

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

ANNUAL REPORT

30 April 1983 - 27 April 1984

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1984

SUPPLEMENT No. 14



UNITED NATIONS

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACPR	Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission	RCTT	Regional Centre for Technology Transfer
		RMRDC	Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre
ANRPC	Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries APCC Asian and Pacific Coconut Community	RNAM	Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery
APDC	Asian and Pacific Development Centre	SACEP	South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations	SEATRADC	Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre
CCOP/SOPAC	Committee for Co-ordination of Joint, Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas	SPEC	South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation
		TCDC	Technical co-operation among developing countries
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa	UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
ECDC	Economic co-operation among developing countries	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
ECLA	Economic Commission- for Latin America	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
EEC	European Economic Community	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
ILO	International Labour Organization	UPU	Universal Postal Union
IMF	International Monetary Fund	WHO	World Health Organization
IMO	International Maritime Organization	WMO	World Meteorological Organization
IPC	International Pepper Community		
ITC	UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre		

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ILO	International Labour Organization	UPU	Universal Postal Union
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IMO	International Maritime Organization	WMO	World Meteorological Organization
IPC	International Pepper Community		
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Introduction

1. The annual report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, which covers the period 30 April 1983 to 27 April 1984, was adopted unanimously by the Commission at its 614th meeting on 27 April 1984. It is submitted for consideration by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session, 1984, in accordance with paragraph 15 of the Commission's terms of reference.

Chapter I

ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

A. Draft resolution and decision for action by the Economic and Social Council

Amendment of the terms of reference of the Commission

2. At its 614th meeting, the Commission approved the following draft resolution for submission to the Economic and Social Council for action:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Noting that Vanuatu has become a member of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in accordance with paragraph 3 of the terms of reference of the Commission,

"Decides to amend paragraphs 3 and 4 of the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly."

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

3. At its 614th meeting, the Commission unanimously approved the following draft decision for adoption by the Economic and Social Council:

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

"At its meeting, on 1984, the Council:

"Took note of the report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for the period 30 April 1983 to 27 April 1984 and of the recommendations and resolutions contained in chapters III and IV of the report."

B. Resolutions brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council

235 (XL). Tokyo programme on technology for development in Asia and the Pacific

236 (XL). Proclamation of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985.-1994

237 (XL). The Commission's activities in the Pacific

238 (XL). Social aspects of rural development

239 (XL). Prevention of oil pollution of the marine environment of the ESCAP region

Chapter II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE THIRTY -NINTH SESSION

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

4. During the year, under review, the following subsidiary bodies met: the Committees on Statistics; Population; Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment; Natural Resources; Agricultural Development; and Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Transport, Communications and Tourism Wing). The dates and bureaux of these meetings were as given in annex III.

Committee on Agricultural Development

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

ESCAP/FAO/Ministry of Agrarian Reform Village-level Workshop on Social Benefits Generated by Projects Targeting the Rural Poor in the Philippines, Naga City, Philippines, May 1983

ARSAP/University of Agriculture of Malaysia (UPM) Training Planning Workshop for Instructors on the Safe Handling and Efficient Use of Agro-pesticides, Serdang, Malaysia, May 1983

Asian and Pacific Regional Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA)/ESCAP/FAO Group Study/Observation Programme on Agricultural Credit and Banking System in China, August 1983

Workshop/training course on farm broadcasting, Kuala Lumpur, September 1983
Seminar on the Influence of Irrigation Programmes on Farming Systems and Cropping Patterns with Special Reference to CGPRT Crops, Tashkent, USSR, September/October 1983

ESCAP/ITC/Programme for Development Co-operation (PRODEC), Finland, Seminar on Import Management of Chemical Fertilizers, Colombo, October 1983

FADINAP/Fertilizer Association of India (FAI) Regional Consultative Meeting on Fertilizer Use Promotion Methods in Asia and the Pacific, New Delhi, December 1983

Seminar on Agro-climatic Models for the Assessment of Drought-related Food

Shortages in South and South-East Asia, Bangkok, January 1984

Workshop/training course on farm broadcasting, Dhaka, February 1984

FAO/Fertilizer Industry Advisory Committee (FIAC)/F ADINAP Asian Regional Technical Consultation on the Institutionalization of Fertilizer Marketing Costs Surveys, Bangkok, February 1984

FADINAP/National Fertilizer Corporation (NFC) of Thailand Round-table Meeting on Fertilizer Marketing, Bangkok, February 1984

FADINAP/Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) of the Philippines/International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) Regional Workshop on Fertilizer Demand Projections in Asia and the Philippines, Manila, March 1984

6. In collaboration with the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, ESCAP organized the Seminar on Agro-climatic Models for the Assessment of Drought-related Food Shortages in South and South-East Asia to present to senior decision-makers the advances which had been achieved in the development of models and indexes for assessing food shortages caused by drought and to review the economic impacts to be expected from the use of such models and indexes. The participants were invited to indicate the assistance needed in applying them to the assessment of the impact of the 1984 monsoon on food shortages in their respective countries.

7. The Group Study/Observation Programme on Agricultural Credit and Banking System in China enabled 27 senior banking executives from nine countries of the region to gain an insight into the unique system of rural savings mobilization, credit delivery and employment generation in China.

8. The Workshop/training course on farm broadcasting at Kuala Lumpur was jointly organized by ESCAP and the Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of Malaysia. Thirty Agricultural extension officers benefited from the course.

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

(a) ESCAP staff provided advisory services to the Rubber Division of the Thai Government on the development of project proposals to improve the productivity, quality and marketing of smallholders' rubber (November-December 1983);

(b) A document, "The principles of advertising and public relations applied to fertilizer promotion", was prepared for presentation at the FADINAP/FAI Regional Consultative Meeting on Fertilizer Use Promotion Methods in Asia and the Pacific;

(c) At the request of the Ministry of Agriculture, Bangladesh, the Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP) prepared an overview of import procedures and salient features of fertilizer marketing in selected countries of the region in April 1984;

(d) FADINAP provided technical inputs into the ARSAP/UPM Training Planning Workshop for Instructors on the Safe Handling and Efficient Use of Agro-pesticides;

(e) FADINAP staff delivered lectures as resource persons at the International Fertilizer Development Centre / Government of Thailand NPK Fertilizer Production Training Programme held at Bangkok and at the Workshop on the ASEAN Agricultural Development Planning Centre's Research Studies held at Hat Yai, Thailand, in July 1983;

(f) In collaboration with the National Fertilizer Secretariat (NFS) of Sri Lanka, FADINAP organized and conducted a fertilizer dealer trainers' training programme in September 1983;

(g) FADINAP sponsored a senior officer from Nepal to study bulk-handling facilities for fertilizers at the Port of Singapore in October 1983;

(h) FADINAP staff rendered advisory services to the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Co-operatives of Thailand by providing specifications required for the importation of fertilizer under EEC grants in October 1983;

(i) Jointly with NFS, Sri Lanka, and FAO, FADINAP organized a marketing training programme on fertilizers in Sri Lanka in January 1984;

(j) Staff of the agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific (ARSAP) provided advisory services to the Second Technical Advisory Committee Meeting of the UNIDO Regional Pesticide Network held at Seoul in June-July 1983. Assistance was also provided for the transfer of the ARSAP data collection function to the Network;

(k) ARSAP staff provided data on pesticides in conjunction with the undertaking of a feasibility study on the establishment of a pesticide manufacturing plant in Thailand in August-September 1983;

(l) An orientation programme in agricultural data systems was organized for staff members of the ASEAN Agricultural Development Planning Centre, Bangkok. At the Centre's request, a matrix of ASEAN trade was prepared and analysed in a particular computer format;

(m) ESCAP staff presented a paper entitled "Agricultural development to meet domestic and export needs" and led the discussion at the Workshop on Economic Perspectives of ASEAN held in Singapore in November-December 1983. The Workshop was jointly sponsored by the Asian Mass Communication Research and Information Centre and the Organization of the Asia-Pacific News Agencies for the benefit of journalists from five of the member countries of ASEAN responsible for reporting on economic and financial matters;

(n) The secretariat assisted the Government of Thailand in two training workshops in December 1983, one for women in sericulture held at Bangkok and the other on enhancing the participation of farmers' wives in paddy production and processing held at Chiang Mai.

10. The following technical publications were issued during the period under review: (a) Small Fanner Group Marketing in Asia; (b) Village-level Workshop on Social Benefits Generated by Projects Targeting the Rural Poor in the Philippines (jointly with FAO and the Philippine Ministry of Agrarian Reform); (c) Handling, Marketing and Consumption of Aquaculture Products in China; (d) Asian Women in Tropical Sericulture; (e) Updated Report on the Marketing, Distribution and Use of Fertilizer in Malaysia; (f) Updated Report on the Marketing, Distribution and Use of Fertilizer in Nepal; (g) Updated Report on the Marketing, Distribution and Use of Fertilizer in Thailand; (h) Pesticides: Data Collection Systems and Supply, Distribution and Use in Selected Countries of the Asia-Pacific Region; (i) ARSAP Pesticide Safety Flipchart Deskstand; (j) ARSAP Agro-pesticides Index; (k) Agro-pesticides: Their Management and Application (revised edition); (l) Agro-chemicals News in Brief (quarterly) and two special issues annually; (m) Calendar of Meetings on Agro-chemicals (quarterly bulletin); (n) Fertilizer Trade Information (monthly bulletin); (o) Regional Information Support Service (bimonthly bulletin); (p) Agricultural Information Development Bulletin (quarterly).

11. The following documents and drafts were prepared during the period under review: (a) "Food and agriculture in Asia and the Pacific: recent trends and perspectives for the 1980s"; (b) "The rural poor: human capital for nation building"; (c) "Feasibility

study of forming farmers' associations in the Solomon Islands" (jointly with UNDAT); (d) "Proceedings of the APRACA/ESCAP/FAO Group Study/Observation Programme on Agricultural Credit and Banking System in China" (jointly with APRACA).

Committee on Development Planning

Development issues and policies

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

Colloquium on Administration of Rural Development in ASEAN Countries, Jakarta, September 1983

Second Regional Seminar on an Interlinked Country Model System, Bangkok, September 1983

Seminar on Sectoral Planning Techniques and the Mechanism for Intersectoral Relations, Moscow, October 1983

Expert Group on Development Issues and Policies, Bangkok, November 1983

13. The Colloquium on Administration of Rural Development in ASEAN Countries considered a series of background documents prepared by officials of the four participating Governments - Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand. Discussions were based on the experience of those countries. The participants discussed means and measures to solve existing problems, to improve the administrative systems and processes for rural development, to mobilize people's institutions and to enlist mass participation for effective rural development. In addition, there was a visit to rural development projects in Bali and Central Java. The exchange of ideas, views and experience was useful to the participants as well as to the officials of the host country. It was recommended that similar colloquia be organized on other aspects of rural development including financing rural development.

14. The Second Regional Seminar on an Interlinked Country Model System provided an opportunity to review and evaluate the econometric work carried out in each country since the convening of the First Seminar. The Seminar considered several papers related to the progress of work on the construction of a new generation of macroeconomic models for selected ESCAP countries -Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines and Singapore. Economic forecasts for 1984-1985 for Hong Kong and the Philippines were presented. Several papers concerning the secretariat's work on the construction of the ESCAP interlinked model system were considered by the participants, including a detailed study on the changing patterns of external trade of the ESCAP countries and an analysis of the extent of economic interdependence

between the ESCAP region and the main developed market economies.

15. The experiences of participating countries in national and sectoral planning techniques were discussed at the Seminar on Sectoral Planning Techniques and the Mechanism for Intersectoral Relations. The Seminar highlighted important issues, problems and remedial measures and made recommendations regarding them. Lectures were delivered by Soviet experts on methods of general sectoral and intersect oral planning as well as on the methods of planning in several important sectors in the Soviet Union. Visits were organized to the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic which afforded the participants opportunities to study development planning techniques at the local level. It was recommended that similar seminars on other aspects of development planning, particularly on regional planning, should be organized in the near future.

16. The Expert Group on Development Issues and Policies reviewed and suggested improvements to preliminary drafts of the chapters of part two of the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1983. It also advised the secretariat regarding topics and organization of future Surveys.

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

(a) Missions to India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Sri Lanka to ensure collaboration of planning agencies and national research institutions in the regional project on macro-economic modeling and projections;

(b) Mission to China to examine with officials of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the State Planning and Economic Commissions the possibility of their participation in the regional project on macro- economic modelling and projections and to discuss the construction of an econometric model for China;

(c) Mission to Bangladesh to provide technical assistance to the Planning Commission in the construction of an econometric model for that country;

(d) Mission to Nepal to discuss with the National Planning Commission the terms of technical assistance in the construction of an econometric model for that country;

(e) Missions to Fiji, Indonesia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa and Tonga to gather information and to discuss with government officials progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and to discuss with consultants progress in the work connected with the 1983 Survey;

(f) Missions to Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea to collect information and discuss with consultants progress in the work connected with the secretariat's project on remittances from international labour migration ;

(g) Missions to Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Samoa to consult with government officials on the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries.

18. The following publications and studies were produced during the period under review: (a) Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1983," (b) Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, vol. XXXIII, No. 1, June 1982; (c) Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, vol. XXXIII, No.2, December 1982; (d) ASEAN and Pacific Economic Co-operation (Development Papers, No.2); (e) The Integration of Tax Planning into Development Planning in the ESCAP Region (Development Papers, No.3); (f) Macroeconomic Modelling in the ESCAP Region; (g) "The ESCAP/ESI model for Thailand"; (h) "Proposals for provision of trade data and specifications of trade equations in country models"; (i) "Hong Kong's economic outlook for 1984-1985- an ERC econometric model forecast"; (j) "The econometric forecasting model of the Malaysia economy"; (k) "UNK econometric model of Singapore"; (l) " A quantitative analysis on patterns of trade and price competitiveness for selected Asian developing countries"; (m) "System design for ESCAP's Link model"; (n) "Requirements for macro-economic models in an interlinked system for the ESCAP region " ; (o) "Construction of a macro-economic model of Bangladesh"; (p) "Reconciliation of supply and demand sides in the specification of short-term econometric models for a developing country"; (q) "Report on the implementation of resolution 233 (XXXIX) on the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries",

19. Further steps were taken during the year to set up a comprehensive information service on development planning activities in member countries. It was proposed that a newsletter on development planning be published on a regular basis for dissemination to planners and policy makers throughout the region. The Development Planning Division maintained an up-to-date documentation service dealing with recent economic and social developments in the region. Staff members of the Division delivered a course on "Problems of development in Asia and the Pacific" at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, during June-September 1983.

20. The Division undertook several activities in connection with the regional implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries and special measures in support of the least developed countries (LDCs)of the region. The Division sought active relations of the region. The Division sought active

relations with the focal points in LDCs established to maintain contact with development partners in order to obtain information on the implementation of the Substantive New Programme of Action in each LDC. Four "country correspondents" to provide the secretariat with relevant and up-to-date information, on a regular basis, regarding the current economic and social situation in LDCs were appointed.

21. Under the Substantive New Programme of Action, regional commissions are responsible for the continuing monitoring and appraisal of progress in LDCs. In compliance with the Commission's resolution 233 (XXXIX) on the implementation of the Programme, the Division conducted a comprehensive review which was presented to the Commission at its fortieth session.

22. A project was under way to examine means whereby domestic savings might be mobilized in LDCs in the ESCAP region. A series of in-depth country studies was initiated and planned. On completion, a workshop will be held in each LDC to review the findings and identify appropriate measures.

23. The Division participated in the UNDP Regional Round Table on LDCs of the Asia-Pacific Region held at Geneva in May 1983. It also undertook interdivisional co-ordination of the work relating to LDCs within the secretariat.

24. The Division carried out several activities concerning ECDC. Phase I of a project aimed at conducting exploratory investigations into the possibilities of regional co-operation for further growth and improved management of remittances from international labour migration made considerable progress; six studies were commissioned. The implementation of the project on building energy self-reliance through international co-operation among ASEAN-Pacific countries was near completion and the commissioned studies were being revised with a view to publication. Steps were taken to implement phase I of a project focusing on economic co-operation through mutually beneficial foreign investment among selected Asian and Pacific countries.

25. During the course of the year, the Development Planning Division assisted the Executive Secretary in discharging his responsibilities under Commission resolution 229 (XXXVIII) on the role of a unified approach to development planning in the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific, in which the Commission, inter alia, called upon the Executive Secretary to present to it at its fortieth session a report presenting current experience on the application of a unified approach to development planning in the developing ESCAP countries, drawing upon information provided by interested member countries. A report was submitted to the Commission at its fortieth session.

Transnational corporations

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

Workshop on the Role of Transnational Corporations in Special Economic and Export Processing Zones, November 1983, Guangzhou and Shenzhen, China

First Workshop on Regulating and Negotiating with Transnational Corporations in the Pharmaceutical Industry, December 1983, Bangkok

Ministerial Round Table on Transnational Corporations and the Developing Pacific Island Countries, 27 February-2 March 1984, Apia

27. The Workshop on the Role of Transnational Corporations in Special Economic and Export Processing Zones, organized by the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, UNCTC and the ESCAP/UNCTC Joint Unit on TNCs provided an opportunity for senior officials from China, India, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand to discuss their countries' experiences with special economic and export processing zones vis-à-vis transnational corporations (TNCs). Discussions focused on major issues related to the involvement of TNCs in export processing zones and on ways to maximize the contribution of such zones to employment, backward linkages, industrialization, technology transfer and related contributions of TNCs to national development.

28. The First Workshop on Regulating and Negotiating with Transnational Corporations in the Pharmaceutical Industry, organized by UNCTC, ESCAP's programme on health and development and the Joint Unit, focused on the practical problems associated with TNC involvement in the pharmaceutical industry of ESCAP member countries and considered solutions to those problems. Topics for discussion included an overview of the pharmaceutical sector, objectives and policies for health, current pharmaceutical industry patterns, TNC activities in the pharmaceutical industry, national production capabilities, alternative forms of foreign participation, transfer pricing, national policies and regulations in developing countries, the process of negotiation and possible areas for action at national and regional levels. The Workshop strengthened the capabilities of government officials to deal more effectively with TNCs in the pharmaceutical industry so as to maximize national benefits.

29. The Ministerial Round Table on Transnational Corporations and the Developing Pacific Island Countries, organized by the Joint Unit and UNCTC, provided an opportunity for

ministers and senior government officials from several Pacific island countries to discuss special development Issues of interest to their Governments in the light of the role played by foreign investment and other TNC activities.

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

(a) Missions were undertaken by two Joint Unit staff and a consultant to Cook Islands, Fiji, Guam, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu in connection with the survey on the activities of TNCs in the Pacific island countries;

(b) Missions were also undertaken by a project consultant to Hong Kong, Indonesia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Singapore to gather information and recruit country consultants for the project on the activities of TNCs based in developing countries;

(c) In connection with the project on the role of transnational trading corporations, the project expert undertook missions to India, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Samoa to gather data for analysis work on such corporations;

(d) Separate missions were undertaken by three project staff to Bangladesh, Hong Kong, India, Maldives, Nepal, the Philippines and Sri Lanka in connection with the Joint Unit's work in strengthening and improving its data base on foreign investment and TNC activities;

(e) Missions were undertaken by a regular staff member and two project staff to India, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Sri Lanka to interview company officials and gather data for the project on export processing zones. A mission was undertaken by a project staff member to Shenzhen Special Economic Zone, China, in connection with the project on export processing zones.

31. The following publications were produced or prepared for publication during the period under review: (a) "Proceedings of the *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Meeting on Transnational Corporations"; (b) "Proceedings of the Ministerial Round Table on Transnational Corporations and Developing Pacific Island Countries"; (c) *Asia-Pacific TNC Review*, January 1984; (d) *Technology Transfer through Transnational Corporations*; (e) *Technology Imported through Contractual Arrangements: a Case Study of Thailand*; (f) *Foreign Investment and Technology Transfer in the Republic of Korea*; (g) *Technology Transfer from TNCs in Malaysia*; (h) *Technology Transfer from TNCs in Sri Lanka*; (i) *Transnational Corporations and the Tea Industry of South Asia: Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka*; (j) *Transnational Corporations and the*

Copper Industry of Developing Countries: Chile, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Zaire and Zambia; (k) 'Transnational Corporations and the Cotton Industry of Selected Developing Countries: Mexico, Pakistan, Sudan and the United Republic of Tanzania; (l) Transnational Corporations and the Tea Export Industry of Sri Lanka; (m) Mining Taxation in the ESCAP Region: Review and Proposals for Reform; (n) Transnational Trading Corporations in Selected Asian and Pacific Countries; (o) Transnational Corporations and Transfer Pricing; a Case Study of the Pharmaceutical Industry of Thailand.

32. Studies on the following were completed during the period under review: (a) the cost of technology transfer and restrictive practices; (b) TNCs in Pacific island countries: a preliminary report; (c) transnational trading corporations in selected ESCAP member countries; (d) TNCs and transfer pricing in the pharmaceutical industry of Thailand; (e) the impact of TNCs on financial flows to and from host developing countries in the Asia and Pacific region; and (t) survey reports on TNCs in the Pacific island countries, covering Cook Islands, Fiji, Guam, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

33. The following studies were initiated during the period under review: (a) analysis of host country costs and benefits from the operations of TNCs in export processing zones; (b) TNCs based in developing Asian and Pacific countries; (c) the impact of transfer pricing practices on export earnings; (d) the harmonization of tax and other benefits offered by developing countries to TNCs; (e) technology acquisition and absorption in selected countries in the ESCAP region; (t) analysis of trading channels; and (g) monitoring and regulating TNCs in India.

34. The Joint Unit continued to collect, analyse and disseminate basic information on TNCs in the Asian and Pacific region. It established focal points in several ESCAP member countries so as to provide effective and efficient response to host country information needs as well as to provide direct communication links between the Joint Unit and the member countries on matters related to TNCs. Other activities were also initiated with regard to the development of national information systems on TNCs and the establishment of a regional Information network on TNCs. Information collected and analysed during the period included that on laws and regulations, trends in the activities of TNCs, selected industries and studies, individual corporations, and data and information sources. The Joint Unit also initiated work in strengthening its data base on foreign investment and TNCs by opening a loose-leaf information file with country statistics on foreign investment inflows and stocks and on regional investment data. A computerized bibliographic printout on the subject of TNCs compiled by the ESCAP Library was disseminated to focal point.

Committee on Industry , Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment

Industrial development

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

High-level Expert Group Meeting on industrialization , Bangkok, December 1983

ESCAP Preparatory Meeting of Ministers of Industry for the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO, Bangkok, March 1984

36. The High-level Expert Group Meeting on Industrialization was held as part of preparations for the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO, and to contribute to the preparation of the documentation for a regional meeting of ministers of industry of the ESCAP member countries.

37. The Group considered global industrialization issues and national and regional concerns. It noted that the region had inherent strength in terms of a large market and a variety of resources, skills and technology which could, with appropriate strategies and policies, make the region a centre of growth. It also suggested that economic and industrial development was mainly a matter of domestic policy and that growth with social justice should be the central focus in the revision of industrial strategies. In addition to those and other recommendations to be incorporated in the documentation for the ministerial meeting, the Group recommended that similar high-level meetings should be convened on a more regular basis to assist the ESCAP secretariat in resolving key problems of industrial development in the region.

38. The ESCAP Preparatory Meeting of Ministers of Industry for the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO formulated the regional position for that Conference. The Meeting also reviewed the secretariat's activities with regard to industrial development, in the light of the minimum programme adopted by the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Group of Ministers of Industry, held in 1981. It also provided further guidance to the secretariat on activities to which priorities should be attached.

39. In accordance with the recommendations of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment at its sixth and seventh sessions, as endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-ninth session, phase I of the regional review and appraisal of industrial progress was revised and expanded and the implementation of phase II was begun in co-operation with UNIDO.

40. Six studies {regional and subregional studies of capital goods industries and regional studies of iron and steel, petrochemical and other

chemical industries), financed by UNIDO, were completed and were to be discussed at a workshop meeting later in 1984.

41. The scope of activities of the "club" for industrial co-operation was expanded with the inclusion of more activities in respect of the least developed countries of the region, identification of regionally based joint projects involving the processing of raw materials for export, and work initiated in the Pacific subregion for the development of the shell button and jewellery processing industries. Other cooperative projects were being considered in consultation with other regional organizations such as the Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting and SPEC. Further projects were initiated regarding technical co-operation and energy use in industry through the publication of two further booklets, one on international project business and the other on energy saving actions, and through a pilot project on techniques and training for energy saving in small-scale industries. Consideration was given to additional projects to assess various modes of power to support village industry and to prepare, in collaboration with RCTT, a simple manual on rice-husk-ash cement production techniques.

42. With regard to the project on prime-mover industries, the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation was entrusted with the conduct of a detailed feasibility study of two industries; leather tanning and leather goods, and medicinal herbs processing. ESCAP provided advisory services on and financial assistance for the preparation of the report of that study. ESCAP would assist the Government of Bangladesh to find donors for the implementation of the projects. The Government of Samoa was considering the possibility of participating in the project. With that Government's agreement, a preliminary fact-finding mission would be undertaken during the first or second quarters of 1984.

43. In collaboration with the Government of Nepal and ESCAP, UNIDO held an investment promotion meeting in Nepal in March 1984. At the request of the Government, ESCAP provided advisory services on investment project preparation and financial assistance for a promotional tour of the Nepalese authorities.

44. The Asian and Pacific Tax and Investment Research Centre was inaugurated at Singapore in July 1983. The origins of that non-profit institution lay in a recommendation of seminars on foreign investment and tax administration which had been organized by the secretariat between 1974 and 1980.

45. An intergovernmental meeting on silk, was convened at Bangkok from 12-16 December 1983. There was active participation in the activities of the Governmental Consultation on Jute especially in matters pertaining to industrial processing of jute. A mission to India was carried out to identify possibilities of technical co-operation among the members of ANRPC for the

benefit of all the participants. On the basis of the mission's findings, a proposal for a joint project with the International Trade Division was prepared and submitted for extrabudgetary financing. ESCAP participated, in its capacity as associate agency, in a workshop on formulation of pesticides under the Regional Network for Production, Marketing and Control of Pesticides at New Delhi in February 1984. UNIDO was designated as the executing agency for that project.

46. During the last three quarters of 1983, the secretariat carried out survey missions for consultations with Governments and concerned institutions on small and medium-scale industry development programmes and policies in Bangladesh, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand. A report on the small and medium scale industry development programmes and policies on the basis of the findings of those missions was at the final stage of preparation.

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

(a) To Papua New Guinea, to study the problems and prospects of industrial development and to assist the Department of Industries Development in regard to policy and promotional aspects and in the preparation of its industry policies and strategies;

(b) To Nepal, to study and recommend policy and institutional measures for the development of the electronics industry;

(c) To Nepal, on project preparations in connection with the preparation of the investment promotion meeting.

48. The following publications and studies were issued or prepared by the Division: (a) Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, No. 19; (b) "Regional review and appraisal of industrial progress"; (c) "Main trends and issues in industrialization of the ESCAP region"; (d) "Industrialization in the developing ESCAP region in the 1980s: selected problems and issues".

Science and technology

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

UNIDO/ESCAP Symposium on Contracts for the Construction of Oil and Gas Pipelines, Jakarta, August-September 1983

Fourth Meeting of National Focal Points of the Regional Centre for Technology Transfer, Bangalore, India, October 1983

Technical Advisory Committee of the Regional Network for Agricultural

Machinery (eighth session), Peradeniya and Colombo, October 1983

High-level Expert Group Meeting on Technology for Development, Bangkok, December 1983

Governing Body of the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (sixth session), Los Banos, Philippines, December 1983

ESCAP/RCTT Regional Workshop on Management of Research and Development Institutes, Seoul, December 1983

Intergovernmental Meeting on Technology for Development, Bangkok, February 1984

50. The UNIDO/ESCAP Symposium on Contracts for the Construction of Oil and Gas Pipelines was organized in close co-operation with the Centre for Oil and Gas Development of Indonesia. It discussed contractual arrangements between national oil companies in developing countries and international pipeline - contractors for the construction of international off-shore and on-shore pipelines and reviewed current practices in those contracts in selected countries of the ESCAP region. The Symposium identified 10 matters of concern among national oil companies, consultants and contractors in the pipeline construction industry and discussed the transfer of technical know-how aspects, the development of local engineering capabilities, construction skills and the use of local materials and equipment in the construction of oil and gas pipelines. It recommended that ESCAP and UNIDO should prepare, in co-operation with relevant international professional organizations and other experts, a manual or guidelines on the preparation and negotiation of pipeline construction contracts.

51. The Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Centre for Technology Transfer reviewed the activities of the RCTT during 1982 and 1983 and discussed the work programme for 1984 and 1985 within the framework of the draft UNDP project RAS/82/T01, "Strengthening technological capabilities of developing countries of Asia and the Pacific".

