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CONCENTRATION AND INTEGRATION OF THE
PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMISSION

(Commission decision E (XXXVIII))

Report by the Executive Secretary

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Introduction and summary

1. The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) has served its member Governments for 37 years as a forum for economic co-operation among countries with different economic and social systems. The work programme and the structure of the Commission have evolved in response to changing economic conditions in the region. New activities have been incorporated and new bodies created in response to the needs of member Governments as well as to the impetus of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) which called for an enhanced role for ECE in the context of economic and related co-operation among the participating States.

2. Although the Commission can clearly take satisfaction from its accomplishments over the years and from the existing work programme, there is scope for refinement and further improvement of the programme in order to use the limited resources available most effectively in line with changing needs and circumstances.

3. The Commission agreed that it would be timely to undertake at its thirty-ninth session a more rigorous examination and evaluation of the work programme in the light of developments since the previous major review was made in 1976. The Executive Secretary was requested, in paragraph 3 of decision E (XXXVIII), to undertake for consideration at the Commission's thirty-ninth session "an evaluation of the impact and usefulness to Governments of ECE activities and to make preliminary proposals for an adaptation of the work programme for 1984-1988, with a view to the identification of priorities in order to increase the effectiveness of the Commission's activities and to make more efficient use of resources possible".

4. In response to that request, Part I of the present report contains preliminary proposals for an adapted work programme for ECE for the period 1984-1988. These proposals include suggestions for modification to, and in some cases elimination of, existing programme elements, as well as proposals for some new programme elements.

5. Part II contains observations and suggestions by the Executive Secretary concerning the methods of work of the Sessional Committee, as requested in paragraph 5 of decision E (XXXVIII). It is proposed that the Committee be replaced by a Programme and Co-ordination Committee (PCC) which would meet in the week immediately preceding the Commission session. The PCC would devote attention to future rather than past activities and to the concentration and integration of programmes, and would be expected to make recommendations to the Plenary for improved co-ordination.

6. Part III very briefly suggests a procedure for dealing with the proposals contained in Part I, i.e. that the PCC should review the proposed work programmes in special sessions, seeking the technical advice of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, as appropriate, in order to make recommendations to the Commission at its fortieth session.

7. Annexes A-J to the present report contain some explanations of the proposals related to possible new work areas or projects.

8. The Executive Secretary is of the opinion that the proposed work programme could be further refined by rearranging and grouping related sectoral programmes under more general headings. The Commission would thereby probably be in a position to perform more effectively its review, co-ordination and guidance functions.

9. The benefits to be derived from such a rearrangement of the work programme might be further enhanced by a modification of the structure of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission. A reduction in the number of Principal Subsidiary Bodies, for example, could possibly result in more efficient implementation of the work programmes as well as facilitate the work of the Commission in providing over-all guidance and supervision to its subsidiary bodies.

10. The Executive Secretary does not feel, however, that he has a sufficient mandate from the Commission to make more far-reaching proposals for adaptation of the work programme, nor to suggest changes in the structure of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission. He would be prepared, if the Commission so decides, to make proposals in this respect to the fortieth session.

11. The Executive Secretary is also of the view that further work should be undertaken as a follow-up to the evaluation of the impact and usefulness of ECE publications, since the replies of Governments in this respect were rather inconclusive. In the course of this further work, the views of other users could also be sought. If the Commission so decides, the Executive Secretary will undertake such a review and report to the fortieth session on his findings.

PART I - PRELIMINARY PROPOSALS FOR AN ADAPTED PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1984-1988

12. In response to the request contained in paragraph 3 of Commission decision E (XXXVIII), the Executive Secretary has undertaken a thorough evaluation of the impact and usefulness to Governments of ECE activities. On the basis of this evaluation, preliminary proposals for an adapted programme of work for 1984-1988 are set forth below.

13. The evaluation was based on the premise that all projects in the current programme of work without exception should be carefully and objectively scrutinized to determine whether they should be retained or possibly re-formulated, in the light of the over-all objectives of the Commission.

14. Since the ECE must continue to be a dynamic and future-oriented body, responding to the changing needs of its member Governments, an extensive examination was undertaken also of possible new areas of work or new projects, which might be proposed for incorporation in the work programme.

15. Several techniques were used in carrying out this exercise. The most important of these was the questionnaire sent by the Executive Secretary to member Governments to obtain an assessment of the usefulness to them of the individual projects in the current work programme. Their comments on specific programmes and projects, and their observations on the programme of work as a whole were also solicited.

16. Member Governments responded to the Executive Secretary's request in a thorough and constructive manner, providing the main basis for his evaluation of the programme. Individual replies have been treated as confidential; they did not lend themselves even to quantitative aggregation, however, in view of the nuanced comments of Governments.

17. While Governments in general expressed their satisfaction with the over-all content and direction of the work programme, many suggestions for improvement were made. These have been taken into account by the Executive Secretary when preparing, on his own responsibility, the adapted work programme now proposed for the Commission's consideration.

18. In undertaking his evaluation, the Executive Secretary also based himself on the accumulated experience of the ECE secretariat and consulted with a number of eminent individuals.

19. The Executive Secretary was sensitive to the implications for the further work of the Commission of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (hereafter referred to as the "Helsinki 1975 Final Act") and the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting of Representatives of the Participating States of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, Held on the Basis of the Provisions of the Final Act Relating to the Follow-up to the Conference (hereafter referred to as the "Madrid 1983 Concluding Document"). As was the case in the Helsinki 1975 Final Act, there are many recommendations and statements of intention in the Madrid 1983 Concluding Document of relevance to the ECE. These references have been taken into account in the preparation of the proposals for an adaptation of the programme of work.

20. The Executive Secretary is making no suggestions for changes in the priorities in the work programme, which, it will be recalled, are: development of trade; science and technology; environment; and long-term economic projections.

21. The proposed work programme can, in the Executive Secretary's view, be implemented within the over-all level of resources presently available to the secretariat, provided that there is a gradual adjustment of the work programme as new programme elements are added and others deleted. It is assumed that the essential support of Governments, in providing rapporteurs and inputs to studies and seminars, will continue at least at present levels. It is also hoped that the valuable co-operation with and contributions of many intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations will continue.

22. The format and presentation of the programme of work remain essentially unchanged. The terminology used, however, has been modified to correspond to current United Nations practice, as follows:

<u>old</u>	=	<u>new</u>
Programme category	=	Programme
Work area	=	Sub-programme
Project	=	Programme element

In the interests of consistency, and whenever feasible, programme elements have been grouped into sub-programmes along the following lines:

- Medium- and long-term trends, prospects and policies
- Current developments and short-term prospects
- Selected economic and technological issues
- Other specific issues
- Statistics and information.

Very technical or detailed programme element descriptions (which presently figure in some parts of the work programme as four or five digit items) will appear only in the programmes of work of the Principal Subsidiary Body concerned. ^{1/}

23. It is hoped that the above proposals will add to the clarity and relevance of the work programme and thereby assist the Commission in its task of exercising over-all guidance and supervision, while at the same time preserving a reasonable degree of flexibility and autonomy for the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned.

24. Each of the sectoral programmes set forth below is accompanied, as indicated earlier, by a short résumé of the results of the evaluation of that programme. The modification or elimination of some obsolete, dormant or redundant programme elements is being proposed, together with some new programme elements. New programme elements proposed by the Executive Secretary which are self-explanatory are designated with an asterisk (*), whereas those designated with a double asterisk (**) are accompanied by an explanatory note in the Annexes to the present report. Those sub-programmes and programme elements which are specifically related to the Helsinki 1975 Final Act and the Madrid 1983 Concluding Document are designated CSCE(H) and CSCE(M), respectively.

^{1/} It should be noted that although the total number of programme elements in the proposed programme has been reduced from 550 to 390 (28.5%) the cut-back in real terms is considerably smaller since some of the items proposed for elimination are at present dormant, and the streamlining of the presentation of the programme has resulted in the merging or grouping of formerly separate projects. The work sheets used by the secretariat in the course of the preparation of the revised programme of work are available to delegations on request. These work sheets consist of comparative tables, showing the current and proposed structure of each sectoral programme, and indicating briefly the reasons for the changes suggested. They can be obtained, in English only, from the Conference Officer of the Commission (Office 333, Palais des Nations, Geneva) as of 1 March 1984.

PROGRAMME 01 - POLICY AND CO-ORDINATION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION
AS A WHOLE

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire Governments expressed the view that work related to the co-ordinating role of the Commission was particularly important, including that concerned with economic co-operation in the Mediterranean. Some Governments also made it plain in their replies that they attached importance to the Commission's co-operation with other United Nations bodies and international organizations, both as a means of achieving greater efficiency and of avoiding duplication of work. Many Governments expressed strong support for the secretariat's publication of the Economic Survey of Europe and the Economic Bulletin for Europe based upon the independent research conducted by the secretariat, including its activities in the field of population.

Taking into account these and other views the Executive Secretary has, in Part II of this report and in response to paragraph 5 of decision E (XXXVIII) made suggestions to enhance the Commission's co-ordinating role through improved work methods of the Sessional Committee. Moreover, a new format has been adopted for Commission document E/ECE/1069 on Co-operation with other International Organizations in order to provide Governments with a clearer view of the areas and forms of co-operation undertaken. Furthermore, to provide Governments with advance information on the economic situation in the region prior to the publication of the Economic Survey of Europe, the secretariat will issue a short document entitled "A summary of economic developments in the ECE region" (ECE(XXXIX)/2).

The Executive Secretary has also reported in greater detail on the Commission's activities in the field of population in Commission document E/ECE/1075.

The adapted work programme below has been reformulated to reflect more accurately the ongoing and ad hoc activities of the Commission in the field of policy and co-ordination, and includes two proposals of a cross sectoral nature on management training for administrations and enterprises and the development of activities in telematics.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 01.1: Activities of the Commission as a whole and programme of work and priorities

Programme elements

- 01.1.1 Review and guidance of the activities of the Commission as a whole; evaluation, co-ordination and formulation of the programme of work
- 01.1.2 The work and future activities of the Commission
- 01.1.3 Concentration and integration of the programme of work of the Commission
- 01.1.4 Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE (CSCE-H)
- 01.1.5 Management training for administrations and enterprises** (CSCE-M)

Sub-programme 01.2: Economic developments, problems and prospects in the region

Programme elements

- 01.2.1 Review of economic development, problems and prospects in the region
- 01.2.2 Development of activities in telematics**

** For programme element 01.1.5 see Annex A; for programme element 01.2.2 see Annex B.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 01.3: Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly

Programme elements

- 01.3.1 Review and follow-up of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council bearing on the work of the Commission
- 01.3.2 Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the 1984 International Conference of Population
- 01.3.3 Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women

Sub-programme 01.4: Co-operation with other international organizations

Programme elements

- 01.4.1 Review of the Commission's co-operation with other United Nations bodies
 - 01.4.2 Review of the Commission's co-operation with other international organizations
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PROGRAMME 01(a) - ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND AUTOMATION

The large number of replies received from Governments to the evaluation questionnaire and the detailed comment provided in many cases serve as an indication of the interest of member countries in activities in this field. In general Governments rated as highly useful the work in the field of industrial robotics, flexible manufacturing, equipment with low energy consumption and equipment for preventing water pollution, electrical and electronic engineering and the Bulletin of World Trade in these sectors. Some Governments expressed the view that more attention should be paid to promising new sectors in this field such as microelectronic-based technologies, automated manufacturing methods, etc. These same Governments suggested that, given the importance they attached to work in this area, the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation should be raised to the status of a Principal Subsidiary Body. Other Governments expressed the view that while the statistical work currently conducted was of some validity, it could be improved by a greater flow of information from all countries. In some cases government replies also reflected a lesser interest in work in the field of woodworking machinery, the automotive industry, airborne equipment and forging and pressing. Moreover, one Government expressed the view that not only should a duplication of work with other ECE bodies be avoided, e.g. with the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology, but that ECE was not always an appropriate forum for the consideration of some of the purely technical items in this programme of work.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements, including a proposal dealing with recent developments in telematics equipment.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 01(a).1: Long-term trends and prospects in engineering industries and automation

Programme elements

- 01(a).1.1 Long-term assessment of engineering industries within national, regional and global economies
- 01(a).1.2 Long-term impact of automation on the economy and its individual sectors
- 01(a).1.3 Methodology for assessing the techno-economic trends and the level of automation

Sub-programme 01(a).2: Current developments and medium-term prospects in engineering industries and automation, including international trade

Programme elements

- 01(a).2.1 Current developments and medium-term prospects in the engineering industries
 - 01(a).2.2 Current developments and medium-term prospects in automation
 - 01(a).2.3 Studies of national developments in engineering industries and automation
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Proposed programme

Sub-programme 01(a).3: Economic and technological issues in the engineering industries

Programme elements

- 01(a).3.1 Innovation in biomedical equipment
- 01(a).3.2 Development and use of powder metallurgy in engineering industries
- 01(a).3.3 Developments in electrical and electronic industries and their industrial applications
- 01(a).3.4 Review of recent technological trends in electrical and electronic industries

Sub-programme 01(a).4: Economic and technological issues in automation (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 01(a).4.1 New production methods in the engineering industries
- 01(a).4.2 Production and use of industrial robots
- 01(a).4.3 Recent trends and applications in flexible manufacturing
- 01(a).4.4 Recent developments in telematics equipment**
- 01(a).4.5 New trends in non-industrial application of information technology
- 01(a).4.6 Recent developments in software means for industrial automation
- 01(a).4.7 The production and use of automation equipment in member countries which are developing from the economic point of view

Sub-programme 01(a).5: Environment and resource issues in the engineering industries and automation

Programme elements

- 01(a).5.1 Energy saving engineering equipment
- 01(a).5.2 Low-waste processes and automated equipment in precision castings
- 01(a).5.3 Engineering equipment and automation means for preventing water pollution

Sub-programme 01(a).6: Statistics in engineering industries and automation

Programme elements

- 01(a).6.1 Publication of the Bulletin of Statistics on World Trade in Engineering Products 1/
- 01(a).6.2 Development of internationally comparable statistics

** See Annex B.

1/ Refer also to programme element 12.6.2 of Programme 12: Statistics.

