

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

ANNUAL REPORT

3 April 1982 - 29 April 1983

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1983**

SUPPLEMENT No. 12



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.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACC	Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	IMO	International Maritime Organization
ACPR	Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission	IPC	International Pepper Community
ADB	Asian Development Bank	ITC	UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre
ANRPC	Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries	ITU	International Telecommunication Union
APCC	Asian and Pacific Coconut Community	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
APDC	Asian and Pacific Development Centre	RCTT	Regional Centre for Technology Transfer
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations	RMRDC	Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre
CCOP	Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas	RNAM	Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery
CCOP/SOPAC	Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas	SEATRADC	Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre
CMEA	Council for Mutual Economic Assistance	SIAP	Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa	SPC	South Pacific Commission
ECDC	Economic co-operation among developing countries	SPEC	South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe	TCDC	Technical co-operation among developing countries
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
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization	UPU	Universal Postal Union
ICC	International Chamber of Commerce	WHO	World Health Organization
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
ILO	International Labour Organisation	WMO	World Meteorological Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund	WTO	World Tourism Organization

Introduction

1. The annual report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, which covers the period 3 April 1982 to 29 April 1983, was adopted unanimously by the Commission at its 598th meeting on 29 April 1983. It is submitted for consideration by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session, 1983, 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 598th 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 1983, the Council:

“Took note of the report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for the period 3 April 1982 to 29 April 1983 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

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 231 (XXXIX). | Strengthening regional co-operation on programmes for youth development |
| 232 (XXXIX). | Social aspects of rural development |
| 233 (XXXIX). | Implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries |
| 234 (XXXIX). | Transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994 |

Chapter II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION

A. ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES

3. During the year under review, the following subsidiary bodies met: the Committees on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment; Natural Resources; Trade; Social Development; Development Planning; and Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing). The Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference was held in lieu of the Committee on Population. 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:

Seminar/Training Workshop on Farm Radio Programme Production in Solomon Islands, Honiara, March-April 1982

Training Planning Workshop for Instructors of Agro-pesticide Distributors in the South Pacific Region, Koronivia, Fiji, May-June 1982

ESCAP/Asian Institute for Rural Development Training Course on Improving the Socio-economic Condition of Women in Sericulture, Bangalore, India, June-August 1982

Training Course on Rural Broadcasting, Rabaul, Papua New Guinea, July-August 1982

Study Tour on Post-harvest Processing, Marketing and Consumption of Aquaculture Production in China, Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai and Wuxi, September 1982

Regional Workshop on Import Procurement of Chemical Fertilizers for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, September-October 1982

Expert Group Meeting on Measuring and Monetizing Social Benefits of Projects for the Rural Poor, Bangkok, September-October 1982

Pilot Project Planning Workshop on Improving the Socio-economic Condition of Women in Fisheries, Suva, November 1982

Regional Workshop on Bulk Blending and Mixing of Fertilizers, Penang, Malaysia, November 1982

Thailand National Workshop on Agricultural and Agro-industrial Residue Utilization, Cha-am, Thailand, December 1982

Expert Group Meeting on Food Supply and Distribution in Asia and the Pacific: Food Security, Trade and Investment, Bangkok, January 1983

Regional Project Planning Workshop for Field Testing of Guide-lines for Local-level Planning, Bangkok, March 1983

FADINAP/Fertilizer Association of India Round-table Meeting on Fertilizer Marketing in Asia, Bangkok, March 1983

ARSAP/UNIDO (Regional Network for the Production, Marketing and Control of Pesticides in Asia and the Far East) Expert Group Meeting on the Pesticide Data Collection System, Chiang Mai, Thailand, March 1983

5. The Expert Group Meeting on Food Supply and Distribution in Asia and the Pacific: Food Security, Trade and Investment brought together experts nominated by 13 member countries of ESCAP and five international and intergovernmental agencies.

6. The meetings and training programmes pursued under the Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP) and the agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific (ARSAP) had the objective of promoting the use of more productive agricultural inputs by small farmers.

7. The rural development subprogramme continued to concentrate on improving the welfare of the rural poor and disadvantaged groups. Of the recommendations made at various meetings, the following are noteworthy. One recommendation stemming from the Expert Group Meeting on Measuring and Monetizing Social Benefits of Projects for the Rural Poor was that the benefits of such projects should be verified in the field before they were incorporated into existing appraisal systems and that follow-up activities to promote participatory monitoring and evaluation should be developed to assess such benefits. The Pilot Project Planning Workshop on Improving the Socio-economic Condition of Women in Fisheries indicated that three types of pilot projects

would be useful for improving the lot of women in fisherfolk communities in the participating countries, Fiji, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines: (a) the establishment of a revolving loan fund for women in fisherfolk communities, (b) the establishment of facilities to improve their access to markets and (c) the establishment of women's groups to undertake income-generating activities.

8. The training course on sericulture helped to develop technical skills in producing, processing and marketing silk. The course highlighted the need to extend similar training to more countries and a larger number of officers. This will be achieved by implementing the regional co-operative programme on silk under the auspices of the Regional Consultative Group on Silk.

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

(a) Staff of FADINAP, FAO and the National Fertilizer Development Centre organized and provided instruction at a training programme for fertilizer retailers in Pakistan (April-May and November 1982);

(b) ESCAP and FAO staff provided advisory services to Thailand on the establishment of its small farmer development programme (Bangkok, April-May 1982);

(c) ARSAP and the Plant Protection Section of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of Fiji organized and provided assistance to the Training Planning Workshop for Instructors of Agro-pesticide Distributors in the South Pacific Region (Fiji, May-June 1982);

(d) Staff of FADINAP and the Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation organized and provided assistance in the training of trainers of fertilizer retailers in Bangladesh (August-September 1982 and March 1983);

(e) In the context of TCDC, FADINAP co-ordinated a study tour for Burmese officials engaged in the marketing and distribution of fertilizers to observe the relevant practices in Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand (October 1982);

(f) Staff of ESCAP, FAO and the Asian and Pacific Regional Agricultural Credit Association organized and assisted in the South Pacific subregional agricultural credit training programme in Papua New Guinea (January-February 1983);

(g) Staff of ESCAP and the United Nations Development Advisory Team for the Pacific undertook an advisory mission to Solomon Islands to advise government authorities on planning farmers' associations (February 1983);

(h) ESCAP staff provided expert assistance in a training course on management of agriculture and rural development in Samoa, jointly sponsored by APDC and the University of the South Pacific (March 1983).

10. The following technical publications and studies were issued during the period under review: (a) *Experiences in Agricultural Development Planning in Selected Countries of Asia*; (b) *Regional Co-operation in the Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber (CGPRT) Crops in Asia and the Pacific*; (c) *Participation of Women in Paddy Production and Processing*; (d) *Agro-pesticides: Their Management and Application*; (e) *Agricultural Information Development Bulletin* (quarterly); (f) *Agro-chemicals News in Brief* (quarterly newsletter); (g) *Calendar of Meetings on Agro-chemicals* (quarterly bulletin); (h) *Fertilizer Price and Trade Information* (monthly bulletin); and (i) *Regional Information Support Service* (bimonthly bulletin).

11. The following documents and drafts were prepared during the period under review: (a) draft study on alternative subregional and regional food security arrangements; (b) draft study on regional food trade information and management network; (c) draft study on increasing the flow of financial resources to food and agriculture; (d) measurement of social and economic benefits generated by the small farmer development projects and their incorporation into cost-benefit analysis; (e) project appraisal and the rural poor: an alternative to cost-benefit analysis; (f) bibliography of socio-economic studies on CGPRT crops including nutrition and utilization aspects in selected ESCAP countries; (g) study on farming systems and cropping patterns of CGPRT crops in selected ESCAP countries; (h) field testing of local-level planning guide-lines; (i) transfer of knowledge and skills among small farmers: the "farmer-trains-farmer" approach; (j) socio-economic study of fishing communities with emphasis on the role of women in the Philippines; (k) survey report and project proposal for improving the socio-economic condition of women in fisheries (Indonesia); (l) the integration of women in fisheries development in Fiji; and (m) the socio-economic condition of women in some fisherfolk communities in Papua New Guinea.

Committee on Development Planning

Development issues and policies

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

Expert Group on ASEAN and Pacific Economic Co-operation, Bangkok, June 1982

Expert Group Meeting on Domestic Stabilization of International Trade Instability in the South Pacific, Pattaya, Thailand, August 1982

Expert Group Meeting on Integration of Tax Planning into Development Planning in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, September 1982

Regional Seminar on an Interlinked Country Model System, Bangkok, November 1982

Expert Group on Development Issues and Policies, Bangkok, November 1982

Meeting of Experts on the Development of Trade and Co-operation between Developing Countries of the ESCAP Region and Socialist Countries of Eastern Europe, Bangkok, February 1983

13. The Expert Group on ASEAN and Pacific Economic Co-operation deliberated upon 11 research studies on various aspects of potential ASEAN-Pacific co-operation and recommended that fruitful areas of possible ASEAN-Pacific co-operation included manufactures, agricultural products, minerals, investments and technology and that further studies should be undertaken in those areas. The findings and recommendations of the Expert Group were presented by the secretariat to the Pacific Economic Co-operation Meeting, held at Bangkok in June 1982.

14. The Expert Group Meeting on Domestic Stabilization of International Trade Instability in the South Pacific considered a series of country studies and general background papers presenting an overview of the issues and suggesting appropriate courses of government policy response. Several policy and planning options were recommended by the Expert Group, including increased economic co-operation among South Pacific island countries, diversification of export markets and import sources, integrated planning for stabilization and improved commodity stabilization designs and arrangements. The Expert Group also recommended that ESCAP undertake further analytical studies and provide technical assistance to the South Pacific island subregion concerning those policy and planning options.

15. Six country papers and a background paper surveying the regional situation and suggesting lines of action were discussed at the Expert Group Meeting on Integration of Tax Planning into Development Planning in the ESCAP Region. The major finding of the Expert Group was that the developing ESCAP countries should take urgent steps to incorporate tax planning into development planning in an operationally useful manner. Several measures were recommended by the experts to serve that purpose. They included the undertaking of studies at the national level to improve tax planning and the establishment or strengthening of national tax research institutions, with assistance from ESCAP, for ensuring consistency between tax policies and development objectives.

16. At the Regional Seminar on an Interlinked Country Model System, the econometric modelling work carried out by all participating institutions was reviewed

and evaluated and experience was exchanged between national macro-economic model builders and participating agencies. Discussions were also held on the means whereby the secretariat might further assist the member countries in developing short-term planning and projection models as a step towards the more effective management of their respective economies, and on the ongoing work within ESCAP to develop a linkage system based on trade flows among the developing countries of the ESCAP region and between them and the rest of the world as a part of the global LINK system of econometric projections.

17. The Expert Group on Development Issues and Policies reviewed, and suggested improvements to, preliminary drafts of the chapters of part II of the secretariat's *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1982*. It also advised the secretariat regarding the topics and organization of future *Surveys*.

18. A series of country studies and an overview paper were presented to the Meeting of Experts on the Development of Trade and Co-operation between Developing Countries of the ESCAP Region and Socialist Countries of Eastern Europe. The discussion focused on the possibilities for further expansion of mutually beneficial economic exchange, the removal of existing trade difficulties and the establishment of an appropriate pattern of economic co-operation between the two regions.

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

(a) Technical missions to Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore and Sri Lanka on establishing and ensuring collaboration of planning agencies and national research institutions of the respective countries with respect to the regional project on macro-economic modelling and projections;

(b) A technical mission to Japan to consult with officials of the Economic Planning Agency (EPA) and the Centre for Southeast Asian Studies of Kyoto University on the methodologies of linkages between econometric models, and to arrange with EPA for the transfer of computer software to ESCAP to be used for linking the models with each other;

(c) A mission to India to consult with staff of the Centre for Development Studies on follow-up work in connection with the project on new patterns of subregional economic co-operation;

(d) Fact-finding missions to Burma, Hong Kong, India, the Philippines and Singapore to gather information and monitor consultants in connection with the 1982 *Survey*.

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

(a) *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1982*; (b) *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*, vol. XXXI, No. 1, June 1980; (c) *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*, vol. XXXI, No. 2, December 1980; (d) *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*, vol. XXXII, No. 1, June 1981; (e) *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*, vol. XXXII, No. 2, December 1981; (f) *Development Papers, No. 1: Development Strategies for the 1980s in South Asia*; (g) ESCAP monograph: *The Scope for South-east Asian Subregional Co-operation in the Automotive Sector*; (h) ESCAP monograph: *Domestic Stabilization of International Trade Instability in the South Pacific*; (i) "Issues concerning the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries"; (j) "Issues in the field of macro-economic modelling and projections"; (k) "Issues concerning the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade"; (l) "Issues concerning economic co-operation in south Asia"; (m) "Survey of trade linkage methodologies"; (n) "Macro-economic model for Fiji"; (o) "Updated and revised estimation of the Bank of Thailand model"; (p) "A multisector model of the economy of Thailand"; (q) "Current and prospective development of trade and co-operation between developing countries of the ESCAP region and socialist countries of Eastern Europe"; (r) "Economic relations between Poland and developing countries of the ESCAP region"; (s) "Economic relations between Hungary and developing countries of the ESCAP region"; (t) "International financial resource flows and the developing ESCAP countries"; and (u) "Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy".

Transnational corporations

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

Regional Workshop on Negotiating with Transnational Corporations in the Petrochemical Sector, Bangkok and Pattaya, April-May 1982

Workshop on Transnational Corporations and Economic Development in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, January 1983

Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on Transnational Corporations, Bangkok, January 1983

Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on the Code of Conduct on Transnational Corporations, Bangkok, January 1983

Preparatory Meeting for the Programme of Assistance to Institutions of Higher Learning in Asia and the Pacific in Developing Their Own Programmes of Training on Matters related to Transnational Corporations, Bangkok, January 1983

22. The Regional Workshop on Negotiating with TNCs in the Petrochemical Sector, organized by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (UNCTC) and the Joint Unit, discussed such critical issues as world-wide markets, international trade, production costs and prices of selected petrochemical products and financing of petrochemical projects.

23. The Workshop on TNCs and Economic Development in Asia and the Pacific, organized by UNCTC and the Joint Unit, provided an opportunity for government officials from selected ESCAP developing countries to discuss the policies and practices of host developing countries towards TNCs and recent trends in alternative modes of TNC involvement in host developing economies.

24. The *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Meeting on TNCs considered the main problems and critical needs of host developing countries in Asia and the Pacific with respect to their interaction with TNCs. Issues relating to the role of TNCs in capital accumulation, the evolving alternative modes of TNC participation, motivations of TNCs in their investment activities, technology transfer through TNCs and national policies with respect to TNCs were discussed in the context of developing Asian and Pacific countries. The Meeting also considered measures at the national, regional and international levels to strengthen the negotiating capacities of host developing countries. Expansion and strengthening of the information and training activities of ESCAP and UNCTC were recommended; in that connection, a number of workshops covering various areas were proposed for strengthening the negotiating capacities of ESCAP countries with respect to TNCs. The Meeting also recommended policy-oriented research on some of the issues raised, in particular that of ECDC through intraregional investment among developing ESCAP countries.

25. The objective of the *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Meeting on the Code of Conduct on TNCs was to brief ESCAP member countries on the progress made to date and the issues yet to be resolved in preparing a draft code of conduct on TNCs. The briefings were designed to prepare them for the special session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations to be held in March and May 1983.

26. The Preparatory Meeting for the Programme of Assistance to Institutions of Higher Learning in Developing Their Own Programmes of Training on Matters related to TNCs, organized by UNCTC together with the Joint Unit, deliberated upon the existing programmes of training and their scope and the content of the programme of assistance to the institutions represented at the Meeting.

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

(a) A mission was undertaken to the Republic of Korea to discuss with government officials the role of

TNCs in the Republic of Korea and to ensure collaboration with investment co-ordinating and regulating agencies and departments;

(b) A mission was undertaken to Japan to consult government officials on problems and issues related to the efficient transfer of Japanese technology to developing Asian countries;

(c) A mission was undertaken to Fiji, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Solomon Islands to discuss TNC matters with government officials in various concerned departments and the preparations for the forthcoming ministerial round table for Pacific island countries on regulating and negotiating with TNCs, scheduled for September 1983;

(d) Missions were undertaken to Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore to gather data on the financial, technical, managerial and marketing involvement of TNCs in the tropical hardwood industry in connection with the Joint Unit's studies on that industry. The staff member, while on mission, assisted in servicing the first session of the Intergovernmental Consultative Forum of Developing Tropical Timber Producing/Exporting Countries, held at Kuala Lumpur;

(e) Missions were undertaken to India and Sri Lanka to co-ordinate and monitor the work of consultants in connection with the project on negotiating issues with TNCs, technology transfer, transfer pricing and restrictive business practices;

(f) Missions were undertaken by the project expert to Japan, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea and Sri Lanka to gather information and monitor the consultants' work in connection with the project on the role of transnational trading corporations;

(g) Missions were undertaken by the project expert to Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Singapore and Sri Lanka as part of the development of a regional information network on TNCs.

28. The following technical publications were produced during the period under review: (a) *Transnational Corporations and Their Impact on Economic Development in Asia and the Pacific*, ESCAP/UNCTC publication, Series B, No. 2; (b) Brochure on the Joint CTC/ESCAP Unit; and (c) *Accessions List*, No. 4: documents received by the Joint Unit, 1982.

29. The following studies were undertaken during the period under review: (a) "TNCs and the distribution of gains in the tin industry of south-east Asia: an updated study"; (b) "TNCs and sugar exports from Fiji"; (c) "TNCs and the tin export industry in Sri Lanka"; (d) "TNCs and cotton exports from Pakistan"; (e) "TNCs and the distribution of gains in the bauxite/alumina industries of Malaysia and Indonesia"; (f) "TNCs and the tea industry of south Asia"; (g) "TNCs and the cotton industry of the developing

world: an integrated study based on case studies of TNC involvement in the cotton industries of Mexico, Pakistan, Sudan and Tanzania"; (h) "TNCs in the copper industry of developing countries: the experience of Latin America, south-east Asia and Africa"; and (i) "TNCs and the tropical hardwood industry".

Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment

Industry and technology

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

Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting of Industrial Planners on Financing Industrialization, Bangkok, June 1982

Seminar on the Integrated Silk Processing Industry, China, September 1982

Technical Advisory Committee of the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (seventh session), Tokyo, October 1982

Intergovernmental Meeting on Agro- and Allied Industries (fourth session), Bangkok, November-December 1982

Governing Body of the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (fifth session), Los Banos, Philippines, December 1982

UNIDO/ESCAP Expert Group Meeting on a Regional Programme for Development of Industrial Consultancy, Kuala Lumpur, January 1983

31. The *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Meeting of Industrial Planners on Financing Industrialization focused on the important role played by financial institutions in financing economic and industrial development. It recommended that a second meeting of industrial planners be organized to discuss the integration of fiscal and financial targets in the economic and industrial plans of the ESCAP member countries. It also recommended that ESCAP should undertake studies related to "sick" industries and to the role of development/finance institutions involved in providing assistance to small-scale industries.

32. The report of the Seminar on the Integrated Silk Processing Industry was considered at the Intergovernmental Meeting on Agro- and Allied Industries and its recommendations were endorsed. The Seminar recommended, among other things, that there should be a forum for the continuous exchange of experiences in the development of the silk industry and, to that end, a mechanism should be worked out for intercountry co-operation along the lines of the existing arrangements in the region for other commodities. ESCAP has initiated governmental consultations with selected countries in that connection.

33. The Intergovernmental Meeting on Agro- and Allied Industries recommended, among other things, policy and strategy issues such as the re-examination of export strategies, where required, to ensure consideration of dynamic comparative advantage as well as the optimum exploitation of export-growth possibilities in the field of agro- and other resource-based industries. It drew attention to the need for preparatory and follow-up activity at the regional level in support of the UNIDO system of consultations and underlined the importance of adopting mechanisms best suited to intercountry co-operation in a variety of agro-industrial processing sectors, particularly those in which preparatory work had been undertaken, such as the integrated dairy industry and the silk and leather processing industries. The Meeting recognized the recent developments in biotechnology, genetic engineering and related fields and recommended the dissemination to the developing countries of information on the rapid developments in the area of new technologies of relevance to agro- and allied industries, with the assistance of UNIDO.

34. The UNIDO/ESCAP Expert Group Meeting on a Regional Programme for Development of Industrial Consultancy was organized in close co-operation with APDC to discuss ways and means of strengthening national consultancy capabilities and establishing a regional network for that purpose. The Meeting recognized the crucial importance of industrial consultancy in the development of the countries in the region and concluded that intercountry co-operation at the subregional and regional levels was essential to the strengthening and use of such consultancy. The Meeting urged UNIDO, ESCAP, Governments, consultancy associations and other relevant institutions to undertake all actions possible to support the development of industrial consultancy in the region and to foster co-operation. It strongly emphasized that a co-operative network of industrial consultancy should become operational as soon as possible. Advisory services to meet special needs of consultancy development in the least developed countries were emphasized. The Meeting further urged continuation of current efforts by ESCAP and UNIDO in that connection so as to retain momentum and continue to fulfil the needs in that important field.

35. The aim of the project on industrialization in non-metropolitan areas is to identify pilot industries to be established away from the metropolitan areas. Preliminary feasibility studies undertaken in seven ESCAP regional countries have been completed. The input framework for detailed feasibility studies in four of the countries has also been completed. The input framework for detailed feasibility studies for the remaining three countries will be prepared in 1983 and help will be provided in requesting donor assistance. Two preliminary studies on spatial dispersal of industrial locations are currently under way. One is based on

comparative studies of the ASEAN countries in the context of the decision-making processes of national policies as to locations. The other is a more in-depth study of policy for the development of backward areas in south Asia. These studies, which are being undertaken as recommended by the *Ad Hoc* Group of Ministers of Industry, may lead to a more comprehensive and thorough action programme for the spatial dispersal of industries in the region.

36. Several seminars on foreign investment and tax administration organized by ESCAP have recommended the establishment of a regional centre on foreign investment and tax administration to conduct research, suggest means to improve the tax structures of the member countries of the region and facilitate exchange of information. The centre is being established in Singapore and has become partially operational. However, it needs financial and physical support from the member countries of the region. The centre expects to be self-supporting after a three-year period but will need financial support from the countries during that initial period of operation. To bridge the gap until the centre becomes fully operational and also to promote TCDC, the secretariat proposes to set up a panel of experts drawn from the regional developing countries on a TCDC basis. ESCAP's role will be that of a catalyst in organizing such services with but modest ESCAP inputs.

37. With regard to agro-industrial linkages, the secretariat has already prepared a study on such linkages relating to sugar. The study was well received by the member countries. Following the "minimum programme of action" recommended by the *Ad Hoc* Group of Ministers of Industry, the secretariat initiated a study on the linkages between industry and agriculture in edible oil-seeds. The study is divided into two parts: an examination of the policy measures, including institutional arrangements in selected countries of the ESCAP region, regarding agro-industrial linkages of oil-seed crops and in-depth country studies regarding the commodity with a view to recommending a future course of action at both the national and the subregional levels. The first part of the study is under way. The second part is expected to be taken up during the latter part of 1983.

38. The prime-mover industry project in Nepal is being implemented under bilateral assistance. The acquisition of land for the construction of an industrial estate in the far western region of Nepal is under way. Actual construction will start towards the second quarter of 1983. ESCAP has been providing advisory services as and when required. The detailed feasibility study of the project in Bangladesh has now been completed. Project proposals for donor assistance are being prepared and assistance is being sought from various sources. The project envisages a complete modernization of the tanning of leather products and the processing

of medicinal herbs. The prime-mover industry project is intended for the least developed countries and a third such country for the implementation of the project is being selected.

39. During the period under review, the following advisory services were rendered:

(a) A staff member visited Nepal at the request of the Government to revise and update the document prepared for submission to the solidarity ministerial meeting in Nepal;

(b) A staff member visited Bangladesh twice to assist the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Development Corporation in the preparation of the feasibility report on the modernization of the leather tanning and medicinal herbs processing industries under the prime-mover industry projects;

(c) Advisory services were provided to the Government of Pakistan on some selected industrial development problems and policies in the province of Sind and to the Government of Thailand on a regional centre for industrial development in north-east and southern Thailand and promotion of the Lamphun industrial estate;

(d) A consultative mission was sent to Nepal to hold discussions with the Industrial Services Centre aimed at industrial development in rural areas based on agricultural products;

(e) Advisory and training services were undertaken in the field of technological development and technology transfer, especially on legal matters such as enactment of technology transfer and investment laws, establishment of appropriate institutions, interpretation and execution of engineering contracts and revision of legal structures, and training services were provided by the secretariat through lecturing in seminars and workshops in order to raise negotiating capacities of interested countries and acquaint them with international contract practices;

(f) Advice was extended to Thailand on collaboration possibilities with companies from developed countries and ESCAP member countries on research and evaluation of technology for the manufacture of rice-husk boards, the interpretation and execution of an engineering contract and the drafting of a pre-agreement for participation in a major construction project, a joint venture agreement, a commercial agency contract and a draft distributorship agreement. The secretariat also provided consultancy and training services to the Thai Ministry of Industry on a continuing basis. Monthly training seminars for the Thai business community and government officials were held to upgrade their negotiating capacities and knowledge of international contract practices in the field of technology transfer;

(g) Advisory and training services were provided to China on various matters of technology transfer as well as on the preparation of its draft technology transfer law;

(h) Advisory services were provided to India on collaboration in the field of stainless steel production and necessary alterations to a draft licence agreement;

(i) In the field of energy, advisory services were provided to the Government of Maldives on the establishment of experimental solar photoconductive electricity generation. The project is to be planned and implemented as the first step in supplying electric power to small and remote atolls. The basic concept and experimental design for a small-scale irrigation system powered by photoconductive conversion was prepared for the Government;

(j) Training services were provided for the public and private sectors of the Republic of Korea and Singapore in licensing, joint ventures and other technology transfer areas. Relevant services for Hong Kong were scheduled for January 1983;

(k) Advisory services were provided to Palau concerning economic development policies and regulation of foreign business and investment;

(l) Fiji received a report containing recommendations for the setting up of a national science and technology institution and for the regulation of investment and collaboration;

(m) ESCAP staff participated in lecturing and providing individual *ad hoc* advice to participants in the RCTT Training Workshop on Technology Transfer, held at Bangalore, India;

(n) ESCAP staff gave some of the lectures at a meeting of the Licensing Executive Society of Australia on the subject of restrictive clauses of technology transfer arrangements, held in Singapore;

(o) ESCAP staff took part in lecturing at the WIPO Workshop on Patent Information held at Bangalore, India;

(p) The post-harvest technology expert rendered technical assistance to the Storage and Processing Section of the Agricultural Engineering Division of the Government of Thailand at Bang Khen, particularly in the field of paddy drying and storage.

40. The following publications and studies were issued: (a) *Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*, No. 18; (b) *Regional Study on Production of Fuel Ethanol from Agro-products*; (c) three editions of "ESCAP club for industrial co-operation information"; (d) *Cost Saving through Energy Conservation*, Booklet 1: Energy audit; and (e) "Current status and trends in national regulation of technology transfer within the ESCAP region", presented at the nineteenth Biennial

Conference of the International Bar Association at New Delhi.

(a) *Regional Centre for Technology Transfer*

41. RCTT continued the implementation of the regional project financed by the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development to assist ESCAP member countries in strengthening their policy and institutional framework in science and technology including technology transfer and to train appropriate personnel. As one of its activities under the regional project, it organized a workshop and exhibition on domestic utilization of energy. It also undertook some activities financed by the Government of the Netherlands and other donor countries.

42. At the request of Sri Lanka, action was taken to field an advisory mission to suggest measures for strengthening technology transfer arrangements in that country. RCTT provided assistance to a number of countries of the region in the organization of national and regional seminars and workshops by arranging for the services of outside experts. The staff of RCTT has participated extensively in national meetings devoted to the consideration of science and technology and industrial development.

43. Requests from member countries for RCTT assistance in organizing national seminars and training workshops and sponsoring certain programmes and separate studies have been attended to by the Centre. For example, a request was received from Papua New Guinea to organize an in-country training workshop on technology transfer and technology development in 1983. A tentative programme for such a workshop was sent to Papua New Guinea and is under discussion with the appropriate authorities.

44. Numerous technical inquiries were received from countries from different parts of the world on a variety of subjects. These concerned such matters as techniques for drying mango pulp, sponge iron technology and the manufacture of starch and liquid glucose from maize. The answers to these inquiries were greatly appreciated by the countries concerned. As to technical information activities, a substantial amount of information was disseminated and newsletters and technical digests were issued.

(b) *Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery*

45. At its fourth session, held in November 1981, the Governing Body of RNAM had approved the new project document for the second phase, covering the period 1982-1984, and six subprogrammes on mechanization policies and strategies, strengthening of design capabilities, mutual exchange of prototypes and drawings, manufacturing, popularization of improved implements and machinery, and information dissemination.

46. The Technical Advisory Committee reviewed the progress of implementation of the six subprogrammes since January 1982. It also reviewed the work programmes of the participating countries which would reinforce RNAM activities at the national level. Specific recommendations were made for the detailed implementation of activities during 1983 and on an indicative basis for 1984. The Governing Body endorsed the recommendations of the Technical Advisory Committee on the implementation of the programme for 1983. It also approved the revision of the project document and the project budget for 1983 and the indicative figure for 1984 keeping in view the Committee's resources. It urged the donor and participating countries to increase their contributions. It also indicated policy guide-lines as to the overall operation of RNAM.

47. The participating countries have made considerable progress in the establishment and strengthening of the national networks and farm mechanization committees. Progress has also been made in the strengthening of design capabilities, in the design, evaluation and modification of selected prototypes and the mutual exchange of prototypes and drawings, in promotion of the local manufacture of agricultural implements and machinery and in the popularization of improved implements and machinery.

48. In order to promote local manufacture of agricultural implements and machinery, the first Regional Workshop of Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers' Associations was organized at Lahore, Pakistan, in August 1982. Its recommendations are being implemented at the national level. A workshop of agricultural machinery manufacturers' associations was organized in the Philippines and the recommendations of the Lahore workshop figured prominently in its discussions. Similar action has been initiated by other member countries of RNAM.

49. Information dissemination is an important subprogramme of the project, the main features of which are the collection, analysis and dissemination of information on mechanization policies, technological developments, popularization of machinery and other developments of relevance to agricultural mechanization in the participating countries. The collection and dissemination of information have been strengthened, as can be seen from the regular issue of newsletters and pamphlets by the national institutes, some in local languages so as to be understood by the people concerned. Information has been received from India, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand. In each of those countries, numerous technical publications, newsletters and other materials were widely distributed in the general programme of information dissemination. Four newsletters were brought out by RNAM during the period under review, issues 13, 14, 15 and 16. Arrangements are under way for the publication of technical bulletins covering test codes and procedures for farm trans-

planters, testing, evaluation and modification of cereal harvesters, rice transplanters and weeders and a regional catalogue of agricultural machinery, tools and equipment which are in commercial production and are being widely used.

50. An illustrated brochure on RNAM was published, giving an account of its genesis, its development as a regional network, the implementation of the first phase of its work programme (1977-1981), its achievements, the reorientation of its programme during the second phase (1982-1984), expected outputs, the organizational structure of RNAM and illustrations of the use and popularization of some types of agricultural machinery and tools. It will serve as a useful reference material.

51. With regard to training, the RNAM programme has been designed to provide for a three-month training programme each year. A training programme on industrial extension was organized at the Zhenjiang Institute of Agricultural Machinery in Jiangsu Province, China, for a period of three months starting from 22 August 1982. Arrangements are being made for professional enhancement programmes to be conducted during 1983.

52. ESCAP recruited an expert on agricultural machinery product design engineering to be stationed at the National Institute at Jakarta from December 1982. His services are being made available to the other RNAM countries as and when the need arises.

Human settlements

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

Regional Congress of Local Authorities for Development of Human Settlements in Asia and the Pacific, Yokohama, Japan, June 1982

International Seminar on Urban Development Policies: Focus on Land Management, Nagoya, Japan, October 1982

Expert Group Meeting on a Human Settlements Atlas for the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, February 1983

Expert Group Meeting on an Integrated Programme for Improvement of Slums and Squatter Settlements with Special Emphasis on Appropriate Infrastructure, Services and Technologies, New Delhi, March 1983

54. The Regional Congress of Local Authorities for Development of Human Settlements in Asia and the Pacific made several important recommendations relating to development, urbanization and physical conditions in cities; policies, planning and programmes for development of shelter, infrastructure and services; upgrading the quality of urban life; intergovernmental relationships and the position of local authorities with

regard to legislative and financial powers and planning and development functions; management and co-ordination within and among local authorities; and public participation and access to public information on human settlements.

55. The International Seminar on Urban Development Policies: Focus on Land Management, co-sponsored by ESCAP, the City of Nagoya, the United Nations Centre for Regional Development and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements dealt with the process of land readjustment, whereby groups of landowners could undertake land development on a co-operative basis in collaboration with public agencies.

56. The Expert Group Meeting on a Human Settlements Atlas for the ESCAP Region was organized to examine and discuss the draft prepared by the secretariat with a view to improving, expanding and supplementing the text, contents and illustrative techniques of the atlas. The atlas embodies a broad profile of the human settlements situation at the regional, national, urban and community levels. It constitutes the illustrative part of the project on "Review and study of the human settlements in the ESCAP region" mandated by the Commission at its thirty-sixth session.

57. The Expert Group Meeting on an Integrated Programme for Improvement of Slums and Squatter Settlements considered the regional analysis developed from the country papers on slums and squatter settlements prepared by 10 national counterparts in the region. The regional analysis set out policy guidelines for the provision of shelter, infrastructure, services and technologies in the form of sets of options for implementation by the member countries under diverse financial and socio-economic conditions. The action proposals will be incorporated into the final report to guide decision-makers and agencies in the implementation of policies.

58. In response to a request for assistance from Pacific member countries, a three-man mission consisting of staff members of ESCAP and Bowcentrum International Education visited Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu to determine the feasibility of establishing a subregional training centre in housing and building for the Pacific. The mission completed a project proposal for submission to the Netherlands Government.

59. Studies have been issued on the building materials and construction industry in the ESCAP region, the utilization of subsurface space in the region, the role of ESCAP in decentralized urban development and the physical profile of cities in the region. In addition, work continued with respect to the preparation of a review and study of the human settlements situation in the ESCAP region which is expected to be completed for publication in mid-1983. Active steps were

taken to compile, review and finalize the country monographs on rural centre planning for publication in 1983.

Environment

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

AIBD/ESCAP/UNEP Media Workshop for Broadcasters on Environment and Development, with Special Emphasis on the Marine Environment, Kuala Lumpur, April 1982

Expert Group Meeting on Methods and Costs of Industrial Pollution Control, Bangkok, June 1982

Press Institute of Bangladesh/ESCAP National Seminar/Workshop on Environment Reporting, Dhaka, November 1982

SPC/SPEC/ESCAP/University of the South Pacific Regional Training Course on Environmental Management in the Pacific, Suva, November 1982

Ad Hoc Working Group Meeting of Experts on the Environment, Bangkok, December 1982

61. In order to promote environmental awareness through mass media campaigns, the regional mass media seminars and workshops recommended that the secretariat should develop and implement a programme for continuous interaction with the mass media on specific issues. It was also found that the interaction and co-operation of ESCAP with national Governments through appropriate national institutions might have a significant impact on local media in promoting environmental awareness, as was the case with the National Seminar held in Bangladesh in November 1982. Such national-based activities could also have a long-term benefit in terms of establishing a regular training programme through media training institutes, mobile environment information units etc. to promote environmental awareness at the grass-roots level.

62. In order to enhance the programme element further, the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit (ECU) has formulated a programme on the promotion of environmental awareness in the ESCAP region including an Asian mass media round-table conference of electronic media leaders, national media seminars, the publication of an environment newsletter and the convening of a ministerial-level meeting on the environment for Asia to be implemented during the biennium 1984-1985, subject to the availability of extra-budgetary funds.

63. The study and Expert Group Meeting on Methods and Costs of Industrial Pollution Control concluded that the discharge of effluents from agro-based, agro-allied and small-scale industries in the region created a significant environmental pollution

problem. The Expert Group Meeting made a number of general recommendations including the installation of appropriate individual and collective waste treatment systems according to the types of industries, their siting and the economic viability of the systems; reuse and/or recycling of waste resources; strengthening of monitoring programmes to overcome the malfunctioning or failure of existing pollution control facilities; and establishment of a data bank of information on the experience, research and investigations of the countries of the region on the methods and costs of industrial pollution control. The Meeting also made a number of specific recommendations with regard to control of pollution from the fertilizer, sugar, brewing and distilling, palm oil, tapioca, electroplating, tanning and fish processing industries. On the basis of those recommendations, the secretariat is publishing a series of technical guide-lines on pollution control from agro-based, agro-allied and small-scale industries.

64. As part of its assistance to the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), the secretariat provided financial and technical support for the organization of the Training Course on Environmental Management in the Pacific, which was held at the School of Social and Economic Development, University of the South Pacific, Suva. Dealing with a subregion of island nations, the Course laid main emphasis on the environmental management of island ecosystems and coastal zones.

65. The *Ad Hoc* Working Group Meeting of Experts, having reviewed the programme of work of the secretariat, endorsed the preparation of a regional state-of-the-environment in Asia report, the convening of a ministerial-level conference on the environment and the formation of a working group of experts on the environment. The Meeting recommended that, in preparing the state-of-the-environment report, special emphasis should be laid on establishment of linkages between conditions and trends of development and the environmental status; preventive measures to minimize adverse environmental impacts of development and curative measures to improve environmental conditions; the concept of resource management rather than resource use; alleviation of poverty and improvement of the socio-economic conditions of the people; and promotion of environmental awareness at all levels.

66. As to the ministerial-level conference, the *Ad Hoc* Working Group recommended a one-week meeting including a preparatory meeting of senior officials in early 1985 before the Commission session, preferably at Bangkok unless host facilities were offered elsewhere by a member country and approved by the Commission. It noted with interest a preliminary proposal for convening the conference in India which was under consideration by the Government of India.

67. Having recognized the definite advantage of a working group of experts in providing advisory and

technical guidance to the secretariat, the Meeting recommended that such a working group be convened on a regular basis. It should have an advisory role, meet once every alternate year when environment was not the main theme for the session of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment and be convened subject to the availability of funds.

68. In the field of the institutional and legislative aspects of environmental protection and management, the secretariat, with the assistance of an expert assigned by the Government of Japan on a non-reimbursable-loan basis since May 1982, has initiated preparatory work for the establishment of an information network on environmental legislation and formulated a programme for the study and assessment of institutional and legislative frameworks for environmental protection and management in the region. The result of the study will be incorporated into the report on the regional state of the environment. An action plan on environmental policy and administrative measures will be drafted for discussion at an expert group meeting and an intergovernmental meeting at a later stage.

69. To strengthen the capabilities of the secretariat in environmental monitoring and assessment through the application of remote sensing, the Government of France has assigned an expert on a non-reimbursable-loan basis from February 1982. ECU has established working relations with national remote sensing agencies of seven countries of the region, defined the need for and use of remote sensing imagery in the development of the environmental management plan for the protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems, identified problems and requirements at the national and subregional levels and disseminated the secretariat's programme in remote sensing.

70. With regard to the management of terrestrial ecosystems, progress has been made in the planning of follow-up activities based on the recommendations of the ESCAP Regional Technical Workshop to Consider the Implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, held at Jodhpur, India, in October 1981. Those activities have included planning a study tour and a preliminary review of tropical deforestation. A project document on the study and an expert group meeting on environmental management of tropical forests was finalized and has been approved for funding in 1984 by the Federal Republic of Germany. Potential areas in the three geographical subregions were considered for pilot studies under the project on the nature, causes, trends and socio-economic implications of deforestation, and appropriate remedial measures.

71. With regard to the protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems, the secretariat has finalized the project document for the development of a comprehensive environmental management plan in Sri Lanka. A pilot area along the west coast of Sri

Lanka was identified, and the detailed work plan and the expert team for its preparation, including both national and international experts, were agreed upon in close consultation with government officials. Baseline data collection and work on the assessment of available background information on existing and potential environmental resources in the project area were initiated in early 1983. An environmental management plan for the inner part of the Gulf of Thailand is also being developed. The Government of the Philippines has expressed preliminary interest in a similar plan and discussions are being held to identify an appropriate project.

72. In implementation of SPREP, the secretariat has continued to co-ordinate its activities with SPC, SPEC and UNEP. SPREP organized the Conference on the Human Environment in the South Pacific at Rarotonga in March 1982, the proceedings of which were not reported to the Commission at its previous session. The Conference adopted a South Pacific declaration on natural resources and the environment and an action plan for managing the natural resources and environment of the South Pacific.

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

(a) A mission to Suva to finalize, with the University of the South Pacific and UNDP, the details of the project document regarding a training course on environmental management (November 1982);

(b) Missions to Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam for discussions with the authorities concerned and collection of country information for the preparation of the regional report on the state of the environment.

74. The following technical publications and studies were produced in the ESCAP Environment and Development Series during the period under review: (a) *An Overview of Agro-based, Agro-allied and Small-scale Industries*; (b) *Fertilizer Industry*; (c) *Sugar Industry*; (d) *Brewery and Distillery*; (e) *Palm Oil Industry*; (f) *Tapioca Industry*; (g) *Electroplating Industry*; (h) *Tannery*; and (i) *Fish Processing Industry*.

Committee on Natural Resources

Energy resources

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

Joint UNDP/UNIDO/ESCAP/China Senior Expert Group Meeting on the Creation of a Regional Network System and the Assessment of Priority Needs on Research, Development and Training

in the field of Small/Mini Hydropower Generation, Hangzhou, China, July 1982

Meeting of the ASEAN Coal Experts Group, the ASEAN Secretariat, the Asian Development Bank and the ESCAP Secretariat on the ASEAN Coal Study, Bangkok, August 1982

Pacific Meeting of Governmental Experts on Energy, Suva, September 1982

Workshop and Exhibition on Domestic Utilization of Energy, Manila, October 1982

Expert Group Meeting on Training Courses in Energy Statistics, Bangkok, October 1982

Expert Group Meeting on Assessment of Manpower and Training Needs for the Energy Sector, Bangkok, December 1982

RCTT/UNIDO/REDP/Malaysia Workshop on Small Hydropower Development, Kuala Lumpur, March 1983

Seminar on Rural Energy Planning for the Developing Countries in Asia, Beijing, April 1983

76. During the period under review, a regional adviser on solar energy advised the Cook Islands, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Thailand and Tonga on their solar energy development programmes.

77. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review: (a) *Optimization of the Utilization of Electricity Generating Plants* (Energy Resources Development Series, No. 23); (b) *Proceedings of the ESCAP/FAO/UNEP Expert Group Meeting on Fuelwood and Charcoal* (Energy Resources Development Series, No. 24); (c) *Thermal Coal Utilization for the ESCAP Region* (ESCAP Series on Coal, No. 1); (d) *The Beneficiation and Use of Coal in the ESCAP Region* (ESCAP Series on Coal, No. 2); (e) *Study on the Production and Use of Ethanol, Methanol and Methane from Bio-mass (Alternative Fuels)*; and (f) *Electric Power in Asia and the Pacific, 1979 and 1980*.

78. The regional programme of action on new and renewable sources of energy, recommended by 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, and generally endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-eighth session, was favourably received at the meeting of the Interim Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy held at Rome in June 1982. Support was pledged for the programme by some countries and agencies. An approach to implementing the programme has been finalized, with network meetings to define the objectives.

Mineral resources

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

Meeting on Co-ordination in ESCAP Mineral Programmes (tenth session), Bangkok, March 1982

Fourth Working Group Meeting on Stratigraphic Correlation between Sedimentary Basins of the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, November 1982

First and second *Ad Hoc* Expert Group Meetings on the Establishment of a Co-operation Mechanism in the Field of Offshore Exploration and Prospecting for Mineral Resources in the Indian Ocean, Bangkok, August 1982 and January 1983

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

81. The Fourth Working Group Meeting on Stratigraphic Correlation between Sedimentary Basins of the ESCAP Region considered the progress made by the project since the Third Working Group Meeting (November 1978) and recommended two new sub-projects.

82. The *Ad Hoc* Expert Group, which consisted of experts appointed in their personal capacity, agreed at its first meeting that the establishment of an appropriate mechanism for the Indian Ocean would be feasible among the participating countries, namely, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. At its second meeting, the Group drafted the terms of reference and indicative work programme for such a mechanism.

83. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review: (a) *Stratigraphic Correlation between Sedimentary Basins of the ESCAP Region (Vol. VIII): ESCAP Atlas of Stratigraphy III* (Australia, Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Solomon Islands, Tajikistan) (Mineral Resources Development Series, No. 48); (b) *Proceedings of the Working Group Meeting on Environmental Management in Mineral Resource Development* (Mineral Resources Development Series, No. 49); and (c) *Proceedings of the Seminar on Modern Methods of Mineral Prospecting*.

84. With respect to the regional remote sensing programme, in accordance with a recommendation of the Committee on Natural Resources at its ninth session, steps were taken to ascertain the views of countries on the establishment and terms of reference of an intergovernmental consultative committee to provide guidance for the regional remote sensing programme.

Steps were also taken to recruit the co-ordinator and a remote sensing expert to manage the programme.

85. The secretariat continued to provide technical and administrative assistance to CCOP, CCOP/SOPAC, RMRDC and SEATRADC and advisory and technical services to member countries.

Water resources

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

Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific (ninth session), Bangkok, June 1982; (tenth session), Bangkok, December 1982

Seminar on Water Resources Development Planning, Kiev, USSR, August-September 1982

Seminar on Flood Vulnerability Analysis, Bangkok, September 1982

Meeting on Water Resources Development in the South Pacific, Suva, March 1983

87. The Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific at its ninth session discussed the draft proposal for the accelerated manufacture of hand pumps for rural water supply and finalized it at its tenth session for submission to potential donors through the Steering Committee for the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade. Likewise, the Task Force discussed at its ninth session and finalized at its tenth session a questionnaire to determine country training requirements in connection with the proposed regional network for training in water resources development.

88. The Seminar on Water Resources Development Planning discussed techniques and procedures for planning of water resources development and provided an opportunity for an exchange of experience among the participants. In addition to recommendations for national action, the Seminar recommended that international organizations should support the strengthening of the institutional and legal framework of the developing countries, organize a workshop on water legislation in the USSR, assist in the development of appropriate curricula for the transfer of modern and specialized technology and encourage exchanges of experts between the USSR and the developing ESCAP countries.

89. The Seminar on Flood Vulnerability Analysis, through lectures and discussions, covered the principles and techniques of flood vulnerability analysis and their application to the formulation of a comprehensive plan for flood loss prevention and management. It was strongly recommended that concerned international organizations establish a pilot project to prepare flood-hazard maps in a selected river basin in the region seriously and adversely affected by floods for use as a case study for training in the field.

90. The Meeting on Water Resources Development in the South Pacific identified problem/project-oriented issues as well as broad and long-term perspective issues faced by the subregion in the field of water resources development, on the basis of which it recommended urgent and short-term measures for the former and a long-term action plan for the latter involving a comprehensive and integrated approach to the development of water resources. In addition, the Meeting recommended that an interdisciplinary mission be organized by ESCAP.

91. At its ninth session, held at Madras, India, the WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones revised the hydrological component of the technical plan, reviewed the progress and assistance needs in each member country under the co-ordinated technical plan and discussed and adopted its work programme for 1982 and 1983. Maldives was admitted as the seventh member of the Panel in July 1982.

92. In the context of advisory services, the regional adviser on water resources visited the Philippines from 19 July to 27 August 1982 to render advisory services on the following subjects: (a) assessment and review activities related to the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, particularly the rural water supply and sanitation programme and (b) review and evaluation of the ground-water data collection and monitoring network of the National Water Resources Council. In addition, one staff member of the Water Resources Section visited Singapore and the Philippines from 12 to 19 September 1982 to provide advice concerning follow-up action on the recommendations of the Expert Working Group Meeting on Water-use Data held in July-August 1979.

93. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review: (a) *Proceedings of the Roving Seminar on the Use of Computers in Hydrology and Water Resources Planning* (Water Resources Series, No. 52); (b) *Proceedings of the Expert Working Group Meetings on Water Resources Data Systems and Water-use Data* (Water Resources Series, No. 53); (c) *Proceedings of the Seventh Session of the Committee on Natural Resources* (Water Resources Series, No. 54); and (d) *Proceedings of the Expert Group Meeting on Water Pricing* (Water Resources Series, No. 55).

94. Four issues of the quarterly *Water Resources Journal* were published, and its distribution was reviewed by means of a questionnaire on the basis of which the mailing list was brought up to date, expanded to include new institutions/recipients and computerized. Moreover, an opinion survey on the content of the *Journal* was circulated to recipients for the purpose of improving the *Journal*.

95. The information exchange system on water resources development, in which over 20 institutions in

16 member countries had expressed willingness to participate and to contribute information, was launched with the first issue of a semi-annual newsletter entitled *Confluence*.

96. Initial steps were taken to determine the training requirements for water resources development in the region through co-operative efforts by ESCAP and ILO in designing a questionnaire to be circulated to the member countries.

Committee on Population

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

Regional Seminar on Strategies for Meeting Basic Socio-economic Needs and for Increasing Women's Participation in Development to Achieve Population Goals, Pattaya, Thailand, April-May 1982

Preparatory Committee Meeting for Finalizing the Curriculum for the Subregional Seminar on Population and Development Planning, Bangkok, August 1982

Preparatory Committee for the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference (third session), Colombo, September 1982

Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference, Colombo, September 1982

Regional Meeting on Social and Cultural Factors Affecting the Acceptance, Continuation and Discontinuation of Family Planning Practice, Pattaya, Thailand, November 1982

South Asian Subregional Seminar on Population and Development Planning, Bangalore, India, December 1982

Regional Workshop on Multivariate Analysis of Nuptiality and Fertility from World Fertility Survey Data for Selected ESCAP Countries, Bangkok, January-February 1983

98. The activities of the secretariat were largely geared towards the preparations for the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference, which involved organization, documentation, a regional exhibition and publicity and information. The Conference adopted an Asia-Pacific Call for Action on Population and Development.

99. To facilitate publicity and information flow at the Conference, five issues of the news bulletin *Focus on People* were brought out on alternate days, and a conference reference centre and conference computer demonstration centre were set up at the conference site. The news bulletin provided day-to-day information on the proceedings of the simultaneous sessions held at the Conference.

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

(a) Technical assistance to the Government of the Republic of Korea in analysing the data collected in the 1980 population census, evaluating the quality of the data and preparing national life tables; in planning the migration survey in the country; and in finalizing the report of the study on the impact of family planning programmes on fertility and to help in the dissemination of the research findings among national policy-makers;

(b) Technical assistance to the Government of Afghanistan in preparing a project proposal for submission to UNFPA for the establishment of a demographic research and training centre at Kabul;

(c) Technical assistance to the Government of Pakistan at the request of SIAP by giving lectures and assisting in the country course on demographic statistics with special reference to the analysis of population census data for Pakistan, held at Karachi;

(d) Assistance to member Governments through provision of 15 fellowships to 14 member countries for studies in population at the International Institute for Population Studies (IIPS), Bombay, India, for the academic year 1982/83; assistance to the Government of Viet Nam for training its officials at IIPS and at the Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre, New Delhi;

(e) Technical assistance in the form of training workshops for information managers and documentalists through an in-service training programme for the development of population information centres in south Asian countries, for nine participants from Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan, and an in-service training programme for the computerization of population information, for two trainees from IIPS;

(f) Technical assistance to the Government of Thailand in reviewing the implementation of population policies and plans;

(g) Technical assistance to the Government of Maldives in analysing the 1977 census data and in preparing the report thereon; technical assistance provided through lectures at a subregional training course on analysis of census and survey data for development planning, organized by SPC for some of the Pacific island countries;

(h) Technical assistance to the Governments of Brunei, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore, through the adviser on demographic analysis and projections provided to ESCAP on a non-reimbursable-loan basis by the Government of the United Kingdom;

(i) Advisory services to the Governments of China, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam in the establishment and development of national population information centres and clearing-houses.

101. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review: (a) *Migration, Urbanization and Development in Malaysia* (comparative study on migration, urbanization and development in the ESCAP region (country report No. IV)); (b) *Migration, Urbanization and Development in South Pacific Countries* (comparative study on migration, urbanization and development in the ESCAP region (country report No. VI)); (c) Survey Manual No. X, "Guide-lines for the analyses"; (d) "Demographic estimates for Asian and Pacific countries, 1982"; (e) "Modelling economic and demographic development"; (f) *Population of Papua New Guinea* (Country Monograph Series, No. 7.2); (g) *Population of Australia* (Country Monograph Series, No. 9) (in press); (h) *Population of India* (Country Monograph Series, No. 10) (in press); and (i) *Integration of Population and Development Programmes: a Documentation Support* (ESCAP Population Bibliographic Series, No. 3).

102. The following ongoing publications were issued during the period under review: *Asian-Pacific Population Programme News*, vol. 11, Nos. 3 and 4, and vol. 12, No. 1; "Population Headliners", Nos. 86-97; *Asian and World-wide Documents on Population Topics* (ADOPT), vol. 4, Nos. 2-4, and vol. 5, Nos. 1-4; *Inventory of Selected Local Family Planning Programme Experiences Series*, No. 4; "List of ESCAP population publications, 1982"; *Population Research Leads*, No. 6 (reprinted), No. 11 on "The age structure of selected countries in the ESCAP region" and No. 12 on "Integration and family planning programme performance: an interpretative summary"; and *Population Problems and National Development Plans in Japan: Post-war Trends* (Population Studies Translation Series, No. 6).

103. The following studies have been undertaken: (a) four papers for the expert group meetings preparatory to the International Conference on Population, 1984, on fertility and family planning; migration, population distribution and development; population, resources, environment and development; and mortality and health; (b) two reports on age at marriage and determinants of recent fertility declines in the region as part of the United Nations Headquarters Population Division's minimum research programme for comparative analysis of World Fertility Survey data; (c) a report on the study on the relationship between fertility behaviour and size, structure and functions of the family in Japan; (d) a report on the first phase of the in-depth study of integration of family planning activities and other development efforts at the community level; (e) a study of the fertility levels and trends based on census data in 13 countries representing four subregions of the ESCAP region; and (f) development of the ESCAP Bibliographic Information System and the ESCAP Information Processing System to input bibliographic population information files (CE BIS/POP FILE) and to develop further the

harmonization of population terms into the listing of economic and social development descriptors.

Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications

Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing

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

Workshop on Cargo Consolidation, Kuala Lumpur, April 1982

Meeting of Chief Executives of Inland Water Transport and Inland Waterways Authorities (first session), Bangkok, June 1982

Country-level Workshop on Containerization, Karachi, August 1982

Working Group of Experts on Currency Adjustment Factors and Bunker Adjustment Factors, Bangkok, September 1982

Working Group of Experts on Shippers' Contracts, Bangkok, September 1982

Regional Workshop on Freight Study Units and Shipping Information, Bangkok, September 1982

Country-level Workshop on Forecasting of Cargo and Shipping Movements, Shanghai, China, September 1982

Seminar on Planned Maintenance of Port Equipment, Bangkok, September-October 1982

Country-level Workshop on Ocean Transport Costs and Negotiating Techniques in Shipping, Dhaka, October 1982

Seminar on Freight Forwarding, Bangkok, October 1982

Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shippers' Organizations (sixth session), Bangkok, October 1982

Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shipowners' Associations (fifth session), Bangkok, October 1982

Joint Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shippers' Organizations and Shipowners' Associations (third session), Bangkok, October 1982

Training of Trainers in Shipping Management and Economics, Jakarta, November 1982

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Inland Waterways Terminals and Landing Facilities, China, December 1982

Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on Maritime Legislation, Bangkok, January 1983

Seminar on Port Development Policy, Bangkok, January 1983

Meeting of Chief Executives of Port Authorities (third session), Hong Kong, February 1983

Seminar on Modern Port Management, Hong Kong, February-March 1983

Regional Workshop on Implications of Currency Fluctuations in Shipping, Bangkok, March 1983

Conference on Coastal Port Engineering in Developing Countries, Colombo, March 1983

105. The meetings consisted of two types as distinguished by their main objectives.

106. The first type of meeting provided a forum for exchange of ideas and for adopting action with a view to promoting regional co-operation in tackling urgent and common problems facing the region.

107. Pursuant to a decision of the Joint Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shippers' Organizations and Shipowners' Associations at its second session (December 1981), the secretariat established two working groups on currency and bunker adjustment factors and shippers' contracts. The working groups met in September 1982, and their reports were subsequently submitted to the Joint Meeting of Chief Executives at its third session.

108. The Joint Meeting felt that, since complex and intricate issues were involved, the secretariat should assist in organizing training courses and seminars to enable both shipowners and shippers to get a good grasp of those subjects.

109. The Meeting of Chief Executives of National Shippers' Organizations felt that the subject of freight forwarding, for which a seminar had been organized by the secretariat, should be studied independently by the individual shippers' councils as the conditions pertaining to the operation of freight forwarders differed from country to country.

110. The *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Meeting on Maritime Legislation considered the guide-lines for maritime legislation prepared by two expert group meetings held in 1981 and 1982. It also considered a future action programme in that field.

111. The Meeting of Chief Executives of Port Authorities considered, among other things, ports and port management, the port management information system and containerization. The Meeting urged the secretariat to undertake further work in those areas in conjunction with ADB and the World Bank.

112. The Meeting of Chief Executives of Inland Water Transport and Inland Waterways Authorities discussed the development of inland water transport and inland waters in the ESCAP region in the context of their great

potential given the current energy situation and the need for rural development. The Meeting assigned priorities to activities for implementation in that field and gave the highest priority to the development and maintenance of inland waterways, terminals and landing facilities and fleets.

113. The second category of meetings was devoted to developing or improving manpower and exchanging views and experiences, and included seminars, workshops and training courses. The development of manpower continues to be of priority in the programme on shipping, ports and inland waterways. The major activity is manpower training for shippers under the ESCAP ship users' co-operation project. It is aimed at disseminating knowledge and training concerned personnel in the application of that knowledge in day-to-day practical affairs.

114. The country-level workshops in principle replicate the regional workshops. However, in the country-level workshops it is possible to adjust the substantive matters of the exercise materials to the particular situation of the country in question.

115. The purpose of the Seminar on Planned Maintenance of Port Equipment was to help to promote technical and economic co-operation among developing countries. The participants requested the secretariat to intensify its port activities and undertake additional positive action such as wide dissemination of information and organization of a series of seminars on specialized subjects.

116. At the Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Inland Waterways Terminals and Landing Facilities, attended by 14 participants from seven countries, the participants stressed the importance and inherent potential of inland waterways as a mode of transport. The Seminar-cum-Study Tour was thought to be beneficial for planning and development of ports.

117. The participants in the Seminar on Port Development Policy recommended that each country should reflect on its own development policy subject to the particular environment of that country and that the ESCAP secretariat should intensify and strengthen its port activities and undertake additional work in that field.

118. At the Seminar on Modern Port Management, the subject of the port management information system, including the advantages of setting targets, was discussed extensively. The Seminar stressed, among other things, the importance of marketing, man-management and management system methodologies and techniques.

119. The Regional Workshop on Implications of Currency Fluctuations in Shipping provided knowledge of currency matters to shippers, shipowners and officials with a view to finding solutions to impediments to trade and shipping development. In-depth discussions were

held on foreign trade, balance of payments, the international currency market and exchange rate system and currency adjustment factors.

120. The following assistance was provided during the period under review:

(a) Advisory services: on container terminal planning relating to the scope of marketing and liner inducement at Johore Port, Malaysia; on the improvement of the management and operations of the Maldives Shipping Company; on an evaluation of the possibilities of continuing the operation of the Papua New Guinea Shipping Corporation; on the rules, structure and work programme of the Indonesian Shippers' Council; on port planning, to the Philippines; on port training centres, to Malaysia and Sri Lanka; on a container terminal at Penang Port and port pricing problems and a port management information system at Port Kelang, Malaysia; on inland water transport and inland waterways, to Bangladesh, Burma, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka; and on dredging, to Indonesia, Malaysia and Maldives. Advisory services and assistance were also provided to maritime training institutes in China, Indonesia and Thailand;

(b) Fellowships: one fellowship to the Pakistan Shippers' Council for training in Hong Kong; two fellowships to Thailand for visits to Norway and the United Kingdom relating to merchant marines; and assistance to Sri Lanka in obtaining 10 fellowships for a port seminar at Rotterdam.

121. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review: (a) *Report of the 1980 ESCAP Study Tour of Chief Executives of National Shippers' Organizations to Hong Kong, Japan and the United States of America*; (b) *Regional Shipping Network (ASEAN Member Countries)* (final version); (c) *Guide-lines for Maritime Legislation*; (d) *Coastal Shipping Management: Proceedings of a Seminar*; (e) *Existing Shipping Services, Freight Rate Movements and Cargo Consolidation Scheme for Selected Commodities in the ESCAP Region*; (f) *Proceedings of the Seminar on Ship Financing for ASEAN Countries*; and (g) *Proceedings of the Seminar on Freight Forwarding*.

122. Studies were also undertaken on transport and shipping problems of jute fibre and products from Bangladesh, India and Nepal to the European market; on an inventory of the maritime capacity and activities of developing countries of the region; on fuel and other cost-saving measures for ASEAN fleets; on liner shipping in the trade between Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Europe; on the use of wind-powered vessels; on shipping co-operation for self-reliance between the Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations and the Federation of ASEAN Shippers' Councils; and on the feasibility of establishing a bulk shipping line in Malaysia.