52. The Technical Advisory Committee of RNAM reviewed the implementation of its work programme at the national and regional levels, and considered the progress of the activities under the six subprogrammes during 1983. It also indicated outlines for the 1984 work programme.

53. The Governing Body of RNAM, dealt with the programming and funding position of the project beyond 1984. It emphasized the importance of the regional project and urged the participating countries

to increase their contributions substantially for the third phase, due to commence in January 1985.

54. The High-level Expert Group Meeting on Technology for Development discussed the draft study on the theme for the fortieth session of the Commission prepared by the secretariat. The Meeting prepared a draft ESCAP plan of action on technology for development to be submitted to the Intergovernmental Meeting on Technology for Development and the Commission.

55. The ESCAP/RCTT Workshop on Management of Research and Development Institutes considered the role of industrial research and service institutes, with specific reference to carrying out multidisciplinary research and development activities readily accessible to a broad range of users within the developing countries. The Workshop dealt with the managerial aspects of such institutes, their role in encouraging industrial development, and problems related to their specific activities. It recommended measures for strengthening such institutes, in particular through regular training programmes, extension of services, and involvement in assessing decisions regarding the importation of technology. It also recommended that a manual or guidelines be prepared and a meeting be organized by ESCAP/RCTT to facilitate identification, planning and implementation of joint research and development projects and that ESCAP and other United Nations agencies should organize facilities for the exchange of experiences and for the examination of case studies with respect to the commercialization of research results. The Workshop called for a special programme for Pacific island countries in which training facilities should be provided for personnel in those countries and special attention should be given to the development of products of economic importance to them, such as coconut and allied products, tropical fruits and vegetables, and timber and allied products. It called upon the United Nations family of organizations to support and expand existing assistance programmes which could contribute to industrial research and development linkages, provide information sources and resources for dissemination regionally and subregionally, provide training programmes within the region at the undergraduate and later at the graduate level, and give advice to research and development centres.

56. In pursuance of the recommendations of the Seminar on the Development of Project Generation Capabilities and Consultancy Services, held at Jakarta in November 1981, and the UNIDO/ESCAP Expert Group Meeting on a Regional Programme for Development of Industrial Consultancy, held at Kuala Lumpur in January 1983, a draft project document for the establishment of a regional network for the development of industrial consultancy in the ESCAP region was prepared by UNIDO in close

co-operation with ESCAP and submitted to UNDP. The main objectives of the project were to organize and develop joint training programmes, to utilize existing institutions concerned with consultancy, to promote and develop an exchange of consultancy methodology and practices, to promote intercountry and inter-firm co-operation and to promote joint activities in industrial consultancy.

57. A questionnaire was sent to countries to collect data on the current status of the national standards bodies of the ESCAP member countries with regard to standardization and metrology.

58. Initial preparations were undertaken for a meeting of an ad hoc group of regional scientists and technologists to identify specific areas for regional co-operation in science and technology as a possible follow-up to the deliberations of the Commission at its fortieth session.

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

(a) To Thailand, on possibilities of collaboration with electronics companies from developed countries and ESCAP member countries, on manganese dioxide technology, on technology for the manufacture of plastic beehives, and on a technology transfer contract for machinery and equipment acquisition;

(b) To Nepal on technology sources in the manufacture of medicines from herbs;

(c) To China, on questions concerning contractual arrangements for offshore exploration and exploitation in the South China Sea;

(d) To China, on the negotiation and execution of joint ventures with foreign partners, by means of a mobile seminar in four cities in co-operation with the secretariat's International Trade Division;

(e) To Hong Kong, on technology transfer through international licensing, on claims and claims practice, and on the conditions of contract of the International Federation of Consulting Engineers.

60. The secretariat also provided support to training by actively participating in the TECHNONET ASIA Seminar on Analysis of Technology Transfer Opportunities, at Beijing; the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Expert Group Meeting on the New International Economic Order held at Vienna; the Oyez seminar at Venice on licensing aspects of major industrial projects; the EEC-ASEAN Seminar on Transfer of Technology and Socio-Economic Development at Bangkok; and the Seminar on Patent Licensing, organized by the Science Council of Singapore, the Australian Patent Office and the Licensing Executives Society of Australia and New Zealand at Singapore.

61. Activities with regard to post-harvest technology were concentrated on the problems faced by farmers in Thailand, particularly during the second paddy harvest season in the rainy months of June and July. Owing to a lack of drying facilities and the high moisture content of the paddy, farmers were compelled to sell the threshed grain, to middlemen at low prices. In the past, suggestions had been made to use kerosene-burning, husk-burning or other driers. Such techniques proved to be too expensive for the farmers. The post-harvest technology expert successfully carried out research at Kanchanaburi and developed a paddy drier of simple design which included a storage bin and a blower run by the engine of a power-tiller. No other source of energy was required. The moisture content of the paddy dried by that method was found to be satisfactory. The technology could be shared by farmers in other developing countries where similar conditions existed.

62. The following technical publications and studies were produced or finalized for publication during the period under review: (a) "Review of technology transfer activities in the ESCAP region"; (b) "linking Vienna to villages: recruiting a part of science and technology for development"; (c) "Survey of science and technology development in the ESCAP region in the context of the Vienna Programme of Action"; (d) "Management of industrial research and service institutes"; (e) "Technology for development"; (f) articles "Contractors beware!" and "Responsibility of the client for orders by his general contractor" for Asian Building and Construction Journal.

63. With the assistance of the Federal Republic of Germany a training manual on the choice and acquisition of technology for use in workshops and seminars in ESCAP developing countries was prepared. Preparations were begun for studies on patterns of science and technology policy and institutional framework and their linkages to industrial development, on the economic and social implications of technology development and transfer, and on criteria/methods for evaluating research and development for the selection of research and development projects and formulation of guidelines.

Human settlements

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

(a) A staff member visited the National Housing Authority, Bangkok, at the request of the Government of Thailand, to advise on national training courses in the management of land and other related activities;

(b) At the request of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), a staff member was sent to the Philippines as a member of

an expert group to advise on the feasibility of establishing a financial advisory institution for human settlements in Asia and the Pacific ;

(c) In response to a request for assistance from Pacific countries, a staff member participated in a three-member mission which visited several countries in the Pacific to determine the feasibility of establishing a subregional training centre in housing and building for the Pacific. The secretariat provided extensive support services, including administrative and liaison responsibilities for contacts with Governments and regional institutions.

65. The following technical publications and studies were produced or were under preparation: (a) "Human settlements training"; (b) "Human settlements information"; (c) "Integration of physical planning with economic and social planning in the ESCAP region"; (d) "Study and review of the human settlements situation in Asia and the Pacific", to be issued in two volumes, the first being a regional overview of the human settlements situation and the second consisting of country monographs; (e) Physical Profile of Cities in the ESCAP Region; (f) "Innovative approaches to help slum, squatter and rural households improve their dwellings"; (g) a human settlements atlas which was expected to be completed for publication in August 1984 and should consist of four sections: the regional level, the country level, the city and community level and a physical profile of the human settlements situation in the ESCAP region; and (h) "Improvement of slums and squatter settlements with emphasis on infrastructure and technologies".

66. During the period under review, ESCAP staff participated in several substantive activities which made significant contributions to the advancement of the objectives of the work programme. Those activities included: (a) the sixth session of the Commission on Human Settlements, at Helsinki in April-May 1983; (b) the International Council on Social Welfare Asia and Western Pacific Regional Conference on People: Focus of Development, at Bangkok in August 1983; (c) the rust meeting of the Non-Aligned Co-ordinators' Group on Housing, at Colombo in October 1983; (d) the Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research Regional Seminar on Modular Co-ordination, at Bangkok in November 1983; (e) the Habitat Expert Group Meeting on Upgrading Inner City Slums for the Benefit of Their Own Residents, at Bangkok in November 1983; and (f) the Asian Institute of Technology, Institute for Housing Studies (the Netherlands) and Centre for Housing and Human Settlements Studies (Thailand) tripartite International Seminar on Rural Settlements in Asia and the Pacific : Physical Development Issues and Options, at Bangkok in January-February 1984.

Environment

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

ESCAP/SACEP Symposium on Environmental Management of Mangrove, Coral and Island Ecosystems in South Asia, Dhaka, August 1983

Study Tour to Observe the Management of Arid and Semi-arid Lands, China, September 1983

Expert Group Meeting to Finalize the Coastal Environmental Management Plan for Sri Lanka, Colombo, January 1984

Expert Group Meeting to Finalize the Coastal Environmental Management Plan for Thailand, Bangkok, January 1984

Study Tour for Practical Training in Advanced Environmental Journalism, Bangladesh, January-February 1984

Regional Technical Workshop on the Management of Marine Environment and Related Ecosystems, Bangkok, February 1984

68. Technical inputs were provided to the following: (a) the National Seminar on Applied Social Sciences to Develop Environmental Quality, at Bangkok in September 1983; (b) the Workshop on the Process of Implementing Remote Sensing Technology for Economic Development, at Quezon City, the Philippines, in October 1983; (c) the Training Course on the Application of Remote Sensing Techniques to Mangrove Studies, at Bangkok in November 1983; (d) the National Workshop on Natural Resources and Environmental Management, at Hanoi in November 1983; (e) the National Media Workshop on Environment/Development, at Colombo in December 1983; (f) the Workshop on Environmental Policies in Face of Crisis, at Paris in January 1984.

69. The secretariat, in co-operation with SACEP, convened the Symposium on Environmental Management of Mangrove, Coral and Island Ecosystems in order to infuse the modern concept of environmental management supporting development, and to encourage the use of resources with due regard to the assimilative capacity of the environment. The Symposium adopted a number of resolutions on the formulation of projects concerning the management of the three ecosystems and identified a number of projects and activities at the regional and national levels.

70. In response to the recommendations of both the Committee and the Commission, the secretariat implemented action-oriented and country-specific activities. With a view to the protection of the marine environment, the secretariat, in co-operation with the authorities concerned in Sri Lanka, implemented

a project on the development of a coastal environmental management plan (CEMP) for the west coast of the island through a multidisciplinary team of national and expatriate experts. A meeting of experts was convened at Colombo to finalize the plan and make recommendations for follow-up action. A similar CEMP was developed for the inner sector of the Gulf of Thailand. A team of national and expatriate experts developed the plan which was discussed at a meeting of high-level experts held at Bangkok in January 1984.

71. Both CEMPs were presented for discussion as case studies at the Regional Technical Workshop on the Management of the Marine Environment and Related Ecosystems in February 1984, primarily to disseminate and exchange experiences on the matter among developing countries. The Technical Workshop discussed the state of the marine environment and related ecosystems, the utilization and management of marine resources and ecosystems, marine pollution and control, water-quality monitoring and assessment, environmental supporting measures, promotion of environmental awareness, training and requirements, and an integrated approach to marine environment protection and management.

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

(a) Environment missions to collect information on the state of the environment (SOE) as part of the preparation of the SOE report: Fiji, April 1983 ; Maldives, May 1983 ;

(b) Missions to Sri Lanka: for field work in connection with the development of CEMP, May-June 1983; to contribute to a media workshop on environment and development, December 1983; and to conduct the Expert Group Meeting to Finalize the Coastal Environment Plan for Sri Lanka, January 1984;

(c) A mission to Japan to finalize preparatory work for an expert group meeting on the incorporation of environmental considerations into the development planning process, August 1983 ;

(d) A mission to Bangladesh to contribute to a training seminar on geology, sedimentology, erosion and accretion, January 1984;

(e) A mission to London to contribute to the meeting of IMO Committee on Marine Environment Protection, December 1983 ;

(f) Missions to Paris: to discuss possible future co-operation; December 1983, and to finalize details of the contribution to the SOE report, January 1984.

73. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review: (a) "Environmental conditions and develop-

ment trends in Asia and the Pacific"; (b) "Implementation of the plan of action to combat desertification in the ESCAP region: background and assessment"; (c) *Problems and Prospects of Desertification Control in the ESCAP Region*; (d) "Technology for development: environmental aspects"; (e) "Strategies and policies of environmental management in the ESCAP region"; (f) "Integration of environmental considerations into development process"; (g) "Status of environmental legislation in the ESCAP region"; (h) "Status of institutional frameworks for environmental management"; (i) "International co-operation in the field of environment through institutional and legislative frameworks"; (j) ESCAP Environment News (four issues); (k) "Management of island ecosystems in South Asia"; (l) "Management of coral ecosystems in South Asia"; (m) "Management of mangrove ecosystems in the ESCAP region"; (n) "Training and fellowship requirements and facilities in the field of marine environment protection in the ESCAP region"; (j) "State of the marine environment and related ecosystems in Asia and the Pacific".

74. The secretariat continued to work to ensure the environmental soundness of the programme of the Commission and to strengthen national capabilities for incorporating environmental considerations into the development process, dealing with selected environmental problem areas, e.g. management of terrestrial ecosystems and protection of the marine environment.

75. In its effort to ensure the environmental soundness of the programme of the Commission, the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit continued to interact with the divisions and units of the secretariat. In particular, inputs were provided to: (a) the Development Planning Division for the Economic and Social Survey, 1983 and the Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific; (b) the Division of Industry, Human Settlements and Technology for the theme paper of the fortieth session of the Commission on "Technology for development"; (c) the Agriculture Division for the fifth session of the Committee on Agricultural Development with a report on the environmental aspects of agricultural development; and (d) the Population Division for a report on the integration of population, resources, environment and development.

Committee on Natural Resources

Energy resources

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

Workshop on Uniformity of Information Reporting for Biomethanation Systems, Bangkok, May 1983

ESCAP/RCTT Workshop on Co-generation of Electricity and Process Heat, Bangalore, India, June 1983

Study Tour to Observe the Use of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) as a Transport Fuel, New Zealand, August 1983

Study Tours on Coal Mining and Handling, Australia, November 1983, China, November -December 1983, and India, December 1983

Working Visit to Dendrothermal Systems, Manila, December 1983

Training Course on Power System Planning and Management, Bangalore, December 1983

Study Tour on Compressed Natural Gas, New Zealand, January-February 1984

Expert Group Meeting on Regional Coal Logistics, Bangkok, February 1984

77. The Workshop on Uniformity of Information Reporting for Biomethanation Systems discussed techniques and procedures for a uniform set of categories of information which would be used by the scientific and technical community to report the results of its work with biomethanation systems. The Workshop recommended a set of information categories for general use, and the formation of a task force by ESCAP and the Equity Policy Center to follow up on the recommendations of the Workshop. It also recommended that its report be circulated to recognized experts and professional organizations for comment.

78. The Workshop on Co-generation of Electricity and Process Heat discussed strategies for promoting co-generation through regional co-operation, including institutional and fiscal measures. It recommended that an information support activity be established by ESCAP to analyse co-generation schemes and to render information on available equipment to member countries. Consultancies should be made available by the proposed centre on the basis of TCDC. The idea of a trade fair should be investigated. A follow-up meeting is to be organized in about two years which would concentrate on raising the awareness of middle-level managers for implementing co-generation schemes.

79. The Study Tour to Observe the Use of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) as a Transport Fuel provided first-hand information on such use of CNG in New Zealand to participants who might wish to adopt that mature technology in the design of similar programmes within their own countries. Various points emerged from the activities of the Study Tour. An ideal training programme would invite, an experienced New Zealand CNG mechanic to the country wishing to use CNG technology to appraise the state of the industry. Good publicity was essential for informing people about the CNG option. Policy designs must be clear and consistent.

One possible application was the use of CNG sparkignition engines in trucks to replace diesel engines.

80. The Study Tour on Coal Mining and Handling provided an opportunity to observe coal mining and handling operations based on different levels of technologies and different scales of operation in three different countries: small-scale coal mining in China, medium- and large-scale operations using a moderate level of technology in India, and large-scale operations using fairly sophisticated technologies in Australia.

81. The Working Visit to Dendrothermal Systems in the Philippines provided participants with enough background information to enable them to analyse more effectively their respective national situation and potential for developing biomass programmes that would support the development of dendrothermal systems producing energy.

82. The Training Course on Power System Planning and Management exposed participants to modern methods of power system planning and management and provided opportunities for field observations of some power stations, load dispatch centres and power equipment manufacturing industries in India.

83. The Expert Group Meeting on Regional Coal Logistics discussed the future pattern of international trade and transportation in the ESCAP region and its implications in terms of, among other things, infrastructure requirements, transport logistics, trade volumes and balance of payments effects, on the basis of an ESCAP study on the logistics for emerging trading patterns in coal in the Asian and Pacific region.

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

(a) A consultant on energy planning visited Nepal and the Republic of Korea in order to render advisory services on the institutional framework of energy planning ;

(b) A consulting team visited Maldives to render advisory services on energy resource assessment and evaluation, and on the efficient use of energy in industries;

(c) A consulting team visited selected member countries in order to secure their active involvement in the preparations for the regional consultative meeting for the mobilization of financial resources for new and renewable sources of energy via project identification.

85. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review: (a) Proceedings of the Committee on Natural Resources, Eighth Session, and of the Regional Expert Group Meeting on the Follow-up of the Nairobi Programme of Action on New and Renewable Sources of Energy (Energy Resources Development Series, No.25); (b)

Fuels for the Transport Sector: Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) (Energy Resources Development Series, No.26); (c) Proceedings of the Workshop on Co-generation of Electricity and Process Heat.

86. As one activity in the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, the Regional Network for Biomass, Solar and Wind Energy was established in October 1983. In the early stages of the project, information on those forms of energy had been collected, analysed and disseminated to member countries in the region through ESCAP's Energy News. The News was published twice during the period under review. Another aim of the project was to provide consultancy services to member countries upon request. Missions were conducted to six countries. Mineral resources

87. Work on stratigraphic correlation between sedimentary basins of the ESCAP region continued under the subprogramme on the appraisal of geology, and of occurrence and development of mineral resources. The fourth volume of the ESCAP Atlas of Stratigraphy, containing contributions from China on II of its sedimentary basins and from the Republic of Korea, was edited and processed. A subproject on coal in the region was initiated based on a detailed questionnaire on various aspects of coal deposits, their origin and type, estimated reserves and utilization.

88. Compilation of geological and thematic maps continued with the final draft of the third edition of the Oil and Natural Gas Map of Asia complete except for the transfer of significant geologic and tectonic elements. The Gravity Anomaly Map of the Eastern ESCAP Region depicting Bouguer anomalies on land and free-air anomalies offshore was in press.

89. For the subprogramme on the promotion of investigation and development of mineral resources, the secretariat continued to provide technical and administrative assistance to the regional mineral resource development projects, RMRDC, SEATRDC, CCOP, and CCOP/SOPAC and to the regional remote sensing programme.

90. the Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on the Establishment of a Co-operation Mechanism in the Field of Offshore Exploration and Prospecting for Mineral Resources in the Indian Ocean, at Bangkok in January 1983, the secretariat forwarded the report and recommendations of the Expert Group with a covering letter and attached questionnaire to the Governments of Bangladesh, India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka for their attention and comments. Five Governments indicated that they were examining the proposal whilst one Government advised that it was not currently interested

in participation in the proposed mechanism. It was the intention that the mechanism would engage in activities in the offshore areas of the Indian Ocean similar to those of CCOP in the offshore areas of East Asia.

Water resources

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

Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific (eleventh session), Bangkok, July 1983 and (twelfth session) Bangkok, January 1984

Seminar on the Principles of Flood Plain Management for Flood Loss Prevention, Bangkok, October 1983

92. The Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific considered further action that required to be taken concerning two projects, the accelerated local manufacture of hand pumps for rural water supply and the regional network for training in water resource development. It was agreed that the members would seek donors for the former, while ILO would assist ESCAP in eliciting responses from countries to the questionnaire on country training requirements in water resource development.

93. The Seminar on the Principles of Flood Plain Management for Flood Loss Prevention discussed the technical, economic, legal and institutional aspects of the subject and their applicability to countries in the region. In addition to the recommendations for national action, the Seminar recommended that international organizations concerned should support national governments in their efforts to implement programmes on flood plain management and should foster exchange of experience among countries of the region.

94. At its tenth session held at Dhaka, the WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones reviewed the cyclones in 1982 and the tripartite Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO)/WMO/League of Red Cross Societies (LRCS) mission report on disaster prevention and preparedness. It also discussed its work programme and revised its budget for the coming years. It considered the proposed Bay of Bengal storm surge project and recommended its early implementation.

95. The secretariat participated in the Working Group on Programme Planning which formulated a draft medium- to long-term programme for the Typhoon Committee covering the period 1984 to 1992.

96. With financial and technical support from the Government of Japan, a roving mission of three experts was organized by ESCAP to assist Typhoon

Committee members in the improvement of their systems of typhoon and flood damage data collection. The mission visited Hong Kong, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam. In addition, one day seminars were conducted by the mission in those places.

97. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review: (a) "Multidisciplinary and systems approach to integrated river basin development"; (b) "Water as a factor in energy resources development"; (c) "Assessment and consideration of irrigation efficiency in the irrigated areas of the ESCAP region"; (d) "Measures to reduce the cost of rural water supply"; (e) "Measures to reduce the cost of urban waste disposal facilities"; (f) "Low-cost water treatment processes and equipment"; (g) "Low-cost wastewater treatment processes and equipment"; (h) "Water quality management in the ESCAP region"; and (i) Proceedings of the Seminar on the Improvement of Irrigation Performance at the Project Level (Water Resources Series, No.56).

98. Four issues of the quarterly Water Resources Journal were prepared for publication. The distribution list for it was reviewed and updated.

99. Two issues of the semi-annual newsletter Confluence, an information exchange system on water resource development in which 20 institutions from 17 countries participate, were prepared for publication.

100. The secretariat circulated a questionnaire on the establishment of a regional network for training in water resource development to all members of the ESCAP region. Returns received from 24 countries indicated a large demand for training particularly in water supply and sanitation in the Pacific island countries.

101. A two-member roving mission on the establishment of a cyclone council for the South Pacific was mounted jointly by ESCAP and WMO from October to December 1983 to explore with the Governments concerned in the subregion their requirements both as regards the need for and structure of the proposed body and the scope of its work.

Committee on Population

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

Workshop-cum-Study Directors' Meeting on the Impact and Efficiency of the Family Planning Programme, Rangsit, Thailand, August 1983

Study Directors' Meeting on the Study of the Fertility Levels and Trends in the Countries of the ESCAP Region Using the Census Data of 1970 and 1980, Pattaya, Thailand, September 1983

Regional Seminar on Multivariate Analysis of Nuptiality and Fertility from World Fertility Survey Data for Selected ESCAP Countries, Chiang Mai, Thailand, November 1983

Third Study Directors' Meeting on the Study of the Relationship between Fertility Behaviour and Size, Structure and Functions of the Family, Chiang Mai, February 1984

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

(a) To Nepal, on the completion of the analysis of the 1981 census post-enumeration survey, and on a contraceptive prevalence survey;

(b) To Thailand, through a course of lectures in demographic analysis to post-graduate students at the National Institute of Development Administration, and a course of lectures on programmatic research, and on the development of research proposals, to the Department of Technical and Economic Co-operation and the Department of Health, and in the preparation of cross-tabulation plans for the multipurpose house-hold sample survey to the National Statistical Office;

(c) To the Republic of Korea, on the tabulation and analysis of the national migration survey and with regard to the implementation of the study on the impact and efficiency of the family planning programme;

(d) To Brunei, China, Fiji, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam, on activities relating to population analysis and projections and in-country training courses conducted by the adviser on demographic analysis and projections provided to ESCAP on a non reimbursable-loan basis by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

(e) To Viet Nam, on planning, organizing, conducting and evaluating an in-country training course on the analysis of mortality and fertility data for 27 professionals, on curriculum development for a follow-up training course on the same subject conducted by Vietnamese teachers, and on the form of project formulation for the 1984-1987 programme cycle of UNFPA, and through a three-week in-country training programme in demographic analysis for the staff of the Population Documentation and Information Centre, Hanoi;

(f) To Afghanistan, on preparing a work plan for the UNFPA A project on post-census communications -demographic data utilization, and on organizing an inter-ministerial seminar on the dissemination of the results of the first national census in the context of development planning of the country;

(g) To member Governments, through the provision of 15 fellowships to 11 member countries, 5 for the diploma and 10 for the certificate in population

studies courses, at the International Institute for Population Studies, Bombay, India, during the academic year 1983/84;

(h) To Bangladesh, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand, with regard to implementation of the study on the relationship between fertility behaviour and size, structure and functions of the family;

(i) To Indonesia and Malaysia, on the implementation of the study on the fertility levels and trends in the countries of the ESCAP region using the census data from 1970 and 1980;

(j) To Bangladesh, China, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam, on the establishment and/or development of national population information centres and clearing-houses ;

(k) In the form of training workshops for information managers and documentalists through an in-service training programme for the development of population information centres, for computerization of population information, and for audio-visual production techniques for participants from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam;

(l) To China, through a three-week in country training programme in population information management and networking for staff of the China Population Information Centre and other provincial centres, and through a three-week lecture-cum-consultancy on population information analysis, both held at Beijing;

(m) To China and Viet Nam, on project formulation for the further development of national population information centres and the establishment of national population information networks during the second cycle of UNFPA country programme funding;

(n) Technical assistance in the form of nine third-country fellowships in population information management and computerization of population information for staff of national population centres in China and Viet Nam.

104. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review: (a) Integration of Population, Resources, Environment and Development: Experiences in the ESCAP Region,. (b) Demographic Estimates for Asian and Pacific Countries 1983,. (c) Population of Cook Islands (Country monograph series, No.7); (d) Population of Australia (Country monograph series, No.9); (e) Population of India (Country monograph series, No.10); (f) Prospectus on the Use of Census Data for Measuring the Fertility of Small Geographical Areas,. (g) Migration, Urbanization and Development in Thailand (Country report, No. V).

105. The following ongoing publications were issued or were with printers during period under review: Asian-Pacific Population Programme News, vol. 12, Nos. 2 to 4 and vol. 13, No.1; Population Headliners, Nos. 98 to 109; Asian-Pacific and World-wide Documents on Population Topics (ADOPT), vol. 5, Nos. 5 to 12, and vol. 6, Nos. 1 to 4; Inventory of Selected Local Family Planning Programme Experiences in Countries of the ESCAP Region, No.5; ESCAP Population Bibliographic Series, No.4 -Migration in Asia and the Pacific; Population Studies Translation Series, No.5 -Fertility of marriages in France from 1946 to 1964; Population Research Leads, Nos. 13 to 16; List of ESCAP Population Publications 1983.

106. The following studies were undertaken: (a) demographic, economic interrelationship for selected ESCAP countries; (b) estimation and analysis of mortality statistics; (c) two reports, on the relationship between infant mortality and contraceptive practice, and on women's work and fertility, as part of the minimum research programme for comparative analysis of the World Fertility Survey data of the Population Division of the United Nations Headquarters Department of International Economic and Social Affairs; (d) study on the relationship between fertility behaviour and size, structure and functions of the family; (e) study on the fertility levels and trends in the countries of the ESCAP region; (f) study on the impact and efficiency of the family planning programme; (g) survey of population information centres in the region; and (h) development of a data bank collection of the 1980/81 round of censuses.

Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications

Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing

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

FASC Seminar on Freight Rate Making, Bangkok, May 1983

Seminar on Port Containerization for Pacific Island Countries, Suva, May 1983

Workshop on Shipping Policy, Shanghai, China, May 1983

Seminar on Dredging, Wuhan, China, June 1983

Seminar on Inland Waterways, France, June-July 1983

Country-level workshops on shipping statistics, Manila, July 1983; Jakarta, July 1983; Kuala Lumpur, July 1983; Singapore, August 1983; Bangkok, August 1983

Country-level workshop on calculation of ocean transport costs, New Delhi, September 1983

Seminar on Seafarers' Training and Certification, Tokyo and Kobe, October 1983

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Coastal Shipping, Japan, October 1983

Workshop on the Port Management Information System Package, Kuala Lumpur, October 1983

Country-level Seminar on Planned Maintenance of Port Equipment, Shanghai, October-November 1983

Country-level workshops on containerization and the port management information system, Manila, November 1983; Bangkok, November 1983; Jakarta, January 1984

Workshop on the Port Environment of Shippers and Containerization, Calcutta, India, December 1983

Seminar on Management of the Dredging Industry, Shanghai, December 1983

Regional Workshop on the Implications of the United Nations liner Code for Maritime Parties in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, March 1984

UNIDO/ESCAP Expert Group on Shipbuilding and Shiprepair Development for Asian and Pacific Countries, Jakarta, March 1984

Country-level Workshop on Maritime Law for Managers, Shanghai, April 1984

Seminar on Freight Forwarding, Beijing, April 1984

Meeting of Experts on the Application of Wind-power in Shipping, Tokyo, April 1984

108. The secretariat continued to give high priority to manpower development which is seen as an important element in the efforts to achieve self-reliance. That was to keep pace with the requirements of developments in maritime technology. A series of seminars, workshops and study tours were organized on shipping, shippers' co-operation, ports, inland waterways and dredging.

