase. Close co-operation was maintained with participating countries in undertaking this task. The project document and the work programme as approved by the Governing Body were a considerable departure from the past. While the Network's basic objective of assisting small farmers in increasing productivity and incomes through the provision of appropriate machinery and the application of appropriate technology remains unchanged, there has been a significant shift in the relative emphasis given to various activities to attain this objective. Hence, in the second phase, the major emphasis will be on promoting the local manufacturing capability of agricultural machinery and the popularization of successful equipment. Activities having a direct bearing on manufacturing aspects, such as promoting design capabilities, standardization, industrial extension, advisory services on manufacturing technology, as well as workshops and training programmes with a

strong manufacturing orientation, have been given prominence in the new work programme.

248. The need for clear and operational national farm mechanization policies is recognized and re-emphasized in the new project document. The necessity of establishing and strengthening institutional mechanisms such as the national farm mechanization committees and national networks for the formulation of mechanization policies and strategies and effective co-ordination and implementation of programmes is highlighted in the new work programme. Moreover, activities such as information dissemination and training, which have been well received, will be expanded and made more purposeful.

249. The new project document lays particular stress on TCDC, self-reliance and regional co-operation. These principles will need to be increasingly relied upon for the further development of the project on a self-sustaining basis. It is envisaged that the administrative costs of the project will be met by the participating countries by 1985.

250. RNAM has continued to publish newsletters and technical digests on a regular basis.

C. RELATIONS WITH OTHER UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMMES

251. In the field of industry, housing and technology, closer co-operation has been developed and maintained with other related agencies and, in particular, with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), UNIDO, UNCTAD, ILO and FAO. Close co-ordination in the activities with UNIDO has been strengthened through regular contacts and exchange visits by staff. A number of proposals have been developed for joint implementation in the fields of industry and technology. RCTT and RNAM have received much advice and support from both FAO and UNIDO. Representatives of both these organizations have attended the technical and advisory committees of RCTT and RNAM. UNCTAD has closely collaborated in the work of the secretariat and in that of RCTT in the fields of international trade, the least developed countries, commodities and technology transfer. ESCAP and UNIDO have established very close relations in respect of the activities of the ESCAP "club" and the solidarity meetings of UNIDO for the benefit of the least developed countries. The Interagency Task Force on Science and Technology has continued its good work to enhance co-ordination in this field through the active participation of concerned agencies at Bangkok.

252. In the field of human settlements, collaboration with Habitat is growing. As in the previous year, the secretariat undertook regional studies on the main themes for Habitat global reports. The secretariat was represented at a Habitat expert group meeting to prepare

the feasibility report on the proposed Asian human settlements bank and participated in various other Habitat activities. The redeployment of staff from Habitat to ESCAP has now become further established, indicating the growing degree of co-operation between the two organizations in the field of human settlements.

253. In carrying out its activities in the field of the environment, the secretariat has maintained close co-operation with concerned United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, including UNEP, FAO, UNESCO, WHO and IMCO. With particular reference to the regional project on protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems, close co-operation has been maintained with UNEP's Regional Seas Programme Activity Centre, FAO, UNESCO and its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and IMCO. Similar co-operation has been maintained with UNEP, the World Food Programme, FAO, UNESCO and WMO, in the regional follow-up activities to the United Nations Conference on Desertification.

254. 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 in carrying out activities in the fields of international trade, commodities and raw materials, and particularly those relating to the least developed, land-locked and developing island countries of the region. It organized the Ministerial Meeting on the Least Developed Countries of the ESCAP and ECWA Regions, in which representatives of a number of Arab countries participated. In addition, the secretariat participated actively in a review meeting between least developed and land-locked countries of the ESCAP and ECWA regions and their aid partners in co-operation with UNCTAD. It also maintained close contact with existing commodity communities, namely, ANRPC, APCC, IPC and the South-East Asia Lumber Producers Association.

255. In matters relating to shipping, ports and inland waterways, the secretariat maintained close co-operation with UNCTAD. It received the co-operation of UNCTAD, ILO, IMCO and the Comité Maritime International in the drafting of a model maritime code for the ESCAP region. In implementing the project on the economic statistics of shipping (known as the L.2 scheme), the secretariat worked in close co-operation with the United Nations Statistical Office in New York. It also collaborated with subregional groupings such as ASEAN and SPEC and commodity organizations such as ANRPC and APCC. In port development, the secretariat co-operated with the International Association of Ports and Harbours and the International Cargo Handling Co-ordination Association, and in inland water transport, with the United Nations Centre

for Natural Resources, Energy and Transport. Close co-operation was also maintained with the Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations, the Federation of ASEAN Shippers' Councils, the Association of Shippers' Councils of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, the Council of European and Japanese National Shipowners' Associations, the National Shippers' Councils of Europe and the Customs Co-operation Council.

256. 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-Pacific 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.

257. The secretariat collaborated with the World Bank on various transportation training courses organized within the region.

258. In the field of facilitation of international traffic, the secretariat worked in co-operation with UNCTAD/FALPRO (Facilitation of Trade Procedures and Documentation) and the Customs Co-operation Council. UNCTAD/FALPRO and the secretariat jointly conducted three country-level seminars in China

(Beijing, Tianjin and Shanghai) on trade and transport facilitation matters.

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

260. In the field of telecommunications, collaboration with ITU within the ESCAP/ITU Unit was maintained. The activities undertaken by regional experts and short-term consultants of ITU included the implementation of the Asian Telecommunication Network; studies and missions relating to inter-country technical co-operation activities; participation in meetings of intergovernmental, international and other organizations in aspects relating to telecommunication matters; short-term assistance to countries to meet specialized requirements in connection with the introduction of new technology; and advice on planning and technical training in the field of broadcasting.

261. In the field of rural development, the Interagency Task Force has co-operated with the ACC Task Force on Rural Development in its follow-up action in respect of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. The Task Force also co-operated with the Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific with a view to keeping each other informed of activities and participation in activities.

Chapter III

THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

262. The thirty-eighth session of the Commission was held at the United Nations Building, Bangkok, from 23 March to 2 April 1982.

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

264. 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, Norway, Poland, Turkey and Yugoslavia attended. A representative of Switzerland attended under Economic and Social Council resolution 860 (XXXII). A representative of the Holy See also attended under Council decision 244 (LXII).

265. The session was also attended by officials from United Nations Headquarters, representing the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, the Regional Commissions Liaison Office, the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development and the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, and by representatives of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

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

267. Representatives of the following specialized agencies were present in a consultative capacity: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization, World Health Organization, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Universal Postal Union, International Telecommunication Union and World Meteorological Organization. Representatives of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and of the International Trade Centre also attended.

268. The following intergovernmental organizations attended as observers: Asian Clearing Union, Asian Development Bank, Asian-Pacific Postal Union, Asian Productivity Organization, Asian Reinsurance Corporation, Asia-Pacific Telecommunity, Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific, Colombo Plan Bureau, Commonwealth Secretariat, Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, European Economic Community, Intergovernmental Committee for Migration, Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, International Pepper Community, South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme, South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation, South Pacific Commission and World Tourism Organization.

269. Observers were present from the following non-governmental organizations in category I: 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 Planned Parenthood Federation, World Federation of Democratic Youth, World Federation of Trade Unions, World Federation of United Nations Associations, World Muslim Congress and World Veterans Federation, and from the All-India Women's Conference in category II.

270. The list of participants is given in document ESCAP (XXXVIII)/INF.2.

271. In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the Commission at its 572nd meeting elected His Excellency Mr. Conrado F. Estrella, Minister for Agrarian Reform (Philippines), as Chairman.

272. 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 11 Vice-Chairmen were elected, namely: H.E. Dr. Fasihuddin Mahtab (Bangladesh), H.E. Mr. He Ying (China), H.E. Mr. Shivraj V. Patil (India), H.E. Dr. Mochtar Kusumaatmadja (Indonesia), H.E. Mr. Toshio Kimura (Japan), Mr. Soulivong Phasitthidet (Lao People's Democratic Republic), H.E. Datuk Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi (Malaysia), H.E. Mr. Jhambalyn Banzar (Mongolia), the Hon. Dr. Ian J. Shearer (New Zealand), the Hon. M.H.M. Naina Marikar (Sri Lanka) and H.E. Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila (Thailand).

273. The Commission appointed a Committee of the Whole to consider agenda items 7, 8 and 9. The Committee elected the Hon. Dr. Mohan Man Sainju (Nepal) as Chairman and Mr. A.T. Teaotai (Kiribati) and Mr. Ken Graham (New Zealand) as Vice-Chairmen.

274. The Commission also appointed a Technical and Drafting Committee. That Committee elected H.E. Mrs. H. Abeysekera (Sri Lanka) as Chairman and Mr. Zagaryn Erendo (Mongolia) and Mr. Shaukat Umer (Pakistan) as Vice-Chairmen.

275. In accordance with the established practice, an informal working group on draft resolutions was also set up. The group elected Mr. R.S. Rathore (India) as Chairman and Mr. Darmawan Adi (Indonesia), H.E. Mrs. Rosalinda V Tirona (Philippines) and Miss P.I.J. Harvey (United Kingdom) as Vice-Chairmen.

276. The Chairman announced at the Commission's 576th 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 China had expressed his reservations with regard to the qualifications of one representative and had stated his stand with regard to the qualifications of another representative. The Vice-Chairmen from the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Mongolia had rejected the statement made by the Vice-Chairman from China regarding the qualifications of one representative. Furthermore, the Vice-Chairmen from the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Mongolia had expressed their reservations with regard to the qualifications of one representative. The Vice-Chairman from China had rejected the statements made by the Vice-Chairmen from the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Mongolia in that regard. 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

277. At its 572nd meeting, the Commission unanimously adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening addresses
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda (E/ESCAP/L.69/Rev.1, E/ESCAP/L.70 and Corr.1)
4. Policies and perspectives for the economic and social development of the ESCAP region
 - (a) Review of the development of the ESCAP region and the work of the Commission (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.II.F.1 (English only); E/ESCAP/L.71/Add.1 (Chinese, French and Russian only); E/ESCAP/243 and Corr.1 and E/ESCAP/244)
 - (b) The International Development Strategy: implications for regional and subregional strategies (E/ESCAP/245)
5. Food supply and distribution in Asia and the Pacific: medium-term outlook and regional co-operation (E/ESCAP/246 and Add.1)
6. Reassessment of the Commission's priorities (E/ESCAP/247)
7. Consideration of issues in various fields of activity of ESCAP (E/ESCAP/240, E/ESCAP/241, E/ESCAP/248, E/ESCAP/249 and Add.1, E/ESCAP/250-254, E/ESCAP/255 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/256, E/ESCAP/257 and Add.1 and 2 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/258, E/ESCAP/259 and Corr.1 and 2, E/ESCAP/260 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/261, E/ESCAP/262 and Add.1, E/ESCAP/263 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/264 and Add.1-3, E/ESCAP/265-271, E/ESCAP/286 and Corr.1; ESCAP/194 and Add.1 and Corr.1)
8. Progress reports on special regional projects and regional institutions
 - (a) Regional projects (E/ESCAP/242, E/ESCAP/275-278)
 - (b) Regional institutions (E/ESCAP/272 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/273 and Add.1 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/274)
9. Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries (E/ESCAP/279)
10. Announcement of intended contributions (E/ESCAP/280, E/ESCAP/281, E/ESCAP/282 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/283)
11. Activities and recommendations of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (E/ESCAP/284)

12. Date and venue of the thirty-ninth session of the Commission (E/ESCAP/285)
13. Other matters
14. Adoption of the annual report of the Commission (E/ESCAP/L.72)

C. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

278. The session was declared open by His Excellency Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand, acting as Chairman at the opening meeting. His Excellency General Prem Tinsulanonda, Prime Minister of Thailand, delivered the inaugural address. The Executive Secretary read out a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations and delivered an address.

Inaugural address by the Prime Minister of Thailand

279. The Prime Minister of Thailand, speaking on behalf of the people and Government of Thailand, welcomed those attending the session, and was gratified to note that the current session was being convened on the eve of the Rattanakosin Bicentennial commemorating the establishment of Bangkok as the fourth capital city of Thailand and the founding of the present Chakri Dynasty, and marking the year of national renewal.

280. He noted that the developing countries continued to be affected by serious economic problems, including high inflation, chronic depression in the prices of primary commodities, rising oil prices, which had contributed to the deterioration of the terms of trade of non-oil producing developing countries, and protectionism against the exports of developing countries. There had also been a sharp decline in the levels of international development assistance. He stressed the need for the international community to devote its efforts to redressing the inequities of the present state of international economic relations in accordance with the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the establishment of the new international economic order. He called for the early launching of the global negotiations so that the international community could work together to find solutions to problems of critical importance to developing countries, such as food, energy, trade and financial flows.

281. ESCAP could play a useful role by contributing to the early launching of the global round of negotiations to restructure international economic relations. On the subject of energy, ESCAP should continue to provide a forum where countries could meet and subsequently pool their managerial and technical capabilities. As to food, which was the theme of the current session, there was an urgent need for developing countries to work toward self-sufficiency in food and food security. In that context, the experiences of the ASEAN countries, although at an early stage of implementation,

could serve as a guide for other interested developing countries in the Asian and Pacific region. Moreover, ESCAP should continue to attach importance to food production, trade and access to markets of agricultural products, which were legitimate interests of food-exporting developing countries and had been recognized and endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly at its seventh special session, on development and international economic co-operation, in 1975.

282. He noted with regret that there existed many areas of critical tensions in the region. Fruitful regional co-operation provided the basis for peace and prosperity in the region. To that end, nations should rededicate themselves to the ideals and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations

283. In his message, the Secretary-General of the United Nations noted that the current session was taking place at an important juncture with the resumption of global negotiations on reforms in international economic relations. The crisis in prices and production that had started a few years earlier had continued and deepened. The realization of the gravity of the crisis was universal as was the realization of the need for urgent reforms that would ensure the rapid and even development of the world economy.

284. Since the United Nations was engaged in developing the framework for the resumption of the global negotiations, contributions from ESCAP and the other regional commissions could be expected. ESCAP, with 55 per cent of the world's population, had traditionally been at the centre of regional discussions on strategies for development. In that context, its role as the main general economic and social development centre in the region required further strengthening.

285. The issue of food security and distribution would be the major theme of the session and the deliberations on that topic would, hopefully, assist in establishing mechanisms that would ensure adequate supplies of food at all times. Regional initiatives should seek to complement and reinforce the global mechanisms. The deliberations on the subject would also be useful in proposing measures at the national level for systems of distribution which would ensure the delivery of food to the people who needed it most.

286. A further important matter to be discussed at the session was the streamlining of the work programme of ESCAP, which would enable the secretariat to fulfil the tasks to which priority was attached by the Commission. In that manner, it would be possible to impart a sharper focus to the activities of the Commission so that they would be in consonance with the most pressing needs of the region.

Statement by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP

287. The Executive Secretary welcomed all the delegations to the session and thanked the Prime Minister of Thailand for his inspiring address, which had underlined many of the pressing problems and issues confronting the world at large and the region in particular. He noted that the current session was his first opportunity to address the Commission since he had assumed office as Executive Secretary.

288. At its thirty-eighth session, the Commission would focus its attention on the crucial question of food supply and distribution, which had been selected as the theme topic. It would also examine other important matters, including reassessment of the Commission's priorities, which would, hopefully, result in a new sense of direction for the Commission's activities. Thirty-five years after its founding, ESCAP needed to undergo a process of thoughtful invigoration in order to be more fully attuned to the development problems confronting the region.

289. ESCAP was the foremost regional forum for collective action by Governments representing a majority of the world's population. The opportunities for innovative co-operation and more efficient development were as exhilarating as the responsibilities were onerous. He hoped that the thirty-eighth session would provide new initiatives for countries of the region to work together and reveal fresh insights as to how ESCAP could better serve the needs of countries.

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

Policy statement by the Executive Secretary

290. In his first policy statement to the Commission, the Executive Secretary described poverty as the most urgent development problem confronting many countries in Asia and the Pacific and called for determined action to alleviate the widespread hardship affecting more than half a billion people in the region. The benefits of the relatively high economic growth rates in many Asian and Pacific nations had been felt by only small segments of their populations, he noted in presenting an overview of major economic and social developments, together with his own views on the development process. For the vast majority of people in the region, and particularly the rural masses, the real fruits of progress were yet to come. In fact, the ragged ranks of the downtrodden and hungry had continued to increase alarmingly across the region in recent years. That grim situation existed even though political independence had come fully three decades previously and despite the growing popular urge that such independence be made to mean a better life for the common man. A primary reason for continuing widespread poverty was that hundreds of millions of those absolute poor, who were four-fifths rural,

had been virtually left out of the development process in the past. He was heartened to note, however, that several countries had recently begun to focus their development efforts on their impoverished hinterlands and he hoped that more nations would do the same. He stressed that mass poverty could never be cured unless modern science and technology were introduced through social and economic structures based on equity. Development was a dynamic and at times disruptive process, with progress being achieved more quickly in some fields than in others, and that could cause inefficiency and friction. Thus, Governments had to strive constantly to design policies and institutions that promoted harmonious progress, concentrating their efforts on boosting the slower areas while not retarding areas in which progress could be more easily achieved.

291. The *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1981* painted a vivid picture of the different levels and patterns of development in the main geographic subregions. The economies of east and south-east Asia had shown considerable dynamism in continuing to achieve high growth rates in their industrial and service sectors. Their growth rates had consistently been two or three times higher than those of the industrial economies over the previous several years, despite greater difficulty in exporting their manufactured and agricultural goods and higher prices of oil and capital goods, all of which had an important bearing on their growth prospects. With the standards of living in those east and south-east Asian countries rising at an annual average of over 3.5 per cent in recent years, it seemed clear that those countries would succeed in achieving a marked transformation of their economies by the year 2000 if they were able to maintain the current tempo of development.

292. Economic growth rates had remained much lower in south Asia than in east and south-east Asia, primarily because of the slow growth of domestic purchasing power due to widespread poverty and unemployment, inadequate links with world markets and technology sources, deficiencies in electrical power and other infrastructure, and high population growth rates. The annual gains in the per capita GDP of those countries had rarely exceeded 1.5 per cent in the previous decade. Nor had much advantage been taken of the enormous possibilities for subregional co-operation. Even so, encouraging agricultural trends had alleviated the subregion's chronic severe food shortages, and an industrial base had also taken shape.

293. Higher prices of petroleum and other imports, including food, had also seriously affected the small island countries in the Pacific. In view of their small domestic markets, their best development option appeared to be exploitation of marine and sea-bed resources, possibly through inter-country ventures. The region's centrally planned economies had been reconstructing and refurbishing their economies. For

some of them, inadequate resources remained the largest obstacle to development. The outcome of China's current economic initiatives towards a transition had extremely significant implications.

294. The ESCAP region was too vast and diverse for there to be any single best approach to development. However, the situation in the various subregions showed that all developing countries had at least one common requirement for development, which could be called "the infrastructure of development". That term covered the combination of capabilities that a country needed to be able to seize the opportunities for progress, and that necessarily embraced the entire range of social, political and economic institutions, relationships and policies. The Executive Secretary saw ESCAP's primary task as that of assisting member countries in strengthening their national infrastructures for development. That was in keeping with ESCAP's traditional role and was fully consistent with the multidisciplinary nature of the Commission. It was also the role visualized by the General Assembly in designating the Commission as the main economic and social development centre for the region.

295. Several decades of high over-all growth rates in the developing member States had not necessarily reduced the incidence of mass poverty, but there had also been instances in the region when the growth process had brought about corresponding gains in equity, or at least some improvements for the poor. An analysis of those experiences showed that while economic growth did not automatically benefit the poor, institutional mechanisms and policies could be devised to help the poor, and without always sacrificing growth in the process. Experience also showed that little success could be expected in overcoming poverty and reducing inequality with limited programmes to generate more jobs in the industrial sectors, because the backlog of people unemployed or underemployed was so massive and the ongoing expansion of the labour force was so large-scale. A comprehensive approach was needed, covering all facets of the economy and fully exploiting the enormous employment potential of the service sector. Growth itself must also remain a vital element of efforts to overcome poverty, since comparative advantages in production existed and new opportunities were becoming available for developing countries, such as the development of energy substitutes.

296. Turning to global issues, he said the second oil price shock of 1979/80 and the continuing stagnation of the industrial economies had greatly intensified the problems of the developing countries. Those countries had also suffered serious set-backs caused by protectionist trends in the industrial countries, deteriorating terms of trade, sharp monetary fluctuations and a still unsatisfactory situation in international flows of resources and technology. Fiscal problems stemming from the early 1970s had produced a cumulative burden now reaching disruptive proportions. As a result,

responsible opinion in most countries recognized the urgency of undertaking structural reforms along the lines of the General Assembly resolutions on the new international economic order. He hoped that global negotiations would soon start under the auspices of the United Nations and believed that if the negotiating parties took a well-thought-out view of their own interests, the prospects for achieving substantial progress would be good. ESCAP expected to be represented in the negotiations and to be assigned an appropriate role in implementing the decisions thus reached.

297. Noting the food supply and distribution theme of the current session, he recalled that the Committee on Agricultural Development had recommended that the Commission consider a number of bold and imaginative proposals to promote the security of food supplies at the regional level and to make national distribution systems more efficient and equitable. Those proposals certainly warranted being carefully weighed by the Commission; they would not detract from any global initiatives but would, in fact, reinforce them.

298. As to ESCAP's specific role in assisting member countries in building their infrastructures for development, he said that since assuming office his foremost concern had been thoroughly to examine and define the programmes of ESCAP and to apply a sharp operational edge wherever possible. A report prepared by a secretariat task force, appointed to reassess ESCAP's programme priorities, had been discussed extensively by ACPDR, and a revised version had been placed before the Commission. The aim was to ensure that the secretariat's activities were carefully guided by precisely defined purposes, and that could be achieved through the approval of a set of suitable criteria for choosing ESCAP activities. The proposed criteria were in the nature of operational tools, and by systematically applying them the secretariat could ensure that its work responded to the widely perceived needs of member States. The criteria were weighted towards the weaker sectors of society and the least developed and other especially disadvantaged countries. A suggested mechanism would align the related exercises of evolving the work programme, programme budget and projects, and the provision of resources.

299. With regard to major thrusts in the work programme, he mentioned ESCAP's long-time lead role in the field of economic and social development policy and strategy. He proposed to intensify that activity, backed by extensive research work both in the secretariat and at APDC. In stimulating fresh thinking on development planning models and techniques, ESCAP would shift the emphasis from macro planning to planning in specific sectors and to project planning. Efforts would also be directed at strengthening the planning capabilities within the countries. ESCAP would continue its work in building regional institutions

in its network approach to stimulating and strengthening the institutional infrastructure of member countries.

300. One way that ESCAP's concern for employment and the eradication of poverty should be reflected was by launching systematic studies of the employment and development possibilities of the service sector. Such service-sector fields as transport and communications, shipping and particularly energy held great potential for employment, but there was a lack of understanding of the service sector's role in development processes and the linkages involved, and also too little appreciation of the value of targeting those sectors themselves for development efforts. He noted that 92 per cent of all new jobs created in the United States in the previous decade had been in the service sector.

301. In the energy field, ESCAP had an important task in disseminating the latest technology for developing the abundant new and renewable sources of energy of member States, in keeping with the international community's current focus on developing indigenous energy sources. ESCAP's regional energy development programme should be considerably expanded, and additional funds were needed.

302. In social development, ESCAP's work was primarily aimed at changing the attitudes of the largely rural masses so as to enable them to discard age-old bonds of backwardness and be drawn into modern development. A systematic effort must be made to change the dispirited or fatalistic outlooks that allowed stoic acceptance of the grinding poverty in which so many of the region's people were trapped. At the same time, efforts must be made to bring women and other excluded groups into the mainstream of development.

303. As to the environment, a major reason that it was being degraded and polluted and resources overused and misused was that hundreds of millions of poor people were forced into critical short-term concerns about their very survival. A preliminary review and appraisal of the environmental situation in the ESCAP region, placed before the Commission, indicated that despite the concern about the environment expressed at the Stockholm Conference in 1972, many of the problems foreseen and discussed then were still prevalent today. Some such problems had even worsened. In its various activities, ESCAP would keep environmental considerations constantly in view.

304. A principal task of ESCAP had been the organization and promotion of regional co-operation. ESCAP had taken various steps to foster intraregional trade, and great potential for further trade growth in the region still remained. He requested the Commission to endorse the convening of a ministerial meeting to review trade developments and chart new paths for regional co-operation in trade. ESCAP was also considering a fresh approach to periodic Asian trade fairs.

305. ESCAP provided assistance for subregional ventures as well, as they were the best building blocks for bolstering the entire edifice of co-operation in the region. He was most heartened at the success of ASEAN's initiatives and pledged ESCAP's continued maximum support for its programmes of collaboration in economic and technical fields. Similar scope for co-operation existed in other subregions also, and ESCAP looked forward to receiving clear guidance from south Asian countries on how it could assist and support them in their initiatives for co-operation. In the South Pacific, ESCAP had established a new liaison office and developed excellent working relations with the subregional organizations. A new and separate unit to look into the development needs of the least developed countries was being established in the ESCAP secretariat.

306. Given its functional role as the main general economic and social development centre in the region, ESCAP required adequate resources and due autonomy in managing its affairs if it was to make a perceptible impact. However, the decentralization of programmes to the regional commissions had not in all cases been matched by the devolution of staff and other resources, thus accentuating the problem of resources. He hoped that the member States would find it possible to initiate steps to redress the existing unjust situation.

307. In concluding, the Executive Secretary said he believed that the future belonged to the optimists. Those who had sought opportunities, even amid crises, had managed to forge ahead, while those who had responded with self-defeating pessimism had been caught in a quagmire of problems. ESCAP stood for optimism and hope.

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

308. The Commission had before it the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1981* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.II.F.1).

309. The Commission commended the secretariat on the useful review of economic and social developments within the ESCAP region in 1981. Some changes in emphasis, coverage and analysis were suggested to improve future surveys. One delegation stated that the *Survey* did not reflect the developments relating to its country objectively and needed to be amended. It was felt by that delegation that documentation prepared for the Commission session should accurately reflect the facts. Bearing in mind the social and economic consequences of the arms race, some delegations suggested that in further improving the content and structure of the *Survey* the secretariat should pay more attention to the link between disarmament and development as well as to social aspects of development and experiences of countries of the region in solving social problems. One delegation stated that in future surveys

the title of chapter V of the 1981 *Survey* should be changed. Some delegations considered that coverage of the socio-economic development of countries with differing socio-economic systems in future surveys should be balanced in all aspects.

310. The Commission expressed grave concern over the adverse impact on the developing economies of the region of the recession which had characterized the world economy in 1981; prospects for any appreciable recovery in the coming year were dim. High rates of inflation and unemployment had become widespread and persistent in both developed and developing market economies. Economic stagnation in most industrialized economies had reduced significantly the growth in exports from less developed countries. It had also served to limit access to markets of developed economies. The situation was further worsened by growing barriers to trade. At the same time prices of necessary imports into developing countries had continued to rise, although oil prices had registered some stability. For the developing countries, higher import prices, associated with falling export prices, had resulted in deteriorating terms of trade and, in some cases, increasing deficits on current account. That situation was worsened by the slow-down in the flow of external financial resources to the developing economies and to multilateral lending institutions, reduced concessionality and very high rates of interest in world capital markets.

311. While the economic performance of the region was adversely affected by the international economic situation, the Commission noted the resilience of many regional economies, which had enabled the region as a whole to sustain a rate of growth considerably in excess of that attained by the world economy. Several delegations emphasized the importance of efforts to stimulate such regional economic resilience through greater subregional, regional and interregional co-operation.

312. It was observed that the establishment of a new international economic order, which had been called for by the United Nations General Assembly eight years previously, was long overdue. The Commission noted with concern that there had been little progress towards the launching of global negotiations and further noted that many meetings besides that at Cancún had recognized the necessity of beginning the global negotiations as soon as possible. It emphasized that the goals, aspirations and development priorities embodied in the new International Development Strategy required positive action and a pervasive spirit of international co-operation. There was general agreement that while the immediate commencement of global negotiations was of paramount importance, it was essential to continue to seek progress in sectoral areas of critical importance to developing countries, such as food, energy, financial flows, trade and the strengthening of their collective self-reliance.

313. The Commission adopted resolution 227 (XXXVIII) on early launching of the global negotiations. One delegation did not wish to join in the consensus on that resolution.

314. In the current international situation, the need for stabilization of the prices of commodity exports and for improved access to markets in developed countries was particularly pressing. The Commission was of the opinion that early ratification of the Agreement Establishing the Common Fund for Commodities would be an important and positive achievement in that regard. Several delegations expressed the view that substantial progress in export stabilization would also depend on the full operation of individual commodity agreements. Producing and consuming countries were urged to conclude, sign and/or ratify as soon as possible commodity agreements which had been under negotiation or had already been completed.

315. The Commission regretted the apparent stiffening of protectionist attitudes, including the progressive recourse to non-transparent non-tariff barriers such as voluntary export restraints and orderly marketing arrangements, in many developed countries. One delegation outlined protection-related problems expected during the process of bilateral negotiations between the textile exporting economies and the developed countries within the recently concluded framework of the third Multifibre Arrangement. The view was expressed that there were social costs of structural adjustment resulting from the phasing out of barriers to trade. Those costs were a real concern which no democratic government could afford to ignore. Nevertheless, it was agreed that the reversal of current trends in protectionism would be in the interest of developed and developing countries in an increasingly interdependent world. It was noted that the GATT ministerial meeting in late 1982 would provide a valuable opportunity for serious review of the implementation of the results reached during the Tokyo Round of MTN. Several delegations also expressed hope that the forthcoming GATT meeting would help to set new priorities and directions concerning trade problems, reduce and remove some of the entrenched trade barriers and promote a more equitable pattern in trade relations. It was also expected that the sixth session of UNCTAD, scheduled to be held in May-June 1983, would contribute to a better appreciation of trade and development problems and generate suitable responses for the revival of the international economy and restoration of the development momentum in the developing countries.

316. The Commission expressed concern over the recent shortfall in international financial contributions to multilateral lending agencies, especially the slow-down and delay in such contributions, which would render those multilateral institutions unable to respond fully to the expanding requirements of the developing countries, particularly in the energy and food sectors. It was emphasized that any over-all diminution in the

role of the multilateral development banks and their "soft window" affiliates would further aggravate the monetary and financial situation of the developing countries. In that context, one delegation suggested that studies should be conducted on transnational corporations and the outflow of capital from developing economies of the ESCAP region.

317. Adverse trading conditions, the fall-off in real terms in concessional aid flows and high interest rates in the international capital markets had seriously affected the least developed countries. Consideration was being given to possible national, regional and global action including capital resources and concessional aid flows to help to remedy the special problems and burdens of those countries, as well as those of other structurally and geographically disadvantaged economies, including the land-locked and island developing economies. The Commission noted with satisfaction the establishment of a separate secretariat section to co-ordinate and follow up on the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, the operation of the ESCAP Liaison Office in the Pacific and the envisaged closer co-operation between ESCAP and the subregional agencies, such as SPC and SPEC. The need to facilitate and ensure speedy international transport and to improve the transport infrastructures and services of the land-locked countries was emphasized. Since the first review of the International Development Strategy was due in 1983, it was suggested that at its thirty-ninth session the Commission should also examine in some detail the progress in the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries. It was also felt that South Pacific island nationals should have a higher level of representation in the staff of the ESCAP secretariat and that the Liaison Office needed greatly increased resources from ESCAP so as to discharge fully and effectively its responsibilities in the South Pacific island region.

318. The Commission felt that rapid industrialization of developing countries, as stipulated in the Strategy, constituted an indispensable element and a dynamic instrument of the sustained self-reliant growth of their economies and of their social transformation. While each developing country would determine its own industrial development goals and objectives, the Commission reiterated the need for such national priorities and for bold decisions by those countries to achieve industrialization as envisaged in the Strategy. It noted that, although the growth rates in the industrial sector in east and south-east Asia had been generally satisfactory, their industrial development tasks had become more difficult on account of external factors. Similarly, in the countries of south Asia, a diversified industrial base had taken shape and a fair amount of self-reliance had been achieved through import substitution.

319. The Commission felt that the developing countries had to speed up their development infrastructure,

which included capabilities that the countries needed, in order to be able to seize the opportunities for progress offered by their resource endowments, technological advances or external factors. In that context, the Commission emphasized the importance of the services sector, in addition to the industrial sector, in providing employment opportunities to those who were unemployed and underemployed. It also noted that an integrated approach towards industrialization, providing for the establishment of basic industries and parallel development of agriculture, constituted an effective instrument for the dynamic development of the countryside.

320. The Commission emphasized the continued validity of the directions for the reorientation of industrial policies provided by the ministers of industry of the ESCAP region, namely, strengthening of linkages between agriculture and industry, balanced dispersal of industries within a country, promotion of small-scale industry and linkages between large-scale and small-scale industries, and the orientation of industry to satisfy the basic needs of the people. The Commission endorsed the emphasis on enhancing the manufacturing capabilities of developing countries and noted the increasing importance of the manufacturing sector in providing adequate outlets for farm surpluses and supplies of industrial inputs for agricultural mechanization. It also endorsed the furtherance of such work by the secretariat through effective co-ordination among developing countries and with international agencies. Many delegations emphasized the need to reach the target for industrialization set in the Strategy.

321. The Commission recognized the important role of science and technology in development. One delegation suggested initiation of activities for greater application of science and technology and for strengthening technological capabilities. The Commission also opined that the secretariat had to continue to function as a regional nodal point and as a co-ordinating agency in the region for all activities of the United Nations system aimed at working out ways and means of implementing the Vienna Programme of Action in co-operation with member countries.

322. The Commission was of the opinion that the principle and practice of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries held great potential for collective self-reliance. Remedial policies to overcome the current difficulties facing the large majority of developing countries in the ESCAP region would thus require unity of purpose and action through co-operative efforts at all pertinent geographical levels. Among the matters of critical importance which had emerged from the Caracas (ministerial-level) meeting and the New Delhi consultations were food, energy, financial flows, trade and investment, and transfer of technology.

323. Initiatives in regional co-operation included preferential trade arrangements and investment harmo-

nization measures among the ASEAN member countries and the recently established process of consultation between the ASEAN and SPEC secretariats through which economic ties and co-operation could be expanded. It was noted that two meetings of the foreign secretaries of south Asian countries had reached agreement concerning an approach towards the establishment of a subregional co-operative framework. The topics identified for subregional co-operation included agriculture, rural development, health and population activities. It was also noted that bilateral economic co-operation agreements existed between almost all the south Asian countries. The Commission further noted the existence of subregional and interregional scientific, technical and economic co-operation between a number of developed countries and developing countries of the region.

324. The Commission took note of the high cost of imported energy and the need to lessen domestic dependence on such energy through conservation efforts and through the development, with international assistance, of alternative and renewable energy sources. Although the world oil supply and demand situation had eased since the previous session, that was but a temporary situation and countries of the region should endeavour to diversify energy sources and reduce their heavy reliance on hydrocarbons. In the longer term, the development of alternative and renewable sources of energy was essential. In the short term, increased energy needs would mainly be met by conventional sources, oil, coal and gas. Moreover, the intensive use of non-commercial energy sources in many countries had threatened the environmental balance and reafforestation had thus become of crucial importance. One delegation considered that energy problems could best be handled at the regional level and welcomed the UNDP regional energy programme under ESCAP's over-all co-ordination. Another delegation was prepared to provide financial and technical co-operation in research and other activities involving biomass and biogas energy.

325. The delegation of Iran stated that section C.5 of chapter VII of the *Survey* did not cover all host countries, including Iran. The problem dealt with in that section was acute in Iran and caused it great concern.

326. Several delegations stressed the need to ensure widespread and equitable access to the full benefits of development. Measures should be taken to overcome the difficulties faced by the disabled, youth and women in participating more fully in economic activities. One delegation expressed concern over the existing problem of child exploitation. Another delegation expressed the hope that in future the secretariat would be able to make a more efficient and expert presentation of the experience of the socialist countries of the region in social and economic development. It was recognized that the provision of adequate housing and health services, in particular primary health care, and the

reduction of malnutrition were necessary to reduce mortality in all age groups.

327. The Commission reaffirmed the importance of ESCAP activities and its continued support of ESCAP projects and programmes, particularly those pertaining to regional and subregional issues. Several delegations conveyed their commitments to provide financial and technical support for ESCAP activities and expressed their readiness to assist the secretariat on subjects of mutual interest. The Government of Japan offered to host a Commission session in the near future.

328. The Commission reviewed the work done since the thirty-seventh session and the status of implementation of the programme of work and priorities, 1980-1981, as presented in documents E/ESCAP/243 and E/ESCAP/244. While the Commission in general commended the many useful activities that had been undertaken during the previous year, some members commented on the fact that the limited staff and financial resources appeared to be spread too thinly over too many activities. In that context, the Commission welcomed the efforts being made by the Executive Secretary to improve the functioning of the secretariat and give its programmes a sharper focus and sense of direction.

The International Development Strategy: implications for regional and subregional strategies

329. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/245.

330. It commended the secretariat on providing a regional input into the International Development Strategy and on producing the document called for in Commission resolution 212 (XXXVII). The document contained a useful elaboration of the Strategy's implications for regional and subregional strategies and brought out the dimensions of the problems facing the developing countries of the region. It set more modest development goals for the region than those contained in the global Strategy taking into account the realities of the region but emphasized the need for international action to establish an orderly world economy which would be more responsive to the needs of the developing countries. The Commission reaffirmed the commitments and agreements reached under those strategies and agreed to work vigorously towards the achievement of their goals and objectives.

331. The Commission took note of the many suggestions and proposals for action at the regional level contained in the document with a view to attaining the goals and objectives of the Strategy. It was stated that the Strategy was an integrated plan with interrelated and equally important components. In view of resource constraints, it was necessary to concentrate on certain sectors and also to identify certain subsectoral priorities

in each sector where ESCAP's contributions could be most meaningful. In doing so, it was also necessary to concentrate on activities of immediate interest and benefit to countries in the region.

332. The Commission agreed that it would be necessary for ESCAP to undertake a review and appraisal of the Strategy at the regional level in 1984, when the General Assembly was due to carry out a major review and appraisal of its implementation.

Food supply and distribution in Asia and the Pacific: medium-term outlook and regional co-operation

333. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/246 and Add.1.

334. A special plenary meeting of the heads of delegations was held to discuss food supply and distribution in Asia and the Pacific. In his opening statement, the Chairman stated that the special plenary meeting had been convened to enable a free and frank exchange of views on the subject, which was of paramount importance to the welfare of the region. He expressed the hope that the deliberations would lead to conclusions of far-reaching importance to the region. The matter was further considered by the Commission in subsequent plenary meetings.

335. The Executive Secretary introduced the subject. He explained that the purpose of a special plenary meeting was to provide an opportunity to the leaders of Asia and the Pacific to exchange views and debate on major issues confronting the region. At its thirty-seventh session, the Commission had agreed on food supply and distribution systems as the theme topic for the current session. The importance of the theme was self-evident. As the problem of food had many dimensions, the secretariat's approach had been selective. FAO had been associated with the preparation of the special study through regular consultations, and the World Food Council had also provided support to the ESCAP initiatives.

336. The Executive Secretary stated that three distinct proposals had emerged from the special study. The first related to subregional and regional food security arrangements, the second to a regional food and input trade information and management network and the third to investment in food and agriculture. FAO had been doing useful work through its global information and early warning system, but the secretariat's proposal was different from that because it focused on trade and management aspects. With the emergence of nearly self-sufficient countries which both exported and imported food, co-ordinated management of supplies could bring about substantial economies. Investment in agriculture had not received enough attention in the past and there were proposals concerned with investment possibilities at the subregional and regional levels.

Some of the proposals could be implemented immediately while others might require further investigation. A gradual phasing of the proposals could therefore be considered and, taken together, the proposals might eventually lead to the establishment of an Asia-Pacific food bank as the umbrella institution. The Executive Secretary concluded by expressing the determination of the secretariat to carry out the directives of the Commission that would enhance food supply and improve food distribution systems in the region.

337. The Commission commended the secretariat on preparing the special study. The report was timely, cogent and addressed directly to the problems of the region. The Commission felt that adequate national food production in the developing ESCAP countries was the solution in the long run. For that purpose, continued efforts should be made to implement the Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, emphasizing agrarian reform, irrigation, high-yielding seeds and fertilizers. The important role of co-operatives and state institutes, including state distribution systems, in solving food problems was also noted by several delegations. Subregional and regional co-operation should complement national efforts, which the Commission agreed were of primary importance.

338. The Commission felt that the solution to food problems could not be viewed from a purely sectoral angle. A multidisciplinary, integrated programme of food production, distribution and consumption was necessary. The objective should be attainment of self-reliance rather than self-sufficiency in food. The special study had evolved the concept of "effective food supply". It was felt that the concept needed to be further refined for it to become a useful policy tool in dealing with the distributive aspects of food supply.