Transport and Communications, Tourism and Facilitation of International Traffic Wing

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

Road Maintenance Study Course, Bangkok, April-May 1982

Regional Course on Integrated Transport, Bangkok, April-May 1982

Regional Meeting to Promote Transport Infrastructure Development in Rural and Isolated Communities, Bangkok, June 1982

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Railway Electrification, Paris, June 1982

Railway Research Co-ordination Group, Bangkok, August 1982

Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting, Bangkok, August 1982

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Railway Track Maintenance Systems, USSR, September-October 1982

Working Group of Experts on the Trans-Asian Railway Network and the Asian Railway Master Plan, USSR, October 1982

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Modernization of Railway Signalling and Telecommunication, Tokyo, October-November 1982

Intergovernmental Meeting of Highway Experts, Bangkok, February 1983

Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Railways and Preparatory Meeting of Senior Officials, Bangkok, February-March 1983

Workshop-cum-Exhibition on the Improvement of Non-motorized Transport, Bangkok, March 1983

Intergovernmental Meeting on Tourism Development, Tokyo, March 1983

124. The Road Maintenance Study Course, co-sponsored by ESCAP and organized by the Department of Highways of Thailand, the Better Roads Association of Thailand and the Road Engineering Association of Asia and Australasia, aimed at refreshing the knowledge of middle/senior-level officials in the field of road maintenance. It covered such matters as organization, administration and management, major factors related to road maintenance, the nature of road failures, pavement rating techniques and road maintenance priorities and techniques. The course demonstrated that considerable economic returns could be obtained from maintenance, as compared with new construction.

125. The Regional Course on Integrated Transport, organized by ESCAP jointly with the Economic

Development Institute of the World Bank, dealt with policy and planning for the transport sector as a whole, co-ordination of the transport subsectors, preparation and implementation of projects in the various subsectors, especially inland water transport, and their operation, maintenance and management. The course laid special emphasis on concepts, terminology and issues and on analytical techniques such as financial analysis and economic analysis. The course emphasized the need for the integrated development of various modes of transport and an optimum intermodal mix.

126. The Regional Meeting to Promote Transport Infrastructure Development in Rural and Isolated Communities discussed the application of the transport planning methodology and recommended that the methodology be distributed to member countries to be put into use with such changes as necessary to suit their particular circumstances and needs.

127. The seminars-cum-study tours on railway electrification in France, track maintenance in the USSR and modernization of railway signalling and telecommunication in Japan provided railway engineers of the region with opportunities to acquaint themselves with the advanced technology in use on the French, Soviet and Japanese railways and to exchange views and experiences on common problems.

128. The Railway Research Co-ordination Group, whose members represent the railway research institutes of China, India, Japan and the Soviet Union and the International Union of Railways, identified the research requirements of the railways of the region in order to disseminate the results of research undertaken by the institutes and to make the necessary recommendations.

129. The Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting reviewed major activities of the secretariat in the field of railways and railway transport, particularly those relating to modernization and improvement of the operational efficiency of railways, technology transfer and training, the Trans-Asian Railway network, the drawing up of an Asian Railway master plan and the development of containerization in relation to inland multimodal transport. It also considered the report of the Railway Research Co-ordination Group.

130. The Working Group of Experts on the Trans-Asian Railway Network and the Asian Railway Master Plan was convened to initiate further action for developing those projects, including establishing the scope of work, guide-lines and a methodology for the effective implementation of the projects.

131. The Intergovernmental Meeting of Highway Experts considered the role of roads and road transport in the 1980s, the use and potential of alternative sources of energy for road transport, techniques for setting road maintenance priorities, traffic safety, facilitation of international traffic and standardization of vehicle

weights and dimensions, and reviewed the trends in the development of roads and road transport in the region. The experts recommended future strategies and provided policy guidance for the planning and development of roads and road transport in the region in the light of future development needs, the energy situation, standards of traffic safety, and efficiency and environmental considerations.

132. The Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Railways considered and recommended policy guide-lines for determining the role of railways, as part of an integrated transport sector, in the socio-economic development of countries and measures that Governments and railway administrations should take to improve the performance and financial position of railways and promote international co-operation in the field of railway transport. The Meeting adopted the Bangkok Declaration on the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group, which would foster closer and greater co-operation among the railways of the region. The Meeting further adopted a resolution in which it called upon the Executive Secretary of ESCAP to take all necessary steps in pursuance of the Bangkok Declaration and urged UNDP and other international agencies to provide all possible financial and technical assistance to ESCAP in that regard.

133. The Workshop-cum-Exhibition on the Improvement of Non-motorized Transport identified problem areas where improvements and modifications are required and where transfer of technology among countries is feasible in order to increase the operational efficiency and reliability of the various types of non-motorized rural road transport. It recommended that a socio-economic survey be undertaken to ascertain rural transport needs and constraints.

134. The Intergovernmental Meeting on Tourism Development considered the role of Governments in tourism development, economic impact studies in several countries and tourism project formulation and evaluation in member countries. It recommended that ESCAP intensify its assistance to member countries in the refinement of tourism policies through the measurement and appraisal of the specific economic impacts of tourism and the promotion of financing and aids for tourism through standardized project appraisal.

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

(a) Roving mission of transport experts (railways, highways, containerization and facilitation of international traffic) to Nepal to assist in the development of an integrated transport system in the country;

(b) Roving missions of railway experts to Pakistan and the Philippines on modernization of train operation and protection systems and to Bangladesh, Malaysia and Pakistan on the introduction and development of container transport by rail;

(c) Mission to Fiji to provide technical assistance with respect to traffic congestion and development problems in the capital city of Suva and with respect to peak period traffic congestion problems on the Nausori-Suva Road;

(d) Mission to Samoa to provide advisory services with respect to the environmental effects of programmes for constructing roads giving access to large-scale village plantations, which are needed to open up the interior of the country for agricultural development;

(e) Mission to Vanuatu to provide advisory services with respect to road design standards in relation to traffic volumes, road maintenance systems, self-help labour-based road construction, questions of energy efficiency and/or alternative transport modes and a definition of priorities for road projects among the various islands;

(f) Assistance in the field of public transport to Thailand on several occasions in 1982; advisory services to the Thai Transport Company on general management questions, bus franchise management, maintenance facility development for the existing fleet and training;

(g) Mission by facilitation officials of ESCAP to Malaysia and Singapore to hold consultations with the automobile associations of those countries for evolving an international insurance scheme for motor vehicles; advisory services in developing terms of reference for Viet Nam's committee on trade facilitation and on the steps to be taken by Nepal in trade and transport facilitation;

(h) Mission of experts on tourism to Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Cook Islands, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Palau to assist in tourism development in those countries through policy-oriented research aimed, *inter alia*, at quantification of the economic impacts of tourism and standardization of tourism project formulation and evaluation.

136. The following reports and studies were produced during the period under review: (a) guidebook on overseas training programmes and facilities available to ESCAP railways; (b) study on railway motive power maintenance in Malaysia and Thailand; (c) study on energy consumption and other relevant factors by different modes of transport in the developing countries of the ESCAP region; (d) study on the application of computer techniques to railway freight transport; (e) study on the development of the traffic and load capacity of railways and intensified utilization of their physical facilities (with special emphasis on the experiences of the USSR railways); (f) study of low-cost small mechanization for construction and maintenance of roadbeds of railways; (g) two technical studies on concrete sleepers; (h) three studies on improvement of the efficiency of railways (with emphasis on the experiences of the Indian Railways); (i) general review

of the railways of the ESCAP region, including a review of operational efficiency; (j) feasibility study on the Bangkok-Chiang Mai railway electrification project in Thailand: (i) traffic forecast report (phase I) and (ii) report on operational aspects (part of phase II); (k) in-depth study of the development of containerization in relation to inland multimodal transport in the developing countries of the ESCAP region: (i) study based on a survey of the literature and experiences of India, (ii) development of a methodology for economic appraisal of containerized rail/road traffic and (iii) study on equipment and technology for handling unitized and/or containerized cargo in railway freight yards/container freight terminals; (l) study on the improvement of signalling and telecommunication in the railway systems of the region where electric power supply and adequate transmission lines are not available (with emphasis on the experiences of India); (m) study on the Asian Railway master plan (phase I): choice of routes/corridors, methodology of approach, setting of standards and specific work requirements; (n) study on excessive rail wear and derailment in Bangladesh, Malaysia and Thailand (report on the existing situation and the analysis (phase I)); (o) study on alternative sources of energy for road transport; (p) review of the trends in the development of roads and road transport in the region; (q) study on management systems for improving road traffic safety; (r) study on techniques for setting road maintenance priorities; (s) compilation of questionnaire responses on maximum weights and dimensions of vehicles and minimum safety requirements; (t) study report on the role of Governments in tourism development: an ESCAP regional perspective; (u) study report on the economic significance of international tourism in the ESCAP region; (v) review of economic impact studies of tourism in the ESCAP region; (w) study report on quantification methodologies of the economic impact of tourism; (x) study report on application of methodologies for economic impact analysis of tourism; (y) study report on TCDC in the field of tourism; (z) study report on promotion of tourism project formulation/execution through standardized analysis; (aa) study report on priority setting among tourism projects; (bb) study report on promotion of tourism through railway projects; and (cc) country reports on tourism development impacts and schemes in the Cook Islands, Indonesia, Nepal, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, and subregional tourism survey report for the Pacific.

137. The following publications were issued: (a) *Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*, No. 55; (b) Asian Highway guidemap No. 5, covering south India and Sri Lanka; (c) *Economic Importance of Road Maintenance*; (d) *Institutional Development and Training Requirements for Effective Implementation of Rural Road/Bridge Projects*; (e) *Report on the Asian Highway Development Trends and Existing Conditions, 1982*; and (f) *Improvement of Construction Tools and Equipment*.

Committee on Social Development

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

ESCAP/Indonesia/Malaysia/Thailand Law and Participation Consultation, Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur, April 1982

Third ESCAP/RTI Course (Regional) on Planning, Development and Health, Bangkok, April-June 1982

Rural Youth Leaders Training Workshop, Philippines, May-June 1982

Field Study and Attachment of Youth Work Personnel to Youth and Community Development Programmes in which Youth are Actively Engaged, Japan, May-June 1982

Rural Development Training Workshop for University Graduates, Thimphu, August 1982

Training Seminar for Trainers of Youth Workers and Youth Leaders in Co-operation with Existing National and Regional Youth Training Centres and Institutions, China, August-September 1982

ESCAP/ASA Workshop on the Role and Rights of Young Women in Developing Asia, Manila, August-September 1982

Workshop on Planning Child and Youth Development Programmes at the Provincial Level, Pattaya, Thailand, September 1982

Nepal Youth Congress, Nepal, September 1982

Interagency Committee on Women in Development (first session), Bangkok, November 1982; (special session), Bangkok, January 1983

Fifth ESCAP/UNICEF Seminar (Regional) on Basic Community Services through Primary Health Care, Bangkok, October-November 1982

Second *Ad Hoc* Meeting of Agencies and Non-governmental Organizations Concerned with Youth Development in the Region, Bangkok, November 1982

Technical Meeting of Youth Experts on the International Youth Year, Chiang Mai, Thailand, November-December 1982

Workshop on the Development of Youth Policies and Programmes in Asia with Special Reference to Educational and Vocational Guidance Programmes, Kuala Lumpur, December 1982

Seminar/Workshop for Youth Workers/Leaders on Rural Youth Development, Thailand, February 1983

Study Tour of Outstanding Youth Development Programmes in Thailand and Malaysia, February 1983

Expert Group Meeting on the Development and Utilization of Local Manpower and Technology for Disability-related Services in Rural and Poverty Areas of the Asia-Pacific Region, Manila, February-March 1983

National Training Workshop on Youth and Community Development, Bhutan, March 1983

National Training Workshop for Rural Youth Leaders and Workers, Nepal, April-May 1983

139. The Indonesia/Malaysia/Thailand Law and Participation Consultation provided a forum for discussion of the regional relevance of legal aid and drew upon the sophisticated structure and experience of the Indonesian Legal Aid Bureau as an advisory input into the legal aid programmes of Malaysia and Thailand. It was agreed that the concept of legal aid included a wide spectrum of roles: the provision of free legal services to the poor as a means of resolving their problems, the need to promote an understanding and consciousness of the law and its potential and weaknesses as it involved people and the need to promote legal reform and modernization of law to meet the needs of the people as well as to promote ordinary people's access to and participation in the decision-making process.

140. The Second *Ad Hoc* Meeting of Agencies and Non-governmental Organizations Concerned with Youth Development in the Region was convened to review plans and co-ordinate activities for the International Youth Year. The Meeting urged ESCAP to consider the establishment of a regional committee to co-ordinate activities for the Year. It also underscored the need for provision of assistance to member Governments in the development of guide-lines and criteria to monitor, assess and evaluate youth activities during the Year.

141. The Technical Meeting of Youth Experts on the International Youth Year was held in pursuance of Commission resolution 223 (XXXVIII) as part of the secretariat's preparations for the regional inter-governmental meeting to be held in 1983 to formulate a regional plan of action for meaningful observance of the Year. The Meeting felt that an extensive and critical review and assessment of the situation of youth in the region, which would include an examination of existing youth policies and programmes, should be undertaken prior to the formulation of the regional plan of action.

142. The various training programmes, workshops and field study/attachments in youth development that were held served to impart knowledge and organizational, management and planning skills to different groups of people involved in mobilizing youth for development, to provide a network of various organizations involved in youth work at the national and regional levels and to provide opportunities for the exchange of current ideas and methodologies with regard to youth work.

More specifically, the training workshops geared towards the development of rural institutions served to motivate young people to act as agents of change and social progress in their community.

143. As a follow-up of the International Year of Disabled Persons, the Expert Group Meeting on the Development and Utilization of Local Manpower and Technology for Disability-related Services in Rural and Poverty Areas of the Asia-Pacific Region brought together experts from the region to review global and regional plans of action and recommendations, to discuss the situation of disabled persons in the region, existing resources and the development and utilization of local manpower and technology in disability prevention and rehabilitation and to consider regional arrangements for technical co-operation in the field of disability.

144. The Third ESCAP/RTI Course (Regional) on Planning, Development and Health aimed at providing participants with a long-term and operational perspective of health and development problems and at imparting knowledge and skills in the formulation of health plans in overall development with emphasis on the need for community participation.

145. The Fifth ESCAP/UNICEF Seminar (Regional) on Basic Community Services through Primary Health Care was held to develop planning skills within communities, to clarify basic services and primary health care concepts, to analyse the implications of community mobilization to implement primary health care and national development, to contribute to the preparation of national training programmes for primary health care and to review experiences in those areas.

146. The Interagency Committee on Women in Development, a standing interagency co-ordination mechanism in the programme area for women serviced by ESCAP, held its first regular session and a subsequent special session to consider guide-lines for the development of indicators on the situation of women in the region.

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

(a) Advisory services in training and education for social development were provided to (i) Indonesia to redirect the focus of social work education and community development training nationally and to assist the Bandung School of Social Work in developing a curriculum model for the professional training of rural community workers within a unified programme for human resource development, (ii) the Republic of Korea to assist the Bong Chun Dong Community Welfare Centre at Seoul in becoming a model centre for urban community services, (iii) Vanuatu to provide a conceptual framework for reorganizing the programmes and functions of the Department of Social Development and for reaching its development goals, (iv) Guam to provide technical expertise in developing

a long-range programme of training for the staff of the University of Guam and government welfare agencies, (v) India to evaluate the objectives, programme requirements and service strategies of the curriculum for the Bachelor of Social Work degree at the development educators' workshop at Bombay and (vi) the Philippines to provide technical assistance in the documentation of the substantive content of the deliberations in connection with the holding of the Conference of the Asian Union of Family Organizations at Manila;

(b) Regional advisory services aimed at strengthening national mechanisms for the integration of women in development were rendered to the National Women's Council of Indonesia, the Bureau of Agriculture Extension of the Philippines, the Women's Programme of the Rural Development Department of Afghanistan, the organization CONCERN and the Small and Cottage Industries Corporation in Bangladesh, the School of Social Work and Women's Bureau of Sri Lanka, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Cook Islands, the Women's Advisory Committee of Samoa and the National Council of Women and other civic organizations in Fiji. In addition, an advisory mission was undertaken to the Republic of Korea to assist in the preparation of a bill to establish the national commission on the status of women and the Korean women's development institute for introduction in the National Assembly and to arrange training fellowships for several Korean women to serve as key staff members at the institute;

(c) Advisory missions to provide technical assistance in the identification, formulation, administration and evaluation of Voluntary Fund-supported projects for the integration of women in development were undertaken to Burma, India, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines and Singapore in 1982 and to seven countries in the Pacific in 1983;

(d) Advisory services to strengthen national policies, plans and programmes for more effective mobilization and integration of youth in development were provided to (i) Bhutan to assist the Government in developing national service schemes for young graduates and training programmes for government officials involved in youth policies and planning, youth leaders/workers and youth district officers, (ii) China to advise on current methodologies for the training of trainers of youth leaders and youth workers, (iii) Japan to review the objectives and strategies and assess the usefulness of the International Youth Exchange of the National Assembly for Youth Development, (iv) Malaysia to advise on the development of youth policies and programmes with special reference to educational and vocational guidance programmes, (v) Nepal to advise on the development and management of 23 projects related to rural youth and community development, (vi) the Philippines to assist in developing a pilot project for the training of rural youth leaders and workers with special emphasis on tribal and minority groups and (vii) Thailand to assist the Accelerated

Rural Development Department in the development of training programmes for rural youth workers;

(e) In the area of social development information, a mission was undertaken to Nepal to assist the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare in the establishment of a national social development information centre. The report on the training of core staff members of the Social Service National Co-ordination Council of Nepal, a TCDC supplementary funding facility programme, was completed;

(f) In the area of health and development, advice was given to Thailand's National Economic and Social Development Board on the integration of social development planning methods for the agricultural, health, educational and community development sectors, on decentralization at the provincial level and on development of community participation, and to the Republic of Korea's Institute for Population and Health on the financing of community-based health services and on the implementation of a pilot project on urban primary health care.

148. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review: (a) *Guide-lines for National Youth Policy in the Pacific Countries: Findings of the Seminar/Training Workshop on Policies and Programmes for Mobilization of Youth in National Development in the Pacific Region*; (b) *Social Development Newsletter* (Nos. 4, 5 and 6); (c) *Youth Development Newsletter* (Nos. 2, 3 and 4); (d) *1980 Asia and Pacific Atlas of Children in National Development*; and (e) *Reading Profile on the Status of Women in Asia and the Pacific*.

Committee on Statistics

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

Expert Group Meeting on Training Courses in Energy Statistics, Bangkok, October 1982

Expert Group Meeting on an International Trade Statistics Manual, Bangkok, January 1983

150. The Expert Group Meeting on Training Courses in Energy Statistics, organized as part of the UNDP-supported regional energy development programme, reviewed the statistical information required for energy planning, with special emphasis on statistics on traditional and non-conventional sources of energy, the role of rural energy surveys, current energy statistics and their sources, the compilation of national energy accounts and balances, training needs and institutional arrangements for collecting and disseminating energy data. It formulated a framework for the training course on energy statistics to be held in 1983 and recommended that a number of other training courses on energy statistics, including one for the Pacific island countries, should also be organized.

151. The Expert Group Meeting on an International Trade Statistics Manual was organized in collaboration with the International Trade Division and with financial support from UNDP. It approved, with minor amendments, a draft manual for the compilation of international trade statistics which had been prepared by a consultant and which incorporated revised international recommendations on concepts and definitions. It also made recommendations on promotion of the use of the manual by countries of the region so as to facilitate the compilation of internationally comparable and harmonized trade statistics.

152. The promotion of the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP) in the region was maintained through an ESCAP team which included several regional advisers. The programmes already under way in Sri Lanka and Thailand were reviewed. A project proposal for Mongolia was prepared and submitted to the Government for its consideration and approval. A series of NHSCP-related lectures were delivered in China by the Programme Co-ordinator, in response to China's interest in participation. An 18-week training course, the first of a series, on sampling and household survey methodology, was inaugurated in India in December 1982.

153. Missions were undertaken to:

(a) Afghanistan, Bhutan and Viet Nam, to assess basic data needs and ways and means of developing national statistical organization and capabilities, particularly in relation to meeting the requirements for socio-economic planning and the International Development Strategy;

(b) The Cook Islands, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu, to compile an inventory of data availability, improve data flows in general to ESCAP and develop new series for inclusion in ESCAP statistical publications;

(c) Afghanistan, Bhutan, Papua New Guinea, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (including the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands), Tuvalu and Vanuatu to examine the availability of statistics for national accounts and make recommendations for their collection and to assist in compiling national accounts estimates and in some cases other financial statistics;

(d) Burma, China, Kiribati, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Samoa and Viet Nam, to assist in the planning, processing, tabulation and analysis of population censuses, with special emphasis on production of timely census reports which would be readily understood and used by planners, policy-makers and other potential users;

(e) India and the Philippines, to review and strengthen vital registration and advise on alternative methods of collecting vital statistics;

(f) China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga and the Federated States of Micronesia, to advise on household surveys in general and more particularly on surveys of labour force, income and expenditure and household economic activities and on the development of labour statistics;

(g) Fiji, Guam, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu and the Federated States of Micronesia, to review the availability of and needs for social statistics and to assist in the development of such statistics.

154. In all cases, the regional advisory services emphasized the importance of, and wherever possible participated in, the training of national statisticians in order to build permanent and viable statistical capabilities.

155. The following technical publications were released during the period under review: (a) *Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific* – March, June, September and December 1982 issues; (b) *Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics for Asia and the Pacific*, up to June 1982 – five issues; (c) *Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific, 1980 and 1981*; (d) *Handbook on Agricultural Statistics for Asia and the Pacific, 1981*; and (e) *Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific, Series A and B* – two issues.

156. In addition, the *Sample Surveys in the ESCAP Region: Eighteenth Report* was compiled and released. Four issues of the *Statistical Newsletter*, covering, *inter alia*, important statistical activities and events in the secretariat as well as the countries, were published.

Committee on Trade

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

Government Consultation among Jute Producing Countries (special session), Bangkok, May 1982; (fifth session), Calcutta, India, August-September 1982; (sixth session), Dhaka, February 1983

ESCAP/UNCTAD/ITC/PRODEC Seminar on Import Management for Developing ESCAP Countries, Pattaya, Thailand, May-June 1982

Regional Working Group Meeting on Silk, Bangalore, India, June 1982

ESCAP/SEALPA Workshop on the Utilization of Lesser-known Species of Tropical Timber, Los Banos, Philippines, June 1982

ESCAP/ITC/UNDP Workshop on Dissemination of Trade Information, Bangkok, June-July 1982

ESCAP/PRC Mobile Seminar on Trading with the People's Republic of China, Bangkok/Manila/Singapore, July 1982

ESCAP/IPC Meeting of Specialists on a Market Study/Survey to Determine Demand Prospects of Pepper in Selected Countries in the ESCAP Region, Jakarta, August 1982

ESCAP/ARC Round-table Meeting on Fire Insurance Rating, Bangkok, October 1982

Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on an Export Refinancing Scheme, Bangkok, October 1982

ESCAP/ITC/ICC National Symposium on the Role/Status of Major Private Trade Organizations in Trade Promotion, Bangkok, November 1982

Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement (twelfth session), Bangkok, November 1982

JETRO/ITC/ESCAP Seminar on the Promotion of Exports to Japan from Small- and Medium-scale Enterprises in Asia, Tokyo, November 1982

Training Course on Trade Information, Bangkok, November-December 1982

ESCAP/UNCTAD/UNDP Workshop on Special Measures in favour of Least Developed Landlocked Countries, Kathmandu, November 1982

Regional Consultative Group on Silk, Pattaya, Thailand, December 1982

Expert Group Meeting on Research and Development of Silk, Pattaya, Thailand, December 1982

Expert Group Meeting on an International Trade Statistics Manual, Bangkok, January 1983

ESCAP/Japan Regional Seminar on the Japanese Generalized System of Preferences Scheme for Developing TCG Member Countries, Bangkok, January 1983

Expert Group Meeting on the Preparations for the Sixth Session of UNCTAD, Bangkok, January-February 1983

Trade Co-operation Group (TCG) (fifth session), Bangkok, March 1983

TCG Subgroups for: Trade-creating Joint Ventures, Bangkok, October 1982; Network of Trade Promotion Centres, Bangkok, October 1982; Commodities, Bangkok, March 1983; Harmonization of Trade Statistics, Customs Tariff Nomenclatures and Customs and Transport Facilitation Procedures and Documentation, Bangkok, March 1983; Monetary and Credit Co-operation, Bangkok, March 1983

Working Group on Project Proposals for the International Jute Organization, Dhaka, February 1983

Meeting of Directors of Research/Experts on Industrial Project Proposals for the International Jute Organization, Calcutta, India, March 1983

Consultative Meeting of Regional Commodity Communities and Associations, Bangkok, March 1983

Meeting of Representatives of Country Co-ordinating Agencies for the Study on Remunerative Price Levels for Jute Fibre, Bangkok, March 1983

Follow-up Meeting to the 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, Bangkok, March-April 1983

158. The Trade Co-operation Group and five of its subgroups met during the period under review. Most of the studies selected by the various subgroups were completed for dissemination to the member countries. The Expert Group Meeting on an International Trade Statistics Manual finalized the manual, which will be distributed for use by member countries as a reference and training document. The UNDP funding under the project, through which assistance was given to developing countries of the ESCAP region on intraregional trade expansion and co-operation, will take a different form in 1983: the input will be limited to specific tasks in specified areas.

159. At its twelfth session, the Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement decided that, for the second round of negotiations under the Agreement, it was important to invite developing countries of the ESCAP region to accede to the Agreement and join the negotiations. The Committee took note of the study on negotiating techniques on tariff and non-tariff barriers which could be useful to participating countries in the negotiations.

160. The major decisions and recommendations made by the Government Consultation among Jute Producing Countries related to such matters as in-process quality control, remunerative price levels for jute fibre, improvement of jute productivity and the quality of jute fibres, transport and shipping problems related to jute and jute goods and formulation of project proposals for the International Jute Organization.

161. The Regional Consultative Group on Silk decided to undertake co-operative programmes related to sericulture, cocoon technology, silk processing, improvement of silk techniques, co-ordination of research and development and generic promotion of silk, while the Intergovernmental Consultative Forum of Developing Tropical Timber Producing/Exporting Countries, hosted by the Government of Malaysia, decided that marketing

of timber and timber products should be given the highest priority in its programme.

162. The experts participating in the *Ad Hoc* Expert Group Meeting on an Export Refinancing Scheme agreed that if an existing multinational agency could undertake the operation of the proposed refinancing facility, inaugural delays could be avoided. ADB would be a relevant institution in that context. However, if ADB was not interested in carrying out such a function, a multinational regional institution could be set up for the purpose. The experts felt that such a separate institution would be able to accord the priority and attention that were needed for the success of the proposed refinancing facility.

163. At its third session, the Subgroup for Monetary and Credit Co-operation endorsed the findings of the *Ad Hoc* Expert Group Meeting on an Export Refinancing Scheme and requested the secretariat to undertake an in-depth study for setting up such a scheme.

164. 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. It discussed such subjects as warehousing management, loss minimization and packaging measures in the transport of goods, air transport, communications, simplification and harmonization of transit trade procedures, including international conventions and agreements, and an integrated intermodal transport system. An observation tour was organized for participants to visit Patan Industrial Estate and Tribhuvan International Airport. The participants were also briefed on UNCTAD's assistance to land-locked countries in Africa.

165. The main purpose of the Expert Group Meeting on the Preparations for the Sixth Session of UNCTAD was to finalize a document setting out action required by member countries of ESCAP in the light of the world outlook on issues and problems identified by the experts.

166. The Follow-up Meeting to the 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 was held to consider and give final shape to the draft multi-lateral agreement on mutual administrative assistance for the prevention, investigation and repression of customs offences which had been adopted by the Expert Group Meeting held at Kathmandu in January 1982. The Meeting examined the draft agreement article by article and made a number of amendments. It decided that the draft should be referred to the Office of Legal Affairs for comments or advice, if any.

167. The Meeting agreed that if no significant alterations were recommended by the Office of Legal Affairs, the draft multilateral agreement with the amendments made at the Meeting should be circulated to members and associate members of ESCAP for clearance so that it could be opened for signature. If the Office of Legal Affairs advised that significant alterations would be necessary, an intergovernmental meeting might be convened to finalize the draft in the light of the advice received from the Office of Legal Affairs.

168. During the period under review, advisory services were provided to:

(a) Maldives in May-June 1982 and January-February 1983 to assist the Government in surveying, reorganizing and operating the Maldivian state trading organization. Training material was prepared for the implementation of the relevant recommendations;

(b) Palau in June 1982 on matters relating to market opportunities for specified products, the organization of a market research programme and the establishment of a trade promotion and development machinery;

(c) Pakistan to review and redraft, as appropriate, commercial legislation for international trade and to develop export strategies and development plans for textile products;

(d) Thailand in April 1982 on trading opportunities with the Federal Republic of Germany, participation in trade fairs in that country and characteristics of the market;

(e) China in August-September 1982 on export marketing research and export strategies and plans;

(f) The ASEAN Handicraft Promotion and Development Association relating to its constitution and accreditation by ASEAN, the organization and planning of a houseware and gifts show in the Philippines in 1983 and other miscellaneous programme planning issues including the formation of national business clubs for craft products, technical assistance project formulation and the establishment of an ASEAN craft centre;

(g) The Department of Industrial Promotion, Ministry of Industry, Thailand, in January 1983 for the Asian Assembly of the World Crafts Council on project planning and formulation for handicrafts development and promotion, legal drafting for procedural purposes and consultancy services to craft producers in Thailand;

(h) The regional co-operative workshop organized by the International Co-operative Alliance, the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA), ILO and ESCAP at New Delhi from 23 November to 15 December 1982.

169. Advisory services were provided under project RAS/82/003 to some 13 developing countries of the region to assist them in establishing or strengthening their trade information network services including programming of technical assistance, training of trade information staff and establishment of commodity price monitoring systems.

170. Assistance and advisory services were also provided by the regional adviser on raw materials and commodities to experts and the secretariats of ANRPC, APCC and IPC in the planning and implementation of specific projects. In addition, the regional adviser provided assistance and advisory services to the secretariat and the various workshops and intergovernmental meetings.

171. Under the UNDP-funded project on assistance to least developed land-locked countries (RAS/81/114), assistance was rendered to Afghanistan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Nepal in identifying problems in transit trade and providing training facilities in various specific fields such as warehousing management, materials and equipment handling, clearing and forwarding, port operations, insurance, documentation and procedures. Representatives of ESCAP, UNCTAD and UNDP held consultations at Kathmandu in November 1982 on finalizing the work plan under the project for 1983.

172. The following technical publications were produced during the period under review: (a) *Trade Information Sources Data Bank* and its alphabetical index; (b) *Trade Information Sources Directory*; (c) "TIS QUICK"; (d) *Prices of Selected Asia/Pacific Products* (quarterly); (e) "Trade information sheets"; and (f) *Trade Profiles*.

173. To assist exporters and export promotion officials of developing ESCAP countries, a number of market and marketing surveys/studies were completed or were in progress during the year. These included the following: (a) *Guidebook on Trading with the People's Republic of China*; (b) study on the trade flows between the Republic of Korea and Saudi Arabia; (c) study on the Republic of Korea's export development and market opportunities; (d) study on the import pattern of the developing countries of the ESCAP region; (e) study on Australian foreign trade in marine products; (f) study on trade flows of hides and skins in the ESCAP region. Preparation of a guide to the markets of Australia and New Zealand is under way. It will be the latest addition to the series of exporters' guides to the markets of selected developed countries published so far; (g) comprehensive plan for the reorganization and incorporation of the Maldivian state trading organization and training material for the implementation of the relevant recommendations; (h) training material to be used for the mobile seminar on trade promotion and development in the Pacific in 1983; (i) study on Pakistan's commercial legislation for international

trade; and (j) training manual and course material for trainers in export marketing for co-operatives in collaboration with ILO, the ILO/SIDA co-operative trade project for Asia and the International Co-operative Alliance.

174. In the field of raw materials and commodities, the following reports and studies were completed during the period under review: study on subregional/regional co-operative measures to improve the marketing of tropical timber and timber products; report on the utilization of lesser-known species of tropical timber (south-east Asia); socio-economic study on production and productivity of pepper holdings in India, Indonesia and Malaysia; report on determination of remunerative price levels of pepper in India, Indonesia and Malaysia; studies on improvement in the collection of natural rubber statistics on production, stocks and local consumption, demand for and supply of rubber and improved processing and marketing schemes for rubber smallholders in ANRPC member countries; study on the feasibility of regional co-operative arrangements in silk; outlook for and framework of a regional co-operative programme for silk in the ESCAP region; feasibility study on regional co-operative arrangements in tapioca; and regional co-operative activities in tapioca products. The last four of these were implemented under the TCG project.

B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

175. In addition to the work of its subsidiary bodies, the secretariat performed the following promotional and supportive activities of a substantive nature during the year.

Integrated programme on rural development

176. Approved activities under ESCAP's integrated programme on rural development were implemented with one identified lead division in each case. Out of a total of 33 activities in the work programme for 1982-1983, 1 has been completed, 18 are at various stages of implementation and 14 are yet to be taken up. Details with regard to the implementation of these activities are reported in the respective submissions of the divisions concerned and are not repeated here. The Integrated Rural Development Unit of the secretariat implemented some core activities designed to sharpen the emphasis of activities in general on institutional and human factors in the planning, management and evaluation of programmes on an intersectoral basis. Implementation of two ongoing projects, "Development of low-income groups" and "Improving the accountability of public agencies and local organizations to low-income groups", has been completed. Implementation of another activity concerned with analysing how people's organizations at the local level can be actively involved in ensuring that the benefits of agrarian reform

programmes reach the intended beneficiaries has been taken up. In close collaboration with ILO and FAO, a detailed review has been completed of experiences gained in this field in different countries of the region to bring out some policy issues which would be of interest to Governments. These will be considered by a meeting of national experts and government representatives in May 1983.

Interagency co-ordinated plan of action for integrated rural development

177. During the period under review, the concerned United Nations agencies co-operated in the implementation of the interagency plan of action, with each agency making a contribution in its respective area of technical competence. The Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific met to review the progress of implementation and provide guidance as to priorities for future activities. The Interagency Task Force met with an average frequency of once a month to provide technical support for implementation. The Task Force has also provided a forum for facilitating exchange of information among member agencies about their respective programmes in rural development at the regional level and for identifying areas for co-operation.

Country-specific activities

178. *Nepal.* Agreement has been reached with concerned agencies of the Government on the framework of the project, "Assistance to integrated rural development in the hilly districts and backward regions of Nepal". Assistance will be rendered to the Government in identifying some basic constraints to development in the hilly and backward regions of the country and in formulating detailed measures suited to the ecological conditions, human resources and other endowments of those areas to overcome such constraints. Field-work is expected to commence in mid-1983, and some countries faced with similar problems of development will be invited to share their experiences with the planners of Nepal during the concluding stage of implementation.

179. *Sri Lanka.* Implementation of the integrated district development project in Kegalle commenced in mid-May 1982 and was completed in December 1982. During that period, assistance was rendered to the Government in collecting detailed information on socio-economic conditions of rural areas in sample villages, holding consultations with different sections of the local population and also three planning workshops in three different ecological regions of the district to identify local potential and allocate priorities for development. On the basis of the above framework, a long-term development plan was formulated for Kegalle district identifying inputs and outputs as well as the benefits likely to accrue to low-income groups.

180. *Thailand.* Field-work for the implementation of the project, "Assistance to comprehensive rural development at the provincial level", commenced in Nakhon Sawan Province in October 1982. Assistance is being rendered to the Government in improving methodologies for the planning and implementation of development programmes at the provincial level on a multisectoral basis. As part of the above, the following activities have been completed so far: a socio-economic survey and family case studies in sample villages and five *tambon*-level planning workshops for representatives of different sections of the local population and officials aimed at identifying the potential for resource mobilization and allocating priorities. A framework for long-term development of the province has emerged on the basis of the participatory planning methodology outlined above.

Inter-country activities

181. *Monitoring and evaluation.* The Governments of Indonesia and Sri Lanka have been participating in the project on monitoring and evaluation. Field-work commenced in Sri Lanka in October 1982. Assistance is being rendered to the Government in undertaking a detailed review of existing methodologies and systems for monitoring and evaluation and taking steps to improve methodologies and systems for monitoring and evaluation on an illustrative basis, with concrete reference to a set of select programmes and projects. Steps are being taken to commence implementation in Indonesia.

182. *Human resource development.* The regional training workshop of personnel of rural banking institutions held at Chainat, Thailand, in November 1981 was followed by country-level workshops in Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand during April-October 1982. The participants in the workshops were selected from among middle-level bank managers in their respective countries. Detailed course contents included a review of experiences gained in improving the access of low-income groups to credit and field training on improved methodologies and techniques for small-scale project formulation with an emphasis on diversifying sources of employment and income for the poor. As a follow-up to the above, a subregional workshop was held in Papua New Guinea for personnel of rural credit institutions of five Pacific countries on the planning and implementation of small-scale projects. In another area of this aspect of integrated rural development, two training courses have been held, one each in Bangladesh and Thailand, for middle-level supervisors of national agencies concerned with rural development to assist in improving local capabilities in the planning and implementation of programmes on a multisectoral basis. The activities relating to credit were implemented in co-operation with FAO and the Asian and Pacific Regional Agricultural Credit Association, while other

training courses were completed with assistance from the Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific, in collaboration with a designated national training institution in each case.

183. *People's participation.* The Interagency Task Force has undertaken the project, "Intercountry action research on participatory rural development", with the objective of rendering assistance of a practical nature to some interested Governments so as to replicate methodologies and approaches of experimental programmes/projects of proven success in new areas. A consultative meeting of select national action researchers was held at Chainat, Thailand, in February 1983 to review the experience gained so far and suggest a framework for co-operation on an intercountry basis.

Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

184. As part of the secretariat's continuing efforts to disseminate information on TCDC capacities and needs, the sectoral series on renewable sources of energy was continued through the publication of a fourth volume. Like the preceding three volumes on solar energy, biogas and wind energy, the fourth volume, on small hydropower development, includes inventories of experts and institutions and the projects undertaken by them as well as details of the designs, prototypes and hardware developed in the ESCAP region. A publication on draught animal power is at an advanced stage of preparation. Another series, entitled "Institutional arrangements for ECDC-TCDC in Asia and the Pacific", was similarly continued with an updated, revised and expanded one-volume new edition replacing the previous three volumes. The new edition describes about 370 institutions in 26 developing countries. Some of the institutions are listed for the first time as are a few countries which did not figure in the earlier volumes. Another publication brought out in a revised and enlarged edition covers consultancy services available in developing ESCAP countries, with emphasis on information needed for co-operation among developing countries. At the request of the Government of China, TCDC brochures were prepared on five centres of excellence in China in an attempt to make their facilities better known to other developing countries. The above publications constitute ESCAP's contribution to a regional information system, pending the finalization of its role as the regional arm of the UNDP Information Referral System. In the preparation and dissemination of the ECDC TCDC publications, co-operation was secured from UNIDO and FAO.

185. The secretariat's efforts to organize regional intergovernmental consultations for formulation and implementation of co-operative programmes among developing countries, in co-operation with UNDP and a developing member country, have reached the stage of finalization. A project for promotion of interregional co-operation among developing member countries of

the United Nations regional commissions has been submitted and is under active consideration by other regional commissions.

186. The ESCAP supplementary funding facility was utilized to finance the travel of (a) a team from Vanuatu to visit Fiji for one week to familiarize its five members with the functions and procedures of the Fiji Public Service Commission, (b) one official each from Solomon Islands and Vanuatu to join an eight-member study tour for the exchange of experience on forestry development and management in Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu and (c) a study tour of 10 heads of municipal and urban councils from Sri Lanka to observe local government, urban planning, rural planning, environmental protection and management, energy planning and waterworks in Thailand.

187. Material was provided for the UNDP Administrator's system-wide programme report to be submitted to the High-level Committee on TCDC at its third session, which will be held in mid-1983. In collaboration with the other regional commissions, a position paper was prepared on behalf of all the regional commissions for the forthcoming High-level Meeting. Co-ordination was maintained with other organizations in the United Nations development system through consultations and participation in meetings concerned with ECDC TCDC.

Information systems and documentation services

188. The Regional Workshop on the Role of Mini and Micro Computers as Tools for Economic and Social Development was held at Bangkok in November 1982. The purpose of the Workshop was to review the means by which the rapidly emerging technology of micro computers could be used to accelerate economic and social development. It was found that while some small computer systems were gradually being installed by Governments, that was generally on a piecemeal and not systematic basis. An exception was in the remote and island countries, where the installation of larger mainframe computers was not feasible on account of their cost and the difficulty in maintenance and operation. The Workshop favoured the establishment of a high-level national body in each country primarily to co-ordinate government information systems but also to monitor and promote new information products and services with a view to making better use of modern technology.

189. Missions to Fiji, Nepal, Pakistan, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Thailand and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands were undertaken by the regional adviser on data preparation and processing of censuses and surveys to install computer software packages for the edit and tabulation of census and survey data. He also conducted several training courses in the use of the software. Missions to Niue and Sri Lanka were undertaken by the regional adviser on government information

systems and data processing to examine the feasibility of the wider use of computers in government.

190. The ESCAP Library produced a revised edition of the *ESCAP Delegates Handbook*, a revised *Secretariat Supplement* and the "Current contents service". The "Current contents service", a weekly compilation of the tables of contents of journals received by the Library, is used by staff of the secretariat as well as by librarians of the specialized agencies and related institutions in Bangkok.

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191. In addition, the following activities were undertaken by various institutes, bodies and projects.

Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre

192. In 1982, the specialists of the Centre carried out 19 technical advisory missions to 13 developing member countries. Thirteen technical reports have been issued and 13 are under preparation.

193. Two workshops were organized, with 120 participants from 19 countries and six international organizations. One was on "The importance of mining to industrial development" and the other on "Biogeochemical exploration in a tropical rain-forest environment".

194. The second phase of the rock magnetism project was completed, and a report containing recommendations for an airborne geophysical survey over selected areas of the Thailand-Malaysia-Indonesia tin belt is under preparation. An age-dating network project was initiated.

195. The present level of cash contributions of \$US 35,000 constitutes only 2 per cent of the Centre's total budget. An increase to about \$US 200,000 per year is needed to enable the Centre to carry out its priority activities efficiently and develop its capacity further.

196. UNDP's decision to discontinue financial support for the Co-ordinator's post effective 1 January 1983 gave rise to acute anxiety on the part of the member countries. The Governing Council and the Committee on Natural Resources urged UNDP to reconsider that decision and to allocate sufficient funds for institutional support during 1983-1984. Developing member and associate member countries of ESCAP were requested to demonstrate support by providing token/increased cash contributions to the Centre.

197. The fifth session of the Governing Council was held at Bangkok in September 1982.

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

198. Considerable time was spent in preparing for the transfer of the Centre's base of operation from

ESCAP headquarters to its permanent site at Bogor, Indonesia, on 25 September 1982. A series of consultations with the concerned officials of the Government of Indonesia and the ESCAP secretariat was undertaken regarding the physical, administrative and other arrangements required for the operation of the Centre. The Government of Indonesia provided the Centre with a secretary, a car with driver and a part-time accounting officer for handling daily matters, in addition to office space in the counterpart research institute, the Central Research Institute for Food Crops. The new building was completed in January 1983 and formally opened on 16 February 1983 by the Secretary General for Agriculture on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture of Indonesia in the presence of the Executive Secretary of ESCAP, the members of the Governing Board and other dignitaries.

199. The Centre also made efforts to seek technical and financial resources by contacting bilateral and multilateral donors (including UNDP, IFAD, ADB and the International Development Research Centre). It also contacted selected national, regional and international research institutes and relevant agencies (including FAO, the International Rice Research Institute and the South-East Asia Regional Centre for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture) to formulate joint co-operative programmes. Project proposals for financial assistance were prepared and submitted to some donor countries, including Japan and the Netherlands.

200. Since the Centre is still in the early stages of operation, its activities during the period under review were devoted mainly to preparatory work related to the convening of the first session of the Governing Board, including the preparation of documents, such as draft rules of procedure for Governing Board meetings, draft work programmes and the budget. The first session of the Governing Board was convened by the Executive Secretary on 16 February 1983 and concluded on 18 February 1983 at Bogor in accordance with paragraphs 12 and 13 of the Statute of the Centre. The main objectives of the session were to adopt the rules of procedure of the Governing Board, review the operation of the Centre and consider and adopt its work programme. The session was attended by representatives of France, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Thailand. Observers from UNDP, the Ministry of Agriculture of Indonesia and the Bogor Agricultural University also attended.

Asian and Pacific Development Centre

201. In accordance with its resolution 225 (XXXVIII), the annex to which contains the Charter of APDC, the Commission pursued action on the signing of the Charter. On 9 September 1982, the Charter was signed at Bangkok on behalf of the host Government of Malaysia and the Governments of Bangladesh, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, New Zealand, Pakistan,

the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam. Subsequently, the Charter has been signed on behalf of the Governments of China, the Cook Islands, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Nepal and the Philippines. With the signing of the Charter by the above 16 Governments, the conditions for the Charter to enter into force on 1 July 1983 (under article XVIII) have been fulfilled.

202. The secretariat is also pursuing action to encourage Governments which have yet to subscribe to the Charter to sign it.

203. The Management Board of APDC met in February and November 1982. These sessions enabled the Management Board to monitor progress in the various programme areas, including training activities. The work on the implementation of the research programme of the initial phase in the areas of energy planning and management, food security, integration of women in development and human resources mobilization continued. Activities related to the recruitment of staff for these programmes as well as for the training programmes continued.

204. APDC implemented three training programmes in 1982 in addition to conducting a regional workshop and exhibition on domestic utilization of energy in collaboration with RCTT. Six other training programmes were scheduled for the first quarter of 1983.

205. APDC also established its information dissemination programme during the year and took over the responsibility of acting as secretariat to the Association of Development Research and Training Institutes of Asia and the Pacific.

Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

206. SIAP conducted two advanced courses: one on modern statistical data processing with special reference to data-base methods and the other on social accounting matrices. In addition, country courses were conducted in Bangladesh, China, Pakistan, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea. The thirteenth general course in statistics and the third course in automatic data processing for statisticians were postponed from 1982 to commence in March 1983.

Regional energy development programme

207. During the period under review, an interim co-ordinator was appointed to set up a project office for the regional energy development programme (REDP) and generally initiate project activities. Actions taken include visits to nine countries of the region and six specialized agencies to discuss the implementation of activities and the preparation of the final version of the project document for the approval of member Governments and UNDP.

208. UNDP approved the project document on 30 August 1982 with ESCAP as the executing agency

and a budget of \$US 1,878,978. ESCAP is implementing this programme in association with six other agencies, namely, the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, ADB, UNIDO, FAO, ILO and UNESCO.

209. A full-time senior co-ordinator assumed his post on 21 June 1982. Soon thereafter work plans for individual activities were drawn up and were later discussed and agreed upon with the six associate executing agencies and six ESCAP units. The work plans for the whole programme were finalized in January 1983.

210. In the mean time, work has been initiated on all of the 28 substantive activities, both those activities scheduled for implementation in 1982 and those for 1983. However, because of the somewhat late start, some of the activities originally scheduled for completion in 1982 have continued into 1983.

211. The following meetings and training courses, either directly sponsored or co-sponsored by the programme, were held during the period under review:

Joint UNDP/UNIDO/ESCAP/China Senior Expert Group Meeting on the Creation of a Regional Network System and the Assessment of Priority Needs on Research, Development and Training in the field of Small/Mini Hydropower Generation, Hangzhou, China, July 1982

Meeting of the ASEAN Coal Experts Group, the ASEAN Secretariat, the Asian Development Bank and the ESCAP Secretariat on the ASEAN Coal Study, Bangkok, August 1982

Training Course in Biogas Technology, Chengdu, China, September-October 1982

Workshop and Exhibition on Domestic Utilization of Energy, Manila, October 1982

Expert Group Meeting on Training Courses in Energy Statistics, Bangkok, October 1982

Expert Group Meeting on Assessment of Manpower and Training Needs for the Energy Sector, Bangkok, December 1982

RCTT/UNIDO/REDP/Malaysia Workshop on Small Hydropower Development, Kuala Lumpur, March 1983

Seminar on Rural Energy Planning for the Developing Countries in Asia, Beijing, April 1983

212. A project review mission was fielded in February-March 1983 to assess the progress of implementation and to recommend extended and/or new activities for 1984-1986. The report of the mission will be presented to a meeting of the REDP Steering Committee to be held at Bangkok in May 1983. On the basis of the formula stipulated in the project document, the Governments of Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal,

the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam have been requested to nominate representatives for the initial term of the Steering Committee.

Pacific energy development programme

213. A preparatory assistance mission of the planning and policy component of the programme was assigned the responsibility of identifying those projects which should have the greatest impact on the management of the energy transition in the Pacific island countries. The project document for the programme was finalized after the preparatory assistance mission had reported its findings. The project document was endorsed at an inter-governmental expert group meeting held at Suva in September 1982 and was subsequently approved by UNDP. Some activities of the programme have been launched from the beginning of 1983.

Typhoon Committee

214. During the period under review, the first Typhoon Operational Experiment (TOPEX) was successfully carried out from 1 August to 15 October 1982. Four typhoons had been selected for intensified observation and the experience gained was felt to be invaluable for ensuring the success of the second Operational Experiment in 1983.

215. The fifteenth session of the Committee and the sixth session of the TOPEX Management Board were held at Bangkok in November 1982. The third planning meeting for TOPEX and the seventh session of the Board were held at Tokyo in February 1983.

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

216. The First International Symposium on Soil Geology and Landforms (LANDPLAN-I): Impact on Land-use Planning in Developing Countries was held at Bangkok in March-April 1982. The Working Group on Petroleum Geology met at Bangkok in May 1982. There was a joint CCOP/ASCOPE Seminar on Hydrocarbon Occurrence in Carbonate Rocks at Surabaya, Indonesia, in August 1982. The workshop course on "Shallow marine seismic techniques" took place at the Universiti Sains, Penang, Malaysia, in September 1982. A short course on earth materials for construction in coastal and shallow sea areas was organized at Bangkok in November 1982.

217. The Working Group on Petroleum Data met at Manila in November 1982. The Study Tour-cum-Seminar on a Regional Centre for Quaternary Geology in China took place in November 1982.

218. On-the-job training in equipment maintenance and repair was given to technical personnel of the Bureau of Mines and Geosciences of the Philippines, the Universiti Sains and PT Timah of Indonesia.

219. In addition to the above, CCOP acted in a supporting role or as co-sponsor in a number of events, namely, training on board the Japanese research vessel *Hakurei Maru*, July 1982; post-cruise (*Hakurei Maru*) training and interpretation of results, July-September 1982; Circum-Pacific Energy and Mineral Resources Conference, Honolulu, August 1982; and group training courses in offshore prospecting in Japan in 1982. As previously, the Government of Japan continued to finance a group training course in offshore prospecting.

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

(a) In the field of offshore surveys for tin and other minerals, services were provided to Malaysia in running geophysical surveys off the east and west coasts of Malaysia, including interpretation of results; to Thailand with regard to the UNDP project "Offshore exploration for tin and heavy minerals", including correlation of drilling results with geophysical survey information; to Singapore in connection with offshore reclamation projects; to the Universiti Sains in connection with experimental geophysical techniques for tin exploration in coastal alluvial plains; and to China in connection with planning for offshore surveys for detrital tin;

(b) In the field of Quaternary geology, advisory services were provided to the Thai Department of Mineral Resources, Chiang Mai University, the Geological Survey of Malaysia, the Government of China, the Bureau of Mines and Geosciences of the Philippines and the Geological Research and Development Centre of Indonesia;

(c) In the field of gravity and magnetics, advisory services were provided to counterpart institutions in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Thailand;

(d) Advisory services in the field of petroleum data management were provided to Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Thailand;

(e) Additionally, CCOP provided advisory services towards the establishment of a regional centre for Quaternary geology in China and towards the development of a mechanism for Indian Ocean exploration.

221. The technical publications and studies produced during the period under review include: report of the Working Group on Petroleum Data, Bangkok, August-September 1981 (ROPEA-R.109); report and recommendations of the joint CCOP/IOC Working Group on IDOE/SEATAR at its seventh session (ROPEA-R.111); CCOP *Newsletter*, vol. 8, No. 4 and vol. 9, No. 1 for December 1981 and March 1982 respectively; report and recommendations of a Workshop on Palaeomagnetic Research in South and East Asia (ROPEA-R.112); report and recommendations of a Workshop on Remote Sensing, with particular reference to CCOP activities

(ROPEA-R.114); report of the Joint ASCOPE/CCOP Workshop on Hydrocarbon Occurrence in Carbonate Formation (ROPEA-R.116); report and recommendations of a Workshop on Heat Flow (ROPEA-R.117); report of the Sedimentology Workshop in the Phuket Tin Mines (ROPEA-R.119); report of the Working Group on Petroleum Data, Manila, November 1982 (ROPEA-R.120); draft report of the Study Tour-cum-Seminar concerning the Regional Centre for Quaternary Geology (ROPEA-R.121); and technical papers presented at the eighteenth session of CCOP.

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

222. CCOP/SOPAC and its Technical Advisory Group at their eleventh session, held at Wellington, New Zealand, in November 1982, reviewed and discussed elements in the current work programme as well as future operations, including institutional and legal arrangements.

223. The Committee took steps to manage and disburse its own funds; held the first session of a working group designed to foster and implement research programmes on science, tectonics and resources and recommended that the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission co-sponsor the group; admitted Guam as a member; agreed that the 1982-1984 UNDP budget would be stretched through 1985; decided that it would be represented at a meeting to discuss follow-up work to the tripartite cruises; endorsed the proposal of a preliminary prospectus for a South Pacific region diploma in earth science and marine geology to be held at the University of the South Pacific at Suva; was pleased with the success, and requested the continuation, of the bathymetric mapping and training programme; formulated a priority work list for 1983 taking into consideration the stated needs and capabilities of the member countries, and considered a proposal to organize a comprehensive international scientific expedition to study the south-west Pacific region.

224. The secretariat has arranged for the project manager to accept administrative and financial responsibility on behalf of the Committee on an interim basis. The secretariat has also obtained and transmitted to the Committee the views of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs on the compatibility of the present terms of reference of the Committee with relevant provisions in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

225. The secretariat's efforts in support of the activities of CCOP/SOPAC are directed towards obtaining extra-budgetary resources necessary to implement the priority work programmes; smoothing administrative procedures; assisting, on request, in preparing an appropriate legal/institutional framework; and furthering co-operation among the participating and supporting States and other relevant national and international bodies.

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

226. The Interim Mekong Committee held two sessions during the year under review. At the fifteenth session, held at Bangkok in September 1982, the work programme for the following year was adopted. The sixteenth session was held at Vientiane in January 1983 and it was agreed in principle that the seventeenth session would be convened in June 1983.

227. The work programme for 1983 conforms to the general framework of the indicative basin plan and 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 109 separate activities.

228. The secretariat has continued to receive support from UNDP through its ongoing institutional support project as well as from co-operating countries and agencies,¹ which provide expert services, fellowships and other assistance in cash and in kind; about 40 per cent of all secretariat costs, as distinct from costs incurred for field projects and special activities, were covered by contributions from these latter sources and by the member Governments. In August, a new project document providing further institutional support (phase VI) for the period April 1982 to April 1985 was signed with UNDP. In addition, a second project document was signed, committing programme support funds to help to finance activities included in the Committee's work programme.

229. The highlights of the activities undertaken by the secretariat during the year are as follows:

(a) *Regional*. A study was completed to update the current cost estimates for the Pa Mong project and to review ownership, management and financing arrangements to implement the scheme. Phase I of the "Basin-wide water quality studies" was completed in August and the first phase of the "Basin-wide water balance study" project was concluded in November. The annual flood forecasting operation was carried out on the mainstream, and hydrologic and hydrographic surveys were resumed on the stretch between Vientiane and Savannakhet;

(b) *Lao People's Democratic Republic*. Arrangements were concluded with the World Bank and the OPEC Fund for the loan financing of the final phase of the Nam Ngum hydropower project, raising installed capacity to 150 MW, at a total cost of \$US 20 million. Construction work continued and a technical study was

¹ Australia, Belgium, France, Federal Republic of Germany, India, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, EEC, ESCAP, Siam Commercial Bank and Price Waterhouse Ltd.

completed for flood protection and swamp reclamation in the Vientiane Plain. Infrastructure facilities for the Nam Ngum fishery project were completed and good progress was made in the operation of the Tha Ngone pilot fresh-water fish farm. As part of the Mekong pump irrigation project, surveys and mapping work on the design of more efficient irrigation distribution systems were completed for six pump stations. Construction work on the Keng Kabao transit port progressed satisfactorily, and the first berth is scheduled for operation in 1983;

(c) *Thailand*. Reconnaissance studies were carried out in the north of potential micro-hydroelectric projects on the tributaries of the Mekong River. Installation of 26 electric pump units at 18 stations along the Mun and Chi rivers in the north-east, construction work on the distribution systems of 16 stations and a feasibility study of the development of the lower Mun River basin were completed. Construction work was started at the regulator site of the flood control and irrigation project on the Huai Mong River. A feasibility study on the development of the Nam Kam River basin began in July, while a pre-feasibility study was started in October on irrigation and flood control in the Nam Songkhram River basin. Construction of a pilot fish farm at Lam Pao was completed;

(d) *Viet Nam*. The full range of equipment including a tugboat was delivered to the Huong My irrigation development project in the Mekong delta. As part of a programme of salinity intrusion studies, mathematical models were formulated and calibrated for two areas in the delta and a technical seminar on tidal hydraulics and salinity intrusion, with emphasis on the problems in the Mekong delta, was held at Ho Chi Minh City in October.

C. RELATIONS WITH OTHER UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMMES

230. In the field of industry, regular contact has been maintained with UNIDO. ESCAP participated in UNIDO's Industrial Development Board while UNIDO was represented in the ESCAP Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment. In addition, there have been regular staff exchanges to discuss joint projects, including the study of regional industrialization trends, financing of industrialization and industrial planning in the least developed countries. Discussions have also been held on the topics to be considered at a high-level meeting to be organized by UNIDO together with regional commissions on the implementation of the medium-term plan, 1984-1989, and the work programme for the 1984-1985 biennium with a view to further enhancing co-operation and co-ordination between the agencies.

231. In the field of agro- and allied industries, the close co-operation with UNIDO continued. Some of the activities undertaken in this broad area have been in support of the UNIDO system of consultations. In the implementation of the RNAM programme, both UNIDO and FAO have given assistance.

232. Among the meetings in which ESCAP participated were:

(a) The second special conference of the Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia and the Pacific, held at Manila in May 1982, which discussed the role and funding strategies of development financing institutions and the mobilization of offshore funds on terms and conditions conducive to the successful implementation of development projects;

(b) The China investment promotion meeting organized by UNIDO at Guangzhou in June 1982;

(c) The Tenth Round Table of Developing Countries on Industrial Development and Co-operation among Developing Countries: from Small-Scale Industry to the Transnational Corporations, which was organized by the Institute for Developing Countries at Zagreb, Yugoslavia, in September 1982 as one of the preparatory meetings for the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO. It focused on (i) practical measures of industrial co-operation among developing countries in implementation of the Caracas Programme of Action and the Lima Declaration, (ii) activities of the TNCs in the light of the Lima Plan of Action and (iii) Yugoslav industrial co-operation with developing countries;

(d) UNIDO's first consultation on industrial financing, Madrid, in October 1982. The meeting focused its discussion on (i) the magnitude of the gap in external financial flows to the third world, (ii) the existing financial mechanism and how to overcome the industrial financing gap which is expected in the future and (iii) elaboration of innovative concepts leading to the acceptance of new instruments;

(e) The solidarity ministerial meeting for industrial development, held in Nepal in November 1982.

233. In the field of human settlements, the secretariat continued to maintain close co-operation and working relations with such United Nations bodies and specialized agencies as the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), UNIDO, UNICEF, UNEP, the United Nations University (UNU), the United Nations Centre for Regional Development and the two United Nations regional housing centres at New Delhi and Bandung; during the year under review, a number of proposals and activities were developed for joint implementation with several of them.

234. Co-ordination with Habitat in the implementation of regional and global human settlements activities

has been strengthened through exchange visits and consultations between staff members of the two organizations. The secretariat was represented at an *ad hoc* expert group meeting on a feasibility study for an Asian and Pacific human settlements financing institution organized by Habitat at Manila in November 1982. ESCAP also participated in the fifth session of the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements in April-May 1982.

235. With regard to technology, close contact and joint projects were developed with UNCTAD, UNIDO and WIPO, and also to some extent with UNU, ILO, UNESCO and the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development. ESCAP participated in the UNCTAD Committee on the Transfer of Technology at Geneva in November-December 1982 and in meetings of the ACC Task Force on Science and Technology for Development and its working groups.

236. In implementing its programme relating to the environment, the secretariat has worked in close co-operation with various United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, in particular UNEP. In the fields of arid and semi-arid lands, desertification and deforestation, co-operation has been maintained with UNEP, the World Food Programme, FAO, UNESCO, WMO, the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) and the Groupement pour le Développement de la Télédétection Aérospatiale. With reference to the regional project on the protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems, the secretariat has co-operated with the Swedish International Development Authority, UNEP's Regional Seas Programme, FAO, IMO and UNESCO. As to the creation of environmental awareness through mass media campaigns, UNEP and United Nations Information Service regional offices, the Press Foundation of Asia and the Asia-Pacific Institute of Broadcasting Development have participated in organizing various media seminars and workshops. UNIDO, UNEP, ILO, FAO and WHO have co-operated in the ESCAP study on methods and costs of industrial pollution control. In the evaluation and implementation of its programme of work, the secretariat has also co-operated with UNEP, UNFPA, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, the ASEAN Environment Programme (ASEP), SACEP, the International Council of Women and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The World Bank has been approached by the secretariat in order to work out a programme of co-operation in the future. Areas of co-operation between ESCAP and the subregional environment programmes, ASEP, SACEP and the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, have been identified and selected activities are being carried out.

237. In the field of energy, close contact was maintained with ADB, UNIDO, ILO, FAO and UNESCO concerning the regional energy development programme as well as the regional action programme on new and

renewable sources of energy; with UNCTAD on the transfer, development and application of technology in the energy sector; and with IAEA on the preparations for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy.

238. In the field of mineral resources, co-operation was maintained with UNESCO, the Commission for the Geological Map of the World and the International Union of Geological Sciences in the implementation of the regional geoscience map programme and the stratigraphic correlation programme.

239. In the field of water, consultations continued at the global level with United Nations Headquarters and other regional commissions at special meetings and for co-ordination purposes with UNIDO, UNICEF, UNDP, UNEP, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, WMO and IAEA through the ACC Intersecretariat Group for Water Resources concerning co-ordination, monitoring and implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan. At the regional level, close co-operation was maintained with the same agencies through the Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific. In addition, co-operation was continued with the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, WMO and the League of Red Cross Societies in supporting the Typhoon Committee and the Panel on Tropical Cyclones and with FAO on watershed management.