PROGRAMME 01(b) - GENERAL ENERGY

To a large extent the replies received from Governments to the evaluation questionnaire were consistent with the known policies of member States. The replies of some Governments expressed the view that energy is de facto a priority area and that the Commission should therefore intensify its work in this area. Others considered that work in this field should continue at the same level and continue to be technical. Some Governments underlined the importance of work in the field of energy conservation, while others suggested that the documentation would be more satisfactory if it were based on more exhaustive data covering the whole region, and if the questions taken up were of interest to all member countries.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements, including the treatment of general energy statistics as a subprogramme and a proposal to organize "A round table on energy transition policies in the ECE region: challenges and prospects" designed to take stock of the achievements of energy transition policies, to identify undesirable developments or risks and to draw conclusions for international co-operation.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 01(b).1: Energy programmes, policies and prospects

Programme elements

- 01(b).1.1 National energy programmes, policies and prospects
- 01(b).1.2 Energy co-operation in the region (CSCE-M)
- 01(b).1.3 Energy transition policies in the region: challenges and prospects*
- 01(b).1.4 Selected general energy issues
- 01(b).1.5 Overview of energy activities in ECE
- 01(b).1.6 Overview of energy activities in the United Nations system of organisations

Sub-programme 01(b).2: Energy demand and supply

Programme elements

- 01(b).2.1 Significant new developments affecting energy demand and supply in the short, medium and long run
- 01(b).2.2 New and renewable sources of energy (CSCE-H)
- 01(b).2.3 End-use demand analysis, prospects and policies

Sub-programme 01(b).3: Energy trade and co-operation (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 01(b).3.1 Developments, policies and prospects of energy trade and co-operation
- 01(b).3.2 Identification and analysis of energy projects suitable for international co-operation

Sub-programme 01(b).4 Energy conservation (CSCE-H)

- 01(b).4.1 Energy conservation developments, policies and prospects in the region
- 01(b).4.2 Specific measures for energy conservation

Sub-programme 01(b).5: General energy statistics

Programme elements

- 01(b).5.1 Support for the publication of the Annual Bulletin of General Energy Statistics for Europe^{1/}
- 01(b).5.2 Comprehensive ECE energy demand/supply balances for past and future years, and ECE energy data bank

^{1/} Refer also to programme element 12.6.2 of Programme 12: Statistics.

PROGRAMME 01(c) - STANDARDIZATION**

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire some Governments expressed the view that, since standardization represents an important instrument for reducing technical barriers to trade, work in this field should be intensified. Others considered that aspects such as certification systems, analyses of international developments and prospects, and harmonization of criteria and procedures for determining the competence of test laboratories should be studied in greater depth with a view to taking measures which would have a more direct influence on domestic legislation. One Government argued that work in the field of certification held especially great potential for those countries where it had been little developed, and that the ECE should therefore increase its activities in the field of certification and testing. Other Governments recommended that, given the activities of other bodies in this field such as ISO, IEC and ILAC, the Commission should review the form and scope of its co-operation with them.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements, with particular emphasis on the co-ordination of international activities, the identification of problems, the preparation and implementation of recommendations and the creation and promotion of international certification arrangements.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 01(c).1: Co-ordination of international standardization activities

Programme elements

- 01(c).1.1 Identification of problems
- 01(c).1.2 Regular guidance for programmes of work for international standardization through identification of sectors which are of interest to member Governments
- 01(c).1.3 Approval of definitions
- 01(c).1.4 Preparation and implementation of recommendations

Sub-programme 01(c).2: International harmonization of standards and technical regulations (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 01(c).2.1 Review of developments, prospects and problems at the international, regional and national levels
- 01(c).2.2 Measures to facilitate the implementation of standards and technical regulations
- 01(c).2.3 Presentation of ECE recommended standards and harmonized technical regulations
- 01(c).2.4 Preparation and implementation of recommendations

Sub-programme 01(c).3: Certification (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 01(c).3.1 Measures to achieve mutual confidence in the technical competence and reliability of national certification systems
 - 01(c).3.2 Creation and promotion of international certification arrangements
 - 01(c).3.3 Identification of problems in the field of certification
 - 01(c).3.4 Preparation and implementation of recommendations
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** See Annex C.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 01(c).4: Testing

Programme elements

- 01(c).4.1 Establishment of agreed criteria and procedures for determining the competence of test laboratories
 - 01(c).4.2 Creation and promotion of international agreements on the mutual acceptance of test data
 - 01(c).4.3 Harmonization of test methods
 - 01(c).4.4 Preparation and implementation of recommendations
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PROGRAMME 02 - AGRICULTURE

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire some Governments expressed their preference for a concentration on specific and practical projects rather than for general analyses. These views, together with the varying degree of interest shown by countries in the specific subjects studied by the Committee in recent years, do not call for substantive changes in the broad framework of the existing programme at the level of programme elements, but for a careful selection by the Committee and its subsidiary bodies of the projects to be dealt with under the various programme elements, with due regard to possible overlapping and duplication.

Emphasis was also given to the further intensification of the exchange of scientific and technological information. Some Governments felt that the Committee did not pay sufficient attention to the role of agriculture in the national economy and that it should envisage the possibility of extending its work to selected issues of the processing of agricultural products, because a major part of these products undergoes processing before reaching the consumer.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements. In addition, and as a result of the strong evolution in the processing sector, a programme element is proposed on the processing of agricultural products to be combined with the existing programme element on the marketing of these products. Together these elements would form a new subprogramme dealing with the impact of developments in marketing and in processing on agriculture and the required adjustments in agriculture.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 02.1: Medium- and long-term trends and prospects in agriculture

Programme elements

- 02.1.1 Periodic review of selected long-term developments in agriculture
- 02.1.2 Long-term prospects for agriculture in southern Europe including island countries

Sub-programme 02.2: Current developments and short-term prospects in agriculture, including international trade

- 02.2.1 Review of current developments in agriculture and agricultural trade
- 02.2.2 Review of the market situation for selected commodities
- 02.2.3 Commodity reports of special interest to the member countries which are developing from the economic point of view
- 02.2.4 Standardization in the food and agriculture sector

Sub-programme 02.3: Economic and technological issues in agriculture (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 02.3.1 Agrarian structure and farm rationalization
 - 02.3.2 Agricultural mechanization
 - 02.3.3 Land use, soil fertility, water and crops
 - 02.3.4 Animal husbandry and feedingstuffs
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Proposed programme

Sub-programme 02.4: Marketing and processing of agricultural products

Programme elements

02.4.1 Marketing of agricultural products

02.4.2 Processing of agricultural products **

Sub-programme 02.5: Agriculture and environment

Programme elements

02.5.1 Pollution problems in agriculture

02.5.2 Environmental aspects of agricultural mechanization

Sub-programme 02.6: Food and agricultural statistics

Programme element

02.6.1 Harmonization of food and agricultural statistics

** See Annex D.

PROGRAMME 03 - CHEMICALS

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire Governments expressed strong and balanced support for the existing programme of work in this field. In general it was the continuing projects, especially work in the field of statistics, which were rated highly, with similar appreciation for practical and pragmatic ad hoc studies and meetings of direct interest to the industry. One country expressed the view that the work programme should include work on micro-processor technology and industrial robots as applied to the chemical industry, and stressed its interest in new areas such as laser technology, radiation in chemical processes, membrane processes, etc. A few Governments found little usefulness in work on low- and non-waste technology and the production of organics.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 03.1: Long-term trends and prospects in the chemical industry

Programme elements

- 03.1.1 The role of the chemical industry in future food production
- 03.1.2 The role and place of the chemical industry in the economies of member countries

Sub-programme 03.2: Current developments and medium-term prospects in the chemical industry, including international trade

Programme elements

- 03.2.1 Analysis of annual developments in the chemical industry
- 03.2.2 Market trends and prospects for selected chemical products
- 03.2.3 Collection of laws and regulations concerning selected chemical products and their use
- 03.2.4 Production technologies and product development in the plastics industry
- 03.2.5 Integrated production units in the chemical industry

Sub-programme 03.3: Economic and technological issues in the chemical industry (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 03.3.1 Plastics - developments and prospects
- 03.3.2 Recent technological developments in the fertilizer industry
- 03.3.3 Engineering in the chemical industry

Sub-programme 03.4: Environmental and resource issues in the chemical industry

Programme elements

- 03.4.1 Low- and non-waste technologies in the production of organics
 - 03.4.2 Trends in feedstocks for organics
 - 03.4.3 Additives for polymers
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Proposed programme

Sub-programme 03.5: Statistics and information in the chemical industry

Programme elements

- 03.5.1 Publication of the Annual Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products
 - 03.5.2 Development of internationally comparable statistics
 - 03.5.3 Exchange of information on aromatic hydrocarbons
 - 03.5.4 Exchange of information on olefins
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PROGRAMME 04 - COAL

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire Governments generally expressed their appreciation of ECE work in this field. Some Governments suggested that since many countries were now shifting to the working of deposits with poor, steeply sloping seams situated at great depth, the programme should include new elements such as automation of coal-winning processes, the use of industrial robots, hydrogenation, the gasification of low-calorie coal, safety techniques, etc. Others considered that the programme should take greater account of the interests of non-coal-producing countries, while another suggested that the programme of work be revised to concentrate on topics which promoted genuine east-west co-operation. Yet others suggested that there should be more emphasis on perspectives rather than short-term fluctuations in the coal trade. Some Governments believed that the study of new uses for coal deserved further attention. Others suggested that greater efforts should be made to harmonize the statistics used by various organizations active in this field. Several Governments considered work on the classification of coal particularly useful.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements, including two proposals dealing with the development of more efficient mining systems and the promotion of wider use of coal in industry and other sectors.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 04.1: Medium and long-term prospects (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 04.1.1 Prospects for the coal industry in the region
- 04.1.2 World coal trade up to the year 2000

Sub-programme 04.2: Current developments, including international trade in coal (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 04.2.1 Review of the short-term fluctuations in the demand for and supply of solid fuels
- 04.2.2 Review of coal consumption in selected sectors

Sub-programme 04.3: Selected technical and economic issues of underground coal mining

Programme elements

- 04.3.1 Technical progress in underground mining processes
- 04.3.2 Economic and organizational issues of underground mining
- 04.3.3 Measures to improve mine safety in underground extraction of coal
- 04.3.4 Development of more efficient mining systems*

Sub-programme 04.4: Selected technical and economic issues of opencast coal mining

Programme elements

- 04.4.1 Technical progress in opencast mining processes
 - 04.4.2 Economic and organizational issues of opencast mining
 - 04.4.3 Environmental aspects of opencast mining
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Proposed programme

Sub-programme 04.5: Coal research and development issues

Programme elements

- 04.5.1 Review of activities of National Mining Research Institutes
- 04.5.2 Introduction of computers for process control and data processing in mines
- 04.5.3 Problems of coal exploitation at great depth

Sub-programme 04.6: New uses of coal

Programme elements

- 04.6.1 Coal gasification and liquefaction problems
- 04.6.2 New coal utilization technologies
- 04.6.3 Utilization of low-calorific-value fuels
- 04.6.4 Preparation of a new ECE classification of coals
- 04.6.5 Environmental aspects of coal utilization
- 04.6.6 Promotion of wider use of coal in industry and other sectors*

Sub-programme 04.7: Coal statistics and information

Programme elements

- 04.7.1 Publication of the Annual Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe^{1/}
- 04.7.2 Capital formation, costs of production and investment intentions in the coal industry
- 04.7.3 Development of internationally-comparable coal statistics
- 04.7.4 Exchange of non-statistical information

^{1/} Refer also to programme element 12.6.2 of Programme 12 - Statistics

PROGRAMME 05 - ENVIRONMENT

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire Governments indicated in the strongest terms their support for activities related to the implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. Environmental impact assessment was also considered to be of reasonably high interest, and indications are that the active participation of member countries in this work will continue. Some Governments expressed the view that work on low- and non-waste technology and the re-utilization and recycling of wastes should continue, since this is a mature programme. Work on the protection of flora, fauna and their habitats will lead to the formulation of a system of legal instruments for the protection of plant and animal species of ecological or economic importance in the region. The strategy for environmental protection and the rational utilization of natural resources is viewed with favour by most Governments. Some Governments suggested that work in the field of hazardous waste management should be given more attention in the ECE.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements, including two new proposals dealing with hazardous waste management and land use planning.