109. With regard to shippers' co-operation, workshops were organized with a view of transferring knowledge and skills to the personnel of shippers' organizations on such subjects as freight rate making, shipping policy, the calculation of ocean transport, costs, port environment of shippers, maritime law and freight forwarding.

110. The Seminar on Port Containerization for Pacific Island Countries requested ESCAP to provide more assistance to the ports of the subregion in the form of training opportunities and technical advisory services.

111. The purpose of the country-level Seminar on Dredging held in China was to exchange views

and experience on the latest developments in dredging. The main subjects of discussions at the Seminar dealt with site investigations for dredging projects, dredging plant and its characteristics, and the dredging process, contracts and costs.

112. The participants in the Seminar on Inland Waterways in France unanimously recommended that the French Government and Agence pour la coopération technique, industrielle et économique consider sponsoring such seminars on a continuing basis on specific topics to meet part of the critical needs of the developing countries of the ESCAP region.

113. A series of country-level workshops on shipping statistics was organized in ASEAN countries dealing with the collection, compilation and production of shipping statistics. The workshops provided a forum and opportunity to secure closer co-operation among various agencies, departments and organizations involved in the production, supply and use of shipping statistics.

114. The participants in the Seminar on Seafarers' Training and Certification recommended, among other things, that a study group be formed to make recommendations on the training for certification of seafarers in future ships, that a regional association be formed by the heads of maritime training institutions of the region and that the secretariat prepare a questionnaire on training facilities which could be made available to other countries for training purposes.

115. At the Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Coastal Shipping, the participants requested the secretariat to organize training workshops on specific issues relating to coastal/inter-island shipping, continue shippers' co-operation activities concerning close co-operation between shippers and shipowners, and compile broad guidelines on coastal/inter-island shipping.

116. The model port management information system, based on management by quantified objectives, delegation of responsibility and tailoring of information to actual needs, was implemented at Port Kelang, Malaysia. A regional workshop was organized in Malaysia followed by a series of country-level workshops in other ASEAN countries with a view to applying the model.

117. The Seminar on Management of the Dredging Industry was designed to bring out the latest developments in dredging, planning techniques, cost effectiveness and management options.

118. The Regional Workshop on the Implications of the United Nations Liner Code for Maritime Parties in the ESCAP Region was designed to enable the participants to obtain a good grasp of the implications affecting their respective interests.

119. The secretariat participated in the following meetings: World Dredging Congress 1983, April 1983;

the ILO Seminar for Senior Government Officials from Asian Countries on Maritime Labour Standards, Bangkok, September 1983; the eighth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Association (FASA), Jakarta, June 1983; the Federation of ASEAN Shippers' Councils (FASC) annual meeting, Manila, July 1983; MARINTECCHINA '83, Shanghai, October 1983; the ninth annual meeting of the ASEAN Port Authorities' Association, Singapore, December 1983; the ninth FASA General Meeting, December 1983; and the Seminar on Training of Trainers for Seafarers' Academies of ASEAN countries, Malacca, Malaysia, March 1984.

120. The following advisory services were provided during the period under review:

(a) To China, on upgrading syllabuses and courses on shipping management and in providing lecturers to the Shanghai Maritime Institute (SMI); in connection with donations of training and computer equipment and technical books by Japan, Norway and the United States of America through ESCAP to SMI; on maritime legislation; and on site and cost problems in dredging;

(b) To the Philippines, on the drafting of national maritime legislation; on parameters for standard evaluation procedures and criteria for allocating priorities in future port programmes; on hydrographic survey methodology; and on the domestic container terminal at the Port of Manila;

(c) To Bangladesh, on shippers' council; on cargo consolidation; on shore protection; and on a hydraulic model study and planning of the Port of Chittagong;

(d) To the Association of Shippers' Councils of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, on the establishment of joint freight booking and chartering;

(e) To Papua New Guinea, on strengthening the shippers' council;

(f) To Samoa, on the siltation problem and desirability of relocation of the Port of Apia ;

(g) To Thailand, on management of Tha Thong Port in Surat Thani ; on management and capability upgrading of dredging at the Port of Bangkok; and on the container terminal at the Port of Bangkok;

(h) To Malaysia, on the port management information system; and on siltation and dredging at the Port of Penang;

(i) To Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka, to assess the applicability of long-tail boats in those countries and on development of inland water transport ;

(j) To Maldives, on upgrading dredging technology (phase II).

121. Fellowships were provided to Fiji and Papua New Guinea for training in port engineering in New Zealand.

122. Studies/surveys were undertaken on ship-building and shiprepair in co-operation with UNIDO; on maritime training institutes in ASEAN countries in co-operation with EEC; on ASEAN/EEC trade and shipping; on the development of containerization in ASEAN countries ; on inland water transport in Nepal in an integrated transport project; on statistics and data information systems of inland water transport and waterways; on low-cost dredging technology; on maritime laws of the Philippines; on the development of fuel cost saving measures in shipping; on technology for development; and on the proposed transport and communications decade for Asia and Pacific.

123. The following technical publications were produced or prepared for publications during the period under review: (a) Review of the Developments on Fuel Cost Saving Measures in Shipping; (b) Handbook of International Containerization; (c) Report and Technical Paper on Shipping Statistics held in ASEAN Capitals; (d) Proceedings of the Seminar on Port Development Policy, 25-28 January 1983, Bangkok; (e) Proceedings of the Seminar on Seafarers' Training and Certification, 3-7 October 1983, Tokyo/Kobe, Japan; (f) Proceedings of the Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Coastal Shipping, 11-16 October 1983; (g) Proceedings of the Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Inland Waterway Terminals and Landing Facilities, 16-28 December 1982. China; (h) Planned Maintenance for Port Equipment. Transport, Communications and Tourism Wing

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

Regional Seminar on Planning and Operations in the Telecommunications Sector, Bangkok, May 1983

Seminar/Symposium on the Post in the 1980s, Bangkok, May-June 1983

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Urban Public Transportation, with Emphasis on Integration and Co-ordination of Various Modes of Transport, Belgium, June-July 1983

Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group (first session), Bangkok, July 1983, (second session), Bangkok, March 1984

Expert Meeting on Energy Audit in the Transport Sector, Bangkok, July-August 1983

Workshop on Economic Impact Analysis for Tourism Policy Orientation, Bangkok, August 1983

Seminar-cum-Study Tour -on Rural Road Construction and Maintenance, China, September 1983

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Upgrading of Operational Efficiency of Railway Transport, China, September 1983

Seminar on the Promotion of International Air-freight Transport at International Airports of South-East Asia and the Pacific, Frankfurt-am-Main, Federal Republic of Germany, September 1983

Seminar on Organization and Mechanization of Postal Services, Riga, USSR, October 1983

Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Group Meeting in Preparation for a Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994, first session, Bangkok, October 1983; second session, Bangkok, January 1984

ESCAP/Customs Co-operation Council (CCC) Seminar on the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (Kyoto Convention 1973), Bangkok, November 1983

125. The Regional Seminar on Planning and Operations in the Telecommunications Sector was jointly organized by ESCAP and the Economic Development Institute of the World Bank. The topics covered included social and economic needs with regard to telecommunication facilities, sector organization and management, supply and demand forecasting, project evaluation, technological considerations, investment costs, tariff, financial organization, staff training and management planning.

126. The Seminar/Symposium on the Post in the 1980s, organized by ESCAP in co-operation with UPU and the Asian-Pacific Postal Union, discussed the following topics: the role of the post in economic and social development; review of management, organizational and operational problems of the post; financial and agency functions of the post; and future trends in postal services. The Seminar/Symposium also formulated strategies for the regional development of the post in the 1980s. The Seminar on Organization and Mechanization of Postal Services, organized in co-operation with UPU, discussed future trends in mechanization of postal services and those related to the experience of the USSR such as mechanization and automation of postal counter operations, mechanization of heavy mail handling, organization of container services for mail transportation, and principles of organization and deposition of the postal network in the Soviet Union.

127. The Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Urban Public Transportation, with Emphasis on Integration and Co-ordination of Various Modes of Transport,

convened in co-operation with the Belgian Government, provided an opportunity for participants from developing countries to discuss means for resolving the problems of urban congestion. The theoretical aspect of the problems were dealt with through lectures, discussions and on-site observation.

128. The first meeting of the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group (APRCG) was convened to formulate the Group's rules of procedures and management. It set up four subgroups to undertake specific functions which were selected for initial action from among the seven approved functions of APRCG. It also considered the framework of its work programme and the plans of work for the subgroups.

129. The Expert Meeting on Energy Audits in the Transport Sector provided a forum for an exchange of experiences and views among participants from developing and developed countries as well as from international and regional organizations on all the relevant issues with a direct impact on the pattern and efficiency of energy used in transport. In particular, it discussed the problems of energy conservation measures already implemented and monitored. Consideration was given to problems of how, to what extent and in which areas of transport energy auditing methodologies had to be developed and could be usefully applied. The Meeting also assisted in the identification of potential areas in which transport energy, and in particular petroleum-based energy, could be saved.

130. The Workshop on Economic Impact Analysis for Tourism Policy Orientation was attended by researchers with practical experience in the economic impact analysis of tourism through input-output analysis as well as by planners from national tourism and planning agencies. Based on their practical experience in tourism research and development, research methodologies were discussed. The Workshop felt that comprehensive information about tourism development projects needed to be compiled and provided to international funding agencies and aid-giving countries to facilitate financing and aid. To meet such requirements, it defined the framework of an intercountry research programme to be carried out by ESCAP.

131. The Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Rural Road Construction and Maintenance, organized by ESCAP in co-operation with the Government of China, provided opportunities to the officials of the participating countries to acquaint themselves with the various techniques and technologies in use in China in rural road and bridge construction and maintenance and to identify possible areas of technology transfer. It also provided a forum for an exchange of views and experiences among the participants, who were mostly senior officials dealing with rural roads, and with specialists from the Government of China and ILO. The Seminar

included study tours and field visits to a number of rural road and bridge projects.

132. The Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Upgrading of Operational Efficiency of Railway Transport, organized by ESCAP in co-operation with the Government of China, discussed the organization of freight train running, the rationalization of wagon handling and utilization, measures to increase the carrying capacity of rolling stock and track, and modernization of railway transport management.

133. The Seminar on the Promotion of International Airfreight Transport at International Airports of South-East Asia and the Pacific, co-sponsored by ESCAP and the Frankfurt Airport Authority, aimed at creating a greater awareness of the utilization of air cargo as an independent transport activity. It endeavoured to provide solutions to air cargo transport and logistic problems with regard to infrastructure, aircraft and operations. It also discussed the transport problems of the land-locked and island countries of the ESCAP region. It disseminated detailed information on trade relations between Europe on one hand and Asia and the Pacific on the other, the current status of airfreight transport between the two regions and the trends of future developments of the air transport industry as a whole.

134. The first Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Group Meeting in Preparation for a Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994, was convened in pursuance of the Commission's resolution 234 (XXXIX). It formulated a framework for a phased programme of action for the proposed decade, identifying goals, the scope of programming, a mechanism for implementation and a financial plan for the decade.

135. The second Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Group Meeting finalized the objectives and strategy, the phased programme of action, the organizational arrangements and the financial implications for the proposed decade. It recommended that the Executive Secretary present its findings to the fortieth session of the Commission for the proclamation of a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994.

136. The ESCAP/CCC Seminar on the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedure (Kyoto Convention, 1973) was convened to generate awareness of the merits of the Convention among the regional countries, to inform them of the benefits they would derive by its application and to acquaint them with the steps necessary in applying the Convention in their international trade. The Seminar formulated recommendations reflecting the needs and requirements of regional countries and urged them to consider those recommendations at the earliest possible date. It requested the secretariat to intensify its effort to assist the countries, where requested, to implement those recommendations.

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

(a) Roving mission of railway experts to the State Railways of Thailand to advise on rehabilitation of railway tunnels;

(b) Assistance in the organization of a meeting of ministers responsible for the railways of Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka at Nuwala Elya, Sri Lanka;

(c) A mission of air transport specialists to Nepal, Papua New Guinea and Thailand to identify critical problems in airfreight development and suggest suitable measures for possible adoption by the countries concerned;

(d) Advisory services to the Thai Transport Company on bus franchise management, maintenance facility and staff training.

138. The following reports and studies were produced during the period under review: (a) "General review of the railways of the ESCAP region, including a review of operational efficiency"; (b) "Report of the study on excessive rail wear and derailment in Bangladesh, Malaysia and Thailand"; (c) "Report of the study on electrification of the Bangkok-Chiang Mai main line of State Railways of Thailand"; (d) "Report of the study on modernization of freight transport equipment and technology to be used for handling unitized commodities at freight yards"; (e) "Objectives and progress of the projects of the Trans-Asian Railway network and Asian Railway master plan"; (f) "The inland transport of containers, and pilot studies in Malaysia, Nepal and Thailand"; (g) "How a railway management can attract investment to its business"; (h) "Public and revenue financing of railways"; (i) "Review of trends in the development of the Asian Highway and other roads and road transport in the ESCAP region"; (j) "Report on a study relating to maximum weights and dimensions and minimum safety devices of vehicles plying the Asian Highway"; (k) "A study on alternative sources of energy for road transport"; (l) "Study of the cost benefit aspects of containerization in relation to surface transport"; (m) Guidelines for inter-country harmonization for (i) measurement of economic impact of tourism by input-output analysis; and (ii) application of input-output analysis on tourism policy formulation.

139. The following publications were issued: (a) *Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*, No.56; (b) *Improvement Potential of Non-motorized Transport*.

Committee on Social Development

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

Intergovernmental Meeting on Health and Development, Bangkok, June 1983

Sixth Regional Seminar on Basic Community Services through Primary Health Care, Seoul, July-August 1983

Regional Non-governmental Meeting Devoted to the International Youth Year, Bangkok, July 1983

Regional Preparatory Meeting for the International Youth Year, Bangkok, July 1983

National Training Workshop on Youth and Community Development, Bhutan, August-September 1983

Fourth Course on Planning, Development and Health, Bangkok and Manila, September-November 1983

Workshop on Youth and Social Problems in South and South-East Asia, Bangkok, October 1983

Programme for Youth Development -Field Study for Youth Workers/leaders of Youth and Community Development Programmes, Japan and Republic of Korea, October 1983

Expert Group Meeting on Social Development Manpower Planning, Bangkok, October 1983

Expert Group Meeting on Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, Bangkok, November-December 1983

Rural Youth Training Programme on the Development and Management of Rural and Community Development Projects, Nepal, January 1984

Ninth Asian-Pacific Youth Forum for Community Development, Bangladesh, January 1984

Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Tokyo, March 1984

141. The Intergovernmental Meeting on Health and Development was convened by ESCAP in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF in response to the Commission's resolution 228 (XXXVIII) on the role of health in an integrated approach to accelerating development and improving the quality of life of the poor. The Meeting advised the secretariat on ways to strengthen and co-ordinate its health-related activities so as to make an impact on the personal health of the poor. In doing so, it called, in particular, for flexible co-ordination with WHO and UNICEF to evolve policy guidelines for intersectoral strategies, for transfer of health-related

technologies among member countries and for the strengthening of training activities for development planners.

142. The various training programmes, workshops, field studies and attachments in youth development held were aimed at enhancing the skills of youth leaders, workers and young university graduates in organizing youth groups and in planning and managing youth and community development programmes. The courses also served to facilitate the exchange of ideas, experiences and methodologies with regard to youth work and training among the participants. Besides member Governments, many non-governmental organizations (NGOs), especially the World Council of Churches, provided financial assistance and personnel in support of ESCAP in its programme on the mobilization of youth for national development.

143. The Sixth Regional Seminar on Basic Community Services through Primary Health Care, organized in co-operation with UNICEF, provided participants with training in skills to identify community needs, to plan and implement community activities, and to monitor and evaluate such activities. The Seminar focused on basic services and primary health care in relation to community mobilization in approaching the goal of "Health for all by the year 2000". The series of seminars was initiated in 1978 and 156 participants from 29 countries had been trained for an average period of six weeks by the end of the Sixth Seminar.

144. In recognition of the important role of NGOs in promoting the mobilization of youth for national development, ESCAP, in collaboration with various leading NGOs involved in youth work in the region, convened the Regional Non-governmental Meeting Devoted to the International Youth Year (IVY). The Meeting discussed modalities for more meaningful co-operation between the non-governmental sector and government agencies in developing and implementing programmes for youth and made specific recommendations pertaining to the contribution of NGOs to the implementation of the regional plan of action for IVY and beyond.

145. The Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the International Youth Year was convened jointly with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA) in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/28 and Commission resolution 223 (XXXVIII). The Meeting reviewed and assessed the situation of youth in the Asian and Pacific region, evaluated current policies and programmes for youth development, and formulated a regional plan of action for IVY and beyond.

146. The Fourth Course on Planning, Development and Health, held in collaboration with the Royal Tropical Institute of the Netherlands, focused

on the relationship between health and development and aimed to strengthen planning capacities in an intersectoral setting. The course ended a four-year cycle of courses under which 102 participants from 19 countries were trained for a period of 10 weeks per course.

147. The Expert Group Meeting on Social Development Manpower Planning was held to evolve a conceptual and operational framework and a strategy for social development manpower planning, development and utilization as an integral part of overall national manpower planning and of balanced national development. The framework and strategy recommended by the Meeting emphasized the importance of intersectoral qualifications for all development personnel, from policy makers and planners to field workers; of identifying or creating local human resources and transforming the disadvantaged population groups themselves, such as the poor, into human resources for their own socio-economic development.

148. The Expert Group Meeting on Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women was convened in co-operation with CSDHA as part of ESCAP's preparations for the Regional Intergovernmental Pre-paratory Meeting for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women. The Meeting identified major obstacles encountered in the implementation of the World and Regional Programmes of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women and formulated post-Decade strategies for consideration by the Intergovernmental Meeting. The proposed strategies emphasized a closer linkage between women's goals and the goals of overall national development, the fuller participation of women in the economy and in politics, the application of science and technology for the advancement of women, and concerted efforts to overcome the still deeply entrenched socio-cultural barriers to women's participation.

149. The Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women was convened by ESCAP and hosted by the Government of Japan. The objectives of the Meeting were to review and appraise the changes, if any, in the situation of women in terms of the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace; to evaluate, in depth, the progress made and the obstacles encountered in the integration of women in development; and to formulate post-Decade regional action strategies for the advancement of women towards the year 2000. The report of the Meeting will form an important input to the deliberations of the World Conference to be convened at Nairobi in 1985.

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

(a) Advisory services in training and education for social development were provided to: Guam, to review and upgrade the social work curriculum of the University of Guam and to evaluate the needs, services and programmes of various government offices and NGOs, including the Department of Public Health and Social Services, the Bureau of Planning and the Guam Association of Social Workers; Mongolia, to identify areas where provision of technical assistance from ESCAP would be most needed; China, to explore various areas for possible social development activities particularly with regard to human resource development; Indonesia, to review the programmes and strengthen the development of the Department of Social Welfare, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, University of Indonesia and of five other schools of social work; Afghanistan, to provide conceptual guidance and to prepare the guidelines for implementing a viable social development programme particularly focusing on the integration of women in development; Maldives, to review pertinent materials for and assist in the preparation of an outline of a country report on the social aspects of rural development; the Republic of Korea, to assist the Government in revising the sections of the Fifth Development Plan pertaining to social development and education; Bangladesh, to advise CONCERN a non-governmental organization involved in social development work, on dealing with urban poverty; the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, to advise social welfare and community and cultural affairs departments on the viability of their newly-formed social services programmes; and Malaysia, to assist in developing and conducting a programme on training in social development for officers in the Ministry of Social Welfare ;

(b) Advisory missions to strengthen national machineries and to provide technical assistance in the identification, formulation, administration and evaluation of projects supported by the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women for the integration of women in development were undertaken to Bhutan, Burma, China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea;

(c) In response to requests from both government agencies and NGOs involved in youth development, advisory missions were undertaken and technical assistance was provided to Bhutan, China, Malaysia, Nepal, the Republic of Korea and Thailand to strengthen national youth policies, strategies and administrative structures for more effective mobilization of youth for national development. Upon request, ESCAP also co-sponsored several governmental as well as non-governmental projects related to youth development, including conventions, seminars and training workshops focusing on youth leadership and youth's participation in rural and community development ;

(d) Within the secretariat's health and development activities, advisory services were

rendered to the National Economic and Social Development Board of Thailand on long-term national planning for social development. At the request of WHO assistance was provided to the Government of Yugoslavia for a worldwide programme on TCDC for "Health for all by the year 2000". In addition, assistance was also provided to the Inter-Parliamentary Union and to the International Organization of Consumers' Unions.

151. The following technical publications and studies were produced during the period under review: (a) "Report of the Second Ad Hoc Meeting of Agencies and Non-governmental Organizations Concerned with Youth Development in the Region " ; (b) "Report of the Technical Meeting of Youth Experts on the Inter- national Youth Year"; (c) Report of the Expert Group Meeting on the Development and Utilization of Local Manpower and Technology for Disability-related Services in Rural and Poverty Areas of the Asian-Pacific Region; (d) Proceedings of the Intergovernmental Meeting on Health and Development; (e) Country Monograph on the Profile of Youth of the Philippines; (f) Country Monograph on the Profile of Youth of Sri Lanka; (g) Country Monograph on the Profile of Youth of Malaysia,. (h) Country Monograph on the Profile of Youth of Thailand,. (i) Statistical Profile of the Philippines; (j) The Effects of Modernization and Development on the Status of Rural Women; (k) Young Women Workers in Export Oriented Manufacturing Industries: Report and Studies on Singapore, Sri Lanka and the Philippines with reference to Educational Programmes for Upgrading Functional and Managerial Skills; (l) Development of Basic Community Services through Primary Health Care, Report of the Fifth Seminar; (m) Social Development Newsletter, Nos. 7-9; (n) Youth Development Newsletter, Nos. 5-7; (o) International Youth Year Information News Sheet, Nos. 1 and 2; (p) "Report of the Third Course on Planning, Development and Health"; (q) "Report on Price Differentials of Pharmaceutical Products in Thailand".

152. The secretariat was engaged in preparing, distributing and analysing the responses to the questionnaire for the review and appraisal of the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women in the ESCAP region; in conducting a review and appraisal of social progress at the regional level with special reference to the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade; and in preparing a paper on the topic of technology and social change. A follow-up assessment of the impact of training activities in health for the period 1978-1982 was undertaken in co-operation with the Operations Evaluation Unit. A report of the findings was issued. Assistance was also provided to various NGOs in the region in the planning and conduct of meetings and seminars concerned with social development.

Committee on Statistics

153. The following meetings and training courses were held during the period under review:

Training Course on Sampling and Household Survey Methodology, New Delhi, December 1982-May 1983

Pacific Workshop on Household Surveys and the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP), Suva, May 1983

Training Course on Electronic Data Processing, New Delhi, July-November 1983

Training Course on Energy Statistics, Kuala Lumpur, September-October 1983

Pacific Subregional Workshop on Price Statistics, Port Vila, October 1983

Asia-Pacific Meeting of Statisticians on Input-Output Tables, Tokyo, March 1984

154. The Training Course on Sampling and Household Survey Methodology was organized in collaboration with the Government of India under TCDC arrangements and with financial support from UNDP. The first of four regional training courses planned in connection with the implementation of NHSCP in the region, the Course provided a solid background in the basic theoretical aspects of household surveys with special emphasis on their practical applications.

155. The Pacific Workshop on Household Surveys and NHSCP was organized in association with the South Pacific Commission and the Commonwealth Secretariat and with financial support from the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation. It discussed the role of household surveys in a national statistical system in generating more wide-ranging and timely data needed for planning and monitoring socio-economic development. The Workshop discussed the capacity of an integrated survey programme and its flexibility in coping with the priority needs of planners and decision-makers. It examined the objectives of NHSCP, its cost-sharing principles and the procedures for participating in it, and recommended a subregional approach whereby a small number of advisers would be stationed at a central location to serve all Pacific countries participating in NHSCP. Such an approach would reduce considerably the external support required for the programme in each country.

156. The Training Course on Electronic Data Processing was organized in collaboration with the Government of India, with financial support from UNDP. The Course, again planned in connection with the implementation of NHSCP, aimed at developing capabilities in electronic data processing in the countries in the region. The course covered programming languages,

systems analysis, statistical data processing and advanced computer concepts.

157. The Training Course in Energy Statistics was organized in association SIAP and APDC and with financial support from UNDP through the regional energy development programme. Its objectives were to train officials of governmental and related agencies in energy statistics so as to promote the coverage, accuracy, timeliness and usefulness of energy statistics in their countries, and to encourage the use of energy statistics by planners and policy-makers. The Course laid particular stress on the construction of energy balances.

158. The Pacific Subregional Workshop on Price Statistics was organized with financial support from the Government of Australia. It discussed the role of house-hold expenditure surveys and other data sources in the construction and revision of consumer price indexes. It focused on practical aspects in the compilation of consumer price indexes, including the special problems in data collection faced by the island countries of the Pacific. In addition, it examined the approach to the consumer price index adopted in Australia. The Workshop also discussed indexes relating to goods entering international trade as well as the integrated and co-ordinated approach to the development of price statistics being promoted by the United Nations Statistical Office.

159. The Asia-Pacific Meeting of Statisticians on Input-Output Tables was organized jointly with the Administrative Management Agency of Japan, with financial support from the Japanese Government. It was designed to assist those developing countries in the region engaged in input-output studies in enhancing and improving their capabilities in the compilation and use of input-output tables. The Meeting focused on organizational, conceptual and operational problems associated with input-output tables, with emphasis on the use of computers, sources of statistics, and uses of input-output tables in analysing national economic structure. It examined the theoretical framework for the compilation of input-output tables, issues relating to international comparability and the compilation of combined input-output tables for ASEAN countries.

160. Missions were undertaken to:

(a) Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, Fiji, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Samoa, Sri Lanka and Thailand to advise on the formulation of household survey programmes and the organization of household surveys and to provide training on household surveys;

(b) Afghanistan, Brunei, Niue, the Republic of Korea, Thailand and Tuvalu to examine the availability of statistics for national and regional accounts and make recommendations for their collection and improvement; to assist in the compilation of national accounts; to develop a framework of regional accounts; to organize

a short-term training programme on the United Nations System of National Accounts, the System of Balances of the National Economy and regional accounts; to develop planning statistics; to draft statistical legislation; and to prepare a statistics development project in national accounts and economic statistics;

(c) Nepal, to improve social statistics indicators;

(d) Burma, Fiji, Kiribati, Maldives, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau), Vanuatu and Viet Nam to advise on population census planning, processing, evaluation analysis of population census results and other demographic analysis, and to provide training on population statistics;

(e) Bangladesh, Indonesia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and Singapore, to review the state of data on industry and provide advice on questionnaire design and the collection of industrial statistics.

161. In all cases, the regional advisory services emphasized the importance of the development and building of viable statistical capabilities in national statistical organizations,

162. The following technical publications were released during the period under review: (a) Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific, four issues for 1983: March, June, September and December; (b) Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics for Asia and the Pacific, three issues: September 1982, December 1982 and March 1983; (c) Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific, 1981; (d) Handbook on Agricultural Statistics for Asia and the Pacific, 1982; (e) Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific, Series A, two issues: 1980 and 1981; (f) Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific, Series B, two issues: 1977-1980 and 1978-1981.

163. In addition, the Sample Surveys in the ESCAP Region: Nineteenth Report was released. Four issues of the Statistical Newsletter covering, among other things, important statistical activities and events in the secretariat as well as the countries in the region, were published.

164. The National Household Survey Capability Programme gained momentum in the region. In Thailand, the NHSCP project to develop an integrated household survey programme entered its third year of implementation. In Sri Lanka, where NHSCP is one of the major statistical activities, a second phase of the project to develop an integrated national statistical system, with household surveys as its major component, was proposed, to begin in 1984. A two-phase NHSCP project for Mongolia was expected to be implemented in the near future. Project proposals have been formulated for Bangladesh, Fiji, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga. Missions were

sent to Afghanistan for the possible revival of an earlier household survey project, and to China and Nepal to discuss the possible formulation of household survey capability programmes. Interest in NHSCP was also expressed by Burma and Papua New Guinea.

165. Two out of the four regional training courses in support of NHSCP, namely, the Training Course on Sampling and Household Survey Methodology and the Training Course on Electronic Data Processing, were carried out in India during the period under review. Regional advisers from the secretariat were invited to deliver lectures in those courses.