339. The Asia-Pacific region was characterized by special features in its food production and distribution systems. Ninety per cent of world rice was produced and consumed in Asia. Most Pacific island countries suffered from unpredictable food shortages induced by natural disasters. Some countries which had achieved self-sufficiency in staple foodgrains also suffered from substantial production shortfalls due to harvest failures, leading to heavy imports in certain years. At the same time the efforts of the food exporting developing countries with the potential to increase their food production further were hindered by restricted access to the markets for their agricultural products. The Commission recognized the important role which agricultural trade, technology transfer and the promotion of employment opportunities could play in solving food problems.

340. It was noteworthy that in the 1940s and 1950s Asia had been a net exporter of grain. In the 1980s it was becoming an increasingly large net importer of grain. Asia's annual imports had grown from 7 million tons in 1960 to 26 million tons in 1977 and 35 million

tons in 1979. Almost all such imports came from North America and any crop failure there or elsewhere added further to food insecurity in the ESCAP region. In spite of rising imports, per capita availability of food had hardly increased. Poverty and hunger were increasing and the compelling need to avoid the recurrence of a food crisis like that of 1973-1974 called for urgent action to achieve collective self-reliance in the region. It was agreed that food security in the long term must ultimately be sought through increased productivity and growth of national food production. Food supply should be secured in the short term. The view was expressed that if national efforts were diverted to fight immediate food crises, the resources required to achieve long-term domestic production goals could be consequently further reduced, and that the food security needs of the low-income, food-deficit countries were linked with the development of the national food sector.

341. It was pointed out that while some grain exporting countries were suffering from an accumulation of unsold stocks, there were also deficit countries. Regional or subregional reserve arrangements could lessen the problems of deficits and surpluses. The Commission took note of the experience of ASEAN in the establishment of an emergency reserve.

342. Delegations pointed out that the proposed institutional framework needed to be studied further, harmonizing the diversity of conditions that prevailed in the region. In particular, the interests of the food exporting developing countries which depended heavily on exports of agricultural commodities for their foreign exchange earnings should be adequately protected. The special study had carefully steered away from the financial arrangements necessary to achieve food security. One delegation pointed out that, during the negotiations on the International Wheat Trade Agreement, IBRD had been willing to finance a food security infrastructure for developing countries through concessionary funding. Thus, assistance from multilateral agencies in particular might be forthcoming to support any regional food security arrangement.

343. In addition to grain imports, developing countries were also increasing imports of fertilizers, agro-pesticides and agricultural machinery. The proposed food trade information and management network could ensure cost-effective imports by providing timely information and by enhancing the capacities of the countries to utilize such information. Joint import arrangements and bulk shipments would also help to reduce import costs. The network might also assist the exporting countries in finding access to new market opportunities both within and outside the region. Several delegations commended the proposal for developing the food and input trade information and management network and recommended that follow-up work be undertaken to develop it further. The supply of food information by FAO on a global basis should be complemented by the

proposed ESCAP network satisfying the particular needs of the region.

344. Many delegations noted the desirability of mobilizing capital from capital-surplus developing countries for joint ventures in food and agriculture and the necessity of undertaking feasibility studies of such investment proposals. Some delegations stressed the possibilities for organizing bulk purchase of agricultural inputs, organization of the transportation system for rapid and low-cost delivery of food supplies, inter-country agricultural research programmes, production of low-cost staples and joint ventures in complementation projects.

345. The Commission noted the institutional arrangements suggested in the special study leading to the proposed Asia-Pacific food bank. The Executive Secretary was requested to undertake studies on the feasibility and viability of the proposals with the assistance of a high-level group of experts nominated by relevant international organizations and agencies and by participating Governments of the Commission on: (a) subregional and regional food security arrangements; (b) a trade information and management network relating to food and agricultural inputs; and (c) increasing the flow of financial resources from both external and internal sources for food and agriculture; and to submit conclusions on the possible timing, funding, functional and operational modalities and organizational framework, paying due regard to the proposal in the special study to establish an Asia-Pacific food bank, to the comments made on that study at the current session and to the special features of the production and distribution systems in the different countries of the region.

346. The Commission recommended that the report of the expert group should be referred to the Committee on Agricultural Development or if that were not feasible to an intergovernmental meeting to be convened by the Executive Secretary after consultation with members and associate members to advise on further action.

347. There was some discussion on the respective roles of ESCAP and FAO in relation to the study of and recommendations on food security, particularly as to which of the two agencies should have the primary role in that area. The Commission noted the information conveyed by the representative of FAO concerning the work FAO was doing in each of the areas envisaged under the study. The Commission stressed the need for careful co-ordination to avoid duplication of work already in hand or under consideration in the global context.

348. The Commission adopted resolution 226 (XXXVIII) on food supply and distribution in Asia and the Pacific: medium-term outlook and regional co-operation.

Reassessment of the Commission's priorities

349. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/247.

350. The Commission had a frank exchange of views, in the course of which it commended the initiative of the Executive Secretary in producing a paper which had taken a fresh view of the problem of priority setting. Some delegations felt that practical standards had been set for the selection of priority areas, while fully recognizing the importance of the intersectoral approach, which was ESCAP's primary concern. However, other delegations felt that the proposal required further examination and refinement before it could be endorsed by the Commission.

351. It was considered that the document made a serious attempt to address an important issue, namely, that the Commission's work programme should undergo refinement. The view was expressed that the programme contained a very wide range of activities which, although they were within ESCAP's mandate, did not produce the desired impact on the region's development process. Guide-lines had therefore to be established to sharpen the focus of programmes and reduce the number of issues which ESCAP programmes and projects encompassed.

352. In the light of those considerations, the secretariat document presented an analytical approach to priority setting, which in the view of many delegations was a potentially effective way of assessing which projects should be included in the work programme. However, one delegation, while approving the multisectoral approach adopted in the document, felt that the proposals did not reflect the mandate given by the Commission at previous sessions, which had identified certain priority sectors; those should be considered further before adopting an approach based on criteria for project selection, which might not always reflect the primary concerns of development. Another delegation suggested that the relative priorities within each of ESCAP's development sectors, and the resources allocated to them, should be submitted for appraisal against the criteria suggested in the document.

353. While the generous role of donors was acknowledged, it was felt by some delegations that a mechanism was needed to allocate funds to priority projects.

354. The capacity and role of the Commission as set out in section II of the document were discussed and the Commission gave its general approval to the exposition in that part of the paper. ESCAP was indeed a unique intergovernmental forum for the Asian and Pacific region which facilitated exchange of views and experiences among Governments. The Commission thus contributed to the formulation of common policies and strategies. In that respect, the general point was made that the Commission should assist in preparing

regional inputs into global policy-making processes. However, one delegation pointed out that that function should not be misinterpreted as meaning that it should necessarily deal with all North-South issues. The potential of ESCAP as a purveyor of ideas was recognized as important although a few members felt that it was necessary to review the work of other institutions in that process. ESCAP's role as a centre for information was endorsed, although selectiveness and suitability were advocated as criteria for the collection of data. Finally, the increasing emphasis being given to ESCAP as a provider of technical assistance was welcomed, and the Commission stressed also its role as a co-ordinator of inputs from other sources.

355. Most of the discussion centred on the substantive criteria set out in section III of the document. The discussion and proposals came under two main headings: comments on the proposals set out in the document and proposals for possible new criteria.

356. Recognizing that the process of appraising work programme elements and projects against the criteria lay at the heart of the document's proposals, most representatives expressed their agreement with that approach. While sectoral priorities were of basic importance, a more selective system seemed to be needed, a requirement which the proposed process appeared to meet. Some representatives supported the focus on issues of major importance, which the criteria provided. The view was expressed that the criteria allowed for certain ambiguities and that more work was necessary to refine the definition of the substantive criteria outlined in the document. One delegation stated that, since development was a comprehensive process, it was necessary to ensure that the criteria adopted by the Commission did not have the effect of confining it to the periphery of the development area. The criteria needed examination in greater detail. Since the four criteria would have significant implications for all programme formulation, the secretariat should undertake further refinement of them, in consultation with Governments.

357. The importance of the first criterion (issues of major importance to the countries of the region) was acknowledged, but there was a need for refinement. Care would have to be taken in applying it to ensure that the views of individual countries were taken into account. Some delegations proposed that that criterion be applied by reflecting issues of major importance as decided by the Commission at each of its annual sessions.

358. Most delegations felt that the second criterion (alleviation of poverty in the region) was an appropriate one, although some considered it to be too general. Other delegations emphasized that development assistance should be given to promote economic development in developing countries, which would lead to the raising of per capita incomes. The view was expressed

that the criterion might be expanded to include mechanisms to facilitate the marketing of rural produce. A further view was that it should be modified to facilitate the evaluation of social benefits from particular projects. Stress was also laid on the need to focus on poverty-stricken and other disadvantaged groups, including women, youth, children, the aged and the handicapped.

359. Most delegations commented favourably on the third criterion (assistance to the least developed countries and other specially disadvantaged countries), drawing attention to its close identity with the provisions of the International Development Strategy and of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries.

360. There was general agreement that the fourth criterion (regional and/or subregional co-operation) was entirely appropriate in the context of ESCAP's work programme. One delegation stressed that the fourth criterion should be given an umbrella function. Some delegations emphasized that the criterion needed to be refined further in consultation with member Governments. ESCAP had a role to play in the inter-regional context as well.

361. As to new proposals for criteria, a number of delegations advocated broadening the scope of the criteria so that assistance would be given to countries to stimulate economic growth in general, while stressing the need to combine that with social justice, in particular through appropriate reforms and equitable distribution of income. The two did not need to be in conflict and together represented a primary aim of all Governments. Several delegations stressed that it was important for projects to produce tangible and concrete results and that they should be cost-effective. It was also advocated that projects be self-sustaining after a defined period of implementation, thus emphasizing the concept of self-reliance on the part of recipient Governments. Others suggested that considerations in programme formulation were support to viable projects and their subsequent replication, the avoidance of duplication with the work of other divisions of ESCAP and of other United Nations bodies and country specificity for some projects.

362. One delegation drew the attention of the Commission to the deliberations of the General Assembly and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on priority setting, citing United Nations General Assembly resolution 36/228, in which the Assembly had approved five criteria for eliminating programmes which were no longer effective or relevant, and suggesting that those be considered as well.

363. The measures contained in section IV of the document to ensure implementation of the proposals were generally commended and a number of delegations spoke in favour of the proposal to set up a project

review committee in the secretariat. There was, however, a call for the countries themselves to become more involved in the process. Some delegations expressed the view that as the Commission at its annual sessions was unable to give sufficient attention to details, an institutional arrangement should be made for review of the work programme by senior representatives of member Governments before the annual sessions. Some delegations were inclined to the view that the procedures should be tried out in practice, and consultations could then take place during the year on the procedures themselves, the criteria and the choice of projects. Some delegations felt that those consultations should be within the context of ACP, whereas others felt that they should be the subject of a separate consultation. One delegation suggested that that review should also embrace the need to reconsider the frequency, duration and structure of Commission sessions. Other delegations proposed that the Executive Secretary be requested to examine further the whole approach to priority setting and, in consultation with member Governments, make proposals on the matter to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session.

364. It was agreed that the Executive Secretary would re-examine the whole question in the light of the discussion recorded above. An intergovernmental consultation would take place on the subject, and the proposal would be submitted by the Executive Secretary in its final form for consideration at the thirty-ninth session of the Commission.

Consideration of issues in various fields of activity of ESCAP

365. The Commission considered the reports of the legislative committees which had met during the year prior to the thirty-eighth session, the report of the Special Body on Land-locked Countries, sectoral issue papers and the progress report on the implementation of resolution 219 (XXXVII) on expanding and strengthening the functions of the Commission. It also considered document E/ESCAP/255 and Corr.1 containing proposed programme changes, 1982-1983, and document E/ESCAP/286 and Corr.1 containing the tentative calendar of meetings for 1982/83. Document ESCAP/194 and Add.1 and Corr.1 on resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council was noted.

366. In his introductory statement, the Deputy Executive Secretary highlighted the major issues presented in the sectoral documents on the main issues in the various fields of activity of ESCAP. The sectoral papers provided background information highlighting the major issues on which the Commission's views were sought and proposed changes to the programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983.

367. The Commission reviewed those issues in the various sectors of the work programme, sector by sector, as reflected below.

Food and agriculture

368. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/248 and E/ESCAP/249 and Add.1.

369. It was informed that the Committee on Agricultural Development at its fourth session had discussed, among others, the interim report on the special study on food supply and distribution systems in Asia and the Pacific and the draft Statute of the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber (CGPRT) Crops. Those items were to be discussed in plenary during the Commission session.

370. The Commission endorsed the report of the Committee on Agricultural Development on its fourth session and noted that it provided an excellent framework for the secretariat to continue its work.

Agricultural plans, programmes and information systems

371. The Commission commended the secretariat's efforts in assisting the members and associate members in the development of food, agriculture and the rural economy in the region. Several delegations stated that their countries had made satisfactory progress in achieving agricultural growth. Some had already acquired self-sufficiency in producing major staple foodgrains. Their national development plans attached high priority to programmes and projects leading to the development of food and agriculture. It was noted that there was a high degree of interdependence between agriculture and other sectors in a developing economy. Agriculture played a catalytic role because a small percentage growth in that sector would lead to much higher growth in other sectors, particularly in the manufacturing and services sectors. Unless agricultural development was ensured, progress in other sectors would be greatly impaired. The delegations cited a number of agricultural/rural development programmes which had largely contributed to agricultural growth in their respective countries. The emphasis in those programmes was on integrated agricultural development planning in selected geographic regions, over-all development of a few agricultural commodities or integrated rural development. Those countries offered to share their successful experiences in agricultural/rural development planning and programming with other countries in the region. It was mentioned that in view of the importance of intersectoral relationships in agricultural planning it would be useful for the members, associate members and the Commission as well to undertake further studies on the subject.

372. Some developing countries, particularly those having experienced rapid growth, had been facing the problem of rural labour shortage. That had adversely affected agricultural production, especially production of paddy. In one particular country, thousands of hectares of land had remained uncultivated owing to out-migration of labour to urban centres. However, that country was striving to achieve self-sufficiency in rice. The secretariat was requested to provide assistance in studying related aspects of the problem and in identifying measures to deal with it.

373. The Commission recommended that the activities of the secretariat should be action-oriented. High priority should be attached to training because there was an acute shortage of expertise in the developing countries, especially in agricultural project identification, formulation, implementation and evaluation. Even if improved technologies were available in the developed countries, they could not be transferred directly, without possible harmful effects, to the socio-economic and ecological environment prevalent in the developing countries. The prevention of post-harvest losses, modernization of milling practices, improved utilization of by-products and establishment of regional centres of research and extension for the above and other purposes were also suggested as useful activities for the secretariat to undertake. One delegation expressed its readiness to co-operate with the secretariat's activities in prevention of food losses due to natural calamities. It was stated that in developing countries livestock raising at the farmstead had been traditionally linked with crop husbandry. In some of those countries, cattle raising on a commercial scale was hardly feasible. In view of the benefits to be derived therefrom, it was suggested that the secretariat should undertake studies on livestock raising.

374. It was emphasized that the developing countries generally were more familiar with the advanced agricultural technologies, research institutions and expertise available in the developed countries while there was a communications gap concerning similar information available in the region, especially in the developing countries. It was strongly recommended that the secretariat should prepare a directory of agricultural research/training institutions, their activities and the expertise available in the region in the area of agricultural development. That would serve a very useful purpose in establishing direct inter-country links and strengthening technical and economic co-operation.

375. It was noted that owing to the high cost of energy, which had to be imported in most cases, agricultural planners and scientists had to reassess the feasibility of the available technology, especially use of fertilizer, irrigation and farm machinery. There was a need, for example, to improve plant nutrient-use efficiency in major crops.

376. The Commission recognized the importance of the agricultural information development scheme through its efforts to help member countries to improve agricultural information systems, exchange useful information/experiences and transfer technology at the in-country, intraregional and interregional levels. It appreciated the regular publication of the *Agricultural Information Development Bulletin*, which compiled useful information on the aforementioned aspects of agricultural development, and urged the wider dissemination of the *Bulletin*. The Government of Japan, while stressing that publication of the *Bulletin* should be implemented as a regular budget activity, affirmed that it would contribute \$US 73,000 for the current year in recognition of the overwhelming support for the *Bulletin* expressed by the member countries.

377. The Commission appreciated the efforts of the secretariat, with the financial support of the Government of Japan, to strengthen farm broadcasting in the region, recognizing its important role in agricultural and rural development. It also appreciated the survey report entitled "Farm broadcasting in selected countries of Asia and the Pacific" and endorsed the recommendations included in the report, which emphasized the necessity of training manpower for radio programme production and improving facilities and equipment for farm broadcasting through international co-operation.

CGPRT crops

378. The Commission expressed its strong support for the activities of the secretariat related to the development of CGPRT crops. It pointed out that CGPRT crops constituted a major component of the staple diet of low-income groups of the region, and any improvement in them would directly benefit the people and over-all agricultural production. The activities of the secretariat would contribute to a significant improvement in the production, utilization and trade of CGPRT crops. They would also lead to greater availability of trained personnel and to the building and strengthening of production capability within the developing countries of the region. The Commission noted with satisfaction the progress made in that work, including socio-economic studies, the Seminar on the Development of CGPRT Crops in the USSR, the Expert Group Meeting on CGPRT Crops and the preparatory work for the establishment and operation of the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of CGPRT Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific.

379. The Commission noted with satisfaction the progress made in the establishment and operation of the Centre. It was informed that the Centre had been established and had begun to operate with effect from 29 April 1981, when the agreement between the Government of Indonesia and the United Nations on the host facilities had been concluded. The Director-designate of the Centre had been appointed. In order to ensure

effective implementation of the work programme of the Centre, an understanding had been reached between the Executive Secretary of ESCAP and the regional representative of FAO concerning co-operation between the two organizations in respect of the project. On the basis of that understanding, the modalities of co-operation and co-ordination were being worked out. The construction of the Centre's new building had already been started at Bogor, Indonesia, and was scheduled to be completed by August 1982. The Commission expressed the hope that during the current year it would be possible for the Centre to become fully operational at Bogor.

380. The Commission underlined the important role to be played by the Centre in the strengthening of national research and production capabilities in the development of CGPRT crops through (a) provision of assistance for the development of an agricultural co-operative research network, (b) preparation of agro-economic studies, including social aspects, (c) training of national research and extension workers and (d) collection, processing and dissemination of information. In that connection, the Commission noted that although the work of the Centre was primarily oriented towards the humid tropics of the ESCAP region, the Centre should not neglect the crops grown in areas such as semi-arid and other areas. It also expressed concern over the assistance of the Centre to the South Pacific island countries, which had widely varying climates, farming systems and food consumption patterns, particularly when the agriculture of small island States was compared with that of large nations.

381. The Commission expressed its appreciation and thanks to the Governments of Australia, Indonesia, Japan, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea and the USSR and to FAO and UNDP for the generous financial and technical support and co-operation extended so far. It also noted with appreciation the contribution of \$US 150,000 by the Government of Japan for the CGPRT project and the confirmation of the announcements made by the representatives of France, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and the USSR that their countries would continue to support the project. The Commission strongly appealed to developed countries, developing member countries and bilateral and multilateral donor agencies, particularly UNDP, to provide further financial and technical assistance to the Centre for implementing its work programme. It also strongly urged close co-operation with international research institutes and specialized agencies, particularly FAO, with a view to the full and complementary utilization of their capabilities in achieving the maximum benefit for the countries in the region.

382. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 220 (XXXVIII) containing the Statute of the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of CGPRT Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific. It also elected the first Governing Board of the

Centre, comprising the following countries: Bangladesh, France, India, Indonesia (host country), Japan, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea and Thailand.

ARSAP/agro-pesticides

383. The Commission expressed satisfaction with the activities of the agro-pesticides project under the agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific (ARSAP) in the fields of training and data collection. It was emphasized that the data collection function of ARSAP should be taken over by a new UNDP/UNIDO regional network programme on pesticides. The Commission recognized the impact of ARSAP's regional training planning programme, which had led to the commencement of national retailers training programmes on safe handling and efficient use of agro-pesticides in eight member countries. It emphasized the importance of biological control of pests in agriculture to maintain a sound ecological balance and stressed the necessity of studies on the matter. The delegation of the Netherlands expressed its gratitude for the inputs provided by the respective countries to make the programme a success. It further welcomed the forthcoming training planning workshop for the South Pacific region and stated that the funding for a one-year extension of the ARSAP/agro-pesticides programme was under consideration.

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

384. The Commission expressed satisfaction with the large number of activities undertaken in 1981 by the Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP), so as to promote technical co-operation among developing countries in fertilizer marketing and supply. Several delegations stated that their countries had benefited from those very useful activities. Fear was expressed that high fertilizer prices would prevent farmers from increasing fertilizer use enough to improve agricultural production. In the light of recent trends of fertilizer prices affected by rising energy costs, the Commission recognized the great importance of information exchange concerning the countermeasures and relevant experiences of member countries as well as the development of relevant studies and training programmes to increase efficiency in the production, distribution and utilization of fertilizers. The Commission noted with satisfaction the secondment of a team leader by FAO to the Network. An appeal was made to UNIDO, co-sponsor of the Network, to make whatever contribution it could. Donors, especially the Government of the Netherlands, were urged to provide further technical assistance and financial support to enable FADINAP to continue its excellent work.

Rural development

385. The secretariat's activities in rural development were commended by the Commission, particularly those relating to local-level planning, the role of women in agriculture and rural development, rural institutions serving agriculture and the organization and management of small farmers'/fisherfolk groups for income-generating activities. It was felt that those activities would develop concrete undertakings for enhancing the welfare of small farmers, upland rain-fed farmers, tenants, the landless and other disadvantaged groups in the rural areas.

386. The Commission emphasized that the secretariat should pay continuing attention to its previous decisions on the importance of agricultural co-operatives as well as the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly on the co-operative movement. Several delegations indicated their willingness to share the experience they had gained through the operation and management of their co-operative systems.

387. The Commission expressed concern over the rapid rate of deforestation in the region in view of its agricultural, ecological and environmental impacts. The secretariat was requested to study the problem more carefully and make greater contributions to reforestation in the region.

388. The Commission stressed the need to develop and implement activities to enhance the welfare of economically and socially disadvantaged groups in rural areas. It was felt that future activities on small farmer development programmes needed to be increasingly focused and linked to potential institutional changes such as agrarian reform. Attention should also be given to the trade-off between equity and efficiency in the small farmer programme, especially with regard to land and capital constraints to efficient production.

389. The Commission re-emphasized the important role played by women in various agricultural activities in different countries. It recognized the initiatives taken by the secretariat in assisting member States in planning and implementing specific projects related to the enhancement of women's participation in agricultural and rural development. It recommended the continuation and further expansion of activities under that programme.

390. The secretariat was urged to take the necessary measures to obtain financial resources for implementing the activities in the field of food and agricultural development, including obtaining rouble funds from UNDP for organizing seminars and study tours.

Development planning, projections and policies

391. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/250.

392. It commended the secretariat on the quality of its work in the field of development planning and expressed its continuing endorsement of the programme of work being implemented by the Development Planning Division.

393. A number of delegations noted with appreciation the secretariat's efforts to improve the format and contents of the annual *Survey* of the region. The inclusion of diagrams and of topic summary boxes was considered an effective means of making the *Survey* an even more comprehensive document. The secretariat's suggestion that future annual *Surveys* might contain a statistical appendix on recent economic and social developments in the region was supported.

394. Several delegations supported the secretariat's request that the member countries be urged to ensure the timely submission of data and invited the secretariat to undertake fact-gathering missions to ensure that the *Survey's* coverage was comprehensive and up to date. The Commission noted with satisfaction the intention of the secretariat to undertake missions to the socialist countries of the region to collect information concerning economic and social developments for use in preparing future *Surveys*.

395. The Commission noted that, in accordance with its resolution 212 (XXXVII), priority should be attached to the work undertaken to review and evaluate progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. Regional strategies and action programmes should be supportive of the efforts of all countries to implement the global Strategy. Several delegations suggested activities that the secretariat might consider undertaking as part of its further work with respect to the Strategy. Although the elaboration of regional and subregional strategies in the light of the Strategy, as had been done in document E/ESCAP/245, was useful, some delegations proposed that further work be done to disaggregate targets, priorities and policies at the subregional level and that further consideration be given to special actions that would be needed to achieve the goals of the Strategy in the region. It was also suggested that the secretariat's review of progress under the Strategy be undertaken within the context of the preparation of the annual *Survey* before the mid-term review in 1984.

396. In that connection, several needs were emphasized, including the need for close co-operation between the secretariat and national institutions responsible for development planning and review and appraisal of performance and the need for mutual flows of documentation and information dealing with the various aspects of planning and development progress at the national, regional and global levels.

397. It was noted by several delegations that, in connection with the implementation of the Strategy at

the global and regional levels as well as in the light of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Paris in September 1981, it was necessary to conduct comprehensive monitoring and appraisal of progress in the seven least developed countries of the region. It was suggested that work on the preparation of a regional review and appraisal should be taken up on a priority basis so that a report could be presented for consideration by the Commission at its thirty-ninth session.

398. The Commission indicated its satisfaction that a separate section had been established within the secretariat's Development Planning Division to deal with the region's least developed countries.

399. The key role played by development planning in the efforts of the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific to realize their development goals and aspirations was stressed by a number of delegations. The special difficulties faced in that regard by the region's least developed countries and by the island countries of the South Pacific were emphasized. It was pointed out that in the South Pacific problems of general concern were lack of data and lack of adequate expertise to undertake effective planning. The secretariat's activities in development planning were therefore welcomed.

400. The Commission endorsed the efforts which were under way to establish a development planning documents information service as part of the measures to systematize and improve the flow of reliable information to assist member countries in planning their development. That service should facilitate the review and appraisal activities of the secretariat.

401. There was strong support for the work concerning the development within the secretariat of a capacity for macro-economic modelling and projections and for technical assistance to member Governments in developing their own capacities in that regard. The need for close co-operation with national planning authorities in that work was emphasized.

402. Appreciation was expressed of the secretariat's activities to assist member countries in integrating tax planning more closely into development planning; it was suggested that further work in the field of fiscal policy as a development planning tool should take up the problem of fiscal decentralization in the region. The delegation of the USSR emphasized the far-reaching socio-economic implications of the arms race and urged the secretariat to conduct studies on the relationship between disarmament and development. The delegation of the USSR reaffirmed its readiness to provide facilities for organizing training courses for planners from developing countries of the region on a permanent basis. The series of activities contemplated in paragraph 12 of document E/ESCAP/250 were endorsed by the Commission for future implementation. In addition, one delegation suggested that the secretariat might undertake studies on manpower planning, and another

suggested that it would be useful to consider planning on the basis of broad-based quality-of-life indicators. It was noted with regret in that regard that the implementation of various activities in the work programme continued to await funding; that situation clearly indicated the need for additional support to those components of the work programme as well as for a review of priorities.

403. The Commission approved the secretariat's report on the implementation of resolution 213 (XXXVII) on a unified approach to economic and social development and planning. There was a consensus that the secretariat should continue its efforts to pay appropriate attention to such a unified approach. In pursuing that emphasis, the secretariat should also aim at applying a unified approach to its own work programme, in keeping with the views expressed by the Task Force on Reassessment of the Commission's Priorities, as detailed in document E/ESCAP/247. One delegation considered that, in implementing the unified approach, it would be essential to examine further the role of the public sector in the developing countries of the region.

404. The Commission adopted resolution 229 (XXXVIII) on the role of a unified approach to development planning in the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific.

Transnational corporations

405. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/267. It welcomed the comments of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, who briefly outlined the work of the Centre on the code of conduct on transnational corporations (TNCs) and in research, information and technical co-operation. The Executive Director pointed out the relative importance of Asia and the Pacific in the work of the Centre and appealed to member Governments to fill the 3 vacant seats in the United Nations Commission on Transnational Corporations out of the total of 11 reserved for the ESCAP region.

406. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the work of the Centre in Asia and the Pacific as well as its work on the code of conduct on TNCs. Several delegations noted with particular satisfaction the Centre's programme of technical co-operation and advisory services, under which it had convened numerous national and regional workshops on negotiating with TNCs in the region. One delegation commended the Centre on its recent programme to assist institutions of higher learning in the teaching of subjects related to TNCs.

407. The Commission endorsed the Joint CTC/ESCAP Unit's programme of work on TNCs, including the programme changes described in E/ESCAP/267. It acknowledged that the Joint Unit's work was directed towards increasing the negotiating capacities of host

Governments, especially of developing countries, with TNCs. It observed that the Joint Unit's work was implemented amidst the expansion and diversification of TNC involvement throughout the region. Transnational corporations were no longer involved simply in the form of direct investment in the primary commodity sectors of the region but had spread to banking, services, trade and a wide variety of manufacturing activities. Moreover, TNCs had adopted significantly more complex modes of interface with host developing countries of the region, including joint ventures, production sharing, technology and management contracts, compensatory trade arrangements and turnkey projects.

408. The Commission felt that those developments, which had been particularly intense in Asia and the Pacific, had placed new and increased demands on the Governments of host developing countries to deal effectively with TNCs. With that in mind, the Commission endorsed the work of the Joint Unit in the areas of research, information and technical co-operation, leading towards an increased capacity of host Governments to deal with TNCs. One delegation stressed that, in the implementation of their work, neither the Joint Unit nor the Centre should involve themselves directly in individual negotiations between TNCs and host Governments, as that would infringe upon the sovereignty of States and add needlessly to the costly bureaucratic process of negotiation.

409. Some delegations noted that TNCs were sources of capital, technology, market access and management expertise, which were typically in scarce supply in developing countries. Most delegations acknowledged that TNCs had a positive role to play in the economic development of their host countries. To ensure the fulfilment of that role, with a minimum of negative effects, the Commission acknowledged the need for Governments to weigh carefully the conditions under which TNCs involved themselves in host countries. In that regard, and recognizing that benefits from TNC involvement did not flow automatically, the Commission further acknowledged the need for host countries to develop their capacities to negotiate, monitor and regulate TNC activities. One delegation felt that the document under consideration by the Commission as well as the work of the Joint Unit had not brought out quantitatively the negative affects of TNCs on host developing countries such as the outflow of financial resources and qualified personnel. In that regard, it was suggested that a relevant study be undertaken. Another delegation felt that the document and the work of the Joint Unit had not fully reflected the positive and essential contribution of TNCs to host developing countries in the region.

410. As to the Joint Unit's current work programme, a number of delegations pointed out the particular relevance of the Joint Unit's research. In that connection, one delegation expressed strong approval of the Joint Unit's proposed study on export processing zones

and several delegations stressed the importance of the Joint Unit's research on technology transfer, transfer pricing and transnational trading corporations. Several recommendations were made for further in-depth studies by the Joint Unit on the impact of the transfer pricing practices of TNCs on export earnings of developing countries and TNC involvement in important sectors in the Pacific, including fisheries, mining and tourism. One delegation proposed that the Joint Unit undertake a study on the feasibility of harmonizing tax and other benefits offered by developing countries of the region for foreign investment, particularly from TNCs. Another delegation proposed that the Joint Unit convene a ministerial workshop for Pacific island countries to enhance the capability of government ministers to deal with TNCs. Finally, one delegation recommended that a survey team be established composed of technology transfer specialists from each participating country to identify appropriate technologies and transferable technologies and that exchange of opinions be organized on matters of mutual interest in the area of technological assistance.

Industry, technology, human settlements and the environment

411. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/240 and E/ESCAP/251-254.

412. It fully endorsed the report of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment on its fifth session and noted that the Committee had concentrated basically on human settlements and the environment and had given appropriate attention to problems concerned with industry and technology. It felt that that procedure would enable the Commission to obtain a fairly comprehensive view of the situation with respect to the four important sectors under its purview.

Industry

413. The Commission observed that there had been a definite over-all improvement in the industrial growth rates in the region during 1981, as compared with the trends of development observed during the previous two years. Although growth rates had improved, the marked differences in the rates of growth and the unevenness of development between the countries were matters for serious concern. There was a need for ESCAP to evaluate its programme content to ensure that practical assistance to the developing countries and the least developed among them was maximized.

414. The Commission also observed that the changes in the region with respect to improvements in manufacturing industries had taken place despite adverse international economic conditions. While those trends were a matter for satisfaction, the Commission felt that, in order to maintain the momentum, the countries should take fully into consideration the adjustments

which were currently taking place in global industry, including the internationalization of industrial production, rapidly changing industrial comparative advantage, the lessening dependence of developed countries on oil imports, the stabilization and decline of oil prices and the cumulative effects of high interest rates on capital flows and investment levels. Those matters required continuing study and the generation of new initiatives of industrial activity to cope with the changing situations.

415. The major policy guide-lines with regard to re-orientation of strategies and development policies had been worked out by the Meeting of Ministers of Industry in 1977. Since then, two meetings of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Ministers of Industry had been held, one in January 1979 and the other in July 1981. While a great deal of useful work had undoubtedly been done, the Commission considered it a matter of concern that, despite those efforts, there had not been any attempt to focus sharply on some of the major issues which deserved urgent action.

416. At its second meeting, the *Ad Hoc* Group of Ministers had identified a limited number of sectors so that the Governments could draw up a list of priority sectors for consideration. The Commission endorsed the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Ministers at its second meeting. It drew attention specifically to the recommended minimum programme of action to be undertaken by the secretariat and urged that the work programme be revised to reflect the minimum programme of action and more generally the decisions of the ministers and be taken up for implementation by the secretariat.

417. The Commission reiterated its confidence in the major directions of the policies and guide-lines provided by the meetings of ministers and expressed confidence that the policy-oriented proposals that had been made would constitute a dynamic element in building up a new development strategy.

418. At its second meeting, the *Ad Hoc* Group of Ministers had correctly drawn attention to the need to strengthen the manufacturing capabilities of the countries of the region on the basis of national planning. In the ongoing programme, there was a definite need to concentrate attention on the implementation of approved projects with an increased content of technical and advisory support to countries. The latter called for increasingly co-ordinated efforts among the United Nations agencies, in particular between ESCAP and UNIDO.

419. The work with regard to agro-industry linkages had proved to be of real benefit to member countries. The initial work undertaken by the secretariat had been extremely useful and had contributed substantially to supporting the adoption of a series of practical measures towards strengthening linkages between industry and

agriculture. The Commission noted the difficulties encountered by the secretariat with regard to the implementation of recommendations on undertaking further studies on selected agricultural sectors on a similar basis and urged member Governments to provide support for undertaking that work.

420. The Commission observed that work in connection with the development of small-scale industries and the promotion of medium-sized manufacturing undertakings deserved to be given top priority. Such enterprises would prove to be beneficial to developing countries in many ways and assist them in tackling a number of social and economic problems. The impact on creation of employment opportunities was one of the major factors to be borne in mind. In that connection, the Commission drew attention to the role of the large and basic industries in fostering and strengthening the small-scale sector.

421. With regard to redeployment of industries, some delegations stated that care should be taken to avoid redeployment of industries which were obsolete or which could lead to the creation of pollution. Redeployment of labour-intensive industries should be encouraged.

422. The Commission noted that the ESCAP "club" was a mechanism with great potential not only for promoting technical and economic co-operation among developing countries but also as a means of accelerating the process of development among the least developed countries of the region. It noted with appreciation the support given by the Government of Australia through providing the services of a staff member on a non-reimbursable basis in order to undertake follow-up activities. The Commission urged that the activities to be undertaken under the "club" should receive greater attention and felt that the scope for such work could be increased without any further delay.

423. The Commission strongly felt that more specific and practical results could be achieved from the solidarity meeting to be held in Nepal in November 1982 and directed the secretariat to undertake careful preparations for that meeting, particularly with respect to the finalization of the project proposals.

424. It also felt that the "club's" activities should be reviewed prior to the next session of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment, to determine the value and usefulness of its programmes, establish priorities and suggest future activities based on the needs of the member Governments.

425. In addition to such work as the promotion of industries under the "club's" activities and prime-mover industries, the Commission felt that the least developed and land-locked countries should be given special attention by the secretariat in order to support their programmes of industrialization. The Commission noted

with appreciation the decision of the Government of the Netherlands to support the prime-mover project in Nepal on a bilateral basis.

426. The Commission felt that a rich diversity of experience and expertise was available in the region on patterns of industrial production that were technologically efficient, economically viable and financially sound. Sharing of the know-how, experience and knowledge which had been gained by developing countries should prove extremely valuable to all countries of the region. The Commission therefore called upon the secretariat to increase the scope and content of its technical and advisory assistance to member countries in that regard.

427. The Commission also felt that ESCAP should undertake a study of the situation with regard to industrial development in the least developed countries in the region, including the policy measures adopted by the Governments, in order to ascertain the commonality of problems and to analyse successes so that countries in that category might benefit from each other's experiences.

428. The programme with respect to industrialization in non-metropolitan areas was one which provided opportunities for increasing the scope for developing small-scale and medium-sized industrial enterprises. The Committee had examined the progress with regard to the implementation of the programme. The Commission urged member Governments to take all measures necessary to expedite the implementation of the pilot projects. It noted the secretariat's efforts in that connection and also observed that there should be continuing consultations between Governments and the secretariat in order to expedite the plan of implementation as originally envisaged.

429. The Commission drew attention to its resolution with respect to studies on the role of the public sector. It noted that some studies had already been carried out by the secretariat and that some were pending owing to shortage of resources. Some delegations recommended that ESCAP's work programmes be balanced so that projects were initiated to study, evaluate, make recommendations on and facilitate the stimulation of investment and industrial development through the private sector. Others commented on the role of competition and openness of the economy as instruments to bolster the efficiency of both private and public sector enterprises. Many developing countries reiterated that the public sector had an important role to play in promoting economic development. They said that the public sector was being used in an efficient and profitable manner and proposed that the Commission should undertake activities pertaining to the public sector in a manner that could serve the best interests of the developing countries. The Commission noted that in the work programme activities should be undertaken

which reflected the best interests of the member countries.

430. As a result of the secretariat's initiatives arising from activities in taxation and investment, regional action was in process to set up a regional tax and investment research centre at Singapore. The Commission noted that the objectives of the centre would be to serve the interests of the region by undertaking research on domestic and international aspects of taxation and investment which were of interest to Governments and the business world.

431. The centre, as proposed, would be a private undertaking and would become self-financing in a few years. The Commission urged interested member countries and others to contribute to the centre so that it could begin operations in the near future. The representative of the Netherlands indicated that any future Netherlands contribution to the centre would depend on the willingness of other donors to make contributions. In that connection, the Commission noted with appreciation the statement by the representative of Pakistan that his Government would contribute \$US 5,000 towards the establishment of the centre and \$US 1,500 annually towards the running costs for three years.

432. The Commission emphasized the importance of foreign investment as such investment would generate transfer of management skills, know-how and technology. In that regard, it noted the importance of agreements on investment assurance and the creation of a good investment climate and appropriate infrastructure for the promotion of such investment. It observed that the Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting on Investment held at Tokyo in December 1978 had made several important recommendations. It welcomed the offer by the Government of Japan to provide experts to advise the countries with regard to the creation of better conditions for investment.

433. The Commission drew attention to the suggestion it had made at previous sessions pertaining to the disaggregation of the Lima target and heard with interest of the action taken by UNIDO. While noting the difficulties involved and the reservations expressed by certain delegations, it suggested that the secretariat continue consultations with UNIDO to undertake the task of disaggregation.

434. Several delegations emphasized the growing importance of export-oriented industries. It was observed that many countries had passed the stage of import substitution and were now planning for extensive development of projects designed specifically for export. Some countries had also designated export-oriented industries as their priority concern. In that connection, the Commission drew attention to capacity utilization and promotion of joint ventures, which had not received adequate attention in the past. With regard to the latter, steps to promote regional co-operation would be an

effective means of developing programmes useful to deal with the situation. However, the Commission urged that special attention be paid to the setting-up of joint ventures which would contribute not only to the promotion of trade but also to the fuller utilization of the resources and experiences which were available within the countries. It also urged the secretariat to provide technical assistance and other facilities for the promotion and development of those industries participating, through studies and dissemination of information, in successful cases of such collaborative arrangements and other means.

435. A great deal of attention was also being paid to the development of basic industries such as soda ash, iron and steel, fertilizers and petrochemicals. In that area of work too, the Commission hoped that the secretariat as well as other international organizations would be able to provide the member Governments with the necessary support and assistance.

436. The Commission noted the remarks of the Executive Secretary regarding the important part that the service sector played in the economic development of the ESCAP region. It urged the secretariat to ensure that the relevant results of work under way in that sector in UNCTAD, OECD and GATT were drawn to the attention of the appropriate ESCAP committees.