Proposed Programme

Sub-programme 05.1: Policy and management issues (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 05.1.1 Long-term strategy for environmental protection and rational use of natural resources in member countries
- 05.1.2 Current environmental trends and policies in member countries

Sub-programme 05.2: Environmental impact assessment (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 05.2.1 Frameworks and methodology of environmental impact assessment
- 05.2.2 Environmental impact assessment in various sectors of the economy
- 05.2.3 Application of environmental impact assessment

Sub-programme 05.3: Air pollution (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 05.3.1 Information on activities of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution
- 05.3.2 Selected issues of air pollution

Sub-programme 05.4: Low- and non-waste technology and reutilization and recycling of wastes (CSCE-M)

Programme elements

- 05.4.1 Preparation of a compendium on low- and non-waste technologies
 - 05.4.2 Promotion of the development of methodologies for comparison and evaluation of various technologies
 - 05.4.3 Interrelationships between energy savings and pollution abatement in major industrial sectors
 - 05.4.4 Recovery, recycling and re-utilization of wastes
 - 05.4.5 Promotion of low-waste technology
 - 05.4.6 Preparation of a convention on hazardous waste management**
-

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 05.5: Resource issues (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 05.5.1 Protection of flora, fauna and their habitats in the ECE region
- 05.5.2 Sustainable use of natural resources
- 05.5.3 Transboundary water pollution
- 05.5.4 Land use planning**

Sub-programme 05.6: Environment statistics

Programme elements

- 05.6.1 Support for the development of a Bulletin of Environmental Statistics^{1/}*
- 05.6.2 Evaluation of environmental indicators

** For programme element 05.4.6 see Annex E; for programme element 05.5.4 see Annex F.

1/ Refer also to Programme Element 12.5.10 of Programme 12 - Statistics

PROGRAMME 06 - ELECTRIC POWER

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire some Governments expressed the view that, given the significant structural and technological changes which have occurred in the electric power industry, more active work should be undertaken on new and renewable sources of energy, long-distance transmission, super-conductors, magneto-hydrodynamic generators, etc. Moreover, several Governments expressed interest in new studies on the interconnection of electric power transmission systems. Others found the Committee's work on the rational use of electricity and the opportunities afforded for exchanges of information most useful. One Government suggested that work in the field of environment could be improved, while others felt that activities related to rural electrification needed to be re-oriented. Another Government found that the programme of work was framed in a very fragmented way and recommended a regrouping of programme elements.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 06.1: Medium and long-term prospects for the electric power

Programme elements

- 06.1.1 Medium and long-term prospects and policies for the electric power
- 06.1.2 Research in the electric power industry

Sub-programme 06.2: Electric power generation

Programme elements

- 06.2.1 Nuclear power stations
- 06.2.2 Fossil fuel power stations
- 06.2.3 Hydroelectric schemes
- 06.2.4 Power plants which convert other sources of energy
- 06.2.5 Combined production of electric power and heat

Sub-programme 06.3: Electric power systems and interconnections (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 06.3.1 International interconnections
- 06.3.2 High voltage direct current techniques
- 06.3.3 Maps of high voltage electric power networks
- 06.3.4 Electric power systems planning and operation
- 06.3.5 Consumer acceptance of load management

Sub-programme 06.4: Electricity use and distribution

Programme elements

- 06.4.1 Rural electrification networks
 - 06.4.2 Rural electricity consumption
 - 06.4.3 Use of electric heat pumps
 - 06.4.4 Supply of electric power in small communities
 - 06.4.5 Reduction of electric power losses
 - 06.4.6 Substitution of electricity for fossil energies
 - 06.4.7 Comparative study of electric space heating systems
-

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 06.5: Electric power and environment

Programme elements

- 06.5.1 Impact on environment by electric power stations
- 06.5.2 Application of international air pollution standards on electric power stations
- 06.5.3 Impact on environment of large cooling towers
- 06.5.4 Combustion of fuel with a high sulphur and vanadium content
- 06.5.5 Heat load management of river basins
- 06.5.6 Environmental aspects of land use for large power stations and transmission lines
- 06.5.7 Environmental effects of the electric fields of very high voltage lines

Sub-programme 06.6: Electric power statistics and information

Programme elements

- 06.6.1 Publication of the Annual Bulletin of Electric Energy Statistics for Europe 1/
- 06.6.2 Selected statistical issues
- 06.6.3 Exchange of information on international standardization
- 06.6.4 Co-ordination of glossaries on electric power
- 06.6.5 Statistical assessment of the introduction of summer time on uses of electric power

1/ Refer also to programme element 12.6.2 of Programme 12 - Statistics

PROGRAMME 07 - GAS

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire Governments revealed a general satisfaction with existing ECE activities in this field. Some Governments, however, proposed that more work be undertaken on the technical and economic aspects of natural gas in various consumption sectors, on gas storage facilities, on off-shore exploitation and on the separation of hydrocarbons and water from wet gases. Others emphasized the need to focus on energy efficiency and conservation. While some Governments expressed doubts about the value of some of the Committee's work on medium- and long-term prospects, others advocated a study of structural changes in gas demand up to the year 2000 and the organization of symposia on developments in the international natural gas market every four or five years. Many Governments called for greater effort to develop more effective co-operation with other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, particularly the International Gas Union.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements, including a new proposal dealing with the use of gases as motor fuel.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 07.1: Medium and long-term prospects in gas (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 07.1.1 Future role of gas in meeting energy requirements
- 07.1.2 Long-term development of the LPG industry

Sub-programme 07.2: Current developments in gas, including international trade (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 07.2.1 Recent developments in gas availabilities and consumption
- 07.2.2 Intraregional trade in gas
- 07.2.3 Interregional trade in gas
- 07.2.4 Investment in the gas and LPG industries
- 07.2.5 Environmental aspects of the gas industry
- 07.2.6 Co-operation in the field of gas research
- 07.2.7 Harmonization of codes of good practice, technical rules and regulations and standards of gas equipment and appliances

Sub-programme 07.3: Gas resources

Programme elements

- 07.3.1 Geological and geophysical methods of prospecting for natural gas
 - 07.3.2 Exploitation of natural gas, stimulation and enhanced recovery techniques
 - 07.3.3 Assessment of natural gas resources
 - 07.3.4 Map of natural gas fields in Europe
 - 07.3.5 Gasification of coal and various raw materials - production and use of substitute natural gas
 - 07.3.6 Offshore exploration and production
-

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 07.4: Gas transport and storage

Programme elements

- 07.4.1 Construction, management and maintenance of gas transport systems
- 07.4.2 Offshore technology and sea pipelines
- 07.4.3 Map of gas transmission networks in Europe
- 07.4.4 Development of underground gas storage facilities
- 07.4.5 Large-scale storage of LPG
- 07.4.6 Methods of covering variations in gas consumption

Sub-programme 07.5: Gas use and distribution

Programme elements

- 07.5.1 Use of gas in various consumption sectors
- 07.3.2 Gas saving and rational use
- 07.5.3 Use of gas heat pumps
- 07.5.4 Efficiency of gas-utilizing appliances and equipment
- 07.5.5 Compatibility of natural gases of different characteristics, including natural gas mixed with a hydrogen-containing gas
- 07.5.6 Use of gases as motor vehicle fuel*
- 07.5.7 Distribution piping and equipment

Sub-programme 07.6: Gas statistics and information

Programme elements

- 07.6.1 Publication of the Annual Bulletin of Gas Statistics^{1/}
- 07.6.2 Statistics on selected gas issues
- 07.6.3 Use of computers in the gas industry for data processing

^{1/} Refer also to programme element 12.6.2 of Programme 12 - Statistics

PROGRAMME 08 - HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire Governments rated as highly useful work on current trends and policies in this field, on urban renewal and modernization policies, and on financing of housing and rent policies. Some Governments suggested that work should be initiated on engineering equipment of cities including the management of municipal waste, architectural and planning problems of dwellings and problems of low-storey buildings in urban and rural areas. One Government recommended that work be initiated on the application of computer technology, micro-electronics and robot technology in the building and building materials industries. Some Governments expressed the view that the work of the Committee's subsidiary bodies should be better co-ordinated.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 08.1: Integrated settlements policies and strategies

Programme elements

- 08.1.1 Long-term perspectives for human settlements development in the ECE region
- 08.1.2 Human settlements situation and related current trends and policies
- 08.1.3 Impact of energy considerations on human settlements policies
- 08.1.4 Urban renewal and modernization policies
- 08.1.5 Human settlements problems in southern Europe
- 08.1.6 Research policies in the field of human settlements

Sub-programme 08.2: Urban and regional planning (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 08.2.1 Promotion of international co-operation in the field of urban and regional research
- 08.2.2 Role of transportation in urban planning, development and environment
- 08.2.3 Energy issues in urban and regional planning
- 08.2.4 Systems of settlements
- 08.2.5 Planning for recreation and leisure areas
- 08.2.6 New techniques to collect and process land use data

Sub-programme 08.3: Housing policies

Programme elements

- 08.3.1 Financing of housing
 - 08.3.2 Housing forecasting and programming
 - 08.3.3 Relationship between housing and the national economy
 - 08.3.4 Rent policy
 - 08.3.5 Methodology for evaluating the quality and use-value of dwellings
-

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 08.4: Building

Programme elements

- 08.4.1 Environmental problems arising from construction activities
- 08.4.2 Building technology
- 08.4.3 Energy conservation in buildings
- 08.4.4 Promotion of international trade in building products and know-how
- 08.4.5 International harmonization of the technical content of building regulations

Sub-programme 08.5: Human settlements statistics

Programme elements

- 08.5.1 Publication of the Annual Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics for Europe^{1/}

^{1/} Refer also to programme element 12.6.2 of Programme 12 - Statistics

PROGRAMME 09 - INLAND TRANSPORT

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire Governments expressed strong support for the Commission's work in the field of transport. Some advocated the elaboration of a programme for the development of all modes of transport in Europe up to the year 2000. Others stressed the importance they attach to the technical activities of the Inland Transport Committee including work on standards and regulations for vehicles, dangerous goods, perishable foodstuffs and Customs. Some Governments expressed support for work on transport links with other regions, while others showed interest in the facilitation of transit traffic within the region.