Committee on Trade

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

ESCAP/UNIDO Workshop on Standardization of Jute Goods, Calcutta, India, May 1983

In-service Training Programme for Export Promotion Councils, Bangkok, June 1983, September 1983, February 1984

Mobile Seminar on Successful Negotiation and Execution of Joint-venture Agreements with the People's Republic of China, June-July 1983

ESCAP/UNCTAD/UNDP Regional Seminar on the Government's Role in the Supervision of Reinsurance Transactions, Singapore, June 1983

ESCAP/IPC Meeting of Specialists on a Market Study to Determine Demand Prospects of Pepper in Selected Countries in the ESCAP Region (second session), Jakarta, June 1983

ESCAP/UNCTAD/UNDP/Insurance Institutes for Asia and the Pacific Course on General Insurance and Insurance Management, Manila, June-September 1983

ESCAP/ITC/SPEC Second Mobile Seminar on Trade Promotion for Developing Pacific Countries, Honiara, Apia, Nuku'alofa, July 1983

Government Consultation among Jute Producing Countries: (seventh session), Bangkok, August 1983; (eighth session), Kathmandu, March 1984

ESCAP/IPC Meeting of Representatives of Spice/Pepper Exporters' Associations on Draft Common Sales Contract Form for Pepper, Bangkok, August 1983

Regional Seminar on Trade Policy, Bangkok, September 1983

Intergovernmental Consultative Forum of Developing Tropical Timber Producing/Exporting Countries (second session), Jakarta, September-October 1983

ESCAP/UNIDO Workshop on In-process Quality Control in Selected Jute Mills, Dhaka, October 1983

ESCAP/Asian Reinsurance Corporation (ARC) Round-table Meeting on Marine Insurance, Bangkok, October 1983

Workshop on Special Measures in Favour of Least Developed land-locked Countries, Bangkok, November 1983

Special Body on Land-locked Countries (seventh session), Bangkok, November 1983

ESCAP/ITC/UNDP Workshop on the Regional Trade Information Network, Bangkok, November 1983

Regional Consultative Group on Silk (second session), Bangkok, December 1983

First Preparatory Meeting for the Asian Silk Fair, Hong Kong, December 1983

Technical Expert Group on Jute Goods (first session), Calcutta, India, February 1984

ESCAP/ITC/programme for Development Co-operation (Helsinki School of Economics) Seminar on Import Management for Developing ESCAP Countries, Chiang Mai, Thailand, March 1984

167. The Trade Co-operation Group and its seven subgroups did not meet during the period under review. The recruitment of an expert on trade development in December 1983 made it possible to intensify the work on long-term contracts and trade-creating joint ventures in early 1984. Consultations with national authorities of subgroup countries by the expert were completed, and all studies required under project document RAS/81/119 covering trade-creating joint ventures and long-term contracts were finalized by the expert preparatory to consideration in expert group and/or subgroup meetings in 1984.

168. Under the Bangkok Agreement, concessions on 93 items had been exchanged among member countries and, according to a recent evaluation report, the trade turnover between member countries in those commodities granted concessions under the Agreement increased over 100 per cent in 1980 as compared with 1978.

169. In accordance with the decision of the Board of Directors of the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) taken at its eleventh meeting held at Tehran in May 1983, the Technical Committee composed of representatives of participants' central banks met at Bangkok in December 1983 to consider a report on the enlargement of the membership and an expansion of ACU activities. The suggestions and recommendations made by the

Technical Committee were submitted to the twelfth meeting of the Board of Directors held at the State Bank of Pakistan, Karachi, in February 1984.

170. The participants attending the ESCAP/ARC Round-table Meeting on Marine Insurance exchanged views on common problems and on streamlining issues related to marine insurance, including offshore oil drilling concerning insurance business. The Meeting also identified subjects of interest for discussion at subsequent meetings of the kind and drew up a programme of action for the future.

171. At its eighth session, the Government Consultation among Jute Producing Countries took decisions concerning co-operative activities in the standardization of jute goods, in-process control in selected jute mills, transport and shipping problems of jute and jute goods, trade information for jute and jute goods, and the preparation of the project proposals for the International Jute Organization (IJO). Work was begun to harmonize and rationalize the various standards and specifications of selected jute goods of the member countries of the Consultation. A specific action programme was decided upon for in-process quality control in selected jute mills in the region. A study was being finalized on transport and shipping problems affecting jute and jute goods. A decision was made to establish a market information service in the jute producing countries. In view of the establishment of IJO, detailed project proposals were prepared for further submission to the IJO Committee Project.

172. The Regional Consultative Group on Silk endorsed specific co-operative activities in the exchange of information and training aspects of sericulture, silk processing and marketing. Preparations were undertaken to organize the Asian Silk Fair and Buyers-Sellers Seminar on Export Prospects and Promotion of Silk and Silk Products in Hong Kong in August 1984.

173. The Intergovernmental Consultative Forum of Developing Tropical Timber Producing/Exporting Countries decided to strengthen further co-operative activities in marketing, forest resource development, harmonization of processing capacity and capability, stabilization of grading rules and the establishment of a regional market information network. The outcome of the negotiations on an international tropical timber agreement under the UNCTAD Integrated Programme of Commodities was also considered.

174. The secretariat continued to provide technical assistance and advisory services to ANRPC, APCC and IPC. The ongoing ESCAP assistance projects to those bodies involved the demand and supply of natural rubber, intraregional processing and marketing of coconut products, a workshop on organization programmes and training of official and small-scale

coconut farmers' leaders in coconut extension work, and development of a common sales contract form for pepper exports from member countries.

175. The Workshop on Special Measures in Favour of Least Developed Land-locked Countries agreed on the following recommendations which should form the basis for the common or regional programme for the land-locked countries of the ESCAP region for the period 1984-1985: training and advisory services in warehousing management and packaging; simplification and harmonization of trade documentation and transit and customs procedures; insurance of goods in transit; containerization and intermodal transport in consultation with the countries concerned; development of air-cargo movement; and advisory services in respect of land transport, shipping, ports and inland waterways in consultation with and with the approval of the countries concerned.

176. The Special Body on Land-locked Countries endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Workshop which had immediately preceded it. The Special Body felt strongly that the intercountry programme had promoted the evolution of co-operation between the transit and land-locked countries and contributed to a better understanding of the problems facing the land-locked countries and to the search for solutions to such problems. While expressing satisfaction with the programme of work for the region's least developed, land-locked countries for the biennium 1984-1985, the Special Body stressed the important role of developing and enhancing the professional skills of personnel engaged in the promotion and management of specific aspects of foreign trade in the least developed, land-locked countries.

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

(a) To Indonesia and Malaysia, for the Consultative Forum on Timber and on other timber-related matters, (April 1983, May 1983, June-July 1983, September-October 1983);

(b) To Malaysia in May and September 1983 and to Thailand in July 1983, for the International Natural Rubber Organization and on other rubber-related matters;

(c) To Indonesia, for the Association of Pepper Producing Federations, and on other pepper-related matters (August 1983);

(d) To Afghanistan, to organize an international marketing data cell at the Ministry of Commerce (April-May 1983);

(e) To Nepal, to examine and improve the information system for jute and jute goods (April-May 1983);

(f) To Sri Lanka in April-May 1983, on the regional trade information network and training its staff, and to establish a computerized data base in the Ministry of Trade and Shipping and an exporters's register (April-May 1983);

(g) To Burma, to establish a price monitoring system at the Ministry of Trade for major commodities and to examine information system for jute (May 1983);

(h) To Viet Nam on trade promotion and export marketing (June 1983);

(i) To China in June 1983 on negotiation strategies and techniques for joint ventures, in October 1983 to design and establish a jute information system and to provide assistance in a silk information network, silk promotion activities and other silk related matters, and in November-December 1983 on the Japanese market and on prospects of trade development between China and ASEAN ;

(j) To Bangladesh, to assist the Export Promotion Bureau to develop product profiles for export development (June 1983);

(k) To Bangladesh and Nepal in September 1983 and India in September-October 1983 to establish a jute information system;

(l) To the Seminar on Import Management of Chemical Fertilizers, Sri Lanka (October 1983);

(m) To Iran, to review the trade information system (October-November 1983);

(n) To the Workshop on Coconut Information Networking, Sri Lanka (November 1983);

(o) To India, to assist the establishment of a jute information system (September 1983);

(p) To Malaysia, to conduct. research on new possibilities for the export of processed foodstuff and to discuss trade promotion activities in the market (September 1983);

(q) To Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Singapore in September-October 1983 to conduct a field survey on export inspection systems and practices;

(r) To Bhutan, to identify the equipment and basic documentation needed for the operation of the Trade Information Unit (October 1983);

(s) .To the Chiang Mai Chamber of Commerce, Thailand, on trading with and investment in China (December 1983);

(t) To the Thai Export Service Centre on handling information on tariff and non-tariff matters (December 1983).

178. The following technical publications and studies were produced or were under preparation during the period under review: (a) "Study report on the development of a common sales contract form for pepper", parts I and II; (b) "Study report on development of agro-based manufacturing industries for coconut products and by-products"; (c) "Report on the current status programmes and prospects of the silk industry of the producing countries in the region"; (d) "Study on demand and supply for natural rubber", part II; (e) "Study on opportunities for promotion of long-term contracts among state trading organizations"; (f) "Manual for compilation of international trade statistics in the ESCAP region"; (g) "Trade information sources data bank and its alphabetical index"; (h) "Trade information sources directory"; (i) trade information sheets; (j) trade profiles; (k) "Directory of trade promotion and development organizations in selected developing countries in Asia and the Pacific"; (l) Guidebook on Trading with the People's Republic of China, second edition; (m) Guide to the Markets of Australia and New Zealand; (n) "Advice. on exporting for Pacific island businessmen"; (o) "Study on export inspection systems and practices in selected Asian countries"; (p) "Study on market opportunities in the Republic of Korea"; (q) "Study on Japanese market for Malaysian exports"; (r) "Study on market shares and trends of exports of Chinese basketry and wickerware"; (s) Guide to the Japanese Market, second edition (under preparation); (t) manuals and handbooks on participation in trade fairs (under preparation); (u) "A review of new modalities of trade expansion between ESCAP developing countries and socialist countries of Eastern Europe"; (v) "A study of trade and economic relations between the USSR and developing countries of the ESCAP region: present situation, tendencies and prospects".

B. Other activities

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

Integrated programme on rural development

180. Approved activities under ESCAP's integrated programme on rural development were being implemented by different substantive divisions depending on the aspect of rural development concerned. During the year under review, of 33 activities approved under the integrated programme for the biennium 1982-1983, 6 were completed, 15 were

at different stages of implementation and 12 had not yet been taken up. The programme was divided into seven subprogrammes and details of implementation were to be found in the reports of the work of the several subsidiary bodies concerned. The Integrated Rural Development Unit of the secretariat implemented core activities designed to focus the emphasis of activities on institutional and human factors in planning, improving participation, effective monitoring and evaluation and implementation of programmes on a multi-sectoral basis, particularly with a view to the alleviation of poverty.

Role of innovative rural organizations in agrarian reform

181. A regional workshop was held at Bangkok in May 1983 to consider major issues in the planning and implementation of agrarian reform and to identify measures for improving the participation of the intended beneficiaries. The major task of the workshop was to consider the detailed study on the role of peoples' organizations in agrarian reform. The study dealt with the increase in rural poverty and inequality, the efforts of national governments in regard to land reform and the key role of beneficiaries in successfully implementing land reform measures. Four case studies illustrated different kinds of rural organizations involved in agrarian reform and their relative effectiveness: Operation Barga in West Bengal, Cultivation Committees in Sri Lanka, Samahang Nayan in the Philippines and the Small Farmer Development Programme in Nepal. The study will be published for circulation in 1984.

Preparation of guidelines for planning and implementation of poverty-focused rural development projects and programmes

182. Another core activity of the ESCAP programme was concerned with the study and analysis of existing methodologies, the institutional framework of and national expertise in the planning and implementation of poverty-focused rural development projects and the preparation of guidelines for the use of local officials.

183. A workshop would be organized to review the findings and finalize the guidelines for use by national officials of different countries. The activity was part of the endeavour to assist in improving national capabilities in the planning and implementation of poverty-focused rural development projects with a multi-sectoral coverage. Interagency co-ordinated plan of action for integrated rural development

184. During the period under review, the concerned agencies co-operated in the implementation of the interagency plan of action with each agency making contributions in accordance with their technical

competence. The Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific met to review the progress of implementation and provide guidance as to priorities for future activities. The Interagency Task Force provided technical support for project implementation. It also provided a forum for facilitating the exchange of information among member agencies on their respective programmes in rural development at the regional level and for identifying areas for co-operation.

Country specific activities

185. The Interagency Committee provided technical assistance to Maldives, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand in the preparation of four comprehensive area-based rural development projects through the use of participatory planning methodology with a focus on poverty alleviation. The major objectives of those activities were to demonstrate the feasibility of adopting such a planning methodology under field conditions and to provide on-the-job training to the concerned officials at the subnational level. It was the intention to provide assistance to Nepal and the Philippines in the preparation of two projects in the least developed parts of those countries.

186. *Nepal:* Financial resources for the project "Assistance to IRD in the hilly regions of Nepal" were obtained and assistance would be rendered to the Government in identifying major development problems related to conditions in hilly regions and in formulating measures for overcoming constraints with emphasis on strengthening local capabilities, improving institutions and organizations at the local level for planning and implementation of a project for the hilly Lalitpur district. A long-term development plan would be formulated and considered at a planning workshop. Field work for implementation of the project was expected to commence in early 1984.

187. *The Philippines:* After the Interagency Committee rendered assistance in formulating a long-term development plan on a participatory approach for Pangasinan province, the Government formally requested it to assist in replicating the approaches and strategies for integrated area development in another backward province. The project document "Assistance to integrated area development in least developed areas in the Philippines" was formulated and submitted for funding.

188. *Sri Lanka:* At the request of the Government, assistance was provided in the preparation of a comprehensive development project for the Kegalle district, in the context of the ongoing district integrated rural development programme in the country. The detailed plan documents were considered in depth by the Interagency Task Force and submitted to the Government. The Government submitted the project

for funding to the International Fund for Agricultural Development. ESCAP, on request, provided the services of an expert in small-scale and cottage industry to serve as a member of a team commissioned to review and undertake further detailed preparation of the project.

189. Thailand : Assistance was rendered to the Government in identifying a plan for the long-term development of Nakorn Sawan province. Field work for the project, "Assistance to comprehensive project planning for IRD in Thailand" began in October 1982. The project assisted the Government in improving practical methodologies for the planning and implementation of development programmes at the provincial level on a multi-sectoral basis' focused especially on the needs of the poor through their effective involvement in the planning process. The long-term development plan, with major emphasis on accelerating the pace of development of backward areas and increasing income-earning opportunities for low-income groups, was completed in May 1983 and was considered in detail by the Interagency Task Force. Comments and suggestions were approved by the Interagency Committee in September 1983 and submitted to the Government with the plan documents. Technical assistance in the further elaboration and implementation of the plan and its replication in other provinces would be provided on request. Inter-country activities

190. The main objective of the project to review experience in select area-based integrated rural development projects was to promote inter-country exchange of experiences among national liaison officers in regard to planning and execution of area-based projects and to improve national capabilities based on a detailed review of projects formulated in Maldives, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The review involved a detailed comparative analysis of the planning methodology followed in those projects. It also covered an in-depth analysis of the development plans themselves, the institutional framework for active participation of the intended beneficiaries, obstacles to participatory planning and feasible methods of overcoming them, the feasibility of replicating participatory methodologies for area planning and methods of improving local capabilities for participatory planning and implementation. The findings of the review would be presented at a meeting of national liaison officers for consideration and a final report would be published and issued for wider circulation.

191. The objectives of the project on monitoring and evaluation were to assist the Governments of Indonesia, and Sri Lanka in undertaking detailed reviews of existing methodologies and systems for monitoring and evaluation, with specific-reference to a set of selected rural development projects and programmes, and in improving monitoring and evaluation practices at the field level. Field studies in Sri Lanka had been

carried out on four selected projects since November 1982 and the findings were considered by officials and at a field workshop in Colombo held on 28 and 29 November 1983. In the case of Indonesia, field work began in October 1983 and a field workshop was to be held in March 1984.

192. A consultative meeting of selected action researchers, government officials and United Nations agencies was held at Chainat, Thailand, in February 1983 to review the experience of such organizations, to identify institutions and modalities required for strengthening participatory rural development in different countries and to draw up a programme of field research, exchange of visits, training of initiators and evaluation studies. At that meeting an action plan for multiplication of participatory rural development experiences on a socially significant scale was drawn up. A consultative meeting of senior government officials from India, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand was held on 22-25 November 1983 at Colombo which endorsed the action plan for implementation. An opportunity was provided to those government officials to observe in the field the activities undertaken by the Change Agents Programme and by the People's Institute for Development Alternatives. The action plan was presented for funding. Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

193. Two publications were issued as part of the secretariat's continuing efforts to disseminate information on TCDC. The first, entitled Draught Animal Power and prepared jointly with FAO, was the fifth volume in the series on renewable sources of energy. It reviewed the situation of draught animal power (DAP) in Asia and the Pacific, including prospects for modernization of DAP technologies, and described about 60 institutions concerned with that topic. The second publication, a directory of trade promotion/development organizations in the ESCAP region, gave full particulars of about 70 such organizations as trade promotion bodies, state trading corporations, export marketing/commodity boards, foreign trade institutes, export standards/inspection institutes, productivity centres, export credit insurance corporations, trade facilitation offices and export processing zones.

194. The secretariat organized the Asia and the Pacific Regional Intergovernmental Consultations on the Formulation and Implementation of Programmes on TCDC in Beijing, China from 1 to 12 November 1983, with host facilities and conference services provided by the Chinese Government and financial support by UNDP. The meeting concentrated on making TCDC operational through consultations between nine participating countries and China and to identify bilateral and regional projects to be implemented through TCDC. The consultations made it possible for

the nine participating countries -Fiji, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand -and China to draw up agreements on 32 bilateral and 4 regional projects. Those projects dealt mainly with agriculture and fisheries, primary health care, light industries and mining, and. Involved exchanges of technical know-how through training, short-term consultancy, advisory services and information dissemination. The negotiations were preceded by an identification of the TCDC capacities and needs of each participating country .Such capacities and needs were then .matched with those of China. Matching documents, prepared by. the secretariat, served as the basis for the negotiations.

195. The ESCAP supplementary funding facility, with support from the Netherlands, continued to give additional financial assistance towards the participation of nationals from countries with disadvantaged economies in workshops and training courses promoting TCDC. Information systems and documentation services

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

First Regional Documentation Seminar for Librarians of United Nations Information Centres in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, 12-16 December 1983

Study Group on the Co-ordination of Government Information Systems, third session, Paris, 7-13 February 1984

197. The purpose of the First Regional Documentation Seminar was to enhance the technical skills of centre librarians in the handling of United Nations documentation for public services. It also aimed at strengthening their capabilities for assisting and guiding the United Nations depository libraries in the maintenance of United Nations documentation.

198. The purpose of the Study Group was to review the progress made by governments in organizing and managing their computer-based information resources, and in using microcomputers and computer terminals in decentralizing public administration. The meeting considered the role of communications in strengthening the information systems of government and reviewed the experience of member countries in the establishment of computer networks.

199. The following missions were conducted :

(a) Missions to Afghanistan, Burma, Fiji,India, Nepal, Pakistan, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands by the regional adviser on data preparation and processing of censuses and surveys to install computer software packages for the edit and tabulation of censuses

and surveys, and to give training courses on various aspects of processing demographic data ;

(b) Missions to Bhutan, Brunei, Maldives, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand by the two regional advisers on government information systems to examine the feasibility of the wider use of computers in public administration and to promote the improved co-ordination and management of information in government;

(c) An information systems mission of three experts to Burma, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand to review policy and management issues of computing and the overall infrastructure of information, organization and technology in central government;

(d) An ESCAP/UNESCO mission to Sri Lanka to examine and report on the feasibility of establishing a rural data system based on the use of microcomputers;

(e) A mission to the Asian Mass Communication Research and Information Centre by the Librarian and the expert on computer systems to investigate possible applications of the Centre's microcomputer for library use.

200. The following publications were produced: Asian Bibliography,. ESCAP Documents and Publications, the 1982 and 1983 edition; current contents service; List of Acquisitions, a monthly list of selected United Nations documents currently received; Rural Development: a Select Bibliography,. Reference Manual for the Entry of Records into the EBIS Data Base, (revised edition); the Union List of Serials; and Government Information Systems Newsletters, Nos. 10 to 13.

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

Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre

202. At the thirty-ninth session of the Commission, nine countries of the region, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia (host), Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Solomon slands and Thailand were elected members of the Governing Council of RMRDC for a three-year term ending at the forty-second session of the Commission. The sixth session of the Governing Council, the first meeting of the newly elected member countries, was held at Manila in September-October 1983.

203. In 1983, the specialists of RMRDC carried out 14 technical advisory missions to 11 countries. Twelve technical reports were issued and four reports were under preparation. The reports were prepared, in most cases, for the exclusive use of the requesting Governments.

204. Arrangements were made for the functions of the co-ordinator of RMRDC to be carried out by a consultant-cum-co-ordinator on an interim basis, financed through direct cash contributions to RMRDC from the developing ESCAP countries.

205. The rock magnetism project for geophysical and geological investigation of the tin granite belt of Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, which had been in progress since 1981 with assistance from the Japan-ESCAP Co-operation Fund (JECF), came to an end although preparation and publication of the final report might need another year.

206. The age-dating network project, financed by JECF, was implemented during the year with co-operation in K-Ar dating between the Malaysian subregional centre, the Philippines and Thailand and co-operation in Rb-Sr dating between the Republic of Korea subregional centre and the Philippines. The two subregional age-dating centres continued to offer services in age-dating to the countries participating in RMRDC.

207. The basic gem-cutters training course was held, on a TCDC basis, at Bangkok in June-July 1983 with gem-cutting specialists, classrooms and hands-on training facilities provided by the Government of Thailand. Altogether 13 participants from nine countries of the region took part.

208. A workshop on hydrogeological mapping was held at Bandung, Indonesia, in November-December 1983. Twenty-five participants from 19 developing countries attended the workshop.

209. The Government of India continued to provide post-graduate training facilities in geology to geo-scientists from ESCAP countries and substantially increased the daily allowance provided to the participants and provided additional benefits. During 1982/83, seven geoscientists from four countries completed the post-graduate training course. There were nine nominees from six countries of the region for the 11-month training course in 1983/84.

210. The proceedings of the Symposium on Tungsten Geology were published. The 584-page volume, consisting of 48 technical papers, was distributed free to the national agencies and persons concerned in the region. The publication, priced at \$US 50.00, attracted international attention, and over 20 copies were sold to mining companies, universities, and geological surveys and agencies. Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific

211. Following the first session of the Governing Board of the Centre held in February 1983 at Bogor, Indonesia, and approval of its programme of work

for 1983-1984, a three-member team of experts prepared a draft work plan (phase I). The report of the team was submitted for the consideration of the Centre's Technical Advisory Committee at its first session in January 1984. It would provide the basis on which to formulate a regional research network concerning socio-economic studies on selected CGPRT crops. The Technical Advisory Committee advised the Director of the Centre on a detailed work plan for 1984 and a draft work programme for subsequent years. Preparatory work for a workshop on the future potential of cassava in Asia and research development needs was completed by the Centre. The workshop was co-sponsored by the Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical (CIAT), Colombia. A study on a soybean commodity system in Indonesia was under way in co-operation with the Central Research Institute for Food Crops. The CGPRT Centre sponsored the participation of an Indonesian and a Thai expert at the First International Symposium on Soybean in Tropical and Subtropical Cropping Systems in October 1983 at Tsukuba, Japan.

212. Efforts to co-operate with relevant national and international institutions and agencies continued with a view to identifying appropriate aspects of the research in and development of CGPRT crops. For that purpose, contacts were made with and visits undertaken to India, Malaysia, Thailand and to CIAT, the International Food Policy Research Institute, the International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-arid Tropics, the South-East Asia Regional Centre for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture and FAO, among others.

213. The ESCAP secretariat provided technical and administrative support to the Centre during the period under report.

214. The Seminar on the Influence of Irrigation Programmes on Cropping Patterns and Farming Systems with Special Reference to CGPRT Crops was held at Tashkent, USSR, in September-October 1983. It was useful for obtaining the latest information on the subject from various countries of the ESCAP region. Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

215. The Institute conducted two advanced courses, one on modern statistical data processing with special reference to data-base methods and the other on development in sampling methodology with particular reference to household enquiries. In addition, the Institute conducted two training courses, one on automatic data processing for statisticians and the other on energy statistics. The thirteenth general course in statistics, which had been postponed from 1982, was held during 1983. Asian and Pacific Development Centre

216. The Asian and Pacific Development Centre became an intergovernmental organization on 1 July

1983. There were 18 signatories to the Charter of the Centre : Australia, Bangladesh, China, Cook Islands, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. The General Council of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre met in July and November 1983. The Management Board met in August and December 1983.

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

217. The Interim Committee held three sessions during the period under review. The seventeenth session was held at Bangkok in June 1983. At the eighteenth session, which was held at Ho Chi Minh City in September 1983, the work programme for 1984 was adopted. At the nineteenth session (plenary), which was held at Chiang Mai, Thailand, in January 1984, the annual report for 1983 was approved and support was secured from co-operating countries and organizations for a selected number of priority projects.

218. Many important projects and activities were undertaken during the period under review, covering programmes relating to the development of the basin as a whole and activities for mainstream as well as tributary development and training programmes. Under the collaborative efforts of the member Governments, the implementation of those programmes contributed to the satisfaction of the basic needs of the inhabitants of the basin as they related to food production, agricultural development and energy production. In addition, basin planning had been further elaborated through a more effective utilization of the newly-established and computerized Lower Mekong Information System and through remote sensing techniques. Programmes had also been carried out in navigation improvement, fisheries and agro-industrial development.

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

219. The twentieth session of CCOP was held at Kuala Lumpur from 7 to 18 November 1983. In conjunction with the session, meetings were also held of the North-west Quadrant of the Circum-Pacific Map Project, the tripartite review of the UNDP/CCOP project and of the CCOP Steering Committee.

220. Many projects and activities were undertaken during the period under review in East Asian offshore areas. The programme included activities dealing with hydrocarbon resources, shallow marine surveys for tin, detrital minerals and construction materials, Quaternary geology, gravity and magnetics, the programme of Studies of East Asian Tectonics and Resources, field and advisory services, workshop and seminars for training of personnel, and publication of scientific and technical manuscripts.

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

221. The twelfth session of CCOP/SOPAC and of its Technical Advisory Group was held at Nuku'alofa from 11 to 19 October 1983.

222. In addition, the Committee held the following meetings during the period under review: a three-month bathymetric draughtsman training course at Suva; a workshop on coastal mapping techniques in Vanuatu, co-sponsored with the United States Geological Survey; a workshop on basic geoscientific marine research required for assessment of minerals and hydro-carbons of the South Pacific at Suva, co-sponsored with the United Nations University and the International Oceanographic Commission; a three-month earth science and marine geology training course at Suva, co-sponsored with the University of the South Pacific and the University of Victoria, New Zealand; and several chief and co-chief scientists' meetings to discuss and integrate data resulting from the R/V S.P. LEE and R. V. KANA KEOKI tripartite cruise.

223. The Committee also decided to hold an extra-ordinary meeting in Cook Islands in April-May 1984 to discuss a consultant's report on institutional options for CCOP/SOPAC and to reach agreement on terms of reference and other arrangements for recommendations to the member Governments before the Committee's thirteenth session to be held in Samoa sometime in late 1984. Typhoon Committee

224. As requested by the Committee at its fifteenth session, a working group composed of representatives of China, Hong Kong, Japan, the Philippines, ESCAP, WMO, the League of Red Cross Societies, the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator and the Typhoon Committee secretariat met at Manila and Baguio City, the Philippines, in June 1983 and prepared a draft medium- to long-term programme for the Committee.

225. The second Typhoon Operational Experiment (TOPEX) was successfully carried out from 1 August to 15 October 1983.

226. The sixteenth session of the Committee and the eighth session of the TOPEX Management Board were held at Tokyo in December 1983.

Regional energy development programme

227. During the period under review, work plans for individual activities of phase I of the regional energy development programme, which had been agreed upon with the six associate executing agencies in January 1983, were used as the basis for implementation by all executing agencies for the activities which had been retained by the steering committee of the programme for execution in 1983.

228. The report of the joint UNDP/ESCAP interim review mission, which had assessed the progress of the programme and had proposed activities for phase II, was comprehensively reviewed by the steering committee during its meeting held at Bangkok on 10-11 May 1983. The steering committee was comprised of representatives of the Governments of Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam, and seven of the representatives attended the meeting. It noted the satisfactory progress achieved in the implementation of project activities up to May 1983 and decided to drop seven activities and to defer two others to phase II out of the remaining 28 activities of phase I scheduled for implementation in the project document for 1982-1983 and 1983, leaving only 19 activities to be executed in 1983. The steering committee also unanimously approved the programme for phase II proposed by the review mission with slight modifications in the orientation of some activities.