437. The Commission noted the work undertaken by the secretariat in the field of agro-industries under the direction of the Intergovernmental Meeting on Agro- and Allied Industries. Consideration had been given to the development of agro-industries and integrated agro-industrial complexes. The programme of activities included the integrated silk processing, leather and oils and fats industries. A project developed in co-operation with UNIDO related to the promotion of a regional network for production, marketing and control of pesticides. The Commission took particular note of the important work pertaining to the regional information network on production of liquid energy from biomass. It was appreciative of the support provided to that project by the Government of Japan. It urged that similar assistance should be provided by other donor countries as well as international organizations. The Commission observed that with respect to work on the production of alcohol from agricultural raw materials such as cassava, sugar-cane and sweet potatoes, careful consideration should be given to their use as sources of food in some countries.

438. The Commission also desired that a status report on the implementation of the recommendations made at the third session of the Intergovernmental Meeting on Agro- and Allied Industries be made available to the Meeting at its fourth session, scheduled to be held towards the end of 1982.

439. The Commission heard with interest the statement of the representative of UNIDO on the co-operation

between ESCAP and his Organization on various projects being implemented in the region, including project generation and consultancy services, the public sector and RNAM. The Commission appreciated UNIDO's assistance in those activities. It also appreciated UNIDO's assurance of assistance to ESCAP on the study on structural changes and expressed interest in the work of UNIDO regarding redeployment of industries. It hoped that the close co-operation between ESCAP and UNIDO would be strengthened in the coming years. The representatives of UNESCO and FAO also informed the Commission of their activities in the region which were of relevance to the work of ESCAP and assured the Commission of their co-operation and support for ESCAP's related work. The representative of the International Council of Women also informed the Commission of her organization's activities.

Technology

440. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the secretariat had functioned as a regional nodal point for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, with the key focus of its activities on assistance to member countries in strengthening their scientific and technological potential in the eight programme areas of the Operational Plan adopted by the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development at its third session, held in August 1981. The Commission also noted the secretariat activities towards the preparation of the Operational Plan for the implementation of the Programme and its participation in all important meetings of the Intergovernmental Committee and its appropriate organs devoted to the elaboration of a unified approach towards assistance to the developing countries by all United Nations agencies.

441. The Commission endorsed the series of activities described in document E/ESCAP/252 towards strengthening the scientific and technological capabilities of member countries and recommended that the secretariat, in carrying out those activities, should maintain and enhance its co-operation with other United Nations agencies, such as UNCSTD, UNCTAD, UNIDO, UNDP, UNESCO and WIPO. The Commission stressed the usefulness of the Interagency Task Force on Science and Technology set up by the secretariat and suggested that the Task Force should continue to review all developments in science and technology so as to optimize the results of all efforts, bring about better co-ordination and avoid duplication.

442. The Commission observed that the objective of ESCAP activities in the field of science and technology should be to continue to assist member countries in building up their endogenous science and technology capabilities. The secretariat's activities should therefore be focused upon the formulation of comprehensive, coherent and relevant technological policies for strength-

ening technological capacities in the region and the implementation of those policies through the adoption of technology plans as integral parts of national development plans by interested countries.

443. The Commission urged the secretariat to mobilize additional resources and co-ordinate the use of existing resources in order to strengthen its capacity to provide technical assistance and advisory services to national science and technology institutions to raise their efficiency through enhancing research and development activities, dissemination of research results, development of managerial and technical capabilities, upgrading of traditional technologies, identification, assessment and application of new scientific and technological developments and organization of training programmes for scientific, engineering and technical personnel.

444. The Commission observed that the progress in implementing the recommendations of the Vienna Programme of Action had been slow and emphasized the need to formulate specific tasks towards implementing the Operational Plan of the Programme at the regional, subregional and national levels in co-operation with all concerned United Nations agencies.

445. The Commission appreciated the offers by India, the Republic of Korea and the USSR, among others, to make available relevant technologies and details of experimentation and to share their experience with other countries in the region and called upon RCTT to arrange for such useful exchanges of know-how, experience and expertise.

446. The Commission emphasized the important role of the secretariat in initiating and implementing joint interagency activities in science and technology within the region. It hoped that adequate financial contributions would be made to the proposed financing system.

447. The Commission recommended that, within the over-all objective of strengthening scientific and technological potential, the secretariat should provide technical assistance to interested member countries to assist them in the implementation of technology transfer activities through the establishment of a national information base for the proper choice of a particular technology, improvement of the negotiation capacities of national authorities and enterprises concerned and proper adaptation and industrial application of imported technology. One delegation recommended that a survey team composed of technology transfer specialists from each participating country should be organized to identify appropriate technologies and transferable techniques and exchange opinions on matters of mutual interest in the area of technological assistance.

448. The Commission expressed disappointment at the slow progress of the biennial regional survey of science and technology. It hoped that that work would be

speeded up through further efforts by the secretariat to obtain adequate information from the countries and urged members to co-operate in that regard. Use could also be made of the documents, data and proceedings of the Second Conference of Ministers Responsible for the Application of Science and Technology to Development and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in Asia and the Pacific in that regard. The Commission urged that the preparation of the survey should establish the basis for regional activities towards more expeditious implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action.

449. The Commission stressed the importance of project generation and industrial consultancy capabilities for industrial development. It noted with satisfaction the successful conduct of the Seminar on the Development of Project Generation Capabilities and Consultancy Services, held at Jakarta in November 1981. In endorsing the recommendations which had emerged, the Commission urged their expeditious implementation in order to enhance and strengthen the industrial consulting capabilities in the region for planning, preparation, implementation and management of industrial projects. It noted with appreciation the financial support of UNIDO in the implementation of the project through the provision of a consultant for one year, among others, and urged that, in view of its importance, work relating to strengthening and enhancing industrial consultancy capabilities in the region should be carried out on a continuing basis.

450. The Commission heard a statement by the Director of RCTT on the activities of the Centre. It noted with satisfaction the progress made by RCTT in undertaking a wide variety of activities relevant to the requirements of participating countries in the fields of science and technology and transfer of technology. The Commission felt that RCTT had proved to be a good instrument for implementing regional activities in the field of technology through promotion of technological sub-networks, collection, evaluation and dissemination of technological information, organization of training programmes and workshops, provision of advisory services etc. aimed at promoting regional co-operation for strengthening the technological capabilities of developing countries in the region.

451. The Commission endorsed the validity and utility of the network concept upon which the activities of RCTT were based and felt that that approach had proved its efficacy in providing back-up support to national efforts and in implementing regional activities in the field of technology. The Commission also felt that RCTT, together with ESCAP, should increasingly act as a regional instrument to further the major concerns of different organizations in the United Nations system involved in technology and that it had an important role to play in the implementation of the regional aspects of the Vienna Programme of Action relating to technology for development.

452. The Commission appreciated the support so far extended to RCTT by the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development (UNIFSTD), UNDP and the donor countries and hoped that the programmes of RCTT would be further enhanced with similar and continued support.

453. The Commission welcomed a proposal that RCTT, working in collaboration with recognized institutions in the region, should be the channel for the dissemination of information on technologies which had been developed within the region and noted that RCTT would be initiating action to that end.

454. The Commission also noted, however, the growing imbalance between the increase in the activities of RCTT and its institutional strength and appealed for financial contributions for institutional purposes from participating Governments and UNDP so as to enable it to carry on with its programmes. The Commission noted with appreciation the assurance given by India that it would provide all the facilities required from the host country and the announcement of \$US 50,000 as an institutional support contribution during 1982-1983 as part of India's continuing commitment to and support for the healthy growth of RCTT. The Commission felt confident that contributions for institutional support would be liberally forthcoming from other participating countries, which had all appreciated the value and utility of RCTT's activities. It was of the opinion that such contributions should be made on a yearly basis.

455. The Commission noted that the Third Meeting of National Focal Points had critically reviewed the activities of RCTT in order to identify relevant sectors of emphasis and concretize the benefits from those activities and also noted that the discussions had shown that there should be a body of core activities in specific technological sectors without excessive diversification. It noted that, in the implementation of those activities, RCTT would collaborate closely with the secretariat, institutions in countries of the region and international organizations. It also noted that, in addition to the review held during the Third Meeting of National Focal Points, there had been a tripartite review of the implementation of the UNIFSTD project and hoped that those evaluations and others would enable RCTT to enhance the effectiveness of its programmes.

456. The Commission urged that the Governing Body of RCTT be constituted as soon as possible.

457. The Commission noted with interest that the first phase of RNAM had been implemented successfully, which demonstrated the viability of the network concept. The project had made a significant impact in the participating countries in increasing the pace of agricultural mechanization and the manufacture of appropriate machinery, equipment and tools. It also noted that the programme for the second phase had commenced beginning in January 1982 and that during

that phase there would be considerable emphasis on TCDC, assistance in design development and the strengthening of manufacturing capability. The popularization of machines which had passed the design development stage, training programmes and information exchange were also commended. The Commission was pleased to note the offer of the Government of Japan to provide \$US 200,000 for the second phase of the project and its readiness to consider the provision of the services of an agricultural machinery expert on a non-reimbursable basis for one year. The Government of Japan indicated the possibility of hosting the seventh session of the Technical Advisory Committee towards the end of 1982. The increasing contributions of the Government of Australia were noted with appreciation. The Commission further noted with appreciation that the Government of the Philippines had pledged \$US 50,000 in cash and an equal amount in kind for the project. It urged other donor countries and UNDP in particular considerably to augment their contribution to that extremely useful inter-country project.

458. The representative of Nepal stated that, although his country was not a participant in the project, his Government was interested in and appreciated the work done by RNAM and requested that the Network make available design drawings of successful machinery and equipment and technical publications to the Agricultural Machinery Centre at Parvanipur.

Human settlements

459. The Commission expressed concern over the continuing deterioration of living conditions in human settlements and stressed the importance of the proposed programmes in that sector. The provision of adequate shelter, being a basic need like food and clothing, was a condition for the improvement of the quality of life and well-being. The problems appeared to be the most acute in those parts of the region where high rates of population growth had led to the disruption of traditional human settlements. It had been recognized that a major destabilizing factor for human settlements was the rapid migration of rural population into the urban areas in search of employment opportunities. The Commission attached considerable importance to the upgrading of rural settlements through the provision of shelter, water supply and sanitation facilities.

460. In that connection, the Commission fully supported the recommendations of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment at its fifth session and agreed with the secretariat's submission that the major issues in the field of human settlements were: (a) integration of physical planning with economic and social planning; (b) rural settlement planning; (c) strengthening of the capabilities of local authorities; (d) land policies to increase the supply of land to the poor; (e) human settlements planning under energy constraints; (f) indigenous building materials and the construction industry;

and (g) integrated programme on improvement of slums and squatter settlements. In view of the diversity and magnitude of the issues connected with human settlements, the Commission stressed the need to undertake studies, research activities and training programmes in the areas of the building and construction industry, settlement planning and policy, land use, low-cost housing, standards for the provision of shelter and infrastructure facilities, energy efficiency, rural settlements, migration and urbanization at the national, subregional and regional levels.

461. The Commission noted that international assistance and exchange of information among the member countries in the region were essential and stressed that the problems of human settlements in many countries of the region could not be solved without the assistance of the international community.

462. The Commission emphasized that the work programme for development of human settlements should give priority to and be designed to benefit the low-income bracket of the population to assist its members in improving their living conditions.

463. Developments in the field of human settlements were complex and closely connected to a number of other subjects. The solution to the problems in human settlements could not, therefore, be sought in isolation, but called for a comprehensive approach formulated within the framework of economic, physical and social planning with the fullest involvement of the people. That would require an improvement in institutional arrangements and procedures for the implementation of such planning. It was also necessary to formulate national physical plans and plans for specific regional settlements and growth centres and to improve physical planning capacity.

464. The Commission noted that integration of physical, economic and social planning provided Governments with opportunities to avoid critical problems since such planning would involve procedures and mechanisms for mastering urban growth and making adequate provision of land in accordance with an overall national settlements plan. Integrated planning would obviate the need to take remedial action as undesirable types of human settlements would not occur.

465. The Commission recognized that land policies in some countries of the region had not kept pace with the needs of the rapidly growing national and urban populations. Inadequate land policies had caused several adverse features in human settlements as they had hindered orderly and equitable development of land. The Commission agreed with the recommendations put forward in the document under discussion and urged member countries actively to improve their policies on land acquisition, land banking and land-use control so as to enable more land to be made available at reasonable prices for the development of human settlements.

The Commission also decided that documentation and exchange of experience concerning land policies of different countries in the region should be undertaken and approved the holding of an appropriate regional meeting on land policies.

466. The Commission recognized the importance of rural centre and settlement planning and the vital role it could play in the development of rural areas and in the improvement of the living conditions of rural poor in developing countries of the region. The Commission heard with interest that a number of countries in the region were actively involved in undertaking rural development programmes and settlement improvement projects and had succeeded to a certain degree in solving the problems in rural areas. It noted that physical planning of rural centres and settlements, if based on sound concepts and in harmony with social and economic needs, could contribute greatly to improving the well-being of the rural populations. The provision of essential services and employment opportunities to surplus agrarian populations in rural areas would help to stem the tide of migration from rural to urban centres. The Commission considered it necessary to exchange and share experiences among the countries of the region so as to benefit from each other's endeavours in dealing with the problems in that sector.

467. The Commission noted the usefulness of the recent Roving Seminar on Rural Centre Planning held in China, Fiji and the Republic of Korea and endorsed the recommendations of the experts attending the Seminar that such training seminars should be repeated in other countries of the region for the benefit of those involved in the planning, development, implementation and evaluation of rural centres and rural settlements programmes.

468. The Commission expressed satisfaction with the progress made by the secretariat in the preparation of a human settlements atlas and the study and review of the human settlements situation in the ESCAP region in pursuance of the decisions of the Commission at its thirty-sixth session and appreciated the generous assistance provided by the Governments of Japan and the United States to those activities. It noted that an Expert Group Meeting had been convened in November 1981 to review the draft outline which was intended to provide a framework to guide the national counterparts in the preparation of the country monographs for inclusion in the study. The Commission considered that the study was useful and could well serve as a guide to national planners in dealing with human settlements problems. It noted that the study would be the first in a series of documents containing valuable information on the human settlements situation and the experience of the region in coping with the problems in human settlements. In that connection, the Commission called upon its members and associate members to provide the necessary support and assistance to the secretariat so as to enable it to complete the study at an early date.

469. The Commission recognized the need for appropriate institutions at all levels of government for the proper development of human settlements and co-ordination of all sectoral activities of government and those of private enterprise. Such institutions would need to be vested with adequate resources and capabilities to execute their functions.

470. In that connection, the Commission commended the initiative taken by the secretariat in co-operation with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the City of Yokohama to organize the Regional Congress of Local Authorities for Development of Human Settlements in Asia and the Pacific, scheduled to be held at Yokohama, Japan, from 9 to 16 June 1982, and appreciated the generous contribution by the City of Yokohama which had made that important Congress possible. It endorsed the proposal that local authorities be provided the necessary means, such as financial resources and increased administrative and technical capacity, so that they would be able to cope with the tasks assigned to them. It warmly supported the theme of the Congress directed towards decentralization of the control of human settlements activities to the regional and local levels, in keeping with the principle of equitable distribution of development activities throughout each country.

471. The Commission recommended that special attention be given to meeting the needs of the poorest and the implementation of programmes for the improvement of their settlements. It expressed concern that programmes for the upgrading of slums and squatter settlements might be aiming too high and that more emphasis should be placed on prevention than on remedial action. The provision of shelter for low-income populations was considered important and greater attention should be paid to socio-economic studies of those involved. The Commission therefore commended the secretariat on its current work on the integrated programme on improvement of slums and squatter settlements with special emphasis on appropriate infrastructure, services and technologies.

472. The Commission underscored the value of public participation in the planning, development and execution of human settlement projects in rural and urban areas. For it to be meaningful, public participation should be practised at all levels of government — extending from the level of towns, villages and small rural communities through the district and regional levels to the higher levels of government where policies on human settlements were formulated. In that connection, the Commission noted with interest the developments taking place in several countries and in particular the Sri Lankan efforts, which had met with success in the recent past and which could be of interest to other countries as well.

473. The Commission gave considerable attention to the question of utilization of indigenous low-cost

materials and recognized with appreciation the attention which that activity was given in the current programme of work. Without prejudice to other important materials, it appreciated the work done on rice-husk utilization. The latter's use as a cementitious material should be encouraged and knowledge about its utilization disseminated.

474. The Commission suggested that with regard to the problem of providing shelter for the low-income sectors of the population, which was a major concern for the Governments of many developing countries, the solution might be partially found in the provision of indigenous building materials in adequate supply at any one time and at prices acceptable to those people, preferably on a self-help basis. Since the development of those kinds of building materials and the technologies involved were still lagging behind in many of the ESCAP member countries, the secretariat should make every effort, in co-operation with the regional centres at Bandung and New Delhi, to promote and popularize the use of such indigenous building materials as well as assist in their production and marketing for the poorer masses of the region.

475. The question of energy consumption and availability for human settlements had already been the subject of considerable attention and study in ESCAP, but the Commission felt that further work needed to be done with regard to energy conservation in building. That would encompass development of designs requiring reduced energy inputs in both construction and utilization, plan solutions which minimized transport costs, more energy-efficient material manufacturing techniques and other innovative approaches which would reduce the energy requirements in human settlements, where a large proportion of nations' total energy was consumed.

476. The role of the indigenous construction industry, which largely consisted of small contractors, was considered essential for the distribution of both economic and social benefits. It was therefore recommended that that sector be studied further and steps be taken to upgrade its capabilities and effectiveness. That would require the training of both managerial staff and skilled workers and craftsmen. In that connection, the Commission urged the secretariat to extend its work on evolving appropriate human settlements standards and criteria for the choice of appropriate technology for low-cost housing. It suggested that the convening of workshops and seminars, perhaps of a roving nature, would be of significant benefit to the developing countries.

477. Member countries were invited to make more extensive use of the two regional centres at Bandung and New Delhi as considerable capacities were available there in such fields as building technology, materials science and testing, development of indigenous materials, dwelling design and training in various sectors. Both centres had a vast pool of information on many aspects of human settlements development, but there was a need

for assistance from ESCAP in adopting modern techniques for documentation and dissemination of information on a regional basis.

478. With regard to information dissemination, the Commission recommended the establishment of centres for human settlements information at the national level where such centres did not already exist. It noted in that connection that in Pakistan such a centre had already been established within the Environmental and Urban Affairs Division, but there, as in other member countries, there was a need for training of documentalists, particularly with regard to achieving the uniform procedures necessary for making the proposed regional and global information system on human settlements effective.

479. Effective information dissemination was recognized as extremely important in research, design and project formulation and ESCAP's role as a centre in a regional network had been emphasized at earlier meetings. Co-operation with Habitat on that matter was important and any assistance from other international bodies or individual donor countries to enhance that role would be welcome.

480. The training of manpower to meet the challenging tasks in the development of sound human settlements was considered to be a matter of great concern. Training was required not only for technicians and administrators but also for village and community leaders at the grass-roots level covering a wide range of human settlements activities. The representative of France indicated that, in recognition of the need for improved manpower in developing countries in the land policy sector, his Government would offer facilities for training specialized personnel in map-making and topography. The representative of the USSR indicated that his Government was proposing to host two seminars in the Soviet Union on human settlements development and low-cost housing.

481. The Commission noted that training programmes were being undertaken by UNESCO in the field of human settlements. A programme for the training of human settlements managers had been completed and preparations were in hand for a training seminar on management of human settlements in disaster situations to be held at the Asian Institute of Technology in April 1982.

482. The Commission noted that an expert group meeting on the preparation of a feasibility study on the proposal to establish an Asian human settlements bank had been held at Manila in December 1981 at the request of the Executive Director of Habitat pursuant to resolution 4/14 of the Commission on Human Settlements. The report of that meeting had been submitted to the Executive Director of Habitat for appropriate action. A report by the Executive Director of Habitat based upon the recommendations of the expert group

meeting would be submitted to the Commission on Human Settlements at its fifth session. In considering the feasibility of the proposed bank, some delegations expressed the hope that such aspects as possible overlapping of functions with other multilateral financing institutions and the generation of adequate funds to carry out its responsibilities would be taken into account. Some delegations expressed support for the proposal as, even with some degree of overlap, it might still be valid and tenable. However, other delegations felt that, in the absence of the report of the expert group meeting, it was premature to discuss the establishment of an Asian human settlements bank.

483. In its resolution 36/71, the General Assembly had decided, in principle, to designate 1987 as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. The Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment at its fifth session had endorsed support for activities to be undertaken in conjunction with that event. The Commission lent its support to the designation of the Year as a means of giving a global focus to the provision of shelter and the highlighting of adequate shelter as a basic need. It called on member countries to accelerate their efforts to provide funding for the activities of the Year and indicate their needs so as to assist the United Nations system in its planning for the Year, as well as to assist ESCAP in drawing up a strategy for the Asia and Pacific region for the implementation of its own shelter programmes. It noted with appreciation the initiative taken by the Government of Sri Lanka in contacting other member countries to augment the funds and information materials of Habitat for the implementation of the Year, to which Sri Lanka had already pledged \$US 24,000.

484. The Commission was informed of the initiative taken by the Government of the Philippines together with Habitat for the establishment of strategic demonstration projects in human settlements. Those projects would aim at applying the methods of integrated planning to achieve 11 basic needs, including livelihood. The Commission noted with gratification the resource support given by the Government of the Philippines for the initial investigations and identification of eight strategic sites – two for each of the developing regions of Africa, Latin America, Asia and Western Asia.

485. The Commission appreciated the close collaboration between ESCAP and Habitat and expected further continuation and expansion of such co-operation. It urged UNDP and Habitat to utilize their global experience to formulate policies and guide-lines on planning methodology and institutions and to train manpower, make available the necessary equipment and develop appropriate library and documentation facilities. It also emphasized the importance of the Interagency Task Force on Human Settlements in achieving better co-operation among international agencies and avoiding duplication.

Environment

486. The Commission generally endorsed the proposal that a ministerial-level meeting on the environment be convened for the Asian subregion in order to review the problems of environmental management in the subregion and the progress made with regard to the implementation of the Asian Plan of Action for the Human Environment, which had been adopted in 1973 at the Meeting of Representatives of Countries and Intergovernmental Bodies Active in the Field of the Human Environment in the ECAFE Region. However, the Commission suggested that the date, venue and agenda for the meeting should be decided in close consultation with the Governments of the region. It was felt that extensive preparatory activities were essential for the success of such a meeting and therefore it might not be possible to organize the meeting in 1983 as proposed in document E/ESCAP/254. During the preparatory phase, the Commission suggested that due consideration should be given to the deliberations of various global, regional and subregional ministerial-level meetings on the environment, such as the proposed UNEP special session (Nairobi, 1982), in commemoration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment; the ministerial-level meeting for south Asian countries (Colombo, 1981), which had established the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme; the Conference on the Human Environment in the South Pacific (Rarotonga, 1982); and the ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Environment (Manila, 1981). It was further suggested that, in commemoration of the decennial of the adoption of the Asian Plan of Action, 1983 should be declared the Year of the Human Environment for the Asian Subregion. With regard to the agenda of the meeting, the Commission stressed the need to place a sharper focus on the environmental implications of socio-economic development and the formulation of action-oriented programmes. As to the socio-economic problems and their impact on the environment, the Commission stressed the need to learn from the experiences of other regions in dealing with similar problems.

487. The Commission was of the opinion that the preparation of a state of the environment report for Asia and the Pacific was a useful exercise and fully within the purview of the terms of reference of the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit of the secretariat. While endorsing the activity, the Commission recognized the advantages of both the "problem approach" and the "resource approach", as presented in document E/ESCAP/254. However, in pointing out the advantage of the "resource approach", some delegations believed that such an approach might be given consideration in future. It was felt that the "problem approach" would lend itself to being more issue-oriented and hence address itself more directly to the immediate needs of the region. The view was expressed that the report should include environmental assessment of development pro-

jects in order to evaluate the incorporation of environmental considerations in the development planning process. One delegation suggested that consideration be given to preparing a report on a subregional basis since the subregional programmes would have readily available information and hence the document would be easier to compile in such a format. It was also suggested that such a report would be more meaningful since it would avoid distortions in assessment which could result from the aggregation of data on a regional basis. The Commission felt that the report should be periodically updated to monitor and assess the environmental situation in the region. While several delegations felt that the report should be updated every two years, one delegation was of the opinion that the updating should be undertaken every five years.

488. The Commission reiterated its support for convening an *ad hoc* working group meeting of experts on the environment. It was suggested that the first such meeting should be held in 1982 and invitations should be extended to all members and associate members of the Commission. It was also suggested that the secretariat should consider meeting the cost of participation of experts from the least developed countries of the region. It was felt that the *ad hoc* working group of experts, at its first meeting, should decide on the formation of a small working group, with due consideration being given to the geographical representation of countries as well as to continuity of membership at its subsequent meetings. Pending additional details on the work plan, one delegation expressed its reservations, for the present, on the convening of an *ad hoc* working group of experts on the environment.

489. As to the tasks and responsibilities of the regional commission in the field of the environment, the Commission felt that the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit should continue to play a central role in ensuring that environmental considerations were taken fully into account in the economic and social development activities of the Commission and restrict itself to priority areas as decided by the Commission. In carrying out its programme, the Commission emphasized the need for the secretariat to maintain close collaboration with other relevant agencies, particularly UNEP. By following those guide-lines, the Commission felt that ESCAP would avoid duplication of activities concerned with the environment carried out in the region by UNEP and other agencies. With particular reference to the institutional support which the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit of the secretariat was receiving from UNEP, the Commission urged UNEP to continue its assistance to ESCAP at least until such time as resources were available from the United Nations regular budget. In that regard, some delegations were in favour of the establishment of an ESCAP/UNEP joint unit on the environment, which, in their view, would enhance co-ordination and promote a cost-effective approach to regional environ-

mental activities. One delegation recommended that UNEP's support to the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit should be phased out.

490. The Commission generally endorsed the programme of work suggested in document E/ESCAP/254, including the proposed programme changes for 1982-1983. In expressing its concern regarding environmental problems attributable to desertification, deforestation and degradation of the marine environment, the Commission stressed the need to enhance environmental awareness within the region, follow up the Regional Technical Workshop to Consider the Implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification and execute the ESCAP regional project on the protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems, which, among other things, aimed at the development of an environmental management plan for coastal areas.

491. The Commission noted with appreciation the offers of extrabudgetary assistance from the Governments of Australia, France, Japan and Sweden in carrying out the environmental activities of the Commission during the biennium 1982-1983. It further noted with satisfaction that the Government of the Netherlands was currently considering providing extrabudgetary assistance on a specific project proposal on the protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems, during 1982.

492. The Commission adopted resolution 224 (XXXVIII) on incorporation of environmental considerations into its economic and social development activities.

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

493. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/256 and E/ESCAP/257 and Add.1 and 2 and Corr.1.

494. In reviewing the current trade situation and future prospects, the Commission noted that the rates of growth of world trade in the previous two years had slowed down substantially as compared with the rates of growth in earlier years. The outlook for the remaining years of the 1980s appeared to be one of continued low growth in the short term and considerable uncertainty in the long term. Slow growth of the world economy, growing unemployment, falling commodity prices, high inflation, currency fluctuations, payments imbalances and rising protectionism were still serious problems. Developing countries, particularly oil importing developing countries, had experienced difficulties in pursuing their development objectives as a result of high energy prices, rising prices of capital goods and other inputs, declining export earnings, deterioration in the terms of trade and heavy debt burdens.

495. A number of members and associate members reiterated their commitment to the maintenance of an open trading system. The Commission appreciated the efforts being made by some countries, both developed and developing, to liberalize imports and expand and diversify exports. It recognized that protectionist measures damaged the long-term interests of all countries, including the countries which resorted to such measures. One delegation mentioned that its country's imports from developing countries of the region exceeded its exports to those countries.

496. The Commission expressed concern over the delay in convening a United Nations conference on global negotiations relating to international economic co-operation for development as envisaged in General Assembly resolution 34/138. It was noted that such negotiations should take place within the United Nations system and should contribute to the solution of international economic problems within the framework of restructuring international economic relations for the mutual benefit of the developed and developing countries.

497. The initiative of convening a meeting of contracting parties to GATT at the ministerial level in November 1982 was welcomed. It was hoped that the forthcoming ministerial meeting would resolve the outstanding issues, including unfinished MTN negotiations, problems in the implementation of MTN codes and other trade issues of importance to developing countries.

498. The Commission recognized the importance of GSP in facilitating an expansion of the exports of developing countries to the markets of the developed countries. It was hoped that developed countries would furnish timely and detailed information on the actual GSP utilizations, so as to enable beneficiary countries to obtain the maximum benefit from the schemes. The Commission welcomed the special concessions provided by Australia and New Zealand to the Forum island countries. It also welcomed the offer of the Government of Japan to assist ESCAP in organizing a further regional seminar on GSP.

499. The Commission noted with concern the sharp decline during 1980/81 of the prices of most agricultural commodities of socio-economic importance to many countries in the region, and the sluggish demand of the developed market economies for those commodities, which had brought about drastic reductions in the export earnings of many exporting countries in the region. It also noted with regret that progress under the UNCTAD Integrated Programme for Commodities had been very slow and disappointing. Negotiations on commodities which were of vital importance to the region had not yet been concluded. Although the Agreement Establishing the Common Fund for Commodities had been adopted almost two years previously, there were only eight countries in the region which had so far

ratified it. In that connection, the Commission urged countries of the region which had not signed and ratified the Agreement to do so as early as possible in order to make the Fund operational in the near future.

500. The Commission noted the progress made by the Trade Co-operation Group (TCG) and its Subgroups in the implementation of the programme of intraregional trade expansion and co-operation. It expressed its satisfaction that the activities being undertaken under that programme were useful, constructive and practical. While reiterating their support for the programme, delegations emphasized the importance of the programme's various components, such as the completion of trade profiles and dissemination of trade information through the network of trade promotion centres; the proposal for a refinancing facility for export credits; the promotion of regional co-operative action in the field of commodities; the collection and dissemination of information on tariff and non-tariff barriers, including non-transparent barriers; harmonization of procedures for compilation of trade statistics, customs procedures and facilitation measures for movement of goods in international trade; the promotion of trade-creating joint ventures; and the role of long-term contracts, particularly in the development of trade between countries with different economic systems. In connection with the latter, the experience of the CMEA countries in long-term trade agreements and contracts was noted, in particular the experience in working out the "general conditions of delivery of goods". The Commission felt that the studies, expert group meetings and seminars held under the TCG programme had made a useful contribution to the attainment of the objective of intraregional trade expansion and co-operation. The TCG programme should continue to concentrate on activities based on principles of intraregional trade expansion and co-operation. The view was expressed that interdependence between developed and developing countries had become very strong. Therefore, studies could improve understanding of the economic problems involved and lead to the development of mutually beneficial solutions. The Commission expressed its gratitude to UNDP for its support and urged it to continue its financial assistance to the programme.

501. Developing countries emphasized the need for a study on protectionism and structural adjustment before the forthcoming GATT ministerial meeting and the sixth session of UNCTAD. They proposed that a detailed factual and comprehensive study of protectionism and structural adjustment should be carried out and should focus mainly on the ESCAP region in a global perspective. The study should take full account of the work being done by UNCTAD and GATT on the subject. Developed countries expressed the view that that was a subject of global concern and should therefore be left to be handled by institutions like UNCTAD and GATT. Since those institutions were already carrying out studies on problems of protectionism and

structural adjustment, the ESCAP secretariat should not undertake such studies, in order to avoid duplication and because of the implications for its existing work programme in the field of trade.

502. Many delegations supported the proposal that a meeting of ministers of trade be held to review progress in the implementation of the programme of intraregional trade expansion and co-operation and to give new directions to the programme on the basis of the experience gained so far. It was felt that the convening of such a meeting should be preceded by adequate preparations, including clarification of issues and proposals for consideration at the meeting. As to timing, the suggestion was made that the meeting be held in late 1983, so that it would be possible to frame a regional programme in the light of the results of the ministerial meeting under GATT scheduled for November 1982 and the sixth session of UNCTAD, in May-June 1983.

503. The Commission noted the importance of economic co-operation among developing countries as a practical step in solving the economic problems of those countries. In that context, it noted that the participating countries of the Bangkok Agreement had agreed to hold their second round of negotiations some time in 1982 with the objective of enlarging the coverage and depth of the preferences exchanged. That would provide an excellent opportunity for other developing countries of the region to join the Agreement and participate in the forthcoming round of negotiations. In view of the importance attached to ECDC activities, particularly the activities under the Bangkok Agreement, the Commission urged that financial and technical assistance be provided for the purpose.

504. The Commission emphasized the need for adequate follow-up work to be undertaken by the secretariat in the three priority areas identified in UNCTAD resolution 127 (V), namely, the establishment of a global system of trade preferences, co-operation among state trading organizations and the establishment of multinational marketing enterprises, under work programme item 05.01.05.

505. One delegation stressed the importance of implementing the project on the development of trade between developing countries of the region and the socialist countries of Eastern Europe, including the USSR. In that regard, that delegation expressed its readiness to render assistance required for the implementation of the project.

506. The Commission noted with satisfaction the growth of the business underwritten by the Asian Reinsurance Corporation (ARC) during previous years and urged other developing countries of the region to join that regional institution and become active members of it. The Commission recognized that, with increased membership and a broader capital base, ARC would be better able to carry out its development activities and

would be in a better position to reduce further the ceding of business outside the region and dependency on non-regional reinsurers. In that regard, the ESCAP secretariat was requested to assist in seeking alternative sources of funding.

507. In view of the importance of training in the field of insurance and reinsurance, the Commission urged the secretariat to undertake a systematic training programme which would meet the requirements of the developing countries of the region, particularly the least developed among them. It further requested the secretariat, in collaboration with ARC, to pursue the possibility of a regional crop reinsurance arrangement as a means of spreading the risk of various national crop insurance schemes. It urged UNDP, other donor agencies and Governments to extend financial support for the implementation of those programmes.

508. The Commission recognized that credit had become an important element of international trade and exporters often had to sell their products on a deferred-payment basis. The secretariat was therefore requested to speed up its efforts for the early establishment of an export refinancing scheme. In that connection, the Commission took note of an *ad hoc* expert group meeting to be held during the course of the current year to highlight the issues to be taken into consideration in the preparation of a feasibility study for the establishment of the proposed regional scheme.

509. The Commission noted that the Asian Clearing Union was making speedy progress and that the volume of business channelled through it had increased substantially during the previous year. It urged other member countries of the region to join the Union and make it a more effective monetary arrangement among the countries of the region.

510. The Commission noted the efforts made by the ESCAP Trade Promotion Centre (TPC) for the development and promotion of trade. It endorsed the activities of TPC, which were consistent with the needs of the region and had made a positive contribution to national trade promotion efforts.

511. The Commission noted the usefulness and practicality of the four services under TPC, namely, the market/product development, professional development (training), trade promotion advisory and trade information services. It recognized in particular the useful assistance rendered by the Trade Information Service to the member countries, including the training and advisory services provided under the UNDP-financed project on regional advisory services in trade information. It noted that training and advisory services in certain specialized fields such as quality control, grading and standards, packaging and industrial design for exports etc. were still pending owing to lack of financial support and urged that steps be taken to secure the necessary financial resources to enable TPC to imple-

ment all the components of its work programme. The Commission urged that the activities of TPC be intensified.

512. The Commission, in recalling the successful Asian trade fairs held at Bangkok (1966), Teheran (1969) and New Delhi (1972), generally endorsed the proposal to hold Asian trade fairs. It recognized that such fairs were an important means to promote international trade and disseminate information on trade, industrial and technological capabilities. Some delegations were of the opinion that trade fairs should be of a specialized nature to be of value. Some countries expressed the view that the institutionalization of such fairs should be considered after the positive results of the fairs had been determined. The Commission also noted that the Fourth ASEAN Trade Fair would be held at Bangkok in October 1984.

513. The Commission adopted resolution 221 (XXXVIII) on Asia-Pacific trade expositions.

514. The Commission expressed its thanks for the financial support provided to ESCAP by the Government of Canada and the Foundation for International Training for Third World Countries for the ESCAP/FIT/CIDA Workshop for Trainers in Export and Import Techniques for ASEAN Countries, held at Bangkok in March-April 1981; by the Government of the USSR for the Regional Seminar and Study Tour on the Foreign Trade of the USSR, held at Moscow and Leningrad in September 1981; and by the Government of China for the Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Trade Promotion Techniques and Institutions, held at Beijing, Tianjin, Nanjing and Guangzhou in October-November 1981.

515. The Commission noted that preparations were under way to hold a second regional seminar on import management at Pattaya, Thailand, from 31 May to 11 June 1982 in co-operation with the Programme for Development Co-operation of the Helsinki School of Economics, UNCTAD and ITC. Subject to funding being available, it was also intended to organize an ESCAP/China mobile seminar for Chinese experts in selected ESCAP countries. In addition, plans were under way to hold the second mobile training programme on trade promotion and management for South Pacific countries during the period September-November 1982, subject to confirmation of financial support from the Governments of Australia and New Zealand.

516. The Commission noted that the third of the series of guidebooks entitled *Guidebook on Trading with the People's Republic of China* was expected to be published and distributed by June 1982.

517. The Commission expressed its gratitude to the Governments of Australia, Canada, China, Finland, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden and the USSR as well as UNDP and ITC for the assistance they had extended to TPC in

implementing its programme of work and urged their continued support.

518. The Commission noted the work of the secretariat in providing technical assistance and advisory services to member countries and the secretariats of the regional commodity communities, namely, ANRPC, APCC and IPC, and in pursuing programmes for establishing regional co-operative arrangements for selected commodities, namely, tropical timber, jute, shrimps/marine products, tapioca, silk and hides and skins. It reiterated its support for the work of the secretariat in that priority sector. In that connection, it urged that the secretariat's resources be strengthened so that the programme could be implemented effectively.

519. The representative of IPC stated that, in keeping with United Nations General Assembly resolution 32/197 on restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system and Commission resolution 219 (XXXVII), the secretariat should play a more effective role as a regional interagency co-ordinator in activities concerning raw materials and commodities. It was also suggested that tripartite projects on raw materials and commodities among ESCAP, other United Nations agencies and regional commodity communities or associations should be formulated and jointly implemented wherever feasible.

520. The representative of IPC, who also spoke on behalf of APCC and ANRPC, expressed his appreciation and thanks to the Netherlands Government and the secretariat for their continuing assistance, which had made the work of the commodity communities in the ESCAP region more effective and beneficial to their members. The Commission took note of the role played by the commodity communities in the region in promoting technical and economic co-operation among their members and in developing effective dialogue and co-operation with the consuming countries. It therefore urged the secretariat, other United Nations agencies and donor countries to provide the necessary technical assistance and funding for the implementation of specific projects requested by member countries of those commodity communities.

521. The Commission noted with appreciation the steps taken by the secretariat towards the implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the Substantial New Programme of Action adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. It welcomed the decision of the Executive Secretary to set up a separate unit within the secretariat on the least developed countries to carry out the co-ordination of its multisectoral activities relating to those countries within the framework of the Programme.

522. The Commission expressed its strong support for the Programme. Adequate financial and technical

assistance should be provided to the least developed countries for the implementation of their programmes, as decided at the Paris Conference. The representative of the Philippines reiterated her Government's standing offer to extend technical assistance to the least developed countries, on a bilateral basis, in pursuance of the relevant resolutions of UNCTAD.

523. The Commission noted that the majority of the least developed countries of the region, apart from having acute developmental problems, also suffered from additional handicaps owing to their unfavourable geographical situation. In spite of a number of resolutions and decisions adopted at the international level, very little had been done to assist them in alleviating those problems. Their over-all performances had on average remained almost stagnant. More far-reaching action should therefore be taken to assist those countries in extricating themselves from their current economic situation and to enable them to benefit equitably from international measures designed for the developing countries as a whole.

524. The representatives of the land-locked countries expressed disappointment over the poor response to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries. They urged that the resources of the Fund be augmented to be used for the purposes defined in its Statute. In that connection, they urged the developed countries, developing countries in a position to do so, multilateral development institutions and other sources to contribute generously to the Fund.

525. The Commission noted with satisfaction that, under the UNDP-funded project on assistance to least developed land-locked countries, useful activities had been carried out on the special problems relating to the transit trade and transport of those countries in the region. The project activities were being jointly co-ordinated by the ESCAP and UNCTAD secretariats.

526. The Commission recognized that the Workshop on Special Measures in favour of Least Developed Land-locked Countries organized under the project had been very useful in identifying and discussing the constraints and difficulties faced by the land-locked countries in the operation of their transit trade. It requested that such workshops be convened at regular intervals with the full participation of all the land-locked and transit countries of the region.

527. The Commission noted that Australia and New Zealand had given particular attention to the trade problems of the island developing countries of the Pacific, within the framework of the South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Co-operation Agreement.

Natural resources

528. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/241, E/ESCAP/258 and E/ESCAP/259 and Corr.1 and 2.