240. The secretariat maintained close co-operation with UNCTAD in the field of shipping and ports; the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, UNCTAD, ILO, IMO and the Comité Maritime International on maritime legislation; and the United Nations Statistical Office on the economic statistics of shipping (L.2 scheme).

241. In the field of transport, communications and tourism, the secretariat worked closely with ITU, through the ESCAP/ITU Unit; 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, through the ESCAP/ILO tourism unit, on tourism manpower development; with ICAO on the economic aspects of air cargo transport; and with WTO on tourism development.

242. With regard to the facilitation of international traffic, the secretariat assisted UNCTAD/FALPRO (Special Programme on Trade Facilitation) in the national-level seminars in Thailand for the introduction of simplified export documents aligned with the United Nations layout key. It also assisted UNCTAD/FALPRO in preparing the commentary on the guide-lines for drafting transit agreements. Action has also been taken to develop joint activities with UNCTAD/FALPRO and the Customs Co-operation Council in trade, transport and customs facilitation matters.

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

244. In the field of social development, the secretariat continued to maintain close relationships with various United Nations agencies involved in related work. The first regular meeting and a subsequent *ad hoc* session of the Interagency Committee on Women in Development were convened by ESCAP. The Fifth Seminar (Regional) on Basic Community Services through Primary Health Care was held in collaboration with UNICEF. Technical expertise and fellowships were provided by WHO and UNICEF for the Third Course (Regional) on Planning, Development and Health. Consultations were held with the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs regarding implementation of global mandates on aging and for disabled persons in the region as well as on preparations for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women. Consultations were held with APDC on undertaking joint projects for the integration of women in development and with the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women to evolve joint programme activities and modalities for co-operation. Technical assistance was provided to United Nations Volunteers for the development and implementation of a project entitled "Domestic development services in Asia and the Pacific" and to UNESCO for its workshop on elaboration and promotion of indicators in the analysis and planning of youth programmes. ESCAP also assisted in the evaluation of two UNICEF-assisted projects in Malaysia and the Republic of Korea. In addition, institutional mechanisms were developed to strengthen co-ordination with UNICEF and WHO in the area of health and development and advisory services were provided to WHO headquarters and the UNICEF country office in the Republic of Korea. An *ad hoc* meeting of agencies concerned with youth development was also convened to co-ordinate plans for the International Youth Year.

245. ESCAP was represented at the following meetings organized by other United Nations bodies and agencies:

(a) Asian Regional Conference on Action against *Apartheid*, Manila, May 1982;

(b) Informal Interagency Technical Meeting on Youth, Vienna, June 1982;

(c) Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year (second session), Vienna, June 1982;

(d) United Nations Seminar on National, Local and Regional Arrangements for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Asian Region, Colombo, June-July 1982;

(e) Advisory Committee for the International Year of Disabled Persons, Vienna, July 1982;

(f) Interagency Meeting on Follow-up of the International Year of Disabled Persons, Vienna, July 1982;

(g) World Assembly on Aging, Vienna, July-August 1982;

(h) Interagency Meeting on Follow-up of the World Assembly on Aging, Vienna, August 1982;

(i) Annual WHO Regional Staff Meeting, New Delhi, November 1982;

(j) UNESCO Workshop for Those in Charge of Women's Education in a Rural Environment, Chiang Mai, Thailand, December 1982;

(k) Annual UNICEF Regional Staff Meeting, Bangkok, April 1983.

246. In the field of statistics, a close working relationship was maintained with the United Nations Statistical Office, especially its Central Co-ordinating Unit for the National Household Survey Capability Programme. The Statistics Division also participated in the sixteenth session of the ACC Sub-Committee on Statistical Activities, in May 1982. Consultations were held with ILO as to possible meetings on statistics relating to employment and unemployment, and prices. The Division participated in the FAO-sponsored Expert Group Consultation on Socio-economic Indicators for

Monitoring and Evaluation of Agrarian Reform and Rural Development in Asia and the Southwest Pacific, held at Bangkok. Areas of mutual interest with UNESCO were pursued. Exploratory discussions were held with representatives of the World Bank with a view to possible collaboration. Preliminary discussions were also held with the International Monetary Fund and ADB. Regional advisers have maintained close relationships with UNFPA co-ordinators and UNDP resident representatives. Regular discussions were undertaken with the United Nations Development Advisory Team for the Pacific. The Division also assisted in the training activities of SIAP. Exchanges were maintained with the statistical divisions of other regional commissions and with SPC.

247. In matters of international trade, the secretariat has worked closely with UNCTAD, UNIDO, ITC and FAO in the promotion of regional co-operative arrangements for tropical timber, silk and jute.

248. In the field of integrated rural development, the Interagency Task Force on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific has maintained close liaison with the ACC Task Force on Rural Development and has also co-operated with the global-level body with regard to some of the latter's activities as far as these concern Asia and the Pacific. The Task Force and the Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific have kept each other informed of activities and undertaken work on a joint basis.

Chapter III

THIRTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

249. The thirty-ninth session of the Commission was held at the United Nations Building, Bangkok, from 19 to 29 April 1983.

250. 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, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Viet Nam, Cook Islands, Guam, Hong Kong, Kiribati and Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

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

252. The session was also attended by officials from United Nations Headquarters, representing the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation and the United Nations Population Division, and by representatives of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

253. 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 Programme.

254. Representatives of the following specialized agencies were present in a consultative capacity: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization, World Health

Organization, International Monetary Fund, Universal Postal Union, International Telecommunication Union, World Meteorological Organization and International Maritime Organization. Representatives of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and of the International Trade Centre also attended.

255. The following intergovernmental organizations attended as observers: Asian and Pacific Coconut Community, Asian Development Bank, Asian-Pacific Postal Union, Asian Reinsurance Corporation, Asia-Pacific Telecommunity, Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries, 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, International Pepper Community, South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme, South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation and South Pacific Commission.

256. Observers were present from the following non-governmental organizations in category I: International Chamber of Commerce, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Co-operative Alliance, International Council of Women, International Council on Social Welfare, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Organization for Standardization, International Planned Parenthood Federation, World Assembly of Youth, World Confederation of Labour, World Federation of Trade Unions, World Federation of United Nations Associations, World Muslim Congress and World Veterans Federation, from the following organizations in category II: Baha'i International Community, Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association and Rehabilitation International, and from the roster: Konrad-Adenauer Foundation. A representative of the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development also attended.

257. The list of participants is given in document ESCAP(XXXIX)/INF.2.

258. In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the Commission at its 585th meeting elected His Excellency Mr. A.M.A. Muhith, Minister for Finance and Planning (Bangladesh), as Chairman.

259. In view of the heavy agenda, it was proposed that the part of rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the Commission providing for the election of 2 Vice-Chairmen be held in abeyance, and 12 Vice-Chairmen

were elected, namely: H.E. Mr. He Ying (China), H.E. Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh (India), H.E. Prof. Dr. Mochtar Kusumaatmadja (Indonesia), H.E. Mr. Toshio Kimura (Japan), H.E. Mr. Soubanh Srithirath (Lao People's Democratic Republic), the Hon. Dr. Mohan Man Sainju (Nepal), H.E. Mr. Dong Whie Kim (Republic of Korea), the Hon. Dennis Lulei (Solomon Islands), the Hon. M.H.M. Naina Marikar (Sri Lanka), H.E. Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila (Thailand), the Hon. J. Cecil Cocker (Tonga) and H.E. Mr. Ha Van Lau (Viet Nam).

260. The Commission appointed a Committee of the Whole to consider agenda items 8 and 9. The Committee elected H.E. Mr. Buyantyn Dashtseren (Mongolia) as Chairman and H.E. Mr. J.B. Gegeyo (Papua New Guinea) and Mr. B. Mahadeva (Sri Lanka) as Vice-Chairmen.

261. The Commission also appointed a Technical and Drafting Committee. That Committee elected H.E. Mrs. Rosalinda V. Tirona (Philippines) as Chairman and Mr. Darmawan Adi (Indonesia) and Mr. Samuel F. McPhetres (Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) as Vice-Chairmen.

262. In accordance with the established practice, an informal working group on draft resolutions was also set up. The group elected H.E. Mr. Saroj Chavanviraj (Thailand) as Chairman and Mr. Javid Zafar (Pakistan) as Vice-Chairman.

263. The Chairman announced at the Commission's 589th meeting that, in accordance with rule 12 of the rules of procedure, he and the Vice-Chairmen, constituting the credentials committee, had examined the credentials of the delegations. The Vice-Chairman from the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Vice-Chairman from Viet Nam had expressed their reservations with regard to the qualifications of one representative, which the Vice-Chairman from China had rejected. The position of the Vice-Chairman from India with regard to the qualifications of one representative had been noted. The Vice-Chairman from China had also stated his stand with regard to the qualifications of another representative. Furthermore, the Vice-Chairman from China had expressed his reservations with regard to the qualifications of another representative. With those reservations recorded, the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen, constituting the credentials committee, had found the credentials of all the representatives to be in order.

B. AGENDA

264. At its 585th meeting, the Commission unanimously adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening addresses
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda (E/ESCAP/L.84/Rev.1, E/ESCAP/L.85 and Corr.1 and 2)

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 (ST/ESCAP/217 and Corr.1 [English only], ST/ESCAP/217/Add.1 [Chinese, French and Russian only]; E/ESCAP/295 and Corr.1)
 - (b) Fiscal policy for development in the ESCAP region
 - (c) Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy (E/ESCAP/296)
 - (d) Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries
5. Food supply and distribution in Asia and the Pacific: food security, trade and investment (Commission resolution 226 (XXXVIII)) (E/ESCAP/298)
6. Reassessment of the programme priorities of the Commission (E/ESCAP/299 and Corr.1)
7. Structure, frequency and duration of Commission sessions (E/ESCAP/300)
8. Issues and programmes in various fields of activity of ESCAP
 - (a) Issues in various fields of activity (E/ESCAP/288-292, E/ESCAP/293 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/297, E/ESCAP/301-303, E/ESCAP/304/Rev.1, E/ESCAP/305 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/306 and Add.1 and 2, E/ESCAP/307 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/308 and Add.1, E/ESCAP/309 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/310, E/ESCAP/311, E/ESCAP/312 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/313, E/ESCAP/314 and Add.1, E/ESCAP/315 and Add.1 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/316-318, E/ESCAP/319 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/336, E/ESCAP/337, E/ESCAP/338/Rev.1, E/ESCAP/339 and Corr.1)
 - (b) Programme changes for 1983 (E/ESCAP/320 and Corr.1 and 2)
 - (c) Draft programme of work for 1984-1985 (E/ESCAP/321 and Corr.1)
9. Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries (E/ESCAP/322)
10. Progress reports on special regional projects and regional institutions
 - (a) Regional projects (E/ESCAP/294, E/ESCAP/323-328)

(b) Regional institutions (E/ESCAP/329 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/330)

11. Announcement of intended contributions (E/ESCAP/331 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/332 and Corr.1-3, E/ESCAP/333 and Add.1)
12. Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (E/ESCAP/334)
13. Date, venue and any other subject pertaining to the fortieth session of the Commission (E/ESCAP/335 and Add.1, E/ESCAP/340)
14. Other matters
15. Adoption of the annual report of the Commission (E/ESCAP/L.86)

C. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

265. The session was declared open by His Excellency Mr. Conrado F. Estrella, Minister for Agrarian Reform of the Philippines, the outgoing Chairman. His Excellency General Prem Tinsulanonda, Prime Minister of Thailand, delivered the inaugural address. The Executive Secretary read out a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations and delivered an address.

Inaugural address by the Prime Minister of Thailand

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

267. He noted that there were signs of economic recovery in the major industrial countries, a welcome development in view of the basic interdependence among developed and developing countries. Solutions to economic problems, whether in the areas of trade, commodities, industrialization or money and finance, would require an integrated and comprehensive approach. Little progress had been achieved in the implementation of the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the global negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations had yet to be launched. The drastic fall in commodity prices had adversely affected the economies of several developing countries, resulting in a widening trade gap and debt problems. The sixth session of UNCTAD would provide a significant opportunity for developed and developing countries to engage in a constructive dialogue in an effort to solve the present world economic problems and lend further impetus to North-South co-operation. He emphasized that it was not enough to work for economic recovery of the industrialized countries hoping simply that developing countries would benefit somewhat therefrom

and that gone were the days when developing countries could be regarded as peripheral to the system.

268. As a developing country, Thailand was not immune to the effects of current global economic problems. However, the Government of Thailand, through a policy of structural adjustments and the fostering of collective self-reliance with other developing countries, had managed to maintain relative economic stability.

269. He expressed his Government's confidence in the role of ESCAP, which had, over the years, continued to make constructive and significant contributions towards the economic and social development of countries of the region. The developing countries of the region represented a continuum of development from the least developed economies to economies which had advanced to sophisticated levels of technology. Under such conditions, there was ample scope for developing complementarities at various levels and for creating a framework of interdependence which would promote trade, transfer of technology and a wide variety of economic linkages and exchanges among ESCAP member countries. As a forum for regional interchanges at the political level, ESCAP could, with greater political participation and commitment, develop more concrete policy measures aimed at enhancing the prospects for regional co-operation.

270. He noted with regret that the outlook for durable peace and stability in Asia remained bleak in view of the persistence of areas of critical tensions in the region. Without strict observance of the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, peace and stability would continue to be an elusive goal and the full potential of regional socio-economic co-operation would not be realized.

Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations

271. In his message, the Secretary-General of the United Nations noted that the current session was taking place at a very difficult time. The efforts of developing countries to promote their economic development were being adversely affected both by an acute crisis in the global economy and a flagging spirit of international co-operation. The foreign debt burden facing many developing countries had become heavier because of the stagnant world trade situation marked by slack demand, rising protectionism and falling terms of trade for commodity exporters.

272. Immediate measures to restore growth would need to be accompanied by longer-term actions in such areas as trade, commodities, energy, money and finance. In that context, it was regrettable that negotiations on the launching of the global negotiations continued to be deadlocked. It was hoped that the sixth session of UNCTAD would be able to reach some agreement on

concrete measures for the solution of the problems confronting developing countries.

273. Despite a general slowing of economic growth rates in the previous year in many countries of the ESCAP region, the economies of many countries in Asia and the Pacific continued to demonstrate a remarkable resilience. The opportunities for further intensification and expansion of mutual co-operation among developing countries were greater than they had ever been. ESCAP could play a useful role in promoting such co-operation.

274. The further development of a comprehensive policy of administrative and functional decentralization within the United Nations would enhance the effectiveness of the regional commissions, including ESCAP, and of the Organization as a whole.

275. The agenda before the Commission at its current session was both extensive and significant, in keeping with ESCAP's role as the principal intergovernmental forum in Asia and the Pacific. Several important matters were to be discussed, including issues relating to food supply and distribution, which had acquired special importance since the majority of the world's poor lived in Asia and the Pacific.

276. A further important matter to be discussed was the reassessment of the programme priorities of the Commission, which could assist the Commission in responding effectively and expeditiously to the pressing needs of the region.

Statement by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP

277. The Executive Secretary welcomed all the delegations to the session and thanked the Prime Minister of Thailand for his thought-provoking address, which had eloquently outlined many of the pressing problems confronting the international community at large and the region in particular.

278. The current global recession had serious implications for the modernization and development efforts of countries of the region. However, there was room for optimism about the ultimate prospects of Asia and the Pacific. The great diversity of the region and yet its striking unity of purpose manifested itself in the unique intergovernmental forum which ESCAP constituted. The cultural heritage that many Asian nations shared should provide inspiration in the search for a better future.

279. A significant factor in the achievements of the Commission had been the absence of political or other differences, which enabled it to concentrate on the economic and social issues facing it.

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

Policy statement by the Executive Secretary

280. The Executive Secretary observed that the thirty-ninth session of the Commission was being convened at a time when the development momentum of the ESCAP region, built up arduously over the previous two decades, was being jeopardized by the persistent slump in world output and trade. Many countries in the region had worked tirelessly to keep up the development tempo in 1982 and, if not for their prudent management and financial restraint, the impact of the worst global economic crisis since the Second World War would have slowed down growth rates more severely.

281. It had become clear that the underlying cause of that economic downturn had to be sought in issues of a structural nature and not merely in a marginal or cyclical change. By hindsight, the upward movement in the price of oil could not solely or substantially explain the recession. Conversely, the reduction of the oil price would not necessarily lead to an upswing. It was possible, in fact, to visualize numerous adverse effects of the lower oil price on the flow of liquidity, on maintenance of energy substitution prospects and, possibly, also on world trade. Unless deliberate steps were taken to utilize that new development in the oil price to stimulate production, it could well mark another stage in the global recession.

282. In the course of the previous four decades, the global economy had undergone drastic shifts in comparative advantage. Unless the members of the world community, particularly the industrialized countries, took concrete measures to readjust themselves to the changed objective conditions, the existing mismatches would continue to retard the free and natural growth of the world economic system. The inevitable choice was whether the members of the world community would bring about the structural changes in an orderly and negotiated manner or whether they would permit themselves to be overtaken by the structural changes.

283. Largely because of widespread protectionism and structural rigidities that preserved uncompetitive industries in the developed countries, the existing multilateral trading system was neither open nor liberal and had proved clearly unable to adapt to the industrialization of developing countries, their growing volumes of manufactured exports and the shifting pattern of global interdependence. Many developing countries faced a grim situation, and their stability was being severely threatened by the combined repercussions of plunging commodity prices, trade barriers against their manufactured exports, drastically falling terms of trade, heavy debt burdens, dwindling foreign assistance, unavoidable cut-backs in development efforts and lost ground in the crucial fight against poverty. Meanwhile,

domestic economic ills notwithstanding, arms spending soared higher, unfazed in the volatile atmosphere of renewed political tension.

284. Because global interdependence was already far advanced and inevitably would go on increasing in the coming decades, no country or group of countries should have any illusions of being able to continue to prosper in isolation. It was by realizing that growing interdependence and adjusting their economies accordingly that the members of the global community could viably pursue continued improvements in the living standards of their peoples. The deteriorating trend in concessional aid flows was a matter of concern not only for the recipients but for all those who had a commitment to the harmonious development of the global economy. Such aid should, of course, be progressively related to effecting substantial increments to the production capabilities of the recipient countries, particularly in the case of the least developed countries.

285. He felt strongly that, given the political will, a concerted new effort in international co-operation could find ways to begin reversing the harmful and negative trends in declining world trade. The sixth session of UNCTAD at Belgrade in June 1983 offered another opportunity for all parties to begin working together in earnest to solve the critical problems. He trusted that the input provided by the expert group meeting organized by ESCAP in January 1983 would be of some value in the deliberations of UNCTAD.

286. Another overriding and interrelated global issue was the need for reforms in the international monetary and financial system, which had been rendered ineffective and inadequate with regard to such major changes as the spectacular growth of the Eurodollar market, the mounting debts and balance-of-payments deficits of developing countries, widely fluctuating exchange rates and national monetary policies leading to high interest rates. Financial authorities were much preoccupied with the immediate debt-servicing problems of the heavily indebted, mostly Latin American, countries and the stability of their imperilled creditor banks. Very little attention was being given to the urgent need for long-term reforms of a structural nature or to the continuing need for financial resources of other developing countries, as in Asia and the Pacific, which had largely avoided running up unmanageable debts and getting themselves into a payment crisis. Although not in the crisis category, many of those developing countries were under varying degrees of balance-of-payments pressure and needed greater liquidity to regain their development momentum. Without short-term relief measures and overall reforms, those countries faced the harsh prospect of further reducing imports and growth rates.

287. Turning to regional affairs, he first referred to the status of implementation of the International Development Strategy for the 1980s. The broad picture

was that the Third Development Decade was off to a poor start for the countries of Asia and the Pacific. The Strategy's regional target for GDP growth of 6.7 per cent a year throughout the 1980s would be considerably more difficult to achieve. Declines in growth rates by several percentage points had been fairly common in the region in 1982, but a number of countries had managed to maintain their expansion in the reasonable range of 4 to 6 per cent — well above the average growth of other regions or groups of countries. However, that should not disguise the real difficulties emerging throughout the region in 1982. The fact was that the ill effects of the recession had been felt in varying degrees by Asian and Pacific countries at all stages of development and regardless of the development strategy they had been following. A common pattern of economic decline had taken hold in almost all developing ESCAP countries. Terms of trade had fallen dramatically between 1979 and 1981, with no improvement observed in 1982. Export earnings had dropped sharply throughout the region in 1981 and 1982 as the prices of a number of primary commodities had plummeted to about half their 1950 value in real terms and as manufactured exports had continued to decrease. Combined with slackening foreign investment and aid flows, the growing deficit on current account had led to a substantial worsening of the balance-of-payments position in almost all the developing ESCAP countries. Overall, the region's tempo of development had slowed down, by necessity, as Governments had moved conservatively to manage their deficits without resorting to massive foreign borrowing.

288. Despite those serious difficulties, Asia had responded to the challenges of world recession with a truly remarkable show of strength and inner vitality. That had been possible because most countries in the region had made substantial progress in the construction of the infrastructure for development. They were bolstered by a new range of capabilities related to development, by having updated their production systems with new technology and by developing their educational systems and reservoirs of skilled manpower. Those fresh developments had served to strengthen their natural assets of industrious populations, adaptive and innovative farm sectors and traditions of skilled artisans. But continued industrial progress was being stifled by the recession, with its damaging effects of trade barriers and much reduced flows of foreign investment and technology. In the least developed and land-locked countries of the region, as well as many of the island developing nations, economic progress had, unfortunately, not kept pace with that of the other developing Asian countries. A variety of adverse circumstances had plagued their recent efforts to develop, but most important had been the decline in real terms of official development assistance to those disadvantaged countries.

289. In considering what action should be taken, he felt that, in addition to the overall reforms needed in

the general areas of world trade and money and finance, the developed countries should give renewed attention to the crucial need for remedial action on commodities. The industrial nations had not lent enough support to the Integrated Programme for Commodities and he wondered when, after years of efforts and protracted negotiations, the Common Fund would really start functioning. Within the region, he saw scope for more trade, joint ventures and economic co-operation in general. Asian and Pacific countries, though competitive in some ways, also had promising complementarities because the region was vast and the countries' products diverse. In fact, intraregional trade had already increased over the previous few years, and ESCAP had helped that along through such initiatives as the Bangkok Agreement on tariff reductions and in negotiations among member countries of the Trade Co-operation Group. Even so, trade and economic and technical co-operation among the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific could be given a still bigger thrust if the leaders of the region really took up that question in earnest. However, despite the pressure of varied and extensive possibilities of co-operation in the fields of trade, technology and finance, the region had ironically witnessed a minimal organized effort to exploit such possibilities. The possibilities that fruitful co-operation would offer to those countries were so vast that an Asian economic summit would seem to be the most logical response not only to the gathering crisis but for the countries' long-term progress and prosperity. Reflecting on how small groups of leading industrial nations were able to take concerted action, he thought that it would perhaps be timely if the Governments of the region pondered the desirability of evolving a suitable mechanism for collective decisions aimed at increasing their influence and manoeuvrability on issues of mutual concern. The leaders of Asia commanded tremendous global importance, both political and economic. If they got together and addressed the issues, the results were bound to be positive and even dramatic. Instead of drifting at the mercy of external circumstances, the leaders could not only take countermeasures but also possibly give a new sense of direction to the Asian and Pacific countries in their quest for economic justice and development.

290. He emphasized his great concern about the future viability of some of the regional institutions, specifically those of the permanent type. Since assuming office, he had devoted much attention to the question of the proper functioning of the regional institutions, seeking ways to strengthen them. Most of them seemed to have failed to assume a permanent character or strike strong roots. The situation had become even more bleak because it appeared that those standing institutions would face severe financial difficulties in the very near future, unless stable funding could be provided to cover the costs of the small core managerial staff at each centre. The reason was that the external financial support those regional institutions had started out with

was now being terminated. APDC at Kuala Lumpur, as the first among the five regional institutions, deserved urgent attention. In July 1983, APDC would become an intergovernmental institution and would have to depend primarily on its own resources. The other four institutions affected were RCTT at Bangalore, SIAP at Tokyo and two others in Indonesia: RMRDC and the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific. He had carefully looked into the operations and financial situations of those five institutions and proposed that the delegations seriously consider whether they could provide adequate financial assistance to support the core staff of each centre. He believed that the countries of the region ought to be able to support the regional institutions to that limited extent on a continuing basis so that the regional institutions could attract funds on an *ad hoc* basis for projects and programmes from the developed countries and from multilateral sources such as UNDP and UNFPA. Considering that there were less than half a dozen institutions serving such a vast region, he wondered whether the member States would want those institutions to wither away, unable to fulfil the aims for which they had been established. He felt strongly about that situation and expressed the hope that the Commission would reach the necessary decisions.

291. He adumbrated the other important regional issues on the agenda of the session, namely, review of the implementation of both the International Development Strategy and the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, fiscal policy for development, food supply and distribution, reassessment of the Commission's programme priorities, restructuring of Commission sessions, proclamation of a transport and communications decade and the proposed Asian-Pacific international trade fair.

292. In conclusion, the Executive Secretary informed the Commission that his optimism about the bright future of the ESCAP region had not been dimmed by the unfavourable events of the previous year. He believed that in the future the region would have economic strength paralleling its large, hard-working population. A sense of Asian self-awareness was developing. If effective action was taken to overcome social disparities such as poverty and hunger at home, and if the region enjoyed a fair deal in world trade, he could foresee the Asia-Pacific region moving ahead even faster, and on a sound footing.

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

293. The Commission had before it the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1982* (ST/ESCAP/217 and Corr.1) and document E/ESCAP/295 and Corr.1 on the work of the Commission since the thirty-eighth session.

294. The Commission commended the secretariat on what it considered to be an exceptionally well-prepared review of economic and social developments within the developing ESCAP region in 1982. It found the survey's analysis of the mounting difficulties encountered in the global economic recession, which had intensified further during the year, accurate and informative. It noted with grave concern the severity of the international economic crisis, the adverse consequences of which had been, in a closely interdependent world, felt by practically all countries, including those countries in the ESCAP region which had traditionally attained comparatively high rates of economic growth. Slack demand, sharp falls in commodity prices and growing protectionism had resulted in declining trade volume and worsening terms of trade for developing countries. Moreover, high interest rates and stagnating official development assistance had aggravated the developing countries' debt problems and limited their ability to carry out their development programmes. The accompanying fall in growth rates had intensified those countries' problems of unemployment, under-employment and poverty.

295. Nevertheless, there were several signs which allowed for guarded optimism. The Commission noted the recent decline in the rates of inflation and interest and the emergence of renewed economic growth in some developed countries as beneficial influences for an improvement in the region's economic performance. It was generally felt that those developments would provide some of the needed stimulus for recovery and expansion of world trade and development. In addition, several delegations noted that there were encouraging indications that the forthcoming economic summit of seven leading industrialized countries at Williamsburg would agree on appropriate means of stimulating their economies, now that some measure of control over inflation had been achieved.

296. While there were encouraging signs that the world-wide economic downturn appeared to be reversing in early 1983, the Commission emphasized that sustained economic recovery would depend on the maintenance and strengthening of an open trading system and on various structural adjustments in the world economy. It voiced its grave concern over rising protectionism in many industrial economies. Protectionist measures, while bringing some temporary relief to countries which initiated them, restricted considerably the volume of exports of primary commodities and manufactures on which many developing and some developed countries of the region were heavily dependent. Further, those protectionist measures, in both the manufacturing and the agricultural sectors, resulted in inefficiency and impeded productivity and economic growth in the countries maintaining them. One delegation, for instance, noted that the bilateral agreements concluded within the framework of the Multifibre Arrangement would inhibit the growth potential of

its textile and clothing industries in the next few years. The Commission felt that the establishment of a liberal trading system, despite its difficulties, would be in the interest of both developed and developing countries in an increasingly interdependent world.

297. In the area of trade in primary commodities, depressed prices and lower export volume along with declining terms of trade had caused significant losses of export earnings and, despite reduced import levels, had further widened the balance-of-payments deficits in many developing ESCAP countries. The Commission recognized the pressing need for stabilization of commodity prices and improved market access for primary products. It expressed its disappointment at the limited progress in negotiations for commodity agreements within the framework of the Integrated Programme for Commodities. Support was expressed for the early conclusion of negotiations on commodity agreements concerning jute and tea. A number of delegations urged early ratification of the Agreement Establishing the Common Fund so as to give full effect to the implementation of the Integrated Programme for Commodities.

298. A majority of delegations expressed the view that the establishment of a new international economic order would involve a fundamental restructuring of world economic relations and reforms in the existing multilateral institutions. That would require bold initiatives, realistic approaches and enlightened international co-operation. The Commission regretted the continuing stalemate in the North-South dialogue and supported the call for the early launching of the global round of negotiations. In an interdependent world, the reactivation of economic growth in the developing countries was recognized as an essential factor for a sustained world economic recovery. Several delegations stated that disarmament, peace and stability were also crucial to that process. There was general agreement that the sixth session of UNCTAD would provide an appropriate forum for discussion of the broad economic and financial issues requiring global solution. A majority of delegations hoped that the Programme of Immediate Measures adopted at the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries at New Delhi including the call for convening of an international conference on money and finance for development with universal participation, and the detailed and specific proposals finalized by the Group of Seventy-seven, would serve as a basis for constructive negotiations and international consensus at the forthcoming UNCTAD session.

299. The Commission expressed its deep concern over recent developments in the international financial system. The rising burden of external debt and debt service payments in developing countries had been accompanied by reductions in official development assistance as a percentage of donor countries' GNP and reductions in International Development Association

assistance since 1980. Many delegations pointed out that official development assistance from Development Assistance Committee countries had remained below the United Nations target of 0.7 per cent of their combined GNP. In addition, there had been inadequate increases in total IMF quotas while increasingly rigorous conditionalities had been attached to IMF and World Bank assistance. Several delegations called for the restructuring of the international monetary and financial system aimed at meeting more effectively the broad range of world economic requirements, particularly those of the developing countries. In particular, attention was attached to the need to generate substantial increases in the resources of multilateral lending institutions, to expand the quantity and improve the quality, including the composition, of both concessional loans and development aid, and to implement debt relief measures.

300. Several delegations indicated that the global recession, through its adverse economic and financial repercussions, had reduced significantly the ability of Governments to collect as much revenue as planned. That had necessitated the implementation of short-term policy adjustments, particularly reductions in development expenditure. Consequently, national efforts to achieve sustained socio-economic development had been frustrated to a considerable extent and the social and institutional fabric had been subjected to considerable stresses and strains in several developing economies, particularly the least developed countries.

301. The Commission took note of the special difficulties faced by structurally and geographically disadvantaged countries, particularly the Pacific island economies. Great geographical isolation, small population, a limited resource base, highly inadequate infrastructures and low technological levels were among the many development problems encountered by many islands in the subregion. The increased attention that had been devoted by ESCAP to the Pacific island members and associate members was appreciated, and further expansion of that effort was requested by a number of delegations. In particular, the useful support extended through the recently established ESCAP Liaison Office was acknowledged. In that connection, one delegation announced the extension of appropriate financial assistance to the United Nations Development Advisory Team for the Pacific. Many delegations felt that ESCAP should continue to strengthen and develop further its programmes, projects and services, recognizing the heterogeneity of needs in the Pacific subregion.

302. Recent declines in oil prices were regarded as a welcome development by some delegations. One delegation observed that every decrease of \$US 1 in the price of oil would return to the oil-importing developing economies an amount equivalent to three quarters of the net transfer of financial flows from the World Bank and the International Development Association. The implementation of policy efforts in the developing

countries to conserve and diversify national energy resources, especially through the development of new and renewable fuel supplies, should be continued and accorded the highest priority regardless of temporary downward movements in the price of oil. In that context, it was noted that a substantial increase in capital inflows would be needed to finance the required energy transition and development programmes in the oil-importing countries of the region. It was also suggested that ESCAP should take the initiative in identifying specific energy development programmes for co-operative action among member countries. One delegation indicated its country's willingness to share its considerable technological capabilities and expertise in the area of energy development with other developing countries of the region.

303. The current international situation called for greater collective self-reliance as a means to attaining development objectives through international co-operation at all pertinent levels to realize full resource complementarities among developing countries. The importance of such co-operation was evidenced by a significant increase of 15 per cent in the amount of external trade among developing countries, in spite of a decline of 2 per cent in the value of global trade during 1982. It was also recognized that South-South co-operation should properly be a complement to rather than a substitute for the North-South economic relationship. The Commission noted with satisfaction the many initiatives and channels in regional and sub-regional as well as multilateral and bilateral co-operation through which mutually beneficial economic, technical and scientific ties could be expanded. In that regard, reference was made to co-operative arrangements within ASEAN, the Bangkok Agreement, the Colombo Plan and the forthcoming first meeting of foreign ministers of the seven south Asian countries to launch formally an integrated programme of regional co-operation in south Asia. Several delegations stressed that co-operative international relationships between countries with different social systems or at different stages of economic development should be on the basis of peaceful co-existence, equality and mutual benefit. Certain delegations also expressed concern over the economic dominance of transnational corporations and the primary interest in profit maximization of private foreign capital in developing countries. One delegation offered its resources and expertise for an ESCAP study on practical ways and means of bringing about greater collective self-reliance and self-sufficiency among member countries.

304. The Commission reviewed the work done since the thirty-eighth session as presented in document E/ESCAP/295 and Corr.1.

Fiscal policy for development in the ESCAP region

305. The Commission commended the secretariat on the high quality and timeliness of its study on fiscal

policy for development in the ESCAP region, which formed Part Two of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1982*. There was general agreement that the study provided valuable insight into the fiscal policies and strategies used by the developing ESCAP countries in meeting the needs and challenges of national socio-economic development. Several delegations noted that the comprehensive record of prevailing fiscal policy measures in the countries of the region provided by the secretariat study would assist Governments in their efforts to improve economic management in pursuit of their development goals.

306. The current world economic recession, as a result of which the developing ESCAP countries were suffering from declining export earnings and other external financial flows, was seen as increasing the need for the countries of the region to rely more heavily on the mobilization of domestic resources to achieve their development objectives. In that context, the Commission recognized the relevance of fiscal policy not merely as an instrument for raising financial resources but also as a means of furthering such critical development objectives as growth, employment, equity and stability with due regard to the possibilities of conflict and complementarity among those objectives.

307. While a number of delegations noted the urgent need to achieve a better integration of fiscal policy into development planning, several delegations pointed out that their countries had already established a well-developed, comprehensive and co-ordinated system of development planning into which fiscal planning had been fully integrated. Other delegations referred to the active measures under way in their countries towards more effectively co-ordinated use of fiscal policy for realizing the multiple goals of development. It was stressed, however, that the difficulties of integrating and fine-tuning short-term fiscal policy instruments in the framework of medium-term development planning should not be overlooked. In addition to structural, social and economic constraints, the Commission observed that among the prerequisites for effective practical use of a fiscal policy framework synchronized with the development planning process would be stable external economic conditions. In that connection, it was noted that if volatile international economic conditions of the type experienced since the early 1970s were to persist, the efficacy of synchronized fiscal policies in the pursuit of development objectives in the countries of the ESCAP region would be severely undermined.

308. The Commission expressed its concern over the effects of the current recession on domestic resource mobilization. With revenue from conventional sources falling and government budget deficits growing, a number of countries of the region had not only had to introduce new tax packages but had also found it necessary sharply to curtail planned development expenditures. That situation severely hindered the

pursuit of the development objectives of growth, equity, employment and price stability. Some delegations also took cognizance of the deleterious economic consequences of expenditure on armaments, especially in a context of recession-wrought austerity.

309. Several delegations noted that the identification of appropriate fiscal policies to accommodate the multiple objectives of development was a complex task and urged further empirical studies and research on the issue, in close consultation with national institutions and the Governments concerned. Such activities should aim at identifying ways and means of improving existing fiscal policy regimes, particularly fiscal decentralization, in the countries of the region.

310. It was observed that many developing ESCAP countries had given high priority to attracting private foreign investments to supplement domestic capital formation. It was felt that policies with regard to the provision of such fiscal incentives as tax holidays and other concessions for foreign investments should be harmonized among the countries of the region. Competition among ESCAP countries to attract such foreign capital probably resulted in substantial losses of fiscal revenues. The Commission suggested that the secretariat should undertake appropriate studies on the issue so as to assist member Governments in harmonizing their foreign investment incentives systems.

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy

311. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/296.

312. It commended the secretariat on its preparation of a first review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy in the ESCAP region as called for in Commission resolution 212 (XXXVII). The document reviewed in regional perspective various aspects of development in the major sectors and provided information signalling the emergence of important shortfalls and obstacles in the implementation of the Strategy during the first two years of the Third Development Decade.

313. The Commission substantiated the secretariat's findings that the severe world recession had seriously threatened the achievement of the Strategy targets and objectives in the region. It stressed that many countries of the region had demonstrated remarkable resilience in coping with the adverse external economic environment and that in 1980 and 1981 a certain momentum of growth had been maintained despite the drag of global economic deceleration. It was pointed out that diversified and well-balanced national economic policies adjusted to the varying conditions prevailing in the region had contributed significantly to the implementation of the Strategy targets in the initial year of the current Development Decade. However,

in the second year of the Decade, not one developing ESCAP country had achieved the regional strategy targets, and the immediate prospects for the third year of the Decade permitted only cautious optimism at best. The Commission recognized the special plight of the least developed countries, in which economic and social conditions had deteriorated dramatically. Many delegations emphasized, however, that with vigorous and effective action in a spirit of collective initiative and co-operation, the regional strategy targets could yet be achieved. It was stressed that a redoubling of efforts at the national, regional and global levels would be indispensable for initiating action conducive to the implementation of the Strategy goals and objectives as originally conceived.

314. Many delegations noted that during the initial years of the Decade little, if any, progress had been made in restructuring global economic relations as one of the prerequisites for the successful implementation of the Strategy. Many delegations expressed concern that protectionist and isolationist tendencies had intensified, distorting the patterns of trade and economic co-operation between developing and developed countries. It was pointed out that in the unsettled world economic situation, the early launching of global negotiations would be an essential condition for undertaking concrete action conducive to the development of international co-operation as a crucial component of the Strategy.

315. Some delegations pointed out that effective support for the Programme of Immediate Measures adopted by the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries would be an indispensable means of overcoming numerous obstacles in the implementation of the Strategy. It was also stressed that the forthcoming sixth session of UNCTAD should contribute decisively to the elaboration of new measures that might give strong impetus to the means of attaining the objectives of the Strategy.

316. The Commission felt that the bitter experience of the current recession necessitated new initiatives for expanding regional economic co-operation, which would intensify the restructuring of productive capacities in the member countries and strengthen the economic complementarities between them. It was also pointed out that the harmonization of national industrialization efforts within the region was of crucial importance for shaping economic relations between the developing countries of the ESCAP region and the developed countries. Some delegations stressed, however, that even by pursuing the most concerted actions within the region, the Strategy objectives could not be achieved without adequate changes in the international economic climate, including a substantial increase in the flow of assistance to the developing countries, especially the least developed among them.

317. The Commission endorsed the secretariat's activities designed to ensure the continuous monitoring and evaluation of the process of the implementation of the Strategy. It approved of the steps taken towards preparing a full-scale review and appraisal of the implementation of the Strategy in the region which would coincide with the global review scheduled to be undertaken by the General Assembly in 1984. One delegation pointed out that it would be appropriate for ESCAP to concentrate on analysing progress towards achieving the Strategy targets and objectives in their regional perspective rather than attempting studies at the national level for all the member countries. Another delegation suggested that the elaboration of the ESCAP action programme on the regional strategy should emphasize not only growth in output but also a pattern of progress that could significantly reduce poverty in the region.

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

318. The Commission undertook a preliminary review and appraisal of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries (SNPA) in the light of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1982*. Although it was too early in the decade for a thorough evaluation of results achieved under SNPA, which had been adopted by the United Nations in 1981, the Commission expressed its appreciation of the secretariat's efforts towards undertaking a preliminary evaluation.

319. The Commission expressed deep concern over the recent deterioration of the already difficult economic and social situations of the least developed countries of the region. It noted that that deterioration was mainly due to adverse conditions in international trade and a decline in the flow of aid to those countries. Concern was also expressed over the deterioration in the quality and composition of aid. The Commission expressed its particular concern over the lack of progress in the implementation of SNPA, especially with regard to the commitments entered into by the development partners under SNPA with regard to a substantial increase in concessionary financial flows to the least developed countries. Delegations from the least developed countries expressed their Governments' disappointment at that lack of progress. The Commission called upon the international community to take effective measures for the speedy and full implementation of SNPA, especially as it related to the least developed countries of the region.

320. Representatives of several developed countries and international agencies informed the Commission of the extent of their continuing support and assistance

to the least developed countries. They reiterated their strong support for the full and speedy implementation of SNPA and indicated their willingness to fulfil the commitments they had undertaken within the framework of SNPA. Several developing ESCAP countries also offered their technical co-operation and assistance, in fields where they had the necessary capacity, to the least developed countries of the region. The Commission noted with appreciation those expressions of support and offers of assistance towards the implementation of SNPA.

321. The Commission also noted with appreciation the preparations for the holding of the forthcoming round-table meeting of the least developed countries of the Asia-Pacific region and their development partners at Geneva under the auspices of UNDP and with the active co-operation of the ESCAP secretariat. The Commission expressed the hope that the round-table meeting would lead to fruitful results in terms of enhanced aid flows, improved modalities of aid distribution and better trade facilities for the least developed countries of the ESCAP region, thereby enabling them to achieve their national objectives and targets through an accelerated pace of economic and social development within the framework of SNPA. In that connection, the Commission took note of the efforts that the least developed countries had been undertaking to implement SNPA at the national level and the elaborate preparations they had made, with UNDP assistance, for the round-table meeting.

322. Many delegations urged the ESCAP secretariat to undertake programmes and activities which were more specifically tailored to the needs and conditions of the least developed countries of the ESCAP region to complement action taken at the global level, in addition to undertaking analyses and monitoring of the problems, needs and achievements of the least developed countries as called for in paragraph 122 of SNPA. In that connection, the Commission took note of the Executive Secretary's initiatives to make administrative arrangements within the Development Planning Division of the secretariat in order to carry out the co-ordination of the secretariat's multisectoral activities relating to the least developed countries and to incorporate a separate work programme component for the least developed countries in the draft programme of work and priorities for 1984-1985 and the medium-term plan for 1984-1989. The secretariat was urged to undertake a full-scale review of the implementation of SNPA on an urgent basis, to identify factors responsible for slow implementation and to seek additional measures to enhance its accelerated implementation.

323. The Commission adopted resolution 233 (XXXIX) on the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries.

Food supply and distribution in Asia and the Pacific: food security, trade and investment (Commission resolution 226 (XXXVIII))

324. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/298.

325. It recalled that at its thirty-eighth session it had adopted resolution 226 (XXXVIII) on food supply and distribution, in which it had called for feasibility studies on proposed arrangements for food security, for food trade information and management and for increased investments in food and agriculture, with the assistance of a high-level group of experts nominated by member Governments and relevant international agencies. Recognizing that food was a subject of paramount importance for the welfare of the peoples of the region, the Commission felt that it could not divest itself of responsibility for considering and pursuing further activities in the vital area of food supply and distribution, especially the economic and social aspects of those vital questions. The Commission noted the Executive Secretary's statement that food security, trade and investment could constitute a potent combination for promoting growth in response to the present bleak economic climate, starkly different from that of the 1970s, when most countries of the region had enjoyed relatively high growth rates spurred by rapidly expanding exports to Western markets.

326. The Commission emphasized the continuing difficulties on the food front, particularly the wide production fluctuations caused by erratic monsoons and other natural disasters, which increased the need for food imports amidst balance-of-payments problems and various supply constraints on world markets. It was therefore felt that while action to increase domestic food production was of the highest priority, it was also necessary to augment supplies through international trade and various food security measures.

327. The Commission appreciated the efforts of the secretariat during the previous two years in seeking solutions to the very complicated and yet urgent issue of food supply and distribution. It was felt that although some issues had been clarified, others still required further study before the Commission could conclusively examine the feasibility and viability of possible measures. The Commission was of the opinion that in view of the limited resources, the secretariat could not undertake all the follow-up studies and it suggested that the remaining tasks involved in regional food security and other related issues should be undertaken on the basis of full co-operation and co-ordination with relevant international organizations. In that connection, it welcomed the efforts made by the Executive Secretary to strengthen the co-operative relationship between ESCAP and FAO. In particular, it noted with satisfaction the statement made by the Executive Secretary to the Economic and Social

Council at Geneva in July 1982 welcoming the decision of FAO to establish a Regional Commission on Food Security as a significant and constructive step. It also noted that the Executive Secretary had indicated to the Council that the ESCAP food supply study would form an input into the work of the Regional Commission on Food Security. The Commission supported the steps taken by ESCAP and FAO in order to facilitate harmonization of their respective work programmes. It noted with appreciation that an understanding had been reached between the two agencies with regard to their respective roles. In accordance with that understanding, it was agreed between the two agencies that, in designing its programme of work, ESCAP would take full cognizance of the global mandate entrusted to FAO as the specialized agency for food and agriculture in the United Nations system. At the same time, it was recognized that the problems of agriculture were very important to the development process in developing countries of Asia and the Pacific and that ESCAP was expected to contribute to that process. In that context, ESCAP, with its multi-disciplinary capability and regional mandate, would concentrate on the economic and social aspects of selected issues in the field of food and agriculture which complemented FAO's activities within its broader mandate. Within that general framework, both FAO and ESCAP would annually identify specific items of work in which they would provide support to each other and on which there would be prior consultation.

328. The Commission noted with satisfaction that a subregional approach had been adopted concerning food security systems and it had no objection to establishing such systems, depending on the decisions of the States concerned. Some delegations questioned, however, whether too much emphasis was being given to stocking policies. Food security, they felt, primarily depended on adequate domestic production of cereals and other foodstuffs in the countries concerned and access to it by the total population. Hence it was necessary to emphasize national strategies involving concerted actions on cultivation methods, irrigation, transport, distribution, markets and prices. Stocking policies aimed at balancing fluctuations induced by vagaries of weather, and economic factors should, of course, be incorporated in such national strategies, they felt, but it might be more important to seek concrete solutions that were as cheap as possible and functioned at the village level under the responsibility of the farmers themselves. However, that did not exclude food reserves at the national and subregional levels and in that context better utilization of food aid was also emphasized.

329. With regard to the proposal for a south Asian food security reserve, the Commission supported the idea of such a subregional food security reserve in principle. It felt that as each country was building up national food security systems, those could provide

the framework for subregional and regional systems towards world food security arrangements. It recognized that, in view of the complexity of the subject, further detailed studies should be conducted on various aspects such as the size of the food reserve, its composition, shares of participating member countries, procedures for release from the reserve, replenishment of stocks and other related management aspects. Since it was felt that the concerned countries themselves should be most involved in those tasks, it was considered appropriate for south Asian countries to start a dialogue on subregional food security arrangements so that progressively the idea could be given concrete shape. The ASEAN countries welcomed that positive development in the south Asian subregion. One delegation offered technical assistance. Other delegations appreciated the development as a concrete step towards collective self-reliance and agreed that further studies should be undertaken.

330. The Commission recognized the catalytic role of ESCAP in promoting regional food security as a concrete activity. It noted with appreciation FAO's action in setting up the Regional Commission on Food Security for Asia and the Pacific. It was suggested that the study on food security reserves be made available to the Regional Commission on Food Security for further action. The Commission also noted that ESCAP would be associated with the meetings of the Regional Commission on Food Security and that would provide an opportunity for ESCAP to make its contribution in the matter. The Executive Secretary of ESCAP and the Regional Representative of FAO assured the Commission of their full mutual co-operation in such follow-up work.

331. As to possible Pacific food security arrangements, the Commission agreed that the situation there was quite different and felt that foodgrain stockpiling arrangements could even detract from food self-sufficiency efforts by the countries of the subregion. It was therefore agreed that the secretariat proposal should be referred to the South Pacific Forum and its executive bureau, SPEC, for further consideration.

332. The Commission noted the views of the Expert Group Meeting on Food Supply and Distribution in Asia and the Pacific; Food Security, Trade and Investment, held in January 1983, that regional arrangements were contingent upon the development of subregional systems and further analysis of (a) possible linkages between subregional arrangements, (b) the practicality of an independent basis for regional arrangements, particularly taking into account price and market stabilization measures, (c) production correlations existing among countries of the region and (d) costs and benefits. The Commission agreed that the data and information gathered and the analysis already undertaken were inadequate to enable a definite decision to be taken on the matter.

333. Realizing that increases in food production did not guarantee that ample food would reach the lowest income classes and other disadvantaged groups, the Commission recognized that adequate attention should be given to policies relating to food distribution. It was agreed that a regional study on food entitlement should be carried out after consultation with interested member countries. It was also felt that data and information should be collected and disseminated on food entitlement measures employed in member countries of the region. The Commission felt that although that proposal had not been considered in detail by the Expert Group, it was a component of food security and was closely related to complicated social and economic aspects such as social justice. The Commission agreed that the secretariat should consult such concerned international agencies as FAO and ILO in that regard.

334. As to the proposed food trade information and management network, the Commission decided that the secretariat, in close consultation with other relevant institutions and international agencies such as FAO, the World Food Programme, ITC, UNCTAD and the ASEAN Committee on Food, Agriculture and Forestry, should identify the information gaps and problems in utilizing available information to meet the needs of the countries. It was suggested that the activities of the ESCAP Trade Information Service should be strengthened to enable it to provide food trade information on rice, vegetable oil and pulses, among others, instead of setting up a new institution. The financial implications of the operation of the network under the ESCAP Trade Information Service should be examined with a view to making such services cost-effective.

335. On the question of increasing the flow of financial resources to food and agriculture, the Commission supported the recommendation of the Expert Group that the ESCAP secretariat should clearly identify gaps in existing information and services through extensive contact and co-operation with other international agencies and lending institutions. The FAO Investment Centre, ADB and ESCAP could collaborate for that purpose. It was recommended that the result of such an examination be used to reassess the need to strengthen existing institutions. The flow of financial resources for investment in the field of food and agriculture had been declining in the developing countries, even though increasing food production to ensure food security on a long-term basis required continuous capital investment to sustain its growth. The Commission therefore felt that a study should be undertaken on relevant issues to promote a greater capital flow for food and agricultural development in the developing countries of the region. Several delegations expressed the view that the secretariat document exaggerated the potential role of private sector investment in food and agriculture and that that could prove to be a stumbling-block.

336. The Commission emphasized that food security could be attained through policies which increased domestic production, so that self-reliance in food was achieved. It was in that context that the proposal for boosting the flow of investment to food and agriculture was viewed by the Commission as being of great importance. Another proposal, for a food, finance and recycling programme, was also an attempt to increase the flow of financial resources for food sector development. Such a scheme, however, could fragment efforts to increase aid flows in other forums since it would depend on the readiness of food-surplus countries to contribute on a loan basis over and above their existing contributions under the Food Aid Convention and biennial pledges to the World Food Programme. The proposal for a food, finance and recycling programme should also fully take into account the interests of the food-exporting developing countries as well as the role that triangular transactions had played in giving balanced benefits to food-exporting developing countries. The secretariat should, if possible, undertake further consultations with both donor and recipient countries as well as other agencies with a view to preparing a suitable document for the consideration of the Commission after the necessary supplementation of the study already undertaken.

Reassessment of the programme priorities of the Commission

337. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/299 and Corr.1.

338. The Commission commended the further efforts by the secretariat to establish priorities in the work programme of the Commission. It noted with satisfaction the successful conclusion of the Intergovernmental Meeting on Reassessment of the Programme Priorities of the Commission, held in September 1982, and the consensus which that Meeting had achieved.

339. The Commission endorsed the following criteria as a basis for priority setting:

“Bearing in mind the role of ESCAP within the United Nations system, the selection of activities for inclusion in ESCAP’s work programme should, so far as practicable and appropriate, reflect the following general considerations:

“(a) The activity must be one which the regional commissions have been authorized to implement by a mandate of the General Assembly or other relevant global conference;

“(b) It must be an activity appropriate to a regional commission in its role as the main general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system in the region;

“(c) It should not duplicate specific activities being undertaken by the specialized agencies or other

organs of the United Nations and should take into account the desirability of co-ordinating international efforts in the field of development.

"The following criteria shall be used for selecting the priority items from among the activities proposed by ESCAP:

"I. Major importance to developing countries of the region

"The activity:

"(a) Should contribute to the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade for the establishment of a New International Economic Order;

"(b) Should contribute to the strengthening of South-South co-operation.

"II. Promotion of economic growth and social development leading to alleviation of poverty

"The activity:

"(a) Should promote economic growth and social development;

"(b) Should lead to an equitable distribution of the benefits of such growth;

"(c) Should achieve practical results benefiting the poorer sections of the populations of member countries.

"III. Assistance to the least developed countries, land-locked developing countries and developing South Pacific island countries

"The activity should be addressed to the specific problems of (a) the least developed countries, (b) the land-locked developing countries and (c) the developing South Pacific island countries.

"IV. Promotion of regional and subregional co-operation

"The activity:

"(a) Should contain proposals which promote regional co-operation, taking into account various initiatives already taken at the subregional and regional levels;

"(b) Should promote subregional co-operation based on requests by the countries concerned in areas identified by them.

"V. Support from member countries

"The activity should have received strong and specific support at a meeting of the Commission or at an *ad hoc* ministerial meeting."

340. The Commission also endorsed the recommendation of the Intergovernmental Meeting that the

priority-setting criteria be applied to the 1984-1985 work programme at the programme-element level.

341. Several delegations suggested that, in determining the activities to be undertaken by the Commission, the linking of disarmament to socio-economic development should be kept in view. Several delegations considered, however, that such matters were outside the mandate of the Commission and were irrelevant in the context of establishing priorities in the work programme.

342. It was emphasized that there should not be mechanical application of the set of criteria.

343. The Commission, while recognizing the difficulties of assigning priorities, reaffirmed its views on the benefits to be derived therefrom. Priority setting would sharpen the focus of ESCAP's activities, maximize the use of resources and prevent resources from being spread too thinly over many diverse activities. Additional considerations in determining the activities to be undertaken by the Commission should include a preference for action-oriented, cost-effective and self-sustaining projects.

344. The Commission stressed that the process of priority setting in ESCAP should be a continuing one. Once a number, which should be limited, of programme elements had been identified as of a priority nature, it was necessary that special attention be given to those elements in the allocation of regular budget resources, and in the allocation of extrabudgetary funding by donor countries. Some delegations felt that the non-priority programme elements should be gradually phased out in favour of the priority programme elements.

345. The Commission invited the Executive Secretary, in accordance with applicable United Nations procedures, to take the necessary administrative measures, including a redeployment of staff, to concentrate resources on priority activities and requested him to report to the Commission at its next session on the steps taken to do so. The Commission recommended that priority setting be kept under constant review so that the work programme remained at all times attuned to the development needs of the developing countries of the region. In that connection, it was emphasized that the International Development Strategy and the Substantial New Programme of Action should remain the basic references in the implementation of work. It was pointed out that the secretariat should ensure timely involvement of the countries concerned in the formulation of projects so as to enhance their effectiveness and ensure the full participation of the developing countries in execution and follow-up.

346. The Commission welcomed the establishment of an evaluation system in ESCAP and expressed its conviction that that system would effectively bolster the efforts of the secretariat to enhance the efficiency of its programmes. In that connection, the Commission

stressed the need for evaluation in general as well as in selected areas with a view to the realization of the regional strategy as part of the International Development Strategy.

Structure, frequency and duration of Commission sessions

347. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/300. It expressed its gratitude to the Executive Secretary and ACPR for having given further consideration to ways of improving the conduct of Commission and legislative committee sessions.

348. The Commission endorsed the following proposals:

(a) Commission sessions should continue to be held on an annual basis;

(b) The participation in Commission sessions of eminent leaders of outstanding reputation should be encouraged;

(c) "Theme topics" should be taken up at particular Commission sessions as needs arose, with provision for adequate follow-up at subsequent sessions;

(d) At Commission sessions, the discussions should be more sharply focused; in the Committee of the Whole in particular, discussions should be oriented towards specific issues of importance to each sector which cannot be adequately dealt with by the respective legislative committees. Representatives of agencies and organizations should be encouraged to circulate their general statements for information, but should not be precluded from speaking if requested by the Commission to do so;

(e) The agenda of plenary meetings should include a general debate on economic and social development issues, discussions on the theme topic and/or issues of special importance, with provision for informal meetings of heads of delegations as appropriate, and reports of regional institutions;

(f) The annual report of the Commission should highlight the decisions and recommendations of the Commission and include a brief review of activities, as well as a brief summary of the discussions in plenary and the main committee(s);

(g) The legislative committees' functioning, as the principal subsidiary bodies of the Commission, should be improved. In legislative committees dealing with more than one programme, the consideration of each programme should be on a biennial basis;

(h) Ministerial and other intergovernmental meetings should be held only in response to special needs.

349. With regard to recommendation (a), one delegation expressed a preference for biennial sessions and another delegation favoured alternating ministerial-

level sessions with sessions of senior officials. Most delegations, however, felt that annual sessions could be justified by the role of the Commission as the sole ministerial-level forum in the Asian and Pacific region.

350. With regard to recommendation (f), the Commission decided that individual and minority views could still be reflected in annual reports if delegations insisted on their inclusion in accordance with the present practice.

351. The Commission considered in detail the other proposals put forward in document E/ESCAP/300. As to the future of the Committee of the Whole, a majority of delegations were in favour of replacing it by two committees to share the discussions on individual sectors. While the existence of two committees would make it harder for the smaller delegations to participate fully in Commission sessions, it was felt that the work-load of the Committee had become too heavy. Two delegations favoured the retention of a unified Committee of the Whole.

352. There was no consensus on the future of the Technical and Drafting Committee. The majority of delegations favoured its retention and recommended that it be renamed the Drafting Committee. However, several delegations felt that that Committee might be abolished altogether and its functions assumed by a rapporteur appointed in the Committee of the Whole.

353. As to the future of the informal working group on draft resolutions, some delegations saw merit in abolishing that body, since they felt that resolutions should emerge from and be discussed by the Committee of the Whole. Other delegations, however, felt that draft resolutions required intensive discussions for which a special body should be provided.

354. The Commission requested the Executive Secretary to consult further with ACPR on both the implementation of the proposals endorsed by the Commission and the further consideration of the unresolved issues and to make new proposals to the Commission at its fortieth session.

Issues and programmes in various fields of activity of ESCAP

355. The Commission considered the reports of the legislative committees which had met during the year prior to the thirty-ninth session, the report of the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference, the report of the Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Railways, sectoral issue papers and progress reports on the implementation of resolutions 217 (XXXVII) on the role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries and 230 (XXXVIII) on a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific. It also considered document E/ESCAP/320 and Corr.1 and 2 containing

proposed programme changes for 1983 and document E/ESCAP/321 and Corr.1 containing the draft programme of work for 1984-1985; document E/ESCAP/303 on the implementation of the ESCAP work programme, 1982; document E/ESCAP/304/Rev.1 containing the tentative calendar of meetings, 1983/84; and document E/ESCAP/338/Rev.1 on extension of the conference facilities at the headquarters of ESCAP. Document E/ESCAP/297 on resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council was noted.

356. 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 concerning the major issues on which the Commission's views were sought, the proposed changes to the programme of work and priorities, 1983, and the draft programme of work for 1984-1985.

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

Issues in various fields of activity

Food and agriculture

358. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/305 and Corr.1

359. It emphasized that the food and agriculture situation in the developing countries had been a matter of constant concern to the international community. Self-sufficiency in food continued to be an important goal of agricultural policies. While per capita availability of foodgrains was either static or declining in some countries of Asia, there were some encouraging signs of increased food production in some traditional food-deficit countries. Nevertheless, while malnutrition continued and the demand for food in the developing countries was rising, efforts to increase food production must continue, since in some cases it was not only lagging behind the growth in population, but even stagnating. Consequently, wide income gaps persisted between rural and urban communities as well as between regions within a country. Those undesirable trends necessitated a concerted effort on the part of Governments and international organizations to accelerate co-ordinated bilateral and multilateral action to increase agricultural productivity in order to meet the challenge of the growing population.

360. The Commission expressed appreciation of the continued efforts of the secretariat to improve the food and agricultural situation in the region. It noted that the developing countries had benefited from a variety of development activities undertaken

or promoted by the secretariat in the agricultural sector, which played an important role in the economic growth and social development of the developing economies.

361. The Commission recognized that it had an active role to play with regard to the long-term objective of increased food production and agricultural development. The secretariat should analyse agricultural policies and strategies of member countries and examine ways of bringing about improvements in such socio-economic factors as land-ownership pattern and pricing policy and should make further efforts in providing information on agricultural training facilities and research and development of food and agriculture. It was mentioned that the scope of the secretariat's food and agriculture activities could be expanded to cover the allied sectors of animal husbandry, dairy production, forestry and fisheries. It was suggested that a unit along the lines of the Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific might be set up in the secretariat for seeds. An in-depth study should be made in respect of the infrastructure required for seeds in each of the developing countries.

362. The Commission was informed of a meeting on agriculture of a group of experts from developing countries which had been organized in February 1983 by the Government of India. The group had drawn up an indicative list of areas where joint ventures and collaborative efforts among developing countries could be established. Those included land, water and forest development, crop production, agricultural research and education, animal husbandry, dairy development, fisheries, food security, rural development and agricultural economics. It was noted that pooling of technological resources of the developing countries in those areas would help them to increase their agricultural growth. In that context, the promotional efforts of the secretariat were appreciated.

363. Expressing the view that most countries in the ESCAP region gave priority to the development of food and agriculture, the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany stated that his Government also attached high priority to that sector and was providing assistance to it. It was suggested that food and agriculture be included as a priority area in the memorandum of understanding signed between the Federal Republic of Germany and ESCAP.

364. The Commission was informed of the close co-operation which the secretariat maintained with other international organizations. In that regard, particular mention was made of the fifth ESCAP/FAO annual joint review of the work programmes of both agencies. The review had discussed activities in which each organization requested assistance from the other for 1983.