229. Meetings of the Inter-Agency and Inter-Institutional Working Group and the tripartite monitoring review were held at Bangkok on 12 and 13 May 1983 respectively. The representatives of agencies and member Governments present at those meetings expressed satisfaction with the progress achieved by the project and endorsed the recommendations of the steering committee on modifications for phase I of the programme and on phase II.

230. In accordance with UNDP procedures, the senior co-ordinator reported the six-monthly progress of the programme in June and December 1983.

231. The following meetings, training courses, study tours or working visits were held during the period under review:

Second Training Course in Family-sized Biogas Plants, Chengdu, China, April-May 1983

Training Course in Mini-hydro, Hangzhou, China, May-June 1983

Workshop on Charcoal Production and Technology, Bangkok, May-June 1983

The ASEAN Coal Development Project Consultative Meeting on recruitment of Consultants, Manila, September 1983

Consultation Meeting on Wood Energy Development, Bangkok, December 1983

232. A total of 207 experts and officials from 21 Asian member and associate member countries of ESCAP participated in and benefited from the completed activities of phase I of the programme.

233. During the period July to September 1983, the senior co-ordinator, in conjunction with consultants, prepared and completed the drawing up of the project document for phase II (1984-1986) of the programme. The project document was based on the programme focus proposed by the senior co-ordinator as endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-ninth session, the set of activities proposed by the Joint UNDP/ESCAP review mission in consultation with authorities of the countries visited by the mission, taking into account comments and views by other governments, and on extensive consultations with relevant divisions of the ESCAP secretariat and associated agencies. The project document for phase II was submitted to UNDP on 27 September 1983 for approval. The final document was sent for review and endorsement to the relevant associate executing agencies in December 1983 and to participating Governments in March 1984.

234. A new full-time officer assumed the post of senior co-ordinator on 4 November 1983, since the previous office holder had rejoined his Government's service on 20 September 1983.

Pacific energy development programme

235. The project document of the Pacific energy development programme was formally approved by UNDP on 20 December 1982. The project manager was appointed on 16 May 1983. The permanent project office was established at Suva in mid-September 1983. Because of the late recruitment of the project manager and the lack of a senior energy planner, the implementation of activities was about half a year behind schedule. However, a number of activities were carried out after the recruitment of the project manager. Initially, taking member countries' interest into account, priority was given to energy policy and planning and to petroleum supply and pricing.

236. An energy planning workshop was held at Suva in July 1983, which was organized by SPEC with a significant input from the programme. A consultant was sent to Kiribati, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (Federated States of Micronesia) and Vanuatu to render advisory services on energy planning during September-November 1983.

237. Consultants in petroleum supply and pricing were sent to most of the Pacific island countries mainly in 1982 and their mission reports became available in 1983. A workshop on petroleum supply and pricing for Pacific island countries was held at Suva in November 1983, organized by the programme. At the workshop it was recommended that the programme should continue to support such activities.

238. Action was taken to recruit a senior energy planner and a technical expert in early 1984 in order to increase the capability of the project office.

Regional remote sensing programme

239. During the period under review, the project manager/co-ordinator and the remote sensing expert were appointed. The work plan was prepared to incorporate changes related to the increase in UNDP funding to \$US 1,8 million. It was further revised in collaboration with FAO and the United Nations Headquarters Department of Technical Co-operation for Development.

240. The following meetings were held:

Regional Workshop on Remote Sensing Applications for Vegetation Mapping, Colombo, November 1983, organized in co-operation with FAO and hosted by the Surveyor General's Office

Regional Training Course on Remote Sensing Application to Mangrove Ecosystems, Bangkok, November-December 1983, in association with the UNESCO Regional Mangrove Project and hosted by the Thai National Research Council

Third Asian Agricultural Remote Sensing Symposium, Chiang Mai, Thailand, February 1984, hosted by the Thai National Research Council and co-sponsored by Tokai University, Japan

Seminar on Remote Sensing for Geological Application, Beijing, April 1984, hosted by the Ministry of Geology and Mineral Resources

241. The following training courses, pilot studies and study tours were organized :

(a) Seventeen participants from 10 countries were trained at the Asian Regional Remote Sensing Training Centre of the Asian Institute of Technology, Rangsit, Thailand ;

(b) A pilot study on forest vegetation mapping for southern Thailand was completed;

(c) A joint pilot study on forest monitoring and mapping was expanded to include Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand ;

(d) Eight remote sensing experts from China, India, Malaysia, Nepal and Sri Lanka visited remote sensing facilities in Thailand under the study tour programme.

242. The following technical publications and Studies were produced during the period under review: (a) *ESCAP Remote Sensing Newsletter*, Nos. 1 and 2; (b) *Proceedings of the ESCAP Regional Workshop on Remote Sensing Applications for Vegetation Mapping*; (c) *Report of the Regional Training Course on Remote Sensing Application to Mangrove Ecosystems*.

c. Relations with other United Nations programmes

243. Close co-operation was maintained with relevant United Nations programmes concerned with food agriculture and rural development, particularly with FAO. The fifth Annual Joint Review of ESCAP/FAO programmes of work identified specific projects and activities which were to be planned and implemented jointly or in which inputs were requested from each. The Village-level Workshop on Social Benefits Generated by Projects Targeting the Rural Poor in the Philippines, the Technical Consultation on Institutionalization of Fertilizer Marketing Costs Surveys and the Study/Observation Programme on Agricultural Credit and Banking System in China were implemented in co-operation with FAO.

244. Close co-operation was also maintained with the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD), UNIDO, UNCTAD, UNESCO and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) as well as with ILO, FAO, the World Bank and WHO in matters related to science and technology. As the regional focal point for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, the secretariat participated in the fifth session of Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development. The Committee endorsed 24 joint activities of the United Nations system in science and technology identified by the four technical working groups of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) Task Force on Science and Technology for Development. ESCAP was a participating organization in 14 of the joint activities, namely:

Programme area I: *Science and technological policies and plans for development :*

Joint activity I: Interregional study of the implication of new micro-electronics technologies for developing countries in selected sectors {lead agencies: UNIDO, UNCTC and ILO};

Joint activity 2: Identification and assessment of the implications of new energy technologies for developing countries {lead agencies: UNIDO, IW and UNESCO};

Joint activity 3: Interregional assessment and strengthening of remote sensing applications technology in developing countries {lead agency: FAO};

Joint activity 4: Evaluation of technological infrastructure requirements for coastal and marine development {lead agency: Ocean Economics and Technology Branch of the United Nations Headquarters Department of International Economic and Social Affairs};

Programme area II: *Creation and strengthening of scientific and technological infrastructure*:

Joint activity 2: Improvement of traditional low-cost building materials (lead agency: FAO);

Joint activity 3: Upgrading and effective utilization of traditional technologies of food conservation and processing (lead agencies: FAO and the United Nations University);

Joint activity 4: Upgrading traditional technologies in low-cost rural transportation (lead agency: ILO);

Joint activity 5: Development and manufacture of production machinery and equipment for upgrading traditional rural technologies in least developed countries of Asia and the Pacific (lead agency: UNIDO);

Programme area III: *Choice, acquisition and transfer of technology*:

Joint activity I: Training activities in the field of policy-making in science and technology for development in the Asia and Pacific region (lead agency: UNESCO),

Programme area VII: Strengthening of research and development on and for developing countries and their linkage to the production system:

Joint activity I: Enhancement of research and development capacities and linkages with the productive sectors in developing countries (lead agencies: UNCSTD, UNESCO);

Joint activity 2: Utilization and commercialization of publicly funded and supported research and development (lead agency: UNCTAD);

Joint activity 3: Formulation of appropriate strategies for facilitating pharmaceutical supplies to developing countries (lead agency: WHO);

Joint activity 4: Utilization and commercialization of United Nations system funded research and development for the benefit of developing countries (lead agency: UNCTAD);

Programme area VIII: Strengthening of co-operation in the field of science and technology among developing countries and between developing and developed countries:

Joint activity I: Scientific and technological co-operation among developing countries in technology services (lead agency: UNIDO).

245. In co-operation with other relevant programmes of the secretariat, comments on the final draft project documents for those activities were

forwarded to the respective lead agencies, ESCAP inputs were identified and initial steps for implementation were taken.

246. Joint projects with UNIDO were initiated in industrial consultancy services, contracts for the construction of oil and gas pipelines, shipbuilding and ship-repair development and the commercialization of research results.

247. In the preparation of the theme study on "Technology for development" valuable advice was received from several United Nations agencies. Contributions were received from ILO, WIPO, UNCTC, UNCSTD and IMO.

248. Support for RCTT continued to be provided by UNDP and the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development and it maintained close working relationships with UNIDO, UNESCO and other organizations active in technology transfer.

249. Support for RNAM continued from UNDP and technical co-operation was extended by other United Nations programmes, in particular by FAO and UNIDO.

250. The secretariat maintained regular contact with Habitat, particularly in co-ordinating its programme planning and activities, including the contribution of two regional papers on human settlements training and information to serve as inputs to the theme papers prepared for the seventh session of the Commission on Human Settlements to be held in May 1984. ESCAP participated in sessions of the Commission on Human Settlements and those of Habitat's substantive meetings and vice versa.

251. During the year under review, ESCAP continued its exchange of information on human settlements activities with the United Nations Centre for Regional Development at Nagoya, Japan, as well as with the two United Nations regional housing centres at New Delhi and Bandung.

252. The secretariat co-operated with the ACC Task Force on Science and Technology for Development on a project aimed at upgrading traditional technologies, and with UNEP on a project on alternative methods of garbage disposal.

253. The reciprocal arrangement was continued between the secretariat and the regional offices of both UNESCO and UNICEF on information exchange and participation in substantive activities.

254. The secretariat acted as the regional focal point of the United Nations system for the effective implementation of the Nairobi Action Programme on the Environment by maintaining close co-operation with other agencies engaged in environmental matters including UNEP, WHO, FAO, UNESCO, UNIDO and IMO. The secretariat established co-operative arrangements with the World Bank.

255. Close contact was maintained with UNIDO, FAO, ILO and UNESCO concerning the regional energy development programme and the regional programme of action on new and renewable sources of energy; with UNCTAD on the transfer, development and application of technology in the energy sector; and with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in preparations for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy.

256. With regard to mineral resources, co-operation was maintained with: UNEP on environmental management related to mineral and energy resources exploration and development activities onshore and offshore; the Intergovernmental Oceanic Commission, UNESCO, in regional marine geoscience programmes of mutual interest; UNESCO and the Commission for the Geological Map of the World in the implementation of the regional geoscience map and related programmes; UNDP in technical reviews and monitoring of the activities of UNDP-supported regional projects; and United Nations Headquarters' Ocean Economics and Technology Branch in coastal area development and management matters and Department of Technical Co-operation for Development on national mineral resource development programmes in the region. Contact was maintained with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea on matters concerning the Convention on the Law of the Sea with a view to disseminating information of relevance to members and associate members.

257. Co-ordination between United Nations Headquarters departments and other regional commissions on matters concerned with water was carried out through a special consultation meeting at Rome in November 1983. In order to co-ordinate, monitor and implement the Mar del Plata Action Plan at the global level in association with UNIDO, UNICEF, UNDP, UNEP, the World Bank, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, WMO and IAEA, ESCAP participated in the fourth session of the ACC Inter-secretariat Group for Water and in the eleventh meeting of the Steering Committee for Co-operative Action for the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade. At the regional level, similar consultations were carried out with the same agencies through the Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific. Close co-operation was maintained with the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator and WMO in supporting the efforts of the countries of the region in mitigating typhoon and flood damage.

258. Both FAO and the Natural Resources and Energy Division of the United Nations Headquarters' Department of Technical Co-operation for Development were associate executing agencies for and participated in the revision of the work plan on remote sensing. In addition, FAO contributed consultant/lecturers

for workshops and had planned a land-use workshop and training course for the regional remote sensing programme. The Regional Training Course on Remote Sensing Application to Mangrove Ecosystems was organized with UNESCO, and the United Nations Development Advisory Team for the Pacific assisted the programme in arranging an evaluation mission to set up a remote sensing training course in the South Pacific.

259. The secretariat maintained close co-operation with the regional economic commissions for Latin America, Europe and Africa, UNCTAD and the World Bank in matters affecting shipping and ports; the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, UNCTAD, ILO and IMO on maritime legislation; UNIDO on shipbuilding and ship repair; and the United Nations Statistical Office on the economic statistics of shipping.

260. In matters concerned with transport, communications and tourism, the secretariat worked closely with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) through the ESCAP/ITU unit; with the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity on telecommunications development; with UPU on postal development; with ILO on labour-intensive road construction methods and through the ESCAP/ILO tourism unit on tourism manpower development; with the International Civil Aviation Organization on the economic aspects of air cargo transport; with the World Tourism Organization on tourism development; and with UNCTAD/FALPRO (Special Programme on Trade Facilitation) on facilitation of international traffic.

261. The secretariat also collaborated with the Economic Development Institute of the World Bank on various transportation and telecommunications training courses organized within the region.

262. The secretariat continued to maintain close working relations with various United Nations specialized agencies and bodies involved in work related to social development. ESCAP, in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF, convened an Intergovernmental Meeting on Health and Development in accordance with Commission resolution 228 (XXXVIII). The Sixth Seminar (Regional) on Basic Community Services through Primary Health Care was held in collaboration with UNICEF. Technical expertise and fellowships were provided by UNICEF and WHO for the Fourth Course (Regional) on Planning, Development and Health. UNCTC provided technical and financial assistance to ESCAP in the organization of the First Workshop on Regulating and Negotiating with Transnational Corporations in the Pharmaceutical Industry. Close co-ordination with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs was maintained particularly in the preparatory activities for International Youth Year and the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, including the

Regional Preparatory Meeting for International Youth Year; the Expert Group Meeting on Forward Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women; and the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women. ESCAP assisted the Centre in the organization and support of the Asia and Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. Consultations were also held with the Centre in reviewing the project plan and defining the role of the Technical Co-operation Centre of the National Commission Concerning Disabled Persons of the Philippines which had a regional support services' component in the disability-related field. ESCAP participated in the Research Workshop on "Southeast Asian Perspectives" organized by the United Nations University; the International Conference of States with a View to Adoption of the Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific, organized by UNESCO; and the Fourth Session of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women Board of Trustees. Advisory services were provided to WHO headquarters on the planning of the First Interregional Leadership Development Centre in support of strategies for "Health for all". Lastly, the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women provided ESCAP with the services of a senior regional programmer to assist member countries in the implementation of women's projects supported by the Voluntary Fund, and the United Nations Volunteers provided ESCAP with the services of a programme assistant for ESCAP's youth training programme.

263. A close working relationship was maintained with the United Nations Statistical Office which participated in all the technical meetings organized by the Statistics Division during the period under review. The Statistics Division also participated in the twenty-second session of the United Nations Statistical Commission in March 1983 and in the seventeenth session of the ACC Sub-Committee on Statistical Activities in June 1983.

Close co-operation was maintained with ILO on statistics relating to employment and unemployment, and prices, and ILO participated in the Pacific Subregional Workshop on Price Statistics, October 1983. Consultations were held with representatives of FAO, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund with a view to possible collaboration. Regional advisers maintained close relationships with UNFPA co-ordinators and UNDP resident representatives. Co-operation was maintained with the United Nations Development Advisory Team for the Pacific and with SIAP. The Training Course in Energy Statistics was organized in close collaboration with SIAP and APDC. Exchanges were maintained with the statistical divisions of other regional commissions (especially with the Economic Commission for Europe as regards the statistical computing project), UNESCO and UNICEF.

264. The Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development and its Task Force continued collaboration with the ACC Task Force on Rural Development in respect of their activities insofar as they concerned the Asian and Pacific region, on monitoring and evaluation, harmonization of the programme of the United Nations agencies in rural development, people's participation in rural development and joint interagency action at the country and regional levels, through the exchange of information on each other's activities and approaches. In order to ensure that the efforts of those two bodies were themselves co-ordinated and harmonized and resulted in a specific and mutually complementary programme of action, detailed proposals for the establishment of a functional linkage between the two bodies were formulated and submitted to the Chairman of the ACC Task Force for consideration.

265. The secretariat maintained co-ordination with other organizations in the United Nations development system through consultations and participation in meetings concerned with ECDC/TCDC such as the Meeting of the High-level Committee on the Review of TCDC in New York and the Meeting of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Co-ordination Committee of the Group of 77, both held during the period under review.

Chapter III

FORTIETH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

266. The fortieth "session of the Commission was held at the New Otani Hotel, Tokyo, from 17 to 27 April 1984.

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

268. By virtue of rule 3 of the Commission's rules of procedure, representatives of Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Germany (Federal Republic of), Hungary, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kenya, Madagascar, Morocco, Panama, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Turkey, Uganda, Uruguay and Yugoslavia attended. A representative of Switzerland attended under Economic and Social Council resolution 860 (XXXII). A representative of the Holy See also attended under Council decision 244 (LXIII).

269. The session was also attended by officials from United Nations Headquarters, representing the Office of the Director-General for Development and Inter-national Economic Co-operation, the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, the Regional Commissions Liaison Office, the Centre for Science and Technology for Development, the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, and the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, and by representatives of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

270. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies attended: Office of the United

Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Fund for Population Activities, World Food Council and World Food Programme.

271. Representatives of the following specialized agencies were present in a consultative capacity: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization, World Health Organization, World Bank/International Finance Corporation, International Monetary Fund, Universal Postal Union, International Telecommunications Union, World Meteorological Organization, World Intellectual Property Organization and International Fund for Agricultural Development.

272. Representatives of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and of the International Trade Centre also attended.

273. The following intergovernmental organizations attended as observers: Asian and Pacific Coconut Community, Asian Clearing Union, Asian Development Bank, Asian-Pacific Postal Union, Asian Productivity Organization, Asia-Pacific Telecommunity, Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries, Association of South-East Asian Nations, Colombo Plan Bureau, Commonwealth Secretariat, Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, European Economic Community, Intergovernmental Committee for Migration, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, International Pepper Community, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme, South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation and South Pacific Commission.

274. Observers were present from the following non-governmental organizations in category I: International Chamber of Commerce, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Council of Women, International Council on Social Welfare, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Organization for Standardization, International Organization of Employers, International Planned Parenthood Federation, Society for International Development, World Confederation of Labour, World Federation of Trade Unions, World Muslim Congress

and World Veterans Federation, from the following organizations in category II: Baha 'i International Community, Disabled Peoples' International, Law Association for Asia and the Western Pacific and Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement -International, and from the roster: licensing Executives Society International. Representatives from the Asian Population and Development Association, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, the Institute of Development Economies, International Energy Agency, and the South-east Asian Agency for Regional Transport and Communications Development also attended.

275. The list of participants is given in document ESCAP(XL)/INF 1.

276. In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the Commission at its 599th meeting elected His Excellency Mr. Shintaro Abe, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Japan), as Chairman.

277. In view of the heavy agenda, it was proposed that the part of rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the Commission providing for the election of 2 Vice-Chairmen be held in abeyance, and 12 Vice-Chairmen were elected, namely: the Hon. William Hayden, M.P. (Australia), R.E. Mr. Mafizur Rahman (Bangladesh), R.E. Mr. Qian Qichen (China), the Hon. Hartarto (Indonesia), H.E. Mr. Mohammad Taghi Banki (Iran), H.E. Mr. Masahiro Nishibori (Japan), H.E. Mr. Tseren-piliin Gombosuren (Mongolia), the Hon. Karl Stack, M.P. (Papua New Guinea), the Hon. Chung-Oh Lee (Republic of Korea), the Hon. M.H.M. Naina Marikar (Sri Lanka), the Hon. Damrong Lathapipat (Thailand) and the Hon. Sela Molisa, M.P. (Vanuatu).

278. The Commission appointed a Committee of the Whole to consider agenda items 7 and 8. The Committee elected Mr. Wep Kanawi (Papua New Guinea) as Chairman and H.E. Mr. A.G. Asrani (India) and H.E. Mr. Tran Hoan (Viet Nam) as Vice-Chairmen. In view of the heavy agenda before the Committee, it subsequently elected Mr. A. Samad (Bangladesh) as a Vice-Chairman.

279. The Commission also appointed a Technical and Drafting Committee. That Committee elected H.E. Mrs. Rosalinda V. Tirona (Philippines) as Chairman and Mr. H. Koike (Japan) and Mr. B. Mahadeva (Sri Lanka) as Vice-Chairmen.

280. In accordance with the established practice, an informal working group on draft resolutions was also set up. The group elected Mr. C.L. Lamb (Australia) as Chairman and Mr. Chuchai Kasemsarn (Thailand) as Vice-Chairman.

281. The Chairman announced at the Commission's 605th meeting that, in accordance with rule 12 of the rules of procedure, he and the Vice-Chairmen, constituting the Credential Committee, had examined the credentials of all the representatives. One delegation rejected the credentials of a delegation and expressed

reservations about the credentials of another delegation. Some other delegations rejected those views and held that the credentials of the aforesaid delegations were in proper form. With those views and reservations recorded, the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen constituting the Credentials Committee found the credentials of all the representatives to be in order.

B. Agenda

282. At its 599th meeting, the Commission unanimously adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening addresses
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda (E/ESCAPIL.91/Rev.1 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/L.92 and Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2)
4. Policies and perspectives for the economic and social development of the ESCAP region:
 - (a) Review of the development of the ESCAP region and the work of the Commission. (ST/ESCAP/263 English only), ST/ESCAP/263/Add.1 (Chinese, French and Russian only) and E/ESCAP/343)
 - (b) Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy (ST/ESCAP/263 (English only), ST/ESCAP/263/Add.1 (Chinese, French and Russian only))
 - (c) Review and appraisal of implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries (E/ESCAP/344)
5. Technology for development (E/ESCAP/398, E/ESCAP/399 and Add.1 and 2)
6. Structure, frequency and duration of Commission sessions (E/ESCAP/345)
7. Issues and programmes in various fields of activity of ESCAP :
 - (a) Issues in various fields of activity (E/ESCAP/342, E/ESCAP/346-352, E/ESCAP/353 and Add.1, E/ESCAP/354-358, E/ESCAP/359 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/360, E/ESCAP/362 and Add.1, E/ESCAP/363-366, E/ESCAP/367 and Corr.1 and 2, E/ESCAP/368 and Add.1, E/ESCAP/369-371)
 - (b) Programme changes for the biennium 1984-198 (E/ESCAP/372 and Add.1)

and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/373, E/ESCAP/374 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/375 and Add.1)

- (c) First revision of the medium-term plan, 1984-1989 (E/ESCAP/376 and Add.1 and Corr.1)
- 8. Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries (E/ESCAP/377)
- 9. Transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994 (Commission resolution 234 (XXXIX)) (E/ESCAP/400)
- 10. Progress reports on special regional projects and regional institutions (E/ESCAP/378-385, E/ESCAP/386 and Add.1, E/ESCAP/387 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/388 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/389.392)
- 11. Announcement of intended contributions (E/ESCAP/393-395)
- 12. Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (E/ESCAP/396)
- 13. Date and venue of the forty-first session of the Commission (E/ESCAP/397)
- 14. Other matters (E/ESCAP/361)
- 15. Adoption of the annual report of the Commission (E/ESCAP/L.93)

C. Account of proceedings

283. The session was declared open by the Hon. J. Cecil Cocker, Minister for Finance (Tonga) acting as Chairman at the opening meeting in the absence of His Excellency Mr. A.M.A. Muhith, the Chairman of the thirty-ninth session, former Minister of Finance and Planning (Bangladesh). The Commission expressed its deep appreciation to Mr. Muhith of his able guidance and valuable services during the past year. His Excellency Mr. Yasuhiro Nakasone, Prime Minister of Japan, delivered the inaugural address. The Executive Secretary read out the message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations and delivered a welcome address. Inaugural address by the Prime Minister of Japan

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

285. Re noted that since its establishment, ESCAP had made steady progress in support of the development of the vast and important Asian and Pacific region which

encompassed one fourth of the total world land area and more than half of the world's population.

286. The year 1947, when the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) was founded, coincided with the beginning of his political career. At the time of Japan's admission to full membership of ECAFE in 1954, its per capita income was only one tenth that of the United States and its gross national product only about 2 per cent of the world total. He emphasized that Japan's peace and prosperity were tenable only when peace and prosperity prevailed in the Asian and Pacific region. Japan's foreign policy of promoting peace and International harmony was credible in the world at large only when it was proved in the region.

287. He had long been impressed with the region's rich potential. Japan had benefited from the cultural influences of the region from ancient times. He believed that Japan had to continue to learn from the diverse qualities of other Asian and Pacific peoples. The ESCAP region was currently recognized by the entire world as one of great vitality and promise for the future. Much of that vitality and promise was attributable not only to the wise policies and industriousness of its people but also to the ready hospitality, assimilative abilities and broad-minded, hopefulness characteristic of Eastern philosophies and life-styles which had turned divergencies to strengths. Concurrently, a deep-rooted affinity bound the peoples of the region. He felt that that affinity came from the peoples' common attitude of living in harmony with nature. That natural affinity was the soil from which the region's peace and stability grew. The peoples had to work to nurture that invaluable relationship into stabilizing factor for the region.

288. He further noted that ESCAP was the only inter-governmental forum in the Asian and Pacific region which provided an opportunity for people of the region to gather together. The initiative taken by ESCAP in selecting technology for development as the theme for the current session of the Commission would serve to strengthen the foundation for dramatic gains in the region. Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations

289. In his message, the Secretary-General of the United Nations noted that the decision of the Government of Japan to host the fortieth session of the Commission was a further example of Japan's strong support for the United Nations and its programmes. ESCAP had become a far more representative organization, both in membership and geographical coverage, than when it had first met in Japan for its eleventh session in 1955. With its increase in size and representation, including the admission of Vanuatu at the current session as its thirty-sixth member, ESCAP was in a stronger position to contribute substantially to the development of the region. ESCAP also represented

an essential link between global, regional, subregional and national development efforts.

290. The current effort at securing a better distribution of responsibilities, including appropriate decentralization of activities within the United Nations, would further strengthen the capacity of all the regional commissions.

291. In the context of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, the regional commissions would need to give great importance to the eradication of poverty and hunger. Major efforts were also required to bring about the full participation of all segments of society in the development process and a fair distribution of its benefits. There was clearly an expanding potential for mutually beneficial flows of finance, trade, technology and expertise among developing countries.

292. It was hoped that the deliberations on the central theme of the current session, technology for development, would prove a major stimulus in bringing the developing countries of the Asian and Pacific region more rapidly into the mainstream of technological progress.

293. He noted that the current session was taking place at a very difficult time in which the international community continued to face grave economic problems. While recovery was evident in a few countries, the world trade situation remained generally stagnant and terms of trade for commodity exporters unsatisfactory. It was heartening that in the face of that situation, several countries in the Asian and Pacific region managed to maintain a reasonable momentum for economic expansion. However, the need to accelerate the pace of development and to intensify international economic co-operation was essential for progress toward global economic equity. Statement by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP

294. The Executive Secretary welcomed all the delegations to the session and expressed his gratitude to the Prime Minister of Japan for his presence at the inaugural session and for his thought-provoking address which reaffirmed Japan's commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and, in particular, to the objectives of ESCAP.

295. He welcomed Vanuatu's accession to full membership in ESCAP and noted that the secretariat was determined to render every assistance within its capacity toward the achievement of Vanuatu's development goals.

296. The Commission had, over the years, developed an exemplary tradition of co-operation between the developed and developing countries.

The Commission's unswerving commitment to the achievement of its economic and social development goals, without being distracted by political or other matters, was commendable.

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

Policy statement by the Executive Secretary

297. The Executive Secretary observed that since the Commission had last met, the view that the prolonged world economic recession had finally run its course had come to be widely held. However, in view of the continued high interest rates and large budget deficits in the United States and the disquietingly weak signs of recovery in Western Europe, he found it difficult to regard the medium- to long-term economic outlook with more than guarded optimism. He noted that the aftershocks of the recession were still being felt in most developing countries.

298. In many developing countries of Asia and the Pacific, the substantial slow-down in economic growth in 1982 had lingered throughout 1983; a few had regained a more vigorous pace in the second half of the year. Several least developed and Pacific island countries had suffered a particularly harsh set-back owing to the prolonged recession, causing economic and social hardships to worsen in the very countries which most urgently needed sustained advances. The impact of stagnation in exports had been widely felt across the region since 1981, especially in 1982 when most countries had experienced a decline in export earnings in absolute terms. Declining export volumes in combination with a deterioration in terms of trade had curbed import capacity in many countries. The difficulties were compounded by high interest rates, large debt-service burdens and reduced flows of external assistance. The demand in developed countries for exports from the ESCAP region had revived only modestly in recent months. There was also concern that the emerging pattern of demand in the industrial countries might not absorb imports from developing countries on the same scale as in the past.