529. It endorsed the report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its eighth session, including the proposed changes to the 1982-1983 programme of work. Two members, however, expressed the view that activity 02.02.04 in its original form would be more useful and should therefore not be amended. Another member requested that research and development of bullock carts and other animal-drawn vehicles be retained as an element of activity 02.03.02.

530. The Commission noted with interest the activities of UNESCO and FAO in the field of national resources and their readiness to co-operate with ESCAP in that field.

Energy

531. The Commission dwelt on the effects of the energy problem on the trade deficits and balance-of-payments problems of oil importing ESCAP countries. Some delegations stressed collective self-reliance as a way of overcoming such difficulties and expressed the view that recycling of oil funds could be achieved through trade and economic co-operation.

532. The Commission commended the secretariat on its vigorous efforts in the energy field and in developing a regional strategy in response to the energy problem and corresponding measures to implement the strategy.

533. The Commission endorsed the strategy and corresponding measures but pointed out that the strategy's effectiveness depended on its timely and expeditious implementation.

534. The Commission was pleased to note that top priority was being accorded by the secretariat to the follow-up programme on new and renewable sources of energy. It expressed appreciation of the immediate and fresh initiatives taken by the secretariat in organizing the Regional Expert Group Meeting on the Follow-up of the Nairobi Programme of Action on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, held at Colombo in March 1982. It also expressed appreciation to the Government of Sri Lanka for its assistance in organizing the Expert Group Meeting and the Government of Japan for its financial support of the Meeting.

535. The Commission considered, and endorsed in general, the recommendations of the Colombo Expert Group Meeting and looked forward to their early implementation. The hope was expressed that the funds required for implementation could be raised soon. The Commission noted that the regional programme formulated by the Expert Group Meeting, together with the views of the Commission, would be presented as the regional input to the meeting of the Interim Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy to be held at Rome in June 1982.

536. While supporting in general the regional programme recommended by the Expert Group Meeting, a few member countries expressed the following views:

(a) There was a need to ensure that ESCAP activities were fully integrated and co-ordinated with other energy activities in the region;

(b) The private sector could have an important role to play in energy development;

(c) Proposals to strengthen funding and institutions for new and renewable sources of energy would need to be carefully considered;

(d) Activities should concentrate on the application of technologies which were either already commercially viable or close to being so;

(e) There was a need for development activities of a type and on a scale which could make a tangible impact on problems rather than a plethora of small unco-ordinated projects;

(f) Proposals to establish permanent bodies, e.g., technical advisory committees as recommended by the Expert Group Meeting, must be considered very carefully;

(g) One member indicated the need to refer the recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting to his Government.

537. The regional energy development programme (REDP) funded by UNDP and executed by ESCAP was welcomed by the Commission. However, one delegation stressed that involvement of the countries at the conceptualization phase of the project proposals developed for the programme would render implementation more effective.

538. The Commission also hoped that the Pacific energy development programme could be started as soon as possible. The view was expressed that SPEC was an appropriate body to provide co-ordination on energy matters in the area, with ESCAP having a general overseeing role.

539. The importance of energy for agriculture was stressed and some specific suggestions were made by member countries with a view to improving the ESCAP energy programme, together with pledges of financial and/or technical support for those activities as listed below:

(a) Regional information network on production of liquid energy from biomass—technical and financial co-operation from Japan;

(b) Increased efficiency of energy-use programmes—TCDC co-operation offered by India;

(c) Coal and hydropower—planning techniques and research assistance offered by Australia;

(d) Geothermal training—facilities available in New Zealand;

(e) Compressed natural gas technology—New Zealand assistance for a suitable project;

(f) Assessment of hydropower and provision of mini hydro equipment—assistance offered by India;

(g) Energy assessment—support offered by the USSR;

(h) Establishment of research and training centres on new and renewable energy forms, particularly biomass and geothermal energy—support pledged by the Philippines;

(i) Organization of a mini hydro workshop in 1982 as part of REDP—agreement in principle by Malaysia to provide host facilities.

540. Training in energy data management was singled out as important, as was the possibility of supplying experts to the Pacific countries from developing countries of the region on a TCDC basis. The development of new and renewable sources of energy taking account of techno-economic trends was also emphasized. The network approach was generally accepted and the need to develop the activities in the regional programme of action into practical projects was stressed.

541. The need for more investment in energy development was emphasized. It was pointed out that even where resources were known to exist, the funds needed for productive use were often not available. The examples cited included gas, coal and hydro resources, all of which required large-scale development investments. It was stressed that poverty could not be alleviated until energy was available for modern agricultural methods, modernized distribution systems and industrialization in the least developed countries.

542. Co-operation in interfuel substitution via hydroelectric development and regional interconnection of networks was suggested as an approach to help some of the least developed countries in south Asia.

543. The need for co-operation with other agencies in the energy field was stressed by some representatives.

Mineral resources

544. The Commission endorsed the recommendations of the Working Group Meeting on Environmental Management in Mineral Resources Development, held at Phuket, Thailand, in June 1981. It stressed that meetings, seminars, workshops and study tours on mineral resources exploration and development should be organized by the secretariat at regular intervals so that member countries could discuss their problems and share experiences.

545. The Commission also endorsed the following recommendations of the Seminar on Drilling, Sampling

and Borehole Logging, held at Donetsk, USSR, in September 1981: (a) organization of further seminars on (i) modern methods of mineral prospecting, exploration, evaluation and mining, (ii) methods, equipment and technology for oil and gas drilling and (iii) modern methods of exploration and evaluation of oil and natural gas deposits; (b) organization of specialized short-term training of national professional personnel for periods of three to six months; and (c) development of a programme for long-term specialized on-the-job training of young professional personnel for periods of one to two years.

546. In that connection, the Commission noted with appreciation the offer of support made by France for points (a), (b) and (c) above regarding the organization of seminars and training programmes and the offer of support by the USSR for organizing further seminars referred to under (a) (i) above to promote exchange and transfer of modern technology to the developing ESCAP countries.

547. The Commission agreed that the work on the project "Stratigraphic correlation of the sedimentary basins of the ESCAP region" was valuable and urged that it be continued. It noted with concern that the work had been hampered since 1980 by lack of resources. However, it was pleased to note the offer of Australia to provide the services of a geoscientist as before for the project, subject to the availability of funds for related expenses, and called for financial and technical support from other donor countries for that useful programme.

548. The Commission commended the mineral resources programme of the secretariat, particularly the collection and publication of information on mineral resources and development activities and the compilation of regional geological and specialized maps in collaboration with other international organizations.

549. In view of the important role of mineral resources to the economies of most of the ESCAP developing countries and further to strengthen co-operation and transfer of technology, the Commission felt that joint investments and collaboration among the countries concerned in the exploitation of natural resources on the basis of equality and mutual benefit of the countries should be promoted.

550. The Commission took note of the requests of member countries for technical, advisory and other forms of assistance, particularly in the fields of industrial minerals, coal and peat.

551. It was pleased to note that Japan, which had been generously supporting ESCAP mineral programmes by providing financial and technical assistance, would continue to provide similar support and that Australia was willing to contribute to ESCAP activities in such areas as coal development and resources assessment, which were considered to be of high priority.

552. The Commission recalled its decision at its thirty-seventh session that a meeting of experts from interested countries should be held to consider the feasibility of setting up an organization similar to CCOP for Indian Ocean areas. It called upon the secretariat first to convene an early meeting of experts from interested countries, to consider the feasibility of setting up such a committee.

Remote sensing

553. Recognizing the need of countries to obtain quality base-line data on their natural resources and related activities for successful planning with a view to accelerating economic growth in the developing countries, the Commission reiterated its strong support for the early implementation of the three-year multidisciplinary regional remote sensing programme in 1982. It urged UNDP to provide the necessary financial support earmarked for the programme. One member felt that the views of the ESCAP member countries should be fully reflected in the course of planning and implementing various UNDP programmes. It also requested donor countries to provide additional financial and technical support for the programme.

554. In that connection, the Commission noted with appreciation the offer by the USSR to support the holding of a seminar on remote sensing in the future similar to the one held at Baku in 1980.

555. The Commission noted with appreciation the reiteration of the offer of the Philippines to conduct a three-week training course on the application of satellite remote sensing to natural resources management and development, including interpretation of Landsat data, which would be open to interested Asian participants. As its contribution to co-operation in remote sensing, the cost of training fees and materials would be borne by the Government.

Water resources

556. Deep concern was expressed over the rapid deforestation in many countries of the region, and it was suggested that the secretariat should look into that problem. The Commission noted the initiatives which had already been taken by the secretariat in that regard. With the co-operation of China, a Group Study Visit to China on Methods of Watershed Management for Flood Loss Prevention and Management had been organized in September 1981. Moreover, with the financial and technical assistance of New Zealand, a Seminar on Catchment Management for Optimum Use of Land and Water Resources had been organized at Hamilton, New Zealand, in March 1982. One member expressed the view that the programme in that field must be pragmatic and try to make steady progress.

557. The Commission noted that the Economic and Social Council, in section III of its resolution 1981/80,

had requested the Secretary-General "to develop ... integrated and comprehensive approaches and programmes with regard to education and training in the field of water resources in developing countries" and the regional commissions and the organizations concerned "to consider the establishment and upgrading of regional and subregional water training programmes and networks, taking into account existing arrangements". The Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific had studied and discussed the feasibility of establishing through co-operative efforts a regional network for training in water resources development, on the basis of which the secretariat had conducted an inquiry into the interests and views of the member countries as to the establishment of such a network. The Commission noted that in response to the secretariat's inquiry eight countries had expressed support in principle for the proposal.

558. Noting that that proposal was a positive and direct response to the above-mentioned resolution, the Commission welcomed and endorsed the establishment of a regional network for training in water resources development. It noted that some members had already designated certain institutes to participate in the network and that the Government of the USSR was examining the question of participation of various institutes in that country. One delegation expressed the view that the matter required prudent examination taking into account the limitation of financial resources and the operational scale of ESCAP.

559. The Commission noted that the Economic and Social Council in section I of its resolution 1981/80, in endorsing the proposal for the organization of interdisciplinary missions to advise Governments of developing countries in the field of water resources development, had, *inter alia*, given the regional commissions, in so far as possible, the task of playing leading roles in organizing such missions. The Commission also noted that the ACC Intersecretariat Group for Water, in discussing the organization of such missions at its second session, had agreed that the role of the regional commissions would consist of undertaking follow-up action to the letter to be sent by the Secretary-General and the Administrator of UNDP to the resident co-ordinators/resident representatives of the United Nations system, in order to determine the interest of Governments in availing themselves of those missions; selecting countries where special efforts could be made in order to undertake pilot missions; acting, in consultation with the resident co-ordinators/resident representatives concerned and with relevant organizations, as the focal point for the establishment of the terms of reference of each mission; determining the expertise required and preparing mission plans; co-ordinating efforts to identify sources of funding; and co-ordinating and monitoring the activities of the missions.

560. The Commission supported and commended the organization of such interdisciplinary missions and

noted the corresponding additional responsibilities of the regional commissions in that regard. In that connection, the USSR expressed its readiness to participate in such missions, if requested to do so.

561. The Commission noted with appreciation that, within the framework of subprogramme 16.02, the USSR was prepared to organize a seminar on water resources planning at Kiev in August-September 1982 (activity 16.02.01) and one on capital investments in water resources development in the USSR in 1983 provided that UNDP funds were available, to contribute appropriate articles under activity 16.04.01 and to participate in activity 16.04.02.

Population

562. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/260 and Corr.1.

563. In commending the secretariat on its activities in the field of population during the previous year, the Commission observed that those activities had been designed to assist member countries in successfully implementing their population programmes. While encouraged by the continuing attention paid to population matters by the secretariat, the Commission urged that enhanced emphasis be given to the subject in the secretariat's work programme.

564. The Commission noted that, despite recent declines in fertility in several ESCAP countries, fertility levels in many countries of the region remained high and well above stated national goals. It also noted that, although there had been a slowing down in the rate of decline of mortality in many countries, Governments were making determined efforts to bring down the death rates to levels obtaining in the developed countries. Birth rates and death rates were continuing to decline in the region; but since the population base was large, the population growth rate continued to be of great concern to Governments. That called for serious and organized action at both the national and the regional levels to arrive at a satisfactory balance between population growth and socio-economic development.

565. The Commission took note of the fact that many Governments, over the years, had responded to the problems of high growth rates by attempts to reduce fertility through family planning programmes, but there was still a need for the further strengthening of such programmes, particularly with regard to programme management. The Commission recognized, however, that once fertility reached moderate levels, family planning programmes alone were insufficient to bring about a further reduction and alternative approaches needed to be developed. It therefore supported the integration of such family planning programmes with components of related development programmes such as those on strengthening the health services, improving nutrition and food supply, enhancing educational

opportunities and raising the status of women in society. The Commission emphasized that the success of family planning would also depend upon community participation in the development of the programme, since people were both contributors to and beneficiaries of any development programme.

566. The Commission felt that the secretariat could assist members and associate members by providing guide-lines based on country-specific studies for formulating integrated population and development policies and programmes.

567. The Commission recognized that spatial distribution, internal migration and urbanization were also important aspects of population and development. In that respect, it affirmed that appropriate policies and programmes should be formulated and implemented and that the secretariat should provide technical assistance to countries upon request.

568. The Commission noted that international migration was a significant problem in some countries of the region and that the secretariat should evince a greater interest in studies in that field. One delegation suggested that sparsely populated countries consider moderating their complicated immigration procedures.

569. In order to formulate and implement integrated policies and programmes, the Commission recommended that the secretariat should assist member and associate member Governments in the collection, analysis, dissemination and utilization of population and related data. It called upon the secretariat to undertake more studies on emerging aspects of fertility and family planning, mortality and migration and urbanization and to assist member and associate member Governments in developing national capacities in that regard. It noted that in some countries there was a need to develop a corps of high-quality researchers. In that context, it commended the comprehensive country monographs on the population situation and the studies on the relationship of migration and urbanization to development, undertaken by the secretariat in close collaboration with national experts.

570. The Commission observed that there was a great need for in-country training in population matters and urged the secretariat to provide assistance to countries in the organization of such training courses.

571. It noted with satisfaction that the secretariat had provided fellowships for training in population studies and had organized study tours for national officials of some countries. It commended that aspect of manpower development and called upon the secretariat to expand such assistance.

572. The Commission was of the opinion that, although the dynamics of development and of population change varied from country to country, policies and strategies relating to population and development in each country

would benefit greatly from a constant interchange of information. In that context, it commended the work of the secretariat in providing technical assistance to several member countries for the development of population information and documentation centres, the strengthening of the existing information networks and the training of personnel for the programme.

573. The Commission noted with satisfaction the enthusiasm with which members and associate members were looking forward to the forthcoming Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference, to be convened by the secretariat at Colombo in September 1982. It also noted that several countries would be represented by ministers responsible for population matters. It expressed its hope that the Conference would provide useful guide-lines for formulating integrated population and development policies and programmes. It noted with appreciation the arrangements being made by the Government of Sri Lanka in its capacity as host.

574. In endorsing the revised work programme of the secretariat, the Commission was gratified to note that the programme would have two main thrusts: to enhance the national capacities of members and associate members in fulfilling their population policies and goals; and to undertake regional activities in support of developing such national capacities. It also noted that the six areas of concern identified in the revised work programme were common to most of the countries and were most appropriate in guiding the choice of activities as well as in determining priorities for the secretariat's work programme.

575. The Commission expressed its appreciation of UNFPA's support for the Asian and Pacific population programme since its inception. However, it noted with concern that, in accordance with the directives of its Governing Council, UNFPA had had to curtail its support for regional programmes. As a result, the secretariat had either had to delete or postpone eight of its proposed projects which the countries felt would be of great benefit to them. The Commission observed that many least developed, land-locked and island countries in the ESCAP region continued to have a great need for technical assistance from the secretariat. It therefore appealed to UNFPA to increase its financial assistance and strongly urged donor countries and other international agencies to provide substantial financial support to the Asian and Pacific population programme.

576. The Commission recalled its resolution 185 (XXXIV) on strengthening its capacity to contribute more effectively to the solution of the population problems of the region and urged that increased support be provided from the regular budget to the population programme of the secretariat.

577. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the extrabudgetary assistance provided to the secretariat's work programme in the field of population by the

Governments of Australia, France, India, Japan, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States.

578. It welcomed the announcement that the Government of Japan, subject to parliamentary approval, would make a substantial voluntary contribution to UNFPA during 1982 which might be larger than its contributions in previous years. The Commission shared the hope of Japan that UNFPA would further expand its financial allocations to the population activities of ESCAP and its member countries. It noted with appreciation the announcement that, in the context of bilateral co-operation in the population field, Japan was prepared, subject to parliamentary approval, to make a financial contribution amounting to \$US 2.9 million. It gratefully noted also that the Government of Japan was prepared to finance the expert group meeting on family planning to be organized by the ESCAP secretariat.

579. The Commission welcomed the announcement that the United Kingdom was increasing its aid in the field of population during the next financial year, for both multilateral and bilateral programmes.

580. The USSR delegation noted that Moscow State University in the Soviet Union had permanent courses on demography and population for specialists from developing countries.

Shipping, ports and inland waterways

581. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/265.

582. It noted that, generally, 1981 had been a bleak year for the shipping industry and that in many sectors the situation had deteriorated during the year. As to the tanker situation, the international sea-borne trade of crude oil had decreased by about 12 per cent and the trade in petroleum products by about 13 per cent. The surplus of tankers had risen sharply during 1981 and by the end of the year some 47 million deadweight tons (dwt) of tanker capacity had been inactive, representing approximately 15 per cent of the fleet. As to the major bulk commodities, it was noted that while the sea-borne trade had not declined during 1981, the capacity of the bulk carrier fleet, at the same time, had increased by about 12 million dwt. Most of the excess tonnage was absorbed by slow steaming, waiting, congestion and other types of inefficient operation. The over-supply of tonnage was also observed in the liner market. It was forecast that in 1982 there would continue to be an over-tonnage of liners as a result of the global economic recession.

583. The Commission noted that shipping, ports and inland waterways had an important role to play in the development and maintenance of a food security and distribution system in the region, the major theme

of the current session. In many cases, food supplies needed to be transported from surplus to deficit areas of countries by water transport. Shipping services should therefore be adequate, efficient and economical.

584. In commending the secretariat on its excellent and continuing work towards overcoming the problems which confronted the maritime transport industry in the region, the Commission endorsed the activities of the secretariat with regard to shipping, ports and inland waterways. It urged the secretariat to mobilize resources aimed at intensifying the activities in those sectors.

585. The Commission noted with appreciation the offers made by: (a) China to host a seminar-cum-study tour on inland water transport in 1982; (b) Japan to provide financial support for a seminar on port development policy in 1982; (c) Hong Kong to share its knowledge and experience with developing ESCAP countries in shipping; (d) the USSR to share its expertise in marine environment protection, to provide experts to undertake a study on optimization of jute and jute products transportation, to make a forecast of major commodity flows in the region for the period 1982-1990, to host seminars in the Soviet Union and to train nationals of ESCAP countries in its maritime training institutions; and (e) the United States to make available experts and studies in port development planning, multimodal transport, inland waterways, ship financing, ship chartering, marine insurance, data development and manpower training.

586. The Commission noted the statement by the representative of ILO that that organization continued to work closely with ESCAP in drafting the model maritime code which was being developed by the ESCAP secretariat and in finding solutions to problems stemming from the introduction and development of new cargo-handling techniques and their implications for employment and skills in the port industry. The Commission appreciated the offer by ILO to work closely with the ESCAP secretariat by providing ILO expertise in the establishment of the proposed regional centre on inland water transport in Bangladesh. It also heard a statement by the representative of CMEA on the willingness of that organization to share with the ESCAP secretariat its expertise in various maritime areas of mutual concern.

Manpower development

587. In recognition of the importance of the manpower development programme in shipping, ports and inland waterways, the Commission supported the continuation of the programme on a high-priority basis. It considered the programme essential for self-reliant development, effective utilization of all forms of financial and technical assistance, the management of multimodal transport and analysis of the economic aspects of ocean transportation.

588. The Commission noted that the development of maritime resources as well as of maritime institutions in the developing countries was impeded by shortages of qualified personnel. In that regard, it commended the efforts made by the secretariat in organizing seminars, workshops and study tours, which had brought considerable benefits to ESCAP member countries.

589. The Commission expressed gratitude 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 China, India, Indonesia, Japan and Pakistan for hosting various study tours, seminars and workshops and to UNDP for its financial support. The Philippine delegation expressed gratitude to the Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation (JASIF) for its donation of maritime training equipment to three training institutions in the Philippines.

Development of maritime policy and institutions

590. In recognition of the importance of the availability of shipping information and data, the Commission urged the secretariat to continue to assist the developing member countries in the collection and compilation of economic statistics of shipping (known as the L.2 scheme) as it was an essential tool for policy formulation and forecasting for the long-term development of a comprehensive system of shipping services, fleet composition and port and commodity cargo statistics in the ESCAP region. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the scheme, initiated by the secretariat, had been endorsed by the United Nations Statistical Office and was being implemented in other parts of the world. The Commission was pleased to learn that Malaysia had been issuing an annual publication, *Shipping Statistics (Peninsular Malaysia)*, since 1976 in conformance with the L.2 scheme. The representative of the Philippines reported that a comprehensive L.2 scheme of shipping statistics was scheduled to become operational in that country in April 1982.

591. The Commission commended the very valuable work undertaken by the secretariat, with expert and financial assistance from the Netherlands Government, on the model maritime code to facilitate the development of maritime resources and international trade of the developing member countries in the region. In that connection, the Commission noted that the guide-lines for a model maritime code prepared by legal experts in co-operation with ILO, IMCO, UNCTAD and the Comité Maritime International (CMI) would be discussed at an intergovernmental meeting scheduled to be held at Bangkok in September 1982. The representative of the Philippines requested the secretariat to provide technical assistance in the updating and codification of the maritime laws currently under way in the Philippines.

Merchant marine and shipping services development

592. The Commission commended the secretariat on its activities in merchant marine and shipping services

development. In expressing its support for the various elements of the current ESCAP work programme, the Commission noted the secretariat's efforts in promoting co-operation among shipowners in the region, assisting the developing countries and subregional groupings by organizing country missions, monitoring the progress of shipping developments, organizing seminars and workshops and providing assistance in the design and selection of ships and in fleet acquisition. The delegation of Sri Lanka expressed its gratitude to the secretariat for the valuable technical assistance in the design, construction and acquisition of nine fully containerized vessels for its national shipping line.

593. The Commission recognized that the major problems confronting most developing countries in the region related to the choice, acquisition and operation of highly capital-intensive ships interfacing with infrastructure adapted to advanced technological changes which invariably involved large investments, new organization and advanced management techniques. Noting that efficient ship management was of special concern to developing countries, it commended the secretariat's efforts to upgrade shipping management and ship financing skills through seminars, workshops and study tours and urged that those activities be continued. In that connection, the Commission expressed its gratitude to the Government of Japan for organizing a seminar on coastal shipping management in 1981 and to UNDP for providing funds.

594. The Commission urged the secretariat to accelerate its studies on cost-saving measures such as reduction of fuel consumption; utilization of wind-powered vessels, particularly for inter-island and coastal shipping; co-operative or joint shipping services on a domestic, sub-regional, regional or interregional basis; and implementation of a cargo consolidation scheme and shipping alternatives for bulk cargoes. It also requested the secretariat to prepare the necessary documentation on improved types of wind-powered vessels for submission to the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications at its sixth session, to be held in December 1982.

595. The Commission noted that the fleets of the developing countries in the region had been steadily expanding and that an increased amount of foreign exchange was being disbursed for repair and maintenance of such fleets abroad. It also noted the need for urgent action to assist developing member countries in improving and expanding their shipbuilding and ship-repair capabilities and facilities. In that connection, the secretariat was urged to carry out a survey, as early as possible, of the shipbuilding and ship-repair facilities and activities in the developing countries of the region and to convene an intergovernmental meeting of experts to review and recommend practical steps for the improvement and expansion of the shipbuilding, ship-repair and maintenance capabilities of the developing

countries in the region and to promote regional co-operation in the context of TCDC/ECDC.

596. The Commission noted the importance of shipping to the economic development of the Pacific island countries. The delegations of Kiribati and Vanuatu stressed that shipping was the most economical and viable transportation system to the Pacific island countries and requested the secretariat to mobilize resources for the development of projects to minimize the effects of fuel costs on sea transportation. The delegation of Vanuatu urged the secretariat to develop appropriate programmes and mobilize resources to assist the Pacific Forum Line.

Development of ports and port management

597. The Commission recognized that priority should be accorded to the improvement and modernization of port infrastructure and management with a view to solving problems connected with low levels of productivity, congestion and difficulties associated with adapting to the new ship technology. It further recognized that improved port efficiency was essential if transport costs were to be reduced. The Commission urged the secretariat to intensify its activities in that connection.

598. To facilitate the development of national economies, it was imperative that new technologies be adopted rapidly, and in that respect containerization and multimodal transport were of paramount and growing interest. The Commission appreciated the endeavours of the secretariat in assisting member countries to exploit fully the potential benefits of containerization. In the short term, the majority of member countries were faced with the need to adapt and upgrade existing facilities for containerization. It was recognized that only a few countries were as yet in a position to implement multimodal transportation and the secretariat was requested to intensify its efforts in that direction by providing additional expert assistance and field missions. Since containerization required a high level of capital investments which often utilized a smaller but more highly trained labour force, the Commission was pleased to be assured by the ILO representative of that organization's willingness to assist in any projects relating to the retraining of labour and cargo handling methodologies.

599. Public sector activities in port management could be greatly enhanced by concerted action. That topic was perceived by the Commission as one in which it was particularly appropriate that the secretariat should augment and strengthen its activities. In that context, the Commission lauded the progress made in the port management information systems project (PORTMIS), the first phase of which had been financed by the Government of the United Kingdom and which had reached the implementation stage following its review by regional experts and port authorities. In stating that his Government had offered Port Kelang to be selected

as a model port for the development of the project, the representative of Malaysia informed the Commission that arrangements had been made there to provide counterpart staff and other logistic requirements for possible implementation. In that connection, a number of delegations urged the secretariat to take the necessary steps to mobilize additional resources which would facilitate the introduction of PORTMIS in other ports of the region.

600. The Commission commended the secretariat on its efforts to increase training capabilities in the region through its support for the development of national port training centres and the organization of seminars and workshops, and it reiterated its support for the development of training programmes utilizing audio-visual techniques.

601. The Commission was pleased to note that progress was being made in the simplification and standardization of port documents and procedures in the ASEAN sub-region by the ASEAN Port Authorities' Association (APAA), with technical assistance from the secretariat.

602. The secretariat was urged by the Commission to mobilize additional resources from international organizations and donor countries to provide further technical assistance in the development, management and improvement of the capabilities of ports and to study port congestion surcharges. In that connection, the representative of the Netherlands stated that his country was prepared to consider project proposals with a view to assisting the ESCAP secretariat in the implementation of a programme in port development and management. The Commission noted with appreciation the ongoing assistance provided by the Government of New Zealand to some Pacific island countries to improve navigable channels and approaches.

Development of inland water transport

603. The Commission recognized that the development of inland water transport as an energy-efficient mode was of growing importance in the context of the prevailing energy crisis. It noted that the development of inland water transport also gave great impetus to the development of rural areas which were otherwise inaccessible or too costly to be covered by other modes of transport. The Commission also recognized that there was great potential for developing inland water transport in the region and that urgent attention must be given to upgrading its positive role within the national transport framework. It stressed that the secretariat should endeavour to solicit resources from donor countries and/or agencies to make it possible to implement various inland water transport activities.

604. Recalling the recommendations made by the Commission at its thirty-seventh session on the proposed establishment of a regional centre in Bangladesh for the development of appropriate technology in inland water

transport, several delegations expressed their support for the project. The delegation of Bangladesh appreciated the work done by the secretariat towards the advancement of the project and strongly urged its early implementation. The delegation of Indonesia felt that its national training centre, currently being established, could complement the role of the proposed regional centre in Bangladesh and would consider requests from member countries for training of their nationals. The representative of ILO made an offer of expertise in the establishment of the centre. However, it was observed that the precise functions of the centre should be clearly defined, that the secretariat should examine if any of the existing institutes in the region could be assigned the functions of the proposed centre so as to avoid proliferation of institutes/centres and that a final decision on the proposal would be possible only after all such aspects had been carefully examined.

605. The Commission noted the statements by the delegations of France and the USSR that the secretariat should compile an inventory of inland waterways of the countries of the region. Such a compilation had been endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-seventh session so as to assess better the existing status of inland waterways and to determine priorities in the work programme for the development of inland water transport.

606. The Commission noted the request of the delegation of Nepal that the secretariat should conduct a feasibility study of a possible navigational system which would integrate various areas and provide alternative routes to the high seas with a view to supplementing national development efforts in improving the transport system.

607. The Commission noted the statement made by one delegation that, while recognizing the need for inland water transport to be developed for carrying container traffic, for the identification in advance of potential bottle-necks and for the establishment of linkages between inland water and ocean transport, it considered it necessary that such linkages be seen in the over-all perspective of all modes of transport and their interfaces. Such an approach would help to establish the feasibility and viability of multimodal linkages and their relative importance in over-all transport development to facilitate sound decision-making by the developing countries and regional co-operation.

608. The Commission welcomed the offer of the Government of China to hold a regional seminar-cum-study tour on inland ports and berthing facilities and techniques in 1982.

609. 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 offers of the Governments of France, the

USSR and the United States to share their expertise with the countries of the region.

Shippers' organization and co-operation

610. With regard to the development of shippers' organization and co-operation, the Commission welcomed the rapid advances made by the secretariat in bringing about closer co-operation among shippers' organizations in the region and also between them and associations of shipowners and port and customs authorities. It noted that the annual meetings of chief executives of those organizations/authorities and their joint meetings had contributed much towards promoting better understanding of each other's problems. It was noteworthy that the customs authorities had been brought into the annual meetings for they also played an important role in the smooth flow of trade. The Commission felt that the issue of the development of ports and port management should be given increasing attention in the course of the discussions among the chief executives of shippers, shipowners and port and customs authorities.

611. The Commission noted with satisfaction the tangible fruits of the secretariat's work on the following:

(a) The emergence of two formal subregional groupings, namely, the Federation of ASEAN Shippers' Councils (FASC) in south-east Asia and the recently established Association of Shippers' Councils of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka (ASCOBIPS) in south Asia; and the informal grouping of national shippers' councils of Hong Kong, Japan and the Republic of Korea, in north-east Asia;

(b) The institutionalization of the framework for co-operation between FASC and the European Shippers' Councils. A joint resolution to that effect had been formally signed in December 1981. That document was historic in that it was the first in the world to provide formal linkage and co-operation between shipper groups at both ends of the trade;

(c) An agreement reached on a similar joint resolution on co-operation between FASC and ASCOBIPS which was expected to be formally signed during the FASC meeting in May 1982.

612. The Commission hoped that such co-operative arrangements among national shippers' councils in the subregions in Asia and the Pacific would eventually be linked together under a regional umbrella such as an Asian-Pacific shippers' councils forum. Such a forum would facilitate co-operation and consideration of common problems not only among shippers' bodies but also between them and shipowners and port and customs authorities' associations in the region and with those in other regions.

613. The Commission commended the valuable work of the secretariat in strengthening national shippers'

organizations and promoting co-operation between shippers and carriers in the region, guided by the philosophy that the promotion of efficient and adequate shipping services in the region could best be brought about by a better understanding of the issues facing the maritime parties. The Commission noted that fundamental issues facing shippers and shipowners in the region had been identified, namely, currency adjustment and bunker adjustment factors and shippers' contracts, and that the shippers and shipowners had agreed to establish two joint working groups to study those issues in 1982.

614. Recognizing the excellent work of the ship users' co-operation project, the Commission was deeply appreciative of the long-term generous contributions of the Government of Norway to the project, which had been of immense and lasting benefit to the developing countries of the region and to regional co-operation. It hoped that such a successful pattern of long-term extrabudgetary assistance could also be developed for other major sectors in the maritime programme, such as ports, shipping and inland water transport.

615. The Commission noted with great interest developments in closer subregional co-operation among maritime institutions of ASEAN, as follows:

(a) The adoption by the ASEAN economic ministers of an ASEAN policy of co-operation and collective self-reliance in shipping for the carriage of ASEAN trade;

(b) The formulation of the ASEAN integrated work programme in shipping by the ASEAN Joint *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Shipping, wherein the commercial maritime sectors, represented by APAA, FASC and the Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations, actively participated together with government representatives of ASEAN member countries; and approval of that programme at the ASEAN economic ministers meeting held in January 1982;

(c) The provision of funds for the implementation of some projects in the integrated work programme under the UNDP inter-country programme.

616. The Commission was pleased to note that progress had been made in the establishment of the first inter-country programme in shipping in the region with the approval by UNDP in June 1981 of the request by ASEAN for an inter-country programme of projects in the maritime sector with an allocation of \$1,750,000 for the period 1982-1986. It recalled that that was in keeping with its decision at its thirty-sixth session on a mechanism for co-ordinating efforts to assist member countries in maritime matters on a subregional or inter-country basis, with UNDP assistance. In expressing deep appreciation of the valuable support of UNDP, the Commission looked forward to the

unified, effective implementation of the UNDP inter-country programme in shipping for the ASEAN countries so that the beneficiaries would actually derive at least a dollar's worth of benefits for every dollar spent in accordance with UNDP development strategies. The Commission urged the secretariat to extend the necessary assistance to the implementation of the programme for the ASEAN countries, at their request, bearing in mind ESCAP's role under Economic and Social Council resolution 2043 (LXI) as the executing agency for projects in the region of United Nations global organizations and the pattern that would be set for the possible adoption of similar inter-country programmes in other subregions in the future.

617. The Commission recognized that, despite the severe constraints on resources, the secretariat had been able to undertake its activities in the work programme related to shipping, ports and inland waterways thanks to the generous expert and financial assistance provided by the Governments of France, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States, by international organizations such as UNDP, UNCTAD, ILO and IMCO and by JASIF, CMI and the Crown Agents (London). In expressing gratitude to those countries and international and other organizations, the Commission urged them to continue to increase their support to the secretariat with a view to facilitating the implementation of projects of importance to the developing member countries and to regional co-operation.

Social development

618. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/266.

619. It recalled its endorsement of the main conclusions and recommendations made at the Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, calling upon its member States to give special attention to the formulation and implementation of social policies and programmes, using an interdisciplinary approach to reach all segments of the population. It stressed that the eradication of mass poverty, one of the main goals of development within the region, required a recognition of the mutual interdependence of economic and social objectives.

620. The activities of the secretariat in the social sector during the 1981-1982 biennium had continued to be guided by the Commission's mandate for an integrated approach to economic and social development, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/56 containing the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.

621. The Commission noted with satisfaction the secretariat's efforts to improve the position of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups such as youth, women, the aged and disabled persons. It called for a further intensification of activities to maximize human resource

potentials, as a primary strategy for social development. The recommendation was made that greater emphasis be placed on the exchange of methodologies and experiences between the various subprogrammes of the Social Development Division, so as to bring about a more integrated work programme for the next biennium. It was considered important that the work programme reflect an integrated and participatory approach to development which, while focusing on lessening the disabilities of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, would also assist those groups in organizing themselves and having a collective impact on their social and economic situation. In that way, the various subprogrammes of the Division - women, youth, other vulnerable groups, popular participation and information - could form a cohesive effort to implement a strategy of development which would respond to the priorities and problems of the region.

622. With respect to popular participation, many delegations called for increased assistance to enable people, particularly the poor, to participate effectively in development. They stated that their Governments were attempting to increase the quantity and quality of popular participation across the spectrum of their development efforts. Particular attention was being given to the increased participation of women and youth and, specifically, to social factors which blocked their full participation in the development process.

623. It was pointed out that traditional support structures and values were being challenged by modernization. It was therefore necessary to assist in adapting to change or in finding acceptable alternatives to the traditional structures. A more detailed discussion of popular participation as a tool for equitable distribution of development resources was suggested.

624. Some delegations noted the importance of the implementation of progressive social and economic changes and the adoption of effective measures in the just distribution of national income for the solution of social problems in the developing countries of the region. In that connection, they noted that the secretariat should participate actively in holding a regional seminar on national experience in achieving far-reaching social and economic changes for the purpose of social progress to be organized in pursuance of United Nations General Assembly resolution 36/19.

625. The Commission stressed the importance of the integration and contribution of women in development, highlighting the fact that women should be beneficiaries of as well as agents for development.

626. The delegations expressed their appreciation of the work carried out by the secretariat in the field of women. They also appreciated the implementation of resolution 211 (XXXVII), including the establishment of a focal point within the Social Development Division

for the integration of women in development and of an interdivisional task force.

627. The designation of an officer of the Division responsible for the women's programmes was welcomed. However, fuller implementation of resolution 211 (XXXVII) was urged. With reference to the establishment of interdivisional and interagency co-ordination mechanisms, it was observed that those steps were only the beginning of a process aimed at enhancing awareness of women's role in development and strengthening co-operation among United Nations bodies in the region and therefore needed active follow-up leading to the full realization of their functions.

628. While the programme of work, including the proposed changes to it, was appropriate and realistic, the Commission stressed the need to relate programme activities more closely to the changing social and economic conditions of the region and to the needs of women. The training of women in rural areas who had been displaced and marginalized by technology for re-employment and self-employment, the training of local health service workers and the streamlining of the secretariat's work with a view to reaching target groups in key areas of activities which would enhance women's self-reliance and their involvement in the mainstream of development were some examples of such activities. In connection with programme priorities, the secretariat's perceived need to provide models showing how women could be integrated into national development strategies and how women's economic capability promoted national development objectives was affirmed and supported. The need to develop data bases for undertaking more productive work in the women's field was also emphasized, as was the need to co-ordinate the women's programmes with the work under other social development subprogrammes in order to make the activities on behalf of women an integral part of over-all social development efforts.

629. The delegations supported the secretariat's proposals for undertaking regional preparatory activities for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, to be held in 1985. In that connection, the immediate initiation of those activities in consultation with member countries was urged and it was emphasized that the documents resulting from expert group meetings etc. should be actively utilized for the regional preparatory meeting and for subsequent activities by the secretariat.

630. Many delegations expressed their appreciation of the assistance received from the secretariat and recognized the importance of the projects supported by the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women. That assistance had contributed significantly to various national efforts in the women's field. It was therefore urged that the Voluntary Fund should continue to support activities in the region.

631. Since the demands on the secretariat for activities to implement the global and regional mandates for the integration of women in development were increasing and a great deal of resources would be required to undertake regional preparatory activities for the World Conference, the secretariat was urged to seek increased financial and manpower resources in addition to those made available through the Voluntary Fund.

632. The Commission commended and endorsed the secretariat's work programme and the orientation of the subprogramme on the mobilization of youth for national development with the aim of enhancing the welfare and status of youth. It called for an intensification of the activities to maximize the role of youth in policy- and decision-making and their contribution to constructive social progress and development. In that respect, the Commission expressed continued support for the national leadership training workshops for youth leaders and workers and the field study and attachment programmes for youth policy-makers and programme implementors who were in a position to effect changes at the policy and implementation levels. It was hoped that those workshops and programmes would facilitate exchange of information on the organization of successful and outstanding youth development projects. They would thus assist in building up knowledgeable and more experienced youth development administrators and planners at the national and local levels who would provide leadership for mobilizing rural youth for national development. It was hoped that that would help to improve the quality of rural and community life and hence reduce the rate of rural-urban migration among the youth population and the problems associated with rapid urbanization, such as the creation of slums and urban unemployment.

633. While noting that some member countries already had national youth policies, the Commission strongly recommended the development and formulation of comprehensive national policies for youth to ensure their constructive contribution and participation at all stages of national development. It urged that such policies give special attention to the problems of youth unemployment, inadequate and irrelevant education, skills training, rural-urban migration, the disruption of traditional values and support systems under the impact of rapid modernization and technological change, drug abuse and young persons in the service and entertainment industries. The Commission recognized that the right of youth to adequate education, health, work and human settlements must be ensured if youth were to participate constructively in society.

634. The Commission called for an evaluation of the effect of transfer of technology on youth development in developing countries. It noted that such an evaluation was vital for determining the extent to which the needs of youth were met and that it would establish socially desirable directions for youth development.

635. The Commission supported the continuous efforts undertaken for the celebration of the International Youth Year in 1985. It called upon its members and associate members to ensure early implementation of the specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year. Special reference was made to the decision of the United Nations General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session to convene in 1983 a regional preparatory meeting of government officials responsible for national youth programmes. It was envisaged that at that meeting a concerted regional programme of action would be developed to ensure the proper co-ordination of activities in the ESCAP region. A consultative meeting of government officials and youth experts to plan for the above meeting was also suggested. To facilitate effective preparations for the Year in addition to the ongoing youth programme, the Commission requested member countries to consider providing supportive resources, including the secondment of professional expertise to ESCAP.

636. The Commission adopted resolution 223 (XXXVIII) on the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace: implementation and follow-up of the specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year.