All this confirms in general the interest consistently expressed by Governments in maintaining the good results of technical activities while giving due attention to the growing need for a global view on transport evolution in Europe.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements, including two proposals on the financing of international road networks and on the creation of a special credit card for international transport of goods by road.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 09.1: Transport perspectives

Programme elements

- 09.1.1 Review of general trends with regard to transport development and transport policy
- 09.1.2 Analysis of specific transport-economic issues
- 09.1.3 International co-operation for the improvement of urban and sub-urban transport conditions

Sub-programme 09.2: Transport infrastructure

Programme elements

- 09.2.1 Road infrastructure** (CSCE-H)
- 09.2.2 Rail transport infrastructure
- 09.2.3 Inland waterway infrastructure (CSCE-H)
- 09.2.4 Linking of the European transport network to that of other regions
- 09.2.5 Special projects: Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM)
- 09.2.6 Interfaces between transport modes

Sub-programme 09.3: Transport vehicles and vessels (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 09.3.1 Harmonization and improvement of standards for road vehicles
 - 09.3.2 Arrangements for the elimination of technical barriers to international trade of motor vehicles and their equipment and parts
 - 09.3.3 Harmonization and improvement of standards for inland navigation vessels
 - 09.3.4 Standardization of railway rolling stock
-

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 09.4: Transport operations and facilitation (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 09.4.1 Harmonization of requirements concerning international road transport operations**
- 09.4.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international railway operations
- 09.4.3 Harmonization of requirements concerning international inland waterway operations
- 09.4.4 Promotion of combined and multimodal transport
- 09.4.5 Harmonization of regulations and standards concerning the international transport of perishable foodstuff
- 09.4.6 Elaboration of legal provisions applied to traffic on inland waterways

Sub-programme 09.5: Transport safety (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 09.5.1 Road transport safety
- 09.5.2 Rail transport safety
- 09.5.3 Inland water transport safety
- 09.5.4 Safety requirements for the construction, maintenance and handling of containers and piggyback transport equipment

Sub-programme 09.6: Transport of dangerous goods (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 09.6.1 Establishment and up-dating of general rules for the transport of dangerous goods within the framework of the Economic and Social Council's Committee of Experts
- 09.6.2 Regulations on the transport of dangerous goods by road, rail, inland waterways and combined transport

Sub-programme 09.7: Transport aspects of energy saving and environmental protection

Programme elements

- 09.7.1 Promotion of economy and efficiency in transport
- 09.7.2 Impact of transport infrastructure and operations on the environment including pollution

Sub-programme 09.8: Transport statistics and information

Programme elements

- 09.8.1 Development of internationally comparable and agreed standards, including methods of collection and definitions, concerning inland transport and road traffic accident statistics
- 09.8.2 Publication of the Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe^{1/}
- 09.8.3 Publication of Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe
- 09.8.4 Publication of the results of road traffic censuses
- 09.8.5 Periodical circulation of selected transport information

** For programme element 09.2.1 see Annex G; for programme element 09.4.1 see Annex H.

^{1/} Refer also to programme element 12.6.2 of Programme 12 - Statistics

PROGRAMME 10 - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire, most Governments indicated their interest in this field, while some expressed the view that science and technology was amongst the top priorities of the Commission's activities. They also indicated that the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology should deal with the latest scientific and technical developments, as well as comprehensive issues of national policy and strategies. Some Governments also underlined the usefulness of work on the transfer of technology.

Other Governments expressed the view that the work methods and scope of work of the Senior Advisers should be revised, with one suggesting that the usefulness of its work be re-examined. Another Government stated that efforts should be made to preserve the valuable east-west dimension of the work of the Senior Advisers by rendering its activities more directly useful to all member countries, which could be achieved by changing the pattern of meetings and work methods to obtain speedier results.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements with emphasis on key issues.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 10.1: Medium- and long-term perspectives in science and technology (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 10.1.1 Science and technology trends in the region
- 10.1.2 Science and technology trends in selected sectors
- 10.1.3 Interrelationships between economic and technological developments

Sub-programme 10.2: Current developments in science and technology policies (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 10.2.1 Review of over-all national science and technology policies
- 10.2.2 Review of national policies concerning technological innovation
- 10.2.3 Review of national policies concerning the effectiveness of R and D activities
- 10.2.4 Methodologies for the evaluation of R and D activities

Sub-programme 10.3: Transfer of technology (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 10.3.1 Mechanisms governing the transfer of technology
 - 10.3.2 Maintenance and updating of a Manual on licensing procedures
 - 10.3.3 Measures to promote the transfer of technology
-

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 10.4: Selected issues in science and technology

Programme elements

- 10.4.1 Biotechnology and future economic development
- 10.4.2 Trends and prospects in the use of raw materials in industry (CSCE-H-M)
- 10.4.3 Role of science and technology in effectively reducing air pollution (CSCE-H-M)
- 10.4.4 Methodologies for technological forecasting
- 10.4.5 Methodological concepts of technology intensive industries and commodities

Sub-programme 10.5: Statistics in science and technology

Programme elements

- 10.5.1 Development of statistics in science and technology
 - 10.5.2 Pilot study on patent statistics for measuring the transfer of technology
-

PROGRAMME 11 - ECONOMIC PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND PERSPECTIVES

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire several Governments stressed the importance of beginning work as soon as possible on the elaboration of a newly oriented overall economic perspective up to the year 2000 (OEP) conceived as a study of possible paths of economic development and related economic policies. Some Governments, while praising the work of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments, called for a closer co-ordination between them and the work of other Principal Subsidiary Bodies in the field of medium- and long-term projections. Other Governments expressed great interest in the exchanges of information on long-term economic perspectives and on limited subjects covering shorter periods of time. It was suggested that less emphasis be put on large-scale model building. Several Governments expressed a lack of interest in purely methodological studies.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements, including a shift of emphasis in the sub-programme on planning, programming and projections to stress orientations and new approaches as they emerge from national experiences. Moreover, work on the OEP has been raised to the level of a full sub-programme.

Proposed Programme

Sub-programme 11.1: Exchange of information on medium- and long-term development

Programme elements

- 11.1.1 Exchange of information on the medium- and long-term development of national economies
- 11.1.2 Exchange of information on medium and long-term plans, programmes and projections

Sub-programme 11.2: Overall Economic Perspective (OEP)

Programme elements

- 11.2.1 Preparation of the main components of the Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000
- 11.2.2 Preparation of long-term economic scenarios
- 11.2.3 Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000

Sub-programme 11.3: Selected medium and long-term economic issues

Programme elements

- 11.3.1 The assessment of the evolution and the impact of structural changes in production, employment and trade on long-term economic development
- 11.3.2 The assessment of changes in investment, capital stock and capacity utilization
- 11.3.3 The assessment of the evolution and impact of consumption patterns*

Sub-programme 11.4: Planning, programming and projections

Programme elements

- 11.4.1 Orientations and new approaches in planning, programming and projections and their implementation
 - 11.4.2 Models and systems of models
-

PROGRAMME 12 - STATISTICS

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire Governments expressed the view that the harmonization and co-ordination of official statistics at the European level should be encouraged and extended, and that the role of ECE in particular should be strengthened in these undertakings through inter-secretariat meetings with other international organizations. Moreover, some Governments felt that although other Principal Subsidiary Bodies should maintain responsibility for the elaboration of sectoral statistics, the Conference of European Statisticians should devote more attention to co-ordinating the statistical work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies in order to avoid duplication of work and to limit the number of questionnaires addressed to Governments. In general Governments expressed support for work on economic statistics and statistical methodology. Some Governments, however, stressed the need for more work within ECE on migration and manpower statistics and population. Other Governments rated highly the work of the Conference of European Statisticians on the use of computers for statistical work. One Government expressed the view, however, that the various activities of the Conference in the electronic data-processing field (Statistical Computing Project, Working Party on Electronic Data-processing, ISIS Seminars, etc.) should be re-examined and rationalized to ensure a more effective distribution of resources.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements, including references to the work done by the secretariat under this work programme in support of statistical publications in other sectors.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 12.1: Regional statistical co-operation

Programme elements

- 12.1.1 Review of statistical work in the region, including current ECE statistical work and work of other organizations in the region
- 12.1.2 Promotion of co-ordination of the statistical activities in Europe of intergovernmental organizations
- 12.1.3 Regional contribution and support to the work of the United Nations Statistical Commission
- 12.1.4 Statistical problems of special interest to member countries which are developing from the economic point of view

Sub-programme 12.2: Organization and operation of statistical services

Programme elements

- 12.2.1 Use of computers for statistical purposes and design and development of statistical information systems
 - 12.2.2 General statistical methodological issues
 - 12.2.3 Other issues in the organization and operation of statistical services
-

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 12.3: Methodological development and harmonization of economic statistics (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 12.3.1 Development and linking of SNA and MPS national accounts and balances systems
- 12.3.2 Promotion of publication and dissemination of internationally comparable statistics on production, national income, productivity and purchasing power parities (ICP)
- 12.3.3 Comparison of relative income differences within the population
- 12.3.4 Development and harmonization of statistical nomenclatures relating to economic activities and goods and services
- 12.3.5 Price and quantity statistics
- 12.3.6 Agricultural statistics
- 12.3.7 General energy statistics
- 12.3.8 Statistics of science and technology
- 12.3.9 Statistics of engineering industries and automation
- 12.3.10 Regional statistics

Sub-programme 12.4: Methodological developments and harmonization of social and demographic statistics

Programme elements

- 12.4.1 Framework for the integration of social and demographic statistics
- 12.4.2 Development and harmonization of statistical nomenclatures in the field of social and demographic statistics
- 12.4.3 Co-ordination of social and demographic statistics with national accounts and balances
- 12.4.4 Population and housing censuses
- 12.4.5 Manpower statistics
- 12.4.6 Housing statistics
- 12.4.7 Statistics of households and families
- 12.4.8 Statistics and indicators on the role and situation of women
- 12.4.9 Migration statistics
- 12.4.10 Co-ordination of demographic statistics within the FSDS

Sub-programme 12.5: Methodological development and harmonization of environment and related statistics

Programme elements

- 12.5.1 Frameworks for environment statistics
 - 12.5.2 Environmental indicators
 - 12.5.3 General methodological issues in environment statistics
 - 12.5.4 Statistics of land use
 - 12.5.5 Statistics of water use and quality
 - 12.5.6 Statistics of air quality
 - 12.5.7 Statistics of fauna and flora
 - 12.5.8 Statistics of solid wastes
 - 12.5.9 Promotion of specific bilateral and multilateral projects in the field of environment statistics
 - 12.5.10 Development of a Bulletin of Environment Statistics*
-

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 12.6: Statistical support for ECE publications,
studies and projects

Programme elements

- 12.6.1 Publication of statistical bulletins
 - 12.6.2 Support for the publication by other Principal
Subsidiary Bodies of statistical bulletins in the fields
of energy, housing and building, steel, engineering and
transport statistics
 - 12.6.3 Support for other statistical work of other ECE
Principal Subsidiary Bodies
 - 12.6.4 Provision of statistical information for ECE studies and
projects
 - 12.6.5 Substantive support for statistical activities
financially supported by UNDP
-

PROGRAMME 13 - STEEL INDUSTRY

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire, Governments confirmed their interest in work on studies on long-term perspectives, but placed more emphasis on the short- and medium-term aspects of the steel industry because of the events in its development during the past decade. The replies of some Governments reflect a somewhat lesser interest in work on environmental aspects of steel production on account of the present conditions in the steel market. Many Governments expressed interest in further work on raw materials including non-ferrous metals. One Government recommended that more attention be devoted to the implications of the reduced metal content of the products of the traditional metal-consuming industries and to the search for greater efficiency in the use of steel industry wastes and by-products. It also proposed that ways of introducing further automation including use of robots to reduce heavy manual labour in steel production should be studied.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 13.1: Long-term trends and prospects in the iron and steel industry

Programme elements

- 13.1.1 Long-term prospects in the iron and steel industry

Subprogramme 13.2: Current developments and medium-term prospects in the iron and steel industry, including international trade

Programme elements

- 13.2.1 Short-term developments and medium-term prospects in the steel industry and the steel market
- 13.2.2 Structural changes in the international steel trade
- 13.2.3 Studies of national developments in the iron and steel industry

Subprogramme 13.3: Economic and technological issues in the iron and steel industry

Programme elements

- 13.3.1 Raw materials for steelmaking
- 13.3.2 Economic and technical aspects of direct reduction technology
- 13.3.3 Evolution of the specific consumption of steel
- 13.3.4 Economic and technological aspects of the protection of steel against corrosion
- 13.3.5 Steel tubes and their raw-materials quality requirements

Subprogramme 13.4: Environmental and resource issues in the iron and steel industry

Programme elements

- 13.4.1 Protection against air and water pollution
- 13.4.2 Strategy for energy use in the iron and steel industry*
-