299. In assessing the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, the Executive Secretary observed that the achievement of the goals in the Strategy for the ESCAP region was clearly in jeopardy. The weight of available evidence was that the region had fallen well short of the growth targets in the first three years of the Decade, targets which had been set in a brighter pre-recession atmosphere.

300. However, he did not consider the picture to be one of unmitigated gloom. Developing countries of the region, as a group, had resisted the ravages of the recession considerably better than those in other parts

of the third world. Some satisfaction seemed warranted by the region's performance amid the vexing problems of the past three years. Indeed, most developing ESCAP member countries had managed to maintain GDP growth rates at the relatively high levels of 4 to 7 per cent. For that commendable performance, considerable credit was due to the industrious and innovative qualities of the people in the region as well as to sound economic management and monetary and fiscal discipline. The Executive Secretary proceeded to identify certain elements of the strategy or policies which had helped to maintain the growth momentum in the region in the face of adverse external conditions.

301. First, the ESCAP member countries that relied more on mobilizing domestic resources for development evidently did better in coping with the recession. As compared with reducing domestic consumption, external credit might appear an easy option during periods of global prosperity. Yet debt-service problems could worsen rapidly when expectations of booming exports failed to materialize, concessional capital flows receded and interest rates remained high. A number of those countries also benefited from intensive efforts to use such funds efficiently.

302. Secondly, external vulnerability could be significantly reduced through a judicious structural balance between an export orientation and import substitution. The benefits of that balanced strategy increased substantially when exports were diversified by commodity composition or markets, preferably both.

303. A third important element was to establish effective links in the domestic economy between and within sectors. Such structural integration not only spurred growth through the provision of adequate input but also helped create purchasing power for the absorption of the country's own output. Of particular importance was the need to develop the service sector, which could play a vital role in sustaining growth in times of stagnant world trade.

304. Finally, it was also important to develop a flexible production structure, which could readily adapt to swiftly changing export markets and switch quickly from export to domestic markets, and vice versa.

305. One or more of those approaches had been initiated in many member countries in efforts to moderate the impact of the recession. Their proved effectiveness in helping to sustain growth strongly suggested that those approaches, if woven together appropriately, could form a solid foundation for building longer-term development strategies. He laid particular stress upon the importance of diversifying trade by both commodity composition and markets. By adopting more liberal trading policies and vigorous promotional measures, the developing countries of the region could substantially enlarge penetration

into the markets of West Asia, Africa and Latin America. There was also tremendous scope for expanding trade within the region. In that context, he urged the expansion and strengthening of two existing and potentially significant regional arrangements, namely, the Bangkok Agreement on Trade Expansion and the Asian Clearing Union. He also mentioned the possibility for countries of the region to pool their international reserves in a common fund, so arranged as to help cushion the effects when a country experienced a sudden drop in reserves. It could also contribute towards reducing the individual reserve requirements of participating countries.

306. The Executive Secretary was pleased to report that a good start had been made in bringing TCDC into operation by identifying and matching the needs and capacities of co-operating countries. The first such step had been taken in November 1983 at Beijing, with the support and assistance of the host Government of China, UNDP and several other United Nations agencies. The encouraging outcome was that China and nine other member Governments had agreed on 32 bilateral TCDC projects, with their financing largely arranged at the same time. Four other inter-country projects under UNDP-supported regional programmes had also been agreed upon.

307. He noted with satisfaction that China would be hosting a trade fair in November 1985 with the co-sponsorship of ESCAP. The fair would provide a visible demonstration of the industrial and technological achievements of a dynamic and vibrant region. It would also provide an opportunity not only for contacts to be made to promote interregional trade, but also for the identification of areas for mutually beneficial technical co-operation. The Executive Secretary also noted a sense of growing urgency for the convening of a meeting of the region's ministers of trade, especially with the persistence of protectionism and other major issues and problems unresolved at UNCTAD and GATT since late 1982. The trade ministers could also work out ways to stimulate further intraregional trade. He sincerely hoped that the Commission's deliberations at the current session would result in the offer of a venue for that meeting, as well as suggestions for dates and a consensus on the agenda.

308. The Executive Secretary pointed out that changing patterns of demand and shifting global economic relations had made the logic of regional co-operation and collective self-reliance more compelling. In spite of some progress in regional co-operation, especially at the subregional level, the vast potential in many areas had hardly been tapped. In that context, he felt that the whole process of regional co-operation in Asia and the Pacific needed revitalization through high-level concerted action that could yield positive results on issues of common concern, and reiterated

his idea for an Asian economic summit as expressed at the thirty-ninth session of the Commission.

309. The Executive Secretary observed that although the Asian and Pacific region had embarked upon the process of economic and social transformation, by modernizing industries, upgrading infrastructure and improving the quality of human resources, many essential development goals had yet to be reached, most importantly the eradication of massive poverty and hunger in many parts of the region. Possibilities for eliminating those had been opened up by fast technological progress and revolutionary changes in the development of human skills. In the face of explosive advances in such fields as micro-electronics, lasers, fibre optics and genetic engineering there was a grave danger that countries in the Asian and Pacific region might fall further behind in technological know-how. Consequently, they might not be able to stay abreast of rapid innovations so as to be able to make the proper choices in technology and to use them efficiently as a dynamic force for development. He was of the conviction that the extent to which the region was able to improve scientific and technological skills would, in large measure, determine the general quality of life in developing member countries in the twenty-first century. He was also of the opinion that in the diverse ESCAP region there was substantial scope for beneficial intercountry collaboration to speed up technological progress, given the many complementarities in current capabilities. Naturally, the pace of progress in better harnessing science and technology would not be uniform across the region in the years ahead, and special efforts would be required by and on behalf of the least developed, land-locked and Pacific island countries.

310. He mentioned that in the secretariat study on technology for development, an effort had been made to examine the situation in the region and to identify key issues requiring attention in evolving strategies and policies to improve the technological capability of developing countries. The study had also assessed the major problems confronting Asian and Pacific countries in integrating technological factors into their development efforts. No uniform prescription could be made on how best to use science and technology for development or which technologies to adopt. Yet it was clear that the principal effort at the regional, subregional and national levels should be to aim at technological self-reliance by intensively improving capabilities in priority areas promising rapid growth or highly competitive output. On a broad front, attention should also be given to technology options that would create jobs and provide for the basic needs of the masses, many millions of whom still lacked the ordinary amenities. At the same time, developing countries should strive towards standards of research on a par with those of developed countries, so that

they would eventually become equal partners in technology exchange.

311. He saw many exciting vistas on the road to technological development in Asia and the Pacific. In certain cases, technological leap-frogging could enable the elimination of years and decades in some aspects of the development process. For example, in agriculture, recent and upcoming advances in biotechnology and genetic engineering could help transform Asia into a food-surplus region in the not too distant future. Deciphering of the genetic code could lead to brighter horizons for predominantly rainfed Asian agriculture. Computerization might also have a profound impact on the region's food output at some time in the future, for instance, by providing controlled irrigation on a massive scale and delivering water and other nutrients according to precise soil conditions. Such far-reaching scientific possibilities certainly justified a strong push in agricultural research, especially in a region where 56 per cent of the world's population must be fed with the output from less than a quarter of its land area.

312. In transport and communications, while a good deal of progress had been achieved, the slow adoption and adaptation of new technologies persisted. He urged member countries to give substantial attention to developing transport technologies during the proposed transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific from the following year until 1994, which was expected to be proclaimed during the current session of the Commission. He also highlighted the need for the application of energy-efficient technologies in various sectors and for accelerating the development of renewable energy resources with due regard to environmental considerations.

313. The Executive Secretary dwelt on the significant technological support and stimulus that could be provided by the ESCAP regional centres for technology transfer, for the development of mineral resources and of CGPRT crops and for training in statistics. Those regional institutions had over the past year been the object of the energetic attention of a working group created by the Commission at its thirty-ninth session. The working group seemed fairly optimistic about the likelihood of raising the total of about \$US 1 million a year needed to meet the shortfall in institutional support for those centres". He hoped that the group's promising discussions with potential donor countries would be adequately reflected in the current year's pledges of extrabudgetary support.

314. The Executive Secretary noted the Commission's concern with the least developed countries and asked for guidance for further action to ameliorate the extremely difficult conditions prevailing in those countries. He also mentioned the further orientation of secretariat activities for the benefit of the Pacific island countries. The preparation under way for the

setting up of a consolidated Pacific operations office which was to become a dynamic centre of ESCAP multi-disciplinary activities covering the entire Pacific subregion constituted a bold step in that direction.

315. In conclusion, the Executive Secretary expressed optimism that the region had a strikingly bright future. Undoubtedly, there remained many obstacles to resolving the problems of hunger, malnutrition, illiteracy and the inequitable distribution of income and wealth. Nevertheless, with the available pool of scientific knowledge, technological know-how and management skills and the industriousness of the people, he was confident that the region could make rapid and large strides towards the fulfilment of aspirations to a better life for all.

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

316. The Commission noted the steady and sustained improvement in the quality of the analysis and information in the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific during the past few years and commended the secretariat on its work on the current Survey (ST/ESCAP/263). Most delegations endorsed the analysis of the external environment of the developing ESCAP region. A few delegations expressed guarded optimism about the prospects for recovery in the developed countries which did not as yet seem firmly rooted or widespread. The Commission noted that the effects of the recovery on developing countries in the ESCAP region were weak and had affected the member countries unevenly in 1983. There was general concern that the least developed countries and the island economies in the region had suffered more severely than the others. Most delegations expressed concern about the lack of buoyancy and continued uncertainty in their countries' export markets, particularly for primary commodities. Many doubted the ability of the recovery in the developed world, even should it be sustained, to provide sufficient momentum to generate rapid growth in the ESCAP developing countries. Several delegations noted the somewhat brighter prospects for 1984 in both the developed and the developing economies of the ESCAP region. It was also noted that recovery in developed countries would not be a sufficient condition for resuming rapid growth in developing countries. Most delegations supplemented the information in the Survey with accounts of economic performance and policies in their respective countries.

317. The Commission confirmed the analysis in the Survey that the rate of economic growth in ESCAP developing countries in 1982 had been most unsatisfactory and had brought much suffering to the people of the region. Economic growth had slowed down in almost all countries and gross domestic product and per capita income had fallen in a number

of countries. The worst affected were the least developed countries, in some of which drought conditions in agriculture had compounded the adverse effects of the recession. Low growth rates in those countries had caused a fall in their per capita incomes, increased unemployment, and created food scarcity and a reduction in public expenditure. In many of the least developed countries of the region, the economic situation in 1983 had been worse than at the beginning of the decade.

318. The countries of the Pacific subregion expressed their keen desire to be treated as an integral part of the developing ESCAP region in the secretariat's analysis of social and economic problems. They wished to forge strong economic links and trade relations with the rest of the region. Being dependent for their existence mainly on a few primary commodities and tourism, they were also seriously affected by the recession and by the deterioration in the international economic environment.

319. The Commission noted that, notwithstanding the adverse effects of the recession, many developing countries had managed to achieve a creditable record of growth during 1983 by mobilizing internal resources more intensively and allocating them more efficiently, and by diversifying the composition and direction of their exports. Although the international debt problems of a few countries had assumed serious proportions, the region as a whole had avoided the more unwholesome consequences which had characterized developing countries in other parts of the world.

320. Most delegations were seriously concerned at the rise in protectionist tendencies in developed countries during the recession. They expressed disappointment at the lack of worthwhile action at the sixth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and at the session of GATT held at ministerial level that preceded it, in checking those tendencies. Many countries called for urgent steps to roll back the protectionist measures recently imposed and to remove tariff and non-tariff barriers restricting the growth of exports from developing countries. A number of countries stressed the need for liberalizing trade as essential for reviving the world economy in an interdependent world. One developed country reiterated the pledge made at the Williamsburg Summit to "halt protectionism and, as recovery proceeds, to reverse it". As evidence of that commitment, the delegation of that country expressed support for the early convening of a new round of trade negotiations and its Government's proposal to extend its generalized system of preferences (GSP) scheme for another 10 years. Another developed country announced that it had raised the ceiling on imports under GSP by \$ 5.2 billion, effective 1 April 1984. One member country expressed its resolve to pursue the principles of free trade by substantially reducing tariff rates

unilaterally. Despite the deterioration in the external economic environment, many countries expressed their commitment to policies of export promotion as an essential element in their strategy of development. It was noted that, for those policies to succeed under existing conditions, the search for new markets and new products would have to be intensified.

321. Several delegations expressed the view that the use of trade restrictions, economic blockades and other sanctions were incompatible with the United Nations decisions aimed at restructuring international economic relations and establishing a new international economic order.

322. The Commission expressed concern at the continued lack of progress in preventing fluctuations and decline in commodity prices, which had aggravated the balance-of-payments difficulties in a number of countries. The early implementation of the UNCTAD Integrated Programme for Commodities and the activation of the Common Fund for Commodities were also urged. On behalf of the least developed countries, it was urged that an expanded and improved ST ABEX scheme should be launched to cover all least developed countries and special arrangements were recommended for enlarging and liberalizing the IMF Compensatory Financing Facility especially for the benefit of the least developed countries.

323. The Commission expressed dismay at the declining trend in the net inflow of capital to developing countries and the deterioration in the terms of transfer. The decline in official development assistance created serious difficulties for low-income countries and forced many others to borrow on harder terms from commercial banks, giving rise to a potentially serious debt burden with the rise in real rates of interest. The decreased lending capacity of the major international financial institutions, IMF and the World Bank, had led to a serious shortage of resources to finance development expenditure, especially its foreign exchange component. Many countries emphasized the need to convene a global conference on monetary and financial issues to find a solution to the problems facing the developing world, which, if left unsolved, could jeopardize the fragile structure of international monetary institutions.

324. A number of delegations also expressed concern at the continuing stalemate in the global economic negotiations between developed and developing countries. Most delegations urged early resumption of the negotiations to consider a number of pressing international economic issues which were hindering the growth of the world economy and preventing the realization of the otherwise feasible development goals of the third world. Among the issues mentioned were the fulfilment of the targets of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade in regard to official development assistance, the augmentation of the resources of the

international financial institutions, the creation and distribution of special drawing rights, solutions to the mounting burden of debt servicing and the deterioration in international terms of trade. While most delegations urged the need for global negotiations for the establishment of a new international economic order, others advocated a more guarded approach in selecting the negotiating machinery as well as issues for negotiation. The latter were of the view that confrontation and the expectation of spectacular results might prove counter-productive, and sought thorough preparatory work for the selection of issues in order of priority rather than treating them globally. It was noted that peace and the strengthening of confidence constituted an indispensable prerequisite for economic progress and the development of fruitful and mutually beneficial international relations. In that connection, many delegations stressed the fact that the major obstacles as set out in paragraph 12 of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade should be removed without delay. Some delegations also urged the need for a reduction in expenditure on armaments to avoid a diversion of resources away from development.

325. The Commission reviewed the work done since its thirty-ninth session as presented in document E/ESCAP/343.

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy

326. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the secretariat's review of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade in the ESCAP region, forming a part of the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1983. The complex interdependence of developed and developing countries in development had been well brought out in the review and appraisal of the Strategy undertaken by the secretariat.

327. The Commission stressed the importance of the ongoing review and appraisal of the implementation of the Strategy and regarded it as part and parcel of the efforts of the international community to restructure international economic relations and to establish a new international economic order. It was indicated that the process of review should be directed, above all, at the identification of real obstacles to the successful implementation of the Strategy and at the search for means to overcome them.

328. The Commission, in reviewing the implementation of the Strategy, maintained that interdependence provided the rationale for co-operation between developed and developing countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. The symbiotic relationship between recovery in the North and growth in the South

required the reactivation of growth in the developing countries for sustained world economic recovery.

329. Despite the negative impact of the global economic crisis in the first three years of the Decade, especially on the least developed countries, the most seriously affected countries, and the island economies of the region, growth in the developing ESCAP region as a whole had been somewhat more satisfactory than in other developing regions. That was largely due to the skilful management of those economies and the major efforts made by the people of those countries, through appropriate domestic policies including, among others, flexible and integrated production structures, mobilization of domestic resources, the efficient use of external resources and the maintenance of a balance between export orientation and import substitution. The Commission nevertheless expressed concern that the goals and objectives set forth in the Strategy were not being completely met. The slow-down and disruption of the process of development had adversely affected long-term prospects. International economic forces had as yet failed completely to restore conditions conducive to rapid economic and social development. Those short-term setbacks notwithstanding, the Commission saw the ESCAP region as bearing great potential for rapid growth and development in the Third United Nations Development Decade, given a supportive international environment based, among other things, on the policy measures elaborated in the Strategy. In the view of the Commission, while constraints on the countries of the region in attaining the Strategy's goals continued to be enormous, the members were hopeful that the attainment of its objectives was feasible provided Strategy policy measures were more fully implemented.

330. The Commission recalled that the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade represented the consensual wisdom of the international community and contained a broad and integrated set of policies, the implementation of which would bring about the emergence of an international environment conducive to growth.

331. In the course of the discussions, four topics were highlighted where immediate implementation of policies was desirable.

Monetary and financial issues, including the transfer of resources for development

332. The Commission, recalling the agreed international target of 0] per cent of the gross national product of developed countries being allocated for official development assistance and the Strategy's provisions in regard to improvements in the modality, composition and quality of aid programme lending by international financial institutions, and the need for a stable, effective and equitable monetary system, as well as the relevant

provisions of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, observed that progress in that regard had been disappointing. Yet, some donor countries had surpassed the target or had made quantitative or qualitative improvements in their official development assistance programmes. The situation with regard to flows of financial resources was a matter of deep concern to practically all ESCAP developing countries. The reduction in official development assistance had created difficulties for the lower-income developing countries, especially the least developed, whereas, particularly, developing countries at higher-income levels had been hurt by the contraction in the flow of commercial credit. The least developed countries had been adversely affected by a reduction in the grant element and changes in the composition of aid and slow disbursement of project aid.

333. Many delegations supported the convening of an international conference on money and finance for development, with universal participation.

Trade and raw materials, including trade liberalization and price stabilization

334. The Commission was of the view that the problems faced by developing countries had been exacerbated by resurgent protectionism. Concern was expressed that the severity of trade restrictions had spread from textiles to such other manufactures as leather and leather products, electronic goods, and low- and medium-technology engineering products. At the same time, a deterioration in the terms of trade and wide fluctuations in the prices of primary commodities had severely affected many ESCAP developing countries. Pacific island countries that depended heavily on primary commodity exports had been adversely affected. The Commission noted with concern that the Common Fund for Commodities had not come into operation. A broad-based compensatory financing facility had not been established. In that context, the departure from the principles of multilateralism, and the increasing resort to trade outside the established international regulatory and control mechanisms, was disquieting. The Commission expressed the view that domestic pressures for increasing protectionism in developed countries would best be resisted if, as stated in the Strategy, "all countries commit themselves to an open and expanding trade system to further progress in the liberalization of trade and to the promotion of structural adjustment which will facilitate the realization of the dynamic pattern of comparative advantage". The Commission also expressed the view that the action that it was agreed should be pursued towards facilitating the trade of least developed countries and reducing tariff and non-tariff obstacles to their exports in the declaration of the GATT Ministerial Meeting of November 1982 should be implemented expeditiously. The Commission welcomed the steps

taken recently in that direction by a few countries. The view was expressed that the proposal to set up a facility to compensate the least developed countries for shortfalls in their earnings from the export of commodities should receive priority consideration.

335. A number of delegations stressed the need to eliminate all coercive and restrictive measures which constituted obstacles to international economic and trade relations.

Energy

336. The Commission stressed the importance of the search for new and renewable sources of energy, the promotion and transfer to developing countries of energy-related technologies, the desirability of a net expansion in financing, including international institutional lending to that sector, and consideration of the need for the early establishment of a multilateral financing facility for the development of the indigenous energy resources of developing countries.

Food and agriculture

337. Stress was laid on international food aid and security as well as on the transfer of resources for financing agricultural development in developing countries.

338. The Commission reiterated that the primary responsibility for accelerating the process of development in developing countries rested with those countries themselves. The Commission recognized the importance of reforms of domestic policy concerning incentives to agricultural production, agrarian relations, efficiency in the use of factors of production, improvements in the operation of public enterprises, balanced promotion of cottage, small- and medium-scale industries along with large-scale industries on the basis of comparative advantage, and the development of new and renewable sources of energy, among others. Many delegations cited instances of policy reforms introduced in their countries. Mention was also made of programmes in health, nutrition, family planning, education, employment and the equitable distribution of the benefits of development in furtherance of the social goals of the Strategy. The Commission stressed that, along with the quest for economic growth, policies and strategies must be characterized by an awareness of the need for an improvement in the quality of life of the entire community and that special attention must be paid to the integration of women and youth as well as the disadvantaged groups into the mainstream of development.

339. The Commission also expressed the view that in the prevailing international climate, particular emphasis should be placed on collective co-operation for self-reliance in the developing world and on closer South-South co-operation. It was also felt that

more vigorous and effective action in regional co-operation would help achieve the Strategy's targets. In that connection, the importance of strengthening the Bangkok Agreement on Trade Expansion and other regional co-operative arrangements was highlighted.

340. Against that background, the Commission noted with concern that, while developing countries had pursued policies conducive to the realization of the Strategy's goals, the support measures agreed upon by the international community had not been fully implemented. There was insufficient progress in areas of immediate importance to developing countries. The Commission therefore stressed the importance of the review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy, with a view to identifying the elements that would be essential for revitalizing growth in the world economy.

341. The Commission noted that negotiations aimed at bringing about structural changes in international economic relations remained stalled. It was essential for the international community to engage in a purposeful dialogue leading towards global negotiations, so as to provide conditions conducive to the long-term development of all groups of countries. The Commission also stressed that continuing work on the implementation of the International Development Strategy was an integral part of the efforts by the international community to build mutual confidence and to restructure international economic relations on the basis of interdependence equity and the growing perception of mutual interest.

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

342. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/344. It strongly urged the secretariat to enhance its activities and to carry out the mandate entrusted to it by the Commission in resolution 233 (XXXIX) of 28 April 1983, and called upon the Executive Secretary to redouble his efforts to contribute to the full and effective implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action in the region.

343. The Commission noted that the least developed countries had been most severely affected by the continued unfavourable world economic environment. It expressed serious concern that three years after the adoption of the Substantial New Programme of Action, the situation of those countries was worse than at the beginning of the decade. While steps were being taken towards a global mid-term review of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action, even matters of immediate and critical importance had not been adequately addressed by the international community. According to many delegations, they included an international food security system, the

development of the energy resources of developing countries, price stabilization of their raw materials and other exports, and higher levels of official development assistance. Furthermore, agreements with regard to privileged access to the markets of developed countries for the exports of least developed countries had not been implemented. Intensified protectionist measures had continued.

344. As regards external assistance, the developed countries, with a few exceptions, had not met the target for official development assistance agreed in the Programme. Furthermore, the grant element in official development assistance during the past three years had declined and tied aid had become widespread. The Commission urged donor countries to increase the flows of official development assistance to the least developed countries of the region and to meet the targets, volume and quality of such flows as envisaged in the Substantial New Programme of Action and reiterated in General Assembly resolution 38/195 of 20 December 1983. Some delegations also stressed that in the absence of a more favourable assistance mix, it would be difficult to implement even a limited number of chosen projects.

345. The Commission urged that the measures contained in the Substantial New Programme of Action be implemented with a sense of urgency, to improve the basic standards of living in the least developed countries and to transform their economies towards self-sustained development. The Commission called for increased efforts by ESCAP to assist those countries in implementing the Programme.

346. The representative of one developed country stated that his Government intended to implement the international co-operation measures as provided for in the Substantial New Programme of Action, and that in order to expand the imports from the least developed countries, his Government had recently improved the special measures in their favour under its generalized system of preferences scheme.

347. The representative of UNDP stated that the least developed countries received the highest priority in its regional assistance programmes and that at the request of five of the seven least developed countries in the region, the UNDP Round Table on Least Developed Countries of the Asia-Pacific Region between them and the development partners had been organized at Geneva in May 1983. That occasion had provided an opportunity, particularly for the donor countries and international agencies, to understand better the development strategies and the external assistance requirements of each least developed country.

Technology for development

348. The Commission considered documents E/ ESCAP/ 398 and E/ESCAP/399 and Add.I and 2.

349. A special plenary meeting of the heads of delegations was held to discuss the theme of the session, "Technology for development". In his opening statement, the Chairman said that a thorough discussion on the subject was of paramount importance to the development of the region, and expressed the hope that the deliberations would lead to concrete results.

350. The Executive Secretary introduced the subject and explained the overwhelming support received by the secretariat from many quarters, especially from member Governments and other agencies in the United Nations system, in its preparatory work. The importance of the theme was self-evident and the role so far played by United Nations agencies, including ESCAP, was well known. However, progress had remained far from satisfactory in integrating technological considerations into the development planning process and in fostering linkages between research and development institutions and the realities in the production sectors. The brain drain had also reached serious proportions in a number of countries, with many technology specialists migrating to the industrialized countries. Moreover, technology traffic was generally one way, and had many potential pitfalls and disadvantages for unwary recipients with inadequate information and skills to select, acquire, adapt and absorb technologies. In addition, full advantage had not yet been taken of the possible benefits of regional co-operation in bolstering national efforts for technological progress.

351. The Executive Secretary stated that the "Study on technology for development" (E/ ESCAP/399) examined the existing situation in the region, identified the methods to improve the technological capabilities of developing countries and pinpointed the potential for co-operation at various levels. Similarly, the proposed ESCAP plan of action on technology for development (E/ESCAP/398), which had been formulated by the High-level Expert Group Meeting on Technology for Development and endorsed by the Intergovernmental Meeting on Technology for Development, comprised a balanced programme of activities based on identified issues, and advanced pragmatic as well as innovative measures to promote national, regional and international co-operation in the utilization of technology for social and economic development. The measures were listed in the secretariat study and in the proposed ESCAP plan of action. He also referred to a few specific projects which had been worked out in some detail.

352. The Executive Secretary expressed satisfaction at the positive response and support to the two missions despatched to Indonesia and Pakistan to design the project profiles in regional co-operative research, development and demonstration. He concluded by expressing confidence that the discussions in the plenary session would reflect the mutuality of interests and the spirit of co-operation which had been demonstrated

in the preparatory work, and by seeking further guidance from the Commission for implementation of the proposed plan of action.

353. The Commission felt that technology for development was a timely theme in view of the rapid technological changes taking place all over the world and that it was a critical and key issue of common concern for the socio-economic development of all countries in the region. Its consideration in the session would enable the strengthening of the foundations of development and future progress in the Asian and Pacific region.

354. It commended the secretariat on the preparation of valuable and useful documentation and felt that the "Study on technology for development" was extremely useful, especially in identifying issues and problems confronting the countries of the region with widely varying levels of technological development, and in identifying the opportunities and potential for regional co-operation.

355. The Commission appreciated the effort of the High-level Expert Group in improving the study and in formulating the draft ESCAP plan of action.

356. The Commission adopted the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development as a guideline for further activating technology-related activities in the Asian and Pacific region in order to accelerate the socio-economic development of the members and associate members of the Commission.

357. The Commission noted that an increasingly important role had been assigned to technology in the development plans of member countries, and that several member countries had formulated technology strategies and policies taking into consideration the relevance and significance of institutional arrangements with respect to the acquisition, utilization and application of imported technologies and the development of indigenous technologies in all priority areas. It also noted the current experiences of member countries in their efforts to solve socio-economic problems and the key role played by technology.

358. The Commission invited Governments in the region to consider undertaking specific projects in technology at the national and subregional levels as an integral part of their respective social and economic development programmes on the basis of the ESCAP Plan of Action. It also called upon the Governments of developing countries in the region to enhance co-operation among themselves and with developed countries to strengthen the national technological capabilities of the developing countries.

359. The Commission recognized that the impact of science-based technology was far-reaching and that it had touched on a wide range of development activities and had penetrated practically all aspects of

modern life. It noted that over 95 per cent of global research and development occurred in developed countries, thereby making developing countries unequal partners in technology transactions. The Commission also noted that those disparities had further been compounded through the brain drain.

360. It recognized the wide diversity in technological and general economic development levels in the region and felt that such heterogeneity posed great challenges and also provided several opportunities for joint efforts in improving traditional technologies, in producing new technologies and in assimilating imported technologies, thereby fostering fruitful Collaboration among countries in the region.

361. The Commission noted that in most market economies of the region, the private sector would continue to play a critical role in developing and applying new technology. Accordingly, it urged the ESCAP secretariat and interested member countries to give adequate attention to the private sector in designing policies and programmes under the ESCAP Plan of Action, in the light of conditions prevailing in each country. The Commission also noted the vital importance of the public sector in the economies of the region which required continued attention.

362. The Commission stressed the organic nature of technological progress and felt that technology for development involved substantial modifications to the infrastructure and even to the traditions of countries, and it felt that half-hearted and ad hoc efforts towards modernization without providing any stimulus for the growth of appropriate technology throughout society would not be useful.