637. The Commission expressed its gratitude to donor countries, non-governmental organizations and international funding agencies for their generous financial support for the implementation of the Commission's youth development programme and urged that such assistance be continued and augmented. It also noted the generous contributions of the countries in the ESCAP region through the provision of finance and expertise, including host facilities for youth meetings and training workshops.

638. The Commission noted that programmes for disabled persons and prevention of disability remained matters of real concern in the region. It hoped that ESCAP would devote resources to such programmes so that the momentum of the International Year of Disabled Persons could be maintained. The Commission also noted that the secretariat was proceeding with the preparations for convening an *ad hoc* expert group meeting to promote regional co-operation in rehabilitation of disabled persons and that there was a need for immediate support to strengthen the secretariat's capacity in that regard.

639. The Commission endorsed the regional programme of action on aging adopted at the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the World Assembly on Aging. Some of the concerns expressed in that regard included the need to take account of country-specific conditions in implementing the programme of action and the need to secure financial and manpower resources for follow-up action.

640. One delegation stated that child labour was a critical social issue and that efforts should be made to provide adequate protection for working children in order to ensure their future development as workers and citizens.

641. The Commission noted with satisfaction the secretariat's continuing work in developing an effective system of information collection, retrieval, feed-back and dissemination in social development at both the regional and the national levels. It reiterated its support for actions taken to intensify the exchange of knowledge and information on social development among the member countries of the region. In that context, it felt that the establishment of national social development information centres as contact points was needed for a more effective network system in the region.

642. Particular emphasis was placed on adequate data collection and documentation as a basis for policy and programme formulation, to assist in the identification of emerging social trends in the region and to develop positive social attitudes. A number of delegations expressed the desire to learn from other countries' experiences. The value of exchange of information on the experience of socialist countries and between countries with different socio-economic situations was stressed.

643. The secretariat was encouraged to undertake studies on changing concepts of work, including the likely impact of new technology on traditional employment patterns, and to initiate an exchange of social impact assessments of development projects, especially on small rural communities.

644. It was noted that the establishment of a standing interagency co-ordination mechanism had been widely supported by the United Nations specialized agencies. Interest was expressed in developing collaborative projects, for example, in the area of youth unemployment.

645. The Commission endorsed the secretariat's substantive backstopping of the operation of APDC and stressed the importance of collaboration on issues relating to the integration of women in the development process and other priority concerns in social development.

646. The Commission also took note of the information presented to it on the secretariat's programme on health and society. It noted that, over the years that the programme had been implemented by the secretariat, the demand for the services of its training activities had greatly increased. It commended the achievements of the programme and also recorded its appreciation of the generous financial and substantive contributions made by the Government of the Netherlands, WHO and UNICEF towards its implementation. The Commission recommended the continuance and expansion of the activities under the programme and adopted resolution 228 (XXXVIII) in that connection.

Statistics

647. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/261 and E/ESCAP/262 and Add.1.

648. It heard with interest reports on major statistical activities and developments in countries of the region.

649. The work of the secretariat in the field of statistics was commended. The Commission observed that the documentation presented to it was informative and raised issues which were contemporary in nature and highly pertinent to the development of statistical services in the countries of the region. It also noted that the central objective of the secretariat's activities was to strengthen national statistical capabilities. The Commission strongly supported that objective.

650. The Commission endorsed the report of the Committee on Statistics on its fourth session. The Committee had made many useful suggestions and recommendations indicating the directions which the secretariat should follow. Among recommendations addressed to countries were the designation of national focal points to which statistical requests from ESCAP should be addressed and of lead agencies for the collection of environmental data and the appointment of liaison officers for energy statistics. The Commission noted that some countries had already acted on those suggestions.

651. The Commission recognized that, although statistics were not an end in themselves, they provided essential support to the successful planning and implementation of priority programmes. Statistical information was also a vital component of infrastructural development in any country and therefore merited due consideration and strong support. That factor was not always appreciated, and consequently low priority was sometimes accorded to statistics, both in the allocation of national resources and in the use of development aid. There was therefore a need to review and reiterate the importance of statistics for all socio-economic development planning and monitoring and to allocate commensurate resources. In that regard, the Commission also felt that visiting aid missions should, as an accepted practice, meet with national statisticians to assess the nature and extent of support required for statistical work.

652. With regard to statistical priorities and planning, the Commission generally endorsed the earmarking of funds in project budgets for statistical purposes. Such funds would facilitate the provision of reliable and timely information needed at different phases of development projects and could usefully supplement specific allocations for statistical work in over-all development plans. Certain countries were already making separate provision for statistical work in their development plans. However, the view was expressed that the earmarking of funds in project budgets could seriously hamper the integrated and cost-effective development of statistical services. Ideally, all statistical activities

should be co-ordinated in accordance with nationally determined priorities, which should also form the basis for requests for development aid in statistical work.

653. The Commission noted the need for internationally comparable data for facilitating decision-making on major policy issues and for economic and social development planning. It also noted that economic, demographic and social information was a basic instrument for intergovernmental co-operation. The Commission urged countries of the region to adopt, wherever practicable, uniform statistical standards for the collection, compilation and dissemination of statistics. International standards had been developed in a number of fields of statistical activity and were sufficiently flexible to be adapted to specific regional or national needs. The Commission stressed that the adoption of uniform concepts and definitions by different data collection agencies within a country facilitated reconciliation of statistics from various sources and accordingly made better use of scarce resources allocated to statistics. In that connection, the Commission noted with satisfaction the efforts being made by countries of the region to achieve better co-ordination of statistical operations and standards; for such purposes many had set up high-level co-ordinating bodies at the national level and, in some cases, at the subnational level.

654. The Commission noted that records designed primarily to provide information for administrative purposes or for monitoring the implementation of specific policies and programmes could also be an extremely useful source of statistics. It encouraged countries to make greater use of such administrative records, especially in circumstances where financial constraints limited the resources available for obtaining data through more specific statistical inquiries. It noted, however, that administrative records were not always adaptable for statistical use and that the concepts and definitions used might not be compatible with ideal statistical requirements. Moreover, coverage was often incomplete and records frequently contained large errors. The Commission emphasized, however, that those deficiencies could be minimized through prior consultation between administrators and statisticians in the design of record forms and through the provision of training to non-statistical personnel responsible for the collection of basic administrative data and their compilation. The Commission felt that, in view of the importance of administrative records as a source of statistics, the subject should be considered at a session of the Study Group on the Co-ordination of Government Information Systems.

655. Given the current situation of tight financial constraints, the Commission felt that greater attention should be given to the utilization of existing data sets. New surveys or the addition of topics to existing surveys should be undertaken only after a review of needs by national statistical co-ordinating bodies. It was stressed

that any decision to expand the scope or frequency of data collection would need to take account of the particular national statistical system in operation, its stage of development and the costs involved.

656. The Commission reiterated its strong support for the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP). It recognized that the requirements in the building of national statistical capabilities were country-specific and dependent upon particular planning needs. In stressing the importance of NHSCP, the Commission urged that efforts be made to ensure that its impetus in the region was not lost. The Commission noted that some problems had been experienced, especially in the Pacific, and it encouraged new initiatives by the secretariat and other institutions that would address those problems. Many countries indicated their intention to participate in NHSCP.

657. The Commission took note of the progress in the plans of the Government of India to conduct annual courses in various aspects of household survey methodology for trainees from regional countries participating in NHSCP.

658. The Commission recognized that for the timely compilation and analysis of statistical data, Governments must have modern data processing facilities. It noted that in that field new technologies such as those associated with the development of mini- and micro-computers were now available to Governments. However, to make best use of those technologies countries needed computer programs and software packages designed specifically for statistical applications. The Commission suggested that the secretariat, together perhaps with the other regional commissions, might approach computer manufacturers to assist in the development of software packages appropriate for national statistical uses in developing countries.

659. In considering the training needs of the region, the Commission reviewed the statistical training work of the secretariat and of SIAP in subject-matter fields. It commended the work of SIAP, in particular its recent efforts in providing training for statisticians in electronic data processing. The Commission noted with appreciation the contribution of the Government of Japan to those courses and its offer to co-operate in meeting the wider training needs arising from the increased use of mini- and micro-computers. It observed that the provision of training in the uses of electronic data processing for statisticians, programmers, operators and technicians was still inadequate to keep pace with recent development and inhibited the full exploitation of data processing facilities.

660. The Commission welcomed the continued emphasis in the secretariat's work on the organization of technical meetings and workshops. Such meetings were very useful in acquainting countries with recent methodological developments in various fields of

statistics, in facilitating the exchange of experience between countries and in guiding further work. Their organization on a subregional basis, to the extent feasible and appropriate, assisted in catering for differing levels of statistical development and in focusing on issues of special importance to the countries of each subregion. The Commission noted with satisfaction the secretariat's plans for future technical meetings and in that connection laid emphasis on the two subregional workshops on price statistics, the high-level meeting of producers and users of statistics and the seminar on statistics of employment and unemployment to be convened in collaboration with ILO.

661. The Commission noted that the regional advisory services provided by the secretariat in various fields of statistics had been widely utilized and were of great assistance to countries. It very strongly supported the continuation of such services in the areas of national accounts, vital statistics, population censuses and surveys, data processing, income and expenditure, and labour force and, more generally, in assisting in household surveys. The Commission welcomed the proposed expansion of regional advisory services to assist countries in such fields as social statistics and indicators and industrial statistics.

662. In endorsing the secretariat's programme of work in statistics, the Commission accorded priority to activities in a number of fields. It welcomed the emphasis being placed on the development of reliable and comprehensive energy statistics, including the compilation of energy accounts and balances. Price statistics was another area requiring urgent attention. It was suggested that the identification of social indicators could best be handled through interagency co-operation at the regional level. The Commission noted the increased demand for statistics relating to small geographic or administrative areas and recommended that the secretariat pay special attention to the promotion of such small-area data. Statistics on the environment, labour force and labour productivity, among other topics, were also noted as priority areas. The Commission approved the streamlining of sub-programme 21.02 and its redesignation as "Statistical information services".

663. The Commission expressed its appreciation and thanks to the Governments of Australia, China, Fiji, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands and the USSR as well as to EEC, ILO, UNDP and UNFPA for their support to the secretariat's statistical activities. It hoped that assistance from those and other donors would continue and noted with gratitude the support expressed by the Governments of France, Japan, the USSR and the United Kingdom.

Transport, communications and tourism

664. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/263 and Corr.1 and E/ESCAP/264 and Add.1-3. It

generally endorsed the report of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications on its fifth session.

665. Recognizing the vital role of transport and communications in the development process, the Commission stressed the need to improve and expand the physical infrastructure in that sector so that it matched the growth of other socio-economic sectors as called for in the current International Development Strategy. It emphasized that in various countries it was of crucial importance that the growth in the capacity of operational transport be in keeping with the growth of sectors generating the demand for transport, so as to avoid the development of serious bottle-necks.

666. Recalling the development objectives of the Strategy, particularly that the physical and institutional infrastructure in developing countries should be expanded at rates that supported the rate of expansion of the economy as a whole, and realizing the significant role that transport and communications would play in the coming years, the Commission considered the proposal of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications at its fifth session and of the Regional Conference-cum-Seminar on Development and Management of Telecommunications in Asia and the Pacific that the Third United Nations Development Decade be proclaimed "Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific" and invited the Executive Secretary to consult member Governments to enable them to make a thorough assessment of that proposal. It considered that such a decade could lay special emphasis on a long-term strategy for integrated transport development, including the highway strategies for the 1980s recommended by the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications at its fifth session and the railway strategies for the 1980s endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-fourth session. It also suggested that advantage should be taken of the experience of Africa's Transport and Communications Decade.

667. The Commission adopted resolution 230 (XXXVIII) on a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific.

668. The Commission noted that the transport sector was one of the largest consumers of commercial energy, particularly petroleum-based energy, and as such its proper management and functioning were especially important from the point of view of energy conservation. It felt that energy conservation and efficiency would be achieved with major programmes such as the adoption of an optimum intermodal mix, increasing the share of public transport in urban areas, introduction of electrified mass transit systems, rehabilitation, electrification and modernization of the railways and utilization of alternative energy sources in the transport sector.

669. The Commission also noted that economic development required the construction of large transport facilities for international trade flows. It therefore attached importance to the selection of the most appropriate modes of transport and urged the secretariat to give increased attention to that subject in its work programme.

Railways and railway transport

670. The Commission stressed the importance of railway transport, which was re-emerging as one of the most important means of transport, particularly in view of the present and foreseeable energy situation. It recognized that railway transport should play a dominant role in the integrated transport system of a country, involving long- and medium-distance bulk freight transportation, inter-city passenger traffic and mass rapid urban transit. It commended the secretariat on its constructive efforts in extending assistance to member countries through roving missions, training courses, seminars-cum-study tours, advisory services, technical studies etc.

671. The Commission emphasized the urgent need to modernize and rehabilitate the railways and railway transport to enable them to reach their full potential in support of the socio-economic development of the countries. It urged the secretariat to intensify its efforts to promote electrification on the railways to the maximum extent feasible in order to decrease dependence on petroleum-based fuel and also increase operational efficiency. In that regard, it agreed that the ESCAP secretariat should continue and intensify the activities of its joint roving missions in extending assistance to the member countries.

672. The Commission endorsed the Committee's recommendation that a programme/project/unit should be set up within the secretariat to service a railway co-operation group under ESCAP in lieu of an Asian railway union. It urged the secretariat to take all appropriate measures in that regard. In that connection, it requested UNDP and interested countries to provide ESCAP with the necessary resources. However, it expressed the view that any possible duplication of work between the existing railway sector and the proposed unit should be avoided.

673. Noting that the preparatory work for convening a meeting of ministers responsible for railways had been completed, the Commission endorsed the Committee's decision to convene such a meeting as early as possible, consistent with the spirit of the mandate it had given at its thirty-sixth session. It noted, however, that the meeting could not be held before November. One delegation expressed the view that such a meeting might not be appropriate at present, given the heavy pressure on ministers and the existing high-level inter-governmental forums already available to discuss the substantive issues in that regard.

674. Recognizing the shortage of properly trained personnel in railway planning, management and operation, the Commission stressed that the secretariat should strengthen its activities in technology transfer and training. In that regard, it stressed the importance of such activities as seminars-cum-study tours, workshops, roving training courses and upgrading of regional/national training centres. In endorsing the Committee's recommendation in respect of the Pakistan Regional Railway Training Centre, the Commission urged the secretariat to take follow-up action on the recommendations contained in the report of the ESCAP joint roving mission on a priority basis.

675. The Commission was of the opinion that the Trans-Asian Railway network and the Asian Railway master plan projects must be re-evaluated in the light of reassessment of the role of railway transport. In that context, it noted with appreciation the reconfirmation of the offer of the Soviet Government to convene a meeting of a working group of railway experts in the USSR in 1982. It urged the secretariat to make efforts to undertake studies on technical and economic aspects of developing multimodal transport routes based on the Trans-Asian Railway network and the Asian Railway master plan so as to meet intraregional and interregional requirements.

676. Recognizing that the railways would reach their full potential only by integrating and co-ordinating their development with other modes of transport, the Commission urged the secretariat to strengthen its activities in developing intermodal transport systems, taking advantage of unitized load technological developments such as containerization and palletization. In that context, it noted with satisfaction the special trust given by the Committee to continuation of the secretariat's activities in the implementation of a regional study on containerization in relation to inland multimodal transport.

677. The Commission felt that the main recommendations made by the sixth Meeting of Top Railway Executives in Asia and the Middle East, held at New Delhi in October 1981, constituted a major and pragmatic programme of future action in the field of railway transport and urged the secretariat to make all possible endeavours to take the lead or provide assistance in implementing those recommendations through mobilization of the required resources from UNDP and other sources.

678. The Commission noted with appreciation the following offers made by the member countries to host seminars-cum-study tours in 1982 and 1983: (a) China in 1983, on upgrading the operational efficiency of railway transport; (b) France in 1982, on railway electrification; (c) India in 1982-1983, on operational innovations and technological programmes not involving heavy capital inputs but leading to an increase in productivity on the railways; (d) Japan

in 1982, on modernization of signalling and telecommunication; and (e) the USSR in 1982, on railway track maintenance systems combined with a workshop on the Asian Railway master plan/Trans-Asian Railway network. It endorsed the Committee's recommendation that the secretariat should arrange for financial contributions from UNDP and other sources to facilitate the holding of the seminars in China, India and the USSR.

679. The Commission noted with gratitude that the Government of Belgium had provided a railway electrification expert to the secretariat. It also appreciated the continuing assistance of the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany and Japan in providing railway experts to the secretariat. It welcomed the offers of the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan and the USSR to provide railway experts to participate in roving missions and noted with appreciation the offer of the Governments of India and the USSR to make available their expertise in various aspects of railway transport.

Highways and highway transport

680. The Commission recognized the important role played by highways and highway transport in the social and economic development of the region and stressed the need to promote integrated surface transport systems with an optimum intermodal mix, taking into account the due role of highways.

681. Considering the present and future energy situation, the Commission stressed the need for the further promotion of effective energy conservation measures in road transport and the early establishment of general principles towards developing a strategy for highway transport development in the 1980s. It stressed that the survey on the use and development of alternative sources of energy and energy-efficient vehicles should be completed as early as possible and that assistance should be provided to member countries in improving non-mechanized rural road transport vehicles. The Commission endorsed the Committee's recommendation that the Intergovernmental Meeting of Highway Experts should be convened every two years. It urged that adequate preparatory work be initiated and completed for the proposed meeting of ministers responsible for roads and road transport so that the meeting might be convened suitably at the earliest appropriate time.

682. The Commission emphasized that the integration of rural areas in the development process through improved and appropriate rural transport systems deserved increased emphasis in the existing national development plans. It commended the secretariat for its contribution in that field not only by increasing awareness of the problems but also by proposing practical solutions. It stressed the urgent need to develop general guide-lines for the preparation of national master plans for rural road development in the region.

It noted with appreciation the technical assistance rendered by the secretariat to Bangladesh in the finalization of a rural transport master plan based on the "growth centre" concept.

683. The Commission was pleased that the secretariat had published manuals on rural road construction and maintenance, which, it hoped, would meet the long-felt need for such written guide-lines. It recognized the need to translate the ESCAP manuals into local languages. It also recognized the importance of quality control in the construction and maintenance of low-cost rural roads and urged its promotion through pilot projects and the organization of regional/subregional training courses for trainers of local-level supervisors responsible for rural road construction and maintenance.

684. The Commission recognized that infrastructure development projects had a high potential for employment generation and stressed the need to promote labour-intensive construction techniques for rural road construction and maintenance, wherever feasible. It noted with appreciation the offer of the Government of China to host a seminar-cum-study tour on labour-based rural road construction and maintenance in October 1982. It expressed satisfaction at the successful interagency co-operation that had developed between ESCAP and ILO through the joint study on the improvement of hand-tools and equipment.

685. The Commission recognized the need to overcome problems relating to the natural drainage and hydrological cycle created by large-scale rural road infrastructure development. It urged that member countries be provided with assistance in that respect through case studies on the environmental impact of infrastructure development. It noted the interest of Bangladesh in being covered by those case studies.

686. The Commission noted with appreciation the close co-operation developed between ESCAP and the International Road Transport Union, which should be utilized to establish linkages with the road transporters of south Asia/south-east Asia, to promote further the operational efficiency and management capabilities of road transport operators.

687. The Commission emphasized that road maintenance deserved high priority and urged the secretariat to convene a seminar to create awareness among various target groups, including policy-makers, of the economic importance of road maintenance. It noted with appreciation ESCAP's initiative in co-sponsoring the road maintenance study course organized by the Highway Department of Thailand, which was scheduled to be held at Bangkok in April-May 1982.

688. The Commission welcomed the Philippines as a new member of the Asian Highway. It noted with appreciation the field survey of the Pan-Philippine Highway completed recently by the secretariat. It also noted the request of the Philippines to be covered

by the Asian Highway guidemaps at the earliest opportunity.

689. The Commission recognized that the Asian Highway guidemaps had continued to make a substantial contribution to the promotion of international road transport and tourism in the region and urged the secretariat to continue the publication and updating of those guidemaps on a regular basis. It noted with appreciation the publication of the revised Asian Highway guidemaps No. 3 covering Bangladesh, India and Nepal and No. 4 covering Indonesia. It also noted the request of Sri Lanka to be covered by an Asian Highway guidemap and urged the secretariat to initiate appropriate action in that regard.

690. The Commission noted with appreciation the technical assistance in the highways sector rendered by the secretariat to the Philippines, Singapore and some of the Pacific island countries. It was happy to be assured that Japan would continue to support the activities of the secretariat in the field of highways and highway transport by making available the services of a Japanese expert. It also appreciated the continuing assistance of the Federal Republic of Germany in providing an expert. It noted with appreciation that the USSR had carried out four studies for the secretariat on various issues relating to highways.

Air transport

691. Recognizing the major constraints and problems being faced by developing member countries of the region in the expansion of their air cargo transport and consequently of their international airborne trade, the Commission urged the secretariat to play a more active role in the economic aspects of air cargo transport in close co-operation and co-ordination with ICAO, avoiding unnecessary duplication.

692. It noted that inadequate attention had been paid to that important mode of transport and stressed that the mandate of the Commission at its earlier sessions should be translated into reality. In particular, the package of activities which had been endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-sixth session should be taken in hand on a priority basis. Recalling the proposed seminar on economic aspects of air cargo transport in developing countries, for which the Government of India had offered host facilities, the Commission urged the secretariat to arrange for its early convening.

693. The Commission noted with interest the proposed comprehensive survey of air/sea/road transport and related infrastructure for the Pacific region, being formulated by the secretariat in close co-operation with ICAO. It also noted with appreciation the offer of the USSR to make available to member countries, through the secretariat, a study on analytical methods applicable to the marketing of air cargo and passenger transport in the ESCAP region, expected to be completed shortly.

694. The Commission heard the statement of the representative of ICAO and stressed the need for closer co-operation between ESCAP and ICAO.

General transport planning, research and public transport

695. The Commission stressed the importance of a well-co-ordinated and integrated transport system at the national and regional levels and requested the secretariat to play a co-ordinated and more active role in providing technical assistance to member countries in that regard. It emphasized the need for increased regional co-operation in transport research and training among member countries and requested the secretariat to increase the scope of its activities, making use of ECDC, TCDC and other resources.

696. The Commission noted with satisfaction the secretariat's ongoing activities relating to action-oriented co-operative research to improve access to isolated communities. It also noted that a methodology for determining *inter se* priorities among the transport needs of isolated communities had been evolved to help countries of the region to formulate phased action programmes making optimum use of available resources.

697. The Commission noted with appreciation the secretariat's close co-operation with the Economic Development Institute of the World Bank in organizing regional transport courses to improve the professional capabilities of transport officials and recommended that the secretariat should continue to organize such regional transport courses at suitable intervals.

698. The Commission recognized that urbanization in most developing countries had been increasing owing to population growth and migration and had outpaced all efforts to provide adequate transport facilities. It felt that various urban transport modes had to be integrated and co-ordinated to achieve optimum operational and energy efficiency. It requested the secretariat to reappraise the limitations of private transport.

699. The Commission expressed its serious concern that public transport, particularly in metropolitan areas, had not improved sufficiently to cater for the needs of urban and rural populations. It requested the secretariat to reassess the development of electrified mass transit rail services in heavy-density corridors, the improvement of public bus services in other lower-density sections and the role of para-transit facilities, taking into consideration their important economic role in generating employment and providing supplementary functions in urban transport systems.

700. The Commission felt that more attention needed to be given to public bus services between cities and the countryside. It requested the secretariat to provide advisory services on request, as in the case of Thailand,

and organize roving missions, seminars and training courses on a regular basis.

701. The Commission urged the secretariat to develop and harmonize comprehensive and adequate transport statistics using ESCAP indicators and guide-lines to achieve standardization and uniformity of statistics in the region. In that context, it felt that a workshop as indicated in the work programme should be held as early as possible and that appropriate resources should be allocated.

702. The Commission noted with satisfaction that special attention had been given to least developed and land-locked countries in improving transit transport links.

Facilitation of international traffic

703. The Commission recognized the important role of the secretariat in acting as a focal point in the region for trade and transport facilitation matters within the framework of co-ordinated global efforts to rationalize the procedures and documentation, which currently accounted for at least 10 per cent of the cost of goods traded. It also urged the secretariat to intensify its activities in facilitation to enable it to respond to the increasing needs of the developing countries for assistance in their efforts to promote and expand international trade and transport movement through streamlining, simplifying and standardizing their trade- and transport-related documents and procedural requirements. Some delegations referred to the need to avoid duplicating the work of specialized agencies, e.g., ICAO.

704. The Commission noted the recommendations of the Seminar on Facilitation Measures for Movement of Goods in International Trade, which had been submitted to the concerned Governments.

705. The Commission noted that seminars on facilitation matters at both the national and the regional levels would be very useful tools for providing guidance to officials concerned in developing, devising and thereafter implementing the necessary facilitation measures to suit the needs of their respective countries and urged the secretariat to find ways and means of organizing them at regular intervals.

706. The Commission noted with satisfaction the establishment of national facilitation committees in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka and the achievements of the Sri Lanka National Trade Facilitation Committee in overcoming some of the problems pertaining to international trade and transport documents and the bottle-necks caused by the procedures. It encouraged other countries to take similar steps as they would help them greatly in their developmental efforts.

707. The Commission also noted with satisfaction the steps being taken by Nepal to enact legislation making insurance compulsory for motor vehicles.

708. The Commission called upon countries which had not yet done so to consider adopting and adhering to the conventions mentioned in paragraphs 27 and 33 of document E/ESCAP/263, particularly the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention, 1975) and the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (Kyoto, 1973).

709. The Commission noted with appreciation the close working relationship maintained and developed with other international organizations, specifically UNCTAD/FALPRO (Facilitation of Trade Procedures and Documentation) and the Customs Co-operation Council, in the field of facilitation and directed the secretariat to take the necessary steps to strengthen such relationships further. In that context, it was pointed out that there would be considerable scope for co-operation and sharing of experience with the ECE secretariat.

Telecommunications

710. Recognizing the important role of telecommunications, the Commission reiterated the recommendation made at its thirty-seventh session that member countries should make appropriate allocations of resources for the development of that sector. It noted the view of the Regional Conference-cum-Seminar on Development and Management of Telecommunications in Asia and the Pacific that as a first step, an outlay on telecommunications of 5 per cent of GDP might be considered as a target by developing member countries.

711. The Commission noted that ITU, in close co-operation with the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), had provided assistance to countries of the region in planning, maintenance, manpower development and introduction of new technology in the telecommunications sector, with financial assistance from UNDP through its inter-country programme. However, it noted with regret that assistance in sound and television broadcasting planning and training would be terminated owing to lack of resources barely a year after its institution. In view of the large backlog of demands for technical assistance in sound and television broadcasting, the Commission urged UNDP and donor countries to consider providing essential inputs into that important area of work.

712. The Commission noted with satisfaction that projects for rural telecommunications in the least developed countries and telecommunications maintenance were included in the UNDP inter-country programme for 1982-1986 and endorsed ITU's activities concerned with those important matters. APT informed the Commission that it was considering undertaking a project to service rural telecommunications in other areas of the region.

713. The Commission noted that the large variety of technical options available in the telecommunication

sector made it difficult to make an appropriate choice, especially for the smaller developing countries. It also noted that specialist advice, the need for which was apparent in the present case, and which had so far been provided under regional project RAS/75/051, was now being phased out. In view of the continuing need for such technical advice, the Commission urged UNDP to consider restoring that regional project with a multidisciplinary team of specialists in the forthcoming review of its inter-country programme in 1983.

714. The Commission urged countries that were not members of APT to become members at an early date. It also stressed the need for intensification of co-operation and co-ordination among ESCAP, ITU and APT.

715. The Commission endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Regional Conference-cum-Seminar.

Postal services

716. The Commission noted that postal services, while relatively satisfactory in urban areas, showed considerable shortcomings in rural areas, particularly in the least developed, land-locked and island countries. That was due to lack of resources and training facilities.

717. The Commission appreciated the new UPU/UNDP project RAS/81/036 on training and consultative services for the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific and emphasized the importance of using and expanding the existing training facilities, such as the Asian-Pacific Postal Training Centre. It urged donor countries to provide fellowships for the training of postal officials. It also noted the offer of India to share its experience in postal matters with other countries and the offer of the USSR to co-operate with ESCAP by hosting a seminar on mechanization of postal operations. It noted with satisfaction that a seminar/symposium on the post in the 1980s would be organized in co-operation with UPU and the Asian-Pacific Postal Union late in 1982.

718. The Commission noted with appreciation that close and long-standing co-operation existed between ESCAP and UPU and that a UPU associate expert had been posted to the ESCAP secretariat. It hoped that such co-operation would be further strengthened.

Tourism

719. The Commission recognized the noticeably high tourism growth in the region and stressed the increasingly important role of tourism in the current economic environment. It specifically emphasized such major benefits as foreign exchange earnings and employment generation and took note of the intensified promotional measures taken in some member countries. It urged the secretariat to arrange for the expeditious execution of the proposed activities.

720. The Commission fully supported the tourism activities in the ESCAP work programme for 1982-1983 and endorsed the report of the Committee on its fifth session as it related to tourism. It requested that the secretariat lay added emphasis on (a) giving appropriate priority to tourism; (b) development of tourism-related infrastructure; and (c) analysis of the far-reaching socio-economic implications of tourism and measures necessary for the promotion of tourism so as to achieve (i) co-ordinated and sustained growth in the tourism sector, (ii) mutual benefits to tourists and the receiving countries and (iii) a greater contribution to general development through practical and policy-oriented guide-lines.

721. The Commission welcomed the decision of the Government of Japan to provide ESCAP with a tourism expert from April 1982 and financial assistance for tourism research work relating to tourism development policy in the ESCAP region. It also welcomed the offer of the Government of Japan to finance and host an intergovernmental meeting on promotion of tourism development in October 1982.

722. The Commission welcomed the confirmation by the Government of Pakistan that it would host a seminar on improvement of tourism marketing methodologies at the national and subregional levels. It also welcomed the offer of the Government of the USSR to host a seminar on tourism.

723. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the secretariat had developed a multidisciplinary capacity for tourism research and development through combining essential expertise in related disciplines available within the secretariat. It welcomed the formalization of the co-operative arrangements between ESCAP and ILO in the form of a joint interagency tourism unit which would promote the common programme of co-operative action at the regional level. It also welcomed the generous offer by WTO of technical co-operation which would enhance the complementarity of ESCAP and WTO.

724. The Commission took note of the requests made by (a) Indonesia, (b) Nepal and (c) Sri Lanka for the early execution in their countries of work programme elements (a) 14.01.02, 14.01.06, 14.02.04 and 14.02.06, (b) 14.01.07 and (c) 14.01.03 and 14.02.04.

725. The Commission highlighted the possibility of tourism promotion by rail and requested the secretariat to provide assistance to member countries in establishing tourism facilitation units and a mechanism for effective co-ordination, harmonization and expansion of tourism by rail.

726. The Commission congratulated Thailand on its celebration of the Rattanakosin Bicentennial of Bangkok and noted that Thailand might request assistance from the secretariat in that connection.

727. The Commission noted that the Pacific island countries had informed the secretariat of their urgent need for ESCAP assistance in tourism development and supported the projects formulated by the secretariat for the Pacific countries.

Activities relating to Pacific countries

728. The Commission took note of programme areas in which specific requests had been made by the Pacific countries for ESCAP assistance. Those included improvement of the organizational framework and technological aspects of road maintenance; development of general guide-lines for the preparation of national master plans for rural road development; quality control and technology in rural road construction; and manpower development in highways and highway transport.

729. Several delegations from Pacific countries requested the secretariat to increase its technical assistance and research activities for the benefit of the subregion in such matters as public transport, transport for isolated and rural areas, transport statistics, postal services and related operations, maintenance and management training.

730. With regard to air transport, the Commission took note of the request of Papua New Guinea to be included in the proposed comprehensive survey of air/sea/road and related infrastructures and of a request for the services of an air cargo specialist to undertake a preliminary study of the air transport situation in that country.

731. The Commission endorsed the request of the Pacific countries for a workshop on facilitation measures. It urged the secretariat to mobilize the necessary resources for the organization of such a workshop in the near future and also urged UNDP and donor Governments to extend the necessary financial assistance to the ESCAP secretariat to enable it to carry out activities in the Pacific.

732. It also noted the requests of some of the Pacific countries for assistance in tourism development, including suitable regulatory measures to avoid any negative effects of tourism.

Work programme

733. Some delegations felt that, as the secretariat's work programme reflected the minimum needs and requirements of the developing member countries, the deletion of any of the activities would adversely affect the development process of the member countries. The Commission felt that there was a big gap between the resources available to the secretariat and those required for the full implementation of its work programme. It appealed to all countries and international agencies to provide financial and technical assistance to the secretariat in that regard. One delegation noted that the

Committee had not deleted lower-priority activities as required by the Commission's decision on guide-lines for streamlining the work programme.

734. The Commission noted that, in proposing programme changes, the Committee had granted the secretariat flexibility to implement the various programme elements as and when the resources became available and to adjust the schedule of implementation to the special requirements of the developing countries of the region. On that basis, the Commission endorsed the programme changes proposed by the Committee, as amended.

735. 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 Belgium, China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, India, Japan, the Netherlands and the USSR as well as other organizations, which had made it possible to implement the work programmes of the secretariat. It hoped that assistance would continue to be provided for future activities in those vital sectors.

Information systems and documentation services

736. The Commission, which had before it document E/ESCAP/268, stressed the need to co-ordinate information systems in government, as timely and comprehensive information was a prerequisite for correct decision-making for economic and social development.

737. It endorsed the report of the Intergovernmental Meeting on Government Information Systems and Data Processing, held at Tokyo in December 1981, which had strongly urged the improved management of the information resources of government in order to take full advantage of the potential of computer technology for promoting development. With that in view, the Intergovernmental Meeting had felt that the strengthening of the mechanism for the central co-ordination of information was a task of high priority within member Governments and that the secretariat, through its regional programme, could make a valuable contribution to that goal. The Commission noted a proposal by the secretariat for sending a mission to selected countries late in 1982 with the objective of improving the high-level co-ordination and management of information within government, as outlined by the Intergovernmental Meeting.

738. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the initiative of the Government of Japan in hosting the Intergovernmental Meeting and of its offer to provide a special training course on electronic data processing for government activities, assistance for a regional workshop on the role of mini and micro

computers as tools for economic development as well as a regional adviser on the management of computerized information within government.

739. It also welcomed the offer of the Government of France to resume the provision of the services of a regional adviser on government information systems.

740. In the execution of the regional programme, the Commission urged that duplication between international bodies be minimized through efficient co-ordination, especially in the domain of the supply of information by Governments.

741. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the services of the computer systems analyst funded by the Government of the Netherlands to strengthen the information aspects of the secretariat's rural development programme. It noted with interest the proposal for a pilot project on rural data systems in the Kalutara district of Sri Lanka, which would yield experience of value to all member countries on the feasibility of the use of micro computer technology in areas where it would not be feasible to use a large-scale general-purpose computer.

742. The Commission recognized the need for the secretariat to act as a focal point for the transfer of socio-economic information within the region. Wherever such information was in machine-readable form, the telecommunications network should be considered in linking member countries with ESCAP and with other member countries. Such a transfer should be closely co-ordinated to enable countries to work together for economic development. The Commission noted that a regional network was being established to link the Philippines with other developing countries through satellite transmission channels.

743. The Commission was informed that, with the aim of improving the data transmission capacities within the information systems of member Governments, the secretariat was seeking to obtain the services of a specialist to advise Governments on the subject.

744. The Commission took note of the improvement in the documentation services of the secretariat that had been brought about in large part through the installation of a powerful computer presented by the Government of Japan and through the provision of the services of a library systems analyst by the Federal Republic of Germany over the previous three years. That had permitted the indexing of several thousand document references which formed a computerized bibliographic data base. However, some further organization and development were needed to permit that data base to be accessible to countries and a seminar on the appropriate transfer methodologies would be welcomed.

Integrated rural development

745. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/269.

746. It was informed of the latest position with regard to the implementation of activities under the ESCAP programme on integrated rural development as well as those under the regional interagency programme of work on integrated rural development and issues arising therefrom. It was reported that, in conformity with the multisectoral thrust of integrated rural development, the United Nations bodies and specialized agencies had been co-operating through the Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific and its Task Force for co-ordinated action in some selected areas. That co-operation had been reflected in joint planning and implementation of activities for which resources had been mobilized from regular and extrabudgetary sources. The Commission was further informed of collaboration and linkage between the Interagency Committee and the Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) and also of liaison with the ACC Task Force on Rural Development in areas of mutual interest.

747. In the discussion that followed, several delegations expressed concern over the prevalence of mass poverty in developing countries of the region and stated that high priority had been assigned to integrated rural development in their respective national development strategies. They mentioned programmes undertaken to translate strategies for the alleviation of poverty into action programmes. The basic emphasis of integrated rural development was laid on increasing productivity and income in rural areas, particularly among low-income groups. Such objectives were pursued through the decentralization of planning and implementation to the local level and through the strengthening of local institutions for effective mobilization of people and resources. Other priority areas were the building up of the basic physical and social infrastructure for development in rural areas, the provision of basic services and the diversification of employment opportunities for increased income. It was felt that, while basic responsibilities for integrated rural development rested with the countries themselves, national programmes could be considerably strengthened through international assistance and co-operation among developing countries. In that context, member Governments commended the activities implemented by ESCAP pertaining to the socio-economic disabilities of low-income groups and the improvement of the accountability of public agencies and local organizations to poorer sections of society. The view was expressed that, while the findings of the studies under the above projects could provide useful guide-lines in redirecting programmes and projects towards the needs of low-income groups, their application in the solution of problems should be examined in the socio-economic context of each country.

748. The Commission stressed that the activities undertaken by the Interagency Committee should be

increasingly directed at supporting national action, especially programmes at the field level. In that context, the view was expressed that projects undertaken by the Interagency Committee in different areas were relevant to national programmes. Several delegations expressed their willingness to continue and strengthen co-operation further with the Interagency Committee with regard to rural development. A specific reference was made to integrated area development projects undertaken in some countries of the region on a multisectoral basis, in which decentralization and interdepartmental co-ordination were important elements. While co-ordination involved complex problems, it was felt that they could be mitigated by taking appropriate measures to improve the structural linkage among concerned agencies and by strengthening participating institutions. To assist in the alleviation of poverty, the major emphasis of integrated projects should be laid on the identification of the target groups and careful selection and sequencing of activities for their benefit rather than on concentrating resources on the development of physical infrastructure at the local level. The Commission noted that the shortage of skills was an important constraint to accelerating the pace of development in rural areas. It was stressed that Governments as well as United Nations agencies should give increased attention to human resources development. Training activities should be directed primarily at upgrading capabilities at the local level for improved project planning and delivery of services to low-income groups. They could be supplemented by the preparation of guide-lines on the formulation of poverty-focused rural development programmes and their dissemination among concerned personnel and agencies.

749. Monitoring and evaluation were other important elements of participatory rural development. Several delegations commended the initiative taken by the Interagency Committee to assist in the improvement of capabilities at the local level for monitoring and evaluating rural development programmes and projects involving the participation of the intended beneficiaries in such a process. In that context, the development of detailed indicators for measuring the socio-economic benefits of programmes on the target groups, in close collaboration with FAO, and the expansion of training were stressed.

750. The Commission further stressed that developing countries of the region could derive benefits through a process of learning from each other's experiences in rural development, particularly those pertaining to innovative solutions to problems of poverty. Specific modalities of such co-operation could include the dissemination of information on innovative activities in different aspects of integrated rural development, exchange visits and collaboration in undertaking field experiments, in a spirit of TCDC. Several delegations offered to share their own experiences in agrarian

reform and rural development with other developing countries of the region. It was felt that national liaison officers designated by Governments for liaison with the Interagency Committee could make useful contributions to expanding the scope of the exchange of information and experience among countries on either a bilateral or a multilateral basis, in matters of mutual interest.

751. The Commission noted that poverty was critically prevalent in the rural areas of the least developed countries and also in the backward areas of other developing countries. Constraints such as a weak infrastructure and resource base, lack of skills, physical isolation and other allied factors had particularly compounded the problems of development. It was stressed that special programmes and projects should be undertaken on a priority basis to deal with development problems peculiar to such countries and areas. In that context, integrated rural development in hilly areas was mentioned as a matter of priority.

752. The Commission expressed appreciation of the arrangements that had been developed for interagency co-operation in rural development at the regional level. It was noted that agencies had jointly undertaken activities in some selected areas, pooling resources to provide assistance to Governments on a multidisciplinary basis. In that context, it was stressed that the mechanism of co-operation indicated above should be further strengthened and also be used as a means for exchanging information among the agencies on activities undertaken by them at the regional level for improved complementarity in rural development.