Proposed programme

Subprogramme 13.5: Iron and steel statistics

Programme elements

- 13.6.1 Publication of the Bulletins of Steel Statistics for Europe^{1/}
- 13.6.2 Publication of the Annual Bulletin of Statistics of World Trade in Steel
- 13.6.3 Statistics on iron and steel scrap
- 13.6.4 Development of steel statistics

^{1/} Refer also to programme element 12.6.2 of Programme 12 - Statistics

PROGRAMME 14 - TIMBER

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire Governments considered the work of the Timber Committee a high priority. Most Governments gave high ratings to work on long-term studies, forest products market reviews, publication of the Timber Bulletin for Europe and forest resource analysis. The work of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers and the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics, together with the activities related to environmental and resource conservation, were also judged particularly useful. Some Governments felt that there was scope for some restructuring of the Committee's work programme to concentrate on priority issues and avoid undue dispersion of resources. Some proposed strengthening the Committee's activities on economic and technological issues for the woodworking industries, and on the rational use of wood biomass and waste reduction. One Government felt that a "disaster centre" should be established to forecast the effects of damage to forests resulting from natural disasters.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements, including a proposal to extend the Committee's present partial coverage of pulp and paper to deal with these products within the over-all context of the forest and forest products sector.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 14.1: Medium- and long-term trends, prospects and policies for forestry and forest products

Programme elements

- 14.1.1 Appraisal of medium- and long-term timber trends and prospects
- 14.1.2 Medium-term trends in the structure and capacity of the wood-processing industries
- 14.1.3 Trends, prospects and policies in forestry and forest products in southern Europe

Sub-programme 14.2: Current forest products market developments and short-term prospects, including international trade

Programme elements

- 14.2.1 Review of production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products
- 14.2.2 Standardization in the forest products sector

Sub-programme 14.3: Forest working techniques and training of forest workers

Programme elements

- 14.3.1 Silvicultural operations and general management aspects
 - 14.3.2 Wood harvesting and transport
 - 14.3.3 Vocational training, applied ergonomics, safety and health
-

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 14.4: Economic, technological and managerial issues for the wood-working industries, including pulp and paper**

Programme elements

- 14.4.1 Development and introduction of new technologies in the wood-working industries, including furniture
- 14.4.2 Development of new products, markets and applications for forest products
- 14.4.3 Rational use of wood biomass and the reduction of losses
- 14.4.4 Management techniques in the wood-working industries

Sub-programme 14.5: Environmental and resource conservation issues (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 14.5.1 Quantification and evaluation of the environmental benefits of forests
- 14.5.2 Energy conservation and self sufficiency in the mechanical wood-processing industries
- 14.5.3 Implications of air pollution damage to forests for the forest and forest products sector
- 14.5.4 Measures to be taken in the event of sudden and severe damage to forests

Sub-programme 14.6: Forest and forest products economics and statistics

Programme elements

- 14.6.1 Publication of the Timber Bulletin for Europe
- 14.6.2 Selected problems of economics and statistics of forestry and forest products
- 14.6.3 Forest resource analysis
- 14.6.4 Transfer of economic and statistical methods and experience in the forest and forest products sector

** See Annex I.

PROGRAMME 15 - TRADE

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire Governments reaffirmed the priority attached to the ECE work in the field of trade and their desire to achieve progress in co-operation in this field. The replies reflected differences of emphasis as to the relative importance of various constraints on the development of intra-regional and in particular east-west trade as well as the role of the Committee on the Development of Trade in overcoming these constraints, and in promoting more favourable conditions for trade. Some Governments expressed the view that work dealing with all kinds of obstacles to the development of trade and work promoting trade through industrial co-operation was highly useful. They suggested that work should be undertaken on the preparation of specific proposals aimed at eliminating barriers to trade in the region and one Government proposed that a permanent body be established to that end. Other Governments took the view that the ECE is not an appropriate forum for negotiations on specific trade problems but they attached importance to work on compensation trade which they suggested should be dealt with as a separate sub programme. Work dealing with trade facilitation was generally assessed as being particularly useful. Some Governments attached great significance to projects connected with the improvement of business information.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements, and includes a proposal relating to the financing of intra-regional trade.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 15.1: Analysis and review of recent and prospective trade trends, policies and problems

Programme elements

- 15.1.1 Review of recent and prospective trends, policies and problems affecting intraregional trade including financing**
- 15.1.2 Review of the interrelationship between economic growth, structural and technological change, and trade
- 15.1.3 Review of trade and economic co-operation agreements including a Register of such agreements

Sub-programme 15.2: Identification of all kinds of obstacles to the development of trade among ECE member countries, especially in east-west trade, and endeavours to reduce or progressively eliminate them giving due attention to measures for the promotion of trade and diversification of its structure (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 15.2.1 Maintenance of an up-to-date Inventory of all kinds of obstacles to the development of trade
- 15.2.2 Identification of all kinds of obstacles to the development of trade and examination of the question in which way steps can be taken within ECE for reduction or progressive elimination of those obstacles

** See Annex J.

Proposed programme

- 15.2.3 Preparation of proposals and recommendations on measures for the promotion of trade and the diversification of its structure

Sub-programme 15.3: The development of market information, marketing and financing techniques and improved business contacts (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 15.3.1 International co-operation in the field of trade promotion, including marketing and business contacts
- 15.3.2 Collection and dissemination of relevant economic, commercial, financial and administrative information**

Sub-programme 15.4: Promotion of trade through industrial co-operation (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 15.4.1 Review of recent and prospective trends and policies affecting industrial co-operation
- 15.4.2 Consideration of means of creating favourable conditions for industrial co-operation
- 15.4.3 Collection and dissemination of information relevant to the promotion of trade through industrial co-operation, and consideration of means of improving the provision of such information

Sub-programme 15.5: International trade procedures, contract practices, trade aspects of standardization, and commercial arbitration (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 15.5.1 Facilitation of international trade procedures including documentation, trade data elements and automatic data interchange
- 15.5.2 Preparation and revision of Guides and General Conditions relating to contracts for international commercial transactions
- 15.5.3 Trade aspects of international harmonization of standards and technical regulations, including definitions
- 15.5.4 Trade aspects of certification and testing
- 15.5.5 International commercial arbitration

Sub-programme 15.6: Trade problems of the member countries which are developing from the economic point of view (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 15.6.1 Review of intraregional trade taking into account the interests of the above-mentioned member countries
- 15.6.2 Trade problems specific to these member countries and consideration of action in respect of identified problems
- 15.6.3 Measures to improve trade promotion efforts of these member countries
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PROGRAMME 16 - WATER PROBLEMS

In their replies to the evaluation questionnaire Governments in general expressed strong support for the current water programme, with the exception of work on water statistics. Groundwater management and economies of water management are areas which received encouraging evaluation. Furthermore, strong emphasis was given to those activities which have an international component, such as the projects related to transboundary aspects of water pollution and flood control. Governments also stressed their interest in follow-up activities to the 1984 ECE Declaration of policy on the rational use of water and in the implementation of the 1980 ECE Declaration of policy on prevention and control of water pollution, including transboundary pollution.

Taking into account these and other views, the adapted work programme below has been reformulated to provide a clearer presentation of the programme elements.

Proposed programme

Sub-programme 16.1: Over-all management and planning of water resources

Programme elements

- 16.1.1 Current trends and policies and future prospects regarding the use of water resources and water pollution control
- 16.1.2 Groundwater management
- 16.1.3 International co-operation on flood management
- 16.1.4 Investment policies in the field of drinking water supply, waste water treatment and effluent disposal
- 16.1.5 Optimization of multi-purpose use of reservoirs

Sub-programme 16.2: Rational use of water (CSCE-H)

Programme elements

- 16.2.1 Implementation of the ECE Declaration of Policy on the rational use of water
- 16.2.2 Water and agriculture
- 16.2.3 Rational use of water in industrial processes

Sub-programme 16.3: Water pollution control, including transboundary pollution (CSCE-H-M)

Programme elements

- 16.3.1 Implementation of the ECE Declaration of Policy on prevention and control of water pollution, including transboundary pollution
 - 16.3.2 Treatment of domestic sewage and industrial waste water
 - 16.3.3 Monitoring and evaluation of water pollution, including transboundary pollution
 - 16.3.4 Co-operation in the field of transboundary waters
 - 16.3.5 The impact of non-conventional sources of energy on water resources
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Proposed programme

Sub-programme 16.4: Water statistics

Programme elements

- 16.4.1 Classification of water use and quality^{1/}
- 16.4.2 Review and analysis of existing and planned systems of water statistics in member countries
- 16.4.3 Elaboration of a system of water statistics

^{1/} Refer also to programme element 12.5.5 of Programme 12 - Statistics

PART II - PROPOSAL FOR AN ADAPTATION OF THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE

25. The Sessional Committee, in its present form and as its name implies, is set up by and works within the time frame of the Plenary session of the Commission, reporting back to the Plenary on the results of its work. Apart from the inconvenience caused to smaller delegations by this dispersal of the work between two bodies meeting concurrently, the Sessional Committee has shown an increasing tendency to concentrate on assessing and reviewing the past activities of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies. Correspondingly less attention has been paid to the tasks of co-ordination, concentration and integration of the future activities of the subsidiary bodies.

26. Several delegations, and indeed the Commission itself, have on a number of occasions expressed the desire to improve the methods of work of the Sessional Committee. Paragraph 5 of decision E (XXXVIII), in particular, requests the Executive Secretary to submit "suggestions of possible changes, if appropriate, in the methods of work of the Sessional Committee of the Commission with a view to devoting more attention to co-ordination, concentration and integration of the activities of the Commission ...".

27. The Executive Secretary consequently suggests that the Sessional Committee be replaced by a Programme and Co-ordination Committee (PCC) which would meet in the week immediately preceding the Plenary session, with the task of briefly reviewing past activities and, more importantly, of making recommendations to the Commission on the future orientation and implementation of the work programme, especially with respect to concentration and integration. In this way the PCC could be expected to identify issues arising from the examination of the programme, which merit referral to the Commission itself. The latter could then possibly limit its Plenary session to one week of policy-oriented deliberations and over-all guidance.

28. In view of the above, the Commission may wish to consider the following guidelines^{1/} for the work of the proposed Programme and Co-ordination Committee:

- (i) Concentrate, in its discussions, on future activities rather than on an evaluation of the work accomplished by the Principal Subsidiary bodies in the past year;
- (ii) Give special attention to problems of concentration and integration of programmes and ensure that the interrelationship of programmes is fully taken into account;
- (iii) Formulate recommendations to the Commission on programme co-ordination guidelines for the work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, which the Commission might adopt;
- (iv) Give special attention to intersectoral problems and formulate recommendations to the Commission on means of improving co-ordination especially in dealing with such problems.

29. In 1977 the Commission introduced a new procedure for examining the concentration and integration of the programmes of work based on suggestions made by the Executive Secretary in his report E/ECE/912. In that report, it will be recalled, the Executive Secretary suggested that the review of the work programme, from the point of view of concentration and integration, might initially cover the four priority areas of work of the Commission: (1) development of trade; (2) science and technology; (3) environment; and (4) long-term economic projections. Since the thirty-third session the

^{1/} Similar to suggestions contained in document E/ECE/912 submitted by the Executive Secretary to the thirty-second session of the Commission.

Commission in successive years has reviewed each of these major areas of work. ^{1/} In addition, a review of the energy programme has been undertaken. The remaining areas thus are: agriculture and timber; human settlements; industry; statistics; and transport.

* * * *

30. In the light of the above the Commission may wish:

- (a) To establish a Programme and Co-ordination Committee (PCC) to meet during the week preceding the Plenary session of the Commission;
- (b) To provide guidelines for the work of the Programme and Co-ordination Committee, as contained in paragraph 28 of E/ECE/1070.
- (c) To request the Executive Secretary to prepare a report on concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work, with particular emphasis on the four priority areas, in order that the PCC may at an early session undertake an in-depth review of the programme from the point of view of concentration and integration and make recommendations thereon to the Commission.

* * * *

31. An additional ad hoc proposal for the work of the suggested Programme and Co-ordination Committee is made in Part III below.