Agricultural plans, programmes and information systems

365. Several delegations said that they had benefited from programme activities undertaken in the field of

agricultural development planning. In that regard, particular mention was made of the expert group meeting and seminar for agricultural planning experts organized by the secretariat. The secretariat was requested to enlarge the scope of its activities by including improvement in production and utilization of agricultural commodities and strengthening of inter-sectoral linkages in its work programme.

366. The Commission stressed the usefulness of the *Agricultural Information Development Bulletin* in helping member countries to formulate policies on food and agriculture and on technological innovations in the field of agriculture. It emphasized the importance of strengthening the collection and dissemination of information in the region and suggested that the scope of the *Bulletin* be broadened to include information on agrarian reform and livestock development as well as to provide examples of effective rural development, highlighting in particular the efforts made within the United Nations system to eradicate poverty and promote participatory development. In addition, information dissemination should be linked to collaborative regional research activities in order to strengthen national research efforts. In that regard, the Commission was informed of the recent establishment of the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research.

367. The Commission supported the continued publication of the *Bulletin* and urged the secretariat to consider implementing the agricultural information development scheme with regular budget resources in the future. Taking into account the widespread appreciation of the scheme and its important role, the representative of Japan announced that his Government would continue to provide financial assistance for another year.

368. The Commission stressed the importance of information dissemination in support of agricultural extension and rural development and commended the training courses on rural broadcasting which ESCAP had assisted in several countries of Asia and the Pacific. In that regard, the representative of Japan said that his Government had been extending assistance to that project since 1979 and would continue to do so in the future.

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

369. The Commission expressed satisfaction with the increasing number of activities undertaken by the ESCAP/FAO/UNIDO Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP) since the thirty-eighth session. Those activities were aimed at increased and balanced use of fertilizers in order to enhance agricultural productivity in the developing countries of the region. The Commission noted the increase in the number of FADINAP member countries from 13 a year previously to 18 at present. It recognized the importance of the FADINAP

activities related to information dissemination, training for manpower development and technical advisory services in the field of chemical fertilizers. In that regard, the Indonesian Government had taken the necessary steps to host a workshop on national training for fertilizer distributors and urged the secretariat to expedite action to implement the project.

370. Many delegations stated that their countries had actively participated in and benefited from FADINAP activities. The Commission endorsed the proposed activities of the Network for 1983 and recommended that its programme be expanded to include promotion of fertilizer use in dry land areas, which covered the greater portion of the land under cultivation in the region, and forecasting of world fertilizer prices for import purposes. It was further suggested that FADINAP should expand the scope of its activities to promote the use of biological sources of plant nutrients, the identification of possible sources of indigenous fertilizer, research and development of primary processing technology for organic fertilizers and dissemination of pertinent information.

371. FADINAP was requested to strengthen its links with relevant international research institutions and national agricultural extension services in relation to efficient fertilizer use.

372. The Commission expressed its gratitude to the Government of the Netherlands for providing continuous support to the Network and urged it to provide adequate resources to continue those useful activities on a greater scale. It also expressed gratitude to the Governments of Belgium and the Federal Republic of Germany for their contributions to the Network. In view of recent positive developments, the representative of the Netherlands stated that his Government would continue to support FADINAP. It was emphasized, however, that responsibility for the future of FADINAP must gradually be taken over by the members and associate members of ESCAP. The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany said that his country was willing to increase its assistance to FADINAP by providing the services of a regional adviser on fertilizer distribution. The ESCAP secretariat was urged to increase the number of regular budget posts allocated to FADINAP in view of the usefulness of the programme. It was noted with appreciation that on various occasions participants from member countries had taken part in FADINAP projects at their own expense, which clearly reflected the importance and usefulness of those activities.

ARSAP/agro-pesticides

373. The Commission noted with satisfaction the activities carried out on agro-pesticides under the agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific (ARSAP), in particular in the fields of training on the safe handling and efficient use of agro-pesticides and

data collection and dissemination. ARSAP, which was financed by the Government of the Netherlands, was considered to be one of the most important and successful projects of ESCAP. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the Pacific subregion had been included within the scope of the ARSAP training programme. It recognized the importance of the ARSAP/UNIDO Expert Group Meeting on the Pesticide Data Collection System, which had led to a consensus on a standard format for collection and reporting among participating countries.

374. The Commission stressed the importance of the publication of the ARSAP training manual entitled *Agro-pesticides: Their Management and Application* and noted with appreciation the enthusiastic response which that publication had generated among the member countries. In keeping with the ARSAP approach, it was requested that special attention be given to the environmental impact of the application of agro-pesticides.

375. The Commission noted that the ARSAP activities on agro-pesticides would terminate in August 1983, when the support of the Government of the Netherlands would be discontinued. The Commission expressed satisfaction at the envisaged transfer of the ARSAP economic survey and information services on agro-pesticides to the recently established UNIDO Regional Network for the Production, Marketing and Control of Pesticides in Asia and the Far East, which was located in the Philippines.

376. The Commission expressed the hope that the interest shown by FAO in the ARSAP training approach would result in a suitable follow-up to the training activities started under the ARSAP/agro-pesticides project in order to comply with requests from the recipient countries.

Rural development focusing on disadvantaged groups

377. The Commission expressed support for the programme on rural development and was satisfied that the major focus was on improving the welfare of small farmers, tenants, the landless, fisherfolk and other disadvantaged groups.

378. The Commission viewed the innovative "Farmer-trains-farmer" extension methodology developed by the secretariat as useful because it promoted self-reliant development by using successful small farmers to train their less fortunate neighbours. The Commission expressed satisfaction that the participating countries' financial contributions more than matched the "seed money" contributed by the Netherlands. That clearly demonstrated their commitment to the programme.

379. The Commission endorsed the secretariat's proposal to initiate a programme promoting participatory monitoring of projects for the rural poor to be

undertaken jointly with FAO. The view was expressed that giving the rural poor a say in evaluation processes would go a long way towards reshaping those programmes in order to meet their needs more effectively. It was noted that several countries had benefited from the local-level planning programme. The Commission expressed satisfaction that field testing of guide-lines developed in earlier phases of the project had commenced and urged that that useful programme be continued.

380. The Commission expressed support for the proposed programme on the improvement of agricultural credit, marketing and extension systems. The secretariat was urged to pursue the project on non-farm employment promotion through participatory approaches as it would make a positive impact on rural development in the region. The view was expressed that the secretariat should develop projects in various fields of rural development such as a regional review of agrarian reforms in co-operation with FAO, APDC and the Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific. The review should take account of the experiences of the countries of the region and include recommendations with regard to methodologies required for institutional changes.

381. Several delegations expressed appreciation of the secretariat's efforts in implementing resolution 216 (XXXVII) on the role of the co-operative movement in the social and economic development of the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific and supported the secretariat's proposal to hold a seminar on organization and management techniques for collective farms and other multi-purpose co-operatives in 1984. The USSR Government expressed its readiness to consider hosting the seminar.

Women in agriculture and rural development

382. The Commission recognized the important role played by women in the development of food and agriculture. Government policies emphasized strengthening the capabilities of women to enable their wider participation in income-generating activities. The assistance provided by the secretariat in enhancing the productive role of women in such areas as dairy co-operatives, paddy production and processing, sericulture and fisheries was commended. The representative of Indonesia, emphasizing the importance attached by his Government to socio-economic development of women, reiterated his country's offer to host ESCAP's regional project on the role of farmers' wives in achieving a balanced diet by utilizing domestic resources. His Government had taken the necessary steps to meet the cost of host facilities and urged the secretariat to expedite action to implement the project.

383. The Commission recommended that, commensurate with the priority attached to the development of food and agriculture by the developing countries, adequate resources should be allocated to the food and

agriculture programme of the secretariat to enable it to give adequate assistance to the member countries.

384. The Commission felt that the Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific should be strengthened institutionally and financially through the support of the Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific to ensure complementarity of activities among the international agencies involved in the formulation and implementation of integrated rural development projects.

385. The representative of ILO informed the Commission of the cordial and co-operative working relations existing between ILO and ESCAP, which could be the basis for further collaboration in the fields of self-employment in rural areas, promotion of appropriate institutions, alleviation of rural poverty and target group planning.

Development planning, projections and policies

386. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/290 and E/ESCAP/311.

387. It endorsed the report of the Committee on Development Planning on its fourth session. The activities undertaken by the secretariat in the field of development planning, projections and policies were commended. Many delegations expressed the view that the secretariat's activities in that field should continue to be expanded.

388. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the secretariat's excellent work in preparing the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1982*. The review of recent economic and social developments and the findings and conclusions of the special study on fiscal policy for development, Parts One and Two of the *Survey* respectively, were considered useful and illuminating. The format, style of presentation and analytical contents of that major document were also commended.

389. The Commission commended the secretariat's activities, carried out in accordance with resolution 212 (XXXVII), on review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy in the ESCAP region. It expressed its general agreement with the secretariat's analysis of the implementation of the Strategy at the regional and subregional levels as contained in document E/ESCAP/296. It noted with satisfaction that a more comprehensive regional review and appraisal of the Strategy would be prepared for presentation to the Commission at its fortieth session in 1984 coinciding with the global review of the Strategy to be carried out by the General Assembly. Referring to the analytical approach taken by the secretariat in its review and appraisal, several delegations pointed out that careful attention should be given to the categorization of countries according to differences in their development strategy because strategic variations based

on a limited number of variables might not be as clearly identifiable as sometimes implied, and a balanced approach between export-orientation and import-substitution might be desirable. In that connection, it was noted that such categorization should be avoided in the second review and appraisal. It was also proposed that greater attention should be devoted in the next review and appraisal exercise to the issue of financial resources for development. A number of delegations urged the secretariat to continue to accord high priority to the review and appraisal of progress achieved in the implementation of the Strategy.

390. The Commission fully supported the secretariat's activities directed towards the special needs of the seven least developed countries of the region along the lines set out in the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries (SNPA). Several delegations recommended that the secretariat should give increasing attention to the problems of least developed countries in its overall work programme by incorporating into it the full range of activities envisaged in SNPA. With regard to the monitoring and appraisal of progress in the seven least developed countries in the region, the secretariat was urged to undertake a review on a priority basis. It was recommended that both immediate and long-term measures be taken at the regional and global levels for more effective and full implementation of SNPA in Asia and the Pacific. It was noted with satisfaction that work had been initiated on a project on the mobilization of domestic savings in the least developed countries of the ESCAP region. The secretariat's preparation and back-up arrangements with respect to ESCAP participation in a UNDP regional round table on least developed countries to be convened in May 1983 were also welcomed.

391. The Commission endorsed the secretariat's efforts in the field of macro-economic modelling and projections and urged that activities in that field should continue to be pursued with vigour. It was stressed that the secretariat's initiative in the matter would contribute towards the effectiveness of the development planning process throughout the region. Several delegations pointed out that their Governments' participation in the project on interlinked econometric models for short- and medium-term projections had been beneficial to their own national development planning and that ESCAP's assistance to their countries in developing and upgrading macro-economic projections techniques should continue to be expanded. With regard to the linking of short-term forecasting models of different countries of the region, one delegation felt that more preparatory work would be needed.

392. The Commission voiced its support for the secretariat's activities to set up a comprehensive information service on development planning. It welcomed the forthcoming publication of a development planning newsletter, which it felt would constitute an

important step in improving information flows on development planning throughout the region and serve as a reference document for development planners, policy-makers and researchers.

393. Several delegations emphasized the importance of the role of a unified approach to development planning as a means of determining the optimum allocation of resources and increasing the effectiveness of production at the national level. In that connection, the Commission took note of the secretariat's preparation of a report on the implementation of resolution 229 (XXXVIII) on the rôle of a unified approach to development planning in the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific, which would be submitted to the Commission at its fortieth session.

394. The Commission welcomed the work undertaken by the secretariat in the field of development planning methods. It noted with appreciation the secretariat's proposals for further work in that area, which would assist development planners in the region in the process of national economic and social development. Support was given to the secretariat's efforts to organize training courses and seminars in the field of sectoral and overall planning. In that connection, the delegation of the USSR reaffirmed its readiness to provide facilities for organizing a seminar on sectoral planning techniques and the mechanism of intersectoral relations in 1983 and another on techniques of energy planning in 1984. That delegation mentioned in addition that the USSR provided regular courses in planning and invited ESCAP's participation in sponsoring the attendance of planners from developing countries of the region in those courses.

395. Several delegations emphasized the importance of the secretariat's work concerning the integration of tax planning into the overall development process and felt that further activities to consider the scope for fiscal measures under varying world and local economic conditions would be useful. The suggestion was offered that future activities in that area might focus on the need to co-ordinate monetary and other policies with fiscal policy under alternative economic conditions as a means of avoiding policy inconsistencies which might in turn cause unfavourable repercussions in international trade and in financial markets. It was felt that special attention might be given to the role of fiscal policy under the current prolonged recession, which was characterized by shortfalls in supplementary resources and during which the buoyancy of local revenue systems had been threatened by low economic growth. Several delegations registered their support for a study of patterns and problems of fiscal decentralization in the ESCAP region. It was also suggested that further work might focus on mechanisms for the integration of tax policy into overall economic and social programmes.

396. Some delegations expressed their support of the secretariat's proposal aimed at exploring the issue of

income distribution in the ESCAP region with special reference to the reduction of poverty. It was noted that that work, to be undertaken as a joint project of the Development Planning Division and the Statistics Division, would aim at examining at the regional level the broad trends in income distribution, with specific reference to the eradication of poverty as a fundamental feature of the development process.

397. In the field of subregional co-operation, several delegations called for the exclusion of the activities concerning Pacific basin subregional co-operation from the programme of work for 1984-1985. It was stressed that actions taken by ASEAN countries to strengthen co-operation among themselves came within the framework of ECDC embodied in the Caracas Programme of Action. One delegation pointed out that assistance in the preparation of appropriate development models and development plans and policies was vitally required in the highly vulnerable small developing island States of the region. Another delegation requested the secretariat to provide technical assistance to the South Asian Regional Forum in undertaking studies when jointly requested by the countries concerned.

Transnational corporations

398. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/290 and E/ESCAP/309 and Corr.1.

399. It expressed appreciation of the secretariat's activities during the previous year in assisting Governments of developing ESCAP countries in their dealings with transnational corporations (TNCs). Those activities had contributed to the development of skills and understanding conducive to the improvement of host country capabilities in relation to TNCs. The Commission acknowledged, in particular, the useful exchange of views and information at the *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Meeting on TNCs and the *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Meeting on the Code of Conduct on TNCs, held at Bangkok in January 1983.

400. The Commission noted the various developments with respect to TNCs in the region, including the significant growth of TNC investments, the proliferation of non-equity arrangements for TNC participation, the trends with respect to major home and host countries for TNC investments in the region, the growth of intraregional activities by TNCs from developing Asia-Pacific countries, the lack of significant TNC involvement in the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries and the rapid increase in TNC involvement in manufacturing, trade and banking activities in addition to the traditional primary commodity export sector.

401. The Commission acknowledged the specific role played by TNCs in the social and economic development of most economies in the region and the contribution of TNCs in the form of capital, technology, market

access and management expertise in most countries of the region, especially in the context of the current difficulties created by prolonged world recession. The Commission recognized that TNCs had positive and negative effects in the economic, political, social and cultural fields. Positive contributions to host country development efforts through effects on such variables as production, employment and exports needed to be maximized while the adverse effects, such as heavy outflow of payments and control over manufacture and export activities, were minimized. In that context, it was noted that the benefits obtained from TNC operations varied among countries and depended largely on the policies, skills and relative bargaining positions of host Governments.

402. The Commission stressed the importance of ensuring that TNCs respected national sovereignty and that the activities of TNCs were in keeping with host country goals and development priorities. It noted that the contributions of TNCs should be complementary to national efforts, as reflected in the importance attached by host countries to TNC involvement in high-technology fields, capital-intensive projects, export-oriented ventures, projects with high local value added and substantial backward and forward linkages. It also noted that several Governments in the region had established regulatory systems on TNCs to ensure that TNC activities were in accordance with the needs and goals of the host countries. In that context, one delegation felt that there was a need to examine whether the existing pattern of TNC participation in the region complemented national capabilities in various areas and whether the existing measures for control and regulation resulted in enhancing national capabilities in desired directions. Another delegation suggested that a study on the impact of TNCs on the economic development of countries in the ESCAP region would be useful for clearly spelling out the role of TNCs and for developing guide-lines and priorities for TNC participation.

403. One delegation pointed out, however, that in view of the increasing recognition by developing country host Governments in the ESCAP region of the positive effectiveness of TNC involvement in their economies and the growing flexibility displayed by Governments with regard to TNCs, the emphasis placed on examining TNC participation to see if it accorded with host country development objectives was unwarranted. That delegation expressed the view that development of the countries involved would be best served if Governments minimized interference in the market's efficient allocation of capital and other resources, especially in the light of current limitations on bank loans and foreign aid.

404. Another delegation stated that the establishment of effective national control over the activities of TNCs was one of the most important measures in the field of restructuring international economic relations on a just and democratic basis. It expressed the view that a closer

analysis was needed of the financial and technological implications of TNC activities, of the balance of inflows and outflows of TNC-related capital and of potential conflicts between TNCs, with their global orientation, and developing nation States.

405. In the context of development and industrialization generally, and intraregional differences in TNC activities, many delegations acknowledged the importance of a favourable environment for foreign investment. Some delegations stressed the importance of steady economic performance and policy implementation with respect to TNCs.

406. Most delegations emphasized that the problems faced by least developed, land-locked and island developing countries in the ESCAP region with respect to TNC investments and activities required special attention. It was felt, except in the case of one land-locked country, that the central concern in that group of countries was not only the impact of TNC activities on national enterprises and capabilities but also the stimulation of any significant degree of TNC involvement. In the context of attracting TNC investments, one delegation informed the Commission that its Government continued to try to help to find a mechanism that would enable developing countries to attract and retain TNC investments. Another delegation pointed out that ECDC through activities of developing country TNCs in the region might have a role to play in the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, which had attracted little TNC involvement. Several delegations from Pacific island countries said their countries needed assistance in matters relating to TNCs and suggested studies on the motivations, activities and socio-economic impact of TNCs and on other matters of specific interest to Pacific island countries. Several delegations stressed the fact that the information and advisory services provided by ESCAP and other United Nations agencies were increasingly significant and were encouraged by the Pacific island countries. The Commission noted that a ministerial round table on TNCs in the Pacific island countries was tentatively scheduled to be held at Suva in October 1983.

407. The Commission noted the emergence of newer and more complex modes of TNC participation and the implications of alternative forms of such participation for host developing countries. It devoted special attention to the area of technology acquisition, where alternative modes of non-equity involvement were most prolific. It was noted that, in addition to the direct investment package, technology could also be imported by means of various contractual arrangements, including licensing patents, trade marks, industrial construction contracts, turnkey projects and franchising arrangements and that non-equity arrangements had gained a significant position in the industrialization process of many developing countries. The Commission recognized

that while those arrangements represented increased adaptability and flexibility on the part of both host countries and TNCs, they made it imperative that the bargaining capacities of the countries in the region for negotiating with TNCs be further strengthened.

408. The Commission also noted that the non-equity involvements were not free from problems inherent in the packaged involvement such as excessive financial costs, transfer pricing and the utilization of inappropriate technologies or from the problems resulting in technology dependence. One delegation pointed out that the Joint Unit's study of the cost of technology and restrictive business practices was useful in evaluating alternative forms of foreign collaboration and in formulating an entry control system.

409. Several delegations stressed that much of the success of technology transfer depended on the abilities of the local manpower to absorb and accumulate the imported technologies. Other suggestions with regard to the improvement of the terms and conditions of technology acquisition included the adoption of the United Nations Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices and the examination of the differing experiences of countries in the region with respect to the ability to induce TNCs to participate in high-technology areas. One delegation stressed that, in the implementation of the exchange of country experiences and the collection of information on alternative arrangements of TNC involvement, business confidentiality should be respected and duplication of work currently being undertaken in the United Nations, such as in UNIDO and the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, should be avoided.

410. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the Joint Unit's activities in disseminating knowledge, in increasing Governments' awareness of the possibilities regarding alternative modes of collaboration and in strengthening negotiating capacities of host countries to obtain their rightful share of benefits from TNCs in the field of technology transfer. The usefulness of the Joint Unit's study on technology transfer was noted and it was recommended that a second phase of the research on transfer of technology and on the development of domestic absorptive capacity aimed at long-run self-reliance should be undertaken.

411. The Commission drew attention to issues relevant to the emergence of third-world-based TNCs and the trend towards increasing intraregional investments. Some delegations stressed the need to encourage further intraregional investments and joint ventures in manufactures which provided technical know-how and management skills. In particular, it was observed that the presence of TNCs from developing countries of the ESCAP region had enhanced opportunities for host developing countries to diversify investment sources in accordance with host country objectives. In that

regard, one delegation noted that TNCs from developing countries could possibly provide technology at lower cost and of a type which was more appropriate to the factor endowments of host developing countries. Furthermore, third-world-based TNCs could play a role in many least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, which had attracted little TNC involvement.

412. In the area of primary commodities, which faced depressed market conditions, the Commission was informed that recent studies (including studies by the secretariat as part of the ESCAP/ECLA/ECA inter-regional project on TNCs in primary commodity exports) indicated that several factors such as the use of more effective taxation policies and some increase in local processing had worked to improve the distribution of gains from primary commodity exports in favour of host countries. However, it was noted that formidable difficulties remained with respect to developing countries' participating effectively in further commercialization of activities relating to primary commodities, especially in processing, manufacturing and marketing, currently dominated by TNCs. The Commission was informed that a comprehensive discussion of issues and measures in that important area would take place at the interregional seminar on TNCs and primary commodity exports from developing countries to be held in New York in August 1983.

413. Most delegations took note of the prominent role of TNCs in the region's foreign trade, which was the subject of detailed investigation under a research project of the Joint Unit on various aspects of transnational trading corporations' involvement in the region, including the extent of involvement, product concentration, geographic pattern, monopolistic advantages and competitiveness or complementarity with local traders. Among the positive contributions of TNCs, several delegations mentioned the access TNCs provided to the world market. The Commission's attention was also drawn to transnational bank activities in the region. One delegation stressed the problem of the region's growing financial indebtedness on account of the activities of TNCs.

414. The Commission observed that measures at the international, regional and national levels could assist host developing countries in strengthening their capabilities in dealing with TNCs in economic development and in providing a framework for harmonious relations between host nations and TNCs. The most salient issue at the international level noted by the Commission was a code of conduct on TNCs. Several delegations advocated a balanced code that would be voluntary as well as effective for host countries and TNCs. Several other delegations stressed the need to finalize a draft code of conduct without undue delay, noting that a code could help to strengthen the capabilities of developing countries and thus contribute to development objectives and aspirations.

415. The Commission drew attention to several issues at the regional level pertaining to developing ESCAP countries' relationships with TNCs. Possibilities for regional co-ordination and co-operation to avoid excessive competition by offering investment incentives were mentioned by several delegations. Potential measures for regional co-operation included harmonization of certain investment-related policies, common approaches to technology acquisition and exchange of information and experiences at regional meetings and workshops. One delegation observed that the diversity of economic systems and policy regimes might make harmonization difficult, while another delegation stated that initial steps could be taken to examine the possibilities despite such diversities. Exchange of information among government screening and monitoring agencies and exchange of industrial sector information were other regional measures suggested by several delegations as conducive to enhancing national capabilities.

416. One delegation spoke of the need to strengthen, at the national level, the negotiating capacity of the host countries' private sector as well as the capability to evaluate, screen and monitor foreign investment opportunities. The view was expressed that bilateral agreements and investment/taxation treaties were useful measures to avoid excessive competition for foreign investment.

417. The Commission commended the secretariat on its effective work on TNCs, which was undertaken in the face of resource constraints. One delegation stressed the usefulness of the case study approach used by the Joint Unit and suggested the continued application of such an approach. Another delegation pointed to the need to strengthen the Joint Unit and strongly urged that the necessary budgetary support be given to it. Finally, the Commission expressed its gratitude to the Governments of the Netherlands and the Federal Republic of Germany for extending extrabudgetary support to the Joint Unit.

Industry, technology and human settlements

418. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/288 and E/ESCAP/307 and Corr.1. It endorsed the report of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment on its sixth session, at which special attention had been devoted to the development of industry and technology. It noted that the Committee had also given appropriate attention to issues and problems in the fields of human settlements and the environment.

Industry

419. The Commission noted the rapid changes experienced by the member countries of the region in the field of industrial development. The most alarming feature had been the dramatic turnaround in the

growth rates of industry during the early years of the 1980s. Although the region as a whole had, during the early part of the current recession, achieved an appreciable increase of growth in manufacturing production, the continuing adverse global economic circumstances had brought about serious difficulties which required close examination. The Commission drew special attention to the wide fluctuations and unevenness that had taken place in the previous few years in the performance of individual countries and of the region as a whole, as well as to the strong likelihood that the current decline would continue in the near future.

420. Several delegations requested the secretariat to undertake studies with regard to the unevenness of industrial development between the countries of the region and the adjustment required to compensate for the changes taking place in global industry. Several delegations observed that growing protectionism in some industrially advanced countries had continued to have serious effects on the growth of industry in the region and had also caused severe problems in capacity utilization. The Commission paid special attention to the need to examine the increasing international interdependence of industrial production, rapidly changing industrial comparative advantages, the long-term effects of the current protracted economic downturn, industrial financing implications of currency fluctuations, instability in the oil price market, the shifting interest rate situation and the growing debt servicing problems, all of which had become particularly prominent during the previous year.

421. In that regard, the Commission noted with satisfaction the significant start which had been made by the secretariat on its studies on industrialization trends in developing ESCAP countries and industrial growth performance and restructuring in the developing ESCAP countries at the outset of the 1980s. It urged that that relevant and timely work be continued so that the results could be brought to the attention of Governments as quickly as possible. Some countries drew attention to the need to exercise caution in the selection of priority industries and recommended that special attention be paid to natural endowments and other geographical advantages and disadvantages faced by individual member countries. It was, however, the consensus of the Commission that those studies constituted an extremely useful function of the secretariat and member countries were urged to support them fully.

422. The Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Committee at its sixth session that the secretariat should undertake phase II of the project, which would include a more detailed survey of sectoral development on the basis of a series of sectoral studies, technoeconomic in nature and regional in scope, in co-operation with UNIDO, which would finance some of the studies. The Commission recommended that donor countries co-operate in finalizing phase I of the project (publication of the full text of the study of

past trends) and in implementing phase II (provision of funds for several other studies as recommended by the countries of the region). It cautioned, however, that work in that field should not end with mere studies but should attempt to devise new industrial strategies in the next phase.

423. The Commission once again stressed the usefulness and relevance of the major directions and policy guidelines provided by the Meeting of Ministers. It observed that the basic recommendations had been incorporated into national planning in many countries of the region. It directed the secretariat to continue the studies and other programmes of activities as contained in the minimum programme of action of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Ministers of Industry.

424. Within the overall context of the implementation of the secretariat's programme of work, the Commission attached particular importance to regional and sub-regional co-operation and promotion of South-South co-operation on a realistic and concrete basis. It noted that intraregional co-operation had assumed special significance and relevance in the context of the current global economic situation. The strengthening of national industrial capabilities would lead to increased opportunities for intraregional trade in manufactures and would also contribute substantially to increased interregional trade in manufactures.

425. The Commission endorsed the recommendations relating to the "club" for industrial co-operation contained in the report of the Committee on its sixth session. Several delegations contributed a range of constructive and useful suggestions relating to the practical projects and future operations of the club. It was agreed that the club had played an innovative and practical role over the previous year. The Commission recommended that the work on that activity should continue to be expanded and strengthened and urged that greater assistance should be given by the developed countries. It referred to the useful work done through the solidarity meeting held at Kathmandu in November 1982, the energy saving in industry programme and the joint projects which had been initiated to increase regional industrial co-operation. The *Energy Saving in Industry* booklets had proved to be of practical use to member countries. The Commission recommended that such activities be expanded to embrace a range of further practical projects in that field. It also recommended that the work should be pursued in co-operation with other relevant organizations as well as other divisions within the ESCAP secretariat.

426. The Commission urged the secretariat to undertake follow-up activities so as to ensure the implementation of the pledges made at the solidarity meeting at Kathmandu. It noted with appreciation the offer of \$A 140,000 by the Government of Australia to assist the development of club activities for another year. The Commission agreed to the establishment of a

revolving fund and the Government of Australia reiterated the offer it had made at the Committee's sixth session to examine the possibility of contributing to a modest revolving fund if so requested by the secretariat.

427. The Commission recommended the holding of biennial review meetings on club activities in conjunction with relevant committee sessions or meetings of ministers of industry.

428. Many delegations pointed out that progress achieved in the manufacturing sector in developing countries could be used for the benefit of the less advanced developing countries of the region. In that connection, it was also observed that the secretariat should expand its work on the possibilities of identifying and promoting joint ventures within the region.

429. The Commission noted with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of the prime-mover project, which was of special relevance in dealing with problems of unevenness of growth among the countries of the region. It recommended that the activities under the project should be expanded to cover other developing countries as well and felt that the secretariat should carry out studies on industrial development policies and programmes of the least developed countries.

430. With regard to the strengthening of national capabilities, the work done on agro-industries constituted an important element. While noting the current work with respect to studies on oil-seeds production and processing, the Commission observed that several other agricultural products should be taken up for close study as recommended by the *Ad Hoc* Group of Ministers. In that regard, it called upon member countries, in particular, donor countries, to provide full support to the secretariat for the implementation of the project.

431. The Commission endorsed the findings and recommendations of the Intergovernmental Meeting on Agro- and Allied Industries at its fourth session. In particular, it noted the recommendation on the re-examination of export strategies, where required, to ensure adherence to consideration of dynamic comparative advantages and the optimum exploitation of export growth possibilities in the agro- and other resource-based industries. It noted that full advantage should be taken of the possibilities for co-operation in promoting South-South trade in agro-industrial products. In view of the considerable experience gained in the countries of the region with respect to the implementation of plans and programmes in the agro-industrial sector, especially in the application of industrial strategies, the Commission urged that that rich and varied experience should be shared among the countries. The Intergovernmental Meetings on Agro- and Allied Industries would provide valuable opportunities

for the exchange of experiences relating to industrial policies and strategies in the agro-industrial sector.

432. The Commission recalled with appreciation the host facilities provided in the past by the Governments of China and the USSR for the organization of workshops/seminars on agro-industries and integrated agro-industrial complexes, which had provided excellent opportunities to consider alternative models of development and to learn from the planning and implementation mechanisms of those countries.

433. The Commission was pleased to note the varied activities of the secretariat in a number of agro-industrial processing sectors, as discussed at the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Meeting. In the food processing sector, due attention had been given to the integrated dairy industry and the oils and fats industry. The Commission noted that the recent discussions with UNIDO had resulted in the possibility of organizing a regional meeting in early 1984 to take follow-up action at the regional level on the recommendations of the first global consultation on the food processing industry, held at The Hague in 1981. The proposed regional meeting would take account of the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Meeting. The Commission noted with interest that UNIDO and ESCAP would jointly organize a regional meeting of policy- and decision-makers at a senior level on the leather industry in the latter part of 1984, essentially to promote intercountry co-operation in the leather industry along the lines recommended by the Intergovernmental Meeting at its fourth session. The Commission also noted with interest the continuing co-operative activities on the integrated silk processing industry, jute industry and wood processing industry.

434. The Commission heard with interest that further consultations would be held with UNIDO and other organizations for collection, analysis and dissemination of information on the application of new technologies in the field of agro- and allied industries and specifically biotechnology, genetic engineering and related new technologies.

435. The Commission noted with appreciation the reiteration of the offer of host facilities by the USSR Government to organize a seminar on design, production, maintenance and repair of agricultural machinery at Minsk and Rostov.

436. The Commission emphasized the important role of small- and medium-scale industries and observed that such industries would contribute substantially to the creation of employment opportunities and generation of income in the rural sector. It observed that the development of small-scale industry should be resource-based, with particular consideration being given to linkages with agriculture. Some delegations stated that the development of such industries would also facilitate greater involvement of the public and private sectors

in the industrialization process of developing countries in the light of national conditions. The Commission noted that several countries had considerable experience in programming for small- and medium-scale industries and that the exchange of experience in training, transfer of technology and institutional support would be useful.

437. The Commission noted that the implementation of the project "Public enterprises in developing ESCAP countries: tendencies, challenges, efficiency" had been delayed owing to non-availability of funds. It also noted that a number of delegations participating in the sixth session of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment had called upon the secretariat to implement the project speedily. Most developing ESCAP countries were mixed economies in which both the public and the private sectors occupied significant positions. The Commission urged donor countries to provide funds for the project's implementation. It noted with satisfaction that the Government of France was considering providing technical and financial assistance to assist in the implementation of the project.

438. With regard to industrialization in non-metropolitan areas, the Commission observed that progress in the implementation of phase II of the project, namely, the establishment of the identified pilot projects, had been held up owing to non-availability of financial and other resources. As it had done previously, it urged concerned countries to accord higher priority to those projects in their negotiations for bilateral and multi-lateral assistance. One delegation observed that there might be a need to study the proposed pilot projects identified earlier and to review the situation in terms of current needs in order to determine their relevance in the present situation. The question of the location of such industries might also have to be re-examined.

439. The Commission endorsed the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Meeting of Industrial Planners on Financing Industrialization, held at Bangkok in June 1982, which had dealt with the mechanism for integrated physical and financial targets in industrial planning. Among others, the Meeting had recommended a study on sick industries in the private sector. The Commission approved the holding of a planners' meeting in 1984 to deal with preparations for the establishment of regional industries in the context of regional and subregional co-operation. It urged that the activities in that area of work should not duplicate the activities carried out by the Development Planning Division.

440. The Commission noted with satisfaction the establishment of the Tax and Investment Research Centre at Singapore, which had now begun its operations. The Centre would be able to provide useful information and advisory services to member countries of the region. The Commission noted that there was a need to undertake considerable work with regard to investment incentives and taxation, particularly in

order to avoid unhealthy competition by the offer of generous concessions which tended to deprive the countries of much-needed revenue. The Centre could initiate studies on the preparation of guide-lines in order to deal with such problems. The Government of the Netherlands indicated that it had already contributed \$US 20,000 towards the establishment of the Centre. The Commission urged that other member countries also contribute funds for the first few years of operation, after which the Centre was expected to be self-supporting.

441. Several delegations observed that the proposal to set up a technical advisory group, which had been examined by the Committee, was a useful one. However, the Commission decided that the preliminary study undertaken by the secretariat should be appropriately revised taking into full consideration the views expressed by ACPR and the Governments and that a report should be submitted for consideration by the Committee at its seventh session. The study should closely outline the functions of the proposed group taking into consideration the work done by the secretariat as well as the competence of other international agencies, such as UNIDO.

442. The Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that a ministerial-level meeting be held together with the Meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Ministers in early 1984 for the preparation of the regional position to be presented at the forthcoming Fourth General Conference of UNIDO, to be held at Nairobi some time in mid-1984. UNIDO was currently organizing five expert group meetings which would be concluded in August 1983. The meeting on industrial co-operation among developing countries would be held at Bangkok in July 1983. The Commission observed that the documentation for the Fourth General Conference would be ready by mid-January 1984.

Technology

443. The Commission noted the important role played by ESCAP as the regional focal point in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action with the stress laid upon assistance to member countries in strengthening their scientific and technological capabilities in keeping with the Operational Plan. It endorsed the general direction and approach of the secretariat, which aimed at enhancing the science and technology policy and institutional framework of developing ESCAP countries, *inter alia*, in technology transfer.

444. The Commission expressed appreciation of the secretariat's efforts to co-ordinate and widen further its joint activities with such relevant United Nations organizations as UNIDO, UNCTAD, UNCSTD and WIPO. The current and planned joint activities in the field of technology were endorsed for implementation. ESCAP had actively participated in the activities of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Techno-

logy for Development and its appropriate bodies, and in the work of the four ACC Task Force technical working groups, which had resulted in the formulation of joint United Nations interagency programmes of relevance to the ESCAP region in strengthening scientific and technological capabilities.

445. The Commission observed that the survey of science and technology development in the ESCAP region in the context of the Vienna Programme of Action and the review on technology transfer activities in the ESCAP region would prove to be extremely useful to member countries. It endorsed the proposal to organize an expert group meeting during 1983 to consider the documents and to make recommendations for future action. It requested the secretariat to distribute the documents to member countries as soon as possible.

446. The Commission noted with satisfaction the progress in the implementation of the joint UNIDO/ESCAP regional programme for strengthening industrial consultancy in the region and recommended the continuation of that activity with the objective of establishing a regional network of national industrial consultancy organizations.

447. The Commission commended the technical advisory and training services provided by the secretariat in the field of technology development and transfer, in particular on issues relating to legal aspects of transfer of technology and the strengthening of national negotiating capabilities. In view of the importance of those activities, the Commission urged their continuation and enhancement in order to cater for the needs of as many member countries as possible. Some delegations also urged the secretariat to strengthen that work by increasing regular budget allocations.

448. Several delegations offered to share with other developing countries, upon request, the technologies and industrial plants developed by them as well as their experience and expertise in selected technologies and called upon the secretariat to initiate appropriate efforts to that end.

449. The Commission stressed the importance of the secretariat's initiatives to embark on activities in some areas of modern technology such as micro-electronics, bio-engineering and biotechnology and noted the activities already implemented and proposed in those fields.

450. In recognition of the importance of post-harvest technology to national economies, the Commission urged the secretariat to promote the exchange of experience for the benefit of the developing countries of the region through the existing institutional facility of RNAM.

451. The Commission urged the enhancement of regional activities in the field of technology transfer

on the basis of a network approach and appealed to the donor countries to support the projects and activities of the secretariat in that regard.

452. The Commission noted with appreciation the valuable and significant role played by RCTT in strengthening the technological capabilities of developing countries in the region. RCTT's activities in 1982 proved that it was now an institution that not only provided technical assistance but also promoted regional co-operation in the development of technologies relevant to the region.

453. RCTT's Seminar on Subcontracting and Complementation in the Electronics Industry, organized at New Delhi with financial assistance from Japan, was commended as having resulted in indicating practical measures that could be undertaken through co-operation among developing countries in a field that was fast becoming important in all aspects of economic development.

454. The Commission noted that the Workshop and Exhibition on Domestic Utilization of Energy, held at Manila under a project of the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, had addressed itself to a vital sector of the energy scene. The wide participation of developing countries in the Workshop indicated the importance attached by Governments to improving the efficiency of energy utilization in the home.

455. The RCTT Roving Seminar on the Dissemination of Technology Information, held at Manila and Seoul under a UNDP project, was appreciated by the Commission as having provided new insight into methods of disseminating technology information in such a way as to bring technology within the reach of users.

456. The representative of the Republic of Korea informed the Commission of his Government's readiness to develop, with the assistance of RCTT, a special technology transfer project under which selected industrial plants and proven technologies developed in the Republic of Korea could be transferred to interested developing countries. Those plants and technologies were inexpensive, efficient and economic in operation.

457. The Commission noted the paucity of funds available to RCTT, especially for institutional purposes, and strongly urged the participating and donor countries to enhance their contributions and to make them on a continuous basis.

458. The Commission noted with interest the re-orientation of RNAM project activities, with the main thrust of the programme being on design development, popularization of proven machinery and promotion of local manufacturing.

459. It noted that the Regional Workshop of Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers' Associations, held at

Lahore, Pakistan, in August 1982, had covered a wide range of topics and had recommended that workshops should be organized at the national or zonal level in each RNAM country to consider the recommendations of the Lahore Workshop and take follow-up action. Such workshops had been held in the Philippines and Sri Lanka, and similar activities were planned in other RNAM countries.

460. The Commission attached particular importance to the seventh session of the Technical Advisory Committee of RNAM, held at Tokyo in October 1982, which had reviewed the progress of implementation of the six subprogrammes during the second phase and issued clear guide-lines for the implementation of the activities, particularly at the national level.

461. The Commission was pleased to note that the Regional Workshop on Standardization of Agricultural Machinery and Equipment, held at New Delhi in March 1983, had, *inter alia*, recommended harmonization of standards of components of agricultural machinery and equipment in the RNAM countries through the existing institutional mechanism of RNAM.

462. The Commission expressed appreciation of the achievements of RNAM and, in particular, its effectiveness in attaining the objectives of the project and in influencing the mechanization programmes in the participating countries. It urged the donor countries and UNDP to increase their contributions to that useful intercountry project so that its impact could be further strengthened. UNDP was requested to extend the second phase of the project until the end of the programme cycle 1982-1986. The participating countries were also requested to increase their contributions to the project.

463. The representative of Indonesia said that his country had benefited considerably from the RNAM programme and expressed gratitude to ESCAP for having posted an RNAM expert at Jakarta. Similarly, the representatives of Sri Lanka and Thailand confirmed their Governments' participation in RNAM from its inception and the very useful subprogrammes under implementation during the second phase. The participating countries urged continuing technical support and strengthening of the financial resources of RNAM.

464. The representative of Japan reiterated the abiding interest of his Government in RNAM as reflected in the financial and technical contributions that it had made so far. Moreover, being convinced of the usefulness of RNAM, he reassured the Commission that his country would continue to provide technical and financial support in the future. At the same time, he called upon international organizations and the beneficiary countries to exert further efforts to make more financial contributions to the project.

Human settlements

465. The Commission stressed the importance of human settlements activities, in particular, the promotion of action-oriented programmes and projects directed towards achieving tangible results and the need to reorder national priorities and adopt an integrated approach to human settlements problems within the framework of economic, physical and social planning.

466. The Commission urged developing countries in the region to undertake specific programmes of activities and measures to improve the living conditions and upgrade the quality of life of the poor and disadvantaged. Attention was also drawn to the need to provide urgent assistance to millions of homeless people and refugees, through housing facilities, infrastructure and other social services. The representative of Iran requested that the Commission carry out a study on the socio-economic impacts of war-stricken refugees on the host countries.

467. The Commission took note of the important issues raised in the document concerning (a) urban development, settlement planning and land issues, (b) housing, infrastructure and services for the low-income population, (c) the backlog and deterioration of shelter, (d) indigenous building materials and construction techniques, (e) financial credit facilities and (f) self-help construction, community participation and involvement of non-governmental organizations in human settlements activities, which were of immediate importance to developing countries and deserved particular attention in the coming biennium.

468. While recognizing that "human settlements" was a comprehensive concept, the Commission stressed that the regional programme on human settlements should reflect community needs and aspirations in totality and also the priority needs of developing countries in the region. In that connection, it was pointed out that the ESCAP programme of work should also cover the priority areas relating to problems of rural-urban migration, development of small and medium towns, urban land policies, rural settlements, shelter for the homeless, training needs and appropriate technology for human settlements development. The need for self-reliance and enhancing the capacity of communities in housing and infrastructure was also emphasized.

469. The Commission endorsed the need for an approach to human settlements planning which was based on the integration of physical planning with economic and social planning. Such an approach needed to be accompanied by a reordering of national priorities aimed at satisfying the basic physical and socio-economic requirements of disadvantaged target groups. The Commission noted that some countries applied integrated policies in human settlements and had created appropriate institutional structures for comprehensive planning to provide shelter on a nation-wide basis.

470. Rural-urban migration and the role of small and intermediate cities in urbanization policies were identified by the Commission as subjects requiring greater understanding and further study. The development of small and intermediate cities was crucial in a policy of balanced human settlements development and the study of problems of rural settlements and the links between rural and urban settlements needed to be given greater prominence in the secretariat's programme. The Commission noted with interest the programme for the development of small and intermediate cities adopted by the Urban Development Authority of Sri Lanka.

471. The Commission considered that certain aspects of land policies in human settlements needed to be studied in depth, including proposals for increasing the intensity of land use. There were limits to the extent to which multiplicity of land uses could be achieved in urban areas since that could lead to a deterioration of the residential environment. Measures adopted for intensive land use in central urban areas would need to be different from those suitable for areas on the periphery of urban settlements.

472. The importance of upgrading local expertise was stressed and it was suggested that ESCAP should promote and support that through the utilization of experts from within the region and through an exchange of experts and information among member countries.

473. The Commission reiterated its strong support for a broader utilization of indigenous building materials and construction techniques, particularly in the rural areas. It urged the secretariat to pay special attention to supporting building research, use of materials and techniques requiring minimum outside assistance in application and organization of training courses for small entrepreneurs in such areas as management for contractors, manufacturing processes of materials, standardization and prefabrication. It also urged the secretariat to undertake a survey and assessment of techniques and materials focusing on resource conservation and cost reduction.

474. The importance of developing appropriate standards for low-income housing was stressed, as was the development of the construction industry, and the Commission urged the secretariat to conduct workshops and seminars in those fields.

475. The Commission endorsed the important recommendations made by the Regional Congress of Local Authorities for Development of Human Settlements, held at Yokohama, Japan, in June 1982, relating to (a) development, urbanization and physical conditions in cities, (b) policies, planning and programmes for the development of shelter, infrastructure and services, (c) upgrading the quality of urban life, (d) intergovernmental relationships and the position of local authorities with regard to legislative and financial powers and

planning and development functions, (e) management and co-ordination within and among local authorities and (f) public participation and access to public information on human settlements. While recognizing the benefits of decentralization of resources to local authorities for human settlements, the Commission urged the member countries to implement those recommendations as soon as possible.

476. The Commission welcomed the useful recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting on an Integrated Programme for Improvement of Slums and Squatter Settlements, held at New Delhi in March 1983. The Meeting, which had been organized by the secretariat in co-operation with the Indian Government, had made several important recommendations relating to policy guide-lines and action proposals for the provision of shelter, infrastructure, services and technologies at the national, urban and neighbourhood levels for implementation by the member countries in the region.

477. The Commission noted that the secretariat had been providing backstopping services to the Institute for Housing Studies of the Netherlands in the project for the establishment of a regional training and research centre in housing and planning in the South Pacific. It was proposed to establish the centre at the University of the South Pacific in Fiji after the matter of funding for the regional counterparts had been resolved.

478. The Commission expressed satisfaction at the progress made by the secretariat in the preparation of the study and review of the human settlements situation and the human settlements atlas; the latter had been examined by an expert group meeting convened in February 1983. The Commission noted that 16 country monographs had been prepared by national counterparts in the region and submitted to the secretariat for inclusion in the study. The study and atlas would be completed in June and December 1983 respectively. The Commission urged members and associate members to extend support to the secretariat to ensure their early publication. It noted with appreciation the generous financial and technical assistance provided by the Governments of Japan and the United States for the implementation of that project.

479. The Commission recognized the importance of, and expressed full support for, the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless in 1987. It pointed out that such an event would effectively focus the world's attention on the problems of the homeless and the need to improve the shelter and neighbourhoods of the poor and disadvantaged by the year 2000. It urged donor countries, international financial institutions and non-governmental organizations to extend generous financial and other appropriate support to the programme, including preparatory activities and demonstration projects for the Year.

480. The Commission noted with interest that Expo '85 would be held in Japan in 1985 on the theme of "Dwellings and surroundings: science and technology for man at home". It also noted that a meeting was to be held in France in November 1983 concerning innovative building technologies.

481. The Commission noted the offer made by the Government of the Philippines to extend appropriate assistance and share its experience and expertise in the field of human settlements, and also the offer by the International Council on Social Welfare to co-operate with ESCAP in the field of slums and squatter upgrading, human settlements technology and other activities of benefit to disadvantaged groups.

482. With regard to the implementation of regional and global human settlements activities, the Commission stressed the importance and necessity of maintaining close contact and effective links between the ESCAP secretariat and various United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, in particular, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), in order to avoid duplication of effort and increase efficiency of work.

483. The Commission was informed of the human settlements activities which were implemented by the secretariat mainly through the provision of extra-budgetary funding and, to a certain extent, with the support and assistance provided by Habitat and specialized agencies. It noted the rapidly growing activities in the field of human settlements and stressed that the secretariat's staff and financial resources should be strengthened in order to enable it to contribute more effectively to the solution of the human settlements problems in the region.

Environment

484. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/288 and E/ESCAP/312 and Corr.1.

485. It expressed concern over the deteriorating environmental conditions and trends in the region, including depletion of vital resources, despite the goals set at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment more than 10 years previously. It felt that it was appropriate and timely, therefore, that the countries of the region should undertake action-oriented programmes for the protection and management of the environment, failing which the environmental degradation would continue both owing to the development process and owing to the lack of it.

486. Accordingly, and in keeping with the views of the Commission at its thirty-eighth session and resolution 224 (XXXVIII) on the incorporation of environmental considerations into its economic and social development activities, the Commission suggested that the secretariat should continue to play a central role in integrating

environmental considerations into the development process and allocate its resources to priority areas, as decided by the Commission. It was further suggested that ESCAP should act as the regional focal point of the United Nations system for the effective implementation of the Nairobi Action Programme on the Environment adopted at the session of a special character of the UNEP Governing Council in 1982. Such a focal point function should be carried out with a view to assisting the developing member countries in particular in the areas of (a) formulation of regional and sub-regional policies and action strategies on the environment, (b) provision of advisory services to member Governments, on request, for assessment and evaluation of environmental impacts of development programmes and projects, (c) assistance in setting up effective arrangements for environmental TCDC schemes and (d) organization of seminars and workshops on various aspects of environmental management.

487. The Commission reiterated its support for the convening of a ministerial-level conference on the environment for Asia and generally endorsed the proposal as contained in document E/ESCAP/312. As to the agenda, the Commission suggested that due consideration should be given to the report of the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at New Delhi in March 1983, as it related to environmental issues, and also to the action plan for management of the Asian environment which was proposed in document E/ESCAP/312. Regarding the date, it was suggested that the conference be convened in 1985, subject to the completion of adequate preparatory work. It was also suggested that the venue should be decided at the fortieth session of the Commission and that in the interim the Executive Secretary should be requested to keep member countries informed on the matter.

488. The Commission endorsed the idea of convening a Working Group of Experts on the Environment to provide technical and advisory assistance to the secretariat on specific issues. It was decided that the Working Group should meet once every alternate year, when the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment would not focus on the subjects of human settlements and the environment, and be convened subject to the availability of funds. It was emphasized that the Working Group should not assume the functions of the legislative committee, which was responsible for the policy directions of the environment programme, but should limit itself to the provision of technical advice to the secretariat in specialized areas.

489. In keeping with a recommendation of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment at its sixth session, as well as subsequent consultations between the executive secretaries of the regional commissions and the Executive Director of UNEP, the Commission endorsed the

terms of reference of the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit as presented in document E/ESCAP/312 and Corr.1.

490. The Commission noted with satisfaction the progress made in implementing its resolution 224 (XXXVIII), decision 10/2 of the UNEP Governing Council and General Assembly resolution 37/217, on the issue of provision of institutional support to ESCAP in carrying out its environmental activities, and expressed its support for the continuation of the secretariat's activities in the field of the environment at the present level.

491. As to programme matters, the Commission recognized the need for ecologically balanced development planning, pooling of information on resource-conserving technologies, action to maintain critical biological diversity, promotion of awareness of ecological problems of vital importance and environmental protection. It felt that those were areas where the entire international community could work together in a spirit of constructive co-operation for the well-being of all mankind.

492. The Commission emphasized the need to strengthen the secretariat's activities in the field of institutional and legislative aspects of environmental protection and management. In that regard, it noted with appreciation the announcement of the intended contribution of the Government of Japan in the form of provision of experts and extrabudgetary assistance to organize a study and expert group meeting on institutional and legislative aspects of environmental management.

493. The Commission noted with satisfaction the progress made by the secretariat in the preparation of a report on the state of the environment in the Asian and Pacific region, following the general approach adopted by the Commission at its thirty-eighth session and subsequent consultations with the Governments during the period under review.

494. The Commission expressed its concern over the persistent and aggravating problems of desertification, deforestation and general degradation of terrestrial and marine ecosystems and their socio-economic impacts on the environment. There was a need to assist the developing countries in their efforts to find alternatives for fuelwood as an energy source so as to maintain and restore primary forests and achieve sound environmental management. It was suggested that the concept of the interrelationships between resources, the environment, population and development be introduced in conducting the case studies on deforestation in the region so that they would bring into focus the causes and consequences of the problems, particularly in their socio-economic perspectives. The secretariat was also requested to explore the possibility of assistance to the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) in the implementation of its

activities in connection with the South Asian Year of the Tree, which would be celebrated in 1988.

495. The Commission considered that one successful approach to achieving environmental protection was the promotion of awareness and concern for environmental problems among the people. It noted with appreciation the various activities undertaken by the secretariat to promote environmental awareness and draw the attention of the mass media to the matter.

496. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the various activities undertaken by the secretariat in implementing its programme on the protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems and stressed the need to strengthen them. Appreciation was also expressed concerning the progress achieved in the development of the coastal environmental management plan in a pilot area in Sri Lanka. Interest was expressed in expediting the development of a similar plan for the Philippines. Considering the increasing threat of marine pollution in the region, the Commission stressed the need to strengthen the secretariat's programme for the protection of the marine environment, including coastal pollution due to oil spills. Noting that in some parts of the ESCAP region the environment had been and was being polluted in a deliberate effort to endanger human and marine life, noting that recently such an internationally unacceptable action had been committed in the ESCAP region and bearing in mind that Iran's repeated attempts to prevent the continuation of environmental pollution, in spite of the dangers involved, had been stopped in a very persistent manner, the Commission condemned such action resorted to by any State anywhere in the world. The Commission noted with satisfaction the secretariat's plan to convene a regional symposium on the environmental management of mangrove, coral and island ecosystems in south Asia at Dhaka in August 1983, in close consultation with SACEP.

497. The Commission welcomed the publication by the secretariat of the technical guide-lines on industrial pollution control. It was suggested that the secretariat should undertake case studies for carrying out cost-benefit analysis of pollution control programmes.

498. As to the secretariat's activities in the field of the environment in the Pacific, the Commission noted with appreciation the training activities undertaken on environmental management and stressed the need for additional training activities in that area. The secretariat was requested to continue its support to the activities of the South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme, considering the importance and special significance of that Programme to the countries of the Pacific.

499. The representative of UNEP stated that his organization would continue to collaborate fully with the Commission on environmental matters. He reiterated

UNEP's offer to co-operate closely with ESCAP in the planning and implementation of the proposed ministerial-level conference. In reviewing and assessing the environmental situation in the region, it was suggested that UNEP's previous work such as that on the global state of the environment, the document on "Environmental management, 1982: retrospective and perspective" and UNEP's system-wide medium-term environment programme should be taken into consideration. With regard to the terms of reference of the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit (ECU), UNEP fully supported the view expressed by the Commission at its thirty-eighth session that ECU had a central role to play in developing methodologies for integrating environmental considerations into the development process. That had helped to address the evolving perception that one of the main concerns at present related to the causes of physical changes in the environment and their impact on socio-economic development. On the question of strengthening UNEP's co-operation with ESCAP, he stated that the official meeting of UNEP's Executive Director with the Executive Secretary of ESCAP in January 1983 had reconfirmed the mutual commitment to environmental matters in the activities of ESCAP. UNEP would continue to provide support to the Commission at the regional and international levels and noted with appreciation that that had been reflected in the deliberations of the Commission and the work of ESCAP.

500. The representative of UNESCO reiterated that UNESCO would co-operate closely with the environmental programme of ESCAP and offered its assistance in organizing the ministerial-level conference on the environment and programmes on environmental management. The objectives of the UNESCO programme on the environment were the improvement of knowledge concerning the ecological, social, moral and cultural implications of the interrelationships between man and his environment and the quest for a design for a better quality of living.

501. The representative of SACEP outlined briefly the historical development of the subregional programme on the environment. He indicated that 7 of the 10 countries of south Asia had now ratified the Articles of Association and that SACEP had become a legal entity in January 1982. The ESCAP secretariat had positively responded to a request by SACEP in December 1982 that areas of co-operation between the two organizations be strengthened.

502. The representative of the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) informed the Commission that, through the funding and sponsorship of UNESCO and the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, Nepal and Switzerland, the Centre had been formally established at Kathmandu in 1981. The Commission was gratified to note that the Government of Nepal had provided host facilities for the Centre. The Centre had offered its services to the

countries of the region and all agencies and institutions which were engaged in the promotion and sound development of the mountain and foothill areas of the region. The representative of ICIMOD drew attention to the particular difficulties faced in the mountain areas of the region. The ecological degradation in the hills due to population pressure, deforestation and finally erosion had serious repercussions in the lower valleys and the foothill areas. He expressed his organization's desire to co-operate fully with ESCAP and SACEP on management of mountain ecosystems.

503. The Commission noted with satisfaction the co-operation between UNEP and ESCAP in the field of the environment. It expressed its gratitude to the various donor agencies and countries, in particular, UNEP, the Swedish International Development Authority and the Governments of Australia, France, Japan and the Netherlands, for providing technical assistance and extrabudgetary funds to the secretariat for the implementation of its programme of work in the field of the environment.

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

504. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/289, E/ESCAP/308 and Add.1 and E/ESCAP/336.

505. In reviewing the issues and programmes in the field of international trade, the Commission noted with deep concern that over the previous two years the world economy had been going through a critical period. The rate of growth of the global economy had slowed down sharply. The slowdown in economic growth and stagnation in international trade, together with a continuing high level of unemployment, a substantial decline in the prices of commodities, high inflation, high rates of interest and volatile exchange rates, payment imbalances, difficulties of market access and intensification of protectionist measures and fresh barriers to trade, were serious problems confronting developing countries of the region. A number of countries reiterated their commitments to maintain an open and liberal trading system and the momentum of trade liberalization. The Commission considered that protectionist measures resulted in incompetence and inefficiency and impeded productivity and economic growth.

506. The lack of a strong commitment to tackling protectionism and to according special and differential treatment to developing countries and the absence of concrete decisions on "safeguards" and protectionism in agriculture had left many developing countries less than fully satisfied with the outcome of the recently concluded GATT ministerial meeting at Geneva. One of the important achievements of that meeting was that the members of GATT had reaffirmed their

confidence in the GATT system and their commitment to the rules of GATT. The adoption of the GATT work programme as a response to growing protectionism was encouraging. The Commission was informed that the GATT secretariat, in close association with the ESCAP secretariat, would organize a seminar on trade policy for officials from countries in the ESCAP region in the second half of 1983. The objective of the seminar would be to familiarize officials with the working of the international trading system, the current issues of trade policy and the evolution of rules to govern the conduct of world trade.

507. The Commission noted with serious concern the sharp fall in the prices of primary commodities, particularly during 1982. The developing commodity exporting countries had experienced a substantial decline in their export earnings as well as a sharp deterioration in the terms of trade as a result of the prevailing weak demand for primary products. In addition, the developing exporting countries had also experienced difficulties of market access. The Commission expressed its disappointment at the slow progress made in the implementation of UNCTAD resolution 93 (IV) on the Integrated Programme for Commodities. However, it reiterated the importance of that Programme as a basis for international co-operation in the field of commodities with the Common Fund as the central element. It urged countries which had not signed or ratified the Agreement Establishing the Common Fund to do so in order to make it operational as soon as possible.

508. The Commission noted that the sixth session of UNCTAD was meeting at a time when global economic issues had become critical. It hoped that the sixth session of UNCTAD would succeed in agreeing upon a package of measures which would strengthen international economic co-operation and lead to the evolution of a fair and equitable multilateral economic system. Several delegations stated that the existing responsibilities of such institutions as GATT, IMF and the World Bank should be maintained. The developing countries at Buenos Aires, prior to the sixth session of UNCTAD, had agreed upon detailed proposals in all those areas. The Commission looked forward to constructive negotiations at that session on those and other proposals.

509. The Commission took note of the report of the Expert Group Meeting on the Preparations for the Sixth Session of UNCTAD, held at Bangkok in January-February 1983. It commended the Executive Secretary on his initiative in convening the Meeting with financial support from the Government of Japan. However, in order that member countries could benefit fully from such an exercise the Meeting could have been more timely.

510. The Commission noted the work which the secretariat had carried out in co-operation with

UNCTAD on the analysis of trade relations between socialist countries of Eastern Europe and developing ESCAP countries. It felt that the continuation of such work would assist the developing ESCAP countries in diversifying their export markets.

511. The Commission was informed of the support of CMEA for the possible establishment of co-operative arrangements between the CMEA and ESCAP secretariats with a view to furthering the development of trade between the member countries of CMEA and ESCAP, and the readiness of CMEA to continue such support.

512. The Commission felt that the agenda for the meeting of ministers of trade, which should touch on the complex trade and economic development issues relating to the region, should be prepared by the secretariat after the sixth session of UNCTAD for consideration at the fortieth session of the Commission. The suggestion was made that an item on trade and economic relations between countries having different social and economic systems should be included in the agenda.

513. The Commission noted that in recent times difficulties in financing trade through conventional transactions had prompted increasing recourse to counter-trade for financing purposes and as a means of facilitating access to markets and overcoming trade obstacles. It was therefore important that ESCAP should carry out a study of the form and scope of counter-trade in the region and of the policies and practices in the field. The policies at the national and international levels in the field of counter-trade should be studied and the role of enterprises and organizations engaged in that type of activity should be examined. The institutional arrangements at the national level for counter-trade should also be studied.

514. The Commission took note of the report on the progress made by the Trade Co-operation Group (TCG) and its subgroups in carrying out the programme of intraregional trade expansion and co-operation. It was generally of the opinion that TCG should meet annually. It recognized the need for TCG to be further strengthened so that it could serve as a useful forum to promote trade between developed and developing countries. It was emphasized that the activities of TCG and its subgroups should be practical and be co-ordinated with the activities of other international agencies in the same field.

515. Several delegations requested the secretariat to carry out a study on protectionism and structural adjustment, which should include an analysis of non-traditional protectionist measures, such as anti-dumping measures, countervailing duties, voluntary export restrictions and orderly marketing arrangements. They felt that such studies would be relevant to a programme for intraregional trade expansion. However, other

delegations felt that because of the global nature of the issues involved the study should be undertaken by an appropriate global organization. The Commission noted that the matter was to be discussed at the sixth session of UNCTAD and felt that the deliberations at that session should be awaited.

516. The suggestion was made that ESCAP should organize a regional workshop/seminar for developing countries after the sixth session of UNCTAD to assist them in following up the results of that session.

517. The Commission recognized the importance of ECDC as an instrument for collective self-reliance in accelerating the development of developing countries. In that connection, it took note of the view that ECDC should not be considered a substitute for North-South co-operation but should rather be taken as complementary to it. The Commission requested the secretariat to assist developing member countries of the region in preparing for their participation in the global system of trade preferences under the ECDC programme. It was suggested that that activity (programme element 5.1) be accorded high priority in the work programme for 1984-1985.