363. It further felt that the primary responsibility for the development of technological capabilities and the proper use of technology for the socio-economic development of the developing countries of the ESCAP region rested with those countries themselves. That implied active involvement and commitment at the highest level of national decision-making and also at corporate and individual levels in the formulation of appropriate policies and plans, the creation of necessary infrastructures and the mobilization of their human resources. At the same time, the Commission agreed on the catalytic role of regional activities and contributions from the developed donor countries and United Nations agencies in that regard.

364. The Commission emphasized that the principal effort at the regional, subregional and national levels should be aimed at technological self-reliance, which involved improvements of endogenous capabilities in priority areas of promising rapid growth or of highly competitive output. Attention should also be directed to technology options that created jobs and provided for the basic needs of all people.

365. The Commission emphasized the importance of technological appropriateness when developing countries acquired foreign technologies as well as when they developed their own indigenous technologies. The Commission noted that technological appropriateness was not an intrinsic quality of any technology but was derived from socio economic surroundings.

366. In the formulation of technological policies and programmes, the Commission emphasized the importance of improving traditional technologies and the importance of applying emerging technologies such as micro-electronics, biotechnology and genetic engineering, satellite communications and remote sensing to traditional sectors. It felt that some of the topics deserving high priority were new and renewable sources of energy, construction materials and equipment, waste recycling and agro-based industries.

367. Generally, technology indicated how a society's needs could be fulfilled. Therefore, the Commission felt that development of sound technology policies and programmes required the existence of a technological culture in a country that could be created through widespread technologically-oriented education and training programmes.

368. It emphasized the need to relate technological development to the development needs of society and of the establishment of a technological infrastructure to acquire, adapt and assimilate imported technologies as well as selective development of new technologies. In that context, the Commission stressed the importance of the promotion and upgrading of human resources in terms of technological, managerial and entrepreneurial skills.

369. Research and development activities were of fundamental importance even for the acquisition, adaptation and assimilation of imported technologies. In that context, the Commission appreciated the importance and treatment given to the management of research and development institutions in the ESCAP Plan of Action. Adequate linkages between research and development institutions and the requirements of the production sectors should be built up and strengthened; in particular, attention needed to be directed towards marketing and engineering capabilities. The Commission also stressed that financial, fiscal, legal and other incentives to encourage the research and development efforts of the private sector played an important role. In addition, it was stated that there was a need to remove barriers to the development of technology to allow the creation of an innovative climate. Those barriers could be cultural, manpower and scientific in nature as well as financial, marketing or even managerial.

370. The Commission felt that in the current era of technological specialization and interdependence, technological self-sufficiency was not possible. Every country had to be selective in its research and development activities and ensure that the activities

so chosen were adequately supported with needed resources. There was also the need for a proper and balanced distribution of research and development resources and activities between current wants and long-term needs.

371. The Commission noted the importance of properly integrating and relating the programmes of work in technology with the resolutions and other decisions adopted by United Nations agencies and bodies, especially those relating to a new international economic order, the Vienna Conference on Science and Technology for Development, the International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade, the Third General Conference of UNIDO and the UNCTAD Committee on Technology Transfer.

372. The Commission recognized the immense potential of subregional, regional and international co-operation in technology and felt that in addition to the global activities of specialized United Nations agencies in technology-related matters, there was the need to strengthen regional co-operative arrangements, the potential and details of which had been highlighted in the Plan of Action.

373. The Commission stressed the importance of co-operation among developing countries of the region through appropriate TCDC mechanisms in fulfilling their technological requirements. Such co-operation, in addition to the expansion of co-operation between developed and developing countries would strengthen the technological capabilities of developing countries in the region.

374. The Commission felt that ESCAP should play a leading role in the enhancement of co-operation between the disparate but complementary technologies in the region based on the joint identification of problems and of resources. It emphasized that ESCAP should formulate a concrete programme, including funding arrangements and other modalities, on technology for development on the basis of the Plan of Action.

375. The Commission referred to the important and useful role played by the existing institutions operating under the auspices of ESCAP and emphasized the urgent need of further strengthening those institutions.

376. It recommended the introduction of technological considerations into the work programme of ESCAP through a reassessment of ongoing projects and programmes, the setting-up of a technology resources cell in the secretariat and the strengthening of the technology-related units and regional institutions under ESCAP in order to put the Plan of Action into operation.

377. In view of the unique characteristics and difficulties faced by the least developed countries and the Pacific island countries, the Commission felt that ESCAP should establish distinctive

arrangements for drawing up special programmes for the promotion and extension of technological capabilities among them. Those arrangements should be pragmatic and provide basic training facilities and operation assistance.

378. Co-operative and tripartite activities in research, development and demonstration projects in selected facets of technologies were useful and innovative proposals to enhance regional co-operation. Indonesia and Pakistan proposed that their solar photovoltaic power generation facilities and activities could be utilized for such demonstration projects to be implemented by ESCAP. The Government of Japan expressed its readiness to make a financial contribution to those projects through the Japan-ESCAP Co-operation Fund. The Commission welcomed the initiatives taken by those countries.

379. The Commission considered that the identification of technological needs and capabilities and of levels of technological development and the publication of that information in the form of a "technology atlas" would be a useful project and would contribute to the enhancement of the decision-making capabilities of member countries and in the analysis of choices relating to technology development and transfer. It stressed that the focus of the technology atlas should be carefully identified, gradually expanded and continuously updated. The Commission welcomed the readiness of the Government of Japan to contribute through the Japan-ESCAP Co-operation Fund to a technology atlas when a concrete and appropriate programme was proposed.

380. The Commission felt that improvements regarding technology for development were possible under conditions of the attainment of a new international economic order based on justice, equity and co-operation among all countries. It also felt that additional resources to accelerate technological development would be available through improvements in the position of developing countries in the international financial system and more equitable prices for their products in the world markets.

381. It noted the statements made by representatives of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, the Centre for Science and Technology for Development, the United Nations Funding System for Science and Technology for Development, UNCTAD, UNIDO, ILO, and the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration, regarding their activities concerning technology for development, especially in the Asian and Pacific region.

382. It urged all member countries to support the implementation of the ESCAP Plan of Action through the provision of all forms of contributions for the implementation of specific projects on the basis of consultation and for the mutual benefit of all countries in the region.

383. It noted with appreciation the financial support offered by the Government of Japan for the preparation of a technology atlas and the implementation of the selected demonstration projects, and also the expert services offered by the Government of the Republic of Korea.

384. The Commission adopted the Tokyo Programme on Technology Development in Asia and the Pacific and recommended that a progress report be prepared and presented to the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment at its next session and to the Commission at its forty-first session on the measures taken, the progress made and the activities envisaged in the implementation of the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development and their incorporation in the regular work programme and medium- and long-term planning of ESCAP.

385. The Commission adopted resolution 235 (XL) on the Tokyo Programme on Technology for Development in Asia and the Pacific.

Structure, frequency and duration of Commission sessions

386. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/345. It expressed gratitude to the Executive Secretary and the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission for the work which they had done on its behalf in recommending ways to improve the conduct of Commission sessions.

387. The Commission endorsed the following proposals:

(a) Commission sessions should continue to follow the basic pattern currently in practice;

(b) The plenary should continue in its existing form. However, efforts should be made to make participation more effective and meaningful;

(c) The duration of the sessions should remain unchanged;

(d) Instead of the existing Committee of the Whole, there should be two committees of the whole, which would meet concurrently during each Commission session. Rapporteurs should be elected for each of the two committees as well as for the plenary. Each committee would prepare its own report and consider its own resolutions. The plenary would consider and approve not only its own report, but also the reports of the two committees, together with all resolutions presented to it by those committees;

(e) There would be no need for the Technical and Drafting Committee as its work would be subsumed under the plenary and the main committees by elected rapporteurs;

(f) Each major issue to be discussed would form a special item or sub item on the agenda. The overall agenda should be selective, pointed and issue-oriented, and would not necessarily cover all sectors. However, efforts should be made to keep the overall agenda as short and as manageable as possible. The secretariat documentation should present the issues for consideration concisely. Presentations by other organizations should, as far as possible, be circulated, and their oral statements should be limited to the main points relevant to the issues under discussion ;

(g) A period should be set aside in at least one of the main committees for a cross-sectoral review of issues not falling under the jurisdiction of any of the legislative committees and of issues which could involve several committees. That would reaffirm the role of the Commission as the main economic and social development centre in the region as well as its principal position vis-a-vis its subsidiary, sectorally-limited legislative committees;

(h) In the years when a ministerial conference was held which was considered as covering the issues normally discussed in a corresponding legislative committee, that legislative committee should not be convened.

388. Regarding the informal working group on draft resolutions, although most of the delegations expressed the view that there was no need for that body in its existing form, some delegations expressed reservations about not having the group for reasons of assumed practical difficulties. The Commission noted that there would have to be some arrangements for consultations concerning resolutions. The Commission requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with ACPR, to submit recommendations as to what form of consultations would be most desirable to the Commission at its forty-first session for its decision.

389. The Commission discussed the matter of improvements in the functioning of legislative committees. Many delegations expressed views favouring bifurcation of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment and also bifurcation of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport, Communications and Tourism, provided that the total number of meetings or expenditure did not increase more than would have been the case for the Committees in their existing form. Other delegations, however, were of the view that the matter concerning the bifurcation of those two Committees should be considered at the next sessions of the respective Committees. The Commission requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with ACPR, to submit recommendations to the Commission at its forty-first session. It was suggested that regular monitoring of the effectiveness of the various legislative committees would be useful. The Commission noted the appreciation of the role of ACPR expressed by the

Executive Secretary and his statement that ACPR would continue to be consulted on devising ways for making the legislative committees more effective and productive.

390. The Commission decided that the proposals endorsed above could be implemented as from its forty-first session.

391. The Commission requested the Executive Secretary to consider in consultation with ACPR proposals made at the fortieth session on the improvement of the work of the Commission and on the effective and efficient operation of the new structure for the Commission and to implement them as appropriate at the next session.

Issues and programmes in various fields of activity of ESCAP

392. The Commission considered the sectoral issue papers, the reports of the legislative committees which had met during the year prior to the fortieth session, the report of the Special Body on Land-locked Countries on its seventh session, the report of the ESCAP Preparatory Meeting of Ministers of Industry for the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO, the Regional Plan of Action for the International Youth Year and Beyond, the Commission's activities in the Pacific, the reports on economic assistance to Vanuatu and on integrated rural development. It also considered document E/ESCAP/372 and Corr.1 and Add.1, containing proposed programme changes for 1984- 1985; document E/ESCAP /3 73 on the implementation of the ESCAP work programme, 1982-1983; document E/ESCAP/374 and Corr.1 containing the tentative calendar of meetings, 1984-1985; and document E/ESCAP/376 and Corr.1 and Add.1 containing the first revision of the medium-term plan, 1984-1989. The Commission noted document E/ESCAP/375 and Add.1, on resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

393. In his introductory statement, the Deputy Executive Secretary highlighted the major issues presented in the sectoral documents on the major issues in the various fields of activity of ESCAP. The sectoral papers presented the major issues on which the Commission's views were sought. He stated that requests by countries of the region for assistance continued to increase, while the resource level remained static. The emphasis had been redirected to the consolidation and innovative use of available resources and a more practical approach to the formulation of the ESCAP programme of work, to the interdisciplinary aspects of the activities, and to improved use of extrabudgetary funds through better management.

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

Issues in various fields of activity

Food and agriculture

395. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/349 and E/ESCAP/353 and Add.I.

396. The Commission appreciated the preparation by the secretariat of comprehensive documentation which analysed major food and agricultural development issues in the region.

397. In reviewing the experiences of the member Governments in achieving progress in food and agricultural development in the region, the Commission noted that, although very high priority was being given to the development of agriculture, its growth had not been satisfactory in several countries. Hunger, poverty and malnutrition remained serious challenges to development. That was particularly important because agriculture remained a major source of income, employment and foreign exchange earning. In view of the increasing population pressure on land and limitations to augmenting supplies of arable land reached by many countries, the Commission endorsed the strategy of intensification of food and agricultural production. The secretariat was complimented on its programme in that direction, which was considered comprehensive, realistic and equitable.

398. The success of agricultural intensification depended upon sound national policies, particularly with regard to market prices, production incentives, productivity, the participation of small farmers, and economic efficiency in the marketing, distribution and storage of agricultural inputs and outputs in the light of conditions prevailing in each country. Greater participation of the private sector in marketing agricultural inputs, processing and marketing of products and investment in agriculture needed to be encouraged. Obsolete forms of land ownership and land use, inadequate investment in agriculture, and institutional deficiencies were mentioned as factors responsible for low productivity. The view was expressed that strengthening the role of the state in the formulation and implementation of agricultural policies related to agricultural prices, market regulation, agro-industrial linkages and the setting up of agro-industrial complexes would promote employment and productivity.

399. The Commission endorsed the report of the Committee on Agricultural Development on its fifth session and urged the secretariat to take appropriate follow-up action on the recommendations contained therein. One delegation expressed its disappointment with aspects of the session and expressed the hope that in future the deliberations of the Committee would be

more focused than they had been in the past and would result in clearer guidance to the secretariat.

400. Emphasizing the importance of closer co-ordination in the activities of the United Nations agencies, the Commission welcomed the joint statement by the Director-General of FAO and the Executive Secretary of ESCAP made at the twenty-third session of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination concerning the co-ordination of food and agricultural activities in the Asian and Pacific region. The Commission particularly supported the steps taken by ESCAP and FAO to harmonize their respective work programmes and expressed satisfaction with the understanding that had been reached between the two agencies. The Commission noted the offer by UNESCO to co-operate with ESCAP in food and agricultural activities in such matters as developing training modules, exchanging experiences in the use of basic sciences in promoting agricultural productivity, agricultural development planning and the strengthening of information networks.

401. It was mentioned that regarding agricultural development it would be appropriate to emphasize the importance of veterinary science in raising livestock production and in that connection co-operative action was suggested.

Improvement of agricultural plans and programmes

402. The Commission recognized the need for improvement in agricultural plans, programmes and projects and appreciated the secretariat's work in that respect. There was also a need to assist developing countries in training personnel in agricultural development planning. In that context, it was recommended that a seminar or workshop on agricultural project formulation and analysis should be held.

403. The Commission emphasized the importance of improving the socio-economic conditions of farmers practising dry land farming which covered more than two thirds of the farmland in the region. Areas under dry land farming lacked skilled manpower, equipment and financial resources. The strategy for development of those areas was principally watershed-based and called for augmenting the use of inputs. The development of farming under rainfed conditions continued to be crucial to the development of agriculture. The Commission therefore strongly recommended that an expert consultation on the economics of dry land farming as well as rainfed farming should be organized to assist the developing countries of the region.

404. It was suggested that the secretariat might send roving missions to the least developed countries to study their agricultural development plans, programmes and projects and to offer advice on the measures necessary for effecting improvements to achieve rapid growth in food and agriculture.

405. In relation to the secretariat's activities in promoting intercountry co-operation in fisheries development, the Commission was given information on the study tour of a group of Chinese fishery experts in the United Kingdom on fish product development. The study tour would be held in May/June 1984. The Government of the United Kingdom had generously provided the necessary financial support for the purpose.

Development of agricultural information systems

406. A special issue of the Agricultural Information Development Bulletin, published on the occasion of its fifth anniversary, was placed before the Commission. Many delegations informed participants of the benefits that their Governments had derived from the information contained in the Bulletin. The increase in its circulation and the broadening of the coverage of its subject matter were strongly commended. The Bulletin was considered to be a useful reference source on relevant agricultural and rural development technologies developed within the region. The secretariat was urged to continue to improve its scope, coverage and presentation. In view of the very favourable comments made by recipients of the Bulletin, the representative of Japan announced that his Government had decided to continue its support to the programme. However, he urged that in future the Bulletin be published under regular budgetary resources and that his Government's contribution be considered as a stopgap measure.

407. The Commission recognized the important role played by farm broadcasting in raising the socio-economic conditions of farmers. It acknowledged the benefits derived from the training activities for radio and television broadcasters and programmers implemented with the support of the host Governments. The Commission welcomed the subregional training programme on farm broadcasting to be hosted by the Government of Vanuatu. Based on the experiences of some member countries, the secretariat was cautioned with regard to broadening the coverage of the project to include television production and broad casting because that would involve high capital and operating costs. Furthermore, it might also be difficult to ensure that the primary target group of agricultural producers was reached by television, given the size of the audience and its scattered nature. It was recommended that the value of alternative systems, such as the provision of mobile video cassette units to extension workers, should be assessed and action taken accordingly. The representative of Japan informed the Commission that his Government had decided to continue its support to the project for 1984. The Commission expressed its appreciation to the Government of Japan of its continued generous support to the Agricultural Information Development Scheme.

Food supply and distribution

408. The Commission reiterated that increasing domestic productivity was a lasting solution to the problem of food insecurity. Agricultural production in the Asian and Pacific region largely depended upon weather conditions. In that respect, the Commission commended the Seminar on Agro-climatic Models for the Assessment of Drought-related Food Shortages in South and South-East Asia, held at Bangkok in January 1984, as highly useful and practical. The Commission recommended that the follow-up technical assistance programme for 1984 outlined at the Seminar be implemented. Several countries expressed their willingness to participate in the follow-up programme.

409. The Commission recognized that, in spite of a rapid increase in the production of major cereals in some countries, food security remained unsatisfactory in several developing countries of the region. In that context, appreciation was expressed of the inputs provided by ESCAP to the first session of the FAO Regional Commission on Food Security in Asia and the Pacific. The Commission supported the idea of establishing a South Asian Food Security Reserve in principle provided the countries concerned agreed to it. It endorsed the recommendation of the Committee on Agricultural Development at its fifth session that ESCAP should be associated with the technical study on the Reserve as and when it was undertaken by FAO. It was suggested that studies on food security should take into account the interest of the food-exporting developing countries in ensuring that a scheme, when implemented, did not distort the traditional trade flows of food products. The building up of national food security reserves could serve as a basis for the establishment of subregional and regional food security systems.

410. The Commission urged the secretariat to take the necessary steps towards strengthening its food trade information and management activities. With regard to the study on food entitlement, it was stated that the identification of obstructions in the supply and distribution systems as well as the formulation of policies to ensure access to food by the lowest income and other disadvantaged groups were urgently called for. Such a study should give due attention to the differences in the geographical, economic and social conditions prevailing in the countries of the region.

Increased supplies of agricultural inputs

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

411. The Commission expressed overwhelming support for the ESCAP/FAO/UNIDO Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP) which was viewed as a fine example of interagency co-operation. The Commission expressed appreciation of the efficiency with which

FADINAP had been carrying out its activities relating to information dissemination, training for manpower development and advisory services in fertilizer production, marketing, distribution and use. Those activities were aimed at increased and balanced use of fertilizers which provided the key to the expansion of agricultural production in the developing countries of the region where the availability of potential arable land was limited.

412. The Commission noted with satisfaction the computerization of the FADINAP fertilizer information system through funds provided by the Government of the Netherlands and with technical assistance from the Government of the United Kingdom. The improved information system would facilitate the exchange of fertilizer-related information among developing countries in the region and would enable the development of a fast-growing data base easily accessible to member countries for ready reference.

413. The Commission endorsed the recommendations made by the Committee on Agricultural Development at its fifth session regarding the FADINAP programme of work as outlined in document E/ESCAP/349. In particular, FADINAP was urged to concentrate its activities on the logistic problems relating to fertilizer management, institutional credit to farmers for the purchase of fertilizers, quality control and regulatory work, promotion of fertilizer use in areas where consumption was low, and the balanced use of organic materials and chemical fertilizers.

414. The Commission urged FADINAP to consider undertaking activities aimed at increasing fertilizer consumption under rainfed farming conditions. For that purpose, it was suggested that such activities should include training programmes on the adoption of improved farming practices, appropriate cropping patterns, the application of optimum fertilizer doses, the layout of fertilizer demonstration plots in farmers' fields to show fertilizer responses, training programmes on the use of rhizobium strains in legume cropping systems, and the improvement of fertilizer marketing and distribution arrangements in dry land areas. In addition, FADINAP was requested to undertake a project for improving the efficiency of nitrogen applied to wetland paddy.

415. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Government of the Netherlands for providing continuous support to FADINAP. It urged the Netherlands to continue to provide adequate resources in order to sustain the momentum gained in assisting member countries in the development of the fertilizer sector. The Commission was informed that the Governments of Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany and Finland also contributed to the activities of FADINAP.

416. In view of the increased interest expressed by member countries in its work, the representative

of the Netherlands stated that his Government's support to FADINAP would be continued. It was emphasized, however, that concrete manifestation of support from the countries of the region would be most welcome. The representative of Japan announced that, in view of the appreciation of FADINAP activities that had been expressed, his Government had decided to make a cash contribution of \$US 108,000 for the year 1984.

417. The Commission urged UNIDO to increase its participation in FADINAP activities in line with the recommendation made during the Fourth UNIDO Consultation on the Fertilizer Industry, held at New Delhi in January 1984. The ESCAP secretariat was requested to continue its efforts to secure adequate staffing for FADINAP by making more regular budget posts available so as not to disrupt the ongoing activities widely acclaimed by all countries in the region.

ARSAP/agro-pesticides

418. The Commission noted that the activities related to agro-pesticides under the agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific (ARSAP) had been terminated and expressed gratitude to the Government of the Netherlands for its support of the programme since 1978.

419. It noted with satisfaction that the economic survey and information function of the agro-pesticides programme was being carried out efficiently by the UNIDO Regional Network for the Production, Marketing and Control of Pesticides in Asia and the Far East, in Manila.

420. It recognized the urgent need for continued training in the safe handling and efficient use of agro-pesticides in the Asian and Pacific region. In view of the many requests for a follow-up programme on retailer training under the ARSAP/agro-pesticides project by developing countries in the region, an appeal was made to relevant organizations and potential donors to consider taking the necessary steps in that regard.

Rural development focusing on disadvantaged groups

421. The Commission endorsed the secretariat's activities which had been developed and implemented to deal with rural poverty. In that context, it commended several projects relating to participatory approaches involving the target groups in the development process, promotion of non-farm employment and income-generating activities among rural workers, local-level planning, the formation of small farmers' and landless groups, and the promotion of co-operatives for undertaking marketing activities. It recommended an exchange of information and experience among member countries with a view to promoting effective rural savings mobilization and credit delivery systems. The secretariat was requested to undertake a detailed examination of the monitoring and evaluation system which was needed

to ascertain the impact of the programmes on the alleviation of rural poverty.

Enhancing the role of women in agricultural and rural development

422. The Commission highly appreciated the secretariat's initiatives in promoting the integration of women in agricultural and rural development. Several delegations highlighted the importance which their Governments attached to the improvement of the socio-economic conditions of rural women reflected in the launching of special programmes. The representative of Indonesia reiterated his Government's readiness to host the project, "Enhancing the role of farmers' wives in achieving a balanced diet by utilizing domestic resources".

423. The Commission was informed that, in November 1984, the Government of the Philippines would celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of rural improvement clubs. On that occasion, three successful income-generating projects in agricultural production and processing initiated and managed by women would be highlighted as models for replication elsewhere in the country. The Commission appreciated the invitation by the representative of the Philippines to rural women leaders of Asia to participate in the celebration of the anniversary and to exchange their experiences. The secretariat was urged to seek financial support to meet the travel costs involved.

424. It was suggested that the secretariat should make available information on a wide range of potential programmes aimed at recognizing the role played by women, inevitably and traditionally, in agriculture in the region. It was noted that the issue of women in agricultural and rural development had also been discussed at the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women held at Tokyo in March 1984.

425. The Commission supported the intensification and expansion of programmes aimed at assisting the member countries in improving the socio-economic conditions of women.

Development issues and policies

426. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the work of the Development Planning Division, especially for the comprehensive coverage and the excellent quality of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*, 1983. The Commission found the analysis of the recent economic situation perceptive, accurate and extremely useful. Some delegations supplemented the information in the Survey with more detailed accounts of economic and social development and policies. The Commission noted that the least

developed countries and the island economies had experienced greater hardship than others.

427. Useful as the analysis of current economic Events of concern to the region was, the Commission recommended that a part of the Survey should be devoted as in 1982, to discussing, in substance, a major problem of development facing the region. The Commission gave further strength to its suggestion that the secretariat undertake a study of the factors which had enabled the ESCAP region to weather the ravages of recession better than other developing regions. The Commission also requested the secretariat to explore the feasibility of using its work on economic models and other sources to provide even tentative short-term forecasts of levels of economic activity in the region in order that member Governments might make better use of the Survey in planning and policy formulation.

428. The Commission attached great importance to the mid-term review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and noted that the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1983, together with the comments and views of the Commission on the document at the current session, would comprise the contribution of ESCAP to that exercise. It commended the secretariat for its excellent work in conducting the first review and appraisal. One delegation pointed out that a solution to the problems of the mounting external debt of developing countries should be found primarily in their efforts at achieving self-reliance in capital needs. That delegation considered that it would be most effective if Governments and international organizations extended their co-operation to countries committing themselves to that objective.

429. The Commission noted with approval that as part of the preparations for the mid-term global review to be held in September 1985, the secretariat would prepare an analysis of the economic situation of the least developed countries of the region with a view to bringing out progress in the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries. That analysis would be considered at a meeting of senior officials who would submit a report containing their recommendations and conclusions to the Commission at its forty-first session. After endorsement by the Commission, the report would comprise the regional input to the global review. The convening of the meeting would be subject to the availability of resources.

430. The Commission recalled that while adopting the Programme of Action, the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries had placed the responsibility for its implementation, follow-up and monitoring at the regional level on regional commissions. It urged the secretariat to contribute more effectively to the implementation of the Programme of Action

in the coming years and to redouble its efforts to speed up the process in order to make up for the dismal performance, so far, in the implementation of the Programme of Action.

431. The Commission emphasized that in its work programme, the secretariat should give high priority to the least developed countries of the region to assist them in easing structural constraints to their growth and development. As that responsibility devolved on all substantive divisions of the secretariat, the work programmes should fully take into consideration the requirements of the least developed countries.

432. Some delegations gave an account of the assistance provided by them to the least developed countries and to the secretariat to undertake programmes connected with those countries.

433. The representative of UNCTAD stated that UNCTAD, in close collaboration with the regional commissions and United Nations agencies, was making arrangements to prepare for the global mid-term review. He observed that the UNCTAD secretariat would continue to have regular consultations with ESCAP.

434. The Commission viewed with appreciation and supported the efforts of the secretariat in regard to macro-economic modelling and projections under the two projects: "Medium-term projections in the ESCAP region", with financial assistance from the Government of the Netherlands, and "Interlinked country modelling system", with financial assistance from UNDP (RAS/81/098). Many delegations expressed satisfaction at the benefits their countries had derived by participating in the secretariat's technical assistance activities in that regard, while others expressed their intention to partake of them more intensively. The Commission considered the activity very useful in enhancing the capabilities of developing member countries for quantitative economic planning. One delegation pointed out the need for paying proper attention to the collection of appropriate statistical and other information before under-taking modelling exercises. The Commission noted the need for countries to endorse the project document RAS/81/098.

435. The Commission noted the document on the role of a unified approach to development planning in the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific in the report on the implementation of resolution 229 (XXXVIII) forming the annex to document E/ESCAP/354. One delegation pointed out that questions of regional development, of benefits to groups in positions of disadvantage such as landless labour, youth and women, and of popular participation were highly important in planning and policy formulation in its country. Another delegation emphasized the importance of comprehensive planning linking sectoral planning with regional planning and planning for the short term in the context of longer-term objectives.

436. The Commission also noted that the Seminar on Sectoral Planning Techniques and the Mechanism for Intersectoral linkages had been conducted in the USSR in 1983 and took note of the plans for a similar seminar on regional planning techniques in 1984 as well as a training course for planners from developing countries in the ESCAP region at the Higher Economic Course of the State Planning Commission of the USSR. Some delegations expressed appreciation of the opportunities provided by those seminars and courses. The delegation of the USSR confirmed its readiness to hold the 1984 seminar and looked forward to further co-operation with the Commission in development planning matters.

437. The Commission noted the nomination of the Development Planning Division to maintain liaison with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and to collaborate eventually with it in its activities. The Commission also took note that APDC has become an intergovernmental organization with its own charter and governing body and would no longer fall within the purview of the Development Planning Division.

Transnational corporations

438. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/355.

439. Noting that the continuing significance of transnational corporation (TNC) activities in the primary, manufacturing and tertiary sectors had important implications for host developing countries in the ESCAP region with respect to the attainment of their economic and social objectives and development priorities, the Commission deliberated on a number of issues related to TNC involvement in the Asian and Pacific region, and its changing dimensions, patterns and forms of interaction with host countries, and its impact. The Commission recognized that the increasing mutual interdependence between TNCs and developing countries had led to efforts by Asian and Pacific host countries to enhance their understanding of TNC activities, to develop legislative and administrative arrangements for TNC participation and to strengthen national capabilities for negotiating with TNCs so as to maximize the positive contributions to be obtained from TNCs to socio-economic development while minimizing any negative impact which TNC activities might have.