753. As to the question of resources, it was felt that the support provided for integrated rural development was not commensurate with the priority assigned to the programmes. While expressing appreciation of the generous support by donors to the integrated rural development programme of ESCAP as well as that of the Interagency Committee, several delegations called for increased extrabudgetary assistance in the coming years. The view was expressed that the Interagency Committee should establish suitable working relationships with donors, both bilaterally and multilaterally, to assist Governments in the mobilization of resources for participatory programmes and projects to alleviate poverty.

754. The Commission was informed of the participation of ILO, FAO and UNESCO in the work of the Interagency Committee at the regional level and of the contributions which those agencies had made to that work. It noted the willingness expressed by them to continue and to strengthen interagency co-operation. Member Governments took note of the collaboration between the Interagency Committee and CIRDAP and felt that the Interagency Committee should establish similar linkages with APDC and other concerned regional institutions. The Commission was informed of major spheres of activities undertaken by those agencies,

such as people's participation (ILO), the development of socio-economic indicators for monitoring and evaluating rural development (FAO) and the application of science and technology (UNESCO).

The Commission's activities in the Pacific

755. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/270 and noted with satisfaction the expansion of the scope of the activities in the Pacific.

756. It welcomed the appointment of the ESCAP/Pacific Liaison Officer and noted that, during the short period since his assumption of office, he had been able to visit several of the Pacific island countries and, through those visits, had been able to provide a two-way information flow between the secretariat and the Pacific island countries. That had resulted in increasing the secretariat's awareness of the specific needs of the Pacific island countries, which had contributed to better programming on the part of the secretariat. It had also contributed to increasing the awareness in the Pacific island countries of the scope and range of the activities of ESCAP and of their potential contribution in terms of development assistance to those countries. The Commission endorsed the decision of the Executive Secretary to strengthen that Office in the coming year. It noted, however, that if the Office were to meet the essential liaison purpose for which it had been created, full opportunity needed to be given to its staff to travel throughout the Pacific as necessary to fulfil that role. The Commission therefore decided that sufficient resources should be made available to that end through redeployment of funds from elsewhere.

757. Many delegations stressed the unique character of the Pacific subregion and of the countries which constituted it. Small populations, limited natural resources, vast distances from each other and from major markets, with consequent high transport costs, excessive dependence on a narrow range of agricultural products for export, concentration of population in the subsistence rural sector, high incidence of unemployment and underemployment, proneness to natural disasters and heavy dependence on aid contributed to that uniqueness. It was stressed that the uniqueness of the Pacific island countries necessitated that ESCAP pay special attention to the development assistance needs of those countries, which called for a reorientation of the approaches to the formulation of its work programme and to the modalities of its implementation to ensure that those countries received their due share of assistance from ESCAP.

758. Many delegations expressed their deep appreciation of the assistance which ESCAP had provided to the Pacific island countries. Special mention was made of the services rendered by the United Nations Development Advisory Team, which, through the practical nature of its assistance and the flexibility of its approach to implementation, provided timely and relevant assis-

stance. Appreciation was also expressed of the orientation programme for officials from the South Pacific, which, in 1982, had expanded to bring in seven Pacific island country officials for familiarization with the work of ESCAP, as well as the assistance provided for statistical development.

759. The Commission stressed the importance of expanded co-operation and co-ordination between ESCAP, SPC and SPEC, as that would assist in greater participation by the Pacific island countries in the formulation and implementation of projects. Emphasis was also laid on the need for ESCAP activities in the Pacific increasingly to assume the form of practical, action-oriented projects rather than information-gathering and research activities.

760. While stressing the need for an over-all expansion of the work of the secretariat in the Pacific, the Commission emphasized several programme areas in which specific activities were required. Those included the transport sector, with particular emphasis on shipping, statistical development, atoll development, energy, integration of women and youth in the development process, environment, assistance in developing capabilities for negotiations with transnational corporations, trade facilitation measures, training in export-import documentation, development of access to isolated communities and highway maintenance. The Commission noted that one means of further involving ESCAP in matters of vital concern to the Pacific could be the convening of legislative committee meetings in the Pacific subregion. The Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications was mentioned as one possibility in that regard. The Commission directed the secretariat to examine the feasibility of such a meeting, having due regard to the financial implications that might be involved.

761. Manpower development was indicated as a major need of the Pacific island countries and the Commission urged the secretariat to pay increased attention to providing assistance for short-term training to meet that need. Noting the damaging effects of cyclones, the Commission further urged that consideration be given to establishing a co-operative programme in the Pacific subregion along the same lines as the ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee programme in east Asia and noted that the subject would be discussed at the meeting of WMO Regional Association V at Melbourne in September 1982.

762. Several members of the Commission indicated their readiness to assist the secretariat, through the provision of resources, in giving assistance to the Pacific island countries. Such offers of assistance, some of them being subject to further consideration, were specifically made by Australia, France, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

Report on resolution 219 (XXXVII) on expanding and strengthening the functions of the Commission in the context of the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system

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

764. It noted the follow-up action undertaken by the secretariat in connection with the implementation of its resolution 219 (XXXVII), relevant to the following aspects of the secretariat's work and responsibilities: regional inputs into global programmes and policy-making; interagency co-ordination; programme priorities and extrabudgetary assistance; programme planning and co-ordination, including the work programme format; promotion of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries; provision of budgetary and financial support; and further rationalization and streamlining of the subsidiary machinery of the Commission.

Programme changes, 1982-1983

765. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/255 and Corr.1 and the proposed programme changes for the 1982-1983 biennium contained in the sectoral papers as indicated in each sector and approved changes to the programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983, which it had endorsed at its thirty-seventh session. The programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983, as revised to incorporate the approved changes is given in annex I to the present report.

Progress reports on special regional projects and regional institutions

Special regional projects

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

766. The Commission considered the annual report for 1981 of the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin (E/ESCAP/275) and took note of the substantial resources required to meet the needs identified in the Committee's work programme for 1982. They had been assessed at some \$US 400 million and covered a wide range of pre-investment activity, technical assistance and training, and construction and investment in hydrology and meteorology, basin planning, land and water resources development, navigation improvement, fisheries and agricultural research.

767. Whereas so far most investment had been confined to tributaries in the member countries of the Interim Committee, much of the pre-investment work had been in preparation for developments on the mainstream. Among the latter, special interest was focused on the Pa Mong multipurpose scheme, on the border between the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand,

which would be one of the world's great dams and hydropower developments. Fifteen years of study had indicated that the joint direct and indirect benefits from the project would be considerable, and the Interim Committee was in the process of finalizing a study on the organization and financing of the project; that study had updated earlier cost estimates, reviewed previous work and presented a coherent set of proposals for ownership, management and financing arrangements.

768. The Commission noted with satisfaction that additional operational resources received in 1981 to assist the Interim Committee in carrying out its work programme amounted to \$US 47 million. Sizeable as it was, that amount fell short of the resources needed to meet many of the priority requirements that had been cited. While acknowledging the steadfast support received by the Committee over the years from co-operating countries and organizations, the Commission believed that continued assistance was necessary to help to reinforce the successes already achieved.

769. The Commission reiterated its support for the aims and the work of the Interim Committee, whose activities had demonstrated the development potential of the Mekong River. At the same time it was felt by some delegations that greater emphasis should be placed on ventures that were more markedly regional in character and on mainstream undertakings.

770. Several delegations made specific pledges regarding the assistance the Interim Committee could expect from their respective countries in 1982. One delegation stated that its co-operation in future would be considered in relation to the effort the member countries themselves made to strengthen their institutional co-operation, the degree of emphasis given to specifically regional endeavours and the volume of support obtained from other donors.

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

771. The Commission considered the report of CCOP on its eighteenth session (E/ESCAP/276).

772. It approved the activities undertaken in pursuance of the Committee's directives at its seventeenth session, including those dealing with hydrocarbon resources and petroleum data, offshore tin and other heavy detrital minerals, Quaternary geology, field and advisory services, training and publications and SEATAR activities, for which a third workshop was planned for 1983.

773. The Commission was informed that hydrocarbon assessment studies had thus far been concentrated in the producing States, i.e., Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand; consultancy services on petroleum data management provided to China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and the ASEAN (ASCOPE) Council on Petroleum; pre-Tertiary studies conducted in Indonesia, the Philippines, the

Republic of Korea and Thailand; and that CCOP/ASCOPE joint programmes existed in stratigraphic correlation, geothermometry, the development of an ASCOPE data bank, the marine environment, hydrocarbon prospects in carbonate formations, pre-Tertiary petroleum potential, hydrocarbon assessment and training.

774. With regard to investigations for tin and other heavy detrital minerals, the Commission was informed that during the previous year the Project Office had provided equipment and the services of its experts to assist in offshore geophysical surveys in Malaysia and the Philippines, to assist and advise on the offshore drilling programme in Thailand and to give a workshop course on shallow marine geophysical techniques in Malaysia. The offshore survey in the eastern Philippines had been completed in June 1981. Since early 1979 about 12,500 km of high resolution seismic and magnetic data and about half that amount of side-scan sonar and pinger data had been recorded in the member countries.

775. The Commission was also informed that Quaternary geological mapping and related work had been undertaken in Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Thailand. The establishment of a regional centre for Quaternary geology in China, as decided by the Committee at its previous session, had continuously been studied by the Project Office. The Commission noted with appreciation the expert assistance and training provided by the Netherlands Government in Quaternary geology.

776. The Commission was pleased to learn that significant progress had been achieved in the member countries in isotopic age dating, particularly in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Thailand. The Commission noted with appreciation the expert assistance and training provided by the Government of Switzerland in isotopic age dating.

777. The Commission was pleased to learn that the Project Office had continued to have close co-operation with international bodies on matters relating to CCOP activities, particularly with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) in the implementation of the Programme for Studies of East Asia Tectonics and Resources (SEATAR); with UNEP and the East-West Center concerning the marine environment; with the Circum-Pacific Council on Energy and Mineral Resources in the Circum-Pacific Map Project; with the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) in connection with petroleum data collection, storage and retrieval; with the Commission for the Geological Map of the World (CGMW) on the preparation of sea-floor maps; with ESCAP and its relevant committees and regional projects; and with ASCOPE in the field of hydrocarbon resources.

778. The Commission expressed its gratitude to UNDP for its support of the Project since 1972 and for its

continued support until the end of 1984, to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries for its support through UNDP, and for the co-operation of IOC, UNEP, the East-West Center, the Circum-Pacific Council on Energy and Mineral Resources, IUGS, CGMW and ASCOPE.

779. The Commission also expressed its gratitude to the co-operating countries for continuing to provide the services of special advisers and for the extensive assistance given to the member countries within the CCOP work programme, particularly to France for its assistance concerning hydrocarbon potentials in pre-Tertiary sequences and SEATAR, to the Federal Republic of Germany for its assistance in the SEATAR programme, to Japan for its project on gravity and magnetics and training, to the Netherlands for its activities in Quaternary geology, to Norway for its activities in petroleum data management, to Switzerland for its activities in isotopic age dating, to the USSR for its offer of cruises within the SEATAR programme, to the United Kingdom for its provision of lecturers to workshops and seminars and to the United States for its activities in connection with SEATAR, hydrocarbon resources and the marine environment. The Commission was grateful to the special advisers for their continued assistance to and support of the activities of CCOP.

780. The Commission was informed that the nineteenth session of CCOP and associated meetings would be held at Tokyo, tentatively from 15 to 26 November 1982.

781. The delegation of the Philippines expressed its appreciation of the assistance of UNDP in financing a substantial part of the work programme of CCOP, as well as providing institutional support. It noted with appreciation that UNDP would consider supporting the post of Project Director/Chief Technical Adviser through 1984, as had been agreed at Bangkok in January 1982 at a meeting of CCOP permanent representatives with ESCAP and UNDP officials. China, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea and Viet Nam also expressed their appreciation to UNDP.

782. The delegation of Japan informed the Commission that CCOP had raised the technical standards of member countries significantly, particularly in exploration for mineral resources and oil and gas. The Japanese Government had participated in that process by providing financial assistance, technical experts and special advisers. It looked forward to continued co-operation.

783. China, Indonesia and the Philippines announced their intention to double their cash contributions.

784. The Commission was informed that the Thai Government had participated fully in the activities of CCOP, including hosting the Working Group on Petroleum Data, and in the several joint programmes of CCOP/ASCOPE. The Commission noted that, as host country, Thailand's cash contributions exceeded

by 50 per cent those of other participating developing countries. In responding to the recommendations and conclusions made at the meeting of permanent representatives to CCOP with ESCAP and UNDP officials, Thailand indicated that it was prepared to provide accommodations for the Project Office when UNDP phased out such support.

785. The Commission noted the continuing offer of China to provide support facilities for the proposed regional centre on Quaternary geology and also noted that a preparatory committee had been established to co-operate with the CCOP Project Office and with ESCAP in the development of the centre. China expressed its hope that ESCAP would provide financial support for those coastal States which wished to participate in the programme but were not members of CCOP, and also its hope for support from co-operating countries of ESCAP.

786. The CCOP programme in Quaternary geology and the proposed regional centre were warmly supported by the delegations of China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Thailand. The USSR also supported the programme and recommended that the regional centre be open to all ESCAP members, rather than be limited to coastal States.

787. The Netherlands, whose initiative had been largely responsible for the programme, welcomed the decision of UNDP to fund the post of Quaternary geologist within CCOP and suggested that training in Quaternary geology should be extended to include universities and other scientific institutions.

788. The United States commended the work of the Committee on behalf of its member countries and reiterated its continued interest in the Committee's activities.

789. The USSR stated that detailed planning for a research cruise in waters of CCOP member countries was proceeding and that participation by scientists from concerned countries in the cruise and in subsequent data processing in the USSR was welcome.

790. The Project Manager expressed his warm appreciation of the support which had been provided to the Project Office by member countries, co-operating countries, UNDP, UNEP, IOC/UNESCO and other organizations which had participated in the programme.

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

791. The Commission considered and endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of CCOP/SOPAC as set out in document E/ESCAP/277.

792. It heard with interest a summary of the results of the more important survey projects carried out in waters of member countries during the previous year and of the

high-priority work proposed for the future and noted with approval the progress made to date by CCOP/SOPAC.

793. It also noted that the adequate assessment of the marine energy, mineral and natural resource potentials under national jurisdiction, including near-shore and beach studies, was of particular importance and that more assistance in those areas was needed by most of the members of CCOP/SOPAC. In that regard, it considered timely the joint survey cruises of Australia, New Zealand, the United States and CCOP/SOPAC that had started on 12 March 1982 at an estimated cost of \$US 3.7 million. That was an example of developed and developing countries working closely and successfully together for the benefit and best interests of the developing countries. The data obtained from the surveys would be evaluated and distributed to the member Governments free of charge.

794. The Commission expressed appreciation of the co-operating countries' support for CCOP/SOPAC and international and national agencies through cash contributions and other forms and of the significant and regular support by the members of the United Nations system. It was hoped that support would continue to be provided in as many forms and at as high a level as possible.

795. The Commission took note of the interest of the emerging governments in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands in the activities of CCOP/SOPAC and was pleased to note their interest in possible future membership in the Committee.

796. The Commission noted with interest the statement by the representative of UNESCO, on behalf of IOC, concerning the co-operative activities planned in marine geology and geophysics. It further noted that IOC supported the CCOP/SOPAC proposal to establish a working group to foster and implement research programmes in the South Pacific on science, tectonics and resources.

Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre

797. The Commission considered the report of the Governing Council of RMRDC on its fourth session (E/ESCAP/278).

798. It endorsed the report, together with the recommendations made and the programme of work adopted for 1982-1983.

799. The Commission was informed that in the previous year 43 technical advisory missions to 14 member countries had been carried out by RMRDC and 23 technical advisory reports had been submitted to the requesting national agencies.

800. The Commission was pleased to note the increasing number of training courses, workshops,

study tours and related activities arranged and conducted by RMRDC. In particular, it commended the high quality of the technical papers and exchange of experiences at the Symposium on Tungsten Geology held in Jiangxi Province, China, with the support of UNDP and the Government of China; the 11-month post-graduate training courses arranged through RMRDC and given by the Geological Survey of India at Raipur, at no cost to the participants from ESCAP countries; and the isotopic age-dating network and rock-magnetism training projects carried out with technical and financial assistance from Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia and Thailand.

801. The Commission endorsed the views expressed by the Governing Council regarding the important and useful role of RMRDC in regional mineral resources development and the need to maintain its existing status as an organ of ESCAP (it should not become an intergovernmental body in the future).

802. Recognizing the need to ensure continuity and maintain the excellent momentum achieved by RMRDC, the Commission fully supported the strong recommendation of the Governing Council that UNDP should provide continued institutional support, especially the services of a co-ordinator at least until the end of 1984.

803. Recognizing the importance which the members attached to increasing the activities of RMRDC and its contribution to technology transfer to developing member countries, the Commission noted with great concern its precarious financial position with regard to cash contributions by the member countries for its local operational costs.

804. In that regard, it noted that the cash contributions amounting to \$29,500 for 1982 pledged by some member countries as detailed below fell far short of the estimated budget agreed to by the Governing Council for the year:

Bangladesh	\$ 1,000
India	2,000
Indonesia	10,000
Malaysia	5,000
Philippines	4,000
Republic of Korea	7,500
	<u>\$ 29,500</u>

The Commission therefore stressed the need for other developing member countries that had not yet made cash contributions to contribute to RMRDC, even in token amounts, and for donor countries and international organizations to provide increased financial assistance.

805. In order to relieve the difficult financial plight of RMRDC, the suggestion was made that cash support from overhead funds of the secretariat be provided to overcome the current budgetary crisis.

806. Deep appreciation was expressed of the generous support to RMRDC in the form of services of experts provided by the Governments of Finland, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the United Kingdom. Deep appreciation was also expressed to UNDP. The Commission noted with much appreciation the offer of the services of two additional specialists by the Federal Republic of Germany, the services of three experts by India and continued substantial financial and technical support by Japan.

807. To facilitate the provision of expert services to RMRDC by developing countries on a TCDC basis, it was suggested that the practice of overhead charges be waived.

Typhoon Committee

808. The Commission noted the report of the Committee on its fourteenth session (E/ESCAP/242) and commended the Committee on the progress of its work during the year.

809. It noted that the pre-experiment phase of the Typhoon Operational Experiment (TOPEX), which had been successfully held from 29 July to 18 August 1981, had revealed problems and deficiencies which should be solved or corrected prior to the main experiment to be carried out in 1982. It expressed the hope that the problems and deficiencies would be solved and corrected before the experiment was carried out.

810. The Commission noted that the important activities of the Committee included: TOPEX; the provision of expert services, in particular those provided by the telecommunications/electronics expert; the provision of various types of equipment and spare parts for such equipment; and the organization of training seminars, group training courses and fellowships. One member expressed the view that, while progress in the activities of the Committee had been satisfactory, there was still scope for improvement in meteorological and hydrological forecasting, the wider use of satellites and scientific research ships for obtaining information and also training of staff.

811. In view of the wide scope of its programme, considerable support was required for its implementation. In that connection, the Commission considered that the principal support for TOPEX should be provided by international organizations such as UNDP and UNEP. It was suggested that WMO be requested to take the necessary action to urge all its members to participate in the establishment of a special temporary voluntary fund for TOPEX. In that connection, the USSR expressed its readiness to assist the Committee in the planning and implementation of the TOPEX scientific programme and to provide experts on a non-reimbursable basis and technical equipment, including research vessels.

812. The secretariat was requested to consider allocating within the context of its mandate a portion of its resources to support priority projects of the Committee, particularly those in the hydrological and disaster prevention and preparedness components of its programme. It was also requested to assist the members of the Committee in improving the compilation of information on damage caused by typhoons and floods. In that connection, the Commission noted that, in addition to the administrative support which they provided to the Committee, ESCAP and WMO had continued to provide technical support through the organization of technical activities. In co-operation with China, ESCAP had organized the Group Study Visit to China on Methods of Watershed Management for Flood Loss Prevention and Management. It had also collaborated with UNESCO and WMO in organizing a training seminar on urban hydrology.

813. The Commission noted with appreciation the co-operation and assistance extended by a number of countries and international organizations to the Committee and to the Typhoon Committee secretariat. In particular, it noted with appreciation: the readiness of the Philippines to continue to provide the services of a co-ordinator and a meteorologist as well as host facilities and support staff for the Typhoon Committee secretariat; the provision of a hydrologist by Japan; and the organization of seminars and group training courses by Japan. Appreciation was also expressed of the considerable support extended by China, Japan, UNDP and UNEP to TOPEX activities. The hope was expressed that UNEP would continue to provide further support to the Committee for manning the International Experiment Centre at Tokyo during 1982 and 1983.

Regional institutions

Asian and Pacific Development Centre

814. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/272 and Corr.1 and E/ESCAP/273 and Add.1 and Corr.1. It also heard amplifications and clarifications on both of those reports and had before it additional documentation provided by the secretariat and the Director of APDC.

815. The Commission considered the progress in the implementation of its resolution 215 (XXXVII), particularly concerning the negotiations and discussions on the outstanding issues in the draft Charter of APDC. It noted that agreement had been reached during the current session concerning the reservations related to the two outstanding issues, namely, the chairmanship of the Management Board and the issue of financial contributions to the Centre. On the basis of that agreement, the Commission agreed that its desire that the representative of the host country be the Chairman of the Management Board for the first three years should be reflected in its resolution containing the Charter of APDC. It also agreed on amendments to article VIII,

paragraphs 2 (a) and 5, dealing with the Management Board, and article X, paragraph 1 (a), dealing with resources.

816. The Commission expressed its deep appreciation of the spirit of compromise shown by the Government of Malaysia in the resolution of those outstanding reservations and reiterated its gratitude for the generosity shown by that Government in the provision of host facilities and support to the Centre. Several delegations welcomed the resolution of the problems concerning the Charter and expressed the hope that, with the full support of its members and associate members, APDC could now proceed with the implementation of its work programme and that the ESCAP secretariat and APDC could proceed with the preparatory activities required for the transformation of APDC into a viable inter-governmental institution. The Commission adopted resolution 225 (XXXVIII) containing the Charter of the Centre.

817. The Commission, in considering the report of the Management Board of APDC, recognized that the Board should provide broad policy guidance to the Centre, including recommendations regarding the timely provision of resources, as outlined in the Statute. It requested the Director to ensure that adequate information on the financial status of APDC was made available to the members of the Commission in order that the Commission could fulfil its responsibility in that regard.

818. The Commission took note of the financial and managerial aspects of APDC on the basis of the information provided by the secretariat. It noted that the training and research activities of the Centre for 1981 had absorbed approximately \$US 400,000 of programme funds, which was only one third of its institutional costs for that year. It noted, however, that a portion of the institutional costs could be imputed to research and training activities. It nevertheless urged that constant attention be paid to maintaining an appropriate balance between institutional and programme costs. It noted that 8 Professional staff members, including the Director, out of the 16 programmed, had been employed by the end of 1981. It further noted the shortfall in the expenditure on institutional costs, including staff costs, under the government contributions portion during 1981. The shortfall had been due to the fact that the recruitment of Professional staff had proceeded at a slower rate than anticipated. That, in turn, was due to two main reasons: non-approval of the work programme until August 1981 and the difficulties encountered in attracting personnel in accordance with the levels of academic qualifications and experience considered desirable to establish APDC as a centre of excellence. The accumulated shortfall over the 18-month period had resulted in an unspent balance of approximately \$US 500,000. The Commission noted the views of the Director that that amount represented the minimum desirable financial reserve

to be carried at any one time and that any amount above that figure could be utilized for programme expenditure. It further noted that, against the resources currently committed by UNDP and the participating Governments, the anticipated expenditure for the implementation of activities in the four programme areas would result in a deficit of approximately \$US 300,000 in 1982 and \$US 250,000 for the first half of 1983.

819. The Commission also took note of the increasing responsibilities with respect to institutional support for APDC that would be placed on the participating Governments as UNDP phased out its institutional support from July 1983 and particularly in the year 1986, after which there would be no UNDP institutional support and member Governments would bear total responsibility. The Commission directed that, well before the change-over of APDC to an intergovernmental institution on 1 July 1983, the secretariat, together with the Director and the Management Board as appropriate, should undertake a re-examination of the institutional costs of the Centre in relation to its structure and organization and in the context of the achievement of the original objectives envisaged for it. The results of that evaluation should be conveyed to the Governments as those would assist them considerably in decision-making concerning future contributions to the Centre. The Commission noted that UNDP proposed to carry out a tripartite review of APDC towards the end of 1982 and that its report would be available to the Governments before the next session of the Commission.

820. The Commission further noted the contents of the work programme in the four programme areas, namely, energy planning and management, food security, human resources mobilization and integration of women in development, as approved by the Management Board. It also noted the transitional research programmes and the training and related activities which had been conducted by APDC in 1981.

821. After considering the information placed before it, the Commission suggested that close attention should continue to be paid to the maintenance of a judicious balance between training and research. It strongly recommended that a special programme of training and related assistance be formulated and implemented for the developing island countries of the Pacific and for the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries.

822. The Commission noted that none of the proposals of the Ramos report on activities in the Pacific had yet been implemented and noted the reasons for that as given by the Director. It also noted the assurance by the Director that APDC would ensure closer collaboration with SPC and SPEC and hoped that early measures could be taken in that regard. It recommended that the Director present a special report to the Management Board at its next session on proposals for training

activities in the Pacific and on steps taken to recruit personnel competent to undertake those activities. It noted the Director's assurances that in any one year APDC would allocate adequate funds to training activities in the Pacific.

823. One delegation reiterated the importance of APDC hitting its stride without delay and undertaking a programme of work which would demonstrate its relevance and usefulness to the region. It also indicated its readiness to assist APDC by sharing with it the expertise that had been developed in the area of micro-level planning and approaches. It stressed the need for special emphasis to be given to social development and urged that priority be accorded to strategies for strengthening the position of the self-employed.

824. That delegation recommended that the Director re-examine the four programme areas approved by the Management Board for research and related training with a view to ensuring that the number of programme areas to be taken up for implementation was in keeping with the resources available so that, if necessary, the resources could be devoted to the implementation of a smaller number of programme areas in depth rather than being thinly spread over four areas.

Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

825. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/274.

826. It noted that, despite the small size of its academic staff, SIAP had conducted the regular general course, two advanced-level courses/seminars, two courses in automatic data processing for statisticians, country courses in Guam, Nepal, Pakistan and Thailand and one workshop in Indonesia, and that it had participated in a number of ESCAP working groups.

827. The Commission recognized the importance of statistics in economic and social development, the need to allocate an adequate share of national resources to statistics and the importance of the continuation of SIAP as a training body in the region. It urged member and associate member Governments to increase their contributions to SIAP and to identify areas of statistical development that would benefit from international assistance which might be obtained with UNDP programme support.

828. The Government of Japan, as the host country, expressed its views on continuing support for SIAP and felt that the Director would continue to make efforts to manage SIAP effectively.

829. The Commission felt that every effort should be made to remove any obstacles to participation by member countries in the training activities of SIAP and similar institutions.

830. The Commission expressed its gratitude to the supporters of SIAP, including the host Government

of Japan, the members and associate members for their financial support, the Governments of Australia, India, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom for their programme support and other assisting organizations such as UNDP and FAO.

Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

831. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/279.

832. It emphasized that co-operation among developing countries was an organic component of the International Development Strategy. Nearly two and a half years after the adoption of the Arusha Programme for Collective Self-Reliance and Framework for Negotiations and nine months after the adoption of the comprehensive Caracas Programme of Action, progress in the implementation of the recommendations in those documents was not fully adequate. It was observed that global interdependence in development activities was necessary and inevitable, but it would be fully realized only when South-South co-operation was firmly established. It was stressed by one delegation that the principle of universality should be maintained in the sense that no United Nations organ should be utilized for the benefit of only one group to the exclusion of other groups; it was also important that ECDC/TCDC should not be used by one group of countries as a tool to confront other groups of countries but rather as a means of co-operation with other groups.

833. The Commission underlined the unique role ESCAP could have in the United Nations development system and in the region by translating the elements figuring in global negotiations into a well-defined action-oriented series of projects for co-operation among developing countries. What was required was painstaking and persistent work, the secretariat thereby enhancing the relevance of its own programmes and activities and ensuring optimum utilization of the resources available to it.

834. The Commission was informed of the meeting of the representatives of 44 developing countries at New Delhi in February 1982, at the invitation of the Government of India, to take stock of the current situation with regard to North-South issues and opportunities and perspectives for South-South co-operation. Several measures had been suggested to stimulate action and facilitate the speedier implementation and setting-up of machinery for technical support for ECDC programmes, including possibilities of specific initiatives for the financing of technical co-operation endeavours envisaged in the Caracas Programme of Action.

835. The Commission commended the efforts exerted by the ESCAP secretariat to provide the required responses to the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing TCDC and the relevant recommendations of the High-level Committee on the Review of

TCDC, which included the operationalization of the information system on TCDC and the various promotional and supportive activities summarized in document E/ESCAP/279.

836. The Commission shared the growing recognition that TCDC should increasingly transform the process of interchange of knowledge and experience into functional co-operation and specific transfer of appropriate technology. It was observed that the process obviously needed strengthening at the national level. Inventories of technologies developed and adapted in developing countries had to be drawn up systematically and in increasing areas, and such information should be made more freely available to other developing countries. Problems remained to be addressed with respect to sharing of technologies which had been uniquely developed at the national level at the cost of scarce resources.

837. The Commission stressed that national institutions of excellence must be concerned not merely with conducting seminars and training sources; they should become mutually agreed sites for demonstration and comparative study of specific instances of development and adaptation of technology. In the light of the needs and resources of developing countries, equipment available from developed and developing countries in the priority areas of development could and should be tested in mutually agreed centres. The proliferation of regional centres had to be avoided and the existing national institutions of excellence should gradually be upgraded to serve the purposes of regional testing centres in the field of energy as well as in various other developmental sectors.

838. The Commission recalled its earlier decision that economic and technical co-operation among developing countries should be inscribed as an agenda item of the annual sessions of the Commission as well as its subsidiary bodies. An opportunity was thus provided for the Commission's subsidiary bodies to identify specific technology that was available in developing countries for the individual sectors covered, to carry out comparative assessment and to agree on the modalities for and operational issues in their interchange.

839. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the ESCAP ECDC-TCDC publications. The secretariat should continue to identify and assess specific technologies, prototypes and equipment available in the developing countries and disseminate knowledge of them through such publications. There was also a need for more manuals and guidebooks in priority areas of vital concern to the least developed countries. The valuable interchange of experience and expertise taking place through specifically oriented study tours and seminars could be usefully systematized and disseminated for the purpose of operational follow-up programmes.

840. The Commission was gratified at the progress made in national arrangements for identification of

TCDC needs and capacities such as the ASEAN meeting of the heads of focal points of ASEAN countries to be held in May 1982 and to be hosted by the Government of the Philippines, the progress made in the finalization of a TCDC national plan in the Philippines and the preparatory steps taken in Thailand in that direction by a co-ordinating TCDC sub-committee set up under the auspices of the Technical and Economic Co-operation Committee. The Commission noted with interest that a seminar on TCDC for senior officials of Asia and the Pacific was scheduled to be held by UNDP in co-operation with ESCAP and hosted by the Government of India and lent its support to the objectives of the seminar, which was aimed not only at providing familiarization with the TCDC concept, its practices and arrangements but also at identifying national capacities and needs for TCDC. The inclusion of TCDC activities at the national level in the secretariat's future surveys for the annual sessions of the Commission was welcomed; a note of caution was expressed that the assessment of TCDC activities at the national level was best left to the national authorities.

841. The Commission also noted the rising level and increased national outlay and, in some cases, additional earmarking out of the country indicative planning figure (IPF) for TCDC. It identified further areas for TCDC, including those mentioned in the secretariat paper. It observed that the Commission's sessions provided a useful forum for joint identification of areas for co-operation.

842. One delegation noted that the implementation of far-reaching, progressive socio-economic changes, aimed at the elimination of obstacles to the development of productive forces and at the strengthening of national sovereignty, including the implementation of agrarian reforms, the strengthening of the state sector, the training of national personnel, the taking of effective measures to eliminate economic dependency and the exercise of strict control over the activities of transnational corporations, was a prerequisite for the development of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

843. The Commission stressed the financial constraints on further intensification of TCDC and also stressed in that regard the continued need for financial assistance from developed countries and multilateral aid-extending institutions. The Commission noted with appreciation the extrabudgetary assistance provided by the Netherlands to the promotion and support of ECDC and TCDC and the extrabudgetary assistance pledged by Japan to detailed studies in connection with south Asian co-operation at the secretariat's request. One delegation inquired whether it would be possible for 1 per cent of the net profit of ADB to be earmarked for the promotional financing of programmes involving countries of the ESCAP region. The suggestion was made that developed countries should increase the TCDC share in their technical assistance programmes

by providing training in developing countries using experts and equipment in such countries and supporting co-operative activities between the research institutes of developing countries.

844. The Commission reiterated that the allocation of country IPFs for TCDC should be left for decision at the national level and considered that the role of country IPFs earmarked for TCDC in the context of national budgetary allocations needed to be clarified. It was suggested that UNDP utilize its Programme Reserve as well as the regional IPF to promote TCDC programmes, as recommended by the High-level Committee on TCDC at its second session. Reference was also made to the need for economy in the use of the administrative overheads of regional co-operative arrangements and institutions.

845. The Commission was apprised by the representative of UNDP that for the new five-year period starting in 1982 the largest share of UNDP's total resources had been earmarked for the ESCAP region, and it was hoped that the generosity of the donor countries would allow the delivery of a programme amounting to \$US 1.9 billion. With the active participation of China, the programme presented a good example of intended universality. The actual programming and commitment of UNDP technical co-operation were being held at about 80 per cent of the plan figure.

846. The UNDP representative emphasized that there had been a significant increase in activities of a TCDC type. Government execution in UNDP technical co-operation projects was being tried in a number of countries. Beginnings had been made in hiring national expertise in UNDP technical co-operation projects. Increased use was being made of the equipment and training component, and advisory services were somewhat reduced. There was a growing interest in United Nations Volunteers, the great majority of whom were recruited from the ESCAP region. The TOKTEN (transfer of know-how through expatriate nationals) scheme seemed to be gaining in popularity. There was a continuing trend towards providing programme-type support to regional institutions rather than supporting institutional costs, which were increasingly being borne by the sponsoring Governments. The establishment of networks for co-operation was being increasingly supported and it was expected that their management and co-ordination would be increasingly entrusted to the national lead centres themselves.

847. The UNDP representative informed the Commission that UNDP intended, in consultation with ESCAP, to convene a meeting of government development assistance co-ordinators with UNDP and United Nations officials during 1983 to examine the implementation of the inter-country programme and, equally important, to consider also the ever-evolving needs of the region and advise on how the United Nations development system could make the optimum contribution to meet-

ing them. The proposed programme review meeting in 1983 would also take due note of the ideas and proposals being made for future UNDP support.

848. The Commission noted that the third session of the High-level Committee on TCDC would be held in 1983. It called upon the secretariat, in the submission of its input into the UNDP system-wide report to the High-level Committee, to include an analytical and quantitative treatment of the utilization of developing countries' capacities in the Commission's programmes and projects, to stress the role of the secretariat's ECDC-TCDC information system as the regional arm of the UNDP Information Referral System, the assistance required and the regional focal role of the Commission in the UNDP-proposed global project on a development information network. The deliberations and decisions of the Commission at its current session should also be brought to the attention of the High-level Committee.

849. The Commission was informed of the initiatives taken with regard to co-operation in the south Asian region, among Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, and noted that a clear consensus had emerged in favour of a carefully prepared step-by-step approach to the establishment of a co-operative framework. The Commission also noted the statement by the ESCAP secretariat that, in keeping with programme element 23.01.05 of its programme of work and priorities and in accordance with resolution 194 (XXXV), it stood ready to be of assistance. Two delegations which were participants in the ongoing efforts for south Asian co-operation agreed to the studies envisaged in the secretariat document. They expressed their appreciation of the extrabudgetary funding offered by Japan in response to an earlier secretariat request. The view was expressed that the ESCAP secretariat should take action in that regard if a joint request was received from the countries concerned.

850. The Commission emphasized the need for more adequate promotion of and support for the three identified priority areas of ECDC, the global system of trade preferences, co-operation among state trading organizations and the establishment of multinational marketing enterprises. The Commission emphasized that increased support to regional co-operation in those areas as well as support for interregional activities would be highly beneficial. In that context, the secretariat's proposal to initiate consultations with other regional commissions on a possible joint work programme on interregional co-operation was noted with interest; it was stressed that the identification of trade opportunities for specific products and the formulation of an operational co-operative project towards the amelioration of transport bottle-necks would provide a practical basis for interregional trade expansion.

Announcement of intended contributions

851. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/280, E/ESCAP/281, E/ESCAP/282 and Corr.1 and E/ESCAP/283.

852. The Executive Secretary explained the role of extrabudgetary resources in sustaining the programmes of ESCAP and the regional institutions, particularly in view of the non-growth of the allocations under the regular budget of the United Nations. He indicated the order of the requirements of the secretariat and of APDC and SIAP in the year 1982.

853. The Commission took note of the following contributions intended to be made in 1982.

Afghanistan

854. The representative of Afghanistan announced the intention of his Government to contribute an amount of \$US 3,000 for APDC.

Australia

855. The representative of Australia announced that the contribution of his Government for the year 1 July 1981-30 June 1982 for ESCAP projects and the regional institutions would amount to \$A 1,270,000 (approximately \$US 1,372,870). It would consist of the following:

(a) Assistance to ESCAP projects		
(i) Special study on food supply	\$A	50,000
(ii) Provision of an expert on industry	\$A	59,700
(iii) CCOP/SOPAC	\$A	75,000
(iv) Assistance to the Mekong Committee	\$A	165,000
(v) Project on women in sericulture	\$A	21,489
(vi) Energy statistics in the Pacific island countries	\$A	17,400
(vii) Project on the marine environment	\$A	87,000
(viii) RNAM	\$A	85,000
(ix) RCTT	\$A	75,000
(x) Still to be programmed	\$A	<u>144,411</u>
Subtotal	\$A	780,000
(b) Assistance to regional institutions		
(i) APDC	\$A	145,000
(ii) SIAP	\$A	<u>45,000</u>
Subtotal	\$A	190,000

(c) Assistance for activities in the South Pacific under the United Nations Development Advisory Team (UNDAT)	\$A 300,000
Total	\$A <u>1,270,000</u>

Bangladesh

856. The representative of Bangladesh announced the intention of his Government to raise its contribution to APDC by 20 per cent to an annual level of \$US 15,625. It would continue to contribute to SIAP at an annual level of \$US 5,000 and to RMRDC at the existing annual level of \$US 1,000 and also make a contribution of \$US 1,000 towards the ESCAP work programme in 1982. The total contribution of Bangladesh in 1982 would be \$US 22,625.

Burma

857. The representative of Burma announced the intention of his Government to contribute \$US 2,000 towards the ESCAP work programme in 1982.

China

858. The representative of China announced that the contribution of his Government to ESCAP in 1982 would amount to approximately \$US 119,364, consisting of yuan renminbi 120,000 (to be expended in yuan renminbi on activities of economic and technical co-operation to be held by ESCAP in China) and \$US 50,000 (to cover the international travel expenses relating to the aforesaid activities).

France

859. The representative of France announced the intention of his Government to provide assistance of up to F 400,000 (approximately \$US 66,666) for the implementation of an ESCAP project on energy planning. In addition, his Government would provide non-reimbursable assistance in the form of nine experts, as follows:

- (a) Information and statistics;
- (b) Development administration (UNDAT);
- (c) Documentation or photo interpretation (for the Mekong Committee);
- (d) Geology of marine depth;
- (e) Mineral and uranium geology;
- (f) Study of the pre-Tertiary soil;
- (g) Remote sensing;
- (h) An expert for the CGPRT Centre;
- (i) Inland waterways.

The Government of France would also finance a week-long meeting on railway electrification and two short-term missions on agro-climatology for the Mekong Committee and on mineral resources. The aforesaid assistance would be of the order of the non-reimbursable assistance offered by France in 1981, valued at about \$US 800,000.

Hong Kong

860. The representative of Hong Kong announced the intention of his Government to contribute \$US 10,000 to SIAP and \$US 10,200 to APDC.

India

861. The representative of India announced that the cash contribution of his Government in 1982 would amount to approximately \$US 158,497, consisting of:

- (a) Rs 500,000 towards institutional support for RCTT;
- (b) \$US 2,000 to RMRDC;
- (c) \$US 10,000 for SIAP;
- (d) \$US 90,000 for APDC.

In addition, the Government of India would provide training facilities at the Geological Survey of India Training Centre at Raipur and the services of three experts in mineral exploration to RMRDC on a TCDC basis. Assistance for ESCAP activities in the field of population and to the CGPRT Centre was under discussion. The Government of India would provide host facilities for three ESCAP meetings in 1982.