^{1/} E/ECE/934, 969, 991, 1020 and 1036

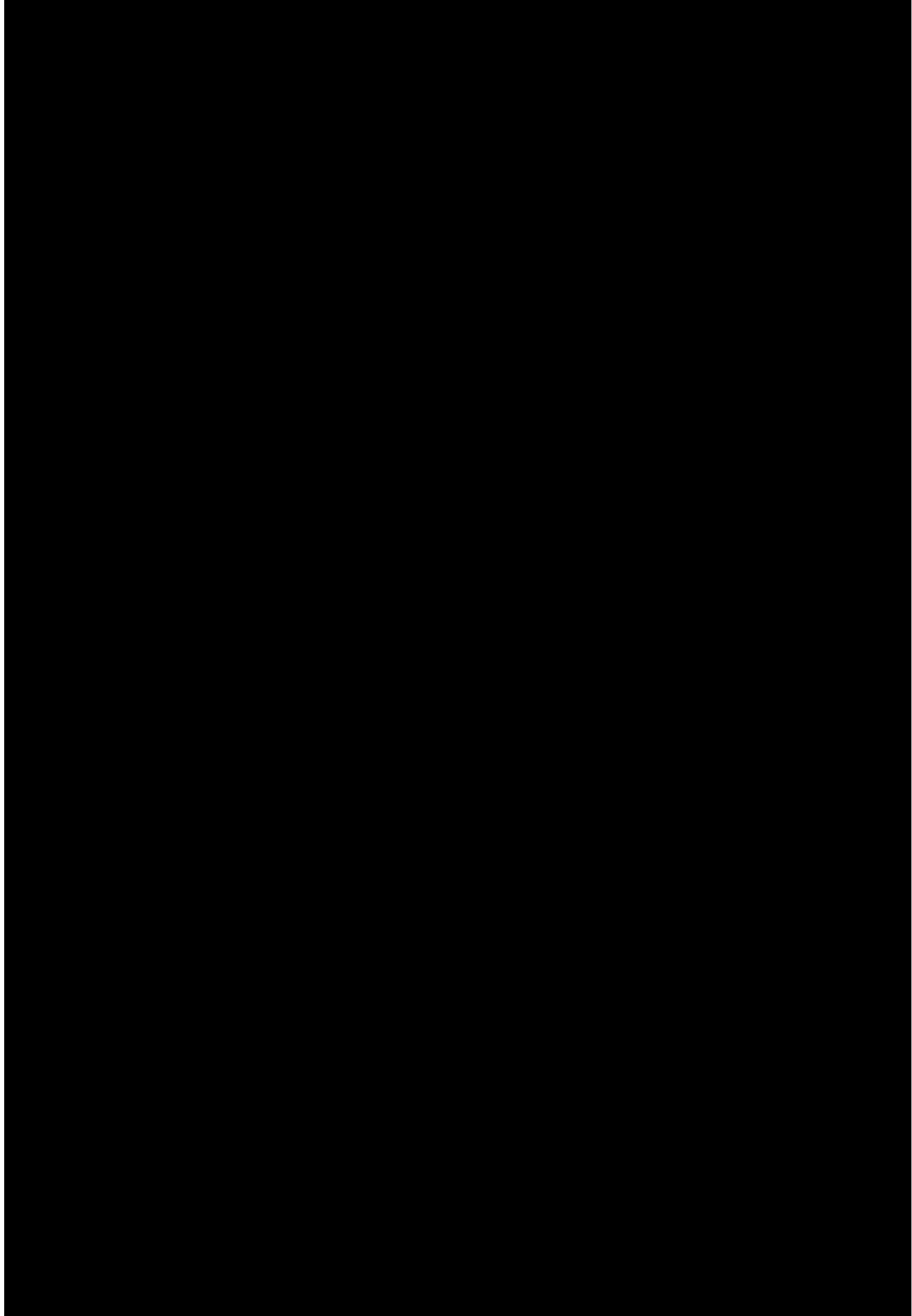
PART III - PROCEDURAL SUGGESTIONS

32. It is not anticipated that the Commission will be in a position to examine the proposals contained in Part I in sufficient detail for substantive decisions to be taken at the thirty-ninth session. It should be possible, however, for the Commission to act on at least some of the proposals at the fortieth session if adequate preparation is undertaken prior to that session.

33. Since the proposals pertaining to the work programme affect the work of the Commission as a whole, and require in-depth consideration, it is suggested that the Programme and Co-ordination Committee (PCC) proposed in Part II above be convened in special sessions to review the proposals for a revised work programme. It could begin its work in the early autumn of 1984, reconvening as necessary, with a view to presenting either an interim report or final recommendations to the Commission at its fortieth session.

34. Should the Commission not find it possible to take a decision on the setting up of the proposed Programme and Co-ordination Committee at its thirty-ninth session, it may wish to consider the convening of an ad hoc Committee of the Whole to undertake this work.

35. It might be useful for the PCC, or alternatively the ad hoc Committee of the Whole to seek the technical advice of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned on some of the proposals contained in Part I above.



ANNEX A

PROPOSAL CONCERNING MANAGEMENT TRAINING FOR ADMINISTRATIONS AND ENTERPRISES

(Programme element 01.1.5)

1. The Madrid 1983 Concluding Document contains a provision in which the Participating States recognize the importance for their economic development of promoting the exchange of information and experience on training for management staff. To this end they recommend the organization, in an appropriate existing framework and with the help of interested organizations such as, for example, the ECE and the International Labour Organization, of a symposium of persons responsible for services and institutions specializing in management training for administrations and enterprises with a view to exchanging information on training problems and methods, comparing experiences and encouraging the development of relations among the centres concerned.
2. The Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Director General of the ILO, has examined this provision and is of the opinion that such a symposium could well be organized within the framework of ECE and with the participation of ILO. There does not appear to be an "appropriate existing framework" which would provide a forum for such a symposium among countries of the region having different economic and social systems. It is suggested, therefore, that ECE be considered an appropriate existing framework in the meaning of the Concluding Document.
3. It should be recalled, however, that ECE does not have a specific mandate for this type of activity and the Executive Secretary would not suggest that the mandate be modified to encompass management training. Nevertheless, it has been possible on occasion for the ECE to undertake on an ad hoc basis certain activities which the member countries determine can best be performed within ECE. Recent examples include the convening of a Seminar on the Economic Role of Women in the ECE Region to be held in Vienna (Austria) in October 1984 (Commission decision D(XXXVIII)), and, in conjunction with UNFPA, of a regional Meeting on Population which was held in Sofia (Bulgaria) in October 1983 (decision C(XXVIII)).
4. The proposed symposium could be organized, on an ad hoc basis, in late 1985 or early 1986, with the participation of persons responsible for services and institutions specializing in management training for administrations and enterprises.
5. The symposium could focus on a technical topic that is clearly of interest to the whole region and where the exchange of experience would be welcomed by all agencies which have some promotional, policy-making and co-ordinating functions in the development of managers, and serve as a platform for the exchange of experience amongst these agencies. Alternatively, the meeting could review recent developments in management training technologies and methodologies, such as action learning, self-development, computer-assisted training, audio-visual packages.
6. It is suggested that a preparatory meeting be held in the autumn of 1984 to consider the nature, scope and agenda of a symposium on training for management staff and to make recommendations to the fortieth session of the Commission.

ANNEX B

PROPOSAL CONCERNING TELEMATICS

(Programme element 01.2.2)

(Programme element 01(a).4.4)

1. The merging of electronic data processing and telecommunications into telematics and its rapid development and internationalization have vastly expanded the range of possible applications for the handling, processing, storage and transmission of huge quantities of data in industry (both services and manufacturing), business, administration and government. This has become possible through an exponential development of hardware and software technology. This process has been amplified by technological changes occurring simultaneously within the telecommunication sector which have greatly improved the traffic capacities of telecommunication networks in terms of cost, volume, distribution, reliability and quality of transmission. It is not an exaggeration to say that the world is on the threshold of an information revolution, which will have considerable impact on practically all aspects of economic and human life.

2. The range of present and potential applications of key hardware and software technologies of telematics is very large and will be a major source of economic growth and increased productivity. The production of goods will have less weight relatively speaking, and the importance of telecommunications, computers, robotics and artificial intelligence will continue to increase. Already, information and telecommunication industries in many industrialized countries have a total output which forms a fast-growing part of their national economies and international trade. At the same time, manufacturing and services sectors such as engineering, automation, banking, transportation, health, insurance and tourism are becoming increasingly dependent on developments in telematics.

3. To date, work within the ECE in fields relevant to electronics, robotics, telecommunications, computers and their applications (software), has been undertaken by a number of subsidiary bodies.

4. The Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation is the body in which most of the work directly related to the electronics has been concentrated. During the last 14 years, the Working Party and its predecessors have approached the broad field of industrial automation by investigating corresponding techno-economic trends from the point of view of both techniques (e.g. numerically controlled machines, robots and programmable controllers and computer-aided design) and application fields (e.g. the steel and automotive industries, foundry and welding technologies and material handling). The current work programme of the Working Party includes a number of projects and future activities in fields directly or indirectly related to telematics and many applications can be anticipated. However, the approach followed so far has been more or less project oriented and may not have adequately reflected the information-oriented technological revolution which is taking place.

5. The Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology is a Principal Subsidiary Body where important but limited work related to the broadly applied field of telematics has been undertaken. One example is the study on long-term technological trends and related policy issues in the field of microprocessors which was conducted by the Senior Advisers in 1980. Another is the project concerning reviews in selected economic sectors, such as automation and electronics as well as an integrated system for management.

6. Increasing involvement in the rapidly expanding telematics field is also found in other parts of the ECE work programme. Thus the use of computers for statistical purposes and design and development of statistical information systems is part of the programme of work of the Conference of European Statisticians. In the work concerning the promotion of trade and industrial co-operation, the development of trade data elements and automatic data interchange - an important component of the programme of work of the Committee on the Development of Trade - is seen as a prerequisite for the facilitation of international trade procedures and the promotion of trade within as well as outside the ECE region.

6. Despite the progress achieved in the areas briefly reviewed above, an examination of the work accomplished in the emerging field of telematics and its application to specific areas of the work programme indicates that further activities might be advantageously undertaken under the auspices of existing Principal Subsidiary Bodies. Such new activities could include, for example, economic research on the place, role and impact of telematics on the economies of ECE member countries; a study on the methodology of assessing techno-economic trends in the field of data processing and related branches of the telematics servicing industry; a study on current developments and medium-term prospects in the development of computerized data bases and computerized telecommunications networks, particularly as they affect the promotion of trade and industrial co-operation in the region; a periodic survey of regulatory trends at the national and international levels in the field of telematics, particularly as they relate to economic and societal problems (e.g. transborder data flows); and the development of internationally comparable statistics and statistical classifications facilitated by computerized data bases and data communications networks.

8. Specific proposals for further work along the lines illustrated above in the field of telematics could be made in the relevant subsidiary bodies.

9. The Executive Secretary, with the assistance of consultants, is preparing a substantive study on the subject of telematics as it affects the economies of the ECE region. It is suggested that a meeting of experts designated by Governments be convened to review this study and to consider the formulation of a possible work programme for the Commission as a whole as set forth in programme element 01.2.2. This meeting could take place in September 1984.

ANNEX C

PROPOSAL CONCERNING STANDARDIZATION

(Sub-programme 01(c))

1. The Commission's programme of work in the field of standardization dates back to 1970, when the First Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies was held. In 1980 it was expanded to include two new work areas, namely, testing and definitions, by the Sixth Meeting of Government Officials. In the Madrid 1983 Concluding Document, the Participating States reaffirmed their interest in reducing and preventing technical barriers to trade and welcomed the increased co-operation in this field, inter alia, the work of the Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies in the ECE.
2. Over the years the ECE has acted as a central region-wide agency for policy harmonization and as a forum for intergovernmental consideration of problems related to standardization, certification and testing (ECE/STAND/17/Rev.1, para.4). However, the co-ordinating role of the ECE in this field has never been clearly spelled out in the programme of work although some elements of the existing programme of work, such as the work on the ECE Standardization List (former 01.(c).1.3), are aimed at improved co-ordination, and the Meetings of Government Officials have appointed "co-ordinators" for some sub-programmes, i.e. certification and definitions.
3. In view of the success of ECE's efforts to bring about closer co-operation between the many international and regional organizations involved in standardization activities, and to clarify that the ECE intends to continue and intensify these efforts, it is proposed that a new work area "Co-ordination of international standardization activities" should be added to group together some former and some new programme elements specifically aimed at providing the basis for improved co-operation.
4. As a result of progress made in other fora, notably the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and International Laboratory Accreditation Conference (ILAC), and in many cases inspired by the ECE, the Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies and the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies may now be in a position to make further progress towards the creation and promotion of international certification arrangements and international agreements on the mutual acceptance of test data. The programme proposed has been rearranged so as to give more emphasis to such work, which is essentially in the nature of confidence building measures.
5. A first step towards the development of bilateral or multilateral agreements on the mutual recognition of test results or of laboratory accreditation systems was taken in November 1983 when an ad hoc group on testing approved a questionnaire on the subject. The replies to that inquiry indicate that ECE member Governments attach high interest to the development of such agreements and would like the ECE to work out recommendations to that effect. The possibility of setting up pilot schemes on the mutual recognition of tests for some product or service categories will be considered. Full use will continue to be made of the results of relevant work carried out in the framework of the ILAC with ECE support.