518. General and background documentation prepared by the ESCAP secretariat with respect to projects and/or programmes, in accordance with UNCTAD resolution 127 (V), would be given universal distribution, as would progress and final reports on the negotiations on such projects and/or programmes among the countries concerned. Documents pertaining to direct negotiations would be distributed only to those countries participating in the negotiations. Most developed countries stressed that both general and background documentation as well as progress and final reports should be made available to all members of ESCAP for all meetings on ECDC. The developing countries indicated that general and background documentation should only be made available to all members of ESCAP in the case of meetings on ECDC held as a follow-up of UNCTAD resolutions.

519. The Commission was informed of the second round of negotiations among the members of the Bangkok Agreement. A number of delegations invited other developing countries to participate in the negotiations so as to expand their trade through tariff and non-tariff preferential treatment. Some representatives expressed the view that detailed information on the activities and the results of the negotiations under the Bangkok Agreement should be supplied to all ESCAP members and associate members. It was pointed out by some countries that detailed information was being supplied to the GATT secretariat periodically and was available to most ESCAP members as participants in GATT.

520. The Commission took note of the progress made by the Asian Reinsurance Corporation (ARC) and the

Asian Clearing Union in their programmes of work and requested other developing countries to join those two regional arrangements. As to the share capital of ARC, it was stated that the financial requirement for membership had made joining ARC difficult for developing countries and especially the least developed among them. In that regard, the suggestion was made that the secretariat should explore the possibility of enlisting financial support for their capital subscription from donor countries and international and regional financial institutions.

521. The Commission welcomed the efforts of the Executive Secretary in holding consultations with the Chinese authorities regarding the hosting of an Asia-Pacific international trade fair at Beijing in 1985. It expressed its appreciation that the Government of China had agreed to host the fair. It requested the secretariat, in consultation with the Chinese authorities as well as with interested members and associate members of ESCAP, to organize the fair as the holding of such an event would be a practical step in promoting intraregional trade and providing opportunities for dissemination and exchange of information on trade, industrial and technological capabilities. It also urged members and associate members of ESCAP to participate fully in the fair.

522. The Commission commended the ESCAP Trade Promotion Centre (TPC) on its useful and positive trade promotion and development activities, which were geared to meet the needs of the developing countries of the region. The services of TPC were being utilized by more than 30 developing countries as well as by a number of trade-related and commodity associations in the region. While the assistance extended by TPC was useful, it still fell short of the needs and requirements of the countries of the region. The absorptive potential for trade promotion assistance in a number of developing countries was much larger than that which could be provided by TPC in view of its limited financial and personnel resources. In that connection, the Commission expressed its gratitude to the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for its offer to provide TPC with a regional adviser on trade promotion as well as an expert on computer programming.

523. The Commission noted with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of the regional trade information network, particularly the issue of *Trade Profiles*. It recognized the valuable assistance rendered to the member countries by the Trade Information Service, including the training and advisory services provided under the UNDP-funded project on the development and strengthening of trade information services in Asia and the Pacific.

524. The Commission expressed its gratitude to the Government of Japan for its offer of financial assistance to TPC in revising its guidebook on the Japanese market

and for the computerization of TPC's trade information system.

525. The Commission thanked the Governments of Australia, China, Finland, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand and Sweden as well as ITC, UNDP and UNCTAD for their assistance to TPC in the implementation of its work programme and urged their continued support.

526. The Commission welcomed the successful conclusion of the International Agreement on Jute and Jute Products in October 1982, which was a significant step towards the solution of the complex problems faced by the jute industry and marked an important beginning for more effective dialogue and closer co-operation between jute exporting and importing countries. In that connection, it urged countries that had not yet done so to sign and ratify the Agreement as early as possible.

527. The secretariat was urged to act as a co-ordinator and to continue to provide assistance to the jute producing countries of the region.

528. The Commission took note of the setting up of the Intergovernmental Consultative Forum of the Developing Tropical Timber Producing/Exporting Countries. In that connection, it welcomed the offer made by the Government of Indonesia to host the second session of the Forum at Jakarta from 26 September to 1 October 1983.

529. The Commission also took note of the establishment of the Regional Consultative Group on Silk in December 1982 and the decision of the Group to organize a specialized silk fair in Hong Kong in August 1984.

530. The Commission reiterated its support of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries and urged that increased attention be paid to its implementation. In that connection, the secretariat was urged to continue to pursue, as a matter of urgency, the implementation of various provisions contained in the Programme.

531. The representatives of the least developed countries urged the Contracting Parties to GATT to take appropriate action for the implementation of the special measures for the promotion of trade of the least developed countries as contained in the declaration of the GATT ministerial meeting held in November 1982. In that connection, the representatives of those countries also requested that a new compensatory financing facility be set up to take care of the shortfalls in their export earnings. The view was expressed, however, that maintenance and, where desirable, improvement of the IMF compensatory financing facility were more appropriate as that would not disrupt the operation of particular commodity markets.

532. The Commission noted the assistance extended by the secretariat to the least developed land-locked

countries in overcoming their special trade and transit problems. It appreciated the activities being carried out by ESCAP in co-operation with UNCTAD under a UNDP-funded project on assistance to least developed land-locked countries (RAS/81/114) and hoped that UNDP would continue to provide financial assistance. Matters relating to the development of transit infrastructures between two countries should be settled through bilateral consultations. The Commission also noted that, under the project, a workshop on special measures in favour of least developed land-locked countries had been held at Kathmandu in November 1982. It had provided a very useful forum for the participants from both land-locked and transit countries to exchange views on the issues and problems related to the subject, as well as to appreciate each other's limitations and difficulties in dealing with them. The participants had found the workshop useful and recommended that such activities continue to be organized in the future.

533. The representatives of the island developing countries of the Pacific invited the attention of the Commission to paragraph 74 of the report of the Committee on Trade on its twenty-fourth session and urged the secretariat to take appropriate action.

534. The representative of ANRPC, who also spoke on behalf of APCC and IPC, expressed his gratitude to the ESCAP secretariat and the donor countries, particularly the Government of the Netherlands, for providing technical assistance and advisory services which had been very useful and effective in the implementation of the work programmes of the three organizations.

535. The Commission endorsed the report of the Committee on Trade on its twenty-fourth session.

Natural resources and energy

536. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/292 and E/ESCAP/306 and Add.1 and 2.

537. Stressing the basic importance of natural resources to the economic and social development of the member countries, it endorsed the report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its ninth session. There was general commendation and appreciation of the activities of the secretariat in the natural resources sector.

538. The Commission noted with interest the activities of UNESCO in the field of natural resources and welcomed its readiness to co-operate with ESCAP in similar and related activities.

Energy

539. The Commission recognized the important co-ordinating role of the ESCAP secretariat in the region in the field of energy resources development. It expressed appreciation of the secretariat's programme on new and renewable sources of energy but recognized

the urgent need for resources for its implementation. It therefore endorsed the convening of a regional consultative meeting to mobilize financial resources for that programme. The Commission was pleased to note that project proposals had been submitted for funding the proposed ESCAP network on biomass, solar and wind energy and that Japan had decided to provide support for the activity. In that regard, appreciation was expressed of the useful services rendered by the adviser on solar energy. In the implementation of the programme, one delegation considered that efforts should be focused on demonstration and promotion of proven new and renewable sources of energy to make the best use of available resources.

540. The Commission noted and welcomed the institutional arrangements for new and renewable sources of energy as outlined in General Assembly resolution 37/250 as they were in conformity with the desire of developing countries for the United Nations to play a major role in the development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy.

541. The Commission considered the extent and scope of the activities to be undertaken within the regional energy development programme, namely, whether they should cover almost all aspects of energy as specified in the objectives, as in the present phase (1982-1983), or whether in future (1984-1986) they should concentrate on countries which needed the most help and on a few well-selected central themes in the field of energy. As to the question of themes, the Commission reached a consensus to focus future activities on a few central issues. There was, however, a difference of opinion on country coverage. One view was that coverage should be limited to a few countries which needed help, while another view was in favour of opening participation in activities under the programme to all interested member countries.

542. The view was expressed that there was a need for closer co-ordination with national focal points to ensure full and effective participation of countries in the programme and to allow for meaningful follow-up activities at the national level.

543. The Commission noted that the steering committee of the regional energy development programme, which was to be convened on 10 and 11 May 1983, would decide, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of ESCAP, whether and, if so, when it would be appropriate to arrange for a meeting of energy ministers of the region to discuss energy policies and problems at the highest policy-making levels. One delegation considered a ministerial meeting to be a good idea, while another delegation expressed the view that such a meeting was premature.

544. While importance was attached to the promotional aspects of the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses

of Nuclear Energy (now postponed to 1984), particularly in assisting developing countries in harnessing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes such as electric power development, the Commission considered that ESCAP's involvement in that field should be guided by the results of the Conference, which would discuss and determine the nature, direction and priorities of international co-operation.

545. Interest was expressed in the comprehensive development of coal in the region, and it was suggested that ESCAP prepare a special report for the exploration and exploitation of coal in south Asia.

546. The Commission took note of the offers of the Federal Republic of Germany to co-operate in energy planning for new and renewable sources of energy and of the USSR to host a seminar on the role of the state sector in the development, management and utilization of energy resources in the USSR in 1985.

Mineral resources

547. The Commission commended the work undertaken by the secretariat in the field of mineral resources development and the important role of the secretariat in promoting the strengthening of capabilities and co-operation among countries in the region for mineral development.

548. It pointed out that studies on geology, mineral distribution, stratigraphic correlation of the sedimentary basins of the region and the compilation and publication of regional geological and thematic maps and atlases contributed to better understanding of the geology and development of mineral resources in the region. It therefore endorsed the recommendations of the Fourth Working Group Meeting on Stratigraphic Correlation between Sedimentary Basins of the ESCAP Region, held at Bangkok in November 1982, and the continuation of the work on the compilation of the *ESCAP Atlas of Stratigraphy*, its revision and updating, and the publication of a new edition of the *Map of the Sedimentary Basins of the ESCAP Region*.

549. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Government of Australia for providing a short-term expert to assist the Fourth Working Group Meeting. It urged donor countries to provide further technical and financial support in order to achieve the desired objectives of the stratigraphic correlation programme. Appreciation was also expressed of Japan's contribution in co-ordinating and compiling the *Gravity Map of the Eastern ESCAP Region*, which was currently being printed.

550. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the financial and technical support provided by UNDP and donor countries for the various programmes in the mineral sector.

551. The Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Committee on Natural Resources at its ninth session on the establishment of the Regional Centre for Quaternary Geology at Qingdao, China. It noted the steps taken by the secretariat and CCOP in that regard. It also noted that the Centre would be open not only to CCOP member countries but to all members and associate members of ESCAP and therefore urged the secretariat to continue to assist China and CCOP in setting up the Centre. The Commission expressed the view that, with the establishment of the Centre at Qingdao, support from prospective donor Governments and appropriate international and national bodies would be needed for the implementation of its programmes and operational activities. It was pleased to note the extensive support already provided by the Netherlands and other countries and agencies to CCOP in the field of Quaternary geology.

552. The Commission noted that the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Expert Group Meeting on the Establishment of a Co-operation Mechanism in the Field of Offshore Exploration and Prospecting for Mineral Resources in the Indian Ocean among Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka were being examined by the Governments of those countries.

553. One delegation expressed its concern that the secretariat might be proceeding to establish or facilitate the establishment of such a committee with limited participation and without consulting other ESCAP littoral States. It expressed the view that any ESCAP-sponsored body concerned with Indian Ocean prospecting should be open to all littoral and other interested members. Another delegation expressed its interest in being associated with the proposed committee. Yet another delegation stated that, as the establishment of such a committee was likely, it offered its co-operation if desired by States of the region. Another delegation expressed its readiness to support the committee's activities in various ways, such as by sending research ships, equipment and experts and by training personnel.

554. An overwhelming majority of the members of the Commission welcomed the signing of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The Commission recommended that the secretariat continue to study the provisions of the Convention with a view to determining their implications for the utilization of sea-bed resources. Appropriate schemes designed to assist the member States in the utilization of those resources through evolving mechanisms of regional co-operation could also be undertaken with the concurrence of and in response to expressed desires of member States. In that regard, the Commission considered that the secretariat could play a useful role in helping members to build up their national capabilities for better utilization of their marine resources. For the present, the secretariat could concentrate on (a) establishment of a data bank, (b) collection and dissemination of

information and (c) training of personnel in marine science and technology.

Water resources

555. The Commission expressed appreciation of the work carried out in the field of water and in particular the organization of the Seminar on Catchment Management for Optimum Use of Land and Water Resources in New Zealand, the Seminar on Water Resources Development Planning in the USSR and the Meeting on Water Resources Development in the South Pacific. It took note of the work carried out by the Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific, as well as the publications and information dissemination activities in the field of water.

556. The Commission noted the steps taken by the secretariat to establish a regional network for training in water resources development. It expressed the view that participation in the network should not be limited to regular training institutions but should be open to technical universities and research institutions specializing in hydrology and water resources management and utilization. The view was expressed that steps should be taken to accelerate the establishment of the network.

557. The Commission took note of the Soviet Union's readiness in principle to participate in the regional network utilizing its rouble contributions to the United Nations technical assistance fund. Under the same funding source, it was also prepared to host a seminar on the efficient use of water in energy resources development and a study tour on capital investments in water resources development.

558. Recognizing that hand pumps constituted one of the principal elements in the provision of potable water for rural areas, the Commission was pleased to note that the Interagency Task Force had identified the accelerated manufacture of hand pumps for rural water supply as a co-operative project to be carried out jointly by ESCAP, WHO, UNICEF and UNIDO. It expressed the view that that was a worthwhile ESCAP project which would assist in the achievement of the country targets of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade. The view was expressed that in principle it might be more advisable for such a project to be implemented mainly by other international organizations, such as WHO and UNICEF.

559. The importance of ground water for human development and the need to pay attention to the identification and assessment of supplemental groundwater resources and the management of problems related to their development and utilization were stressed. In that connection, the Commission noted with interest that an international conference on ground water and man would be organized at Sydney from 5 to 9 December 1983 by the Australian Water Resources

Council with the support of UNESCO, the Commonwealth Foundation and the Australian Development Assistance Bureau.

Remote sensing

560. In the field of remote sensing, the Commission was pleased to note that detailed work plans for the regional remote sensing programme had been prepared and steps initiated for their implementation. It endorsed the establishment of an *ad hoc* intergovernmental consultative committee to act as an advisory body to the programme.

561. The Commission expressed its thanks to UNDP for funding the programme and its hope that UNDP would continue to provide support to it. In that connection, it took note of the co-operation which Japan had already extended to the member countries of ESCAP and of the offer of the USSR to provide consultative services and training. The USSR was also prepared to consider the possibility of hosting a seminar on the use of remote sensing methods for prospecting and exploration of deposits of mineral resources through its UNDP/United Nations rouble fund.

Population

562. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/301 and E/ESCAP/316.

563. It fully endorsed the report of the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference, held at Colombo in September 1982, and the Asia-Pacific Call for Action on Population and Development adopted by the Conference. The Commission was gratified that the Conference had succeeded in achieving its objectives and noted that its most significant outcome was the Asia-Pacific Call for Action on Population and Development. While fully supporting the principles, objectives and recommendations of the Call for Action, the Commission noted that the overriding theme of the Call for Action was the pursuit of an integrated approach to population and related programmes of economic and social development. It affirmed that the Call for Action was a document of great practical importance with comprehensive and far-reaching recommendations and constituted an important framework for guiding and reinforcing national and international policies, plans and programmes with regard to population and development in the region.

564. The Commission noted with satisfaction that several member and associate member countries had already initiated action to implement the recommendations of the Call for Action in accordance with their specific needs and requirements. In urging all countries to make further efforts to solve their population problems in keeping with the Call for Action, the Commission called for greater co-operation and collaboration among them, especially with regard to

exchange of experience and information in the formulation of plans, programmes and strategies for integrating population elements with the development process. It strongly recommended that national efforts to implement the Call for Action be supported by a complementary work programme of the secretariat.

565. In commending the secretariat on its activities in the field of population during the previous year, the Commission urged the secretariat to place more emphasis on providing direct technical assistance and regional advisory services to countries needing such assistance, especially for action-oriented programmes. It emphasized that regional activities should be so planned as to benefit member countries directly. The special needs of the land-locked, least developed and small island countries should receive particular attention.

566. The Commission noted that population problems continued to pose a serious challenge to the attainment of economic and social goals in many countries of the region. Unless those problems were given more serious consideration and dealt with more prudently, national development efforts would be thwarted, leading to a progressive deterioration in the quality of life of the people. Since population was a factor affecting almost every aspect of social and economic development, the Commission emphasized that population policies and programmes should constitute an integral part of the overall plans and programmes for socio-economic development.

567. The Commission noted that there was in the region an increasing awareness of the interrelationships between population and development and of the relevance and importance of population factors as variables in the development process. Although several nations in the region had acquired extensive experience of population policies and action programmes, only a few had given full recognition to population planning as an integral part of overall development planning. The Commission recognized that the translation of the population-development interrelations into appropriate policies and programmes was a new experience and the countries would require more technical assistance and advisory services in that area. It therefore called upon the secretariat to provide such services to countries, upon request, and to undertake a systematic review and continuing monitoring of national experience in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of integrated population and development policies and programmes.

568. In that context, the Commission also recommended that the secretariat should continue its activities with regard to the preparation of country monographs on the population situation of interested member and associate member countries. Those monographs had proved to be of great value in improving the understanding of population problems in relation to socio-economic development.

569. The Commission noted with concern the persistence of high levels of infant, childhood and maternal mortality in several countries as well as the slowing down in the pace of mortality decline in some countries. It encouraged those countries where the decline had slowed down to examine the underlying factors in order to formulate and implement appropriate measures for further reduction in mortality. The Commission commended the secretariat's proposal to undertake intercountry studies on trends, levels and differentials of mortality which would provide the countries concerned with necessary information and appropriate guide-lines for further reducing mortality.

570. The Commission was pleased to note that, in order to reduce infant, childhood and maternal morbidity and mortality, countries had initiated integrated maternal and child health and development programmes.

571. The Commission noted that, although fertility was declining in many countries of the region, there existed a wide gap between current fertility levels and national fertility goals. Reduction in fertility resulted from successful implementation of family planning programmes and simultaneous changes in socio-economic conditions. Recognizing that further reduction in fertility could be achieved by accelerating the process of social and economic change, the Commission stressed the need for a better understanding of the interrelationships between fertility reduction and changes in socio-economic conditions. It urged the secretariat to undertake country-specific, regional and subregional studies on the economic, social, cultural and psychological factors that promoted or inhibited fertility levels.

572. The Commission endorsed the secretariat's proposal to analyse the levels and trends of fertility on a continuing basis in order to assist countries in the formulation of plans, strategies and programmes for fertility regulation.

573. In view of the fact that, in several countries, family planning programmes had contributed substantially towards fertility reduction, the Commission recognized that emphasis on such programmes would continue to be relevant in achieving national population goals. However, it noted that existing family planning programmes needed to be strengthened and redesigned by being linked with other related programmes. The Commission reiterated the need for an integrated approach to family planning and directed the secretariat to provide technical assistance and backstopping in that field to the countries if they sought such assistance. It also endorsed the proposal of the secretariat to carry out studies on management and evaluation of family planning programmes, on the acceptance of family planning and on ways of obtaining greater community participation in the programmes. Those studies were to be undertaken at the country level with provision for regional comparative analyses.

574. The Commission emphasized that national family planning programmes could be further strengthened by increasing the involvement of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), particularly in experimental approaches. It urged the secretariat to consider organizing a technical group to identify the role of NGOs and the modalities by which NGOs could supplement the efforts of national Governments.

575. Recognizing the significance of interrelationships between population mobility and development factors at the places of origin and destination, the Commission urged the secretariat to assist countries, upon request, in carrying out studies and also to provide technical assistance in formulating appropriate policies and programmes to achieve the desired migration trends and patterns.

576. The Commission noted the need expressed by several member and associate member Governments to formulate and implement a comprehensive national urbanization policy and requested the secretariat to provide, upon request, the necessary technical assistance. The Commission also noted with satisfaction the development by the secretariat of survey manuals on migration and urbanization studies which could be extended to countries by way of technical assistance if so requested.

577. Since international migration, especially the temporary movement of labour to Middle Eastern countries, was of great importance to several countries in the ESCAP region, the Commission stressed the need for studies to examine the demographic, social and economic implications of such movements.

578. Recognizing that there was still a need in several countries for basic training in demography, the Commission recommended that existing national training institutions be strengthened. Countries which did not have such institutions could avail themselves of the opportunities available at the International Institute for Population Studies (IIPS) at Bombay. In that context, the Commission noted with satisfaction the assurance that relaxation of admission requirements for the certificate and diploma programmes at IIPS would continue even after the institution became a "deemed university". The Commission recommended that the secretariat should continue and expand its fellowship programme for population studies. In view of the foregoing, it felt that consideration of the question of setting up a training facility sponsored by the United Nations, similar to those in other regions, should be deferred.

579. The Commission observed that subject-specific regional training seminars and workshops had served a useful purpose in helping national efforts to build a cadre of trained personnel and recommended that such activities be continued. It desired that the secretariat should continue to provide, upon request, direct

assistance to members and associate members in strengthening national training programmes.

580. The Commission recognized the special training needs of the countries of the Pacific and recommended that the secretariat continue its efforts to meet those needs.

581. The Commission welcomed the offer of the Government of India to continue organizing special training programmes at its specialized institutions for those countries which sought such assistance.

582. Recognizing the continuing need for exchange of experience and information related to the integration of population and development planning, the Commission endorsed the development of national and regional population information systems, including computer-assisted information handling facilities. It noted the need for information resource sharing to maximize the cost-effective use of research findings for policy formulation and programme implementation.

583. The Commission noted with satisfaction the technical assistance provided by the secretariat in establishing national population information centres, which was a first step towards setting up national population information networks. It further noted with satisfaction the establishment by the secretariat of a regional population data bank. It requested the secretariat to consider the inclusion of data on international migration. The Commission urged the secretariat to continue to provide information and guide-lines on the analysis and use of population and census data.

584. The Commission endorsed the role of the secretariat as the regional focal point for the international population information network (POPIN) and its linkage with the ASEAN POPIN network. It noted that a major task of the secretariat would be to provide regional information and insights for the International Conference on Population, to be held in Mexico in 1984.

585. The Commission noted with great concern the increasing financial difficulties encountered by the secretariat in providing advisory services and technical assistance to members and associate members and technical backstopping to national programmes. Such services had benefited a number of countries in the past and the continuing need had been expressed frequently. The Commission recognized that with the mandate given to the secretariat to provide support to members and associate members in the implementation of the recommendations of the Asia-Pacific Call for Action, the demand for those services would certainly

increase in the years to come. In addition, the directive that the secretariat carry out periodic reviews and appraisals of the progress made in achieving the objectives of the Call for Action had further increased the responsibilities of the secretariat. Therefore, the Commission requested international agencies and in particular UNFPA as well as donor countries, especially those which were members of ESCAP, to increase their financial support, in real terms, to the secretariat, in order to strengthen its capacity to comply with its mandates.

586. Recognizing that any forthcoming increase in funding might not be commensurate with the needs of countries for technical assistance, the Commission requested the secretariat simultaneously to review its priorities, stressing those programmes which would benefit the countries most.

587. The Commission expressed its gratitude to the Government of Sri Lanka for the host facilities provided for the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference. It thanked the Government of the United Kingdom for continuing to provide an expert on a non-reimbursable basis to work with the secretariat and the Government of Japan for its direct financial support to the secretariat for population activities.

588. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the sustained extrabudgetary support provided to the secretariat by UNFPA as well as of the contributions of the donor countries to UNFPA. It welcomed the announcement by the Government of Japan of a substantial increase in its contribution to UNFPA for fiscal year 1983. It noted with gratification the hope expressed by Japan that UNFPA would further expand its support to ESCAP member countries and its financial allocation to ESCAP activities so as to enable the secretariat to implement its various activities in the population field much more effectively.

Shipping, ports and inland waterways

589. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/293 and Corr.1 and E/ESCAP/313 and took note of the report of the *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Meeting on Maritime Legislation.

590. The Commission noted that the difficult situation in the maritime sector that had prevailed during 1981 had deteriorated further in 1982. The oil, bulk and even general cargo trades had received serious setbacks and the tonnage imbalance had increased, resulting in large lay-ups and depressing freight rates to below break-even point. Shipbuilding activity had slowed down considerably and a further downtrend was clearly discernible.

591. The importance of shipping, ports and inland waterways in the economy of the developing countries

of the vast ESCAP region was fully appreciated by the Commission and the need for closer and more meaningful regional co-operation in respect of shipping services, containerization, multimodal transport and related technologies was highlighted. The need for financial support to assist in the accelerated introduction of advanced technologies, which had placed an enormous burden on the developing countries, was stressed.

592. In commending the secretariat on its work in the maritime sector through seminars, training programmes, study tours and advisory services, the Commission endorsed the report of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing) on its sixth session. It urged the secretariat to continue its efforts to mobilize resources aimed at intensifying activities in that sector.

593. The Commission noted with appreciation the offers made by (a) China, to host one regional seminar annually in the next few years on development of inland water transport and to share its experience and offer host facilities for a seminar on dredging, (b) Japan, to provide funds and expertise to hold seminars-cum-study tours on coastal shipping and a seminar on seafarers' training in co-operation with the ESCAP secretariat, (c) the United Kingdom, to assist in organizing a seminar on planned maintenance of port equipment at Shanghai in 1983, and (d) the USSR, for its readiness to prepare studies on topical problems of water transport, to hold a number of seminars and study tours and to carry out courses to train staff for river shipping in the USSR.

594. Reference was made to the added importance of port and shipping development for developing island nations, and the secretariat was urged to take special note of that requirement and increase its activities on behalf of those countries.

595. The Commission noted the statement by the representative of IMO highlighting the co-operation and collaboration in the field of shipping that existed between the IMO and ESCAP secretariats. It expressed satisfaction over the manner in which the activities of a sectoral specialized agency and those of a multidisciplinary regional commission were being coordinated in the ESCAP region.

Manpower development

596. In recognizing the importance of manpower development in shipping, ports and inland waterways, the Commission stressed that the secretariat should intensify and strengthen its activities in that field. It considered that manpower training was a very important instrument in upgrading the capabilities and skills of maritime personnel in the developing countries and that the programme had greatly benefited the developing member countries of the region.

597. The Commission recognized that, as a result of the rapid development of the shipping industry of the developing member countries of ESCAP, there was an urgent need to train more specialized personnel in modern shipping management. The delegation of China expressed its gratitude to the secretariat and the Norwegian Government for training 15 teachers for the Department of Shipping Management of the Shanghai Maritime Institute.

598. The Commission was informed that SPEC was still unable to recruit a maritime consultant to develop and co-ordinate regional training because of lack of funds. In that connection, the secretariat was urged to provide fellowships in port management and to organize seminars and workshops in the Pacific sub-region, particularly on containerization, port development and management, manpower training and wind-powered vessels.

Development of maritime policy and institutions

599. 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) to include inter-island shipping as such information 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 urged the secretariat to intensify its activities in the implementation of shipping statistics and continue its advisory services to member countries. The representative of Indonesia informed the Commission that his Government had made satisfactory progress in the implementation of a uniform system of economic statistics of shipping and that it was expected that the full implementation of the scheme would be operational in the country in the near future. The Commission welcomed the offer by the Government of China to host a regional seminar on economic statistics of shipping at Beijing in October 1983. The preparatory work for that seminar was being undertaken.

600. The Commission greatly appreciated the guide-lines for maritime legislation which had been prepared by the secretariat with a view to facilitating the development of the maritime resources and the international trade of the developing countries of the region, with expert and financial support from the Netherlands Government and the Comité Maritime International (CMI) and in co-operation with ILO, IMO and UNCTAD. It urged the secretariat to organize seminars on specific subjects relating to maritime legislation and render expert services to assist developing ESCAP member countries in improving their work in maritime legislation. One delegation stated that the codification and updating of maritime legislation of

developing countries in the region could be greatly assisted by the guide-lines and requested the secretariat to disseminate them widely as they could serve as useful reference material in drafting maritime legislation and also as valuable teaching material for maritime institutions. However, the Commission felt that as a result of the views expressed at the *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Meeting, careful examination of the guide-lines should be continued in another appropriate forum.

601. Among the recommendations made in the report of the *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Meeting, the Commission welcomed the proposal to establish a regional information service, provided that the ESCAP secretariat would be able to establish such a service without seeking any financial assistance. In respect of the establishment of a regional arbitration centre on maritime legislation, the Commission urged the secretariat to examine, *inter alia*, how far it would serve the needs of the region and the number of claims submitted to maritime arbitration annually before any steps to promote the centre were undertaken. One delegation commented that member Governments, in the course of preparing their maritime legislation, should seriously take into account the impact that such legislation could have on their international trade and that forcing shippers to use carriers not of their choosing could have a detrimental effect on the country's exports and overall economic development. Another delegation noted that the guide-lines for maritime legislation were only suggested as a framework for use by each country as appropriate for its purposes and needs. One delegation noted that those guide-lines were not intended to serve as policy recommendations.

602. The representative of IMO commended the secretariat's work on the guide-lines. He reiterated that the elaboration of guide-lines by the ESCAP secretariat could be of assistance and use not only to the countries of the ESCAP region but also to countries in other regions. It was also the hope of IMO that the initiative of ESCAP might provide a useful incentive to other regional commissions to consider the possibility of adopting similar guide-lines based on and suited to the particular circumstances and requirements of their regions. For its part, IMO would take the contents and orientation of the guide-lines into account not only in its continuing programme of assistance to the countries of the ESCAP region but also in the future planning and development of its global activities for technical co-operation and assistance on maritime legislation in the areas within its competence.

Merchant marine and shipping services

603. The development of shipping was of fundamental importance to the developing countries of the region from the point of view of the expansion of international trade and the attainment of self-reliance in merchant

marine capabilities. The Commission noted that the activities of the secretariat in the development of merchant marines and shipping services had significantly contributed to the development of the shipping industry by enabling an exchange of experience and information and by developing closer co-operation. The Commission paid specific attention to the needs of the small island countries of the Pacific, where maritime developments were hampered by small trade volumes, widely distributed populations and long ocean crossings. It urged the secretariat to give due recognition to the disadvantaged position of those countries.

604. The Commission was informed of the progress made in the project on an inventory of maritime activities and capabilities in the ASEAN subregion. It considered that the data and information thus gathered would make a valuable contribution to more equitable and balanced planning of infrastructure and services in that subregion. It expressed its appreciation of the financial support provided for that activity by the Netherlands Government.

605. The Commission expressed concern over the impact of new and revolutionary capital-intensive transport technologies on the shipping industry of the region. Multimodal transport arrangements, containerization, commodity and bulk transport and the like required shipping to provide for heavy financial outlays including substantial foreign loans to adapt fleet capabilities and capacities, to prepare for new types of cargo packing and packaging, to contribute to cargo document facilitation and to retrain marine and shore-based personnel and teach them new skills. It was considered that the issues and problems arising from the new technology required in-depth consideration by governmental authorities, shipowners and other parties concerned. The Commission consequently endorsed the programme of studies relating to that subject, including the feasibility of conversion of conventional vessels to container carriers, and urged the secretariat to undertake effective and speedy implementation.

606. With regard to the effects of new technologies, the Commission felt that there was a need for closer and more meaningful co-operation in respect of shipping services and recommended that special consideration be given to the particular problems which would be encountered by the small island States of the Pacific. The Commission commended the secretariat on disseminating knowledge and information on new ship technologies affecting other modes of transport, as that would encourage cost-effective use of such technologies and related equipment and infrastructure. At the same time, it stressed the need for a good supra-structure for efficient shipping operations.

607. The Commission noted with appreciation the activities initiated by the secretariat in co-operation

with UNIDO to develop a programme of assistance to the ship repair/maintenance industry and to ship-building yards in the developing maritime countries of the region, including those for smaller vessels and boats.

608. The Commission supported the secretariat's activities related to the development of wind-assisted vessels, particularly for domestic and coastal transport. In order to reduce fuel- and propulsion-related costs in shipping, the secretariat was urged to pursue its programme in that field, which, it was hoped, could lead to the construction of a project vessel in future.

609. The delegation of Sri Lanka recalled the assistance provided by the secretariat in respect of feasibility studies and evaluations leading to the procurement of nine container vessels, five of which were already in operation.

610. The Commission was informed that, on account of the existing recession in the shipping industry, resulting in a fall in prices of ships, there was an opportunity for the developing countries to augment their tonnages by acquiring ships from developed countries, and that there was an urgent need for advisory services to developing countries to enable them to utilize such an opportunity to their advantage. The view was expressed that the depression in the shipping industry and the resulting low price of tonnage did not necessarily create an opportunity for developing countries to buy ships. The low price of ships was a reflection of the low profitability and poor current outlook in the industry and, even at low prices, ships represented a heavy investment of capital which might be more profitably employed elsewhere.

611. The Philippine delegation stated that measures had been taken to accelerate the development of Philippine shipping on an increasingly self-reliant basis and that the measures had been patterned on those adopted by the highly developed maritime nations and included incentives, cargo promotion and institutional support.

Development of ports and port management

612. The Commission considered the development of port facilities as being of vital importance to national economic development, linking communications between land and water transport. The quest for new technology and cost-effective methods had led to rapid containerization in the developed maritime countries. It was recognized that that trend as well as the pressure to set up container facilities in ports had imposed additional burdens on the developing countries, which had already been hard hit by the high cost of conventional port facilities.

613. The introduction of containerization and new cargo handling technologies had generated many problems related to heavy financial outlays, substantial

foreign exchange commitments for the acquisition of sophisticated equipment, new operating and management techniques, new port designs, equipment and facilities, the pricing of services and the economic and social implications of the introduction of new technology by way of displacement of labour by capital-intensive equipment and the need for large-scale training and retraining of port labour and management personnel.

614. The Commission recognized the need to discuss the issues and problems arising particularly out of containerization at expert and intergovernmental meetings with the relevant policy-makers and planners and specialists of the developing countries with a view to finding solutions in keeping with the resources and technology of the developing countries.

615. The Commission considered that frequently in the past too little attention had been given to existing port development plans in neighbouring countries, leading to duplicated investments, which in turn resulted in disappointments in terms of traffic. It was recognized that significant capital investment in equipment and infrastructure was unavoidable; however, without an adequate corresponding investment or attention being paid to port infrastructure such as ship access, safety and efficient customs, management and cargo handling procedures, ships might avoid a port even though the infrastructure was excellent. In relation to that, the Commission saw a distinctive and useful role for the secretariat in helping member countries to make their choices and in co-ordinating efforts and investment.

616. The Commission also stressed the important role the secretariat could play in providing guidance to island countries such as those in the Pacific with regard to the development of appropriate port facilities.

617. The Commission noted the successful implementation of the ESCAP-developed port management information system (PORTMIS) at Port Kelang, Malaysia, and recommended that priority be given to the implementation of the system adapted to individual countries' needs and to the development of a system for the evaluation of port assets and tariff systems, particularly in relation to containerization and the multimodal transport system.

Inland water transport

618. The Commission recognized that inland water transport played an important role in carrying people and cargoes in a number of countries of the region, in enhancing national transport capabilities and in relieving the pressure on road and railway systems. It noted that such transport was essential not only for the economic development of the vast rural areas but also for the welfare of people living in isolated and remote places and mountainous areas. It further stressed that, with the advent of high energy costs, inland water transport

was becoming increasingly important as an energy-saving mode of transport. The Commission therefore underlined the very urgent need for the implementation of an action programme in that field.

619. While appreciating the secretariat's assistance and fruitful activities in the field of inland water transport over the previous years, including the demonstration of long-tail boats, several delegations recommended that the secretariat give priority in its work programme to the design and construction of river ports and craft, including the development of wind-assisted vessels and other fuel-efficient vessels for inland water transport, the augmentation of river-craft building capacity, the improvement of navigable conditions and the development of more economical methods of river conservancy.

620. Recalling the recommendation 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 for inland water transport, it was suggested that the secretariat should continue to take further necessary action.

621. The Commission welcomed the generous offer of China to provide host facilities for a regional seminar on dredging in 1983, to share its experiences and expertise with other countries of the region on inland waterways and to host one regional seminar annually in the next few years if appropriate subjects were decided on and the necessary funding was available. The Government of France would be organizing a seminar on inland waterways in France in June 1983. The United States expressed willingness to organize a seminar and study tour on inland waterway systems in the United States for developing member countries of the region. The USSR expressed willingness to host seminars and study tours on river ports and exploitation of inland waterways, provide expert services and conduct courses to train personnel of ESCAP countries in river shipping in its shipping institutions on agreed terms.

Shippers' organizations and co-operation

622. In the field of shippers' organizations and co-operation, the Commission recognized the importance of the ESCAP ship users' co-operation project (SUCOP) as it had made significant contributions towards economic development by enhancing the knowledge and skills of shippers to enable them to protect their interests and understand the economic and technical aspects of shipping. It noted that the project helped not only in establishing and strengthening the shippers' organizations in the region but also in bringing about close co-operation between shippers and shipowners.

623. The Commission recognized that for SUCOP fully to achieve its objectives it would be necessary to involve all the relevant parties in shipping, namely,

shippers, shipowners, port authorities and freight forwarders. In that connection, it commended the secretariat on enhancing the effectiveness of the interested parties in co-operation and planning and execution of shipping services.

624. In considering the activities of the secretariat in that field, the Commission was gratified that the secretariat had organized a substantial number of country-level workshops on shippers' co-operation in Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan and Thailand during the period under review. The secretariat had also organized meetings of chief executives of national shippers' organizations and shipowners' associations and a joint meeting between them in 1982 and a number of working groups on specific subjects such as bunker and currency adjustment factors.

625. In commending the secretariat on its effective implementation of the work programme in the field of shippers' co-operation, the Commission urged the secretariat to continue the implementation of that programme.

626. In that connection, the Commission expressed deep appreciation to the Government of Norway for making SUCOP possible through its generous financial support over the previous several years.

627. 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, inland waterways and dredging thanks to the generous expert and financial assistance provided by the Governments of Denmark, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, the Netherlands, Sweden, the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States and by international organizations such as UNDP, UNCTAD, ILO, IMO, CMI, the Crown Agents (London), the Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation and the Overseas Coastal Area Development Institute.

Transport, communications and tourism

628. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/302 and E/ESCAP/314 and Add.1.

629. It welcomed the Bangkok Declaration of the Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Railways signed by 16 ESCAP members and associate members. That historic development would go a long way towards promoting regional co-operation and collective self-reliance in the field of railways and railway transport. The Commission also welcomed the various recommendations of the Meeting and endorsed its report.

630. It also endorsed the recommendations of the intergovernmental meetings on railways, highways and tourism. It commended the secretariat on its

constructive efforts to implement various activities which had a direct impact upon the improvement and development of the transport and communications sectors of the member countries. It considered it necessary that ESCAP's activities in those fields be continuously strengthened and expanded.

631. The Commission stressed the need for a long-term development strategy for the transport system as a whole taking into account the effective roles that the different modes of transport could play. It also stressed the need to introduce well-conceived planning techniques for integrated development of transport allowing for an optimum intermodal mix. It felt that the secretariat could play the focal point function for integrated transport development in the region and assist the member countries by providing advisory services.

632. The Commission recognized that the developing member countries in general and the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries of the Pacific in particular were confronted with massive and formidable problems in their endeavours to achieve socio-economic development. The gross inadequacy of transport and communications infrastructure and services constituted one of the most important factors hindering their development efforts. In that connection, the Commission was of the opinion that concerted efforts should be made at the national, subregional and regional levels to ensure that the infrastructure facilities and services fully responded to the socio-economic development needs of the countries.

633. The Commission commended the secretariat on its realistic and pragmatic approach to the work programme in the field of transport and communications and agreed that the secretariat should keep a file of all its programmes and projects and implement as many of them as possible, depending on the actual availability of funds and the priority of the programmes.

Railways and railway transport

634. Recognizing the increasingly important role that railway transport could play in the social and economic development of the countries, the Commission stressed the need for the development of railway transport, integrated and harmonized with the entire transport sector, at an adequate pace. The present time provided the best opportunity for the railways to play such a role, in view of the fundamentally important energy as well as environmental preservation issues and the inherent advantageous characteristics of railway transport, such as energy efficiency, cost-effectiveness in the carriage of many types of traffic, a high reliability and safety factor, low emission of pollutants and capability to generate massive transportation capacities. In that connection, the Commission underscored the need for the secretariat further to intensify and diversify its activities in the field of railways and railway transport.

635. The Commission reviewed and endorsed the major recommendations of the Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting held at Bangkok in August 1982, which covered various important aspects of railway transport, including those relating to government policy conducive to the development of railways and the preparation of the programme of work.

636. The Commission emphasized the urgent need to improve, modernize and rehabilitate railway transport systems and to enhance their operational efficiency to enable them to play a key role in meeting the socio-economic development requirements of the concerned countries. In that connection, it stressed the need for the secretariat to intensify its activities in that field of railway transport, by such means as promotion of railway electrification to the maximum extent feasible whenever practicable, to decrease dependence on petroleum-based fuel and increase operational efficiency.

637. In that regard, the Commission commended the initiative of the secretariat in undertaking a pilot study on the techno-economic feasibility of electrification of the Bangkok-Chiang Mai main railway line, the findings of which would be disseminated to other countries. It noted with satisfaction that the secretariat was conducting a regional study, based on detailed case studies for Bangladesh, Malaysia and Thailand, on rail wear and derailment, which were problems of concern to most of the railways of the region.

638. Recognizing the shortage of properly trained personnel in railway planning, management and operation, the Commission stressed that the secretariat should lay special emphasis on technology transfer and training in its activities. It further stressed that such activities as seminars-cum-study tours, workshops, roving training courses and upgrading of regional/national training centres should be continued and diversified.

639. The Commission stressed the need for a new thrust to be given to the Trans-Asian Railway network project and Asian Railway master plan to promote interlinking of the regional railways and create the conditions necessary for the smooth flow of goods and passenger traffic by rail intraregionally as well as interregionally. It endorsed the major recommendations of the Working Group of Experts on the Trans-Asian Railway Network and the Asian Railway Master Plan, held in Moscow in October 1982. It requested the secretariat to take the necessary follow-up action and make all-out efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary for the promotion of those projects from UNDP, other international financing agencies and interested donor countries.

640. The Commission recognized that the railways of the region would realize their full potential only by integrating and co-ordinating their development with that of other modes of transport. In that regard,

it requested the secretariat to strengthen its activities in helping member countries to develop co-ordinated and integrated transport systems, taking advantage of unitized means of transport like containerization and palletization and placing special emphasis on the expansion of multimodal transport of goods.

641. Recognizing that the large cities of the ESCAP region were facing serious transport problems because of growing urban and suburban populations, the Commission recommended that the secretariat should stress the promotion of urban and suburban rail commuter services, making use of the existing railway facilities whenever possible.

642. In endorsing fully the conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Railways, held at Bangkok in February-March 1983, the Commission underscored the importance of those concerned with the evolution of policy guide-lines for determining the role of railways as integrated with the entire transport sector in the socio-economic development in the countries and the measures that the Governments and railway administrations should take to improve the performance and financial position of the respective railways and promote international co-operation in the field of railway transport.

643. The Commission stressed that concerted endeavours should be focused on adequate and effective development and productivity of financial, technological, human and other resources.

644. Noting with great satisfaction the adoption of the Bangkok Declaration of the Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Railways on the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group (APRCG), the Commission considered that APRCG would provide an institutionalized framework for fostering closer and greater co-operation among the railways of the region, promote collective self-reliance and create conditions for an improvement in the performance of the railways and the strengthening of inter- and intra-regional railway linkages. The Commission supported the resolution adopted by the Meeting, which called upon the Executive Secretary of ESCAP to take all necessary steps in pursuance of the Bangkok Declaration and urged UNDP and other international agencies to provide all possible financial and technical assistance to ESCAP in that regard. Noting with satisfaction that the secretariat was preparing to convene a meeting of APRCG in June 1983, it requested the secretariat to make the full preparations necessary for the meeting. It was stressed that developing countries should be given adequate representation in APRCG, to ensure that their aspirations and developmental requirements received appropriate attention and priority.

Highways and highway transport

645. The Commission recognized the important role which roads and road transport played in the social

and economic development of the region, carrying about 70-80 per cent of all the ton-kilometres of transported goods in many countries of the region. It emphasized the need to promote integrated transport systems with an optimum intermodal mix allowing for the appropriate role which road transport was capable of playing.

646. It endorsed the strategy for roads and road transport development for the 1980s developed by the Intergovernmental Meeting of Highway Experts held in February 1983, wherein efforts were to be focused on 12 crucial areas. It urged the secretariat to initiate work on developing a detailed programme of action in each of the crucial areas.

647. The Commission stressed the need for continued promotion of effective energy conservation measures and development and use of alternative sources of energy in transport including energy-efficient and dual-fuel vehicles. The secretariat was urged to continue monitoring such developments for regular dissemination to member countries.

648. The Commission agreed that the proposed meeting of ministers responsible for roads and road transport should preferably be held in 1985, that preparations for it could be initiated and that it should be preceded by a meeting of senior officials.

649. The Commission recognized that even in the 1980s there were vast areas and a large number of villages in the region which had no transport linkages and continued to remain physically isolated. It emphasized that there was a continuing need to assist member countries in developing guide-lines for rural transport planning and development, to provide transport linkages from isolated and rural communities and agricultural production centres to industrial locations, seaports and the main transport networks of the countries.

650. The Commission commended the secretariat on its publication of manuals on rural road construction and maintenance. While it urged that similar manuals/guide-lines be published in other appropriate fields, it emphasized the need for wider use of the ESCAP manuals to ensure the application of low-cost techniques and improved quality control in the construction and maintenance of rural roads. To that end, it urged the secretariat to organize a regional training programme for trainers of local-level officials responsible for construction and maintenance of rural roads. It also urged the secretariat to organize more training courses/seminars covering various aspects of roads and road transport development and noted with appreciation that the secretariat was organizing a seminar-cum-study tour on rural road construction and maintenance in China in September 1983.

651. The Commission noted with appreciation the successful conclusion of the first-ever Workshop-cum-Exhibition on the Improvement of Non-motorized

Transport. It urged the secretariat to follow up the various recommendations, particularly those relating to technology transfer, further research on problem areas identified and a socio-economic survey to ascertain rural transport needs, constraints etc.

652. Considering the alarming rates at which traffic accidents were increasing in many member countries, the Commission stressed the need to introduce effective accident recording and analysis systems and welcomed the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Meeting of Highway Experts concerning the holding of a seminar-cum-study tour on highway safety, management and techniques of road maintenance in Japan. It noted with appreciation that the Federal Republic of Germany would continue to provide assistance in studies relating to traffic safety.

653. The Commission stressed the need to accord higher priority to road maintenance. It noted that the ongoing ESCAP study on weights, dimensions and safety devices of vehicles had made substantial progress and urged its early completion to facilitate the organization of an expert group meeting to promote the development of uniform technical standards.

654. Considering the increasing negative environmental impacts of road transport, the Commission welcomed the proposed ESCAP study on environmental impact assessment of road infrastructure and road transport operation projects. It stressed the need to develop simplified guide-lines and training programmes to enable member countries to assess the environmental impacts of transport so as to be able to develop environmentally sound transport systems.

655. The Commission recognized the special role of the Asian Highway, particularly the arterial network, in promoting regional and subregional co-operation and mutual understanding among the Asian Highway group of countries. However, it stressed that there were still some missing links and sections which remained substandard and needed to be upgraded to the ESCAP standard. While there was also a need to promote linkages from the Asian Highway to the rural areas and other isolated communities around it, the Commission urged the secretariat to provide assistance in improving the substandard sections wherever possible.

656. The Commission recognized that the Asian Highway guidemaps had continued to play a significant role in the promotion of trade and tourism in the region and urged the secretariat to continue the publication and updating of those guidemaps on a regular basis. It noted that following a field survey of Asian Highway routes A-4, A-45 and A-47, a new Asian Highway guidemap No. 5, covering the southern part of India and Sri Lanka, had been published and was ready for distribution.

657. The Commission noted the request of Afghanistan for training fellowships and advisory services in the field

of transport management. It also noted that Bangladesh had requested assistance in the translation of the ESCAP manuals on rural road construction and maintenance into the local vernacular.

658. The Commission noted with appreciation the technical assistance in the highway sector rendered by the secretariat to Fiji, Samoa and Vanuatu. It appreciated the secretariat's co-operation with India in respect of the Third Asian Highway Himalayan Auto Rally, held in 1982.

659. The Commission welcomed the offer of the USSR to make available some of its publications relating to roads and particularly recycling of asphalt concrete in road construction.

Air transport

660. The Commission emphasized that air cargo transport had a special role to play in national economic development. It was of particular importance to developing island and land-locked countries and remote and isolated areas where other modes of transport were inadequate or not available.

661. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the secretariat had undertaken result-oriented studies in the economic development of air cargo transport, with the co-operation of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany. A study was being undertaken to determine the eligibility of commodities and products moving by air in the international trade of selected countries of the ESCAP region and a few related areas would be covered. The Commission noted that a mission of air cargo transport experts had been fielded to Thailand to undertake a study on specific economic aspects with a view to recommending measures to promote the air freight traffic of that country. A mission had also been fielded to Nepal in connection with the integrated transport studies undertaken by the secretariat to cover the air transport mode.

662. In supporting the secretariat's activities in the field of air cargo transport, the Commission urged the secretariat to intensify its activities, particularly in order to conduct a study of the role of air cargo transport in multimodal transport. It requested the secretariat to organize seminars and workshops on specific aspects of air cargo transport, especially air cargo management development. It urged the secretariat to organize a seminar on economic aspects of air cargo transport, host facilities for which were being offered by the Government of India, as and when resources became available.

663. In stressing the need for comprehensive planning of air and sea services for the Pacific island countries, the Commission urged the secretariat to undertake the proposed regional transport survey for the Pacific as soon as possible. It noted with regret that ADB

had withdrawn its support for the survey and therefore urged the secretariat to request UNDP to maintain its financial support and proceed with implementation.

664. The Commission heard a statement by the representative of ICAO on the various activities undertaken by that Organization, some of whose projects were being formulated in close co-operation with ESCAP, and stressed the need for closer co-operation between ICAO and ESCAP. It noted the offer of ICAO to continue providing constructive co-operation and assistance to the secretariat in the field of air cargo transport development.

General transport

665. The Commission commended the secretariat on its assistance to Nepal by fielding a transport mission consisting of experts in highways, railways, containerization, ropeways, inland water transport, air transport and facilitation to look into possible approaches to developing an integrated transport system for Nepal, keeping in view the special situation and needs of that country. The Commission noted with appreciation the assistance rendered by the secretariat to Thailand to improve the operational efficiency of its public transport company. It welcomed the offer of Singapore to share its experience in urban transport with other developing countries. One delegation requested that the secretariat continue its efforts to develop public transport and mass transit facilities or to improve public bus services where economic constraints did not permit the former.

666. The Commission felt that there was a need further to improve consultation and co-operation between the regional commissions, particularly the neighbouring commissions, and to co-ordinate their respective work programmes, so as to make the best use of the available resources.

Facilitation of international traffic

667. Some delegations stressed that greater attention should be paid to further simplification and standardization of documents and procedures, elimination of avoidable border-crossing formalities and simplification and harmonization of customs procedures and requirements associated with international movement of goods by all modes of transport.

668. In order to maximize the usefulness of the efforts to ensure greater facilitation, the Commission emphasized the need for the activities of the secretariat in that field to be co-ordinated with those undertaken within and outside the secretariat. In that context, it noted with satisfaction the secretariat's close and continuing working relationship with UNCTAD/FALPRO (Special Programme on Trade Facilitation) and the Customs Co-operation Council and the offer of ICAO to co-operate further with the secretariat in the field of facilitation.

Telecommunication

669. The Commission emphasized the continuing importance of telecommunication infrastructure as a tool for the socio-economic development of the countries in the Asian and Pacific region and stressed the need for a well-planned, well-balanced and modern telecommunication system with improved facilities and quality of service to enable countries within and outside the region to derive more benefits from the network.

670. The Commission noted the close co-operation and collaboration among ESCAP, ITU and the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity in the implementation of the Asian telecommunication network, development of rural telecommunication and improvement of telecommunication maintenance and quality of service. It noted with appreciation that the research work on socio-economic factors conditioning the development of telephone, television and radio services was continuing as an ESCAP/ITU activity which aimed at determining, *inter alia*, how household income and the cost of services influenced the penetration of such services in urban and rural areas. The study would help Governments to reorient their tariff policies so as to encourage low-income users to gain access to those services.

671. One delegation emphasized the need for the training of operating, technical, managerial and administrative staff, a general updating of existing services and the provision of new services to urban and rural areas, where appropriate and practicable, the drawing up of proper routing, numbering and signalling plans, the standardization of switching and signalling systems, the upgrading of maintenance practices and procedures and the development of an adequate radio frequency management system for countries in the region.

672. The Commission noted with satisfaction the decision of the ITU plenipotentiary conference to enhance the effectiveness of its technical assistance programme, set up an independent international commission, create a special voluntary programme for technical co-operation and strengthen ITU's presence in the region to respond to the growing requirements.

Postal services

673. The Commission noted with appreciation the growing awareness in many ESCAP member countries of the need to establish adequate communications networks, part of which were the postal services. It stressed the need to promote rural postal services in the context of integrated rural development, particularly in the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries.

674. One delegation emphasized the need to expand the scope of postal services as an agency to promote

national programmes in other areas of socio-economic development of rural areas. It also emphasized that co-ordination between national and regional postal training institutions which already existed in the region should be strengthened, with a view to developing specialized training capacity for middle- and higher-level officials. The need to establish a postal research documentation and data centre in the region was also stressed.

675. The Commission noted with appreciation that the secretariat, in close co-operation with UPU and the Asian-Pacific Postal Union, was organizing in May-June 1983 a symposium/seminar on the post in the 1980s, which should make it possible to formulate regional postal strategies.

Tourism

676. The Commission noted the increasingly significant economic, socio-cultural and environmental impact of tourism on the overall development of the countries of the region, which, as in the 1970s, had registered the highest growth in international tourism in the early 1980s. It recognized that the crucial obstacles to a greater contribution by tourism were the dearth of data on the scope and extent of the economic impact of tourism and the lack of effective guide-lines for the prevention of detrimental socio-cultural and environmental effects. It urged the secretariat to assist the member countries in filling those gaps.

677. In that context, the Commission supported the ongoing policy-oriented tourism research project, which had so far produced useful results in unexplored areas of tourism such as economic impact quantification.

678. The Commission endorsed the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Meeting on Tourism Development, held at Tokyo in March 1983, which had mainly considered the outcome of the above-mentioned research project and defined the framework for a co-operative research programme. It urged the secretariat to assist the member countries in applying that framework for effective policy formulation.

679. The Commission requested the secretariat to further the study of the economic and social effects of tourism in qualitative terms as well in order to provide useful policy guide-lines for Governments.

680. It felt that the tourism implications of infrastructure, particularly transport, should be more clearly defined as that would facilitate the development of both tourism and the related infrastructure. It also felt that ESCAP's activities in the field of tourism should be selective and pragmatic so as to meet the most urgent needs of the member countries.

681. The Commission took note of the request of the Government of Nepal for ESCAP assistance in

carrying out a feasibility study on the development of the Rara area as a tourist resort.

682. It noted with appreciation the initiation of the activities of the ESCAP/ILO Tourism Unit. It requested the secretariat to intensify co-operation with WTO in implementing the research framework endorsed and various other activities.

683. The Commission noted with appreciation the excellent host facilities provided by the Government of Japan for the Intergovernmental Meeting on Tourism Development. It also welcomed the continued support of the Government of Japan for the activities of the secretariat in the field of tourism development.

684. The Commission noted with appreciation the technical advisory services rendered by the secretariat in the field of tourism to the Cook Islands, as tourism was an important factor in the development of that country. It also requested that a seminar on appraisal of the tourism sector and tourism projects be considered for the Pacific island subregion.

685. The Commission expressed its gratitude for the generous assistance already provided to the secretariat and the new offers of assistance to be provided by member Governments and various organizations for the implementation of its programmes in the field of transport, communications and tourism. In particular, it expressed its thanks to the Governments of Belgium, China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, India, Japan, the Netherlands and the USSR and to donor organizations.

Report on the implementation of resolution 230 (XXXVIII) on a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific

686. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/339 and Corr.1.

687. It recognized the fundamentally important role of the transport and communications sectors for attaining and sustaining the economic growth and social development of the countries and emphasized the need for accelerated development and improvement of the infrastructure and services in those sectors.

688. Recalling the development objectives of the current International Development Strategy, particularly that the physical and institutional infrastructure in developing countries should be expanded at rates that fully supported the rate of expansion of the economy as a whole, the Commission emphasized that special attention should be given to overcoming the problems and constraints of transport and communications facing the developing countries.

689. The Commission noted the report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of its resolution 230 (XXXVIII), which indicated the steps taken in

carrying out consultations at various levels, including the circulation of approach papers to Governments. Several delegations indicated that the resolution had not been fully implemented. It was noted that the Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting held in August 1982, the Intergovernmental Meeting of Highway Experts held in February 1983, the Intergovernmental Meeting on Tourism Development held in March 1983 and, in particular, the Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Railways held in February-March 1983 had agreed or recommended that the period 1985-1994 should be proclaimed as a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific. Taking into account the positive contribution the proclamation of such a decade could make towards the mobilization of political support for the above-mentioned integrated approach, the Commission recommended that account be taken of the need for the early proclamation of such a decade. Some delegations, however, raised queries as to the relation of the decade to the programme of work, 1984-1985, the financial consequences, the practical content and the probability of real results.

690. The Commission recognized that the decade would focus on the development of integrated, efficient and modern transport and communications systems and promote subregional and regional co-operation. In that context, it requested the Executive Secretary to consider, if necessary, the setting up of an *ad hoc* intergovernmental group to prepare a phased programme of action for the decade, assess its financial implications and make appropriate recommendations in respect of the mechanism to ensure the implementation of the programme at the country and regional levels. The programme for the decade should be pragmatic, include the subject of shipping and take into consideration the special needs and problems of the developing countries, in particular, the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries. Further, the programme of work of ESCAP should be borne in mind as far as possible in planning activities for the decade.

691. The Commission further requested the Executive Secretary to take appropriate steps to ensure United Nations interagency co-ordination and avoid duplication of work.

692. The Commission adopted resolution 234 (XXXIX) on a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994, and called upon the Executive Secretary to take all possible steps to ensure its successful implementation.

Social development

693. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/291 and E/ESCAP/315 and Add.1 and Corr.1. It endorsed the report of the Committee on Social Development on its third session.

694. The Commission underscored the importance of devoting special attention to the social aspects of development and the need to recognize the interdependence of economic and social objectives. It was emphasized that social development must be consciously and deliberately planned in the context of an integrated development strategy. The Commission referred to the need for members and associate members to focus on effective formulation and implementation of social policies and programmes to bring about a qualitative improvement in the living conditions of people. While progress towards achieving social objectives was noted by many countries in the region, an intensification of efforts was still felt to be needed in order to meet adequately the growing needs of the people in the ESCAP region. The need to maximize human resource potentials was stressed and, in that respect, the secretariat's activities concerning the participation of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, such as women, youth, children, the aged and the disabled persons, in the mainstream of development activities were commended. In that connection, the Commission reiterated the necessity of applying fully the recommendations pertaining to social development of the International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade.

695. In striving to approach the social goals of development, it was stressed that peace and stability contributed to social and economic development, particularly within the framework of the International Development Strategy.

696. In reviewing the social situation in the region, the Commission expressed its continued concern over the massive social problems which had existed even before the current economic downturn and which required increasing attention by member Governments. Those problems included abject poverty, low health and nutritional status, population growth, inadequate housing, unemployment and underemployment, drug abuse, prostitution, the exploitation of women and children, illiteracy and migration. In that connection, the Commission urged that concerted action be taken to eradicate all kinds of discrimination, including inequalities among people, by the following means:

(a) Emphasizing human resource development to achieve the developmental goals of participation and self-reliance;

(b) Creating more employment opportunities, especially for women, youth and disabled persons;

(c) Improving essential social services, particularly for the poor and underprivileged;

(d) Making education more relevant and widely available for all as well as extending compulsory education for children and youth;

(e) Devising special programmes for the nurturing of out-of-school children and youth with a view

to their creative participation in social progress and community development;

(f) Extending primary health care, especially to neglected people in rural and remote areas and in urban slums;

(g) Incorporating social costs in the analysis of development programmes and projects, especially those costs borne by the underprivileged who might be affected by certain forms of modernization;

(h) Extending social security to all.

697. The Commission urged that measures be developed to increase the participation of population groups at all stages of the development process. Participation must involve more than just formal membership in representative organizations. Economic development in itself did not necessarily result in broad participation, and that suggested that fundamental structural changes might be required to realize participative goals. For example, some delegations stressed the need for decentralization and devolution of the role and responsibility of institutions at the local level and integration of village economies into national economies. Assistance from ESCAP was sought in the exchange of information and expertise, personnel training, including that of para-professionals, and research aimed at fostering self-reliance. In that connection, the Commission strongly endorsed the TCDC approach and called for its intensification in addressing the situation of disadvantaged population groups.

698. The Commission emphasized the need to devote particular attention to the social aspects of rural development and adopted resolution 232 (XXXIX) on the subject.

699. Recalling its resolution 222 (XXXVIII) on the terms of reference of its legislative committees, the Commission noted that the proposed Third Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, scheduled to be convened in 1985, should be held in lieu of the session of the Committee on Social Development scheduled for 1984. The Commission decided that the 1984 session of the Committee on Social Development should be cancelled and that the next session should be convened in 1986.

700. The Commission endorsed the role of the secretariat in the follow-up to the World Assembly on Aging and in monitoring progress made in implementing the Vienna International Plan of Action on Aging adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/51. It was noted that in some countries progress had been made in promoting policies and improving plans and programmes relating to aging. The Commission welcomed the initiatives of the secretariat to address the situation of the aging and called for the provision of technical assistance in planning and evaluating programmes for the aged; the promotion of

dissemination and exchange of information on the aging; comparative and analytical action-oriented research on concerns of the aging in the region; and the establishment of pilot schemes to contribute to the delivery of social services including health aspects and the promotion of income-generating activities for the aged.