Indonesia

862. The representative of Indonesia announced that his Government intended to contribute \$US 272,680 towards the ESCAP work programme in 1982. That would consist of:

- (a) \$US 20,000 for CCOP;
- (b) \$US 10,000 for RMRDC;
- (c) \$M 553,312 for SEATRADC.

In addition, Indonesia would continue to provide the host facilities, in kind, for RMRDC. The Government of Indonesia expected to maintain the aforesaid level of contributions to CCOP and RMRDC through 1983 and 1984.

863. The Government of Indonesia would provide \$US 40,000 to SIAP in 1982 and expected to maintain that level during 1983 and 1984. It would provide \$US 47,300 to APDC.

864. The total Indonesian contribution for 1982 was expected to be \$US 359,980.

Iran

865. The representative of Iran announced that the national budget would be finalized by the end of March 1982 and that the level of his Government's contribution would be indicated thereafter.

Japan

866. The representative of Japan announced that the total assistance of his Government for 1982 was expected to be in the order of \$US 5.2 million, composed of:

(a) \$US 1.5 million for the implementation of ESCAP projects under the Japan/ESCAP Co-operation Fund;

(b) \$US 30,000 for the Mekong Committee;

(c) \$US 950,000 for training in Japan;

(d) \$US 1,210,000 for the provision of experts on a non-reimbursable loan basis;

(e) A cash contribution of \$US 583,500 for SIAP;

(f) Assistance in kind towards host facilities for SIAP amounting to \$US 673,000.

(g) \$US 270,000 for APDC.

Malaysia

867. The representative of Malaysia announced that the contribution of his Government in 1982 would amount to approximately \$US 269,439, consisting of the following:

(a) \$US 20,000 for CCOP;

(b) \$US 20,000 for the CGPRT Centre;

(c) \$US 5,000 for RMRDC;

(d) \$US 7,000 for SIAP;

(e) Annual contribution of \$US 42,000 for APDC;

(f) Contribution of \$M 400,000 to meet the local operating costs of APDC.

Mongolia

868. The representative of Mongolia announced that his Government would contribute a sum, in national currency, equivalent to \$US 1,000 for the implementation of the ESCAP work programme.

Netherlands

869. The representative of the Netherlands announced that his Government intended to contribute an amount of f. 250,000 (approximately \$US 96,900) towards the

ESCAP programme on health and society; its contribution for the other projects of ESCAP would be announced in the near future upon the finalization of budgetary appropriations.¹ The Netherlands would also contribute f. 250,000 each for SIAP and APDC.

New Zealand

870. The representative of New Zealand announced that the contribution of his Government towards the ESCAP work programme for the year 1982/83 was being determined. Restraints on public expenditure were necessary but it was his delegation's hope that it might be possible to maintain the level of the contribution made in the previous year (\$NZ 143,000). New Zealand's contributions to APDC and SIAP were also under active consideration.

Pakistan

871. The representative of Pakistan announced that his Government would contribute \$US 45,000 to SIAP and APDC.

Philippines

872. The representative of the Philippines announced that the contribution of his Government in 1982 would amount to \$US 302,000, composed of the following:

(a) \$US 20,000 for CCOP;

(b) \$US 5,000 for the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity;

(c) \$US 4,000 for RMRDC;

(d) \$US 25,000 for the CGPRT Centre;

(e) \$US 50,000 for RNAM;

(f) \$US 64,000 for APDC;

(g) \$US 20,000 for SIAP;

(h) A contribution, in kind, amounting to approximately \$US 114,000, including (i) \$US 14,000 in host facilities for the Typhoon Committee, (ii) \$US 50,000 in existing host facilities for RNAM and (iii) \$US 50,000 for the expansion of RNAM facilities as might be deemed necessary.

Republic of Korea

873. The representative of the Republic of Korea announced that the contribution of his Government in 1982 would amount to \$US 105,500, consisting of the following:

(a) \$US 20,000 for RCTT;

(b) \$US 15,000 for CCOP;

¹ The contribution made by the Netherlands towards the ESCAP work programme in 1981 was about \$US 2,136,000.

- (c) \$US 7,500 for RMRDC;
- (d) \$US 10,500 for RNAM;
- (e) \$US 17,500 for SIAP;
- (f) \$US 35,000 for APDC.

Singapore

874. The representative of Singapore announced that his Government was contributing \$US 3,000 annually to SIAP for the 1980-1984 cycle. Its contribution to APDC was under consideration.

Sri Lanka

875. The representative of Sri Lanka announced the intention of his Government to contribute a total amount of \$US 24,833, consisting of the following:

- (a) \$US 2,500 for RCTT;
- (b) \$US 3,000 for SIAP;
- (c) \$US 19,333 for APDC.

His Government was also considering making a contribution to RMRDC.

Thailand

876. The representative of Thailand announced the intention of his Government to make a contribution of \$US 45,000 in 1982, consisting of:

- (a) \$US 30,000 for CCOP;
- (b) \$US 5,000 for RCTT;
- (c) \$US 10,000 for SIAP.

The level of its contribution to APDC was under consideration by the Government.

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

877. The representative of the USSR announced that, as in the previous years, his Government would provide host facilities for UNDP-funded seminars/study tours in the USSR, studies through Soviet experts, fellowships in the USSR etc.

United Kingdom

878. The Government of the United Kingdom intended to contribute £ 52,000 (approximately \$US 95,680) to ESCAP for 1982.

United States

879. The representative of the United States announced his Government's contributions to CCOP and CCOP/SOPAC.

Federal Republic of Germany

880. The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany announced that the contribution of his Government in 1982 would amount to about \$US 1.4 million, marking an increase of about \$US 400,000 over the previous years. Out of that amount, \$US 500,000 would cover ongoing projects and \$US 900,000 would be utilized for new projects which would be undertaken in pursuance of special agreements to be reached between ESCAP and the Federal Republic of Germany. Those figures would be confirmed later.

Norway

881. The Government of Norway had contributed \$US 690,447.10 in 1982 for the ESCAP ship users' co-operation project.

Sweden

882. The Commission noted that provision of financial support to ESCAP's regional project on the protection of the marine environment was under active consideration by the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA). The project was expected to attract a SIDA input of \$US 2,145,000 through its three-year period of implementation, of which about \$US 970,000 would be for the financial year July 1982/June 1983. A decision in that regard was expected by June 1982.

883. The intended contributions for 1982 indicated at the session amounted to \$US 12,382,801. Out of that amount, \$US 9,784,714 was meant for the work programme of ESCAP, \$US 1,065,542 for APDC and \$US 1,532,545 for SIAP. Not included in those figures were contributions by some of the member countries which could not make their announcements since the budgetary processes of their Governments had not been completed. Also not included were contributions of some non-member donors which were not represented at the session. Indications as to the intended contributions of those countries were expected to be received later.

884. The Commission emphasized the need for the member countries to make enhanced contributions towards the programme activities of ESCAP and the regional institutions and projects. In keeping with that emphasis, there was a notable increase in the contributions announced by most of the member countries, as compared with the levels of their contributions in previous years. Also significant was a trend of increasing support for the regional institutions. The Commission expressed the hope that that trend would be further strengthened in the coming years.

885. At the same time, the Commission appreciated the difficulties arising out of excessive dependence by ESCAP on extrabudgetary resources. It urged that the authorities at United Nations Headquarters earnestly consider a larger allocation of resources to ESCAP from the regular budget of the United Nations, in consonance

with the size and population of the region, its poverty situation and the immensity and diversity of its development problems.

886. The Executive Secretary expressed his gratitude to the donor countries for their generous announcements of intended contributions. He stated that it would be the constant endeavour of the secretariat to ensure that those resources were put to the best use. The secretariat would continue to take steps to improve the quality of its projects and keep them in line with the priorities and concerns of the Commission.

Activities and recommendations of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

887. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/284, which was introduced by the Deputy Permanent Representative of India to ESCAP, who had been designated by ACPR for that purpose.

888. The Commission recalled that it had entrusted ACPR with the specific tasks of reviewing its priority areas and the terms of reference of the legislative committees. In addition, ACPR had considered a number of important matters arising out of the previous Commission session as well as other issues on which the Executive Secretary had sought advice. Those matters included a review of the conduct of the thirty-seventh session of the Commission, the special study on food supply, progress on operations evaluations, the *ESCAP Delegates Handbook*, strengthening or reorientation of ACPR, review and appraisal of "other group activities", strengthening of interagency co-ordination, harmonization of the work programme format, the draft Charter of APDC and review of the conduct of legislative committee meetings. ACPR had also undertaken an exercise in self-assessment, reviewing its performance since its inception and considering how it might improve the effectiveness of its deliberations. ACPR felt that its existing terms of reference provided it with sufficient flexibility to respond to the demands made of it.

889. The Commission adopted resolution 222 (XXXVIII) on the terms of reference of its legislative committees.

890. The Commission noted that ACPR played an important role in maintaining regular contact between the secretariat and member Governments, as well as among member Governments themselves. It stressed that ACPR's essential function was an advisory one to

the Executive Secretary and that ACPR also enabled the Executive Secretary to keep in touch with the views of member Governments. However, ACPR could be called upon by the Commission to undertake certain specific tasks. It was also noted that ACPR could play a valuable role in keeping the representatives of member Governments in other United Nations forums informed of the problems and concerns of the region in general and of the secretariat in particular. It was stressed that the generally informal nature of ACPR should be maintained and that a proper balance should be struck between discussion of issues and more routine administrative matters.

891. The Commission endorsed the pertinent recommendations of ACPR, which were that the relevant aspects of the guide-lines for streamlining the work programme endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-sixth session should be taken into account in the priority-setting process and that the priority-setting procedures should be reviewed and appraised after a few years.

892. Various suggestions were made for the future work of ACPR, to be undertaken in consultation with the Executive Secretary. It was suggested that there was a need for a review of the structure, frequency and duration of Commission sessions. It was also suggested that the subject of the conduct of ESCAP's meetings should be further reviewed with a view to devising better procedural arrangements. ACPR might also consider the present arrangements for the preparation and endorsement of the calendar of meetings by the Commission. The Commission requested the Executive Secretary to examine those issues in consultation with ACPR and report on them to the Commission at its next session.

Date and venue of the thirty-ninth session of the Commission

893. The Commission decided that its thirty-ninth session would be held at ESCAP headquarters at Bangkok some time in late March 1983. The Executive Secretary, after consultation with member Governments, would determine the exact dates of the session and would inform the members of the Commission accordingly.

Adoption of the annual report of the Commission

894. At its 584th meeting on 2 April 1982, the Commission unanimously adopted the draft report prepared by the Technical and Drafting Committee.

Chapter IV

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION

220 (XXXVIII). Statute of the Regional Co-ordination
Centre for Research and Development of
Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber
Crops in the Humid Tropics of
Asia and the Pacific¹

Annex

STATUTE OF THE REGIONAL CO-ORDINATION
CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
OF COARSE GRAINS, PULSES, ROOTS AND
TUBER CROPS IN THE HUMID TROPICS
OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

*The Economic and Social Commission for Asia
and the Pacific,*

Establishment and status

Recalling its resolution 174 (XXXIII) of 29 April 1977, in which the Executive Secretary was requested to take the necessary steps for the establishment of a regional co-ordination centre for research and development of coarse grains, pulses, roots and tuber crops in the humid tropics of Asia and the Pacific at an early date,

Recalling further the unanimous support given at its thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh sessions to its request for the early establishment and operation of such a centre,

Noting with satisfaction the action taken by the Executive Secretary towards the implementation of the directives of the Commission, including the signing of the host country agreement between the Government of Indonesia and the United Nations on 29 April 1981, the appointment of the Director and the establishment of the Centre with effect from 29 April 1981,

Noting with appreciation the generous financial and technical support provided by the Governments of Indonesia, Australia, France, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the implementation of the project,

Noting also the endorsement of the draft Statute of the Centre at the fourth session of the Committee on Agricultural Development, held at Bangkok in January 1982,

Adopts the Statute of the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution, as a basis for the Centre's operations.

583rd meeting
1 April 1982

1. The Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific (hereinafter referred to as "the Centre") established in April 1981 by the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), pursuant to Commission resolution 174 (XXXIII) and the directives given by the Commission at its thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh sessions, shall continue in existence under the terms of this Statute.

2. Membership in the Centre shall be open to all members and associate members of ESCAP.

3. The Centre has the status of a subsidiary body of ESCAP and the staff of the Centre forms part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

Objectives and functions

4. The objective of the Centre is to provide members and associate members of ESCAP with expert technical services and facilities required for the development of production, utilization and trade of CGPRT crops by strengthening national research and development activities as a means of solving food problems, increasing employment opportunities, achieving better income distribution and a balanced diet as well as accelerating close linkages with livestock and other industries. In fulfilling this objective, the Centre will take into consideration the interrelationship of problems and programmes of the humid tropics as well as semi-arid and other areas.

5. In pursuance of the objective stated in paragraph 4, the Centre, in co-operation with other bodies as appropriate, shall, as requested by the countries concerned, have the following functions:

(a) Provision of assistance for the development of an agricultural co-operative research network;

¹ See paras. 378-382 above.

(b) Preparation of agro-economic studies, including social aspects;

(c) Training of national research and extension workers;

(d) Collection, processing and dissemination of information.

Structure and headquarters

6. The Centre shall have a Governing Board, a Director and staff, and a Technical Advisory Committee.

7. The headquarters of the Centre shall be at Bogor, Indonesia.

8. The Financial and Staff Regulations of the United Nations shall apply to the Centre except as may otherwise be provided by the General Assembly. The Financial and Staff Rules and the administrative instructions of the United Nations shall apply to the Centre except as may otherwise be decided by the Secretary-General.

Governing Board

9. The Centre shall have a Governing Board (hereinafter referred to as "the Board") consisting of a representative nominated by the host country of the Centre and not less than eight representatives nominated by other members and associate members of ESCAP elected by the Commission. The Director of the Centre shall serve as Secretary of the Board.

10. Other than the representative nominated by the host country of the Centre, the members of the Board shall be elected for a period of three years, but shall be eligible for re-election. The first election of members and associate members to the Governing Board will be held at the Commission session in 1982.

11. Governments other than those specified in paragraph 9 above, as well as international and national bodies deemed appropriate by the Board, may be invited to attend its meetings as observers.

12. The first, and inaugural, regular session of the Board shall be convened by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP as soon as possible after the adoption of the Statute.

13. The Board shall meet at least once a year and shall adopt its own rules of procedure. The Board shall meet in special session whenever a majority of its members requests the Executive Secretary to convene a special session.

14. A quorum for meetings of the Board shall be a majority of its members.

15. Each member of the Board shall have one vote. Decisions of the Board shall be made by consensus or, where this is not possible, by a majority of the members present and voting.

16. The Board shall at each regular session elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman. They shall hold office until the next regular session of the Board. The Chairman or, in his absence, the Vice-Chairman shall preside at meetings of the Board.

17. The Board shall review the operations of the Centre and shall consider and adopt the annual and long-term programmes of work of the Centre. The Board shall submit an annual report on the implementation of programmes to the Commission at each of its sessions.

Director and staff

18. The Centre shall have a Director who shall be appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations after consultation with the Board for a term of three years. The first Director may be appointed by the Secretary-General before the establishment of the Board for a period of up to two years.

19. The Director shall be responsible to the Executive Secretary of ESCAP for the administration of the Centre and the implementation of its programmes.

20. The Director shall prepare and submit to the Board an annual report on the activities, administration, management and financial status of the Centre.

21. The staff of the Centre shall be appointed by the appropriate United Nations administrative authorities.

Technical Advisory Committee

22. The Centre shall have a Technical Advisory Committee (hereinafter referred to as "TAC"), consisting of eminent scientists and experts directly connected with technical aspects, representing various fields of agricultural research. The maximum number of members of TAC shall be 12. The members of TAC shall be appointed by the Director of the Centre in consultation with the Executive Secretary of ESCAP. Representatives of ESCAP, UNDP and FAO shall be *ex officio* members of TAC. Representatives of other national and international research institutes and agencies concerned shall be invited to participate, as necessary.

23. TAC shall be responsible for advising the Director on the formulation of the work programmes and on other technical matters concerning the operations of the Centre.

24. TAC shall meet at least once a year and shall be convened by the Director of the Centre.

25. The Chairman of TAC shall be elected by TAC itself.

Resources of the Centre

26. The financial resources of the Centre shall be composed of:

(a) The voluntary contributions of the members and associate members of the Commission;

(b) Funds received from other Governments;

(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.

27. The Centre may also receive contributions of a non-financial nature.

28. The Commission shall at each session review the state of the resources of the Centre, on the basis of the report of the Board, and make such recommendations as it may deem appropriate, to ensure that timely and adequate resources are always available to the Centre and its programmes.

29. The Centre shall be administered on a sound economic and financial basis.

Relations with other United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and other international institutions

30. 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.

221 (XXXVIII). Asia-Pacific trade expositions²

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Reaffirming its commitment to the promotion of collective self-reliance among the developing countries of the region, consistent with the aims of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, through, *inter alia*, the promotion of international trade and the dissemination and exchange of information on industrial and technological capabilities,

Recalling its resolution 61 (XXI) of 25 March 1965 on an Asian International Trade Fair,

Recalling further the successful Asian trade fairs held at Bangkok in 1966, Teheran in 1969 and New Delhi in 1972, in which there was wide participation by members and associate members and which contributed significantly to the promotion of regional and interregional trade,

Recalling also the decision of the Subgroup for a Network of Trade Promotion Centres of the Trade Co-operation Group that an Asian trade fair would contribute to the promotion of intraregional trade,

Recognizing that the holding of international trade fairs and expositions constitutes a practical means of fostering regional economic co-operation and international trade and of disseminating information on trade, industrial and technological capabilities,

Convinced that participation in international trade fairs and expositions by all members and associate members will contribute greatly to their success,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to consult interested member countries and relevant international organizations on the possibilities of organizing a trade exposition among member countries of the Commission and of providing assistance for the participation of those member countries of the region which require such assistance;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in the event of such an exposition being held, to evaluate the benefits to member countries of the region with a view to the Commission's deciding on the question of holding such expositions on a regular basis, as may be convenient and appropriate, at suitable venues within the region;

3. *Urges* individual members and associate members to consider the possibility of hosting such expositions;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

*583rd meeting
1 April 1982*

222 (XXXVIII). Terms of reference of the legislative committees of the Commission³

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 210 (XXXVI) of 29 March 1980, in which it, *inter alia*, requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission, to adjust or reformulate, as might be necessary, the terms of reference of the legislative committees, in line with the changes in the conference structure of the Commission, to submit the proposed terms of reference to the respective legislative committees for review

² See paras. 512-513 above.

³ See paras. 888-889 above.

and to present them for consideration and approval by the Commission,

Recalling also its resolution 219 (XXXVII) of 20 March 1981, in which it, *inter alia*, emphasized the need 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, and to enhance the responsiveness of the United Nations in all appropriate sectors to the needs of the developing countries,

Noting that proposed terms of reference formulated in consultation with the Advisory Committee have been reviewed during the past two years by the respective legislative committees and by the Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, held in October 1980, in the case of the terms of reference of the Committee on Social Development,

Noting further that such a review has not been possible in respect of the terms of reference of the Committee on Population consequent to the Commission's decision at its thirty-seventh session to cancel the Committee's 1981 session in favour of the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference, to be held in 1982,

Mindful of the desirability of the use of similar terminology, as far as possible, in the terms of reference of all the committees,

Decides that the terms of reference of its legislative committees shall be as given in the annex to the present resolution.

*583rd meeting
1 April 1982*

Annex

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Committee on Agricultural Development shall have the following functions:

1. To review and analyse the situation as regards food and agricultural development in the region in the context of economic and social development;
2. To consider and make recommendations on the plans and programmes in the field of food and agricultural development in the region, with particular emphasis on food and agricultural policies and strategies for rural development;
3. To review and evaluate the activities of the secretariat in the field of food and agricultural development and make recommendations on the formulation and implementation of the programme of work in this field, with particular emphasis on activities in priority

areas as defined by the Commission from time to time, taking into account the work being done in this field by the United Nations and other relevant organizations, particularly the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

4. To perform such other functions and activities as the Commission may request in all matters concerning food and agricultural development in the region;
5. To liaise as necessary with, and to take into account the relevant recommendations of, other legislative committees established by the Commission and other relevant bodies.

The Committee shall meet every odd year and report to the Commission.

COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

The Committee on Development Planning shall have the following functions:

1. To review and analyse the progress of development in the region and to make recommendations on developmental strategies and policies of importance to the region;
2. To review the use of planning in the region and to make recommendations on matters concerning plan formulation, implementation and evaluation;
3. To review and make recommendations for policy-oriented research and action on problems of development and planning of importance for the region, particularly those which need priority attention and which are relevant for the promotion of regional and sub-regional co-operation;
4. To review and evaluate the activities of the secretariat in the fields of (a) development planning, projections and policies and (b) transnational corporations, and to make recommendations on the formulation and implementation of the programme of work in these fields, with particular emphasis on activities in priority areas as defined by the Commission from time to time, taking into account the work being done in these fields by the United Nations and other relevant organizations, particularly the Asian and Pacific Development Centre;
5. To perform such other functions and activities as the Commission may request in all matters concerning (a) development planning, projections and policies and (b) transnational corporations;
6. To liaise as necessary with, and to take into account the relevant recommendations of, other legislative committees established by the Commission and other relevant bodies.

The Committee shall meet every even year and report to the Commission.

**COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, TECHNOLOGY,
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND THE
ENVIRONMENT**

The Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment shall have the following functions:

1. To review and analyse the plans, policies and strategies and examine problems of industrial development in the region;
2. To review and make recommendations on the implementation of projects for industrial development, including those identified by the former Asian Industrial Development Council, whose activities shall be subsumed under those of the Committee;
3. To review and analyse the progress and problems of science and technology and to recommend measures for strengthening technological capabilities and facilitating transfer of technology in the region;
4. To review and analyse the progress and problems and recommend measures pertaining to human settlements and the environment, taking account of national, regional and global efforts in these fields;
5. To promote regional and subregional co-operation in the fields of industry, technology, human settlements and the environment;
6. To review and evaluate the activities of the secretariat in the fields of industry, technology, human settlements and the environment and make recommendations on the formulation and implementation of the programme of work in these fields, with particular emphasis on activities in priority areas as defined by the Commission from time to time, taking into account the work being done in these fields by the United Nations and other relevant organizations, particularly the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development and the United Nations Environment Programme;
7. To perform such other functions and activities as the Commission may request in all matters concerning industry, technology, human settlements and the environment in the region;
8. To liaise as necessary with, and to take into account the relevant recommendations of, other legislative committees established by the Commission and other relevant bodies.

The Committee shall meet once every year and take up separately, but not exclusively, every second year, the subjects of industry and technology, and human settlements and the environment, and report to the Commission.

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Natural Resources shall have the following functions:

1. To review and analyse the progress in natural resources development in the region, in particular in the field of water, energy and mineral resources development;
2. To discuss in depth technical and other relevant subjects dealing with water, energy and mineral resources;
3. To consider and make recommendations on the policies, strategies, methods and techniques for the proper investigation, development and utilization of water, energy and mineral resources, having due regard to economic, social and environmental considerations, to identify problems impeding the desirable rate of progress in these fields, and to recommend appropriate measures, including required training programmes;
4. To promote regional and subregional co-operation in water, energy and mineral resources development among the countries concerned;
5. To review and evaluate the activities of the secretariat in the field of water, energy and mineral resources development and to make recommendations on the formulation and implementation of the programme of work in these fields, with particular emphasis on activities in priority areas as defined by the Commission from time to time, taking into account the work being done in these fields by the United Nations and other relevant organizations;
6. To perform such other functions and activities as the Commission may request in all matters concerning water, energy and mineral resources development in the region;
7. To liaise as necessary with, and to take into account the relevant recommendations of, other legislative committees established by the Commission and other relevant bodies.

The Committee shall meet once every year and take up separately, but not exclusively, every third year, the subjects of energy, water and mineral resources development, and report to the Commission.

COMMITTEE ON POPULATION

The Committee on Population shall have the following functions:

1. To review and analyse the current and prospective population situation in the countries of the region;
2. To consider and make recommendations on all aspects of population questions in the light of their

interrelationship with the development process with a view to expediting the achievement of balanced development;

3. To review and evaluate the activities of the secretariat in the field of population and to make recommendations on the formulation and implementation of the programme of work in this field, with particular emphasis on activities in priority areas as defined by the Commission from time to time, taking into account the work being done in this field by the United Nations and other relevant organizations;

4. To perform such other functions and activities as the Commission may request in all matters concerning population problems in the region;

5. To liaise as necessary with, and to take into account the relevant recommendations of, other legislative committees established by the Commission and other relevant bodies.

The Committee shall meet every odd year and report to the Commission.

COMMITTEE ON SHIPPING, AND TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications shall have two wings, which shall have the following functions respectively:

A. Shipping, ports and inland waterways

1. To review and analyse the current and prospective world developments in shipping, ports and inland waterways as they affect the countries of the region, and to make appropriate recommendations to facilitate national, subregional, regional and international trade through adequate, economic and efficient shipping, port and associated services;

2. To review and promote the development of national merchant marines in the countries of the region with a view to expanding their maritime transport capacity for the handling of their sea-borne trade and facilitating the flow of goods and passengers;

3. To promote co-operation between countries at the subregional, regional and interregional levels in the use of their shipping resources and to assist and support subregional organizations working in this field;

4. To promote the development of national measures or legislation where appropriate in the maritime field consistent with the needs of the developing countries of the region and with international maritime legislation and practice;

5. To promote the exchange of know-how, experience and techniques in the fields of management

and manpower development relating to shipping, ports and inland waterways;

6. To review the development of ports and port facilities, including information and data systems, in the countries of the region with a view to recommending measures for their development so as to meet the demands of national, subregional, regional and interregional trade;

7. To study and evaluate, in association with the transport and communications, tourism and facilitation of international traffic wing of the Committee, the implications of the international multimodal transport system and combined transport operations for the ESCAP member and associate member countries, especially the developing countries;

8. To encourage the establishment of national maritime organizations in the countries of the region, as a means of ensuring compliance with Commission resolution 168 (XXXII);

9. To consider and recommend measures for establishing shippers' organizations and for promoting co-operation among the shippers in the region, including the organization of training programmes, seminars, workshops etc.;

10. To review and evaluate the activities of the secretariat in the fields of shipping, ports and inland waterways and to make recommendations on the formulation and implementation of the programme of work in these fields, with particular emphasis on activities in priority areas as defined by the Commission from time to time, taking into account the work being done in these fields by the United Nations and other relevant organizations, particularly the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Labour Organisation and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

11. To perform such other functions and activities as the Commission may request in all matters concerning shipping, ports and inland waterways in the region;

12. To liaise as necessary with, and to take into account the relevant recommendations of, other legislative committees established by the Commission and other relevant bodies.

B. Transport and communications, tourism and facilitation of international traffic

13. To review and analyse current and projected developments in the fields of transport and communications, tourism and facilitation of international traffic by all modes of transport in the region;

14. To recommend policies, strategies, methods and techniques for the further development of transport

and communications, tourism and facilitation of international traffic by all modes of transport in the region;

15. To promote the exchange of know-how, experience and techniques including integrated planning, operations, management and manpower development of transport and communications, tourism and facilitation of international traffic by all modes of transport in the region;

16. To promote regional and subregional co-operation, and interregional co-ordination when necessary, in the fields of transport and communications, tourism and facilitation of international traffic by all modes of transport;

17. To review and evaluate the activities of the secretariat in the fields of transport and communications, tourism and facilitation of international traffic by all modes of transport and make recommendations on the formulation and implementation of the programme of work in these fields, with particular emphasis on activities in priority areas as defined by the Commission from time to time, taking into account the work being done in these fields by the United Nations and other relevant organizations, particularly the International Telecommunication Union, the Universal Postal Union, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the World Tourism Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the International Labour Organisation;

18. To perform such other functions and activities as the Commission may request in all matters concerning transport and communications, tourism and facilitation of international traffic by all modes of transport, in the region;

19. To liaise as necessary with, and to take into account the relevant recommendations of, other legislative committees established by the Commission and other relevant bodies.

The Committee shall meet once every year, with each wing meeting in alternate years, taking up shipping, ports and inland waterways in even years and transport and communications, tourism and facilitation of international traffic in odd years. It shall report to the Commission.

COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Committee on Social Development shall have the following functions:

1. To review and analyse the situation as regards social development in the region;
2. To consider and make recommendations on appropriate strategies and measures for the attainment of social justice, including the fostering of the welfare of children, popular participation and integration and

greater participation of women and youth in the development process, social defence, social consequences of the problem of displaced persons, alleviation of poverty, promotion of equitable distribution of development benefits and improvement of the quality of life, taking into account the relevant basic principles and objectives set out in the United Nations Declaration on Social Progress and Development;

3. To review and evaluate the activities of the secretariat in the field of social development and make recommendations on the formulation and implementation of the programme of work in this field, with particular emphasis on activities in priority areas as defined by the Commission from time to time, taking into account the mandates and the work being done in this field by the United Nations and other relevant organizations, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organisation, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

4. To perform such other functions and activities as the Commission may request in all matters concerning social development in the region;

5. To liaise as necessary with, and to take into account the relevant recommendations of, other legislative committees established by the Commission and other relevant bodies.

The Committee shall meet every even year and report to the Commission.

COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS

The Committee on Statistics shall have the following functions:

1. To review and analyse the progress in the development of statistics in the region;
2. To promote the improvement of the quality of statistics and the application of new techniques, arrange for the exchange of information and experience on statistical work and methods among member countries and recommend, when necessary, programmes of technical assistance, training, education and research in the various fields of statistics and their applications;
3. To promote the adaptation of international statistical standards to the conditions and needs of countries of the region, bearing in mind the intrinsic importance of maintaining comparability and harmonization of international statistical indicators and methods;
4. To review and evaluate the activities of the secretariat in the field of statistics and to make recommendations on the formulation and implementation of the

programme of work in this field, with particular emphasis on activities in priority areas as defined by the Commission from time to time, taking into account the work being done in this field by the United Nations and other relevant organizations, particularly the United Nations Statistical Office and the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific;

5. To advise, through its Director, the Advisory Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific on the nature and priorities of the statistical training requirements of the countries of the region for its consideration of the work programme of the Institute;

6. To perform such other functions and activities as the Commission may request in all matters concerning statistics in the region;

7. To liaise as necessary with, and to take into account the relevant recommendations of, other legislative committees established by the Commission and other relevant bodies.

The Committee shall meet every odd year and report to the Commission.

COMMITTEE ON TRADE

The Committee on Trade shall have the following functions:

1. To review and analyse the trade and commercial policies of the countries of the region and to promote the development of trade between the countries of the region and between the region and the rest of the world, in particular trade expansion among the developing countries, with a view to assisting the economic development of the countries of the region;

2. To review the progress in, and to promote the development of techniques and methods for, trade development and expansion, including the training of trade personnel;

3. To consider problems of international trade, particularly those affecting:

(a) The regional, subregional and interregional trade, as appropriate, of countries in Asia and the Pacific, in particular the developing countries, including matters relating to financial institutions and financing of trade, export credit insurance, insurance and re-insurance, debt servicing, standardization of commodities, commercial arbitration, customs administration, marketing and market research, product development and packaging;

(b) Raw materials and commodities, including the promotion of subregional, regional and international co-operation in raw materials and commodities of socio-economic importance to the member countries, particularly developing countries;

(c) The special problems of the least developed countries, the developing island countries, the land-locked countries and the most seriously affected countries;

(d) Organization and machinery for trade and commerce, having due regard to the work being done in these fields by the United Nations and other international bodies;

4. To review and evaluate the activities of the secretariat in the field of trade, and to make recommendations on the formulation and implementation of the programme of work in this field, with particular emphasis on activities in priority areas as defined by the Commission from time to time, taking into account the work being done in this field by the United Nations and other relevant organizations, particularly the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

5. To perform such other functions and activities as the Commission may request in all matters concerning trade;

6. To liaise as necessary with, and to take into account the relevant recommendations of, other legislative committees established by the Commission and other relevant bodies.

The Committee shall meet every even year and report to the Commission. In order to enable developments in trade and trade policies to be reviewed annually, the Commission itself will carry out such a review in odd years.

223 (XXXVIII). International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace: implementation and follow-up of the specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year⁴

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/151 of 17 December 1979, in which the Assembly decided to designate 1985 as International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace,

Noting the report of the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year on its first session, held at Vienna from 30 March to 7 April 1981,

Referring to General Assembly resolution 36/28 of 13 November 1981, in which the Assembly endorsed the early implementation of the specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year, as adopted by the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year,

⁴ See paras. 635-636 above.

Referring further to General Assembly resolution 36/29 of 13 November 1981 on efforts and measures for securing the implementation and the enjoyment by youth of human rights, particularly the right to education and to work,

Convinced that full preparation and observance in 1985 of the International Youth Year under the motto "Participation, Development, Peace" will offer a useful and significant opportunity for drawing attention to the situation and specific needs and aspirations of youth, for promoting policies and programmes relating to youth as an integral part of social and economic development, for enhancing the active participation of youth and youth organizations in society and, in particular, the promotion and achievement of development and peace, and for promoting among youth the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding among people,

Concerned at the need to focus on social problems affecting youth, including juvenile delinquency, alcoholism and drug abuse as well as the exploitation of youth, in implementing the national and regional programmes on youth, in order to encourage their active involvement in development efforts,

Considering that it is necessary to improve and intensify the co-ordination of activities at the national and regional levels so as to contribute to the proper preparation and celebration of the International Youth Year,

Bearing in mind the decision of the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session to convene in 1983 a regional meeting of government officials responsible for national youth programmes as part of the regional preparations for the International Youth Year in 1985,

Considering that the secretariat continues to play an active role in monitoring and evaluating activities organized at the local, national and regional levels for the preparation and observance of the International Youth Year as well as in facilitating the exchange of information and experiences among its members and associate members,

1. *Calls upon* its members and associate members:

(a) To implement the specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year at the national level in accordance with their experience, conditions and priorities;

(b) To set up, where desirable, national co-ordinating committees for the International Youth Year with broad participation of young people and representatives of youth organizations;

(c) To keep the Executive Secretary informed of their national activities concerning the preparations for the International Youth Year and on the implemen-

tation of the specific Programme of Measures and Activities;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to make arrangements within the existing possibilities for the dissemination of information of particular relevance to the region on measures and activities undertaken by members and associate members in connection with the International Youth Year, as well as on national experience in solving different problems related to youth;

3. *Invites* the Executive Secretary to explore the possibility of holding an advisory and planning meeting of youth experts and youth leaders in 1982 with a view to ensuring adequate preparations for the 1983 regional meeting;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to ensure appropriate arrangements within the secretariat to co-ordinate the Commission's youth activities with a view to intensifying the preparations for the International Youth Year;

5. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to approach members and associate members with a view to securing the funds needed for the effective implementation of the activities for the preparation and celebration of the Year;

6. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to submit to it at its thirty-ninth session a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution.

583rd meeting
1 April 1982

224 (XXXVIII). Incorporation of environmental considerations into the economic and social development activities of the Commission⁵

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the goals and principles of General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980 containing the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, which stresses the need for an economic development process which is environmentally sustainable over the long run and which protects the ecological balance,

Taking note of its resolution 202 (XXXVI) of 27 March 1980, in which it requested the Executive Secretary to identify the environmental dimensions of the sectoral programmes of the Commission in

⁵ See paras. 489 and 492 above.

order to ensure co-ordination of environmental activities within the Commission and to promote co-ordination with other agencies,

Recalling its recommendations at its thirty-fifth session on institutional arrangements, commending the decision to establish the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit as an essential initiative in fulfilling the environmental objectives of the Commission,

Bearing in mind its suggestion at its thirty-seventh session that the secretariat's efforts should be continued by ensuring that environmental considerations are taken into account in the activities of the Commission in the priority areas as identified by the Commission at its thirty-fifth session,

Considering the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination of the United Nations on its twenty-first session, on the question of distribution of tasks and responsibilities in the field of the environment between the regional commissions and other United Nations entities,

Taking note of the environmental situation in the region as presented in the Executive Secretary's report to the Commission at its thirty-eighth session,

Recognizing the valuable catalytic role which the United Nations Environment Programme has played in supporting the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit during its time of establishment,

Being aware of the fact that the question of support from the United Nations Environment Programme to the regional commissions on environmental matters vis-à-vis the Programme's Regional Office will be reconsidered by the Governing Council of the Programme at its tenth session, to be held at Nairobi from 20 May to 2 June 1982,

1. *Urges* Governments of its members and associate members to reiterate their support for the activities of the Commission in the field of the environment;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in the context of the support of the United Nations Environment Programme to the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit, to have consultations as a matter of urgency with the Executive Director of the Programme in order to ensure the continued incorporation of environmental considerations in the activities of the Commission at the existing level;

3. *Calls upon* all Governments of its members and associate members to communicate their views on the need to continue the environmental activities of the Commission at the existing level to the Governing Council of the Programme at its tenth session;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to ensure that three regular budget posts are available for the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit by exploring the possibility of redeploying existing resources within the United Nations or by other possible means and to report to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution.

583rd meeting
1 April 1982

225 (XXXVIII). Charter of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre⁶

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolutions 191 (XXXV) of 14 March 1979, 206 (XXXVI) of 27 March 1980 and 215 (XXXVII) of 19 March 1981,

Having received and considered the report of the Executive Secretary on negotiations and consultations undertaken in pursuance of resolution 215 (XXXVII),

Desiring to establish a single integrated regional training and research institution, named the Asian and Pacific Development Centre, in the region,

1. *Adopts* the Charter of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to open the Charter for signature in accordance with article XVI of the Charter;

3. *Urges* the General Council and the Management Board, taking into consideration the value to the Centre of having the host country representative as Chairman of the Management Board for an initial period, to ensure that the representative of the host country of Malaysia becomes its Chairman for a period of three years commencing from the date of the establishment of the Board;

4. *Expresses its hope* for the widest possible adherence to the Charter.

583rd meeting
1 April 1982

⁶ See paras. 815-816 above.

Annex

CHARTER OF THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

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 co-operation 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 United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (also referred to in this Charter as "ESCAP") 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, approve the broad framework of the programmes of the Centre, and 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 requests 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; (b) up to fourteen 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 Management 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 this Charter and the resolutions and decisions of the General Council.

5. The Management Board shall meet at least once every year and shall elect its own Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen each 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, a report on the areas identified for research and proposals for their development, a report on the areas identified for training, seminars and workshops, and 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 in accordance with a formula for the determination of the periodic targets of such contributions as agreed to by the General Council from time to time;

(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 1 September 1982 to 30 April 1983 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 contracting 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, the 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 it.

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 1 September 1982.

For (Signature) (Date)
 (Name and title)
 For
 For
 For

226 (XXXVIII). Food supply and distribution in Asia and the Pacific: medium-term outlook and regional co-operation⁷

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Considering the special study by the secretariat on food supply and distribution in Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling that the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade includes as an essential element the recommendation that hunger and malnutrition be eradicated as soon as possible and certainly by the end of this century,

Noting with concern the stalemate in the negotiations on the International Wheat Trade Agreement,

Taking note of the findings of the special study regarding inadequate food production and distribution, the increasing number of the hungry and malnourished, rising food imports and surpluses in some food exporting countries of the region,

Expressing grave concern over the unstable food supply situation in many countries of the region,

Aware of the urgent need to ensure adequate food for all in the region,

Noting the progress made towards increasing food and agricultural production by some countries of the region,

Recognizing the continuing necessity and importance of increasing food production and investment in agriculture in all developing countries of the region,

Recognizing also the importance of national efforts and subregional and regional co-operation to enhance food supply and improve food distribution systems,

Further recognizing the steps already taken by the Association of South-East Asian Nations in the establishment of a food security reserve,

Stressing the desirability of co-ordination of the efforts being made in the various international forums concerned with regard to world food security,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, with the assistance of a high-level group of experts nominated by relevant international organizations and agencies and by participating Governments of the Commission, to undertake studies on the feasibility and viability of the proposals on:

(a) Subregional and regional food security arrangements;

(b) A trade information and management network relating to food and agricultural input;

(c) Increasing the flow of financial resources from both external and internal sources for food and agriculture;

and to submit conclusions on the possible timing, funding, functional and operational modalities and organizational framework, paying due regard to the proposal in the special study to establish an Asia-Pacific food bank, to the comments made on the study at the thirty-eighth session and to the special features of the production and distribution systems in the different countries of the region;

2. *Recommends* that the report of the expert group should be referred to the Committee on Agricultural Development or, if that is not feasible, to an intergovernmental meeting to be convened by the Executive Secretary after consultation with members and associate members to examine the question and advise on further action;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to seek the co-operation of relevant international organizations and agencies, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Food Council, the World Food Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the Asian Development Bank, in the preparation of the above-mentioned studies with a view to ensuring a well-co-ordinated approach to food security in the region;

4. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to take appropriate steps for the implementation of the present resolution and to submit a report on the progress achieved to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session.