ANNEX D

PROPOSAL CONCERNING PROCESSING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

(Programme element 02.4.2)

1. The Committee on Agricultural Problems has always dealt with most aspects of agriculture proper, i.e. defined in a traditional narrow sense. However, in recent decades developments have taken place in the industrialized countries which have had a significant impact on agriculture from outside the sector. Agriculture has increasingly been integrated into the national economies (and agricultural policy into general economic, social, environmental and regional policies), and an important part of agricultural output no longer is being consumed in its original form, but passes through one or more processing stages before reaching the consumer. Processing and distribution have become important links in the market chain. The impact of these developments, as expressed in the changing demand for agricultural products, influences

- the pattern of agricultural production (in addition to the required shifts from surplus to deficit products, the development of new products or new non-traditional uses for existing products),
- the selection of crop varieties and livestock breeds (to meet the users' requirements end use),
- the agricultural production processes (e.g. the use of chemical inputs and feedingstuffs),
- the marketing requirements for agricultural products (large market outlets or processors requiring large quantities of the same variety and of even quality),
- the quality of output, and
- the product pattern of international trade in agricultural products.

2. The economic outlook for agriculture depends on the speed and degree of its adjustment to changing requirements. The review of the present situation and of the prospects for agriculture must therefore take these changes into account and analyse their impact on agriculture. In the economy as a whole, agriculture proper accounts for a declining share of GNP whereas the related processing industry is one of the most important manufacturing branches in the ECE region.

3. To a limited extent, with periodic symposia once every few years, the marketing of agricultural products is already included in the programme of work. The aspects mentioned above, however, justify a certain extension of the work on processing of agricultural products. It is not the intention to cover all structural, economic and technological aspects of the processing industry since this would exceed the resources and expertise of the secretariat and would unbalance the work programme. The proposed extension would cover only those new developments in the processing industry which have a direct impact on agriculture. The priority preoccupation of the Committee, i.e. the development of agriculture, would thus be fully preserved, but complemented in line with changing requirements.

4. A closer look at what is meant by "the processing industry" would indicate that under present conditions food processing would be the first priority. The proposal to establish a closer link between food and agriculture is supported by developments at the national and the international level. However, processing for non-food uses should not be neglected although so far the Committee has not been active in this field. On a traditional basis, the possible scope of activities in the ECE region is limited. Reference could be made, for instance, to certain crops for non-food use, to "non-edible horticultural products", to skins and hides, and to the breeding of fur animals. On a "non-traditional" basis, in line with new developments, there would be considerable scope for further activities. More emphasis could be given to the production and utilization of agricultural products (including the use of by-products, waste and residual products whose definition might change over time, former "waste" possibly becoming a valuable raw material) for non-traditional purposes, e.g. for energy production ("energy cropping" or the use of existing raw materials) or as feedstock for the chemical industry. In a wider context reference can also be made to genetic engineering and biotechnology as growth sectors with a significant impact on agriculture.

5. If the extension of the work programme to the processing of agricultural products is accepted, it would seem logical to take the programme element on the marketing of agricultural products out of the present sub-programme 02.3, which would thus be limited to "economic and technological issues in agriculture". A new sub-programme (02.4.) would then combine marketing and processing of agricultural products and would cover those developments in the sectors purchasing from agriculture which have a direct impact on the demand for agricultural products and on agricultural production.

ANNEX E

PROPOSAL CONCERNING HAZARDOUS WASTES

(Programme element 05.4.6)

I. Previous and Current ECE Activities

1. Activities in the field of hazardous wastes control have held an important environmental focus for the past ten years in ECE. At their first session in 1973 the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems initiated work leading to a number of reports on the status of, and experiences with, national legislation in ECE member countries for the control of toxic waste discharges into the environment. In 1977 consideration was given to the feasibility of developing a "cradle-to-grave" accounting system to follow toxic wastes from the point of generation to final destruction or safe disposal. At that time it was concluded that a uniform accounting system was difficult to elaborate for ECE member countries because of legislative, industrial and geographical dissimilarities. A survey of national and international legislation, administrative measures and experience relating to the control of toxic substances with particular emphasis on toxic wastes in the ECE region was prepared for the eighth session (1980) of the Senior Advisers. The survey indicated, inter alia, that in spite of the important differences in industrial and population densities, technological standards and experience, and economic and social frameworks of ECE member countries, there was general agreement that:

- The control of hazardous/toxic wastes remains a distinct issue from that of regulation of hazardous substances and mixtures;
- A shortage of well-equipped facilities to treat highly dangerous wastes from diverse sources poses a general problem;
- The enterprise system for collection, storage, transport, treatment and/or final deposition of toxic wastes needs special economic incentives and the benefit of research programmes on new technologies for the economical and effective control of these wastes, and
- Recovery and re-use of hazardous wastes represent the most economic method of control with few exceptions.

2. Most recently work on the control of hazardous wastes arising from industrial activity has been pursued at the technical level with the exchange of information and preparation of special studies on processes for the recovery and reutilization of wastes, and more efficient technological processes for the manufacture of, inter alia, chemicals, basic metals and finished metal products. In addition, internationally agreed regulations concerning the transport of dangerous goods across national boundaries have been developed and are regularly reviewed and up-dated as necessary, e.g. the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) and the European Provisions concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterway (ADN).

II. Possible lines of action

3. It would now seem timely to review the over-all situation on hazardous wastes and to decide upon a course of co-ordinated action for control of these wastes. Topics for consideration in this connection could include:

- The development of a comprehensive approach to the international transfer of hazardous wastes ensuring that the safe transport, treatment and/or final isolation of these wastes is precisely monitored by the exporting country, any transit countries and the importing country.
- The exchange of information on current technological developments relating to the recovery and re-use of hazardous wastes. For unrecoverable residues this exchange of information could include the technological elements of collection, transport, treatment and disposal methods.
- Support for the development of new information on the likely impact of hazardous wastes, in particular the adverse biological effects of long-term exposure and methods and approaches to the assessment of risk and the determination of acceptable risk.
- Finding ways and means to further the development of international waste exchanges and information clearing houses for wastes, including hazardous wastes.
- Co-operation in the development and utilization of regional hazardous waste treatment and disposal installations.

4. Action taken through ECE could focus on the preparation of a convention on hazardous wastes management, the main elements of which may include:

- A definition of terms: it would be particularly important to arrive at commonly agreed, clear distinctions to avoid confusion or distortion in the focus of efforts;
- Effective "cradle-to-grave" documentation and document control, particularly for international transshipments of wastes;
- Control of the transport of hazardous wastes across international borders - specifying which wastes are permitted;
- The exchange of information on all aspects of international shipments of hazardous wastes among exporting, transit and importing countries;
- Accreditation or licensing of the enterprise or organization responsible for direct supervision of treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes; a system for assessing performance might be established;
- The responsibilities of the generating country to limit export of hazardous wastes which might represent an environmental and human health burden to the importing country;
- Support of research and development toward the improvement of technologies for treating and disposing of hazardous wastes.

ANNEX F

PROPOSAL CONCERNING LAND-USE PLANNING

(Programme element 05.5.4)

1. Traditional land-use planning is inadequate to deal with the complex problems arising from the growing competition between various land uses. Efforts are being made to develop more appropriate approaches, taking into account the linkages between social, economic and natural systems. New knowledge, technologies and planning and management techniques are emerging, and tangible results, in the form of savings in non-renewable resources and improved utilization of renewable resources, are beginning to appear.
2. Exchanges of experience concerning land use have been undertaken within the ECE framework. The Commission itself took an initiative to hold a symposium on tourism (Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia, 1975), where ecological aspects of land use were addressed. The Commission also convened an ad hoc meeting on land use in 1978 in order to pool the knowledge vested in various subsidiary bodies.
3. The Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems drew attention to the need for new approaches to land use already at their first session in 1973, with further work undertaken at the Seminar on Ecological Aspects of Economic Development Planning (Rotterdam, Netherlands, 1975). The matter was pursued at the Symposium on Environmental Perspectives (Bilthoven, Netherlands, 1977). Emphasis is currently placed on environmental impact assessment as a tool of environmental policy of obvious importance in connection with land-use planning.
4. The Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems have been aware of the need to develop interdisciplinary activities in the area of land use. On a number of occasions, meetings and seminars related to land-use planning were organized jointly with the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning, through its Working Party on Urban and Regional Planning. Relevant examples are the Seminar on Local Planning within the Framework of National Planning (Helsinki, Finland, 1975) and a series of seminars on environmental problems arising in connexion with urban transport. Two seminars (Bergen, Norway, 1979 and Rovaniemi, Finland, 1983) dealt with the problem of integrated physical, socio-economic and environmental planning.
5. These activities have been of an ad hoc character, however. It might now be timely to undertake a comprehensive approach to sustainable use of land as a natural resource. In particular, closer co-operation within the ECE between the sectors most concerned with the problem of land use (urban and regional planning, environment, agriculture, forestry, transport) would seem to be essential. As a first step, consideration may be given to the transformation of the present Working Party on Urban and Regional Planning into a Joint Working Party on Land-use Planning, serving both the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning and the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems. The Committee on Agricultural Problems, the Timber Committee and the Inland Transport Committee should be informed and consulted concerning activities pertaining to land use undertaken by the proposed Working Party and assist in programme formulation and, wherever appropriate, in the execution of specified projects.

ANNEX G

PROPOSAL CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL FINANCING FOR ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORKS

(Programme element 09.2.1)

1. There is widespread agreement about the desirability of developing international itineraries as a support for international trade, but road infrastructure is still mostly considered as a purely national matter. Nevertheless, decisions related to road infrastructure in Europe have a bearing on neighbouring countries; consequently, international financing of road infrastructure is important.
2. At present, countries approach various sources of financing individually, including regional official banks or funds or in the international financial market. There might, however, be advantages from co-ordinated and joint approaches to the international financing of road infrastructure.
3. It is not proposed here to establish any new financing institution nor to suggest that Governments adhere to an international system based on agreement or treaty. The idea is rather that a small body of two or three international experts in the field of both finance and public works, having good links with financial institutions, could serve as a focal point for the following purposes: (i) to gather and furnish information on international financing; (ii) to study the financing possibilities; and (iii) to assist interested Governments to co-ordinate their international financing plans.
4. For each international project thus considered, the body should obtain information from official sources concerning financing available to each country, the situation of the participating countries with regard to the international financial market and the policy followed by them with regard to international financing.
5. With the agreement of interested countries, the body could draft a global financing plan. On request, it could help Governments to present their demands either separately or in a co-ordinated manner. Each Government would retain as a matter of course its full operational freedom, since the body would provide its advice and help only on request.
6. The above idea obviously needs careful study of its legal, financial and technical implications. Such a study could be performed by a group of international experts, both governmental and private, under the auspices of the ECE. Eventually, the envisaged body could be established within the framework of the TEM project to be broadened later in the light of experience.