701. The Commission noted with satisfaction the continuing national efforts for the integration of disabled persons in development following the initiatives of the International Year of Disabled Persons in 1981, which had led to the adoption of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the proclamation of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (1983-1992). Member countries were called upon to implement the Vienna Affirmative Action Plan within the framework of the World Programme of Action.

702. The Commission endorsed the report of the Expert Group Meeting on the Development and Utilization of Local Manpower and Technology for Disability-related Services in Rural and Poverty Areas of the Asia-Pacific Region, specifically its proposals on regional arrangements for technical co-operation. It supported the TCDC approach in disability-related programmes through a proposed regional resource network programme with emphasis on information dissemination and exchange, personnel training and development and research. In that connection, it welcomed the offer of the Government of the Philippines to make available the resources of its Technical Co-operation Center under the National Commission Concerning Disabled Persons with its member agencies to form part of the network of national resource centres. It also noted the offer of Rehabilitation International to contribute resources under its "Rehabplan International" programme. The ESCAP secretariat should serve as the focal point to co-ordinate regional activities in that regard.

703. The Commission urged that bilateral and multi-lateral assistance and government support be mobilized for the regional technical co-operation activities in collaboration with the specialized agencies, organizations of disabled persons and those concerned with disability. It noted the role of UNICEF in programmes for the prevention of childhood disability and that of ILO in improving programmes for the vocational rehabilitation and employment of disabled persons.

704. The Commission also noted the recent establishment of Disabled Peoples International, a world organization of, for and by disabled persons which called for a greater role for disabled persons in community, national and international life.

705. The International Council on Social Welfare drew the attention of the Commission to the need to provide directions in the question of intercountry adoption of children, the setting of international

standards in that area and the need for regional participation in the 1985 Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, for which an Asia-Pacific preparatory meeting would be held at Bangkok in July 1983.

706. In the area of integration of women in the development process, the Commission recognized the valuable contribution of women to national development and stressed the importance of a multisectoral integrated approach to their fuller participation. It noted the progress achieved at the national level to eliminate discrimination of all forms against women and to ensure their access on an equal basis to education and training, work opportunities and health services. The delegations communicated their willingness to share their experiences in such efforts. Support was expressed by some delegations for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women in the region. It was also emphasized that efforts aimed at the further integration of women should be based on the main themes of the Decade. Many delegations reported on the establishment of national co-ordinating bodies and the formulation of national plans for harmonious guidance of programmes and policies by governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations within the framework of national development.

707. One delegation drew the attention of the Commission to Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/25 on women and children refugees.

708. The Commission welcomed the offer of the Government of Japan to host in March 1984 a regional intergovernmental preparatory meeting for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, to be held in 1985. Some issues suggested for consideration included the status of women in the service and entertainment industries, the protection of the families of overseas workers and the exploitation of women and minors.

709. The Commission noted with satisfaction the contribution of the secretariat to the promotion of fuller participation by women, including such activities as assistance to member countries in the establishment and strengthening of national co-ordinating mechanisms. In view of the need for continued assistance by the secretariat in that area, the Commission expressed its concern over the limited staff resources and programme funding. It urged that sufficient financial and manpower resources be provided to the secretariat to enable it to continue the implementation of programmes for women in the region, including the preparatory activities for the World Conference in 1985. In particular, the need to establish a senior full-time position, funded from available resources within the United Nations system, in the secretariat with responsibility for the women's programme was reiterated by the Commission.

710. While expressing its appreciation of the financial support given to projects in the women's field by the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, the Commission urged continued support for the regional post in the women's programme of the secretariat to assist member countries in the implementation of Voluntary Fund projects.

711. The Commission commended and supported the direction and activities of the secretariat's programme on the mobilization of youth in national development. It called for the continuation and intensification of activities to maximize the integration and participation of youth in development, which included the national leadership training workshops for youth leaders and workers with emphasis on rural and community development and the field study and attachment programmes for high-level youth policy-makers and programme implementors. It was hoped that those workshops and programmes would continue to facilitate the exchange of information and experiences on the organization of effective youth development programmes aimed at the mobilization of youth for national and community development.

712. The Commission recognized the vital role of youth in development and stressed the importance that must be accorded to the specific needs and issues of youth. Youth unemployment and underemployment continued to be serious problems in the region. There was an urgent need to create employment opportunities for both rural and urban youths and to provide relevant educational and skills training to youth. Attention must also be given to the problems of youth related to rural-urban migration, the problems associated with rapid urbanization, particularly the needs of youth living in urban slums, and the problems of juvenile delinquency and young women in the service and entertainment sector. Attempts must also be made to develop a more balanced relationship between moral development and technical and economic development, to promote social education in the areas of family management and the transmission of spiritual, cultural and community-oriented values to youth and to promote the concepts of distributive and juvenile justice in society. The needs and issues of youth could not be seen in isolation, however, but must be placed within the general context of overall social and economic development.

713. While noting that some member countries already had national youth policies, the Commission strongly recommended the further development and formulation of comprehensive national policies for youth to ensure their constructive contribution and participation at all levels of national development.

714. The Commission endorsed the recommendations in the area of youth development contained in the report of the Committee on Social Development on its third session. It felt that those recommendations

accurately reflected the needs of member countries, especially in the areas of technical assistance, exchange of professional expertise and experiences in youth development and the creation of funds for the planning, implementation and evaluation of various regional and subregional activities of ESCAP to promote policies and programmes for the active participation of youth in national development and in the preparations for International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace, 1985.

715. In reviewing the implementation and follow-up of its resolution 223 (XXXVIII) on the International Youth Year, the Commission noted with appreciation the secretariat's activities related to the preparation and observance of the Year undertaken in co-operation with member countries, national and regional non-governmental organizations and United Nations bodies and specialized agencies. It called upon member countries to provide more support, by such means as the creation of a special fund, to ensure the implementation of the Specific Programme of Measures and Activities to be undertaken prior to and during the Year. It was brought to the attention of the Commission that many member countries had already established national co-ordinating committees on youth in keeping with the objectives of the Year. It was pointed out, however, that programmes designed to advance the welfare of youth should take into account not only activities related to the Year itself but also the strengthening of all pertinent youth programmes so that they would continue beyond it.

716. The Commission expressed its gratitude to donor countries both within and outside the region, international funding agencies and non-governmental organizations for the continuous and generous financial support for the implementation of the Commission's youth development programme and urged that such assistance be continued. In that regard, it also expressed its gratitude to the World Council of Churches for supporting activities in the mobilization of rural youth for national development. 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.

717. The Commission adopted resolution 231 (XXXIX) on strengthening regional co-operation on programmes for youth development.

718. The Commission recognized the important role of health in an integrated approach to improving the quality of life of the poor in the context of the International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade and directed the secretariat to bear that in mind while assigning work priorities. The Commission was of the opinion that the forthcoming Intergovernmental Meeting on Health and Development, to be convened jointly with WHO and UNICEF in

June 1983 in pursuance of Commission resolution 228 (XXXVIII), and the Sixth Seminar on Basic Community Services through Primary Health Care, to be held in the Republic of Korea in July-August 1983, were timely and useful to the collective efforts for the social upliftment of the region. They would also provide for a clear definition of ESCAP's intersectoral and interagency role in the field of health, especially with regard to WHO's mandate to lead the efforts of the international community in the field, thus strengthening interagency co-operation and ensuring suitable complementarity. Several delegations stated their Government's intention to participate actively in the Intergovernmental Meeting.

719. The Commission welcomed the secretariat's decision to incorporate the programme on health and development into the Social Development Division and to include it as a full subprogramme in the medium-term plan for 1984-1989, as approved by the Committee on Programme and Co-ordination in May 1982. It endorsed the recommendation by the Committee on Social Development at its third session that the health and development entry appearing in the 1982-1983 work programme as a programme element (19.01.01) be modified to a new subprogramme (19.07) in order to identify appropriately the diversity of programme activities. The Commission recommended that the programme serve as the secretariat's focal point for interagency co-ordination.

720. The Commission expressed its deep gratitude to the Government of the Netherlands, UNICEF and WHO for their continued financial and technical assistance to the programme on health and development and urged member Governments, donor countries and funding agencies to provide continuing assistance in fulfilling their pledges for support to the programme, thus ensuring its continuation.

721. The Commission felt that the health and development programme's output should be oriented towards strengthening, co-ordinating and developing policies and planning capacities in an integrated and intersectoral manner in keeping with the Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000. In that connection, the Commission considered the *Atlas of Children in National Development* to be a useful planning tool and endorsed the recommendation of the Committee on Social Development that it be made a regular feature with periodic updating.

722. The Commission supported the continuation of the secretariat's social development information activities. In stressing their own national experiences, several delegations emphasized the value of the exchange of information and expressed their willingness to support constructive proposals aimed at regional co-operation in information activities.

723. With reference to APDC, one delegation urged the implementation of article II, paragraph 4, of the Charter of the Centre, which called for special organizational identity to be given to the programme area related to issues concerning women, youth, children and the handicapped, and for sufficient emphasis to be given to activities in the field of social welfare and development.

724. In conclusion, the Commission expressed its deep gratitude to member Governments, donor countries, international agencies and non-governmental organizations for their various forms of support to the secretariat's social development programme.

Statistics

725. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/317.

726. It heard with interest reports on major statistical activities and developments in countries of the region.

727. In commending the work of the secretariat in the field of statistics, the Commission noted and fully supported the continued emphasis of the secretariat's activities on the building of statistical capabilities among the countries of the region. It felt that document E/ESCAP/317 provided a brief but incisive summary of the main issues facing countries in the development of national statistical services.

728. The Commission underlined the fundamental role of statistics in policy, planning and decision-making procedures. A sustained supply of reliable and timely data and their proper use were necessary for those purposes. Although virtually all countries recognized that basic tenet, many still encountered difficulties in assigning due priority to statistics and in providing commensurate resources. The Commission therefore noted the imperative need to review and reiterate the importance of statistics for all types of national development activities and to assess their impact on the social and economic condition of the population.

729. The Commission concurred that relatively small investment in improving statistical systems and thus in producing reliable and timely statistics would yield great benefits through the optimization of investment decisions and proper allocation of scarce resources. It thus re-emphasized that higher priority should be accorded to statistical activities in national budgets, although it recognized that general restraints on government expenditures necessarily affected appropriations for statistical work. It noted with satisfaction that in a number of countries funds for the development of statistics were allocated in national development plans, due recognition being given to the data requirements for planning. In countries with decentralized statistical systems, the Commission noted that a statistical development fund was useful for financing

projects for which departmental resources were insufficient.

730. The need for medium- and long-range planning in meeting adequately the statistical needs of developing countries was stressed by the Commission. Plans needed to be drawn up in close collaboration with users of statistics. A number of countries had already formulated such plans, which typically allowed for annual review and revision and featured phased programmes of censuses and surveys on various topics. It was pointed out, however, that some data collection on an *ad hoc* basis was unavoidable and that statistical plans had therefore to be sufficiently flexible to allow for necessary adjustments to be made.

731. The Commission reiterated the importance of greater understanding and contact between producers and users of statistics and stressed the need for good-quality user-oriented statistical data for effective decision-making. The need to ensure the continued relevance to users of long-established time series was also stressed. In a number of countries statistical advisory councils to bring data producers and users together had been or were being established. The Commission observed that users should be assisted in analysing and interpreting statistical data. As public relations skills on the part of statisticians would be helpful for that purpose, it was suggested that ESCAP might organize a regional training programme in public relations.

732. The Commission reiterated its support for the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP), which had a decisive role to play in building or enhancing statistical capabilities and services. Thus, the Commission noted with interest that some countries of the region had already started participating in the Programme, others had taken essential preliminary steps to that end and certain others had expressed keen interest. However, further concerted support from developed member countries appeared to be essential to provide external resources and, perhaps, a portion of local costs also. The Commission noted with appreciation that the Government of India was sharing its vast experience in household surveys by organizing, with financial assistance from UNDP, a series of regional training courses related to NHSCP. The Commission welcomed the offer by the Government of Japan of technical co-operation in support of the Programme.

733. The Commission noted the urgent and continuing need to develop and maintain the capabilities of statistical personnel as a prerequisite for effective national statistical services. Training should cover not only the collection of data but also their analysis and timely dissemination. The retention of an adequate cadre of trained statistical manpower was facilitated by the creation of an attractive working environment, which could encompass access to better career development and exposure to modern statistical techniques as well as competitive salaries. The Commission expressed its

deep appreciation of the very significant contribution of SIAP to statistical training work and of the support for the Institute by the Government of Japan; other member countries were urged further to assist SIAP's programmes. The Commission urged the secretariat to continue to devote special attention to the specific statistical training needs of the Pacific subregion.

734. Increasing attention was being devoted by some least developed and island developing countries to the development of national accounts and the collection of statistics to fill the gaps in the data needed for their compilation. In that connection, the Commission welcomed the establishment of a council on national income statistics in one of the least developed countries.

735. The Commission noted with satisfaction that a number of countries had initiated action towards participation in the 1983 round of industrial censuses. In that connection, it heard that China would conduct a national industrial survey in 1984, to measure the very considerable changes in industrial scale and structure since the first such survey in 1949. The Commission noted with appreciation China's offer of technical co-operation in that field, both with ESCAP and bilaterally.

736. The Commission stressed that development projects and programmes for the betterment of the living conditions of the people needed to be monitored and assessed. For that purpose, reliable statistics were required, particularly social statistics and indicators on topics such as life expectancy, morbidity, literacy, participation of women and youth and access to social amenities; time series of those indicators would indicate the rate of progress achieved. The Commission recognized the need to promote the development of a comprehensive set of social statistics through disseminating guide-lines and methodologies, as well as through the continued services of the social statistics adviser. The secretariat was urged to mobilize extrabudgetary funds for that purpose if current resources were inadequate.

737. The Commission recognized the need for effective utilization of computers for the purpose of processing and managing statistical data, as their use in statistical applications was steadily increasing in the developing countries of the region.

738. The Commission expressed appreciation of the secretariat's work on the organization of technical meetings and workshops. They provided useful and educative forums for the exchange of experiences in various fields of statistics. Particular emphasis was placed on the desirability of holding meetings on a subregional basis; in the Pacific, it was suggested that efforts should be made to invite all emerging entities. The Commission noted with satisfaction the secretariat's plan to convene a Pacific subregional workshop on price statistics and in that connection was pleased to note Papua New Guinea's offer of host facilities. It

welcomed the preparatory work already under way in China for the hosting of a seminar on shipping statistics in October 1983 and noted with appreciation the offer of the Government of the USSR to host, subject to the resolution of financial questions, a seminar on the organization of statistical services in 1983. It also welcomed the offer of the Government of Japan to provide financial support for a meeting on input-output tables.

739. The Commission welcomed the very valuable services provided to countries by the secretariat's regional advisers in statistics. It considered it essential to continue those services in the fields of national accounts, population censuses and surveys, social statistics, data processing, household income and expenditure and labour force surveys, and in the general development of household survey capabilities. It welcomed the secretariat's efforts to offer advisory and technical services in other fields of statistics.

740. The Commission noted that, in accordance with its conference structure, the fifth session of the Committee on Statistics would be held at Bangkok from 21 to 27 June 1983. The provisional agenda for the session included important topics such as the use of administrative records for statistical purposes, energy and environment statistics, small-area statistics and development of social indicators. The role of statistics in development planning would also be dealt with generally during the discussions. Several countries announced their intention to participate in the session. The secretariat was requested to explore the possibility of facilitating the attendance of the least developed countries at such meetings by such measures as the provision of financial assistance.

741. The Commission noted that the secretariat had received generous bilateral and multilateral support for its activities in the field of statistics during the year under review, while a number of countries had expressed their agreement in principle to provide future assistance. Previous and potential donors included Fiji, the Federal Republic of Germany, India, Japan, the Netherlands, Papua New Guinea, the Republic of Korea, the USSR, the United Kingdom and Vanuatu; among the organizations were UNDP, UNFPA, ILO and the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation. The Commission expressed its appreciation and thanks to those countries and agencies and hoped that they and other donors would continue and increase their support in the future.

The Commission's activities in the Pacific

742. In considering its activities in the Pacific, the Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/319 and Corr.1 and E/ESCAP/332 and Corr.1-3. It welcomed the comprehensiveness of document E/ESCAP/319 and considered it to be useful and informative. It was

strongly suggested that the secretariat continue to submit a special paper on ESCAP activities in the Pacific at future sessions.

743. The Commission noted with great satisfaction the steady expansion of the scope of the secretariat's activities in the Pacific and took note of the enlargement of the ESCAP Pacific Liaison Office, which had just completed its second year of operation. It also took note of the programme of visits undertaken by the ESCAP Pacific Liaison Office within the Pacific region and its participation in meetings of the different Pacific regional bodies. The Commission felt that the expanded activities of the Pacific Liaison Office had made a useful contribution to enhancing the secretariat's awareness of the specific and unique needs of the developing Pacific island countries, which had in turn led to better programming of activities by the secretariat. Equally important was the role played by the Pacific Liaison Office in increasing the understanding in the Pacific island countries of the range of activities of ESCAP in the field of technical assistance and of the potential contribution of such activities to those countries.

744. The Commission welcomed the orientation programme of in-service training for Pacific island government officers which had been carried out in 1982 and 1983. It recommended the continuation of that programme in view of its value to the Pacific island countries.

745. The Commission also welcomed the work of the United Nations Development Advisory Team (UNDAT) for the Pacific. It was noted that requests for assistance for short-term advisory services from the Pacific island countries were on the increase. The financial resources of UNDAT should therefore also be expanded if those requests were to be met effectively. The Commission, accordingly, urged donor countries and UNDP to increase their assistance to UNDAT and also urged that the support from the United Nations regular budget for the programme be continued. In that connection, the Commission welcomed the announcement by the Government of Japan that it would extend financial assistance to the activities of UNDAT through the Japan-ESCAP Co-operation Fund.

746. The Commission strongly urged that efforts to meet the overall expansion needs of the work of the secretariat in the Pacific be continued. Within that overall expansion, several programme areas in which specific activities were required were emphasized. They included agriculture, particularly the work of FADINAP and ARSAP and that on coarse grains, pulses, roots and tuber crops; development planning; international trade; industry, human settlements and technology, especially small-scale industries; natural resources; population; shipping; social development; statistics; transport, communications and tourism;

transnational corporations; the environment; and integrated rural development.

747. The Commission noted the strong desire of the Pacific island countries that the work of CCOP/SOPAC be continued and the importance of continued UNDP support to achieve that objective.

748. Several members of the Commission indicated their interest in providing technical assistance to the Pacific island countries. Indications of continuing or possible assistance were given by Australia, France, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States. Those delegations also recorded their continued support for ESCAP's efforts in the area.

749. The Commission stressed the importance of greater involvement of the Pacific island countries in the programming of technical assistance activities in the Pacific. That would ensure that activities were more relevant to the unique needs of those countries. In that regard, the Commission urged the Executive Secretary to take appropriate steps to encourage and facilitate Pacific representation within the secretariat. It was also emphasized that greater co-ordination by the secretariat would enhance the effective contribution of technical assistance activities to the Pacific island countries. Importance was attached to the expansion of co-operation and co-ordination between ESCAP, SPC and SPEC in the planning and implementation of activities in the Pacific.

750. The Commission recommended that consideration be given to the holding within the subregion of ESCAP meetings on subjects of particular importance to the Pacific countries, including legislative and inter-governmental meetings where appropriate and feasible.

Information systems and documentation services

751. The Commission, which had before it document E/ESCAP/318, stressed the dependence of government on timely and accurate information for administration and planning. It recognized that information was a critical resource of government and emphasized the need for its improved organization and accessibility, among others, through computerized systems.

752. The Commission felt that a satisfactory organization of information within government could only be achieved by a national co-ordinating authority invested by government with the requisite powers for the purpose. That authority should be located in a central Ministry, such as Management, Planning or Finance.

753. The Commission therefore welcomed the plan for an information systems mission to visit selected member countries to follow up the recommendations made under the information systems programme over the previous six years. Although the need for better management of information and information resources

was widely recognized, the Commission emphasized that the information systems mission could help in recommending to Governments measures concerning:

(a) Proper co-ordination and control by a higher authority with adequate powers of co-ordination over the different sectoral arms of governmental and other public sector bodies;

(b) The location and focus of the authority;

(c) The promotion of computer applications among government agencies;

(d) The organization of training for top executive officials and technical personnel;

(e) The development of a national computer plan, software and related devices, and the management of computer use among government offices.

754. The Commission endorsed the recommendations of the Regional Workshop on the Role of Mini and Micro Computers as Tools for Economic and Social Development. It recognized the contribution which micro-computer technology could make towards improved administration and planning. It also recognized the danger of haphazard and unco-ordinated use of micro-computer technology with little if any central co-ordination. It therefore supported the wider use of micro-computer technology, including its promotion among the various agencies where needed, but under the framework of a central plan of a national co-ordinating authority.

755. The Commission expressed its gratitude to the Government of Japan for funding the above-mentioned Regional Workshop, for providing the services of a regional adviser on government information systems and data processing to assist Governments in strengthening their information management and for donating a micro computer to the secretariat to assist in the transfer of software to member countries.

756. The Commission noted with interest the pilot project on rural data systems that had been established in Sri Lanka, in which micro-computer technology was being used to provide information for administration and planning at decentralized levels of government. Other member countries would be assisted through the transfer of the concepts, systems designs and applications being developed there for the innovative use of micro computers for a group of villages which comprised a small administrative entity.

757. The Commission expressed its gratitude to the Data for Development International Association for its assistance in the pilot project in Sri Lanka and for its various other forms of support to the ESCAP information programme since its inception.

758. Adequate training in information systems and computer applications of government was recognized to be a prerequisite for efficient information management.

The organization by the Government of Japan in early 1983 of an eight-week training course in electronic data processing for government information activities, with 10 member countries participating, was commended by the Commission, which noted that that course might be repeated in future years to meet the needs of member and associate member countries.

759. It was felt that further advances could be expected in computer technology, in data input/output devices and in the introduction of on-line systems. The processing of administrative information would assume an even greater tendency towards sophistication and diversification in the future. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the offer of the Government of the United States to welcome a mission from ESCAP to gather information on recent trends in technology that would be relevant to the needs of member countries.

760. The Commission noted the extension of the computerized bibliographic information systems of the secretariat. Additional sectors of information activity within the secretariat were now being covered. The serials of the National Energy Information Centre of Thailand were being processed into the system, while a recent agreement with the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies had prepared the way for a trial phase of a regional exchange of information between the Institute and ESCAP.

761. The continued improvement in the level of the documentation services of the secretariat was commended by the Commission, which recognized the need of member countries to have ready access to the development literature contained in the secretariat. The generosity of the Government of Japan in upgrading the computer facility on which the documentation retrieval system was based was noted with appreciation.

Integrated rural development

762. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/310.

763. It was informed of the main issues concerning the implementation of activities under both the ESCAP programme on integrated rural development (IRD) and the regional interagency plan of action on IRD. It was reported that a number of important approaches relating to the role of rural organizations in agrarian reform, the "software approach" based on technological innovations and the mobilization of the poor in integrated area development programmes and participatory rural development had a crucial role to play in the process of alleviating poverty. The Commission was informed of the issues concerning the interagency plan of action that dealt with the joint planning and implementation of activities by United Nations agencies and organizations. In addition, it was explained that the Interagency Committee on IRD and its Task Force, with inputs from all agency partners, had tried to promote a

co-ordinated and multisectoral approach in pursuing planned activities. The Commission was also informed of the issues regarding the establishment of a functional linkage between the global-level ACC Task Force on Rural Development and the regional Interagency Committee on IRD by ensuring both a regular exchange of information and participation in each other's activities. Such a linkage would help to improve co-operation and to avoid duplication of efforts. The Commission was informed of the participation of various United Nations agencies in planning and implementing various activities such as integrated area development programmes in Kegalle, Sri Lanka, and Nakhon Sawan, Thailand, and training of rural banking personnel in Asia and the Pacific.

764. In the discussions that followed, many delegations referred to the priority accorded to rural development efforts in their national development strategies with special emphasis on the promotion of programmes of direct relevance to the rural poor, small and marginal farmers, landless peasants etc. In that context, emphasis was given to certain specific elements of rural development, including people's participation in the planning and implementation, as well as the monitoring and evaluation, of IRD projects. The Commission noted that several countries were vigorously pursuing policies and implementing programmes incorporating those elements. It was noted that IRD programmes should give appropriate emphasis to social aspects.

765. The Commission emphasized the usefulness of activities currently being undertaken under the IRD programme of ESCAP and the Interagency Committee as those activities were appropriately supplementing national efforts. It was also mentioned that activities in the field of training, monitoring and evaluation and integrated area development programmes should be expanded to cover more areas and countries. The Commission emphasized that additional activities should be taken up under TCDC which involved the exchange of information and experience among the countries of the region. As to the question of resources, some representatives emphasized that increased resources should be allocated to implement IRD activities commensurate with their priority. The Commission stressed the need for expanded activities to analyse the effectiveness of people's participation in IRD programmes so that successful examples could be replicated.

766. The Commission noted with appreciation the arrangements and operations of the Interagency Committee on IRD and its Task Force for planning and implementing several activities. It emphasized that such interagency co-ordination avoided duplication of effort and optimized the use of resources. Further, it was noted that the Interagency Committee and its Task Force were appropriately placed to extend support to national efforts. It was stressed that a functional linkage should be maintained with the ACC Task Force for the mutual benefit of regional and global activities.

The Commission supported the proposal that the Interagency Committee, which had gained valuable experience in some critical aspects of rural development, should undertake a review of the priorities laid down in the plan of action and of the existing organizational and institutional arrangements. In that connection, it endorsed the convening of an *ad hoc* intergovernmental meeting on IRD in 1984.

767. The Commission emphasized that activities which directly assisted the least developed countries should be further expanded owing to the widespread poverty in those countries, which were handicapped by a lack of human and financial resources as well as by their geographic location. In that context, it was urged that priority should be given to the selection of activities in least developed countries and that resources should be allocated for their implementation.

768. The Commission reiterated the importance of monitoring and evaluating IRD programmes. It noted that the process should not only clearly define the objective of programmes in each region but also indicate bottle-necks in their implementation and provide remedies for solving the problems encountered. It was noted that that could ensure the effectiveness of the "software approach" involving technological innovations and the mobilization of the poor.

769. While emphasizing the role of non-governmental organizations in the process of rural development, some delegations called for their increased collaboration in official programmes.

770. The representative of ILO, while providing detailed information on rural development activities being undertaken under ILO auspices, reassured the Commission of his Organisation's continued active participation in interagency activities. He further stated that ILO was satisfied with the existing arrangements and called for continuous strengthening of that co-operative effort. The Commission was urged to strengthen further the role of national liaison officers under the interagency co-operation mechanism. It took note of the active collaboration of the Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) with the Interagency Committee regarding the implementation of activities related to the training of middle-level supervisors engaged in rural development activities. The Commission emphasized that the relationship with CIRDAP should be enhanced.

Progress report on the implementation of resolution 217 (XXXVII) on the role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries

771. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/337.

772. It expressed appreciation of the increased efforts of the secretariat to meet the objectives of resolution

217 (XXXVII) and of the expanded training activities undertaken by the secretariat to enhance the role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries.

773. One delegation suggested that ESCAP, through APDC, should organize regular long-term courses on energy economics.

774. The Commission stressed that one of the major obstacles to the development of developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, continued to be the lack of qualified personnel, at both the planning and the implementation levels. Therefore, it urged ESCAP to continue with the implementation of resolution 217 (XXXVII) through its training activities, both directly and through the programmes of its regional institutions.

Tentative calendar of meetings, 1983/84

775. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/304/Rev.1 containing the tentative calendar of meetings, 1983/84, covering the period from April 1983 to March 1984.

776. It endorsed the meetings listed under the categories "legislative bodies" and "intergovernmental meetings" and took note of the meetings listed under other categories.

777. The Commission expressed its concern at the steady growth in the number of meetings organized by the secretariat, particularly under the category "other group activities". Some delegations pointed out that certain important meetings and seminars had not been listed in the calendar. In that context, particular mention was made of the intergovernmental meeting among developing countries to promote trade expansion among themselves, which had the express approval of the Committee on Trade. One delegation reserved its position on the convening of such meetings. The Commission requested the secretariat in future to record the sources of funding for each meeting where those sources had been identified. One delegation suggested that the number of ESCAP meetings be limited to that number which could be funded within the existing regular budget resources or through the use of extrabudgetary resources.

778. The Commission decided that in future "other group activities" should be submitted for its consideration rather than for information and reiterated that ACPR should be requested to scrutinize the calendar and make recommendations on it to the Executive Secretary.

Extension of the conference facilities at the headquarters of ESCAP

779. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/338/Rev.1 and a document providing additional

background information, in which the Executive Secretary brought to the attention of the Commission the difficulties currently facing the secretariat in fulfilling its conference and meetings commitments, and the measures being taken to alleviate those difficulties.

780. The Executive Secretary reported that the conference schedule of ESCAP had grown by over 160 per cent since 1976 and that the present *ad hoc* conference facilities were inadequate for the current meetings programme of the Commission. Accordingly, it was proposed to conduct an architectural and engineering study with a view to expanding the present conference complex. In that connection, the Commission noted that the Royal Thai Government had generously offered to lease to the United Nations a plot of land adjacent to the existing premises for a nominal amount and to co-operate in architectural and engineering design services for construction.

781. In the ensuing discussions, a few delegations questioned the necessity of the proposed expansion and expressed the view that such expansion was inappropriate, particularly given the prevailing economic climate and financial constraints. In addition, those delegations requested the secretariat to provide a utilization plan for the new facilities and a review of lower-cost alternatives prior to making a decision on the proposal to construct new conference facilities. The overwhelming majority of delegations, however, recognizing the inadequacies of the existing conference and ancillary facilities, and the need to provide facilities in keeping with the Commission's role as a central and essential forum for the region, expressed their strong support for the action being proposed. In particular, several delegations emphasized the desirability of viewing the proposed extension in the context of the central and expanding role of ESCAP in furthering economic and social development in the largest of the areas covered by the United Nations regional commissions.

782. The Commission took note of the fact that the provisional proposal for extended conference facilities as presented to the Secretary-General by the Executive Secretary, in co-operation with the Royal Thai Government, was being reviewed by the Secretary-General for submission to the appropriate bodies of the General Assembly.

Programme changes for 1983

783. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/320 and Corr.1 and 2 and endorsed the proposed programme changes contained therein. One delegation considered that the resource implications of the proposed programme changes should have been included in the document.

Draft programme of work for 1984-1985¹

784. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/321 and Corr.1 containing the proposed programme of work for 1984-1985. It endorsed the programme subject to the amendments in the following paragraphs. One delegation indicated its inability to participate in the consensus adoption of the work programme.

785. In the programme on development issues and policies, the Commission recommended that in programme element 1.3 the title of output (i)(a) be amended to read "Studies on issues relating to inter-regional, regional and subregional co-operation (1984-1985)" and that that of output (ii)(a) be amended to read "Meeting on issues relating to interregional, regional and subregional co-operation (1985) (XB)". It also recommended that under the same programme element output (ii)(c) be amended to read "Missions to member countries and subregional institutions to assist in the strengthening of subregional co-operation (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)". One delegation wished it recorded that work undertaken by the secretariat on subregional co-operation in south Asia should be undertaken only at the behest of all co-operating south Asian countries.

786. In the programme on the environment, the Commission suggested that consideration should be given to the merging of the outputs of programme element 1.2 with those of the other programme elements in the programme. It noted, however, that the four existing programme elements represented the principal areas of importance which it had previously endorsed under that programme. It further suggested that, in implementing its programme of work on the environment, the secretariat should place greater emphasis on action-oriented, country-specific activities in the fields of management of the terrestrial ecosystem and the protection of the marine environment and the incorporation of environmental considerations into the development planning process.

787. In the programme on food and agriculture, the Commission recommended that the secretariat consider allocating more resources to programme element 2.3 "Research and development of coarse grains, pulses, roots and tuber (CGPRT) crops".

788. In the programme on human settlements, the Commission recommended that due emphasis be given to the development of human settlements in rural areas and to the role of people's participation. The representative of Sri Lanka requested that his country be included in the study on human settlements planning in disaster-prone areas in selected countries of the region under programme element 1.2 and in the training courses

¹ The programme of work and priorities, 1984-1985, as endorsed by the Commission is contained in annex I to the present report.

for community leaders and government officials on improving the quality of life in slums and squatter settlements under programme element 2.2. The importance of projects designed to facilitate understanding of the link between rural and urban settlements was also stressed.

789. In the programme on industrial development, it was decided that under subprogramme 1 there ought to be a more equitable distribution of regular budget resources between programme elements 1.1 and 1.3. It was also decided that there should be a more equitable distribution of regular budget allocations between programme elements 1.6 and 4.1. It was suggested that under subprogramme 2 provision be made for technical assistance to be extended for the development of a management information system for project implementation. It was further suggested that under subprogramme 3 one of the technical publications should be concerned with the methodology of establishing joint ventures between developing countries in a third country or in the country sponsoring the joint venture. It was also suggested that the work programme should include activities on industrial relations in public sector industrial undertakings and on procedures for investment approvals in selected countries.

790. In the programme on international trade and development finance, the Commission recommended the addition of the following output under programme element 1.1: "Study on counter-trade: practices and policies", bearing in mind the contribution that such a study could make to understanding the effect of counter-trade on the open multilateral system of international trade. The Commission further recommended that under programme element 2.2 output (ii)(b) should be amended to read: "Seminar on trade promotion techniques and seminar on trade negotiations techniques (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)". One delegation expressed reservations about the inclusion of programme element 5.1 in the programme.

791. In the programme on natural resources, one delegation expressed reservations concerning the inclusion under programme element 2.2 of the outputs "Report to the Committee on Natural Resources at its thirteenth session on the problems and prospects of the development of shared water resources in the region" and "Regional symposium on shared water resources". Some delegations believed that international organizations should postpone actions designed to implement or facilitate the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea until such time as the Convention entered into effect. Therefore, they considered the outputs under programme element 1.4 (ii) of the natural resources programme to be inappropriate at the present time.

792. In the programme on social development, the Commission recommended that under programme element 2.1 output (iii)(b) be amended to read

"Regional arrangements for an ongoing mechanism for regional co-operation in TCDC with particular reference to the implementation of the Vienna International Plan of Action on Aging and the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (1984, 1985)".

793. In the programme on statistics, the Commission requested the secretariat under programme element 1.2 to organize the seminar on statistical education and training in 1984 rather than 1985, if feasible. It noted that under programme element 1.1 the report to the twenty-third session of the United Nations Statistical Commission should be prepared in 1985.

794. In the programme on shipping, ports and inland waterways, the Commission recommended that under programme element 4.2 a new output (ii)(d) should be added: "Continuation of preparatory work on the establishment of a regional centre for inland water transport technology in Bangladesh".

795. In its consideration of the allocation of programme elements to the priority category, the Commission expressed its deep appreciation of the efforts so far undertaken in the establishment of priority-setting criteria and commended the proposed selection of priority programme elements on the basis of those criteria, as indicated in document E/ESCAP/321. The Commission decided that the total regular budget resources corresponding to the priority programme elements should not exceed 60 per cent of the resources required for the work programme as a whole, although it did not wish to apply that limit rigidly.

796. The Commission approved the selection of all the priority programme elements proposed by the secretariat. One delegation expressed reservations, however, about high priority being accorded to output (i)(c) in programme element 1.2 and output (iii)(b) in programme element 2.2 of the natural resources programme. That delegation requested that references to its reservations be explicitly mentioned in the work programme document.

797. The Commission recommended the addition of the following programme elements to the priority category:

Development issues and policies

- 2.1 Strengthening of development planning methods and capabilities

Food and agriculture

- 1.3 Development of agricultural information systems
- 2.3 Research and development of coarse grains, pulses, roots and tuber (CGPRT) crops

Human settlements

- 2.1 Promotion of innovative and appropriate technologies

Industrial development

- 1.6 Enhancement of private sector involvement in industrialization
- 2.2 Programme on project development and implementation
- 3.2 Regional industrial co-operation among developing countries

International trade and development finance

- 2.2 Trade promotion development
- 2.3 Market and product development
- 5.1 Promotion of ECDC, including follow-up activities on UNCTAD resolutions and decisions

Natural resources

- 2.4 Information and training in water resources development

Population

- 1.5 Methodologies for data analysis and training

Science and technology

- 1.4 Energy conservation and conversion policy

Social development

- 3.2 Planning of health and health aspects of development
- 3.3 Pharmaceuticals and health

Shipping, ports and inland waterways

- 2.3 Development of shipbuilding and ship repair facilities
- 3.3 Implementation of a port management information system
- 3.4 Containerization and multimodal transport systems
- 4.4 Development of terminals and landing facilities

Transnational corporations

- 3.1 Provision of technical assistance, in collaboration with UNCTC, to member Governments

798. Some delegations expressed reservations over the addition of element 1.6 in the industrial development programme to the priority category. Another delegation

expressed reservations about the assignment of priority to element 5.1 in the international trade programme.

799. The developing countries of the Commission expressed their strong support for the contents of the work programme for 1984-1985, which they believed was an accurate reflection of the collective expression of the vital and urgent development needs of the region, which had more than half the population of the World, of whom the vast majority lived in absolute poverty. Those countries expressed their confidence in the application of the criteria to the work programme by the secretariat in the selection of priority programme elements. The developing countries assured the secretariat of their support for those programmes in the forthcoming deliberations of the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies.

800. Some developed countries expressed certain misgivings over the way in which the criteria had been used to determine priority programme elements and the excessive number of additions to the list of priority programme elements. One delegation wished it recorded that it would oppose the programme budget proposals of ESCAP in the relevant global United Nations bodies if that budget contained a request for a real growth in ESCAP's regular budget resources net of redeployments within the United Nations. However, the developing countries expressed their strong view that the application of criteria in determining priority elements and additions to them had been undertaken in a consistent and responsible manner. They further pointed out that those additions, in their opinion, would result only in redeployment of resources.

Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

801. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/322.

802. It underlined the significant role of co-operation among developing countries as an integral part of the International Development Strategy for the 1980s, the collective efforts by developing countries leading to their development individually and to global economic growth. Such co-operation had its contribution to make to peace just as it was also dependent on the maintenance of peace. It had become particularly important because of the current impasse in global negotiations.

803. The Commission was informed of the continuing efforts by developing countries to broaden the vista of their economic relations by means of active co-operation among themselves and the various modalities agreed to for their implementation as in the Caracas Programme of Action on ECDC, 1981, and the series of technical meetings held under it, namely, the meeting of the Intergovernmental Co-ordinating Committee of the Group of Seventy-seven on ECDC

at Manila in 1982, the First Biennial Meeting of the Heads of National Technical Co-operation Agencies of the Group of Seventy-seven at Tunis in October 1982 and the Seventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries at New Delhi in 1983 with the declaration it adopted on collective self-reliance. It was stressed that ESCAP as a forum for ECDC should take note of and contribute to the strengthening of such efforts and that developing countries should see to it that the activities under different umbrellas such the Group of Seventy-seven, the Non-Aligned Movement and the United Nations itself were well harmonized and co-ordinated so as to avoid duplication and parallelism.

804. The Commission was also informed of a new development of importance to ESCAP pertaining to south Asian regional co-operation, which had reached a crucial stage. The foreign ministers of seven south Asian countries were scheduled to meet at New Delhi in 1983, marking a milestone not only in regional co-operation but also in co-operation among developing countries. International support measures for south Asian regional co-operation were expected to be in response to felt, identified and agreed needs of the concerned member States.

805. The Commission stressed the continuing need for systematic and comprehensive identification of TCDC capacities and needs. Intergovernmental consultations among developing countries, at the regional level to start with, and based on prior identification of TCDC capacities and needs, could be organized as negotiating forums for arriving at co-operation among developing countries. The consultations would yield concrete results if the participants were duly empowered by their Governments to enter into co-operative arrangements. The Commission viewed with active interest the regional consultation, envisaged along the above lines, scheduled to be hosted by China, in co-operation with ESCAP and UNDP, at Beijing in July 1983. It noted that a report on the consultations would be presented to it.

806. One delegation proposed that an investigation be carried out on the needs and capabilities and the degree of complementarity of the economic resources of the developing countries of the region. It was further suggested that a programme be designed to enhance the collective self-reliance of the developing countries of the region in various economic sectors.

807. Many delegations expressed their commitment to the principles of ECDC and TCDC and to the formulation of projects and programmes at the regional level. They appreciated the offer by Iran to host an *ad hoc* expert group meeting in association with ESCAP to investigate that issue further and to consider the convening of intergovernmental meetings, as appropriate. They felt that the institutional aspects of promoting self-reliance among developing countries

needed greater consideration and that the findings and recommendations of such an examination should be reported to the Commission at its fortieth session. However, some delegations of developed countries expressed reservations about the holding of such meetings.

808. In the context of the holding of intergovernmental consultations among developing countries as negotiating forums for co-operation among developing countries, two delegations stressed the principles of universality and transparency. The universality principle had been recognized through the envisaged participation of developed countries in such consultations, to enable the further implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action and other relevant recommendations and decisions; it would not be reflected if participation in the consultations were dependent on the decision of the Government hosting the consultations. To ensure transparency, the consultations should also observe the principle of distribution of United Nations documents and reports to all United Nations member countries.

809. The Commission reiterated the importance of an ECDC TCDC information system to lower the attitudinal barriers to TCDC and to identify TCDC capacities and needs. It commended the signal contribution to regional co-operation made by the ECDC TCDC publications brought out under the ECDC TCDC information system of ESCAP with extra-budgetary support from the Government of the Netherlands. It welcomed the proposed establishment of a regional and interregional network for the exchange of trade information, leading to the strengthening of the respective national and regional centres. It agreed fully with the importance attached by the secretariat to joint ventures and long- and medium-term supply contracts; the impact of such contracts on each country's traditional activities had to be taken into consideration on a case-by-case basis. It was reiterated that, in addition to the proposed studies, action should be taken to identify suitable joint ventures for specific project proposals from individual developing countries. The Commission stressed the important role of national TCDC focal points as conduits for national inputs into the ESCAP ECDC TCDC information system and as disseminators, at the national level, of the ESCAP ECDC TCDC information system's outputs.

810. The Commission noted with appreciation the increasing level and widening range of the secretariat's activities to promote and support co-operation among developing countries. It welcomed the activities for mutual co-operation of the developing countries in the region, both as donors and as recipients and on a multilateral and bilateral as well as subregional basis, such as ASEAN's ongoing effort to pursue TCDC on a subregional basis on the basis of a format approved by the ASEAN economic ministers. It also noted the progress made in the organization and working of

national TCDC focal points, the financial allocation of national budgetary resources for TCDC activities in various developing member countries and the earmarking by one more developing country in the region of funds for TCDC out of the country indicative planning figure (IPF) for the third cycle, 1984-1986.

811. The Commission noted that funding posed constraints to promotional and supportive activities for co-operation among developing countries. The strong hope was expressed that international organizations under the United Nations development system could earmark special funds for TCDC programmes. The reimbursement of local cost expenditure in foreign exchange and flexibility in programme procedures were urged as they were necessary steps for the effective use of country IPFs earmarked for TCDC. It was pointed out that collective self-reliance, the need to utilize relevant and appropriate technology and the maximization of benefits from the resources available necessitated the acceptance and implementation of measures such as untying of development assistance, starting with that to least developed countries, liberalization of programme procedures and preferential treatment for supplies of goods and services from developing countries.

812. The Commission commended the establishment and operations of the ESCAP TCDC supplementary funding facility, with extrabudgetary support from the Netherlands, and looked forward to the continuation of that facility, with enlarged resources and an expanded scope.

813. The Commission identified various specific activities to be implemented by the secretariat with a sense of urgency and priority in the fields of priority areas for ECDC identified at the fifth session of UNCTAD: energy, including new and renewable sources thereof, industrial expositions focusing on rural areas and training institutions, environmental impact assessment, population and family welfare programmes.

814. The Commission considered it imperative that co-operation among developing countries be expanded at the global level; one way of doing so was to promote the activities of ESCAP and other regional commissions within the framework of the Caracas Programme of Action.

Progress reports on special regional projects and regional institutions

815. In considering the issues related to special regional projects and regional institutions, the Commission took special note of the problems faced by the regional institutions concerning the funding for institutional support, including the requirements for their essential core staff. In doing so, the Commission constituted a special working group to consider the cases of RMRDC, the CGPRT Centre, RCTT, APDC and SIAP.

816. The outcome of the deliberations of the special working group were considered by the Commission.

817. Taking into account the consensus of the Commission, the Chairman announced the constitution of a working group on regional institutions consisting of six members to examine the case of each of the regional institutions with the following terms of reference, which should be consistent with the competence and functions of the governing bodies of the regional institutions:

(a) To identify the core staff and financial requirements for institutional support necessary to implement an agreed work programme, for each regional institution;

(b) To institute a dialogue with member countries, as well as with donor countries, concerning the provision of financial support to the regional institutions;

(c) To prepare both a short-term and a long-term programme of action to resolve the problems faced by the institutions concerning finances for institutional support.

818. The six members of the working group would be China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia and Nepal. The working group would elect its chairman at its first meeting. Any other members of the Commission desiring to do so were invited to attend the deliberations of the working group. The working group could invite representatives of UNDP and other agencies to participate in its deliberations. It would be serviced by the Technical Co-operation Division of the secretariat and assisted by other appropriate divisions of the secretariat. The working group should complete its work within a period of six months, beginning from May 1983.

819. The Executive Secretary would take appropriate steps to inform the Governments and ACPR of the outcome of the deliberations of the working group for their consideration.

820. Since the case of RMRDC was rather urgent in nature, the Executive Secretary was requested to take appropriate action in the interim.

821. In view of the fact that APDC would become an intergovernmental institution on 1 July 1983 with its own General Council to determine its policies, including those relating to funding, it would be excluded from the deliberations of the working group.

Asian and Pacific Development Centre

822. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/329 and Corr.1.

823. In its discussion on APDC, the Commission recognized the difficulties faced by the Centre as a result

of the varying expectations of it on the part of Governments. It felt that the contribution which APDC could make to the countries of the region depended on its ability to attract assured funding for predetermined operational periods and also on the degree of sharpness of the focus of its work programme. The Commission welcomed the convening of the meeting of signatories to the Charter planned for 24-26 May 1983. It was informed by the Director that, in his view, the financial requirements to maintain a minimum staff of 12 Professionals and to cover the ancillary institutional expenditures would amount to approximately \$US 1.5 million per annum. He also stated that, in his view, a further \$US 1.5 million would be required for the programme activities of the Centre.

824. The Director advised the Commission that the transitional research programme of the Centre as approved by the Management Board and the Commission had been completed with the preparation of four studies on rural employment strategies, rural migration policies and development, access planning for target groups and strategies for integrating women in national planning processes, and that significant progress had been registered on the four long-term programme areas selected by the Management Board, namely, energy planning and management, food security, human resources mobilization for development and integration of women in development. A number of delegations expressed the desire for early dissemination of the findings of the interim research studies to the member and associate member countries of the region. The Commission was informed that the studies would be published soon and made available to all concerned.

825. In response to queries from certain delegations, the Director stated that, as stipulated in the Charter, the Centre was maintaining a judicious balance between research and training in its activities. It had already conducted 20 training programmes in 12 countries of the region.

826. The Commission was further informed by the Director that the Centre had given a special organizational identity to the programme area related to issues concerning women, youth, children and the handicapped. The Centre had conducted a workshop in co-operation with UNICEF on the subject of increasing social access to basic services. The proceedings of the workshop would be published soon and made available to all member and associate member countries of the region. Another workshop, on significant social aspects of development, was planned for June 1983.

827. One delegation expressed reservations concerning APDC's association with the programme on south Asian co-operation studies. It was pointed out that that programme had been initiated in 1977 and, prior to the establishment of APDC in July 1980, UNDP had provided programme support to that co-operative

research undertaking through the former Asian and Pacific Development Institute (APDI). When APDI had been integrated into APDC, UNDP had continued to provide financial assistance to the project through APDC. Thus, the role of APDC in relation to the project had been to act as the channel for the UNDP funding of the programme. APDC's own resources had not contributed to the programme. It was pointed out that after completion of the present phase no further work would be initiated by APDC on the project without the express approval of the Governments concerned.

828. The Commission took note of the host Government's keen desire to ensure the smooth transition of APDC to an intergovernmental institution with effect from 1 July 1983 with a view to enabling it to implement work programmes in the medium and long terms that would have direct relevance to the development issues facing the region. It further noted that the financial resources required for the adequate and efficient performance of the tasks entrusted to APDC should be mobilized.

829. The Commission noted the host Government's concern to avoid any interruption in the work of APDC as a consequence of its transformation into an intergovernmental entity. In that regard, it endorsed the host Government's view that the forthcoming intergovernmental meeting of the signatories to the Charter should, *inter alia*, address itself to the following crucial issues:

- (a) Financial requirements of APDC and sources of funding, including those required for meeting institutional costs;
- (b) Appointment of members of the General Council;
- (c) Draft host country agreement;
- (d) Appointment of a temporary director and other staff;
- (e) Salary structure;
- (f) Financial regulations.

830. With regard to APDC's financial resources, the Commission drew the attention of UNDP to its resolution 206 (XXXVI), in which the Commission noted the offer of UNDP to provide institutional support to APDC for the first five formative years of its existence.

831. The Commission noted that the current level of financial support extended by the Governments to APDC was not adequate to cover the cost of the minimum viable core staff at the present salary scales.

832. The Commission noted the host Government's desire to be consulted with regard to the appointment of the Director of the Centre.

833. It also noted the view of the host country that there should be close co-operation, rapport and working relationships between the Chairman of the Management Board and the Director of APDC so as to ensure the smooth functioning of the Centre.

Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

834. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/330.

835. It recognized the effectiveness of SIAP in pursuing its mandate. It welcomed SIAP as an institution greatly valued by the members of ESCAP and agreed that it required greater support from the member countries of the region to enable it to carry out its mandate without interruption and without needing to have recourse to temporary stop-gap measures to overcome the problem of shortage of funds.

836. The Commission recognized the generosity of the Government of Japan as host Government in providing not only host facilities but also the greater measure of institutional support and fellowships. It also recognized the importance of maintaining the regional character of SIAP and, to that end, urged that there should be greater participation by all member countries in its financing.

837. The Commission expressed its gratitude to the Governments of the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, contributing countries of the region, UNDP and UNFPA for their substantial support.

Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre

838. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/292 and E/ESCAP/326 and noted the advisory and technical services on planning, exploration, exploitation, evaluation and implementation of mineral resources projects provided by RMRDC during the period under review through 27 technical advisory missions to 19 developing ESCAP countries.

839. It also noted the various workshops and training courses organized by RMRDC. Two workshops had been held at Bandung, Indonesia: one on the importance of mining to industrial development and the other on biogeochemical exploration in a tropical rainforest environment. RMRDC had also sponsored eight trainees from five countries to attend the fourth 11-month postgraduate training course at the Geological Survey of India Training Institute at Raipur from November 1982 to October 1983. It was also organizing jointly with the Department of Industrial Promotion, Ministry of Industry, Government of Thailand, an eight-week basic gem-cutting training course to be held at Bangkok from early June 1983 to the end of July 1983. A workshop on hydrogeological mapping would be organized at Bandung during 1983.

840. The Commission noted with great concern the critical situation facing RMRDC owing to the lack of a Co-ordinator since the beginning of 1983 as a result of the termination of UNDP institutional support. It noted that the low level of cash contributions from member countries was not sufficient to fund the post of Co-ordinator on the basis of United Nations salary scales.

841. Recognizing the unique and important function of RMRDC and its useful role in assisting countries in the field of mineral resources development and the urgent need for a Co-ordinator to maintain its usefulness as well as its existence, the Commission strongly appealed to members to consider, as a matter of urgency, either contributing or increasing their cash contributions, as the case might be. It also appealed to UNDP to reconsider its decision and provide funds for the post of Co-ordinator until the end of 1984.

842. The Commission noted that the total amount of cash contributions pledged or paid by members for 1983 were \$US 47,000 and YRMB 5,000 as indicated below:

Bangladesh	\$ 1,000
Brunei	\$ 10,000
China	\$ 5,000 plus ¥RMB 5,000
India	\$ 4,000
Indonesia	\$ 10,000
Malaysia	\$ 5,000
Republic of Korea	\$ 7,500
Thailand	\$ 4,500
	<u>\$ 47,000</u> plus ¥RMB 5,000

Further pledges of cash contributions from member countries were expected.

843. One delegation suggested that as a temporary measure the secretariat should recruit a volunteer expert from among United Nations retirees or from the Canadian Executive/Universities Services Overseas as Co-ordinator to be paid not according to the United Nations salary scale but under arrangements compatible with United Nations administrative procedures. If UNDP could not provide support for the post of Co-ordinator and pending a solution to the problem of funding the post of Co-ordinator, the same delegation suggested that one of the senior international experts attached to the Centre or a senior Professional staff member from the secretariat be appointed to act as officer-in-charge of the Centre on an interim basis.

844. Noting with deep appreciation the generous assistance provided by the Governments of Finland, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the United Kingdom in the form of specialist services and training facilities, the

Commission urged donor Governments to continue their assistances to RMRDC.

845. The Commission elected the following countries as members of the Governing Council of the Centre for the three-year period ending at the time of the forty-second session of the Commission, in 1986: Bangladesh, India, Indonesia (host), Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Solomon Islands and Thailand.

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

846. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/327.

847. It noted with satisfaction the work performed by the Centre and the secretariat in the field of CGPRT crops. It was informed that the operational base of the Centre had moved to Bogor, Indonesia, on 25 September 1982, at which time the Government of Indonesia had provided temporary office space in the counterpart research institute, supporting staff and other facilities, including a vehicle. It was also informed that the new building for the Centre had been formally dedicated on 16 February 1983. The Commission expressed its appreciation and thanks to the Government of Indonesia for the generous support extended so far for the Centre's operation.

848. The Commission also noted that the first session of the Governing Board of the Centre had been held at Bogor in February 1983. It was informed that the Governing Board had underlined the important role to be played by the Centre in the strengthening of national research capabilities related to the development of CGPRT crops in the region through (a) provision of assistance for the development of an agricultural co-operative research network, (b) preparation of agro-economic studies, covering social aspects also, (c) training of national research and extension workers and (d) collection, processing and dissemination of information on CGPRT crops.

849. The Commission was informed that the Governing Board of the Centre had generally approved the proposed programme of work for 1983 and 1984 and had agreed on the budget for 1983. It noted that the work programme of the Centre would first concentrate on (a) preparation and planning for project implementation, specifically formation of a research network at the national and regional levels, (b) implementation of priority research projects on (i) socio-economic analysis of production constraints and the potential impact of expanded production of CGPRT crops on the rural economy and welfare, including demand studies of

CGPRT crops, and (ii) studies on farming systems and (c) training, in particular workshops and seminars on selected subjects such as (i) research methodology and planning of socio-economic studies on selected CGPRT crops, (ii) production and market potential of cassava and research needs in Asia and (iii) soybeans in tropical and subtropical cropping systems.

850. The Commission noted that the budgetary requirements for 1983 would amount to \$US 615,000, 40 per cent of which would be budgeted for programme support activities, 57 per cent for staff salaries, administrative and other operating costs and 3 per cent for contingencies. It was informed that the cash contributions received so far for 1982-1983 from the member countries — Australia, Bangladesh, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands and the Philippines — totalled \$US 292,500. Of that amount, \$US 137,500 had been spent in 1982 and the balance of \$US 155,000 had been carried over to 1983; the remaining resources needed for 1983 would have to be obtained partly (\$US 400,000) from contributions by the member countries and partly (\$US 60,000) from UNDP programme support through the FAO-executed project on TCDC for the research and development of food legumes and coarse grains in the tropics and subtropics of Asia (RAS/82/002). Recognizing that in the current initial stage the resource position of the Centre was not unduly discouraging, the Commission expressed its gratitude to the Governments of member countries for their valuable contributions and to UNDP for its support for the Centre's initial activities. The Commission also expressed its gratitude to the Governments of France, Japan and the USSR for their commitment of support to the Centre through the provision of expert services or financial assistance and/or the organization of seminars on CGPRT crops in 1983. It further noted that the Governments of Bangladesh, India and the Republic of Korea had shown their willingness to continue to support the implementation of the Centre's programmes.

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

851. The Commission took note of the annual report for 1982 of the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin (E/ESCAP/323), which had been submitted for its information. As advised by its Chairman, the Commission further noted that the delegations of the member Governments constituting the Interim Mekong Committee, whose seventeenth session was to have been held concurrently with the thirty-ninth session of the Commission, had decided between them to postpone that session and to meet instead in June 1983 at a time to be mutually agreed upon. The current Chairman of the Interim Mekong Committee was accordingly not in a position to introduce the agenda item.

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

852. The Commission considered the report of CCOP on its nineteenth session (E/ESCAP/324). It noted that CCOP had in the previous 10 years been one of the most active and successful organizations in providing assistance in its offshore exploration for hydrocarbons, tin and other resources and in various other geological and geophysical activities. It considered that the activities of CCOP were worth while and fully appreciated the fact that CCOP had contributed significantly to the development of offshore mineral resources in the CCOP member countries and in the training of their technical personnel. It expressed appreciation of the support given to CCOP by UNDP and co-operating countries and fully endorsed CCOP's activities. It attached great importance to the SEATAR programme, which should be supported and continued.

853. Attention was drawn to the problem which would face CCOP when UNDP ceased to provide funds for institutional support after 1984 and because of its intention to phase out project funding. In view of the grave consequences for CCOP's future activities, a Steering Committee had been set up at the nineteenth session to consider and re-examine CCOP's future work programme in order to accommodate the reduced UNDP funding, to review CCOP's original terms of reference to meet the new structure of CCOP when it became a fully independent intergovernmental body, to consider an increase in country contributions and to formulate a gradual mechanism whereby CCOP could be self-sustaining without seriously jeopardizing the thrust and momentum of its activities.

854. An appeal was made to member countries of CCOP to attend the forthcoming Steering Committee meeting in June 1983. It was also urged that participants be adequately prepared to provide definitive solutions and recommendations for the operational pattern of CCOP by the end of 1984.

855. Appreciation was expressed of the assistance given by CCOP to work carried out by various Indonesian organizations in a variety of mineral and hydrocarbon exploration projects. Particular mention was made of the sophisticated SEATAR programme, the hydrocarbon assessment programme, Quaternary geology studies and the assistance given under the programme on gravity and magnetics. Appreciation was also expressed of the support provided to CCOP by international organizations and co-operating countries and it was hoped that that support would continue, so as to enable CCOP to help to meet the needs of the member countries. The Commission noted that Indonesia and the Republic of Korea would continue to co-operate fully with CCOP and participate in its activities.

856. The Commission noted the excellent work of CCOP in raising the technical standards of member countries in hydrocarbon and offshore mineral exploration; that work was well known not only within the region but throughout the world. The Commission was pleased to note that Japan would continue to support and co-operate with CCOP in a number of ways, including the provision of experts, the editing and publication of CCOP's *Technical Bulletin* and the provision of training to member country personnel. It also expressed appreciation of previous UNDP support and hoped that such support would be continued as along as possible.

857. The Commission noted the proposal to establish a regional centre for Quaternary geology in China and expressed the hope that all CCOP member countries could participate in the activities of the centre. It noted that further consultations regarding the regional centre would be held by China with ESCAP and CCOP.

858. The USSR offered to conduct an oceanographic research cruise for CCOP in late 1983/early 1984. The Commission was also informed that various research centres in the USSR could assist CCOP in map preparation and offshore mineral exploration.

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

859. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/325.

860. It was pleased to note that the work programme of the Committee was contributing to a better understanding of mineral and energy resource potentials, geology and the marine environment and to the training of nationals and was of importance to, and needed by, the small, developing island countries of the Pacific, which depended so extensively on the resources of the sea.

861. It noted with appreciation that member Governments at a recent intergovernmental meeting had, in the light of the changing situation, decided to re-allocate \$US 250,000 of UNDP regional funds to ensure the continuation of the Committee's priority activities to the end of 1986.

862. It noted with appreciation that co-operating Governments, the ESCAP secretariat, UNDP and other international and national organizations had provided substantial support to the Committee and hoped that the secretariat would co-operate with other relevant bodies so that the Committee could continue to exist in one form or another after 1986.

863. The Commission was informed that Guam, which had become a member of the Committee in 1982, had invited CCOP/SOPAC to undertake research in the North Pacific region.

864. The Commission noted with interest the activities being carried out by Governments in support of the Committee's programme. Japan planned to carry out a comprehensive research cruise as a co-operative measure with CCOP/SOPAC starting in late 1983. The preliminary evaluation of the results of the tripartite (Australia, New Zealand and United States) joint programme with the Committee of geoscientific research and mineral resource studies, which had been carried out in 1982, had been completed.

865. One delegation stated that results of the research cruises made by the USSR had been made available to CCOP/SOPAC in 1982. It also mentioned that the USSR had made a proposal to the Committee at its eleventh session to organize an international scientific research expedition.

866. The leader of the Solomon Islands delegation stated that no request had been received from the Soviet Union for a Soviet research vessel to enter Solomon Islands waters and that if such a request were received it would be rejected. The majority of the delegations regretted that the Soviet Union was persisting in pressing its offers of marine research to CCOP/SOPAC member States despite the fact that those offers were clearly unwelcome. They considered that the preceding paragraph had no place in the report of the Commission because the activities referred to were not part of a CCOP/SOPAC programme and regretted that a few delegations insisted on its inclusion against the wishes of the majority.

867. The USSR delegation explained that it was not persisting in pressing its offers but was exercising its right to express its views on the subject. Several delegations regretted that other delegations tried to deny their right to express their views and said that the statement by the representative of the Solomon Islands did not correspond to the actual facts.

Typhoon Committee

868. The Commission noted the information contained in the report of the Typhoon Committee on its fifteenth session (E/ESCAP/294) and commended the Committee on its work during the year.

869. It was pleased to note that the first Typhoon Operational Experiment (TOPEX) had been successfully completed during the period 1 August-15 October 1982 through the joint co-operative efforts of the members and that the data and information obtained from the experiment would be useful in improving typhoon forecasting techniques. Noting that steps were being taken to prepare for the second and final experiment in 1983 on the basis of the technical guidelines agreed to at the Third Planning Meeting at Tokyo and the guidance of the Management Board for TOPEX, the hope was expressed that the experiment would be successful.