583rd meeting
1 April 1982

227 (XXXVIII). Early launching of global negotiations⁸

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Noting General Assembly resolution 34/138 of 14 December 1979, and other resolutions referred to therein, in which the Assembly, *inter alia*, decided to launch a round of global and sustained negotiations on international economic co-operation for development, including major issues in the field of raw materials, energy, trade, development, money and

⁷ See paras. 333-348 above.

⁸ See paras. 312-313 above.

finance and contributing to the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

Reiterating that such global negotiations could contribute to the solution of international economic problems in areas of critical importance to all countries, such as food, energy, development, financial flows and trade,

Taking note of the wishes of developing countries to restructure international economic relations,

Noting that the International Meeting on Cooperation and Development at Cancún, Mexico, confirmed the desirability of supporting at the United Nations, with a sense of urgency, a consensus to launch global negotiations,

Noting with concern that there has been little progress towards the launching of global negotiations,

Concerned at the need to reach agreement on a resolution at the United Nations which would deal with the issue of global negotiations,

1. *Urges* Governments to renew their efforts to reach agreement on a resolution which would provide for the early launching of global negotiations;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to convey to the international community through the Secretary-General of the United Nations the concern of the countries of Asia and the Pacific as to the early convening of a conference on global negotiations.

583rd meeting
1 April 1982

228 (XXXVIII). Role of health in an integrated approach to accelerating development and improving the quality of life of the poor⁹

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/58 of 29 November 1979 concerning health as an integral part of development,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 36/43 of 19 November 1981, in which the Assembly endorsed the Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000 and urged all Member States to ensure its implementation as part of their multisectoral efforts to implement the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, annexed to General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980,

Bearing in mind paragraphs 162-168 of the International Development Strategy, especially paragraph 165, which states, *inter alia*: "To attain an acceptable level of health for all by the year 2000, countries will establish an adequate and comprehensive system of primary health care as an integral part of a more general health system and as part of a general improvement in nutrition and living standards and basic infrastructure",

Taking into account the Declaration of Alma Ata, adopted by the representatives of 151 countries on 12 September 1978 at the International Conference on Primary Health Care, and World Health Assembly resolutions WHA 32.30 of 25 May 1979 launching the Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000 and WHA 34.36 of 22 May 1981 on the implementation of the Global Strategy,

Concerned at the stagnant and low health status of the poorest and largest sections of the population of the majority of the developing countries of the region, as implied by the current nutrition, morbidity and sanitation indicators,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 and Commission resolution 219 (XXXVII) of 20 March 1981 declaring the regional commissions to be the main general economic and social development centres within the United Nations system for their respective regions,

Emphasizing the congruence of the health dimensions of development with the priority criteria of regionality, poverty alleviation, development impact and inter-country co-operation determining the orientation and stress of the Commission's work programme,

Recognizing the effectiveness of the activities conducted by the Commission's programme on health and society in co-operation with the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization as well as the acceptance of and demand for them by the countries of the region,

Appreciating the collaboration between the Commission, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and other related agencies and with the Governments of the region,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to convene, in consultation with the Director-General of the World Health Organization and the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, an intersectoral inter-governmental meeting to advise the Commission on ways to strengthen, co-ordinate and widen the scope of the Commission's activities so that a positive impact of all development programmes on the personal health of the poorest sections of the population in the Asian and Pacific region is ensured;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to strengthen collaboration with the World Health Organi-

⁹ See para. 646 above.

zation, the United Nations Children's Fund and other relevant organizations in pursuance of the Commission's programme on health and society, including the integration of health into the development process;

3. *Invites* the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund to extend their co-operation to that effect;

4. *Urges* donor countries and multilateral development institutions to maintain, increase or initiate, as the case may be, financial support for the activities of the programme;

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.

583rd meeting
1 April 1982

229 (XXXVIII). Role of a unified approach to development planning in the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific¹⁰

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 3409 (XXX) of 28 November 1975, in which the Assembly, *inter alia*, endorsed the application of a unified approach to development analysis and planning in the regional commissions,

Noting 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,

Bearing in mind the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, particularly the provisions related to a unified approach to economic and social development,

Reaffirming its resolution 213 (XXXVII) of 19 March 1981 on a unified approach to economic and social development and planning, in which, *inter alia*, it invited the Executive Secretary, within the resources available to him, to take the appropriate measures to strengthen the activities of the Development Planning Division, requested him to pay appropriate attention to the need for adequate application of a unified approach to economic and social development in the work of all divisions of the secretariat in order to assist the developing countries of the region effectively in formulating and implementing their national development plans and programmes and urged the members and associate members to co-operate in facilitating an exchange of national experience in the field of economic and social planning,

¹⁰ See paras. 403-404 above.

Taking note of the report on the implementation of resolution 213 (XXXVII),

1. *Calls upon* the Executive Secretary to continue his efforts to pay appropriate attention to a unified approach to economic and social development and planning;

2. *Invites* the Executive Secretary, within the resources available to him, to co-operate with interested member countries at their request to collect information from them on the application of a unified approach to development planning giving full attention to aspects of plan formulation, monitoring and implementation and to synthesize this information for distribution;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fortieth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution.

583rd meeting
1 April 1982

230 (XXXVIII). Transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific¹¹

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, in particular the development objectives for the transport and communications sectors contained in the Strategy, namely, that "the physical and institutional infrastructure in developing countries should be expanded at rates that fully support the rate of expansion of the economy as a whole, and adequate financial and technical resources should be provided for that purpose",

Recalling also the proposal made by the sixth Meeting of Top Railway Executives in Asia and the Middle East that the decade 1982-1992 be declared the "Asian Railway Decade", the recommendation of the Regional Conference-cum-Seminar on Development and Management of Telecommunications in Asia and the Pacific, held at Bangkok in January 1982, that a "Transport and Communications Development Decade for Asia and the Pacific" be declared and the recommendation of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Transport, Communications and Tourism Wing) at its fifth session that the Third United Nations Development Decade be proclaimed as "Transport Decade for Asia and the Pacific",

Noting with appreciation the continuing co-operation of other bodies, in particular the International

¹¹ See paras. 666-667 above.

Telecommunication Union, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the Universal Postal Union, the International Labour Organisation, the World Tourism Organization, the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity, the Asian-Pacific Postal Union and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in the development of an integrated and co-ordinated regional transport and communications network in Asia and the Pacific, particularly the progress made in the development of the Asian Highway and the Trans-Asian Railway network,

Convinced of the critical role of transport as an enabling element in economic development and the crucial importance, therefore, of transport infrastructure growing in a manner commensurate with the anticipated growth of various sectors of the economy generating the demand for transport, as well as the importance of communications in modernizing transport and other sectors of the economy,

Noting the extremely difficult position as regards the availability of liquid fuel and the fact that the transport sector is one of the largest consumers of such energy, and the need to strengthen intraregional and

interregional co-operation and co-ordination in research, planning and the establishment of transport and communications systems and services,

Having due regard to the need for and importance of integrated and balanced development of transport and communications in Asia and the Pacific, and taking into account the measures set forth in the International Development Strategy,

1. *Invites* the Executive Secretary to consult the member countries of the region, in order to enable them to make a thorough assessment of the proposal for the proclamation of a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific during the period 1985-1994 in the light of its practical desirability and the probability of real results, and to bring this proposal to the attention of the Economic and Social Council;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*583rd meeting
1 April 1982*

Annex I

REVISED PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES, 1982-1983

Introduction

A summary of the programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983, as endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-seventh session and revised at its thirty-eighth session, is presented below.

The programme of work is presented at three levels: programmes, subprogrammes and programme elements. Programmes refer to broad spheres of work which may or may not coincide with the divisions of the secretariat, e.g., the integrated programme on rural development. A programme is divided into subprogrammes which are intended to define the major areas within a programme. Each subprogramme contains programme elements, such as studies, meetings and technical assistance projects, which have a specific output and whose duration can be calculated with a reasonable degree of accuracy.

Appendix I to this annex presents information on resources in man-months for each programme and programme component which has been updated by the secretariat since the endorsement by the Commission of the revised programme of work and priorities, 1982-1983. In the tables provided for resources in man-months, available resources include: (a) man-months of regular budget (RB) established posts at ESCAP approved by the General Assembly; (b) man-months of other regular budget resources, such as posts in the Joint CTC/ESCAP Unit on Transnational Corporations and consultants to be engaged with regular budget consultancy funds; and (c) extrabudgetary resources (XB), including regional advisers, infrastructure posts funded by UNFPA, posts outposted from UNIDO, UNEP, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) etc., and other posts of experts funded by donor Governments and organizations as well as administrative overhead funds available since 1 January 1982. Additional extrabudgetary resources required are shown in two categories, "committed" and "not-committed", based on the situation as at 1 April 1982. The resources shown in the tables do not include funds for operational activities such as the cost of meetings, publications, equipment etc.

As to integrated rural development, appendix I 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 various divisions of the secretariat and appendix II shows resources for the integrated programme on rural development allocated in other programmes of the Commission.

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 Food supply and distribution systems in Asia and the Pacific
- 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 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 Interregional follow-up of the alcohol fuel study
- 02.02.05 In-service training and technical *ad hoc* advisory services
- 02.02.06 Study on improvement of and conservation in the use of fuels in the transport, industrial and domestic sectors, including a UNIDO co-operative study on building materials
- 02.02.07 Study on the use of natural, refinery and producer gas and interregional study tour on LNG/LPG/methanol

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, emphasizing technology planning and management for rural energy systems
- 02.03.02 Collection and dissemination of information on: (i) design of high-efficiency kerosene stoves and firewood stoves; and (ii) research and development of mini and micro hydroelectricity and of oil-shale, solar, wind and tidal energy sources
- 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 (05)

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 trading corporations in selected Asian and Pacific countries

05.05.04 Comparative studies on specific issues regarding the activities of transnational corporations: transfer pricing, technology transfer and restrictive business practices

05.05.05 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

05.05.06 Research on third world-based transnational corporations

05.05.07 Evaluation of export processing zones: performance and prospects

05.05.08 Transnational corporation activities in the Pacific island countries

05.05.09 National, subregional and regional follow-up activities on the implementation of the code of conduct on transnational corporations

05.05.10 Expert group meetings and intergovernmental consultations

Subprogramme 05.06: Technical co-operation activities on matters related to TNCs carried out in collaboration with the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (CTC)

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 Innovative rural organizations for the formulation and implementation of agrarian reform measures
- 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)
- 06.01.13 Preparation of guide-lines for the planning and implementation of poverty-focused rural development projects

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 Prospects of trade and investment co-operation in south Asia

07.06.03 Labour migration from ESCAP developing countries

Subprogramme 07.07: Special measures in support of the least developed countries

To monitor and review the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries and to assist this group of countries in framing and implementing action programmes and projects and increasing their co-operative efforts to accelerate their development.

Programme elements:

07.07.01 Monitoring and review of progress in implementing the Substantial New Programme of Action in the region

07.07.02 In-depth studies of the special problems facing least developed countries

07.07.03 Assistance to least developed countries in formulating and executing policies and action plans, programmes and projects to accelerate development

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; imple-

mentation 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; and (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

10.01.03 Application of remote sensing to environmental monitoring and assessment in the ESCAP region

10.01.04 Preparation of a state of the environment report

10.01.05 Ministerial-level meeting on the environment for Asia

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 Expert group meeting on environmental aspects of rural development
- 10.03.04 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.

Programme 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
- 11.03.10 Survey of shipbuilding and ship repair facilities and activities in the developing countries of the region
- 11.03.11 Organization of an intergovernmental meeting of experts on shipbuilding, ship repair and maintenance capabilities of developing countries of the region to promote regional co-operation in the context of ECDC/TCDC

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, including the setting-up of a transport research centre, 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 urban and public transport systems
- 12.01.06 Study on economic aspects of air cargo transport in countries of the ESCAP region with emphasis on packaging and warehousing technologies, air cargo management and total distribution cost analysis
- 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 communications 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, preparation of review reports and organization of *ad hoc* intergovernmental and other meetings of highway experts
- 12.02.02 Preparation and publication of maps and guidebooks for the facilitation and promotion of international road traffic
- 12.02.03 Surveys on the use and development of alternative sources of energy, energy conservation methods, energy-efficient road vehicles and recycling of asphalt concrete in road construction
- 12.02.04 Surveys and studies on extending the scope and coverage of the Asian Highway network, including the development of general principles towards developing a strategy for highways and highway transport in the region
- 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 Preparation of general principles towards a master plan for rural roads development, including establishment of simple criteria for priority setting
- 12.02.09 Interchange, improvements and innovations in transport technology
- 12.02.10 Translation of the manuals on rural road construction and maintenance (as prepared by the secretariat) into the local vernacular of the developing member countries
- 12.02.11 Assistance to member countries in establishing the economic importance of road maintenance, development of suitable road construction and maintenance industries and organization of seminars/workshops
- 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 trainers' training programme, for local-level officials, in the field of 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 Studies on environmental impact assessment of road infrastructure and road transport operation projects and organization of regional workshops

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

- 12.03.25 Studies to compare the options of freight transportation from the countries of the region to Europe via Turkey/Middle East and via the USSR
- 12.03.26 Studies/surveys for the electrification of the Dacca-Chittagong main railway line
- 12.03.27 Studies/surveys on the commuter railway traffic of Dacca and its suburbs
- 12.03.28 Facilitation and promotion of tourism by rail in the context of international railway co-operation
- 12.03.29 Excessive rail wear and derailment in Bangladesh, Malaysia and Thailand

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 Sectoral support to telecommunications, rural telecommunications, maintenance and propagation studies
- 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
- 13.02.05 Promotion of postal training with existing institutions such as the Asian-Pacific Postal Training Centre

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 rural water supply and urban 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
- 18.01.04 Follow-up and implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s in the field of trade for the least developed countries in the ESCAP region

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 procedures 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 Integration of health and society in national development plans
- 19.01.02 Expert group meeting on new perspectives on social development problems at the local level
- 19.01.03 Feasibility study on articulating quantitative and qualitative indicators of social development
- 19.01.04 Seminar to compare types of resistance to social development policies in several socio-cultural systems
- 19.01.05 Case studies on social impacts of the migration of skilled labour from the developing countries
- 19.01.06 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 poor
- 19.02.03 Malaysian seminar on the design of rural policies tailored to specific socio-cultural environments: "socio-cultural engineering for rural development"
- 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 implementation 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 Collaboration with APDC on issues relating to the integration of women in the development process
- 19.04.04 Promotion of rural women's participation in development through interdivisional collaboration
- 19.04.05 Promotion of the collection and analysis of data related to the socio-economic status of women in co-operation with the Development Planning and Statistics Divisions of ESCAP
- 19.04.06 Assistance to member countries in strengthening 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 Regional information network on women

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 Country monographs on the population situation
- 20.02.02 Comparative study on migration, urbanization and development in the ESCAP region
- 20.02.03 Workshop on linkages between population, resources, environment and development
- 20.02.04 Medium-scale demographic-economic modelling for selected ESCAP countries
- 20.02.05 Subregional seminar on the second-stage analysis of World Fertility Survey (WFS) data with special emphasis on the interrelation between fertility and socio-economic factors
- 20.02.06 Regional seminar on approaches to integrated population and development activities in planning in ESCAP countries
- 20.02.07 Population study tours
- 20.02.08 Study on estimation and analysis of mortality statistics
- 20.02.09 Projections of rural and urban households and population size by sex and age
- 20.02.10 Regional comparative analysis of WFS 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 Study on the impact of family planning programmes on fertility
- 20.03.08 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 information services

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 Data search and collection of basic data relating to all fields of statistics, their edit and maintenance in time-series records
- 21.02.02 Retrieval of basic data held by the secretariat for reformulation, special compilation and secretariat publications

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

Appendix I

SUMMARY OF RESOURCES REQUIRED FOR THE REVISED PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES, 1982-1983

<i>Resources in man-months for programmes</i>								
<i>Available</i>			<i>Additional XB required</i>		<i>Total</i>			
<i>Established RB posts</i>	<i>Other RB resources</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Committed</i>	<i>Not committed</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>		
<i>(1)</i>	<i>(2)</i>	<i>(3)</i>	<i>(4)</i>	<i>(5)</i>	<i>(6)</i>	<i>(7)</i>		
I. PROGRAMME OF WORK IN PRIORITY AREAS								
01	Development of food and agriculture	240	—	143	24	159	240	326
02	Evaluation, development, use and management of energy resources	156	—	26	—	207	156	233
03	Raw materials and commodities	48	—	36	—	52	48	88
04	Development and transfer of appropriate technology	168	—	77	—	161	168	238
05	International trade, transnational corporations and external financial resource transfers	308	12	204	48	668	320	920
06	Integrated programme on rural development (Integrated Rural Development Unit only)	12	—	12	7	11	12	30
Total: Programmes 01 to 06		932	12	498	79	1 258	944	1 835
II. PROGRAMME OF WORK IN OTHER FIELDS OF ACTIVITY								
07	Development planning projections and policies	360	—	8	85	132	360	225
08	Industrial development	160	—	116	108	179	160	403
09	Human settlements	120	—	20	18	112	120	150
10	Environment	24	—	92	—	126	24	218
11	Development of shipping, ports and inland waterways	192	—	126	47	265	192	438
12	Development of transport	207	5	120	60	551	212	731
13	Development of communication facilities	4	—	172	—	27	4	199
14	Development of tourism	29	—	19	—	22	29	41
15	Evaluation, development, use and management of mineral resources	132	—	—	12	136	132	148
16	Evaluation, development, use and management of water resources	180	—	24	—	—	180	24
17	Remote sensing, surveying and mapping	12	—	—	—	96	12	96
18	Special measures for the least developed, land-locked and developing island countries	60	—	76	—	164	60	240
19	Policies and programmes for social development and welfare	168	12	170	90	150	180	410
20	Population policies and programmes	120	—	420	—	156	120	576
21	Statistical development and services	192	—	120	24	96	192	240
22	Information systems and documentation services	96	—	48	72	24	96	144
23	Promotion of and support for ECDC and TCDC	48	24	—	—	54	72	54
Total: Programmes 07 to 23		2 104	41	1 531	516	2 290	2 145	4 337
TOTAL PROGRAMMES		3 036	53	2 029	595	3 548	3 089	6 172

<i>Resources in man-months for programmes and subprogrammes</i>								
<i>Available</i>			<i>Additional XB required</i>		<i>Total</i>			
<i>Established RB posts</i>	<i>Other RB resources</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Committed</i>	<i>Not committed</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>		
<i>(1)</i>	<i>(2)</i>	<i>(3)</i>	<i>(4)</i>	<i>(5)</i>	<i>(6)</i>	<i>(7)</i>		
PROGRAMME 01:								
DEVELOPMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE								
01.01	Improvement in agricultural plans, programmes and information systems	45	—	12	—	18	45	30
01.02	Diversification of agricultural production and augmentation of food resources	66	—	12	24	30	66	66
01.03	Increased supplies of agricultural requisites with emphasis on agro-chemicals	52	—	119	—	99	52	218
01.04	Rural development, with emphasis on policies, strategies and institutions	77	—	—	—	12	77	12
Programme total:		240	—	143	24	159	240	326
PROGRAMME 02:								
EVALUATION, DEVELOPMENT, USE AND MANAGEMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES								
02.01	Appraisal of availability and use of energy resources	34	—	—	—	6	34	6
02.02	Integrated development, use and management of energy resources	84	—	14	—	135	84	149
02.03	Supply and use of energy in rural areas	38	—	12	—	66	38	78
Programme total:		156	—	26	—	207	156	233
PROGRAMME 03:								
RAW MATERIALS AND COMMODITIES								
03.01	Promotion of subregional, regional and interregional co-operation in selected raw materials and commodities	21	—	13	—	17	21	30
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	—	23	—	35	27	58
Programme total:		48	—	36	—	52	48	88
PROGRAMME 04:								
DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY								
04.01	Science and technology policies and institutions	84	—	40	—	32	84	72
04.02	Development of indigenous capabilities to generate, select and adapt appropriate technology	36	—	24	—	14	36	38
04.03	Support to regional technological institutions	36	—	13	—	113	36	126
04.04	Standardization, quality control and technical information systems	12	—	—	—	2	12	2
Programme total:		168	—	77	—	161	168	238

<i>Resources in man-months for programmes and subprogrammes</i>								
<i>Available</i>			<i>Additional XB required</i>		<i>Total</i>			
<i>Established RB posts</i>	<i>Other RB resources</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Committed</i>	<i>Not committed</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>		
<i>(1)</i>	<i>(2)</i>	<i>(3)</i>	<i>(4)</i>	<i>(5)</i>	<i>(6)</i>	<i>(7)</i>		
PROGRAMME 05:								
INTERNATIONAL TRADE, TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND EXTERNAL FINANCIAL RESOURCE TRANSFERS								
Part A: International trade								
05.01	Co-operation for trade expansion	61	—	82	—	170	61	252
05.02	Trade promotion and development, including consumer protection	116	—	96	—	264	116	360
05.03	Monetary co-operation	16	—	—	—	48	16	48
05.04	Trade facilitation, insurance and re-insurance	35	—	—	—	72	35	72
Total: Part A		228	—	178	—	554	228	732
Part B: Transnational corporations								
05.05	Research studies on the operations of transnational corporations	54	9	22	—	60	63	82
05.06	Technical co-operation activities on matters related to TNCs carried out in collaboration with CTC	6	—	—	—	9	6	9
05.07	Development of a comprehensive information system on transnational corporations	12	3	4	—	24	15	28
Total: Part B		72	12	26	—	93	84	119
Part C: External financial resource transfers								
05.08	Investment promotion and tax administration	8	—	—	48	21	8	69
Total: Part C								
Programme total:		8	—	—	48	21	8	69
PROGRAMME 06:								
INTEGRATED PROGRAMME ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT (Integrated Rural Development Unit only)								
06.01	Policies and planning	12	—	12	7	11	12	30
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:		12	—	12	7	11	12	30

<i>Resources in man-months for programmes and subprogrammes</i>								
<i>Available</i>			<i>Additional XB required</i>		<i>Total</i>			
<i>Established RB posts</i>	<i>Other RB resources</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Committed</i>	<i>Not committed</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>		
<i>(1)</i>	<i>(2)</i>	<i>(3)</i>	<i>(4)</i>	<i>(5)</i>	<i>(6)</i>	<i>(7)</i>		
PROGRAMME 07: DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, PROJECTIONS AND POLICIES								
07.01	Information services on economic and social development	60	—	—	10	12	60	22
07.02	Economic and social development strategies and policies	60	—	—	8	12	60	20
07.03	Development planning methods	60	—	—	5	24	60	29
07.04	Macro-economic modelling and projections	60	—	2	54	—	60	56
07.05	Administrative systems for development	24	—	—	2	24	24	26
07.06	Economic co-operation among developing countries	48	—	6	6	24	48	36
07.07	Special measures in support of the least developed countries	48	—	—	—	36	48	36
Programme total:		360	—	8	85	132	360	225
PROGRAMME 08: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT								
08.01	Industrial development and planning	104	—	107	76	121	104	304
08.02	Regional co-operation in industrial development	56	—	9	32	58	56	99
Programme total:		160	—	116	108	179	160	403
PROGRAMME 09: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS								
09.01	Settlement policies and strategies	24	—	12	18	30	24	60
09.02	Settlement planning	18	—	6	—	10	18	16
09.03	Shelter, infrastructure and services	35	—	2	—	26	35	28
09.04	Land	16	—	—	—	8	16	8
09.05	Public participation	12	—	—	—	—	12	—
09.06	Institutions and management	15	—	—	—	38	15	38
Programme total:		120	—	20	18	112	120	150
PROGRAMME 10: ENVIRONMENT								
10.01	Environmental awareness	10	—	27	—	24	10	51
10.02	Institutional and legislative aspects of environmental protection and management	3	—	18	—	12	3	30
10.03	Management of terrestrial ecosystems	5	—	15	—	17	5	32
10.04	Protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems	6	—	32	—	73	6	105
Programme total:		24	—	92	—	126	24	218

<i>Resources in man-months for programmes and subprogrammes</i>							
<i>Available</i>			<i>Additional XB required</i>		<i>Total</i>		
<i>Established RB posts</i>	<i>Other RB resources</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Committed</i>	<i>Not committed</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	
<i>(1)</i>	<i>(2)</i>	<i>(3)</i>	<i>(4)</i>	<i>(5)</i>	<i>(6)</i>	<i>(7)</i>	
PROGRAMME 11: DEVELOPMENT OF SHIPPING, PORTS AND INLAND WATERWAYS							
11.01	Manpower development	30	—	—	75	30	75
11.02	Development of maritime policy and institutions	30	—	—	62	30	62
11.03	Merchant shipping development	30	—	12	54	30	78
11.04	Port development	30	—	20	38	30	74
11.05	Development of inland water transport	42	—	20	36	42	75
11.06	Shippers' organizations and co-operation	30	—	74	—	30	74
Programme total:		192	—	126	47	265	438
PROGRAMME 12: DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT							
12.01	General transport planning and facilitation of international traffic	101	1	—	53	102	53
12.02	Highways and highway transport	53	2	48	159	55	224
12.03	Railways and railway transport	53	2	72	339	55	454
Programme total:		207	5	120	60	551	731
PROGRAMME 13: DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION FACILITIES							
13.01	Development of telecommunication facilities and services	2	—	169	—	2	169
13.02	Development of postal services	2	—	3	27	2	30
Programme total:		4	—	172	—	4	199
PROGRAMME 14: DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM							
14.01	Fostering of tourism growth in the ESCAP region	18	—	12	14	18	26
14.02	Co-ordinated development of tourism	11	—	7	8	11	15
Programme total:		29	—	19	—	22	41
PROGRAMME 15: EVALUATION, DEVELOPMENT, USE AND MANAGEMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES							
15.01	Appraisal of geology, and of occurrence and development of mineral resources	54	—	—	12	68	80
15.02	Promotion of investigation and development of mineral resources	78	—	—	—	78	68
Programme total:		132	—	—	12	136	148

<i>Resources in man-months for programmes and subprogrammes</i>								
<i>Available</i>			<i>Additional XB required</i>		<i>Total</i>			
<i>Established RB posts</i>	<i>Other RB resources</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Committed</i>	<i>Not committed</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>		
<i>(1)</i>	<i>(2)</i>	<i>(3)</i>	<i>(4)</i>	<i>(5)</i>	<i>(6)</i>	<i>(7)</i>		
PROGRAMME 16: EVALUATION, DEVELOPMENT, USE AND MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES								
16.01	Water use and efficiency	52	—	—	—	—	52	—
16.02	Policy, planning and management	66	—	12	—	—	66	12
16.03	Mitigation of damage from cyclones, floods and droughts	27	—	—	—	—	27	—
16.04	Public information, education and training	35	—	12	—	—	35	12
Programme total:		180	—	24	—	—	180	24
PROGRAMME 17: REMOTE SENSING, SURVEYING AND MAP- PING								
17.01	Technical assistance in the use of remote sensing techniques	12	—	—	—	96	12	96
Programme total:		12	—	—	—	96	12	96
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	—	52	24	66
18.02	Assistance in the development/improvement of transport and transit facilities for developing land-locked countries	24	—	62	—	88	24	150
18.03	Assistance to the developing island countries	12	—	—	—	24	12	24
Programme total:		60	—	76	—	164	60	240
PROGRAMME 19: POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE								
19.01	Social development policy, survey and analysis	12	—	—	—	12	12	12
19.02	People's participation and institution building	28	—	—	—	48	28	48
19.03	Development orientation of policies and programmes for vulnerable and marginal population groups	28	12	5	—	30	40	35
19.04	Integration of women in the development process, enhancement of their potential and elimination of discrimination against them	28	—	51	—	36	28	87
19.05	Mobilization of youth for national development	52	—	102	90	—	52	192
19.06	Social development information system	20	—	12	—	24	20	36
Programme total:		168	12	170	90	150	180	410

<i>Resources in man-months for programmes and subprogrammes</i>								
<i>Available</i>			<i>Additional XB required</i>		<i>Total</i>			
<i>Established RB posts</i>	<i>Other RB resources</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>Committed</i>	<i>Not committed</i>	<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>		
<i>(1)</i>	<i>(2)</i>	<i>(3)</i>	<i>(4)</i>	<i>(5)</i>	<i>(6)</i>	<i>(7)</i>		
PROGRAMME 20: POPULATION POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES								
20.01	Policy formulation and programme direction	24	—	48	—	48	24	96
20.02	Population and development	48	—	108	—	60	48	168
20.03	Population policy	24	—	72	—	24	24	96
20.04	Clearing-house and information on population	24	—	192	—	24	24	216
Programme total:		120	—	420	—	156	120	576
PROGRAMME 21: STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES								
21.01	Statistical development	120	—	120	24	96	120	240
21.02	Statistical information services	72	—	—	—	—	72	—
Programme total:		192	—	120	24	96	192	240
PROGRAMME 22: INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND DOCUMENTATION SERVICES								
22.01	Development of government information systems	56	—	24	72	24	56	120
22.02	Data base for the interchange of socio-economic data among member countries	16	—	—	—	—	16	—
22.03	Documentation and library services	24	—	24	—	—	24	24
Programme total:		96	—	48	72	24	96	144
PROGRAMME 23: PROMOTION OF AND SUPPORT FOR ECDC AND TCDC								
23.01	Development and exchange of information and analysis to promote ECDC and TCDC	22	11	—	—	42	33	42
23.02	Preparatory and supplementary assistance to identify opportunities and to facilitate the implementation of ECDC and TCDC	26	13	—	—	12	39	12
Programme total:		48	24	—	—	54	72	54

Appendix II

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	30	Integrated Rural Development	06.01
	36	-	Agriculture	01.04
	7	10	Development Planning	07.05
	4	4	Industry, Human Settlements 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>170</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, Human Settlements 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, Human Settlements 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	48	Social Development	19.02, 19.05
	<u>60</u>	<u>48</u>		
Total	285	390		

Annex II

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF ACTIONS
AND PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION**

None of the resolutions adopted at the thirty-eighth 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 Statistics	Fourth session Bangkok 9-15 June 1981	E/ESCAP/261
<i>Chairman:</i> S. Munir Husain (Pakistan)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> S. Kuzmicich (New Zealand)		
Khoo Teik Huat (Malaysia)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i> Colin C. Greenfield (Hong Kong)		
Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment	Fifth session Bangkok 1-7 September 1981	E/ESCAP/240
<i>Chairman:</i> Damrong Lathapipat (Thailand)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Estanislao Alinea, Jr. (Philippines)		
A.K.M. Kamaluddin Choudhury (Bangladesh)		
<i>Chairman, Technical and Drafting Committee:</i> M.C.K. Swamy (India)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i> Loh Swee Seng (Singapore)		
Committee on Natural Resources	Eighth session Bangkok 27 October- 2 November 1981	E/ESCAP/241
<i>Chairman:</i> Pravit Ruyabhorn (Thailand)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Mohamed Nawawi bin Mahmood (Malaysia)		
A.S.H.K. Sadique (Bangladesh)		
<i>Chairman, Technical and Drafting Committee:</i> P.M. Belliappa (India)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i> Antonio Anciano (Philippines)		

^a 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 at United Nations Headquarters.

<i>Body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Document symbol of report^a</i>
Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Transport, Communications and Tourism Wing)	Fifth session Bangkok 24-30 November 1981	E/ESCAP/263 and Corr.1
<i>Chairman:</i> Sribhumi Sukhanetr (Thailand)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Juan de Castro (Philippines)		
Main Ghias-ud-Din (Pakistan)		
<i>Chairman, Technical and Drafting Committee:</i> M. Mujibul Huq (Bangladesh)		
Committee on Agricultural Development	Fourth session Bangkok 12-18 January 1982	E/ESCAP/248
<i>Chairman:</i> Nelia T. Gonzales (Philippines)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Lee Cheng Yan (Malaysia)		
Masahiro Fujii (Japan)		
<i>Chairman, Technical and Drafting Committee:</i> S.A. Mahmood (Bangladesh)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i> T.B. Ratnayake (Sri Lanka)		

Annex IV

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. PUBLICATIONS

- Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1979:* United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80-II.F.1
- Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1980:* United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81-II.F.1
- Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1981:* United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82-II.F.1
- Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, vol. XXX, No. 2, December 1979:* United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.II.F.5
- Electric Power in Asia and the Pacific, 1977 and 1978:* United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.II.F.6
- Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific, 1975-1978, vol. XI, Series B:* United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.II.F.14
- Proceedings of the Expert Group Meeting on Water Pricing (Water Resources Series No. 55):* United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.II.F.11
- Proceedings of the Expert Working Group Meeting on Water Resources, Data Systems and Water-use Data (Water Resources Series No. 53):* United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.II.F.3
- Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics for Asia and the Pacific, vol. X, No. 2, June 1980:* United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.II.F.16; vol. X, No. 3, September 1980: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81-II.F.2; vol. X, No. 4, December 1980: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.II.F.4; vol. XI, No. 1, March 1981: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.II.F.9; vol. XI, No. 2, June 1981: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.II.F.13
- Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, No. 17:* United Nations publication, Sales No. E/F.81.II.F.8
- Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, No. 54:* United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.II.F.15
- Report of the Typhoon Committee on its fourteenth session (E/ESCAP/242)
- Work of the Commission since the thirty-seventh session (E/ESCAP/243 and Corr.1)
- Report on the implementation of the programme of work and priorities, 1980-1981 (E/ESCAP/244)
- The International Development Strategy: implications for regional and subregional strategies (E/ESCAP/245)
- Food supply and distribution in Asia and the Pacific: medium-term outlook and regional co-operation (E/ESCAP/246 and Add.1)
- Reassessment of the Commission's priorities (E/ESCAP/247)
- Report of the Committee on Agricultural Development on its fourth session (E/ESCAP/248)
- Main issues in the field of agriculture (E/ESCAP/249 and Add.1)
- Main issues in the field of development policy and planning (E/ESCAP/250)
- Main issues in the field of industrial development (E/ESCAP/251)
- Main issues in the field of technology (E/ESCAP/252)
- Main issues in the field of human settlements (E/ESCAP/253)
- Main issues in the field of the environment (E/ESCAP/254)
- Programme changes, 1982-1983 (E/ESCAP/255 and Corr.1)
- Report of the Special Body on Land-locked Countries on its sixth session (E/ESCAP/256)
- Main issues in the field of international trade (E/ESCAP/257 and Add.1 and 2 and Corr.1)
- Main issues in the field of natural resources (E/ESCAP/258)
- Main issues in the field of energy (E/ESCAP/259 and Corr.1 and 2)
- Main issues in the field of population (E/ESCAP/260 and Corr.1)
- Report of the Committee on Statistics on its fourth session (E/ESCAP/261)

B. DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION

- Report of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment on its fifth session (E/ESCAP/240)
- Report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its eighth session (E/ESCAP/241)

- Main issues in the field of statistics (E/ESCAP/262 and Add.1)
- Report of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications on its fifth session (Transport, Communications and Tourism Wing) (E/ESCAP/263 and Corr.1)
- Main issues in the field of transport, communications and tourism (E/ESCAP/264 and Add.1-3)
- Main issues in the field of shipping, ports and inland waterways (E/ESCAP/265)
- Main issues in the field of social development (E/ESCAP/266)
- Main issues in the field of transnational corporations (E/ESCAP/267)
- Main issues in the field of information systems and documentation services (E/ESCAP/268)
- Main issues in the field of integrated rural development (E/ESCAP/269)
- The Commission's activities in the Pacific (E/ESCAP/270)
- Report on resolution 219 (XXXVII) on expanding and strengthening the functions of the Commission in the context of the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system (E/ESCAP/271)
- Report of the Management Board of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre (E/ESCAP/272 and Corr.1)
- Progress report on the implementation of Commission resolution 215 (XXXVII) on the draft Charter of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre (E/ESCAP/273 and Add.1 and Corr.1)
- Progress report on the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific for 1981 (E/ESCAP/274)
- Annual report of the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, 1981 (E/ESCAP/275)
- Report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas (CCOP) on its eighteenth session (E/ESCAP/276)
- Report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas (E/ESCAP/277)
- Report of the Governing Council of the Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre on its fourth session (E/ESCAP/278)
- Promotion of and support for ECDC and TCDC (E/ESCAP/279)
- Mobilization of extrabudgetary resources for the work programme of ESCAP (E/ESCAP/280)
- Announcement of intended contributions to the regional training and research institutions (E/ESCAP/281)
- Technical co-operation activities of ESCAP, 1981 (E/ESCAP/282 and Corr.1)
- Technical co-operation activities in Asia and the Pacific: information papers presented by the United Nations Development Programme for programming cycle 1977-1981 and the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development for 1981 (E/ESCAP/283)
- Report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (E/ESCAP/284)
- Date and venue of the thirty-ninth session of the Commission (E/ESCAP/285)
- Tentative calendar of meetings for 1982/83 (E/ESCAP/286 and Corr.1)
- Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1981* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.II.F.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 connection with any economic problems, including problems in the field of technical assistance;

(f) In carrying out the above functions, deal, as appropriate, with the social aspects of economic development and the interrelationship of the economic and social factors.

2. The territories of Asia and the Pacific referred to in paragraph 1 shall include Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Burma, China, the Cook Islands, Democratic Kampuchea, Fiji, Guam, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kiribati, Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Niue, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.

3. The members of the Commission shall consist of Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, 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, Guam, Hong Kong, Kiribati, Niue, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

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 or the Executive Secretary sees fit to include.

Rule 6

Non-governmental organizations in category I may propose items on matters within their competence for the provisional agenda of the Commission, subject to the following conditions:

(a) An organization which intends to propose such an item shall inform the Executive Secretary at least sixty-three days before the commencement of the session, and before formally proposing an item shall give due consideration to any comments he may make;

(b) The proposal shall be formally submitted with the relevant basic documentation not less than forty-nine days before the commencement of the session. The item shall be included in the agenda of

the Commission if it is adopted by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

Rule 7

The first item upon the provisional agenda for each session shall be the adoption of the agenda.

Rule 8

The Commission may amend the agenda at any time.

Chapter III

REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Rule 9

Each member shall be represented on the Commission by an accredited representative.

Rule 10

A representative may be accompanied to the sessions of the Commission by alternate representatives and advisers and, when absent, he may be replaced by an alternate representative.

Rule 11

The credentials of each representative appointed to the Commission, together with a designation of alternate representatives, shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary without delay.

Rule 12

The Chairman and the two Vice-Chairmen shall examine the credentials and report upon them to the Commission.

Chapter IV

OFFICERS

Rule 13

The Commission shall, at its first meeting of each year, elect from among its representatives a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen, designated as First and Second Vice-Chairmen, who shall hold office until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election.

Rule 14

If the Chairman is absent from a meeting, or any part thereof, the Vice-Chairman designated by the Chairman shall preside.

Rule 15

If the Chairman ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the First Vice-Chairman shall become Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term. If the First Vice-Chairman also ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the Second Vice-Chairman shall become Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term.

Rule 16

The Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairman.

Rule 17

The Chairman, or the Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman, shall participate in the meetings of the Commission as such, and not as the representative of the member by whom he was accredited. The Commission shall admit an alternate representative to represent that member in the meetings of the Commission and to exercise its right to vote.

Chapter V

SECRETARIAT

Rule 18

The Executive Secretary shall act in that capacity at all meetings of the Commission and of its 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 connection with the actual conduct of the voting. Brief statements by members consisting solely of explanations of their votes may be permitted by the Chairman, if he deems it necessary, before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed.

Chapter VIII

LANGUAGES

Rule 44

Chinese, English, French and Russian shall be the working languages of the Commission.

Rule 45

Speeches made in one of the working languages shall be interpreted into the other working languages.

Chapter IX

RECORDS

Rule 46

Summary records of the meetings of the Commission shall be kept by the secretariat. They shall be sent as soon as possible to the representatives of members and to the representatives of any other government agency or organization which participated in the meeting concerned. Such representatives shall inform the secretariat, not later than seventy-two hours after the circulation of any summary record, of any changes they wish to have made. Any disagreement concerning such changes shall be referred to the Chairman, whose decision shall be final.

Rule 47

The corrected version of the summary records of public meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible in accordance with the usual practice of the United Nations. This shall include distribution to non-governmental organizations in categories I and II and those on the Roster, and on appropriate occasions to consultative members.

Rule 48

The corrected version of the summary records of private meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible to the members of the Commission, to any consultative member participating in the meeting concerned, and to the specialized agencies. They shall be distributed to all the Members of the United Nations if and when the Commission so decides.

Rule 49

As soon as possible, the text of all reports, resolutions, recommendations and other formal decisions made by the Commission, its sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and its committees shall be communicated to the members of the Commission, to the consultative members concerned, to all other Members of the United Nations, to the specialized agencies, and to the non-governmental organizations in categories I and II and those on the Roster.

Chapter X

PUBLICITY OF MEETINGS

Rule 50

The meetings of the Commission shall ordinarily be held in public. The Commission may decide that a particular meeting or meetings shall be held in private.

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.

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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