ANNEX H

PROPOSAL CONCERNING A SPECIAL MICRO-CIRCUIT ("SMART") CARD FOR INTERNATIONAL
TRANSPORT OF GOODS BY ROAD

(Programme element 09.4.1)

1. The international transport of goods by road is subject to many administrative and regulatory constraints, imposing considerable responsibility on the drivers of goods vehicles, involving form-filling, payment of expenses, maintenance of the vehicle, Customs formalities, transit regulations, currency restrictions, etc. The resulting risks, delays, errors and administrative complications, further enhanced by widely differing or conflicting national requirements for information, statistical returns and frontier controls are costly and inhibit international trade.
2. Normal credit cards have proved to be of value in terms of identification, authentication and speed in the transmittal of information. The newly-developed "active" or "smart" card, incorporating a miniaturized processing system (micro-chip), extends the capacity of a credit or debit card to cover potentially all payments, documentary and reporting requirements and Customs formalities. It is capable of functioning as a credit card to meet expenses without the use of cash, and can, in addition, carry encrypted information (e.g. for Customs purposes), as well as permitting automatic registration and immediate transmittal of information to the parties concerned (tax authorities, transport companies, etc.). It is, in other words, a small computerized portable file and payment device as well as a means of accessing a network.
3. The special micro-circuit("smart") card in question would have to be specifically designed for international transport purposes since it would have to be clearly distinguishable from the ordinary credit cards. The technology and expertise for the introduction of such a special credit card already exist.
4. The introduction of the proposed special micro-circuit ("smart") card could take place progressively, at first in conjunction with paper documents, as part of a pilot programme, and then moving into a dedicated system. A network, based on the main international itineraries used and the ECE-related TIR system, would have to be built up and tested progressively, country by country, with a management centre and specialized representatives in each country concerned.
5. The Working Party on Road Transport, and the Group of Experts on Customs Questions Affecting Transport could be requested to make a feasibility study of the above suggestion, taking into account also its legal implications. An ad hoc Meeting bringing together governmental delegates, representatives of professional organizations and technical experts could be convened to formulate the project in detail.

ANNEX I

PROPOSAL CONCERNING WOODPULP, PAPER AND PAPERBOARD

(Sub-programme element 14.4)

Introduction

1. Since its inception in 1947, the Timber Committee has gradually expanded the scope of its activities. Initially, it was mainly concerned with the markets for sawn softwood and pitprops. At later stages, hardwoods, pulpwood and wood-based panels were added, and its activities expanded beyond short-term analysis to include long-term studies and economic and technical questions relating to forestry and the mechanical wood-processing industries, as well as statistical methodology.

2. The reviews of current market developments and short-term prospects have treated pulp and paper only insofar as they are the major end-product for pulpwood, the markets for which are regularly analysed. The Committee's work on economic and technological issues in the wood-processing industries has so far not touched on the pulp and paper sector but this has traditionally been covered in the Committee's statistical publications and long-term studies, because of the need to analyse the forest and forest products sector in its entirety.

3. Similar considerations apply to other areas of the Committee's work programme. There is, in other words, a considerable and increasing interdependence between the different parts of the forest and forest products sector; forestry; wood supply; mechanical wood-processing; and pulp and paper.

4. The relative importance of pulp and paper within the total forest products sector has gradually increased. The following figures of the production of the main groups of processed forest products illustrate this point:

	<u>Production in</u>		<u>Change</u>	
	<u>1970</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>Volume</u>	<u>Percent</u>
		(million m.t.)		(%)
<u>ECE region</u>				
Sawnwood	188.2	171.9	- 16.3	- 9
Wood-based panels	38.0	48.1	+ 10.1	+ 27
Woodpulp	88.2	104.6	+ 16.4	+ 19
Paper and paperboard	103.0	130.4	+ 27.4	+ 27

5. Coverage of pulp and paper in the Timber Committee's present programme of work

Work area 14.1.: Medium- and long-term trends and prospects

Pulp and paper are included in the studies of long-term timber trends and prospects (14.1.1.), but not in the surveys of the structure and capacity of the wood-processing industries (14.1.2.) nor in the medium-term market surveys (14.1.3.).

Work area 14.2.: Current market developments and short-term prospects, including problems relating to international trade

Developments in pulp and paper are followed in the market review only insofar as they affect the demand for pulpwood (14.2.1.). Pulp and paper have been fully treated in the work on the classification and definitions of forest products (14.2.5.), a joint FAO/ECE activity.

Work area 14.3.: Selected economic, technological and managerial problems

Pulp and paper industries are not covered.

Work area 14.4.: Collection, exchange and dissemination of information, including improvement and harmonization of statistics (in co-operation with FAO)

Pulp and paper are included in the collection and publication of statistics (14.5.1.) and certain statistical methodology work, e.g. conversion factors (14.5.2.2.), which is the responsibility of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics.

Relevant activities of other international organizations

6. There are a number of international and non-governmental organizations dealing with the pulp and paper sector.

7. FAO's Advisory Committee on Pulp and Paper meets annually. Its agenda includes, amongst other things, a world-wide capacity survey and questions oriented particularly towards the pulp and paper industries in developing countries. It is carrying out a study on long-term trends and prospects in production, consumption and trade of pulp and paper. Work on this study and on the Timber Committee's study of long-term trends and prospects (project 14.1.1.) is being co-ordinated. Pulp and paper statistics are included in the FAO Yearbook of Forest Products. For some years, the ECE Secretariat has been collecting these statistics from ECE member countries and transmitting them to FAO.

8. OECD's ad hoc Working Party on Pulp and Paper has carried out studies on a number of major issues, including energy use by these industries, recycling of waste paper and structural developments. It publishes statistics of production, stocks and trade in more detail but for fewer countries than in the ECE Timber Bulletin for Europe.

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9. The Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industries (TAPPI), a NGO, organizes meetings concerned with technological aspects of the pulp and paper industries. At the sub-regional level there are a number of NGOs, including CEPAC (European Confederation of Pulp, Paper and Board Industries) covering the industries of the countries of the European Economic Community; and EPI (European Paper Institute) of which most countries of western Europe are members.

10. Work being undertaken by the above and other international organizations, however, is concerned only to a limited extent with the centrally planned economies, which account for a still small but growing part of the ECE region's total output of pulp and paper, as may be seen from the following:

<u>Share of ECE region's production of:</u>	<u>Woodpulp</u>		<u>Paper and paperboard</u>	
	(% of total)			
	<u>1970</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1982</u>
North America	62.2	63.3	55.7	54.9
Western Europe	27.5	24.6	34.0	34.1
Eastern Europe and USSR	10.3	12.1	10.3	11.0

Implications of the proposal for the Timber Committee

11. The proposal has some important implications for the future structure and programme of the Timber Committee. Among likely changes would be:

- (1) inclusion in countries' delegations to the Committee's annual sessions and other meetings of government officials responsible for the pulp and paper sector, as well as advisers from those industries;
- (2) inclusion of items dealing with pulp and paper on the Committee's agenda, for example to allow these products to be covered by the Committee's discussion of the markets for forest products;
- (3) appropriate changes in the programme of work;
- (4) changes in the coverage of certain publications, notably the secretariat's annual market review.

12. The inclusion of pulp and paper would involve a marked change in the composition and work programme of the Timber Committee. Care would need to be taken that such a step would result in tangible benefits to member Governments without possible negative features arising, such as excessive dispersion of activities, over-stretching of resources or duplication of work with other international bodies. A thorough analysis would need to be undertaken of the possible role of the Committee in the pulp and paper field, of the means of carrying out projects and of the implications for its over-all work programme and its composition. This analysis could be assigned to the Committee itself, with the request that it should draw up detailed recommendations for the Commission's consideration and approval.

ANNEX J

PROPOSAL CONCERNING FINANCING OF INTRA-REGIONAL TRADE

(Programme element 15.1.1)

1. During the late 1960s and for much of the 1970s, payments problems did not loom large in the development of intra-regional trade. Indeed, it may well be that the remarkable growth in international liquidity of these years and the relative ease of access to trade financing explains in large part the lack of discussion of payments issues in the ECE. At the twenty-sixth session of the Committee on the Development of Trade in 1977 the secretariat tabled a series of proposals relating to institutional means of improving the financing of east-west industrial co-operation. The arrangements proposed were designed to support and accelerate the expansion of east-west economic co-operation and trade development. Delegations expressed appreciation of the initiative and some delegations suggested that further studies be undertaken of the problems which the proposed institutions were intended to address. Other delegations took the view, however, that sufficient facilities and resources existed for financing industrial co-operation and did not favour further work being undertaken (ECE/TRADE/128, paras. 56 and 57).

2. In the light of more recent developments, it would appear that financing problems may now be acting as a constraint on the development of east-west trade and that consequently financing and payments issues could figure more explicitly in some of the programme elements of the programme of work of the Committee. This would also imply a more concentrated effort by the secretariat in its research work to identify the nature and extent of financing difficulties in east-west trade and for member Governments to initiate an active search for means of overcoming such difficulties. An example of the type of facility which might be envisaged in that context is outlined below.

3. In recent years a lack of adequate cover for medium- and long-term credits in east-west trade, in particular for joint deliveries from several countries, appears to have acted as a constraint on the development of intra-regional trade. For that reason, member Governments may wish to consider using the mechanism of the Committee to explore ways and means of removing this constraint. In particular, the Committee could examine the possible need for and feasibility of establishing a joint east-west financing institution whose primary purpose would be to provide supplementary insurance coverage for credits extended to eastern and western enterprises for intra-regional trade and investments purposes. The principal functions of such an institution could tentatively be envisaged as follows:

- A. Advisory services To provide consultancy and technical advisory services to Governments and enterprises in the ECE region in respect of non-traditional and other forms of financing east-west trade transactions and investment projects. Such advice, which could encompass best-practice techniques and procedures for financing complex transactions, would be provided only at the request of shareholding institutions and affiliated banks.

- B. Co-financing To provide facilities for the co-financing of joint east-west projects and deliveries, both within the ECE region and in third countries, together with private commercial banks and State banking institutions. Syndication on a case-by-case basis could be envisaged, bringing into association commercial banks, development banks, export finance institutions, etc.
- C. Guarantees To provide guarantees for medium- and long-term credits for transactions involving two or more suppliers from different countries, i.e. multi-national deliveries, for which it is often not possible to obtain full coverage from national export credit guarantee agencies in western countries on account of statutory restrictions. The range of trade transactions for which guarantees could be provided could possibly encompass not only west-bound and east-bound deliveries, but also joint east-west deliveries (e.g. from joint ventures) to third countries.
- D. Refinancing To provide facilities for the refinancing of existing medium- and long-term credits in east-west trade.

4. Requests for credit guarantees submitted to such an institution would have to emanate from existing State export credit guarantee agencies in member countries, in shareholding institutions and in affiliated banks involved in co-financing.

5. The organizational structure of the institution envisaged could perhaps have the following main features:

East-west equity: A joint stock corporation, with the shareholdings of participating members apportioned according to a pre-determined formula that would take into account, inter alia, the relative importance of the share of east-west trade and investment in their total external trade and national income.

Membership:

Shareholding institutions could be of five types:

- Multinational public financing institutions in the ECE region, (such as the European Investment Bank of the EEC and the International Bank for Economic Co-operation);
- State-owned export financing institutions (such as the Banque Française du Commerce Extérieur);
- State-sponsored export credit guarantee schemes (such as Hermes of the Federal Republic of Germany and ECGD of the United Kingdom);

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- International and regional development banks and funds (such as the IBRD, the International Investment Bank of the OMEA and the Arab Development Fund); and
- State, commercial and private-sector banks prepared to participate in co-financing schemes in the framework of the institution.

Management and staff resources:

The governing body could be composed of three categories of members, whose weighting would be determined by the bye-laws of the institution to include:

- Representatives of the Ministries of Finance of ECE member States;
- Representatives of State-sponsored export credit guarantee agencies of ECE member States;
- Representatives of share-holding financing institutions and banks.

The staff could consist primarily of personnel seconded by shareholding institutions, national export credit guarantee agencies and affiliated banks and presumably need not exceed 10-12 persons.

Capital and revenue:

The capital structure and capitalization of the suggested institution would be determined by ECE member Governments in the light of the results of a feasibility study to be undertaken of the need for such an institution and its possible size and structure. The risk-insurance cover provided by the institution would be made available on the basis of remuneration by fees. It is envisaged that the institution would therefore be self-financing. Moreover, any operating profits could be used to create a special fund for financing east-west infrastructural projects or tripartite projects for which commercial financing would not be available or adequate. The envisaged provision of consultancy and technical advisory services to member bodies and affiliated banks and their clients (in respect of non-traditional means of financing transactions for which adequate credits are not available) could be on a fee-paying basis, thereby contributing to the revenue of the institution. Such services would be provided only at the request of shareholders and affiliated banks.

6. The approach outlined above, if considered to be of sufficient interest by member Governments, could be referred to an expert working group of financing and export credit guarantee specialists from ECE member countries. Such an expert group could be convened by the Committee on the Development of Trade in order to examine the specific need for an institution of the type envisaged. Should the expert working group decide that a real need for such an institution exists, it might propose that the secretariat arrange for a feasibility study of the suggested institution's functions, organization and mode of operation. In that case, the secretariat would invite member Governments to nominate specialists from their own financing and banking institutions to contribute to the study.