870. The Commission also noted that the Committee had carried out a detailed review of the progress in the implementation of the hydrological component, on which particular aspect of the Committee's programme ESCAP concentrated its substantive support. The review had indicated that relatively satisfactory progress had been made on the following items: operation, maintenance and improvement of existing flood forecasting and warning systems; establishment of flood forecasting and warning systems in other river basins; and organization of regional training seminars by ESCAP and WMO. However, there had been a lack of progress on two items: establishment of pilot areas for comprehensive flood loss prevention and management, and application of flood plain management for the pilot areas.

871. The Commission noted and endorsed the recommendations of the Committee which would require ESCAP involvement. One was the recommendation that ESCAP, in consultation with WMO, take the steps necessary to organize a seminar on the principles of flood plain management, which was a logical follow-up to the seminar on flood vulnerability analysis organized by ESCAP in 1982. The other called for the development by a working group of a medium- to long-term programme (1984-1992) for submission to the Committee at its sixteenth session. The working group, which would meet at Manila in mid-1983, would be comprised of representatives of China, Hong Kong, Japan, ESCAP, WMO and the Typhoon Committee secretariat.

872. The Commission noted that the Committee was considering a proposal for Typhoon Committee members to make annual cash contributions for the institutional support of the Committee secretariat.

873. The Commission expressed appreciation of the co-operation and support extended by a number of countries, international organizations and UNDP to the Committee and its secretariat. In particular, it took note of the useful and important contributions of China and Japan to the Committee and appreciated their assurances of continued support. It also took note of the readiness of the USSR to extend assistance to the Committee through the provision of training and participation in various experiments.

874. The Commission noted with appreciation the announcement by the representative of Japan that his Government would host the sixteenth session of the Typhoon Committee in December 1983.

Asian and Pacific energy programmes

875. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/328 and took note of the evolving role of the secretariat as an executing agency in implementing energy projects in the region. It observed that energy was of common concern to the developing countries and that energy

projects would continue to play a vital role in helping to raise the quality of life of the people of the region, in determining the pace of progress and in accelerating the process of modernization. It also noted that the recent fall in the prices of energy commodities would generally benefit member countries as it would give them breathing space and an opportunity to draw up plans for energy development more systematically during the coming decade and beyond.

Regional energy development programme

876. In the above context, the Commission was pleased to learn that the long-term objective of the UNDP-funded regional energy development programme (REDP) was to assist the participating Asian countries and to foster intercountry co-operation among them in (a) the planning and management of energy programmes, (b) the efficient use of energy and (c) the development of both conventional and new and renewable sources of energy.

877. The Commission was pleased to note that a full-time Senior Co-ordinator of REDP had been appointed and assumed his duties on 21 June 1982 and that the project document had been signed by UNDP on 30 August 1982 with an approved budget of \$US 1,878,978 for 1982-1983. It was also pleased to learn that, in spite of the late launching of the project, of the 28 activities stipulated in the project document 1 had been fully completed, 6 partially completed and 12 others scheduled to commence shortly, preparations having been completed. The Commission noted that 127 officials and experts from Asian members and associate members (Bangladesh, Burma, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand) and agencies had participated in the 7 initial activities mentioned above.

878. The Commission also noted that a review mission had been fielded by UNDP and ESCAP during February-April 1983 to assess the progress of project implementation in the first phase (1982-1983) and to recommend extended and/or new activities for 1984-1986. It further noted that the findings and recommendations of the mission had been submitted to UNDP and ESCAP for endorsement and that the report would then be presented for review to meetings of the steering committee, the interagency and inter-institutional working group and the tripartite monitoring review in May 1983. On the basis of the formula stipulated in the project document, senior officials representing the Governments of Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam would constitute the steering committee during its initial term.

879. The Commission gave its full support and endorsement to the objectives and activities of the project. At the same time, it noted that energy activities within

the region should be better co-ordinated, that duplication should be avoided wherever possible and that the project should concentrate on countries which needed the most help and on a few well-selected themes in the field of energy. One delegation felt that, in view of the large number of institutions and agencies working in the field of energy in the region, care should be taken to avoid duplication of effort among them.

880. The Commission was pleased to note the offers made by one country to host future REDP activities at the two regional centres (biogas and small hydro-power) already established in the country and by another country to take expeditious measures in following up an earlier pledge to host three activities.

881. The Commission expressed its gratitude to UNDP for its support of the project during the current phase (1982-1983) and for its continued support until the end of the second phase (1984-1986); to participating and host countries for making the project a viable one; and to the six associate executing agencies (the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, UNIDO, FAO, ILO, UNESCO and ADB) for their co-operation in implementing certain project activities.

Pacific energy development programme

882. The Commission considered the Pacific energy development programme to be very important and useful to the Pacific countries and requested the secretariat to continue its support for that activity. The view was expressed that it complemented and supplemented other multilateral efforts in the field. The view was also expressed that, in order to balance the efforts of the secretariat, attention should also be paid to the important role of conventional sources of energy (coal, gas, hydropower).

883. The Commission expressed appreciation of the advice provided under the programme to six countries on matters relating to the supply and pricing of petroleum products.

884. The Commission was pleased to note that the Project Manager was expected to take up his appointment soon. In that connection, the secretariat was urged to take the necessary steps for the recruitment of the expert on energy planning.

885. One delegation expressed disagreement with the proposed annual meeting of representatives of the Pacific countries to review the implementation progress and establish the future schedule of activities.

Announcement of intended contributions

886. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/331 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/332 and Corr.1-3 and E/ESCAP/333 and Add.1.

887. The Executive Secretary explained the importance of extrabudgetary contributions in sustaining the programmes of ESCAP and the regional institutions, particularly in view of the stringency being experienced by the funding bodies within the United Nations system. He referred to the various steps initiated by the secretariat during the previous year to infuse greater specificity into the aim and content of ESCAP programme activities and make them more responsive to the urgent needs of the developing member countries. Those included applying the criteria for setting priorities, establishing a project review committee, streamlining the procedures for the implementation of projects through the issue of a new manual and initiating an arrangement for the evaluation of programme activities. He referred particularly to the requirements of the regional institutions, especially for the maintenance of core staff. He also appealed to the donor countries to expedite the procedures for the remittance of their contributions as soon as possible after their announcement at the current session.

888. The Commission took note of the following intended contributions for 1983.

Afghanistan

889. The representative of Afghanistan announced the intention of his Government to contribute \$US 3,000 for APDC.

Australia

890. The representative of Australia announced that the contribution of his Government for the year 1 July 1982–30 June 1983 for ESCAP projects and the regional institutions would amount to \$A 1,362,000, marking an increase of 11 per cent over the contribution for the previous year. It would consist of the following:

(a) *Assistance to ESCAP institutions and projects*

APDC	\$A	145,000
SIAP	\$A	60,000
RCTT	\$A	75,000
RNAM	\$A	100,000
UNDAT	\$A	300,000
Subtotal	\$A	680,000

(b) *Assistance to regional projects*

Interim Mekong Committee	\$A	165,000
CCOP/SOPAC	\$A	84,000
10 other regional projects	\$A	433,000
Subtotal	\$A	682,000
Total	\$A	1,362,000

An amount of \$A 229,000 towards regional projects had already been delivered to the secretariat and procedures for the delivery of the remaining amount

were in progress. The representative of Australia underlined to importance attached by his Government to the operationalization of an arrangement in ESCAP for evaluation and indicated that an amount had been provided to support that activity and that new proposals would also be considered.

Bangladesh

891. The representative of Bangladesh announced the intention of his Government to raise the level of its contribution to APDC by 20 per cent – from \$US 12,500 to \$US 15,000, with effect from the current fiscal year, and to maintain its contributions to the other institutions at the current annual levels, namely:

SIAP	\$US 5,000
RMRDC	\$US 1,000
CGPRT Centre	\$US 1,000
	<u>\$US 22,000</u>

The total contribution of Bangladesh in 1983 would thus be \$US 22,000.

Burma

892. The representative of Burma announced the intention of his Government to contribute \$US 2,000 towards the ESCAP work programme in 1983.

China

893. The representative of China announced a contribution by his Government to ESCAP in 1983 at an increased annual level of \$US 80,000 and ¥RMB 200,000. That would include support for the activities of RMRDC to the extent of \$US 5,000 and ¥RMB 5,000. In addition, the Government of China would contribute \$US 20,000 to CCOP in 1983.

France

894. The representative of France announced the intention of his Government to provide assistance to ESCAP in the following areas of work:

- (a) Energy planning;
- (b) Transport;
- (c) Natural resources;
- (d) Agriculture;
- (e) Geological studies;
- (f) Remote sensing;
- (g) Assistance to South Pacific island countries.

It was envisaged that the total value of the French assistance to ESCAP in 1983 (including trust fund contributions as well as non-reimbursable loans) would amount to about F 7 million.

Hong Kong

895. The Government of Hong Kong had already made its contribution of \$US 10,000 to SIAP for 1983.

India

896. The representative of India announced that his Government would make the following cash contributions in 1983:

- (a) An amount in Indian rupees equivalent to \$US 50,000 towards institutional support for RCTT;
- (b) \$US 4,000 to RMRDC;
- (c) \$US 10,000 to SIAP.

India's contribution to APDC would be announced soon.

897. In addition to those cash contributions, the Government of India offered 10 places for training in the Geological Survey of India and host facilities for seminars on air cargo transport and on technological innovations in railway systems. The Government of India would also fund a study on land policies in human settlements.

Indonesia

898. The representative of Indonesia announced the intention of his Government to make the following contributions in 1983:

- (a) \$US 20,000 for CCOP;
- (b) \$US 47,300 for APDC;
- (c) \$US 10,000 for RMRDC;
- (d) \$US 40,000 for SIAP;
- (e) \$US 5,000 for RCTT;
- (f) \$US 6,500 for RNAM.

899. In addition, the Government of Indonesia would contribute \$M 587,450 to SEATRADC and \$US 10,000 to the Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific. Those would bring the total to \$US 392,000.

Iran

900. The representative of Iran announced that, subject to the approval of the Parliament of Iran, the contribution of his Government to ESCAP in 1983 would be increased by \$US 10,000 over its contribution in the previous year. His Government had proposed the establishment of a data centre for the developing countries and would be willing to pay the expenses for the preparatory phase of the centre.

Japan

901. The representative of Japan announced that the total assistance of his Government for 1983 was

expected to be in the order of \$US 4.8 million, composed of:

- (a) \$US 1,650,000 for the implementation of ESCAP projects under the Japan-ESCAP Co-operation Fund (marking an increase of 10 per cent over the previous year);
- (b) \$US 30,000 for the Interim Mekong Committee;
- (c) \$US 672,000 for seven training courses in Japan, including two under SIAP;
- (d) \$US 905,000 for the provision of experts on a non-reimbursable-loan basis;
- (e) A cash contribution of \$US 615,000 for SIAP;
- (f) Assistance in kind towards host facilities for SIAP amounting to \$US 617,000.

The Japanese contribution to APDC would be announced in the near future, upon its acquiring intergovernmental status. The representative of Japan placed on record the disappointment of his Government at the current slump in the activities of the Interim Mekong Committee and expressed the hope that they would soon be revitalized.

Malaysia

902. The representative of Malaysia announced a contribution by his Government amounting to about \$US 246,500, consisting of:

- (a) \$US 42,000 for APDC;
- (b) \$M 400,000 to meet the local operating costs of APDC;
- (c) \$US 20,000 for CCOP;
- (d) \$US 7,000 for SIAP;
- (e) \$US 5,000 for RMRDC.

Mongolia

903. The representative of Mongolia announced a contribution by his Government in its currency equivalent to \$US 1,000 for the support of ESCAP activities.

Netherlands

904. The representative of the Netherlands stated that he was not yet in a position to announce the exact amount of his Government's contribution to ESCAP in 1983. However, he affirmed the intention of his Government to continue to support projects under the ESCAP work programme. The contribution for training activities under SIAP and under the programme on health and development would amount to f. 500,000 in 1983. The Government of the

Netherlands had also decided to contribute a sum of \$US 20,000 to the newly established Asia and the Pacific Tax Research Centre at Singapore.

New Zealand

905. In 1983 the Government of New Zealand would contribute \$NZ 20,000 to APDC and \$NZ 8,000 to SIAP. In addition, it would contribute \$NZ 25,000 towards small ESCAP projects, to be undertaken for the benefit of the South Pacific island countries.

Republic of Korea

906. The representative of the Republic of Korea announced the intention of his Government to contribute a total amount of \$US 128,361, composed of:

- (a) \$US 36,000 for APDC;
- (b) \$US 17,500 for SIAP;
- (c) \$US 7,500 for RMRDC;
- (d) \$US 20,000 for RCTT;
- (e) \$US 26,861 for activities under the ESCAP work programme;
- (f) \$US 10,500 for RNAM;
- (g) \$US 10,000 for CCOP.

Singapore

907. The representative of Singapore stated that his Government would contribute \$US 3,000 annually to SIAP for the 1980-1984 cycle and that its contribution to APDC would be decided later.

Sri Lanka

908. The representative of Sri Lanka announced the intention of his Government to contribute \$US 34,500, consisting of:

- (a) \$US 25,000 for APDC;
- (b) \$US 4,500 for SIAP;
- (c) \$US 5,000 for RCTT.

Those contributions marked increases of 29 per cent, 50 per cent and 100 per cent respectively over those made in 1982.

Thailand

909. The representative of Thailand announced the intention of his Government to make the following contributions in 1983:

- (a) \$US 4,500 for RMRDC;
- (b) \$US 10,000 for SIAP;
- (c) \$US 30,000 for CCOP.

Other contributions by his Government would be announced later.

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

910. 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. Ten fellowships were offered for trainees from the developing countries of the ESCAP region. His Government was also prepared to provide experts and the use of scientific research vessels and airborne laboratories for geological studies of the continental shelf in South Pacific and Asian waters.

United Kingdom

911. The Government of the United Kingdom would be contributing approximately £ 70,000 (about \$US 110,000) to ESCAP in 1983. That would support, *inter alia*, technical assistance and training in the population, minerals and statistical fields. It also hoped to make further funds available for the work of the Interim Mekong Committee.

Viet Nam

912. The representative of Viet Nam announced the intention of his Government to contribute the equivalent of \$US 5,000 in its currency to APDC in 1983.

Federal Republic of Germany

913. The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany announced that the contribution of his Government in 1983 towards ongoing projects would amount to \$US 656,000.

914. Its contributions in 1984 would be \$US 322,000 for ongoing projects and \$US 420,000 for new commitments, the extension of contracts of experts and specific programme activities to be agreed upon.

915. The Government envisaged an amount of about \$US 322,000 for ongoing projects in 1985 and had earmarked \$US 420,000 for new commitments.

916. It proposed to support ESCAP's technical assistance advisory activities by providing short-term experts on a non-reimbursable-loan basis. The value of that contribution would be about \$US 150,000 in 1983 as well as in 1984.

Israel

917. The representative of Israel offered 10 scholarships for study in Israel by trainees from ESCAP member countries.

Norway

918. The representative of Norway said that his Government had contributed \$US 831,500 in 1983 for the ESCAP ship user's co-operation project.

919. The intended contributions for 1983 indicated at the session amounted to about \$US 12 million. It was noted that contributions for APDC would be announced by some of the member countries after the Centre became a regional institution in July 1983. Also not included in the aforesaid aggregate figure were the contributions by some non-member donors which were not represented at the session, as well as the value of uncosted contributions in kind.

920. The Commission again emphasized the need for the member countries to increase their contributions towards the programme activities of ESCAP and the regional institutions and projects. The secretariat was requested to undertake a critical review and evaluation of the programmes and activities of the regional institutions in order to ensure that the nature and modalities of those undertakings were supportive of efforts aimed at enhancing regional co-operation. The Commission expressed the hope that the initiatives of the working group being established in respect of the regional institutions would evoke a substantial response from the member countries.

921. The Executive Secretary expressed his gratitude to the member countries for their generous announcements of intended contributions, despite the prevailing recession and budgetary constraints in most of the countries. He stated that it would be the constant endeavour of the secretariat to put those resources to the best use.

922. The Commission expressed its appreciation to the donor countries which had supported the secretariat's evaluation system through their respective extra-budgetary assistance as well as expertise, particularly the Federal Republic of Germany.

Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

923. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/334, which was introduced by the Alternate Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to ESCAP, who had been designated by ACPR for that purpose. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the good work done by ACPR during the year and noted with appreciation the useful recommendations on important issues such as structure, frequency and duration of Commission sessions, reassessment of the Commission's priorities, the draft programme of work and priorities for 1984-1985 and procedures for legislative committee sessions.

924. The Commission felt that ACPR should concentrate its deliberations on selected important problems, including the need to monitor the progress of the work of the secretariat. It recommended that a work plan for ACPR should continue to be prepared in advance and that documents for each session should be circulated at least one week in advance to enable the members of

ACPR to seek the views of their respective Governments on the matters to be discussed.

925. The Commission noted that ACPR played an important role in providing a useful channel of communications between member countries and the secretariat. It was observed that the continuing co-operation between the members of ACPR and the secretariat would ensure the success of ACPR as an advisory body to the Executive Secretary.

926. The Executive Secretary pledged his full co-operation with ACPR and observed that the extensive deliberations undertaken by ACPR on various important issues had greatly contributed to the work of the secretariat and to his understanding of the views of member Governments relating to specific issues. He pointed out that the role played by ACPR in the work of the Commission was unique in the United Nations system.

Date, venue and any other subject pertaining to the fortieth session of the Commission

927. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/335 and Add.1 and E/ESCAP/340 and accepted with appreciation the invitation of the Government of Japan to hold the fortieth session at Tokyo from 17 to 27 April 1984. Only one delegation expressed concern regarding the possible financial implications of that decision.

928. The Commission endorsed the Executive Secretary's proposal that the theme of the fortieth session should be "Technology for development". The delineation of the contents and format of the theme topic, keeping in view the ideas expressed in the Commission and whatever views might be expressed further by the member Governments through the permanent representatives, would be carried out by the Executive Secretary in consultation with ACPR.

929. It was suggested that, for future sessions of the Commission, the secretariat should provide a choice of possible themes to member Governments well in advance of each session.

Other matters

930. While discussing other matters, the Commission requested the secretariat to note that ESCAP meetings should adjourn their deliberations on Fridays by 12 noon so as to enable participants who so wished to attend congregational prayers. The afternoon session could resume as usual.

Adoption of the annual report of the Commission

931. At its 598th meeting on 29 April 1983, the Commission unanimously adopted the draft report prepared by the Technical and Drafting Committee.

Chapter IV

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS THIRTY-NINTH SESSION

231 (XXXIX). Strengthening regional co-operation on programmes for youth development¹

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recognizing the contribution of youth to national and international development efforts and to the promotion of peace and co-operation,

Recognizing further the objectives of the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace in focusing attention on the situation of youth,

Noting that members and associate members of the Asian and Pacific region have programmes and services for youth development which could be shared with other countries in the region in order to facilitate the enrichment of national and regional programmes and services for youth,

Recalling the recommendations of the Regional *Ad Hoc* Advisory Group Meeting on Youth Problems and Programmes, sponsored by the Commission in 1979, on the need to promote programmes of mutual assistance,

Noting that the Commission has been conducting regional youth programmes and assisting national youth programmes effectively,

1. *Appeals* to Governments of members and associate members to ensure that youth enjoy the right of full participation in national development and are thus accorded the benefits accruing from such participation;

2. *Recommends* that the Executive Secretary should assist, within existing resources, Governments of members and associate members which seek assistance for participation in the planning, implementation and evaluation of exchange, field study and attachment programmes for youth workers and leaders at all levels within their national priorities, to achieve the following objectives:

(a) Increasing understanding and awareness of the situation of youth and their special needs so as to maximize their contribution to and participation in national development;

(b) Promoting programme activities to nurture and enhance the potential of youth for rural and urban community work;

(c) Developing initiative and self-reliance at the local and national levels in organizing and undertaking youth programmes;

(d) Encouraging greater involvement and participation of youth leaders in planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating youth programmes and projects;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue his efforts in providing technical assistance and support to facilitate the conduct of activities and projects bilaterally or multilaterally in accordance with the above objectives.

597th meeting
28 April 1983

232 (XXXIX). Social aspects of rural development²

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969,

Recalling also the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, particularly that part of it related to social development, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980,

Recalling further the main conclusions and specific recommendations of the Second Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development related to integrated social development,

Reaffirming that the social aspects and goals of development form an integral part of the overall development process,

Stressing the need to implement comprehensive rural development programmes in order to raise the standard of living of rural populations,

¹ See paras. 711-717 above.

² See para. 698 above.

Noting with appreciation the activities undertaken by the secretariat in the area of integrated rural development,

1. *Invites* the Governments of members and associate members to give special attention to the social impact of policies relating to integrated rural development programmes;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to invite interested Governments of members and associate members to present country papers on social aspects of rural development policies and programmes for distribution at the fortieth session of the Commission together with his report on the secretariat's activities in this field for further consideration.

597th meeting
28 April 1983

233 (XXXIX). Implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries³

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Recalling also resolution 122 (V) of 3 June 1979 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, which was endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/210 of 19 December 1979,

Reaffirming the statement in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session, that as an essential priority within the Strategy, the least developed countries — the economically weakest and poorest countries with the most formidable structural problems — require a special programme of sufficient size and intensity consistent with their national plans and priorities to make a decisive break from their past and present situation and their bleak prospects,⁴

³ See paras. 318-323 above.

⁴ General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex, para. 136.

Reaffirming the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, adopted unanimously by the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 36/194 of 17 December 1981,

Recalling its resolution 214 (XXXVII) of 19 March 1981 on the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the positive role played by the Commission in the preparatory phase of the Conference, including the holding of the Ministerial Meeting on the Least Developed Countries of the ESCAP and ECWA Regions at Bangkok in August 1981,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 37/224 of 20 December 1982, in which the Assembly urged that the Substantial New Programme of Action should be implemented fully,

Bearing in mind that more than 40 per cent of the population of the least developed countries live in the seven least developed countries of the region under dismal and deteriorating social and economic conditions, even after the adoption of the Substantial New Programme of Action,

Reaffirming also that the main objectives of the Substantial New Programme of Action are to transform the economies of the least developed countries towards self-sustaining development, to promote the structural changes necessary to overcome the extreme economic difficulties of the least developed countries, to provide fully adequate and internationally accepted minimum standards of nutrition, health, transport and communications, housing and education as well as job opportunities to all their citizens, to identify and support major investment opportunities and priorities, and to mitigate the adverse effects of natural disasters,

Expressing deep concern that the economic growth experienced by the least developed countries of the region has lagged far behind the desirable rates, especially when compared with the targets contained in the Substantial New Programme of Action, and that several of the least developed countries are also falling far behind the sectoral targets envisaged,

Keeping in mind that the least developed countries have primary responsibility for their overall development and recognizing that these countries of the region have already taken significant steps in that direction and that, although international support measures are vitally important, the domestic policies which these countries pursue will continue to be of critical importance for the success of their development efforts,

Noting with concern that, despite the progress made by some of the donor countries towards the implementation of their commitments, the present external flows to the least developed countries are not in keeping with the substantial increase envisaged in the Substantial New Programme of Action, thus contributing to the slow implementation of the Programme,

Bearing in mind that suitable restructuring of the regional commissions is called for in accordance with paragraph 125 of the Substantial New Programme of Action to ensure more effective and meaningful follow-up and monitoring of the Programme at the national, regional and global levels, and that the Commission has taken some steps in that regard,

1. *Strongly urges* donor countries, multilateral development and financial institutions, the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and all others concerned to take immediate, concrete and adequate measures as agreed upon in the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries and to intensify efforts to accelerate the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action;

2. *Also strongly urges* donor countries to implement their commitments, as stated in paragraphs 61 to 69 of the Substantial New Programme of Action, so as to achieve, in that regard, a substantial increase in resources for the accelerated development of the least developed countries of the region and urgently to improve further the quality and effectiveness of official development assistance in order to increase its responsiveness to the requirements of the least developed countries, as called for in paragraph 70 of the Substantial New Programme of Action;

3. *Expresses satisfaction* at the holding of a round-table meeting at Geneva from 9 to 18 May 1983 under the auspices of the United Nations Development Programme to review and monitor progress and ensure the speedy implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for five of the seven least developed countries of the region;

4. *Calls upon* the Executive Secretary to conduct a comprehensive review within existing resources of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action in the region, paying particular attention to the identification of the measures needed for the acceleration of the pace of implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action in favour of the least developed countries of the region and to report to the Commission at its fortieth session on the results of the review and the recommendations which emerge from it.

597th meeting
28 April 1983

234 (XXXIX). Transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994⁵

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the annex to 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 paragraph 30 of the Strategy,

Recalling also Commission resolution 230 (XXXVIII) of 1 April 1982 on a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific and noting the efforts undertaken by the Executive Secretary to make an assessment of that resolution with a view to the proclamation of a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific during the period 1985-1994 and the support given to the proposal by the Commission's members and associate members,

Noting that the Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting held in August 1982, the Intergovernmental Meeting of Highway Experts held in February 1983, the Intergovernmental Meeting on Tourism Development held in March 1983 and, in particular, the Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Railways held in February-March 1983 supported or recommended the proclamation of a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific during the above-mentioned period,

Convinced of the critical role of all modes of transport as enabling elements in economic development and the importance, therefore, of the improvement and growth of transport infrastructure and services 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,

Aware of the need for an integrated approach to the planning of transport and communications, and taking into account the positive contribution which the proclamation of a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific during 1985-1994 could make towards the mobilization of political support for such an integrated approach,

Bearing of mind the United Nations resolutions relevant to the subject,

1. *Recommends* that account be taken of the need for the early proclamation of a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific;

⁵ See paras. 686-692 above.

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to consider, if necessary, the setting up of an *ad hoc* inter-governmental group:

(a) To prepare a phased programme of action for the decade with a view to ensuring the development of well-balanced, co-ordinated, modern and efficient transport and communications systems to enable the members and associate members of the region to accelerate their socio-economic development and to attain self-reliance in those sectors, and to promote subregional and regional co-operation, and collaborative arrangements, particularly among the developing countries, for achieving collective self-reliance in the fields of transport and communications;

(b) To assess the financial implications of the programme of action and make appropriate recommendations in respect of the mechanism to ensure the

implementation of the programme at the country and regional levels;

(c) To take appropriate steps to ensure United Nations interagency co-ordination and avoid duplication of work;

3. *Requests* the Governments of developing members and associate members to consider the installation of appropriate co-ordination mechanisms to integrate their country-level programmes of action with the regional programme of action for the decade, keeping in view their respective needs and goals, and to ensure close co-ordination with the Commission in respect of the regional programme;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fortieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*598th meeting
29 April 1983*

Annex I

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES, 1984-1985

Introduction

The programme of work and priorities, 1984-1985, as endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-ninth session is presented below.

The programme of work is presented in the standard format of the United Nations used for presentation of the biennial programme budget to the global intergovernmental bodies, which derives its structure directly from that of the medium-term plan recently approved by the General Assembly for the period 1984-1989.

It will be recalled that the work programme for the previous biennium contained 23 programmes. These are now classified into 14 substantive programmes following the programme classification of the medium-term plan of the United Nations:

1. Development issues and policies
2. Energy
3. Environment
4. Food and agriculture
5. Human settlements
6. Industrial development
7. International trade and development finance
8. Natural resources
9. Population
10. Science and technology
11. Social development and humanitarian affairs
12. Statistics
13. (a) Transport I (Transport, communications and tourism)
(b) Transport II (Shipping, ports and inland waterways)
14. Transnational corporations

As a result of the use of the above programme classification, the former programmes 03 on raw materials and commodities and 18 on least developed, land-locked and developing island countries have become subprogrammes 3 and 4 respectively of the programme on international trade and development finance; part B of the former programme 05 on transnational corporations has become part of the programme on transnational corporations carried out by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations and its joint units with the regional commissions; part C of the former programme 05 on external financial resource transfers has become subprogramme 2 of the programme on industrial development; the former programme 06 on integrated rural development is shown in different substantive programmes, including subprogramme 3 of the programme on food and agriculture; the former programmes 13 on development of communication facilities and 14 on development of tourism have become subprogrammes 5 and 6 respectively of the transport I programme; the former programmes 15 on mineral resources, 16 on water resources and 17 on remote sensing and mapping have become subprogrammes 1, 2 and 3 respectively of the programme on natural resources; the former programme 22 on information systems and documentation services comes under the non-substantive programme on administration and common services except for those substantive activities relating to government information systems, which have become programme element 1.6 of the programme on statistics; and the substantive outputs of the former multisectoral programme 23 on promotion of and support for ECDC and TCDC have been included under the appropriate substantive programmes.

On the recommendation of the Intergovernmental Meeting on Reassessment of the Programme Priorities of the Commission, held in September 1982, the Commission adopted criteria for setting priorities at the programme-element level. On the basis of these criteria, the Commission at its thirty-ninth session identified those programme elements marked by an asterisk (*) as priority programme elements.

PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES

Subprogramme 1: Economic and social development strategies and policies

Objectives: To examine in depth the fundamental issues constituting obstacles to economic and social development in the region and devise appropriate development strategies and suggest a range of possible policies that member Governments might fruitfully apply to the resolution of the fundamental issues; to analyse possible collective approaches to regional and subregional co-operation; and to consider the implications of long-term changes in the world economy for the formulation of regional, subregional and national development strategies and policies (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 10, para. 10.163)

1.1 *Analysis and assistance on special economic and social policy issues of major concern to the region

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the fifth session of the Committee on Development Planning (1984)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Two studies on issues of major economic and social concern to the region, incorporated in the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific* (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (b) Four studies on selected development policy issues including the role of the service sector, aspects of urbanization, development of capital markets and incidence of poverty (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Two sessions of the Expert Group on Development Issues and Policies (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (b) Four meetings on selected development policy issues (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

1.2 *Review and evaluation of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Reports to the Commission concerning periodic review and evaluation of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)

1.3 *Economic co-operation among developing countries, including the promotion of regional and subregional economic co-operation

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Studies on issues relating to interregional, regional and subregional co-operation (1984-1985); and (b) Studies on South Pacific subregional economic co-operation (1984, 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Meeting on issues relating to interregional, regional and subregional co-operation (1985) (XB); (b) Meetings on South Pacific subregional economic co-operation (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Missions to member countries and subregional institutions to assist in the strengthening of subregional co-operation (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Development planning methods, modelling and projections and administrative systems

Objectives: To assist member countries in formulating and implementing effective development plans through the application of appropriate development planning methods, models and projections and administrative systems (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 10, para. 10.167)

2.1 *Strengthening of development planning methods and capabilities

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Four studies on development planning methods, with particular reference to sectoral and regional (subnational) planning and incorporation of environmental considerations into development planning (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Seminars-cum-study tours on special aspects of development planning (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Two roving training seminars on subnational planning techniques (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) One seminar and three workshops on incorporation of environmental considerations into development planning (1 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Substantive assistance to regional institutions, including the Asian and Pacific Development Centre (1984, 1985)

2.2 *Development modelling and projections*

Outputs:

- (i) Regional planners' meetings on a perspective forecast of major economic and social variables to the year 2000 (1984, 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Econometric forecasts of intraregional trade flows and impact thereon of policies intended to foster subregional and regional economic co-operation (1984, 1985); (b) Regional econometric forecasts of macro-economic variables taking into account the interdependence between the region and the rest of the world (1984, 1985); and (c) Regional perspective forecast of major economic and social variables, applying alternative long-run policy scenarios, to the year 2000 (1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: Seminars with national research institutions and planning agencies to improve national econometric forecasting models and projections techniques (1984, 1985) (XB)

2.3 *Analysis and assistance on special aspects of public administration of major concern to the region*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Four studies on trends and recent developments in public administration, with particular reference to personnel and financial administration and other managerial aspects of public enterprise (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Six advisory missions on improving capabilities in the administration of national development programmes (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); (b) Two workshops on performance improvement of public enterprise (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Two seminars on public service delivery systems at the local level (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 3: Special measures in favour of the least developed countries

Objectives: To monitor and review the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action 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 (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 10, para. 10.171)

***3.1 *Monitoring and review of progress in implementing the Substantial New Programme of Action in the region* (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Reports to the Commission concerning periodic monitoring and review of progress in implementing the Substantial New Programme of Action in the region and also as inputs to the global review process (1984, 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Six advisory missions to strengthen the capabilities of the least developed countries to monitor, review and appraise progress in implementing the Programme (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB)

3.2 *In-depth studies on problems of special concern to the least developed countries of the region* (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Four studies on selected issues of major economic and social concern to the least developed countries in the region, including domestic savings mobilization and strengthening of export production (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Two meetings to consider selected issues of major concern to the least developed countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

3.3 *Assistance to the least developed countries in formulating and executing policies and action plans, programmes and projects to accelerate development* (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Six missions to least developed countries in the region to advise on formulating and executing policies and action plans, programmes and projects to accelerate development (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Assistance in the preparation of documentation for country review meetings and presentation of project feasibility reports and background studies to donor governments and agencies (1984, 1985)

Subprogramme 4: Surveys and information on economic and social developments

Objectives: To provide member countries, the Economic and Social Council and other interested parties with annual surveys of recent economic and social developments in the ESCAP region, information on development planning and related matters and the results of research on particular development issues conducted under other subprogrammes (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 10, para. 10.175)

4.1 *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific* (1984, 1985)

4.2 *Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on major development issues*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific* (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (b) *Development Papers* (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (c) *Development Planning Newsletter* (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985)

PROGRAMME: ENERGY

Subprogramme 1: Energy assessment and planning in Asia and the Pacific

Objectives: To assist developing countries of the region by strengthening their national capabilities in preparing and carrying out comprehensive energy development programmes (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 11, para. 11.120)

1.1 *Regional energy scene and methodologies for the preparation of energy balances*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Survey of the regional energy scene (1984); (b) Survey of electric power in Asia and the Pacific (1984); and (c) Study on the methodology for an assessment of ESCAP energy balances (1985) (XB)

1.2 *Strengthening of national capabilities in integrated energy planning and programming

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Two training courses on energy planning and management (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Four advisory missions on energy assessment and financing of energy development programmes and projects (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

1.3 *Policy options and strategies for the development of energy resources and for the management of energy demand

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Natural Resources (1984); and organization of the meeting of ministers of energy (REDP) (1985)
- (ii) Technical publication: Study on manpower and training requirements in the field of energy (REDP) (1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: Meetings of steering committees of regional programmes (REDP, PEDP and NRSE) (1984, 1985)

Subprogramme 2: Accelerated development and use of new and renewable sources of energy

Objectives: To assist developing countries of the region to undertake joint action by strengthening their national capabilities for the assessment, exploration, development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy through the collection and dissemination of information, on a regional and subregional basis, on research and development of new and renewable sources of energy, in co-operation with other United Nations agencies, fostering of co-operative research on new and renewable sources of energy at the subregional or regional level, and construction of demonstration plants using new and renewable sources of energy in countries which could be centres of subregions of ESCAP by the end of the medium-term plan (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 11, para. 11.125)

2.1 *Assessment of new and renewable sources of energy and integrated planning*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Regional study on peat (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four advisory missions (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Training course on methodological aspects of assessment of new and renewable sources of energy and integrated planning (1984); (c) Four advisory missions for setting up systems for the collection, storage and retrieval of data for resource assessment of various types of renewable energy resources at the national level (PEDP) (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Regional technical meeting on hydroelectric power potential of major river systems (REDP) (1985) (XB)

*2.2 *Co-operative research, development and demonstration*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Four technical reviews and research papers from the networks (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four advisory missions on the networks on fuelwood, biomass, mini hydroelectricity, solar and wind energy (REDP, NRSE) (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Four meetings of networks (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (c) Two training courses in mini hydroelectricity at the Hangzhou (China) Regional Centre for Research and Training in Small Hydro Power (REDP) (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (d) Expert group meeting on biogas (REDP) (1985) (XB); (e) Four training courses in selected NRSE fields for research, development and demonstration (REDP) (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (f) Training missions to hold training programmes for extension workers involved in rural energy programmes at the national level (REDP) (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (g) Two training seminars in project development execution and management involving decentralized rural energy systems (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

*2.3 *Transfer, adaptation and application of mature new and renewable energy technologies*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Newsletters (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four advisory missions for the establishment of demonstration projects, exchange of hardware and field trials of prototypes (REDP, PEDP, NRSE) (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Exhibition of NRSE equipment (1984) (XB); and (c) Regional consultative meeting of financial institutions, funding agencies, donor and recipient countries (NRSE) (1984) (XB)

Subprogramme 3: Integrated investigation, development, conservation and efficient use of overall energy with emphasis on conventional sources of energy

Objectives: The general objective of the secretariat is to assist the developing countries of the region, particularly energy-deficient countries, through the provision of adequate financial and technical support for the accelerated development of conventional energy resources and for conservation and efficient use of overall energy (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 11, para. 11.129)

*3.1 *Development and utilization of coal resources*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on economic aspects of coal exploration and exploitation (1985) (XB); and (b) Review of developments in coal technologies, including coal gasification and liquification (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Training course in coal mining, handling and beneficiation (1984) (XB); and (b) Training course in coal resource development and supply contract management (1985) (XB)

*3.2 *Development and utilization of oil and natural gas resources*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Three advisory missions (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985) and two training courses (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) on oil exploration contracts, supply contracts and investments (XB); and (b) Advisory mission for the establishment of a regional network on natural gas utilization (1985) (XB)

***3.3 Conservation and efficient use of energy**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Two sectoral studies concerning interfuel substitution possibilities (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory mission for the establishment of energy conservation cells (REDP) (1984) (XB); (b) Two advisory missions on energy efficient techniques, processes and systems in various sectors (REDP) (1985) (XB); and (c) Two training workshops for training of energy managers for specific industries (REDP) (2 in 1984) (XB)

3.4 Power system planning and management

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Study on socio-economic benefits of rural electrification (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Training seminar on computer applications for power system planning and management (1985) (XB); (b) Two advisory missions on optimization, load dispatch, capacity utilization, loss reduction and improving the management of power systems (1985) (XB); and (c) Advisory missions on planning and management of rural electrification (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

PROGRAMME: ENVIRONMENT

Subprogramme 1: Environmental problems in the ESCAP region

Objectives: To develop and strengthen the legislative and institutional machineries for environmental protection and management aimed at combating desertification processes, ensuring sound environmental management of land ecosystems and protecting the marine environment and related ecosystems (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 12, para. 12.92)

1.1 Environmental awareness

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of a meeting of Asian ministers of the environment (1985); Substantive servicing of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment (1984, 1985); and Report to an intergovernmental meeting on the Asian Plan of Action for the Human Environment (1984)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) State of the environment in Asia and the Pacific (1984) (XB); (b) Environment newsletters (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985); and (c) Guidelines on environmental management of mineral resources development, environmental impact assessment of transport infrastructure development, tourism development, water quality, production and use of pesticides, utilization of agricultural residues, industrial pollution control, technologies to combat desertification and development of hydroelectric and thermal power projects (1 each except 9 for industrial pollution control) (1984, 1985)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Three meetings on the utilization of agricultural residues (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Four national meetings (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) and two subregional meetings (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) for representatives of print and broadcasting media (XB); (c) Three meetings for (i) non-governmental organizations (1984), (ii) youth (1985) and (iii) other citizens' groups (1985) (XB); (d) Meeting on environmental impact assessment of transport infrastructure development (1984) (XB); (e) Two meetings on the application of remote sensing for the assessment and monitoring of desertification and the marine environment (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (f) Two advisory missions on the application of remote sensing to assessment and monitoring of desertification and the marine environment (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (g) Regional meeting and roving seminars for planners and decision-makers on the incorporation of environmental considerations into the development planning process; and (h) Establishment of an information network on environmental legislation (1984) (XB)

1.2 Institutional and legislative aspects of environmental protection and management (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of an intergovernmental meeting on environmental legislation (1984); and Report to an intergovernmental meeting on the development of environmental legislation (1984)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Three advisory missions on the development and strengthening of the institutional framework for environmental protection and management (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

1.3 *Management of terrestrial ecosystems (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Technical handbook on environmental management of terrestrial ecosystems (1984) (XB); (b) Handbooks on environmental impact assessment of development projects (1984) (XB); and (c) Three case studies on environmental impact assessment (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Expert group meeting on environmental and socio-economic impacts of tropical deforestation (1984); (b) Expert group meeting on mountain ecosystems (1984) (XB); (c) Two training courses on desertification control (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (d) Five advisory missions on environmental impacts of tropical deforestation (3 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (e) Study tour on desertification control (1984) (XB); (f) Study tour on mountain ecosystems (1985) (XB); and (g) Training workshop on environmental impact assessment of development projects (1985) (XB)

1.4 *Protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems

Outputs:

- (i) Intergovernmental meeting of maritime member countries on the protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems (1985); Reports to intergovernmental meeting on (a) the situation of the marine environment in the Asian and Pacific region (1985), (b) needs for training and technical assistance for the protection of the marine environment (1985) and (c) institutional and legislative aspects for the protection of the marine environment (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Four audio-visual modules on the environmental situation in selected areas of the region in consultation with countries concerned (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Three reports on the preparatory and feasibility studies for three environmental management plans (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (c) Five information bulletins on the major marine environmental issues in the region (2 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Formulation of environmental management plans in three coastal zones through studies on the environmental carrying capacity of resource development and the identification of environmentally sustainable development potential: one each in the south Asian, east Asian and South Pacific subregions (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Six subregional training courses on the environmental management of the marine environment, the coastal zone and specialized marine ecosystems: two each in the south Asian, east Asian and South Pacific subregions (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); (c) Six advisory missions on the protection and management of the marine environment and related ecosystems such as coral reefs (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Implementation of the action plan for environmental management in the South Pacific subregion (follow-up of the action plan for managing the natural resources and the environment of the South Pacific adopted at the Conference on the Human Environment in the South Pacific, Rarotonga, Cook Islands, March 1982) (1984, 1985) (XB)

PROGRAMME: FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Subprogramme 1: Agriculture development policy, planning and information systems

Objectives: To review the progress achieved in the implementation of the food and agricultural development strategy for the 1980s, to analyse emerging problems and to disseminate information to assist member governments in improving their planning and information systems (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 13, para. 13.77)

1.1 *Review of agricultural development policies, strategies and plans

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Agricultural Development to enable the Committee to undertake a thorough review of major policies, strategies and plans (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Biannual review of major agricultural policies, strategies and plans (1985); and (b) Study on farm price policies in the context of intersectoral growth linkages (1984) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Training seminar in agricultural project formulation and analysis (1984) (XB); (b) Expert group meeting on major agricultural development policies, strategies and plans (1984) (XB); and (c) Study tours by agricultural planners, project managers and experts (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

***1.2 Food supply and distribution (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Publication of reports and country papers on the food supply and distribution study (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

***1.3 Development of agricultural information systems**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) *Agricultural Information Development Bulletin* (4 issues each in 1984 and 1985) (XB); and (b) Guidelines for rural broadcasting (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Substantive assistance to FADINAP's information system (XB); (b) Development of a computerized data base on fertilizers for end-users in public and private sectors (XB); (c) Training for officers involved in rural broadcasting (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Advisory missions aimed at strengthening national data collection related to fertilizers and other agricultural inputs (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Understanding of critical elements of agricultural development

Objectives: To facilitate exchange of experience and co-operative activities among member governments on crucial aspects of food and agriculture such as rural investment, marketing facilities, institutional mechanisms, food security systems and related matters (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 13, para. 13.81)

***2.1 Operation of the Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) *Regional Information Support Service* on agro-chemicals (fertilizers and agro-pesticides) (6 issues each in 1984 and 1985) (XB); (b) *Agro-chemicals News in Brief* (6 issues each in 1984 and 1985) (XB); (c) *Fertilizer Price and Trade Information* (12 issues each in 1984 and 1985) (XB); (d) Calendar of meetings on agro-chemicals (4 issues each in 1984 and 1985) (XB); (e) Country reports (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985) and a regional comparative study (1984) on marketing, distribution and use of fertilizer (XB); (f) Handbook for instructors of fertilizer distributors and users (1984) (XB); and (g) Manual (in national languages) for village-level fertilizer distributors (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory missions on fertilizer distribution and related problems (5 in 1984, 5 in 1985) (XB); (b) Advisory missions on fertilizer project identification (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Study tours on fertilizer production, marketing and use (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (d) Training courses for fertilizer retailers (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (e) Training workshops for fertilizer management personnel (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

2.2 Agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific (ARSAP)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Study on regional co-operation for development of specific crop/horticulture seeds (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Training courses on safe handling and efficient use of agro-pesticides for instructors of village-level retailers (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

***2.3 Research and development of coarse grains, pulses, roots and tuber (CGPRT) crops**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: Substantive backstopping to the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of CGPRT Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific, Bogor, Indonesia

***2.4 Improving agricultural credit, marketing and extension systems (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Rural marketing systems (1985) (XB); (b) Case studies on effective channelling of credit to the rural poor (1985) (XB); and (c) Manual on innovative methods of agricultural extension, including the "Farmer-trains-farmer" extension methodology for self-reliant development (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) National training workshops (3 in 1984, 1 in 1985) and study tour for marketing officials on rural marketing (1985) (XB); (b) National training workshops (4 in 1984, 2 in 1985) and regional seminar for credit institutions to improve delivery and collection of rural credit (1985) (XB); (c) National

training workshops on innovative extension methodology (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Regional meeting of national extension agencies for the preparation of a manual on innovative extension methodologies (1984) (XB)

Subprogramme 3: Rural development focusing on improving the conditions of disadvantaged groups

Objectives: To facilitate exchange of experience and stimulate experiments in local-level planning and decentralized operations, small farmers' organizations, promotion of the co-operative movement, mobilization of local resources, agrarian reform and related matters (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 13, para. 13.85)

3.1 *Integrated rural development planning*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Field testing of guide-lines for local-level planning (2 case studies, 1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Study of existing institutional and organizational arrangements to strengthen linkages among rural economic activities (1985) (XB); (c) Comparative analysis of strategies in the implementation of target-group oriented programmes (1984) (XB); and (d) Study on policies for strengthening capabilities for the planning and implementation of integrated rural development programmes in least developed and backward areas (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) National workshops for planners on field-testing of guide-lines for local-level planning (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Regional seminar of planners to exchange experience in local-level planning (1985) (XB); (c) Workshop on the strengthening of institutions for improved linkage among rural economic activities (1985) (XB); (d) Workshop on effectiveness of target-group oriented programmes and projects (1984) (XB); and (e) Workshop on implementation of integrated rural development projects in least developed and backward areas (1985) (XB)

3.2 *Improving the socio-economic condition of rural disadvantaged groups such as small farmers, tenants, fisherfolk communities and women

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Report on field-testing of modified cost-benefit analysis as applied to rural development projects (1984) (XB); (b) Case studies on socio-economic problems related to afforestation and community development (1985) (XB); (c) Surveys of the socio-economic condition of small-scale fisherfolk communities (1985) (XB); and (d) Reports on women's training programmes/workshops in sericulture, poultry farming, nutritional improvement and other agricultural and rural development activities (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) ESCAP/FAO study tour and seminar on the FAO small farmer development programme (1984) (XB); (b) Technical evaluation of pilot projects for fisherfolk communities (1984) (XB); (c) National workshops for expansion of pilot projects (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (d) National workshops on afforestation and community development (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (e) Training programmes/workshops to improve the socio-economic condition of rural women in various areas of agricultural and rural development (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (f) Seminar on the role of agricultural co-operatives in economic development (1984) (XB)

3.3 *Effective mobilization of the rural poor and improved management of supplies and services for their benefit* (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Guide-lines on training methodologies for mobilization of the rural poor (1985) (XB); and (b) Case studies on NGOs' programmes in sensitizing and mobilizing low-income groups to improve their participation in development (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Workshop for the preparation of guide-lines on training methodologies for mobilization of the rural poor (1984) (XB)

PROGRAMME: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Subprogramme 1: Integrated settlement policies and planning

Objectives: Formulation and implementation of effective policies and programmes for the improvement of human settlements with promotion of comprehensive technology of physical planning at the national, regional, metropolitan, city and town levels, as well as in rural areas (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 14, para. 14.124)

1.1 *Settlement policies, programmes and strategies*

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Regional guide-lines on formulation of resettlement policies (1985); (b) Human settlements atlas (1984) (XB); and (c) Energy requirements and conservation in human settlements (1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Expert group meeting on human settlements finance and management (1985) (XB); and (b) Information network on human settlements (1985)

*1.2 *Settlement planning and techniques* (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on strategies for improving the capacity of civic services in secondary cities (1984) (XB); (b) Study on transportation linkages of poor communities (1985) (XB); (c) Study on alternative methods of garbage collection and waste disposal (1984) (XB); and (d) Study on human settlement planning in disaster-prone areas in selected countries of the region (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Roving seminar on rural centre planning (1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Development of shelter, infrastructure and land

Objectives: Improvement in the provision of shelter, infrastructure and services and in land tenure systems for the development of human settlements (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 14, para. 14.128)

*2.1 *Promotion of innovative and appropriate technologies* (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on indigenous materials and construction industries (1984) (XB); (b) Study on standards (1984) (XB); and (c) Study on methods, costs and techniques of low-cost housing (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Roving seminar for the introduction and use of standardization and modular co-ordination (1985) (XB); (b) Seminar/study tour in the USSR on the activities of local housing authorities (1984) (XB); and (c) Seminar/study tour on the development and improvement of rural housing (1984) (XB)

*2.2 *Integrated programme on improvement of slums and squatter settlements*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Study on the methods of upgrading slums and squatter settlements (1984)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Training courses for community leaders and government officials on improving the quality of life in slums and squatter settlements (2 in 1985) (XB)

2.3 *Land policies and land control measures*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Case studies on land use in major cities (2 each in 1984 and 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Technical guide-lines for land policies and land control measures (1984)

Subprogramme 3: Stimulation of institutional capabilities and public participation

Objectives: Stimulating institutional capabilities and managerial skills with encouragement of public participation (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 14, para. 14.132)

3.1 *Strengthening institutional capabilities* (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Regional congress of local authorities for development of human settlements (1984) (XB); (b) Backstopping regional activities of the United Nations Regional Housing Centre, New Delhi, and the United Nations Regional Centre for Research into Human Settlements, Bandung (1984, 1985); (c) Meeting of directors of building and human settlements research institutes (1984) (XB); and (d) Meeting of representatives of non-governmental organizations in the field of human settlements (1985) (XB)

3.2 *Public participation*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: Regional seminar on public participation in national human settlements programmes (1985) (XB)

PROGRAMME: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Subprogramme 1: Policies and strategies

Objectives: To assist the developing member countries in determining suitable policies and strategies to achieve higher rates of industrial growth with qualitative improvement in the content of industrialization (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 15, para. 15.148)

1.1 *Regional review of industrial progress with special reference to the growth target envisaged in the Lima Declaration*

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment (1984, 1985);
- (ii) Regional meeting of ministers of industry preparatory to the fourth General Conference of UNIDO (1984)
- (iii) Technical publications: (a) Annual review of industrial progress (1984, 1985); and (b) Two issues of *Industrial Development News, Asia and the Pacific* (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)

1.2 *Industrial plans and policies

Outputs:

- (i) Study on linkages between large and small-scale industries with special reference to the minimum programme assigned by the *ad hoc* meeting of ministers of industry (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Four case studies on plans and policies of industrial development (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (b) Studies on the appropriate role of basic industries (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: Expert group meeting on a review and appraisal of industrial plans and policies (1985) (XB)

1.3 *Assistance to the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries with regard to plans and policies for industrial development*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory missions on planning and policy formulation for industrial development (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (b) Two missions to undertake feasibility studies for the "prime mover" industry in the least developed countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

1.4 *Organization and follow-up of intergovernmental meetings on agro- and allied industries*

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of the intergovernmental meeting on agro- and allied industries (1984);
- (ii) Technical publications: Two reports on agro-industrial processing possibilities of selected industries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory missions on agro-industry development, including industrial processing of selected raw materials and commodities (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Study tour to selected countries of the region on development of agro-industries and integrated agro-industrial complexes (1985) (XB)

1.5 *Institutional and infrastructural requirements for the development of small- and medium-scale industries

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Studies on problems and prospects of small- and medium-scale industries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Issues of *Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific* (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) *Ad hoc* expert group meeting on the development of small- and medium-scale industries (1985) (XB); and (b) Advisory missions on development of small-scale industries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

***1.6 Enhancement of private sector involvement in industrialization (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: Examination of policies, investment and productivity of the private sector in the developing countries (1984, 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Resource mobilization and project development and implementation

Objectives: To assist developing countries to mobilize domestic resources for industrial development and promote a greater flow of external resources to the industrial sector and to assist in the development and strengthening of indigenous capacities in the formulation and implementation of industrial projects (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 15, para. 15.152)

***2.1 Resource mobilization programme**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) *Ad hoc* meeting of industrial planners and representatives of financial institutions to identify projects for financing (1984); and (b) Four panel services for improvement of tax and incentive systems in selected countries (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB).

***2.2 Programme on project development and implementation**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Four project feasibility reports to governments for industrial development in non-metropolitan areas (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Two studies on fuller utilization of manufacturing capacities of industrial enterprises (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Two studies on problems and prospects of export industries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Meeting of government officials on the fuller utilization of manufacturing capacities of industrial enterprises (1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 3: Regional and subregional industrial co-operation

Objectives: To expand the scope of industrial co-operation among the developing member countries through trade in manufactured products, sharing of industrial production on the basis of complementarity and dynamic comparative advantage, joint ventures, sharing of experts and training facilities, exchange of technologies etc. (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 15, para. 15.156)

3.1 Subregional co-operative arrangements on industrial development

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Two studies on sectoral industries with a view to bringing about industrial plan harmonization (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Expert group meeting to consider ways of harmonizing industrial plans and policies on a subregional basis (1985) (XB); and (b) Four advisory missions to examine the feasibility of projects identified by the industrial survey of the South Pacific (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)

***3.2 Regional industrial co-operation among developing countries**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Four newsletters (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) and four technical bulletins (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) on the development of biomass energy in the region (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two meetings to expand the scope of the ESCAP "club" for industrial development (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Organization of an industrial exposition for promotion of TCDC on a regional and subregional basis with focus on rural areas (1985); and (c) Missions to establish a regional information network on the development of biomass energy (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 4: Enhancing the role and efficiency of industrial undertakings in the public sector

Objectives: To assist the developing member countries in enhancing the efficiency and contribution of their public sector manufacturing industries (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 15, para. 15.160)

4.1 *Development of public sector industries

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Two technical bulletins (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Seminar/study tour to selected countries to observe the functioning of public sector industries, including basic and large-scale industries (1984) (XB); and (b) Missions to advise on improvement of efficiency of public sector activities (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985)

4.2 *Promoting efficiency in public sector industrial enterprises*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: 11 country studies, four special studies and one regional study (1984, 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Regional conference of high-level country representatives and top managers of public enterprises (1985) (XB)

PROGRAMME: INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

Subprogramme 1: Trade expansion, trade facilitation measures and monetary co-operation

Objectives: To assist the member countries in identifying possible areas of trade expansion, trade facilitation and monetary co-operation in dealing with various technical problems involved; to promote monetary and credit co-operation between the countries of the region, including strengthening of existing institutional arrangements; to help expansion of trade through long-term trading arrangements in selected commodities and through trade-creating joint ventures in selected sectors; to carry out studies on tariff and non-tariff barriers on items of export interest to the countries of the region; to assist in the establishment of a regional scheme for export credit insurance and in the development of national markets in the field of insurance and reinsurance; and to achieve greater harmonization of trade statistics, customs tariff nomenclatures and customs and transport facilitation procedures and documentation (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 16, para. 16.180)

1.1 *Trade expansion and major policy issues

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Trade (1984)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Two studies on trade flows and tariff and non-tariff barriers (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Two country studies (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) on expansion of trade between developing ESCAP countries and socialist countries of Eastern Europe and the USSR and one comprehensive "group-vis-à-vis-group" report (1985) (XB); (c) Two studies on expansion of trade between developing ESCAP countries and developed market economy countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Study on counter-trade: practices and policies
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Two seminars on the maximization of benefits under GSP (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Two meetings on the promotion of interregional trade with countries of the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (c) Four meetings of the Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (d) Two seminars on expansion of trade between ESCAP countries and developed market economy countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (e) One technical meeting to establish a joint Council on Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA)/ ESCAP programme for expansion of trade among countries having different economic and social systems (1984) (XB); and (f) Seminar on expansion of trade between developing ESCAP countries and socialist countries of Eastern Europe and the USSR (1985) (XB)
- (iv) Follow-up action on decisions of the meeting of ministers of trade in 1984 (1984-1985)

1.2 *Harmonization of trade statistics, customs tariff nomenclatures and customs and trade facilitation procedures*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Two working parties on customs administration (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Two advisory missions to countries to facilitate adoption of a manual on trade statistics (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Two seminars (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) and four workshops (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) on various concepts and practices in international trade statistics and customs tariff nomenclature (XB)

1.3 *Trade-creating joint ventures and long-term trading arrangements*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Two studies on trade-creating joint ventures on selected products in electronics and agro-industries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two seminars (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) and two expert group meetings (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) on trade-creating joint ventures (XB); (b) Seminar to promote the use of long-term contracts (1984) (XB); and (c) Seminar on the use of long-term contracts in CMEA countries (1985) (XB)

1.4 *Financial and credit co-operation*

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of an intergovernmental meeting on the establishment of facilities for refinancing exports (1984, 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Substantive servicing of two sessions of the Board of Directors of the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) (1984, 1985); and (b) Technical studies and missions for the enlargement of the membership of ACU, including linkages with other payments arrangements (1984, 1985) (XB)

1.5 *Insurance and reinsurance schemes*

Outputs:

A. General insurance

- (i) Organization of an intergovernmental meeting to finalize and adopt an agreement establishing an export credit insurance scheme (1984, 1985)
- (ii) Organization of an expert group meeting for the establishment of regional co-operative arrangements for island developing countries in the field of reinsurance (1984) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: Three seminars/training courses in the field of insurance (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985), including a high-level course on insurance management; support services as required for the Asian Reinsurance Corporation (XB)

B. Specialized insurance (crop insurance)

- (i) Organization of a round-table meeting to prepare and finalize a regional crop reinsurance exchange scheme (1984, 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Missions to promote the establishment of new crop insurance and strengthen the existing scheme (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Two training courses/seminars on technical and management aspects of crop insurance (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Trade promotion and development

Objectives: To assist both the public and private sectors in member countries in trade promotion and development by rendering such necessary services as training, advisory services, product/market research and trade information (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 16, para. 16.184)

2.1 *Trade information

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) *Trade Information Sources Data Bank* (10 issues per year); (b) Six issues of *Trade Information Sources Directory* (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); (c) TIS QUICK (40 issues per year); (d) Trade information sheets (20 issues per year); (e) Two trade profiles (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (f) *Prices of Selected Products in Asia and the Pacific* (monthly) (XB); (g) Commodity profiles (1984, 1985); (h) Exporters/importers directory of ESCAP member countries (1985); and (i) Directory of trade promotion and development organizations (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Missions to develop/strengthen national trade information centres (5 in 1984, 5 in 1985) (XB); (b) 12 training courses on specific aspects of trade information services at regional and national levels (6 in 1984, 6 in 1985) (XB); and (c) One regional workshop on the development of a trade information network (1985) (XB)

***2.2 Trade promotion development**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Study of the means of improving rural marketing services with particular emphasis on pricing effects for consumers and producers (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two advisory missions to national, subregional and regional training institutions engaged in training personnel for trade promotion (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Seminar on trade promotion techniques and seminar on trade negotiations techniques (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Seminar on training of trainers in export promotion and marketing (1984) (XB); (d) Seminar on import management (1985) (XB); (e) Meeting of heads of national trade development and promotion agencies (1985); (f) Meetings of the Sub-group for a Network of Trade Promotion Centres (1984, 1985); (g) Eight missions to render technical advice on various aspects of trade promotion and development activities (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (XB); and (h) Advisory missions to assist developing countries in formulating programmes and activities on consumer protection (1984, 1985) (XB)

***2.3 Market and product development**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Four case studies on international subcontracting of selected manufactured goods/industries in the region (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Guide to the Australian market (1984) (XB); (c) *Guide to the Japanese Market as a Marketing Aid for Asian Exporters* (revised edition) (1984, 1985) (XB); (d) *Guide to the Market of the Federal Republic of Germany* (revised edition) (1984, 1985) (XB); (e) *Guidebook on Trading with the People's Republic of China* (revised edition) (1984, 1985) (XB); (f) Guides to other markets (1984, 1985) (XB); (g) Two case studies on export and import techniques, procedures and documentation (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (h) Report of the Asia-Pacific trade exhibition (likely to be held at Beijing (1985)); and (i) Four training manuals on specific topics such as trade fairs and exhibitions and training of trainers (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Technical assistance to trade missions (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Two national seminars or workshops as a follow-up to the case studies on international subcontracting (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Advisory assistance in export marketing to countries on selected products/commodities of interest to them (1984) (XB); and (d) Six market surveys and marketing reports on selected products (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 3: Raw materials and commodities

Objectives: To provide information, technical assistance and advisory services in commodities of socio-economic interest to member countries in identifying priority problems, formulating and adjusting commodity development policies, planning and implementation; to promote and expand co-operation, including technical and economic co-operation, among producing countries and between producing and consuming countries in the region in all aspects of raw materials and commodities; and to formulate specific co-operative programmes and to assist in the establishment of institutional arrangements at the subregional and regional levels for selected commodities (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 16, para. 16.188)

***3.1 Promotion of subregional, regional and interregional co-operation in selected raw materials and commodities and assistance to the commodity communities/associations in the region**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Eight studies on co-operative measures for selected raw materials and commodities (1984) (XB);
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four meetings on co-operative measures for selected raw materials (1984); (b) Two seminars/workshops to promote subregional, regional and interregional co-operation in selected raw materials and commodities (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (c) Assistance to the Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries, the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community and the International Pepper Community and new regional commodity arrangements/communities/associations (1984, 1985)

***3.2 Planning, implementation and development in commodities of socio-economic interest**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Eight studies on commodities of socio-economic interest to member countries, namely, jute, tropical timber, tapioca, hides and skins, dried fruits and edible nuts, silk and shrimps/marine

products, oil seeds, hand-made carpets of silk and wool and machine-made carpets of jute (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (XB)

- (ii) Technical assistance: Six missions to member countries to advise on the formulation of plans and policies for raw materials and commodities (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985)

Subprogramme 4: Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries

Objectives: To assist governments in developing professional skills of personnel engaged in both the public and the private sectors in improving transit/transport infrastructure, both physical and administrative, including the promotion of co-operation between land-locked and transit countries, and in identifying complementarities in the promotion of inter-island trade and trade between island countries and other countries (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 16, para. 16.192)

4.1 *Export and import planning techniques and marketing

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Three studies on products of export interest to the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Two studies on the import requirements of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, containing information on some of the most suitable supply sources (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Establishment and strengthening of national trade promotion services (1984, 1985) (XB); and (b) Four training courses for personnel engaged in the promotion and management of foreign trade in specific fields (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

4.2 *Transit trade facilities for trade of the land-locked countries*

Outputs:

- (i) Meeting of the Special Body on Land-locked Countries (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: Two surveys of the external trade of land-locked countries and existing/potential transit facilities (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to assist in the improvement of transit trade facilities and procedures and formalities (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Two workshops on facilitation of the transit trade of land-locked countries (1984, 1985) (XB)
- (iv) Fellowships to personnel involved in the operation of the transit trade of the land-locked countries (1984, 1985) (XB)

4.3 *Expansion of the trade of island developing countries*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Two studies on the promotion of co-operation in commodity trade among the island developing countries (XB); and (b) Reports on identification of non-tariff barriers to commodities of export interest with a view to promoting expansion of inter-island trade (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 5: Economic co-operation among developing countries in trade-related areas

Objectives: To assist member countries of the region in planning, organizing and implementing schemes for economic co-operation as a basic component of their efforts towards the establishment of a new international economic order (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 16, para. 16.196)

5.1 *Promotion of ECDC, including follow-up activities on UNCTAD resolutions and decisions

Outputs:

- (i) Two intergovernmental meetings of developing countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Studies and missions for achieving and strengthening regional co-operation among Asian state trading organizations in joint marketing, joint imports and joint storage/transit/trans-shipment facilities (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Study and missions for preparations for the establishment of multinational marketing enterprises among developing countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Advisory and technical assistance to developing countries for participation in ECDC activities (XB); and (d) Studies and missions to facilitate establishment of joint ventures among private trading organizations in developing countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

PROGRAMME: NATURAL RESOURCES

Subprogramme 1: Exploration, evaluation, rational utilization and management of mineral resources

Objectives: To assist the developing countries of the region in the rational development, management and utilization of their mineral resources (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 17, para. 17.120)

1.1 *Appraisal of geology and of occurrence and development of mineral resources*

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Natural Resources (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Triennial review of activities for the development of mineral resources in the ESCAP region (1982-1984) (1985); (b) *ESCAP Atlas of Stratigraphy IV* (1985); (c) *Map of the Sedimentary Basins of the ESCAP Region* (second edition, in colour) (1984); (d) Atlas of mineral resources of the ESCAP region (1985); (e) Mineral concentrations and accumulations in the region (1985); and (f) Hydro-carbon accumulation in the region (1985)

*1.2 *Promotion of regional co-operation, and technical and administrative support to regional and subregional mineral projects*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Technical and substantive support to the Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre (RMRDC); assistance in servicing two RMRDC Governing Council meetings (XB); Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre (SEATRADC) (XB); Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas (CCOP/SOPAC) (1984, 1985); (b) Assistance in servicing two annual sessions each of CCOP/SOPAC and the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas (CCOP) (1984, 1985) (XB); and (c) Support to co-operative mechanism on exploration in the Indian Ocean¹ (XB) (1985).

1.3 *Strengthening of national capabilities of investigation and development of mineral resources*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Six missions to advise least developed countries on formulation of national mineral resources programmes (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); (b) Seminar on exploration and development of coal resources in the region (1984) (XB); (c) Seminar on modern methods of mineral prospecting (1985) (XB); and (d) Seminar on offshore geophysical exploration for petroleum in the ESCAP region (1985) (XB)

*1.4 *Strengthening of national capabilities relating to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea* (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Two reports on new marine technologies, methods and techniques and new developments on the Convention on the Law of the Sea (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Eight missions to advise developing countries in the region to identify needs, requirements and capabilities in fields concerned with the Convention on the Law of the Sea (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985); (b) Organization of an expert group meeting to prepare a report to the Commission at its forty-first session with recommendations on the long-term role of ESCAP concerning the Convention on the Law of the Sea (1984); (c) One seminar/workshop on awareness and assessment of national activities on the Convention on the Law of the Sea (1985); and (d) One seminar on institutional and legal aspects of the Convention (1985).

Subprogramme 2: Rational development, management and utilization of water resources

Objectives: To formulate and implement plans and programmes for the proper assessment, development, efficient use and management of water resources, including the mitigation of damage caused by water-related natural disasters; to support national economic and social development plans; to assist the governments of the region in achieving the above objectives, in particular the promotion of an integrated and comprehensive approach to water resources development and management; to establish water-quality monitoring systems in approximately four developing countries of the region by the end of 1989; and to establish a regional network for training in water resources development by 1989 (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 17, para. 17.124)

¹ One delegation expressed reservations about high priority being accorded to output (i) (c).

2.1 *Support for the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan (NEW)*

Outputs:

- (i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources at its twelfth session on the preparation of national master water plans (1985); report to the Committee on Natural Resources at its eleventh session on policy analysis for water resources management (1984); and report to the Economic and Social Council Committee on Natural Resources at its ninth session on progress in the ESCAP region in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan (1984)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Regional seminar on water quality monitoring (1985) (XB); (b) Two interagency interdisciplinary missions on water resources (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (c) Regional advisory services to eight countries on water resources development (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985); and (d) Four advisory missions on accelerated manufacture of hand pumps for rural water supply (1985) (XB)

*2.2 *Promotion of regional co-operation in water resources development (NEW)*

Outputs:

- (i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources at its thirteenth session on the problems and prospects of the development of shared water resources in the region (1986)
- (ii) Technical publication: ESCAP register of water resources specialists available for TCDC (1984)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Support to the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin (1984, 1985); and (b) Regional symposium on shared water resources² (1985) (XB)

2.3 *Mitigation of damage from cyclones, floods and droughts*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Two sessions of the Typhoon Committee (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Assistance in the organization of two sessions of the WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (c) Assistance to the Typhoon Committee and the WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones (1984, 1985); and (d) Meeting on the establishment of a cyclone council for the South Pacific (1984)

*2.4 *Information and training in water resources development*

Outputs:

- (i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources at its eleventh session on the survey of the capabilities of potential participating institutes in the proposed regional network for training in water resources development (1984); and organization of an intergovernmental meeting on the establishment of the proposed regional network for training in water resources development (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Eight issues of the *Water Resources Journal* (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985); (b) Four reports containing summaries of activities of major water resources countries in the region (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (c) Three issues of the *Water Resources Series* (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985)

Subprogramme 3: Cartography and remote sensing

Objectives: To assist the developing countries of the region in the exploration and assessment of their natural resources and in environmental monitoring through mapping and remote sensing techniques (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 17, para. 17.132)

*3.1 *Technical and administrative support to the regional remote sensing programme and promotion of regional co-operation in the application of remote sensing techniques for efficient management of natural resources and the environment*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Four newsletters (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Four technical reports on joint research/pilot application projects (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Technical and substantive support to the regional remote sensing programme (1984, 1985) (XB); (b) Two regional symposiums (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Three seminars/workshops (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Three study tours (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (iii) One hundred *fellowships* to provide training in the application of remote sensing to resource management (50 in 1984, 50 in 1985) (XB)

² One delegation expressed reservations about high priority being accorded to output (iii) (b).

PROGRAMME: POPULATION

Subprogramme 1: Population and development

Objectives: To assist member governments and subregional groups in formulating more effective development strategies through a better understanding of the interrelationship between development objectives, population and other socio-economic factors, as well as in the formulation and implementation of population programmes (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 18, para. 18.121)

1.1 *Formulation and implementation of population policies and programmes for development

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Population (1985)
- (ii) Technical publication: Review of demographic characteristics of member countries in the region (1985)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Ten advisory missions on population matters, including formulation of country-level population projects (5 in 1984, 5 in 1985); and (b) Two workshops on monitoring and evaluation systems for population trends and policies (1984, 1985) (XB)

1.2 *Development of a knowledge base on the interrelationships between population and development variables*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Three studies on an analysis of trends and patterns of mortality, based on six country studies (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985, 1 in 1986) (XB); (b) Study on demographic and development implications of emigration in countries of origin (1984); (c) Four country monographs containing comprehensive analysis and information on the size, changes, structure and distribution of population in relation to socio-economic development (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (d) Study on inter-country comparative analysis of the inter-relationship of migration and urbanization to development (1984) (XB); (e) Guide-lines for the analysis of migration and urbanization data from the 1980s round of population censuses (1985) (XB); and (f) Study on an analysis of fertility and development variables based on population census data (1985)

1.3 *Promotion of exchange of experience in integrated population and development programmes*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Meeting on development of a monitoring and evaluation system for population trends, policies and programmes at the national level (1984); and (b) Regional seminar of health and social planners and policy-makers for developing a plan of action aimed at mortality reduction (1985)

1.4 *Population composition, estimates and projections*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Two annual publications on demographic estimates for Asian and Pacific countries (1984, 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Eight missions to member countries to assist national institutions in population and household projections (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985)

1.5 *Methodologies for data analysis and training

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Four regional training seminars/workshops on (i) population and development planning (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB), (ii) census analysis on migration and urbanization (1984) (XB) and (iii) methodology of migration surveys (1985) (XB); and (b) Eight missions to member countries to provide assistance in analysis of censuses on migration and urbanization (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Population policies

Objectives: To assist the countries of the region to achieve their fertility goals through the formulation of integrated population policies, the formulation and implementation of family planning programmes, and the study of factors affecting fertility change and their policy and programme implications (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 18, para. 18.125)

***2.1 Formulation of fertility-related policies and programmes**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to advise on the formulation and implementation of fertility and family planning projects at the country level (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Regional workshop of policy-makers for fertility and family planning related policy formulation and programme development (1984) (XB); (c) Regional workshop of programme managers for the development and improvement of family planning programme operations (1985) (XB); and (d) Regional workshop for mid-level planners on the development of family planning policies and programmes: translation of fertility goals into programme elements, setting up of targets and priorities and allocation of resources (1984) (XB)

2.2 Promotion of an integrated approach to fertility and family planning policies and programmes through community participation

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on mechanisms and degree of community participation in family planning (1985); and (b) Two studies on innovative methods of integrating family planning with other development efforts through involvement of local communities (1984, 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Seminar-cum-study tour for programme managers of selected countries from four subregions to study community participation in family planning information and service delivery (1984) (XB); (b) Expert group meeting on integration of family planning activities with other development efforts at the community level (1984) (XB); and (c) Three regional training workshops: two on integration of family planning with other development programmes and one on monitoring and evaluation of family planning programmes (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985)

***2.3 Studies on fertility, family planning and related policies and programmes**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on the impact and efficiency of family planning programmes (1984) (XB); (b) Study on family structure and acceptance and continuation of family planning practice (1984) (XB); (c) Study on recipient's perspective in the delivery of services and supplies in family planning programmes and its effect on performance (1984) (XB); (d) Study on a methodology for improvement of programme statistics for management decisions and programme evaluation for family planning (1985) (XB); and (e) Regional study on social, cultural and psychological factors affecting use/continuation of contraceptive methods (1985)

Subprogramme 3: Population information

Objectives: To facilitate the transfer of information and experience in information management and in the utilization of research findings in population-related fields (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 18, para. 18.130)

***3.1 Development of national population information programmes and centres in ESCAP member countries**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Manpower and programme development support to national population information centres in member countries through organization and execution of: (i) eight observation and study tours (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985); (ii) 20 individualized manpower training programmes at third country institutions (10 in 1984, 10 in 1985); and (iii) 12 missions for programme development and backstopping (6 in 1984, 6 in 1985); (b) Two training courses for staff of national population information centres, (10-12) trainees in each course and individualized training (4-5 individuals per year), on advanced information handling topics for national population information centres (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Assistance in the establishment of national population information centres (1984, 1985)

3.2 Promotion of regional and/or subregional co-operation among national population information centres/networks and their linkage with global systems

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) 24 issues of ADOPT (monthly) and provision of data printouts from the ESCAP Population Data Bank (on-line/off-line) (XB); and (b) Four inventories/directories of population research, training and teaching institutions in the ESCAP region, and rosters of key individuals in the population field (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two country workshops (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) and one subregional workshop (1985) for the ESCAP Population Correspondent Network (XB); (b) Advisory services to Information Centre Network members; (c) Regional seminar on computerization of population information (1984) (XB); and (d) Assistance to subregional population information systems networks in the ESCAP region

3.3 *Population information and data services*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) 24 issues of "Population Headliners" (monthly) (XB); (b) Eight issues of *Asian-Pacific Population Programme News* (quarterly) (XB); (c) Issues of Population Research Leads, Population Studies Translation Series, inventory of local experience, reading profiles, bibliographies on specific population topics, publications list (1984, 1985) (XB); and (d) Report on a survey of population information user needs in member countries and evaluation of information products and services in meeting these needs (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Enquiry services, technical literature searches and preparation of special topic bibliographies for individuals and institutions in member countries (1984, 1985) (XB); (b) Selective dissemination of information to institutions and individuals in the region through current awareness literature searches using internal computerized data bases and based on user profiles (XB); and (c) Provision of rapid response to enquiries from institutions and individuals in the region, using internal and external computerized data bases such as POPLINE and DIALOG (XB)

PROGRAMME: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Subprogramme 1: Institutional and policy infrastructure for science and technology

Objectives: To incorporate the recommendations of the Vienna Programme of Action in the development strategies of member countries and to assist them in building up the appropriate institutional and policy framework for their implementation (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 20, para. 20.136)

*1.1 *Improvements in science and technology policy framework*

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment
- (ii) (a) Survey missions to 10 countries (1984) (XB); (b) Intergovernmental meeting (1985); and (c) Regional meeting of ministers of science and technology (1985)
- (iii) Technical publications: (a) Study on patterns of science and technology policy and institutional framework, their linkages with industrial development (1984) (XB); (b) Regional science and technology survey (1985) (XB)
- (iv) Technical assistance: Advisory missions (1984-1985)
- (v) Meeting of an *ad hoc* group of regional scientists and technologists (1984, 1985) (XB)

1.2 *Research and development*

Outputs:

- (i) Workshop on the management of research and development institutes (1984) (XB)

*1.3 *Transfer of technology* (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Meeting on technology transfer through engineering joint ventures (1984) (XB); (b) Seminar on technology transfer in the chemical industry (1984) (XB); (c) Workshop on negotiation and execution licensing and technical assistance agreements (1985) (XB); (d) Workshop on the development and transfer of technology in the capital goods manufacturing sector (1984) (XB); and (e) Workshop on the development and transfer of technology in the food processing industry (1985) (XB)

*1.4 *Energy conservation and conversion policy* (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Five case studies analysing technological and other problems with reference to energy conservation in selected building material plants (3 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Regional report recommending measures for improving energy efficiency in the building materials industry (1985) (XB)

- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Five survey missions to interested countries to study the current situation and the technology used with regard to energy consumption in selected building material plants (3 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Regional seminar on energy conservation in the ceramic and other silicate industries (1985) (XB); and (c) Workshop on recent developments in biomass conversion technology for fuels and chemicals (1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Strengthening technological capabilities of member countries

Objectives: To assist developing member countries in strengthening their technological capabilities (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 20, para. 20.140)

2.1 *Technical assistance to regional institutions

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Technical and substantive backstopping of the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (RNAM) (1984, 1985); (b) Technical and substantive backstopping of the Regional Centre for Technology Transfer (RCTT) (1984, 1985)

2.2 *Standardization and related activities*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: Workshop on exchange of knowledge and experience in the implementation of national and international efforts towards strengthening activities in standardization, metrology, quality control, certification marking and testing (1984) (XB)

2.3 *Strengthening of project generation capabilities and engineering design and consultancy services (NEW)*

Outputs:

- (i) Intergovernmental meeting on policies and measures to promote the capacities and use of local consultancy services (1984)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two training courses on project management (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Four advisory missions on the development of national industrial consultancy organizations (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

2.4 *Establishment of a regional network for metal industries development centres (NEW)*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Intergovernmental expert group meeting (1985); and (b) Two advisory missions to assist in setting up a regional network (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

2.5 *Assistance in the fabrication of post-harvest equipment and utilization of integrated post-harvest technologies*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Three studies on post-harvest equipment manufacture and post-harvest technologies (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Advisory missions on the adoption of post-harvest technologies and the manufacture of appropriate equipment (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 3: Monitoring major breakthroughs in science and technology

Objectives: To keep abreast of the major developments in science and technology and thereby assist the developing member countries in pursuing the mainstream of global technological advances (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 20, para. 20.144)

3.1 *Assessment of new technologies (NEW)*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on socio-economic implications of the industrial application of modern achievements in micro-electronics in selected countries (1984) (XB); and (b) Studies on selected new technologies (1984-1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Regional expert group meeting on micro-electronics (1984) (XB)

PROGRAMME: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Subprogramme 1: Popular participation

Objectives: To assist countries in developing strategies, guide-lines and new approaches to facilitate popular participation in national and local/rural development policy formulation, planning decisions and programme design and implementation (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 21, para. 21.92)

1.1 *Policy analysis and issues for the promotion of participation

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Training manual and resource book on popular participation (1985); and (b) Guide-lines for the development of popular participation policies based upon accommodation of the perceptions and attitudes of deprived groups (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four workshops in south Asian countries on the difficulties encountered by participatory groups and the strengthening of their responsive capabilities (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (b) Two training courses to develop legal para-professional competence in existing participatory groups (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (c) Expert group meeting on the adaptation of rural development policies to the requirements of increased popular participation (1985); (d) Expert group meeting on the role of, and relationships among, the necessary components of popular participation (1985); and (e) Expert group meeting to examine the implications of the cultural, social and economic attitudes of deprived groups for policy-making on popular participation (1984)

1.2 *Participation of women in development

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of a regional intergovernmental meeting in preparation for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (1984)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Five country case studies on women and consumer protection (2 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); (b) Five studies on special issues concerning women in development (1984); (c) Guide-lines for upgrading national mechanisms (1984); and (d) Report on the situation of women and the status of the implementation in the ESCAP region of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women (1984) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: Eighteen missions to provide advisory services to member countries as and when requested and to strengthen national mechanisms for the integration of women in national development plans and programmes, including the formulation and implementation of national projects (9 in 1984, 9 in 1985) (XB)

1.3 *Participation of youth in development*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Manual of guidelines for the training of youth leaders, workers and trainers in youth work (1985) (XB); (b) Five country monographs and documentation of youth policies (1984) (XB); and (c) Eight issues of the *Youth Development Newsletter* (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (series began in 1981)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Eight missions to member countries to advise on strengthening country strategies and administrative structures for more effective mobilization of youth (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (XB); (b) Six national training workshops on (i) different aspects of the development of rural youth, (ii) pressing issues affecting youth in the urban areas and (iii) crime prevention and juvenile justice (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); (c) Four study tours and field attachment programmes for youth workers, trainers and leaders in youth programmes (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (d) Two national workshops to promote the role of youth in responsible parenthood programmes (1984) (XB); (e) Dissemination of regional information on the International Youth Year and on related youth activities and programmes in the ESCAP region (1984, 1985) (XB); (f) Regional plan of action for the observance of the International Youth Year (1985); (g) Two regional and subregional training courses in youth policy and development (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (h) Regional workshop to establish programmes aimed at improving the position of young women in the service and entertainment sector (1984) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Social welfare and development

Objectives: To assist in the development of new social welfare strategies and policies to ensure that social welfare activities make an effective contribution to the achievement of the objectives of national development; to improve

the actual delivery of social services, in particular for the poor and disadvantaged population groups; and to promote technical co-operation among developing countries in social welfare and social development in support of the above (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 21, para. 21.96)

***2.1 Social welfare strategies and policies**

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of Third Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Five case studies on successful community development projects (1984); and (b) Manual on local welfare planning and guide-lines on approaches and mechanisms for more effective delivery of social services to rural areas (1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Ten missions to provide advisory services to member countries in developing and implementing development-oriented social welfare policies and programmes (5 in 1984, 5 in 1985); and (b) Regional arrangements for an ongoing mechanism for regional co-operation in TCDC with particular reference to the implementation of the Vienna International Plan of Action on Aging and the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (1984, 1985)

2.2 Social development and welfare information

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Six issues of the *Social Development Newsletter* (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (series began in 1980) (XB); and (b) Directory of regional data base on social development (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to member countries to advise on establishment of national focal points for the social development information system (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Establishment of a regional information network on women (1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 3: Health and development

Objectives: To strengthen, develop and co-ordinate social policies, strengthen planning capacities in an integrated and intersectoral manner within the context of interagency support and co-ordination, in line with the Global Strategy of Health for All by the Year 2000 (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 21, para. 21.100)

***3.1 Development of basic community services through primary health care (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Research report on community participation through health (1984) (XB); and (b) Report on primary health care: issues and challenges (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Seventh and eighth training seminars on development of basic community services through primary health care (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Technical assistance to the ASEAN centre for primary health care (1984, 1985) (XB)

***3.2 Planning of health and health aspects of development (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of an intergovernmental meeting on health and development (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Report on the health situation of the Philippines (1984) (XB); and (b) Report on Asian health trends (1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Fifth and sixth courses on planning, development and health (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Three specialized workshops on health planning and management (1984, 1985) (XB)

***3.3 Pharmaceuticals and health (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on price differentials of imported drugs (1984)(XB); and (b) Pharmaceutical industry planning manual (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two workshops on pharmaceuticals (1984, 1985) (XB); and (b) Pharmaceutical data service: periodic publication on the pharmaceutical industry in relation to health (1984, 1985) (XB)

3.4 *Children in national development* (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Atlas of children in national development (1984) (first edition in 1982) (XB); and (b) Two reports on children in national development (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Seminar on planning for children (1985) (XB)

PROGRAMME: STATISTICS

Subprogramme 1: Statistical development

Objectives: To develop and improve the statistical capability of the countries of the region for the production of adequate and timely social and economic statistics and for the adaptation and implementation of international concepts, definitions, standards and guide-lines (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 22, para. 22.118)

*1.1 *Promotion, co-ordination and management of statistical development activities in the region*

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Statistics, sixth session (1985); Report to the United Nations Statistical Commission, twenty-third session (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: Eight issues of *Statistical Newsletter* (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985)
- (iii) Technical assistance: Organization of a working group of statistical experts (1984)

*1.2 *Promotion of overall national statistical capabilities*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Two issues of *Sample Surveys in the ESCAP Region* (1984, 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to countries to advise on general statistical organization and development (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Thirty-eight missions to countries to advise on various aspects of household surveys, including the building-up of survey-taking capability (18 in 1984, 20 in 1985) (XB); (c) Seminar on statistical education and training (1984) (XB); (d) Seminar on non-response errors (1985) (XB); (e) Workshop to examine deficiencies in the timely dissemination of statistical information (1985) (XB); and (f) Lecture courses at regional institutions, primarily the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

*1.3 *Development of economic statistics including national accounts*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Two issues of the *Bulletin of Energy Statistics for Asia and the Pacific* (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Twelve missions to countries to advise on national accounts (6 in 1984, 6 in 1985); (b) Ten missions to countries to advise on energy statistics (4 in 1984, 6 in 1985) (XB) (carried over from 1982-1983); (c) Workshop to review the implementation of international recommendations on energy statistics (1984) (XB) (carried over from 1982-1983); (d) Twelve missions to countries to advise on industrial statistics (6 in 1984, 6 in 1985) (XB); (e) Workshop on transportation statistics (1984) (XB) (carried over from 1982-1983); (f) Asian subregional workshop on price statistics (1984) (XB); (g) Seminar on review and development of national accounts (1984) (XB); (h) Seminar on statistics of small industrial units (1985) (XB); and (i) Seminar on statistics of poverty and income distribution (1985) (XB)

*1.4 *Development of social and demographic statistics*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Handbook on socio-economic indicators (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Twelve missions to countries to advise on specific aspects of population statistics, censuses and surveys (6 in 1984, 6 in 1985) (XB); (b) Eight missions to countries to advise on social statistics (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (XB); (c) Pacific subregional seminar on social and related statistics (1984) (XB); (d) Workshop on intercensal sample surveys (1984) (XB) (carried over from 1982-1983); and (e) Seminar on vital statistics (1985) (XB) (carried over from 1982-1983)

1.5 *Development of cross-sectoral and other statistics*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Manual on regional guidelines and methodologies for the development of small area statistics, including statistics on rural development (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to advise on the development of small-area statistics, including statistics for rural development projects (1985) (XB); (b) Ten missions to advise on environment statistics (4 in 1984, 6 in 1985) (XB) (carried over from 1982-1983)

1.6 *Improvement and co-ordination of development-related government information systems through the effective application of computer technology to the collection, organization and management of data* (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of an intergovernmental meeting on government information systems (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Eight issues of *Government Information Systems Newsletter* (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985); and (b) Handbook on the use of software packages for statistical purposes, particularly on micro-computers (1984) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Twelve missions to advise on the entry, edit, storage and retrieval of census and survey data and on the use of generalized computer edit and tabulation software (6 in 1984, 6 in 1985) (XB); (b) Sixteen missions to advise on various aspects of development-related computerized government information systems, including their co-ordination, design and implementation (7 in 1984, 9 in 1985) (XB); (c) Eighteen missions to advise on the enhanced effectiveness of computerized government information systems for development planning and decision-making purposes, especially at the local level through micro-computer applications (9 in 1984, 9 in 1985) (XB); (d) Workshop on the co-ordination of information systems within government (1984) (XB); (e) Workshop on computer software (1984) (XB); and (f) Workshop on data base management (1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Statistical information services

Objectives: To collect from member countries demographic, social, economic and other statistics and to maintain them in a form suitable for retrieval for publication and for other uses, with particular emphasis on data needed for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the International Development Strategy (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 22, para. 22.122)

- 2.1 *Data search and collection of basic data relating to all fields of statistics, their edit and maintenance in time-series records*
- 2.2 *Retrieval of basic data held by the secretariat for reformulation, special compilation and secretariat publications*

Outputs:

- (i) *Ad hoc* information services and special compilations
- (ii) Technical publication: *Handbook on Agricultural Statistics for Asia and the Pacific* (annual)
- (iii) Sales publications: (a) *Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific* (quarterly); (b) *Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics for Asia and the Pacific*; (c) *Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific*; (d) *Foreign Trade Statistics for Asia and the Pacific, Series A* (annual); and (e) *Foreign Trade Statistics for Asia and the Pacific, Series B* (annual)

PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT I (TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM)

Subprogramme 1: General transport planning and facilitation of international traffic

Objectives: To assist governments in planning the development of transport and devising and developing facilitation measures for implementation at the national, subregional and regional levels (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.133)

***1.1 Formulation of national, subregional and regional strategies for integrated transport development**

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Transport, Communications and Tourism Wing) (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Studies on guidelines to integrated approaches to transport planning and development (1984, 1985); (b) Study on development of containerization and multimodal transport systems (1984) (XB); (c) Four issues of *Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific* (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (d) Studies on possible cost-sharing arrangements between land-locked and transit countries in development of transit/transport and infrastructure facilities; and (e) Studies on new transport technologies and modalities of interest to land-locked countries in facilitating transit traffic

1.2 Promotion and co-operation among transport research institutes

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Compendia of transport research institutes (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (b) Study report on planning methodologies, evaluation criteria, technology application and investment guide-lines of transport co-operative research projects (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Meeting of national transport planners/economists to identify co-operative research projects (1984)
- (iii) Five *fellowships* at transport research institutes in the region (1984)

1.3 Urban, suburban and inter-city common carrier transport development

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Four studies on critical issues of urban and public transport systems (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two training courses/seminars/workshops on public transport planning and programming in relation to overall national transport development (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Two training courses/seminars/workshops on selected aspects of urban and public transport (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

1.4 Facilitation of international traffic

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of an intergovernmental meeting for the finalization of an agreement on compulsory insurance of motor vehicles against civil liability (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two advisory missions to assist in the application of the Kyoto Convention, 1973, the Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals 1968, and the TIR Convention of 1975 (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Seminar on international multimodal transport of goods, with a view to promoting acceptance of the United Nations Convention on International Multimodal Transport of Goods, 1980 (1985) (XB); (c) Four advisory missions to assist in the establishment and proper functioning of national facilitation committees/focal points (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (d) Meeting of officials of national facilitation organs/focal points to exchange experiences and to develop a system of linkage between and among such bodies, once in two years (1984); (e) Two country-level training programmes on trade and transport facilitation measures (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (f) Two regional level seminars/workshops on specific aspects of trade and transport facilitation (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (g) Two advisory missions to assist in harmonization of frontier-crossing formalities between and among the countries connected by road and rail networks (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (h) Seminar on benefits, rights and responsibilities in transit matters under the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea

Subprogramme 2: Development of highways and highway transport

Objectives: To assist member countries in the development of a well-balanced and integrated highway transport system at the national, subregional and regional levels (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.139)

2.1 Formulation of strategies for roads and road transport development (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of an *ad hoc* meeting of ministers responsible for roads and road transport (1984), and organization of an *ad hoc* intergovernmental meeting of highway experts (1985)

- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Strategy for roads and road transport development in the 1980s (1984) (XB); and (b) Study on the implications of building self-financing toll roads in urban/inter-urban areas (1984) (XB)

***2.2 Energy and environment dimensions of highway transport development (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on the potentials of dual-fuel and energy efficient vehicles, and energy conservation for road transport (1985) (XB); and (b) Guidelines for environmental impact assessment (EIA) of land transport infrastructure projects (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Workshop/seminar on EIA methodology (1985) (XB)

***2.3 Promotion of low-cost techniques and quality control in rural roads and improvement of non-motorized transport**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Guide-lines for preparation of national master plans for rural roads development (1984); (b) Improved designs of non-motorized transport (1985) (XB); and (c) Low-cost techniques for construction/maintenance of rural roads through difficult terrain (1984)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Training course for trainers of local-level officials responsible for rural road construction and maintenance (1984) (XB)

2.4 Optimizing the operational efficiency of road transportation (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) ESCAP/IRU forum on operational and management aspects of road transportation (1985) (XB); and (b) Advisory assistance in the organization of (i) Autoventure and (ii) Himalayan Auto Rally (1984, 1985)

2.5 Promotion of safe and smooth international road transport

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Asian Highway guidemap No. 2 covering Asian Highway A-1 in Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan (revised edition) (1984) (XB); and (b) Asian Highway guidemap No. 6 covering Asian Highway route in the Philippines (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: A working group meeting on and formulation of a draft convention on technical standards for weights, dimensions and safety devices of vehicles (1985) (XB)

2.6 Promotion of roads and road transport research, training and information services

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Review report showing existing conditions of the Asian Highway and development trends on roads and road transport (second issue) (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two training courses on (i) economic/technical aspects of road construction/maintenance including rural roads for least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, and (ii) project planning in transportation/road transport (1984, 1985) (XB); and (b) Two advisory missions on techno-economic aspects of road transport development (1984, 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 3: Development of railways and railway transport

Objectives: To assist governments in the development of a well-balanced railway transport system at the national, subregional and regional levels (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.145)

3.1 Railway development planning

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of the Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting (1984)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Study on the role of the railways in selected member countries on alternative intermodal scenarios (1985) (XB); (b) Two studies on Trans-Asian Railway Network Project, including technical and economic study on intra- and interregional rail freight traffic (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Asian Railway Master Plan (1985) (XB); (d) Study on project appraisal and management as well as costing

(1985) (XB); (e) Study on development of freight transport (XB); (f) Study on inter-city passenger transport development (XB); and (g) Study on the feasibility of the establishment of a regional railway research centre (1985) (XB)

- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Railway Research Co-ordination Group Meeting (1984); (b) Assistance to member countries for implementation of the Trans-Asian Railway Network Project (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Two advisory missions to assist in establishing a railway transport institute (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

***3.2 Modernization, rehabilitation and enhancement of the efficiency of railways**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on development and introduction of modern painting technology for railway rolling stock (1985) (XB); (b) Study on improvement of safe and efficient train operation and protection systems (1985) (XB); (c) Study incorporating field test results and technical specifications for the proposed signalling and telecommunication system where electric power supply and adequate transmission lines are not available (1984) (XB); (d) Manual for railway electrification, including planning, construction, operation and maintenance (1985) (XB); (e) Study on increasing operational efficiency and improvement with a view to conserving energy (1985) (XB); (f) Study on existing railway systems for improving urban and suburban commuter transportation (1985) (XB); (g) Studies on effective and efficient maintenance systems, including (i) track maintenance, (ii) inventory control of rolling stock spare parts, (iii) preparation of manuals in the various fields and (iv) maintenance organization for motive power (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (h) Study on automation techniques in the railway transport (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Three roving missions of railway experts to advise on technical, managerial, training and operational aspects of railway transport (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB), including study in Thailand on speed increase in existing meter gauge lines, train delay on single-line operation and effect of locomotive elastic support on track wear (XB); (b) Four seminar-cum-study tours on selected aspects of railways and railway transport (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (c) Two workshops on the economic and technical aspects of railway transport (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Four roving training courses on technical, managerial and operational aspects of railway transport (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

3.3 Railway co-operation group (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Annual review of railway systems (1984, 1985) (XB); (b) Four studies on standardization of facilities, vehicles and operations (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Study on feasibility of joint ventures in various fields of railway transport (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Meetings of railway co-operation group and subgroups (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (XB); (b) Meeting of Top Railway Executives in Asia and the Middle East (1985); and (c) Establishment of standardized statistical system and performance indicators on railways (1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 4: Development of air cargo transport

Objectives: To determine the role that air cargo transport could play in promoting the intra- and interregional air-borne trade of the region, particularly in remote regions or geographically isolated areas, and identification of the measures that could be considered for adoption by member countries of the region for this purpose (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.149)

4.1 Promotion of economic aspects of air cargo transport

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Two annual reviews of trends and development of air cargo transport in the region (1984, 1985); (b) Study on the role of air cargo transport to the socio-economic development of member countries with special reference to the land-locked and island developing countries (1984) (XB); and (c) Two reports on case studies on economics of air cargo consolidation of specific commodities in selected groups of countries in the region (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four advisory missions to assist in techniques of air cargo packaging for exporters and freight forwarders (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (b) Training course/seminar on air cargo management (1984) (XB); (c) Training course on air cargo packaging technology (1985) (XB); (d) Advisory missions to five Pacific island countries in connection with the survey of air/sea/road and related infrastructures of the Pacific region (1984) (XB); and (e) Four missions to advise on the possibility of establishing a consultative machinery between users and suppliers of air freight services (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 5: Development of communications infrastructure

Objectives: Joint promotion of telecommunication with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and postal services with the Universal Postal Union (UPU) (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.153)

***5.1 Telecommunications**

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of the second regional conference-cum-seminar on telecommunications (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Asian Telecommunication Network Map (updated and revised version) (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Study of the contribution of telecommunications to socio-economic development (1985); and (c) Country studies of the socio-economic impact of rural telecommunications (1984)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Six co-ordinating meetings for implementation of the Asian Telecommunication Network (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); (b) Twelve regional advisory missions to assist in the choice of new technologies and training (3 in 1984, 9 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Advisory missions to four countries on broadcasting and television planning and training (1985) (XB)

5.2 Postal services

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Four technical studies on various aspects of postal development (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four advisory missions to improve rural postal services (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Organization of two seminars/workshops on postal development with particular emphasis on the problems of the least developed countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (iii) Six *fellowships* for postal officials to be trained at postal institutions/administrations (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 6: Development of tourism

Objectives: To formulate multidisciplinary methodologies for improvement of national tourism policies, legislation and other measures so that they most effectively contribute to co-ordinated development of tourism and to the regulation of its impacts on the social and physical environment (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.157)

6.1 Role of tourism in general development and appropriate incentive schemes

Outputs:

- Technical publication: Study on qualification of economic impacts of tourism in selected countries and the fiscal/financial incentives for tourism (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Workshop on quantitative appraisal of economic impact of tourism and its implication on incentive schemes (1985) (XB)

***6.2 Multidisciplinary planning for co-ordinating tourism development**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Four country studies on priority ranking of tourism sector projects (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Guidelines for evaluation of tourism implication of transport development projects (1985) (XB); (c) Guidelines for regulation of the impact of tourism development upon social and physical environment (1985) (XB); (d) Guidelines for linkage of specific research and tourism planning (1984) (XB); and (e) Study on intersectoral integration in formulation of projects for tourism resource development (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Six advisory missions to least developed countries on tourism development (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985)

PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT II (SHIPPING, PORTS AND INLAND WATERWAYS)

Subprogramme 1: Development of maritime policy and institutions

Objectives: To establish at the national and regional levels the institutional framework required for the balanced development of maritime transport, to develop an integrated programme for manpower development and to promote co-operation among national institutions (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.163)

***1.1 *Maritime policies and legislation* (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (1984)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Guide-lines for maritime legislation (1984); and (b) Review of regional developments in shipping, ports and inland waterways, including review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1985)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to advise on formulation, updating and implementation of national maritime legislation (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Expert Group Meeting on Maritime Legislation (1985)

1.2 *Economic information of shipping*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to advise on implementing the project on economic information on shipping (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (b) Seminar on economic information on shipping (1984)

1.3 *Institutional development*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Guide-lines on the establishment and functioning of freight study units (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to advise on the establishment and strengthening of institutions on shipping, ports and inland waterways for administration and management purposes (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Seminar on freight study units (1985) (XB)

1.4 *Development of maritime training institutions*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Survey and evaluation of needs and capacities of national maritime training centres in member countries (1985) (XB); and (b) Feasibility study of establishing subregional/regional maritime training centres (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Advisory services on the formation of a regional association of maritime training institutes (1985)

Subprogramme 2: Development of merchant marine and shipping services

Objectives: Formulation and promotion of the development of merchant marine and shipping services (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.170)

***2.1 *Merchant marines, shipping services and energy-saving measures* (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Manual on shipping management (1985) (XB); (b) Two case studies on implementing the designed computer model for planning shipping services on specified routes (1984, 1985) (XB); and (c) Analysis of the latest developments in sail-equipped ships and fuel efficiency (1984)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to advise on energy-saving alternatives in shipping (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (b) Three missions to advise on optimizing fleet capacity, utilization and streamlining of shipping services with special reference to new ship technologies, including containerization and multimodal operations (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (c) Three missions to advise on the establishment of a regional maritime data bank to facilitate planning of fleet development (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (d) Seminar-cum-study tour on organization and management of shipping companies for management personnel with special reference to containerization (1984); (e) Seminar on costing and pricing of shipping services (1985) (XB); and (f) Two seminars for shipowners on the implementation of international maritime conventions (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

2.2 *Ship financing*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Guide-lines on the sale and purchase of ships (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to advise on various aspects of ship sale and purchase (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (b) Seminar on ship financing (1985)

***2.3 Development of shipbuilding and ship repair facilities (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of an intergovernmental meeting of experts on shipbuilding and repair (1984)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Survey of shipbuilding and ship repair facilities and activities in the developing countries of the region (1984); and (b) Report on the establishment-rehabilitation of small-scale ship repair workshops (1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to advise developing member countries on various aspects of shipbuilding (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (b) Four missions to advise on development of small-scale ship repair workshops (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)

2.4 Promotion of shipping co-operation and joint shipping services

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Bulletin on the development of joint shipping services (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to promote co-operation among shipowners (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (b) Two meetings of shipowners' associations to promote regional co-operation among shipowners (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (c) Expert group meeting on implementation of international minimum standards concerning the employment conditions of merchant seafarers (1984); and (d) Two missions to advise on the operation of joint shipping services (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)

Subprogramme 3: Port development

Objectives: To develop and implement programmes of assistance to governments and port authorities in the region (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.175)

***3.1 Port operation, management and training (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Guide-lines for use with video visual training exercises (1984); (b) Regional directory of port training centres and capabilities (1984); and (c) Study on innovative cargo handling methods and techniques (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two advisory missions to South Pacific island countries, Bangladesh and India (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Four seminars at country and subregional levels on improved operational practices in ports (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (c) Four advisory missions to assist in setting up new training centres or upgrading existing ones, including upgrading syllabuses (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (d) Seminar on training of trainers (1985); (e) Two advisory missions to assist in documentation control, safety and industrial security (1984); (f) Two seminars on modern port management and port development policy (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (g) Six *fellowships* for port management personnel (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); and (h) Seminar on planned maintenance of equipment (1984)

***3.2 Port and harbour development (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Port modernization in the South Pacific island countries: establishment of design criteria (1984); (b) Port facility modernization (choice of structures, materials, site selection) and dredging (1985); (c) Proceedings of two seminars/workshops (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (d) Technical bulletin "The Dredger" (1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Six advisory missions on general port development, including location and layout of new facilities in planning stages (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); (b) Six advisory missions on equipment criteria, specifications and selection (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); (c) Four advisory missions to assist in meeting urgent needs in the operation sector and to promote technical co-operation among developing countries (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (d) Two regional seminars/workshops aimed at upgrading technology on (i) operational characteristics, maintenance and repairs, spares planning and provisioning of dredging fleets (1984) and (ii) costing of dredging operations (1985) (XB)

***3.3 Implementation of a port management information system**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Updated study on port management information systems (PORTMIS) (1984); and (b) Review of port management practices in selected ESCAP countries (1984)

- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two advisory missions to countries in upgrading port management information systems at various levels (1984) (XB); (b) Seminar-cum-study tour on improved port management practices and port pricing (1985); and (c) Meeting of group of experts on PORTMIS (1984) (XB)

***3.4 Containerization and multimodal transport systems**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Survey of containerization and multimodal transport in selected ESCAP countries (1984)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Six missions to regional developing countries to advise on upgrading of port facilities for multimodal transportation and port tariffs (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); and (b) Annual meeting of Chief Executives of Port Authorities with emphasis on port containerization and multimodal transport systems (1984, 1985)

Subprogramme 4: Development of inland water transport

Objectives: To assist member countries in achieving more effective utilization of their national inland waterways system (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.182)

4.1 Policy and planning

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study of existing policy régimes for inland waterway operations and appropriate ways of measuring the costs resulting from the use of inland waterways and methods of determining and levying charges corresponding to those costs (1984) (XB); and (b) Inventory of major inland waterways in selected countries of the region (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to advise on policy development and planning techniques (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Four missions to advise on information and statistical services (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (c) Four missions to assist in establishing and strengthening regional institutions and training programmes (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (d) Two seminar/study tours for investigation of new developments and techniques in developed countries for possible application to developing countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)

***4.2 Development and maintenance of inland waterways, including development of dredging**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Proceedings of two seminars/workshops; and (b) Bulletin on agitation dredging (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Meeting of chief executives of inland water transport and inland waterways authorities (1984); (b) Two regional seminars/workshops aimed at upgrading technology of the inland waterways dredging industry (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Four missions to member countries to provide *ad hoc* advisory services (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Continuation of preparatory work on the establishment of a regional centre for inland water transport technology in Bangladesh

4.3 Fleet improvement (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Proceedings of seminar/expert group meetings (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to member countries to advise on various aspects of fleet development and management (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (b) Seminar/expert group meetings on design and construction of inland waterway crafts and improvement in technical operation (push-towing, tow-in line) and economic running of the fleet (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)

***4.4 Development of terminals and landing facilities (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: A manual for the design of terminals and landing facilities to cover structures, mechanical equipment and terminal operations under various circumstances (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Two missions to member countries to advise on development of terminals and landing facilities (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)

Subprogramme 5: Shippers' organizations and co-operation

Objectives: To assist shippers and other relevant entities in acquiring knowledge of shipping economics and practices and to support the establishment and strengthening of shippers' institutions (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.187)

***5.1 *Establishment and strengthening of national shippers' organizations* (XB)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Handbook for shippers (1984); (b) Studies on freight rates and surcharges (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (c) Compilation and dissemination of shipping information to member countries (1984, 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory services on the establishment and operation of shippers' organizations (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); (b) Four missions to advise shippers' councils on establishment of information networks at national level (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (c) Six country-level workshops on cargo consolidation, containerization, legal and port environment, calculation of ocean transport costs and other aspects of shippers' co-operation (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); and (d) Study tour of chief executives of national shippers' organizations (1984)

***5.2 *Promotion of regional co-operation among shippers' organizations and between shippers' and shipowners' organizations* (XB)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to advise on the implementation of schemes aimed at promoting co-operation between shippers and shipowners (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Four regional and subregional workshops on shippers' co-operation (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (c) Two meetings of chief executives of shippers' organizations and two joint meetings with shipowners' associations and port authorities (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)

5.3 *Assistance in assessing needs for suitable carriers and services*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Two studies on choice of shipping services (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Four missions to assist subregional groupings in the evaluation of shipping services (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

***5.4 *Cargo consolidation, freight booking and chartering activities, including establishment of computer-based services* (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Studies on cargo consolidation schemes and freight rates (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (b) Guide-lines for the establishment of computer-based shipping models (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to assist in implementation of cargo consolidation and chartering projects (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (b) Workshop on the use of shipping models (1984)

5.5 *Strengthening of freight forwarders' organizations*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Manual on the establishment and operation of freight forwarders' organizations (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Workshop on functioning of freight forwarders' organizations (1984) (XB)

PROGRAMME: TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

Subprogramme 1: Securing an effective code of conduct and other international arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations

Objectives: To provide substantive support for the implementation, monitoring and review of the code of conduct; to assist governments in disseminating and publicizing the code of conduct; to service and provide substantive support to intergovernmental bodies working for the formulation, implementation and monitoring of other international arrangements and agreements; and to conduct work aimed at identifying areas for other international arrangements and agreements (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 23, para. 23.8)

1.1 *Implementation of the code of conduct and other international arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Regional seminar and 16 advisory missions on the code of conduct and other international arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations (1984, 1985) (XB); and (b) Regional seminar and two advisory missions on regional arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations (1984, 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: *Minimizing the negative effects of transnational corporations and enhancing their contribution to development*

Objectives: To assist member governments in analysing trends in the activities of transnational corporations and their impact on economic development and in analysing the implications of the activities of TNCs in host countries, including economic, political, social and cultural issues (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 23, para. 23.16)

2.1 *Regional support to UNCTC's global research*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: Reports and studies for UNCTC's research programme in priority areas identified by the Commission on Transnational Corporations (1984, 1985)

2.2 *Research and analysis: country and case studies

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Four comparative studies on specific issues regarding the activities of transnational corporations (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Four studies on transnational corporations based in developing countries (1984); (c) Three studies on the role of transnational corporations in export processing zones (1984); (d) Three studies on emerging activities of transnational corporations in least developed, land-locked and island developing countries (1984, 1985); (e) Three studies on the impact of transnational corporations on the economic and social development process (1984, 1985); and (f) Two studies on transnational corporations in selected industries (1984, 1985)

Subprogramme 3: *Strengthening the capability of host developing countries in dealing with matters related to transnational corporations*

Objectives: To assist member governments in the examination of policy options related to transnational corporations, and to collect and disseminate information on law and regulations, individual transnational corporations, contracts and agreements, and other data sources; to organize and conduct training workshops, seminars, roundtables and study tours on matters related to regulating and negotiating with transnational corporations (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 23, para. 23.21)

3.1 *Provision of technical assistance, in collaboration with UNCTC, to member governments

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) 30 advisory missions for strengthening the negotiating capacities of host countries (1984, 1985); and (b) 15 general and specialized training workshops and seminars on matters related to TNCs at the national, subregional and regional levels (1984, 1985)

3.2 *Information services on transnational corporations to member countries

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Newsletters and working papers on national legislation related to transnational corporations (1984, 1985); (b) Corporate profiles of regional subsidiaries and affiliates (1984, 1985); and (c) Three regional surveys on information, bibliographies and research activities (1984, 1985)

Annex II

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF ACTIONS
AND PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION**

None of the resolutions adopted at the thirty-ninth session of the Commission have financial implications for the regular budget of the United Nations.

Annex III
MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD DURING
THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

<i>Body and officers</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Document symbol of report^a</i>
Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment	Sixth session Bangkok 7-13 September 1982	E/ESCAP/288
<i>Chairman:</i> Chane Boonsong (Thailand)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Roger Woolfitt (Australia) Ji Feng (China)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i> A.W. Chowdhuri (Bangladesh)		
<i>Chairman, Technical and Drafting Committee:</i> L.S. Perera (Sri Lanka)		
Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference	Colombo 20-29 September 1982	E/ESCAP/301
<i>Chairman:</i> Ranjit Atapattu (Sri Lanka)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Qian Xinzong (China) Kumari Kumud Ben Joshi (India) Surono (Indonesia) Yuji Tsushima (Japan) Shariffah Dorah bte Dato Syed Mohamed (Malaysia) Attiya Inayatullah (Pakistan) Kul Shekhar Sharma (Nepal) Tira Tawita (Kiribati)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i> P. Padmanabha (India)		
Committee on Natural Resources	Ninth session Bangkok 19-25 October 1982	E/ESCAP/292
<i>Chairman:</i> Sa-ngob Kaewbaidhoon (Thailand)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Salman Padmanagara (Indonesia)		

^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>
	D. Santokh Singh (Malaysia)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	B. Gonzales (Philippines)		
<i>Chairman, Drafting Committee:</i>	K. Saigal (India)		
Committee on Trade		Twenty-fourth session Bangkok 2-8 November 1982	E/ESCAP/289
<i>Chairman:</i>	Prayoon Talerngsri (Thailand)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i>	Murray Cobban (Australia)		
	Nara Bahadur Thapa (Nepal)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	A.F. Ludowyke (Sri Lanka)		
<i>Chairman, Technical and Drafting Committee:</i>	Usha Vohra (India)		
Committee on Social Development		Third session Bangkok 16-22 November 1982	E/ESCAP/291
<i>Chairman:</i>	Prapont Piyaratn (Thailand)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i>	E. Joseph Ross (Malaysia)		
	Rosita Fondevilla (Philippines)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	A.B. Bose (India)		
<i>Chairman, Drafting Committee:</i>	K.P. Rijal (Nepal)		
Committee on Development Planning		Fourth session Bangkok 23-26 November 1982	E/ESCAP/290
<i>Chairman:</i>	Ramon B. Cardenas (Philippines)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i>	Abu Bakar bin Abu Karim (Malaysia)		
	B.B. Pradhan (Nepal)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	L.S. Fernando (Sri Lanka)		
Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing)		Sixth session Bangkok 7-13 December 1983	E/ESCAP/293 and Corr.1
<i>Chairman:</i>	A.K.M. Kamal Uddin Choudhury (Bangladesh)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i>	V. Coloso (Philippines)		
	C.P. Jayasinghe (Sri Lanka)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	P.V. Venkatakrisnan (India)		

Annex IV

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. PUBLICATIONS

- Development Strategies for the 1980s in South Asia* (Development Papers, No. 1): United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.II.F.16
- Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1982*: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.II.F.1
- Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*: United Nations publication, Sales Nos. E.81.II.F.12 (vol. XXXI, No. 1, June 1980); E.81.II.F.17 (vol. XXXI, No. 2, December 1980); E.81.II.F.18 (vol. XXXII, No. 1, June 1981); E.83.II.F.3 (vol. XXXII, No. 2, December 1981)
- Electric Power in Asia and the Pacific, 1979 and 1980*: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.II.F.15
- Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific, 1976-1979*, vol. XII, Series B: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.II.F.13
- Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific, 1979*, vol. XVIII, Series A: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.II.F.14
- Proceedings of the ESCAP/FAO/UNEP Expert Group Meeting on Fuelwood and Charcoal* (Energy Resources Development Series, No. 24): United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.II.F.10
- Proceedings of the Seminar on the Improvement of Irrigation Performance at the Project Level* (Water Resources Series, No. 56): United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.II.F.8
- Proceedings of the Seventh Session of the Committee on Natural Resources* (Water Resources Series, No. 54): United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.II.F.10
- Proceedings of the Working Group Meeting on Environmental Management in Mineral Resource Development* (Mineral Resources Development Series, No. 49): United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.II.F.9
- Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics for Asia and the Pacific*: United Nations publication, Sales Nos. E.82.II.F.2 (vol. XI, No. 3, September 1981); E.82.II.F.4 (vol. XI, No. 4, December 1981); E.82.II.F.11 (vol. XII, No. 1, March 1982); E.83.II.F.5 (vol. XII, No. 2, June 1982)
- Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*, No. 18: United Nations publication, Sales No. E/F.83.II.F.4
- Stratigraphic Correlation between Sedimentary Basins of the ESCAP Region*, vol. VIII: *ESCAP Atlas of Stratigraphy III* (Mineral Resources Development Series, No. 48): United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.II.F.6
- Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*, No. 55: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.II.F.12

B. DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION

- Report of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment on its sixth session (E/ESCAP/288)
- Report of the Committee on Trade on its twenty-fourth session (E/ESCAP/289)
- Report of the Committee on Development Planning on its fourth session (E/ESCAP/290)
- Report of the Committee on Social Development on its third session (E/ESCAP/291)
- Report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its ninth session (E/ESCAP/292)
- Report of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications: Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing, on its sixth session (E/ESCAP/293 and Corr.1)
- Report of the Typhoon Committee on its fifteenth session (E/ESCAP/294)
- Work of the Commission since the thirty-eighth session (E/ESCAP/295 and Corr.1)
- Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy (E/ESCAP/296)
- Resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council (E/ESCAP/297)
- Food supply and distribution in Asia and the Pacific: food security, trade and investment (Commission resolution 226 (XXXVIII)) (E/ESCAP/298)
- Reassessment of the programme priorities of the Commission (E/ESCAP/299 and Corr.1)
- Structure, frequency and duration of Commission sessions (E/ESCAP/300)
- Report of the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference (E/ESCAP/301)
- Report of the Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Railways (E/ESCAP/302)
- Report on the implementation of the ESCAP work programme, 1982 (E/ESCAP/303)
- Tentative calendar of meetings, 1983/84 (E/ESCAP/304/Rev.1)
- Main issues in the field of food and agriculture (E/ESCAP/305 and Corr.1)
- Main issues in the field of natural resources and energy (E/ESCAP/306 and Add.1 and 2)
- Main issues in the field of industry, technology and human settlements (E/ESCAP/307 and Corr.1)
- Main issues in the field of international trade (E/ESCAP/308 and Add.1)
- Main issues in the field of transnational corporations (E/ESCAP/309 and Corr.1)

- Main issues in the field of integrated rural development (E/ESCAP/310)
- Main issues in the field of development planning, projections and policies (E/ESCAP/311)
- Main issues in the field of the environment (E/ESCAP/312 and Corr.1)
- Main issues in the field of shipping, ports and inland waterways (E/ESCAP/313)
- Main issues in the field of transport, communications and tourism (E/ESCAP/314 and Add.1)
- Main issues in the field of social development (E/ESCAP/315 and Add.1 and Corr.1)
- Main issues in the field of population (E/ESCAP/316)
- Main issues in the field of statistics (E/ESCAP/317)
- Main issues in the field of information systems and documentation services (E/ESCAP/318)
- The Commission's activities in the Pacific (E/ESCAP/319 and Corr.1)
- Programme changes for 1983 (E/ESCAP/320 and Corr.1 and 2)
- Draft programme of work for 1984-1985 (E/ESCAP/321 and Corr.1)
- Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries (E/ESCAP/322)
- Annual report of the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, 1982 (E/ESCAP/323)
- Report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas on its nineteenth session (E/ESCAP/324)
- Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas (E/ESCAP/325)
- Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre (E/ESCAP/326)
- 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 (E/ESCAP/327)
- Report on the Asian and Pacific energy programmes (E/ESCAP/328)
- Report of the Management Board of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre (E/ESCAP/329 and Corr.1)
- Progress report on the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific for 1982 (E/ESCAP/330)
- Mobilization of extrabudgetary resources for the work programme of ESCAP and for the regional training and research institutions (E/ESCAP/331 and Corr.1)
- Technical co-operation activities of ESCAP, 1982 (E/ESCAP/332 and Corr.1-3)
- Technical co-operation activities in Asia and the Pacific in 1982: information papers presented by the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (E/ESCAP/333 and Add.1)
- Report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (E/ESCAP/334)
- Date and venue of the fortieth session of the Commission (E/ESCAP/335 and Add.1)
- Report of the Expert Group Meeting on the Preparations for the Sixth Session of UNCTAD (E/ESCAP/336)
- Progress report on the implementation of resolution 217 (XXXVII) on the role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries (E/ESCAP/337)
- Extension of the conference facilities at the headquarters of ESCAP (E/ESCAP/338/Rev.1)
- Report on resolution 230 (XXXVIII) on a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/339 and Corr.1)
- "Technology for development" as a possible theme for the fortieth session of the Commission (E/ESCAP/340)

Annex V

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

As adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its fourth session, amended by the Council at subsequent sessions, and revised in consequence of various General Assembly resolutions.

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered General Assembly resolution 46(1) of 11 December 1946, in which the General Assembly "recommends that, in order to give effective aid to the countries devastated by war, the Economic and Social Council, at its next session, give prompt and favourable consideration to the establishment of ... an Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East", and

Having noted the report of the Working Group for Asia and the Far East of the Temporary Sub-Commission on Economic Reconstruction of Devastated Areas,

Establishes an Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific with terms of reference as follows:

1. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, acting within the framework of the policies of the United Nations and subject to the general supervision of the Council, shall, provided that the Commission takes no action in respect of any country without the agreement of the Government of that country:

(a) Initiate and participate in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic reconstruction and development of Asia and the Pacific, for raising the level of economic activity in Asia and the Pacific and for maintaining and strengthening the economic relations of these areas both among themselves and with other countries of the world;

(b) Make or sponsor such investigations and studies of economic and technological problems and developments within territories of Asia and the Pacific as the Commission deems appropriate;

(c) Undertake or sponsor the collection, evaluation and dissemination of such economic, technological and statistical information as the Commission deems appropriate;

(d) Perform such advisory services, within the available resources of its secretariat, as the countries of the region may desire, provided that such services do not overlap with those rendered by the specialized agencies or the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration;

(e) Assist the Economic and Social Council, at its request, in discharging its functions within the region in connection with any economic problems, including problems in the field of technical assistance;

(f) In carrying out the above functions, deal, as appropriate, with the social aspects of economic development and the interrelationship of the economic and social factors.

2. The territories of Asia and the Pacific referred to in paragraph 1 shall include Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, 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.

Chapter XI

CONSULTATIONS WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Rule 51

1. Where an item proposed for the provisional agenda for a session contains a proposal for new activities to be undertaken by the United Nations relating to matters which are of direct concern to one or more specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Executive Secretary shall enter into consultation with the agency or agencies concerned and report to the Commission on the means of achieving co-ordinated use of the resources of the respective agencies.

2. Where a proposal put forward in the course of a meeting for new activities to be undertaken by the United Nations relates to matters which are of direct concern to one or more specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Executive Secretary shall, after such consultation as may be possible with the representatives at the meeting of the other agency or agencies concerned, draw the attention of the meeting to these implications of the proposal.

3. Before deciding on proposals referred to above, the Commission shall satisfy itself that adequate consultations have taken place with the agencies concerned.

Chapter XII

RELATIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rule 52

Non-governmental organizations in categories I and II may designate authorized representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Commission. Organizations on the Roster may have representatives present at such meetings which are concerned with matters within their field of competence.

Rule 53

Written statements relevant to the work of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies may be submitted by organizations in categories I and II on subjects for which these organizations have a special competence. Such statements shall be circulated by the Executive Secretary to the members and associate members of the Commission except those statements which have become obsolete - e.g. those dealing with matters already disposed of, and those which have already been circulated in some other form to members and associate members of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies.

Rule 54

The following conditions shall be observed regarding the submission and circulation of such written statements:

(a) The written statement shall be submitted in one of the official languages;

(b) It shall be submitted in sufficient time for appropriate consultation to take place between the Executive Secretary and the Organization before circulation;

(c) The organization shall give due consideration to any comments which the Executive Secretary may make in the course of such consultation before transmitting the statement in final form;

(d) A written statement submitted by an organization in category I will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 2,000 words. Where a statement is in excess of 2,000 words, the organization shall submit a summary, which will be circulated, or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon the specific request of the Commission or of one of its subsidiary bodies;

(e) A written statement submitted by an organization in category II will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 1,500 words. Where a statement is in excess of 1,500 words, the organization shall submit a summary, which will be circulated, or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon the specific request of the Commission or other subsidiary bodies;

(f) The Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chairman or the Commission itself may invite organizations on the Roster to submit written statements. The provisions of paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (e) above shall apply to such statements;

(g) A written statement or summary, as the case may be, will be circulated by the Executive Secretary in the working languages and, upon the request of a member or associate member of the Commission, in any of the official languages.

Rule 55

(a) The Commission and its subsidiary bodies may consult with organizations in category I or II either directly or through a committee or committees established for the purpose. In all cases, such consultations may be arranged on the request of the organization;

(b) On the recommendation of the Executive Secretary and at the request of the Commission or one of its subsidiary bodies, organizations on the Roster may also be heard by the Commission or its subsidiary bodies.

Rule 56

Subject to rule 23 the Commission may recommend that a non-governmental organization which has special competence in a particular field should undertake specific studies or investigations or prepare specific papers for the Commission. The limitations of rule 54 (d) and (e) shall not apply in this case.

Chapter XIII

SUB-COMMISSIONS, OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND COMMITTEES

Rule 57

After discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same field, and with the approval of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission may establish such continually acting sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions and shall define the powers and composition of each of them. Such autonomy as may be necessary for the effective discharge of the technical responsibilities laid upon them may be delegated to them.

Rule 58

The Commission may establish such committees and sub-committees as it deems necessary to assist it in carrying out its tasks.

Rule 59

Sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and committees, sub-committees and working parties shall adopt their own rules of procedure unless otherwise decided by the Commission.

Chapter XIV

REPORTS

Rule 60

The Commission shall, once a year, submit to the Economic and Social Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies.

Chapter XV

AMENDMENTS AND SUSPENSIONS

Rule 61

Any of these rules of procedure may be amended or suspended by the Commission, provided that the proposed amendments or suspensions do not attempt to set aside the terms of reference laid down by the Economic and Social Council.

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