440. The Commission focused on issues relating to the role of TNCs in providing technology for development as well as a number of other issues connected with TNC participation and its impact in developing Asian and Pacific countries. It agreed that the acquisition of technology was becoming the major concern of the developing countries in prompting TNC investment and noted that TNCs played a pivotal role in the transfer of technology. It also noted that several difficulties

remained with respect to technology acquisition by developing countries. It felt there was a need for a thorough appraisal of the nature and quality of the technology transferred, the cost of technological hardware and software and the manner in which imported technologies might be integrated with available domestic capabilities so as to ensure that TNC participation contributed to an advancement in the technological capabilities of host countries.

441. The Commission noted that the important role of TNCs in the flow of technology was related to their dominant position in global production and commercialization of many industrial products and their ability to invest in costly and risky research and Development activities. Production and process technologies in the industrial sector, in particular, were sold primarily by TNCs which were the main proprietors of such technology in many of the developed countries. Much of the industrialization that took place in many developing countries of the Asian and Pacific region was based upon technology obtained from rNCs; one indicator of that was the substantial increase in their technology imports during the last decade or so. The Commission further noted that Governments as well as the private sector of many developing Asian and Pacific countries looked to TNCs not so much for provision of capital as for their contributions to technology. The proliferation of non-equity arrangements for TNC involvement as alternatives to the traditional direct investment package appeared to be partly related to that shift in emphasis towards technology acquisition as the primary objective of host countries. Such proliferation, while indicating greater flexibility and choice for host countries as well as for TNCs, also made it necessary that the bargaining strength of developing ESCAP countries vis-a-vis TNCs be strengthened further in the light of the greater access which TNCs had to information necessary for formulating remunerative contracts and agreements.

442. With respect to the nature and quality of the technology transferred, the Commission observed that most countries in the region sought advanced technologies which were not indigenously available or could not be developed indigenously in a short time. The approach and emphasis varied among countries depending upon the level of domestic skills and capabilities as well as the emphasis laid on the Attainment of domestic technological self-reliance. In that context, the Commission noted that research findings by the ESCAP secretariat indicated that the import of simple technologies and repetitive imports of technology were not uncommon and that in many cases, technology payments were tied simply to trade marks, brand names or access to the international markets. Moreover, secretariat studies conducted for the interregional project on TNCs in primary commodity export industries, as well as information provided at the

Workshop on the Role of Transnational Corporations in Special Economic and Export Processing Zones held at Guangzhou and Shenzhen, China, in November 1983 and at the Consultative Meeting on Transnational Corporations' Contribution to Technology for Development held at Bangkok in January 1984 appeared to confirm the tendency of TNCs to concentrate in lower-value-added and/or technologically simple activities. At the same time, the Commission stressed that there were also indications that some developing ESCAP countries had succeeded in importing technology in important and growing sectors of the manufacturing industry and in improving the quality of the technology imported over time.

443. The Commission felt that a major concern of host developing countries in the region was the cost of technology imported through TNCs -both in terms of the direct cost in the form of financial payments for machinery and equipment, for the use of trade marks and patented processes and for soft technology of various kinds such as know-how, management, technical and marketing information, and of the indirect cost to the host country resulting from various restrictive clauses attached to the sale of technology, such as compulsory purchases of raw materials, export restrictions and restrictions on research and development. Since readily discernible market prices frequently did not exist for technology, the direct as well as indirect costs of technology imports depended greatly on the negotiating capacities of the recipients, especially in the case of contractual arrangements. The Commission emphasized that host country negotiating capacities with respect to the cost of technology depended upon an informed understanding of TNC practices in the pricing of technology. Information collected in the recipient ESCAP countries examined by the secretariat study indicated that the level as well as the range of the financial costs of technology imports varied considerably, the length of time over which fees were to be remitted often being relatively long or open-ended, and restrictive conditions being quite common in technology contracts. Technology suppliers seemed to attach the greatest importance to export restrictions in some form or another, while tied purchases and restrictions on the use of know-how upon expiry of contracts were other relatively common forms of restrictions. In that regard, one delegation stressed that Governments should be sensitized to TNCs' need for adequate remuneration and protection of intellectual property.

444. The Commission recognized that a most complex area of concern to host developing countries related to the extent to which imported technologies were absorbed and domestic technological capabilities enhanced by collaboration with TNCs. In that regard, the Commission noted the need to examine and evaluate the contribution of TNCs to host country technological capabilities and the need to identify the modes and linkages for successful transfer.

445. The Commission observed that developing Asian and Pacific countries faced several policy issues in relation to technology transfer. The areas of concern were related basically to the choice between free and controlled import of technology, the appropriate mechanisms for control and regulation, alternative channels of technology transfer and the integration of the policy for technology transfer with science and technology and general economic policies. With respect to the first, the Commission observed that although there was general agreement on a mutually beneficial relationship between TNCs and host countries, the degree of government intervention in technology imports varied among developing ESCAP countries. The views of the delegations ranged from advocacy of minimal government intervention to the establishment of effective national control over TNC activities. It was noted that several countries in the region, especially at the early stages of industrialization, had taken a relatively selective approach, coupled with legal and regulatory mechanisms for technology transfer from TNCs. It was proposed that the secretariat undertake studies on appropriate mechanisms to regulate alternative forms of technology transfer, taking into consideration factors such as direction; quality and direct and indirect cost of technology as well as the ability of host countries to absorb technology.

446. The Commission noted that Asian and Pacific countries were currently attempting to influence the mode of technology transfer mainly through regulation of foreign investment, either through measures controlling equity involvement or those affecting the choice of industry open to TNCs. In that context it was mentioned that TNCs with equity participation in joint ventures with local enterprises had made substantial contributions to the transfer of appropriate technology. The Commission recognized the lack of comprehensive information on TNC activities in technology transfer to Asian and Pacific countries, including that on TNC participation in alternative forms of non-equity arrangements, and emphasized the importance of co-operation among developing countries in the sharing and exchange of information and experiences on direct and indirect foreign investment. The Commission recognized that since the costs and benefits of alternative arrangements did not depend upon the choice of the channel alone but on a number of other factors such as the stage of development, the absorptive capacity of the host country and of the recipient firms, the general economic framework and policies and the fiscal regimes, host countries should be aware of the implications of alternative arrangements and make appropriate choices to maximize the benefits to themselves on the understanding that the main responsibility rested with the developing countries to create a climate conducive to TNC investment.

447. The Commission recognized the need to integrate technology transfer policies with economic policies and policies for science and technology. The Commission emphasized the importance of co-ordinating policies for technology transfer and science and technology policies so as to strengthen technological self-reliance and the ability to assimilate imported technology. The Commission recommended a thorough appraisal of, among other things, the integration of imported technologies with available domestic capabilities, which was necessary in order that the presence of TNCs might contribute to an advance in the technological capabilities of the host country.

448. The Commission noted that the emergence of TNCs from developing Asian and Pacific countries had opened new avenues for the transfer of technology within the region. The delegation of the Republic of Korea indicated willingness to contribute to the technological strengthening of its neighbours in the region which were newer entrants to the search for improved technology. That delegation expressed the willingness of its Government to co-operate with the ESCAP secretariat in arranging workshops and seminars for the exchange and dissemination of information and knowledge on technology transfer through TNCs.

449. The Commission noted that the experience of developing Asian and Pacific countries in export processing and special economic zones might be relevant to the attempts of others of those countries to acquire technology through TNCs. While recognizing the limited success in attracting advanced technology activities by TNCs in export processing zones, the Commission felt that the experiences of one country in special economic zones, some of which were established with technology acquisition as a major objective, might have valuable lessons for other countries seeking to attract advanced and appropriate technologies.

450. The Commission recommended that ESCAP programmes and activities should include aspects of the development of technology management and of the development of technology monitoring, assessment and evaluation in the area of technology acquired through TNCs.

451. The Commission took note of the several outstanding issues relating to TNC participation in the primary commodity sector of the region, and the importance of enhancing benefits to host developing countries by increasing participation in value-added activities and strengthening bargaining positions. Those issues had been deliberated upon at the Interregional Seminar on Transnational Corporations and Primary Commodity Exports convened at New York from 29 August to 2 September 1983 to discuss the findings of the ESCAP/ECA/ECLA Interregional Project on TNCs and Primary Commodity Exports. The Commission also took note of the importance of the proposals of the Interregional Seminar for measures and activities

to be undertaken by developing countries and producer associations concerning primary commodity exports.

452. The Commission recognized the growing importance of intraregional investment and other activities within the region by TNCs from developing Asian and Pacific countries. It was emphasized that such activities within the region provided scope for South-South co-operation. It was noted that the phenomenon of intraregional investment generally, and that of the relatively small foreign investment flows in particular, from the industrialized and newly industrializing countries to the less industrialized countries presented an important issue for further study and consideration. Private foreign investment from regional TNCs could supplement that from developed countries and assist in the transfer of technology. In that context, it was recommended that ESCAP take steps to map out the strategies and a plan of action to ensure meaningful co-operation amongst developing Asian and Pacific countries with respect to the activities of TNCs based oil regional developing countries. The Commission took note of a recommendation that the secretariat study the possibility of establishing an institutional mechanism whereby it could assist in setting up joint ventures between TNCs from the region and private investors in the less industrialized Asian and Pacific countries. Such a mechanism could assist the latter in the selective import of technology, strengthening their capacity for indigenous adaptation and absorption and upgrading the skills of their work force. The Commission also emphasized the importance of co-operation among developing ESCAP member countries in sharing and exchanging information and experiences on direct foreign investment and non-equity forms of TNC participation.

453. The Commission noted the considerable involvement of TNCs in the trade of the developing ESCAP region and the important role played by them in providing developing Asian and Pacific countries with access to markets and marketing services. Some delegations drew attention, however, to the adverse effects of TNC trading activities in commodities as well as in technology. One delegation expressed the view that TNC activities in trade contributed to an international division of labour which inhibited the potential capabilities of developing countries. The TNC strategy of continuously changing technologies and products rendered the manpower and expertise of developing countries obsolete and brought about a decline in traditional occupations as a result of imports. As a result, there was a need for a comprehensive examination of the structural change occurring in the employment patterns of the developing member countries as a result of commodity and technology trade through TNCs, so that countries could make appropriate choice of goods traded and trading partners.

454. The Commission recognized the special situation and needs of the least developed, land-locked and developing island countries. There was scope for increasing the benefits to those countries through the formulation and implementation of appropriate policies. It was observed that the least developed countries had generally been bypassed by TNC activities and lacked experience in dealing with TNCs. The Commission noted the need for greater assistance by the secretariat to those countries. Delegations from the Pacific subregion expressed their appreciation of the research, information and technical advisory services provided by the ESCAP secretariat, the latter in collaboration with UNCTC. The delegations acknowledged that the Ministerial Round Table on Transnational Corporations convened in response to a proposal made at the thirty-eighth session and held at Apia during February-March 1984, had been useful in the context of the need to enhance the Pacific island countries' awareness and capabilities in matters relating to TNCs. The delegations called upon the secretariat to undertake follow-up activities to the Round Table through more detailed case studies and further problem-oriented research, information and advisory activities in the Pacific, and urged donor countries to provide extrabudgetary support to the ESCAP/UNCTC Joint Unit's activities in the Pacific.

455. The Commission noted the diversity in member country policies relating to TNCs, which was appropriate in view of the differing conditions, needs and objectives of host countries in the region. It emphasized the need for developing host countries to provide clear and stable conditions for investment in order to take advantage of TNC contributions. It was pointed out that a stable and predictable economic and regulatory environment would encourage risk-taking and innovation by enterprises. In that connection, one delegation drew attention to the considerable liberalization of policies on TNCs and the flexibility in the implementation of regulations as a result of increased recognition by developing country Governments of the benefits available through mutually satisfactory arrangements with TNCs. The delegation emphasized the need for Governments to allow markets to allocate scarce investment resources efficiently, and suggested that Asian countries which had prospered through private investment and entrepreneurship, both local and foreign, could provide a model for others. Some delegations noted that TNC contributions to development were non-debt-creating and thus held advantages for developing Asian and Pacific countries. The deleterious effects of over-reliance on debt financing which some developing countries had recently experienced made that a factor of particular significance. Several other delegations, however, noted that while TNCs played an important part in several economies of the region, their operations were sometimes incompatible with national laws and objectives and had negative effects on socio-economic development. The Commission

emphasized the need for improved and more comprehensive understanding of the impact of TNCs on developing Asian and Pacific countries and for the formulation of appropriate policies and regulatory mechanisms, for strengthening the negotiating capacities of developing ESCAP member countries.

456. The Commission emphasized that developed countries, on their part, should facilitate the flow of investment to developing countries. One delegation expressed the view that bilateral agreements with developing countries were more effective than multilateral agreements in encouraging outward investment from developed to developing countries. Such agreements were designed to protect investments under the law of the host country to provide for prompt and adequate compensation, and to secure "national treatment" for companies investing abroad, thereby stimulating the flow of investment between the two signatory states.

457. The Commission noted the progress made with respect to the drafting of the code of conduct on TNCs and stressed the importance of an expeditious adoption of the code which would contribute substantially to providing an equitable and mutually beneficial basis for relations between developing countries and TNCs. It was emphasized that the draft code should be applicable to all countries and aim at promoting positive elements and reducing negative aspects of TNC interaction with developing countries, promoting stable relations based on trust between the host country and TNCs, and improving the foreign investment climate. One delegation expressed the view that it was regrettable that the draft code of conduct which the international community had been attempting to prepare during the past few years had been brought to an impasse by rigidity in the approach of developed market countries.

458. The Commission commended the ESCAP/UNCTC Joint Unit on Transnational Corporations for its research, information and technical advisory activities directed towards enhancing the capabilities of developing ESCAP member countries to benefit from TNC activities. In addition to further research studies on the substantive issues of relevance to the Asian and Pacific region to which the Commission's attention had been devoted, and the provision of more comprehensive information services to member countries, the Commission emphasized the importance of workshops and seminars for strengthening the negotiating skills of host country officials in the region. Among others, the recommendations included those for country workshops which would bring together officials concerned with negotiations and representatives of TNCs, workshops and similar activities to strengthen the awareness and capabilities of Pacific island countries in matters relating to TNCs, and national and regional seminars on technology transfer in specific sectors such as electronics and petrochemicals.

459. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the extrabudgetary support provided by the Governments of the Netherlands and the Federal Republic of Germany to the Joint Unit's research projects. Many delegations emphasized the need for extending increased extrabudgetary and other support to the Joint Unit's programme of work and urged donor countries and agencies to provide financial support for the Joint Unit's activities.

Industry, technology and human settlements

460. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/348, E/ESCAP/352 and E/ESCAP/357.

Industry

461. The Commission reaffirmed the critical role of industrialization in the economic and social development of the developing countries. The past few years had seen a number of disquieting developments in the global economic situation which had had a significant effect on prospects for further industrialization of the developing countries of the region. Those developments had caused uncertainty with regard to the attainment of the regional contribution to the global industrial production, as envisaged in the Lima target. The decline in export earnings, monetary instability and reduced financial liquidity had reduced investment resources. In many countries, such difficulties had contributed to the re-phasing of several industrial projects, the devaluation of currency and the tightening of budgetary expenditure.

462. The Commission noted, however, that despite those problems, the regional industrial performance had shown satisfactory trends. Industrial growth had been maintained at higher rates than those achieved in other developing regions of the world. The Commission recognized that, with appropriate strategies and policies, the region could become a new centre of industrial growth, based on a viable internal dynamism. The region had the resources and capabilities to achieve that objective. In that regard, the Commission noted the work of the secretariat and drew attention to the useful studies undertaken on the review and appraisal of industrialization in the developing ESCAP region.

463. The Meetings of Ministers of Industry had provided valuable guidance in the reorientation of policies and strategies. The guidelines and directives provided by the ministers had emphasized the importance of growth with social justice which would continue to remain valid during the coming years. The Commission endorsed the report of the ESCAP Preparatory Meeting of Ministers of Industry for the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO as a valuable contribution to the discussions during the Conference. It recommended that the report be submitted to the Conference as the regional position.

464. The Commission noted that in the implementation of activities, efforts should be made towards increasing the concentration of effort and co-ordination with other international organizations and agencies, in order to secure the maximum benefits in the context of the limited resources available to the secretariat. It stressed the following aspects:

(a) Special emphasis should be placed upon the development of exports, and rapid improvement in productivity and modernization;

(b) South-South co-operation in industrialization should be strengthened;

(c) North-South co-operation in industrialization should also be strengthened. In that connection, the Commission urged that there be a political will to enhance such North-South co-operation;

(d) Severe difficulties faced by a number of least developed and island developing economies in implementing their programmes of industrialization, despite the overall satisfactory industrial performance of the developing countries of the region. Urgent attention should be paid to evolving the measures necessary to promote industrialization in the least developed and Pacific island developing countries in order to reduce the extent of unevenness in industrial development prevailing within the region. The Commission called upon the international community to support, on a priority basis, the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries at the regional and global levels;

(e) Measures should be taken to improve the efficiency and management of public sector industrial projects. Similar attention should be paid to programmes in small and medium-scale industries and agro-industrial sectors which would lead to the full utilization of private sector industries and investment to support overall progress in industry;

(f) Special efforts should be made to establish proper linkages between technology and the manufacturing sector in the region;

(g) Appropriate national fiscal policies should be adopted to attract foreign private capital participation in industry in order to obtain the maximum benefit to industrial development on mutually advantageous terms and conditions and within the context of the national sovereign interests of the member countries. In that connection, the Commission noted the overriding importance of harnessing domestic resources to finance national investment ;

(h) The social aspects of industrial development, such as employment, the equitable distribution of income, rural industrialization, the dispersal of industries and the participation of women in industrial activities,

particularly in entrepreneurship, should be given due attention;

(i) Further steps should be taken to ensure fuller utilization of national resources and manpower in industrialization. In that connection, the Commission stressed the importance of linkages between agriculture and industry to enable the maximum participation of rural populations in industrial activities ;

(j) In view of the importance of energy as an industry input, the secretariat should pay special attention to the exploitation of non-traditional forms of energy, such as geothermal, solar and nuclear energy, without limiting attention to the more traditional forms of energy which required conservation and training programmes to make them more effective.

465. The Commission commended the ESCAP operational programme of agro- and allied industries, particularly from the point of view of strengthening the linkage between industry and agriculture in accordance with the policy directives of the Meeting of Ministers of Industry . Since the economies of the developing countries in the region were largely based on agriculture, the Commission emphasize the continuing need to continue strengthening the linkages between industry and agriculture. Increased industrial processing of agricultural raw materials would increase the value-added, provide employment opportunities and facilitate income distribution. Agro-industrial development, integrated with necessary and built-in distribution co-ordinations, would make a positive contribution to the social objectives of industrialization and the economic development of the rural sector through a comprehensive rural industrialization programme involving the establishment of down - stream industrial activities for major agricultural crops like rubber, coconut, oil palm, cocoa, soya bean and jute.

466. The Commission supported the efforts of ESCAP in undertaking surveys of the potential development of agro-industries to spread the benefits of agro-industrial development to the rural sector. It therefore urged continued support from the developed countries to enable ESCAP to implement its programme in agro- and allied industries.

467. The Commission drew the special attention of the secretariat to the generous statement made by the French delegation at the fourth session of the Inter-governmental Meeting on Agro- and Allied Industries held in 1982, concerning the possibility of technical co-operation programmes between France and developing countries in a number of matters in which the French institutes had expertise, for instance, agricultural machinery, the integrated dairy industry, post- harvest technology and equipment to minimize loss of food grains during threshing, drying, transport, storage and handling operations; fermentation technology; and small- and medium-scale food processing industries.

It therefore urged the secretariat to try and transform those conceptual ideas into operational programmes of intercountry co-operation on either a bilateral or a multilateral basis. Consultation with other donor countries to expand intercountry co-operation should also be further explored.

468. The Commission observed that traditional industries, especially industries processing agricultural raw materials, should be accorded high priority. The application of new and emerging technologies should be consciously promoted and they should have a demonstration effect. It urged that greater importance be given to private sector and foreign capital investment in the development of small- and medium-scale agro- and allied industries.

469. The Commission considered that the development of small- and medium-scale industries deserved high priority in the secretariat's work programme. The development of such industries would be beneficial to the developing countries and assist them in improving their economic and social well-being. It would create greater employment opportunities, assist in entrepreneurship and skill development, and ensure better use of scarce financial resources and appropriate technology.

470. The Commission urged donor countries to contribute the necessary finances for the implementation of the following activities connected with small- and medium-scale industries during the coming years:

(a) An expert group meeting on strategies, policies and measures for the development of small- and medium-scale industries to be organized during 1984;

(b) A technical workshop to deal with problems of modernization and improvement of the efficiency of small- and medium-scale industries, the basic objective of which would be to train technologists and managers working in small- and medium-scale industries. The workshop would constitute the first step in the process of an exchange of experiences among entrepreneurs;

(c) The upgrading of the secretariat's regular publication, the Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, through improvement in quality and enhancement of its usefulness.

471. Industrialization in non-metropolitan areas was supported as an important development strategy. The Commission noted the original intention to set on stream at least one project in each country in order to provide a demonstration of the advantages of the dispersal of industry in generating development on a planned basis. The Commission supported the review to be undertaken to ascertain why low priority had been accorded to the pilot projects identified in six participating countries.

472. There was strong general support for the activities of the "club" for industrial and technical

co-operation which had received particularly strong funding support from Australia. Some delegations requested that the club's functions, particularly among the least developed countries, should be further widened, with assistance from outside agencies. Special priority should continue to be given to raw material processing, energy saving in industry, advisory services and investment promotion.

473. It was considered that countries should contribute towards a central plan for club activities involving the extension of activities into areas such as industrial incentives and industrial management. The participation of both developed and developing countries should be further encouraged and consideration given to the setting up of a central fund for activities of the club.

474. The Commission recognized the important role of public enterprises in many developing countries of the region and emphasized their role in ensuring that industrialization was financed primarily from domestic sources. The Commission noted that the High-level Expert Group Meeting on Industrialization, held from 6 to 8 December 1983, had highlighted the important role of public enterprises. The Commission noted that the delay in the implementation of the project for the improved efficiency of public enterprises had been due entirely to the non-availability of resources. However, in view of the relevance of the project to training and research, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research might be willing to consider favourably the feasibility of supporting the secretariat's project. The Commission therefore urged the Institute to extend support to that project.

475. The Commission also recognized the need to give high priority to the role of private sector industries in the ESCAP work programme and urged the secretariat to give more attention to studying the problems of private industry and ways to assist the private sector, particularly small- and medium-scale and agro-industries.

476. In considering the proposal for setting up a technical advisory group, many representatives felt that the proposed group would be able to assist in the implementation of projects at the national level and in particular to expedite the implementation of activities contained in the minimum programme of action of the Ad Hoc Group of Ministers of Industry. The Commission noted that the secretariat had, as directed by the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment at its seventh session, been in consultation with Governments to obtain their views as well as nominations for the group. It also noted that those consultations had resulted in support for the establishment of the group. Several nominations had been received and it was expected that by the end of May there would be further nominations from countries. A few delegations stated that they were not fully convinced of the necessity for the technical ad vi-

sory group. However, since the majority of countries favoured it, the Commission agreed to the establishment of the group which should deal with both industry and technology, in particular, the implementation of the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development. The Commission agreed that it would be appropriate for the first meeting of the group to be convened after the eighth session of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment. The activities and functions of the group should be determined by the Committee at its eighth session.

477. The Commission commended the work of the secretariat with regard to the regional review and appraisal of industrial progress. In view of the usefulness of the work, the Commission directed the secretariat to extend the coverage to specific industrial sectors as envisaged in phase II. It noted that activities currently in hand were being undertaken in close co-operation with UNIDO. It urged donor countries to support the regional review project, particularly its extension to specific sectors, including the study on export-oriented industries. It also urged member countries regularly to supply the secretariat with updated country data on recent developments with an analysis of the general outlook in respective countries.

478. The Commission urged that continued high priority be accorded to least developed countries and in that regard commended the emphasis on small- and medium-scale industry development, exchange of experience and technical assistance including from other developing countries.

479. The Commission noted that the prime-mover project had brought some favourable results in Bangladesh and Nepal. In the light of that experience, it recommended that the secretariat should continue implementation of the project and offer its services to other least developed, landlocked and island developing countries.

480. The Commission commended the industrial initiatives in the Pacific islands and urged continued follow-up to the ESCAP/ Asian Development Bank/ SPEC Industrial Survey. Encouragement was given to the activities of the club in developing co-operative links with other organizations in the Pacific.

Technology

481. The Commission noted the activities of the secretariat concerning technology. It observed that technology would constitute a critical element in the process of industrialization. It also noted that technology was an extremely important and vital component of the social and economic development of the region.

482. With regard to the programmes and activities undertaken by the secretariat, the Commission took special note of the increasing emphasis of the

activities of the secretariat on strengthening the linkages between industry and technology. It also called upon the secretariat to carry out activities in close co-ordination with other international organizations such as the Centre for Science and Technology for Development, UNIDO, UNCTAD, UNESCO and the World Intellectual Property Organization.

483. The Commission expressed satisfaction that the ESCAP secretariat, functioning as a regional focal point in the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development, had participated in the session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development. It noted that the secretariat was participating in the implementation of 14 out of 24 joint activities of the four working groups set up by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination Task Force on Science and Technology for Development. It urged member countries to study the contents of the 14 projects and present their views to the secretariat so that the implementation of the projects could be effected as speedily as possible. The observations of the countries would be essential in order further to refine, modify and determine priorities so as to take the specific needs of the countries into consideration.

484. The representative of the Centre for Science and Technology for Development informed the Commission that updated information on the status of those activities was contained in the report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, which would be discussed during the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Committee in May-June 1984. The Commission was also informed that additional fields for joint activities were currently being identified and proposals would be submitted after progress had been achieved in the implementation of the projects already identified.

485. The Commission noted that the secretariat had initiated action with regard to the mid-term review and appraisal of progress achieved in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and its Operational Plan. Country surveys were to be undertaken in May 1984 and the report submitted to the eighth session of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment. The Commission urged member countries to co-operate with the secretariat fully in the implementation of that programme. The Commission welcomed the expert services offered by the Government of the Republic of Korea.

486. The Commission also welcomed the secretariat's initiatives on the preparation of a study on the pattern of science and technology policy and institutional framework and their linkages with industrial development. It observed that technological linkages with the industrial sector should be adequately stressed

so as to ensure purposeful development through research and development links to manufacturing enterprises.

487. The Commission noted the close collaboration between the ESCAP secretariat and UNESCO in strengthening the linkages between science and technology and industry and other production sectors. It also noted that UNESCO would be collaborating with the ESCAP secretariat in providing advisory services for technology transfer and strengthening activities in standardization, quality control, metrology, certification and testing.

488. The Commission urged member countries to nominate national counterparts in order to liaise with the secretariat in the implementation of that project. It also observed that the proposed UNESCO regional networks on appropriate technology for rural development, development of alternative sources of energy, low-cost housing and process control could be valuable inputs to that project.

489. It noted with appreciation the financial support and services of experts provided by the Governments of Japan and the Republic of Korea in the preparation of the study on technology for development and the ESCAP Plan of Action.

490. The Commission welcomed the activities of the secretariat with regard to standardization, quality control, metrology, certification, marking and testing. The workshop on that theme to be held in China during the latter part of 1984 would provide further guidance towards identification of problems in that regard. As to the proposed ESCAP support of the implementation of the Commonwealth Secretariat's Asia and Pacific Metrology Programme, the Commission directed the secretariat to examine further the details of the proposed collaboration in consultation with Governments in order to avoid duplication of work. However, it observed that the secretariat should keep in view the scarcity of resources available to it.

491. The Commission endorsed the recommendations made by the ESCAP/RCTT Regional Workshop on Management of Research and Development Institutes held at Seoul in December 1983, namely:

(a) Preparation of a manual and/or guidelines;

(b) Organization by ESCAP and other United Nations agencies of facilities for the exchange of experiences and examination of case studies in view of the relevance and importance of the commercialization of research results;

(c) Special programme for the Pacific island countries, with emphasis on the improvement of training facilities.

492. The Commission welcomed the proposal of the secretariat to prepare, in co-operation with other

concerned organizations, a manual on gas and oil pipeline construction contracts. It welcomed the offer by the Government of New Zealand, which had gained considerable experience in various aspects of pipeline work in surveys, route location, negotiation with landowners, compensation, designing and construction and reinstatement and land etc., to share such experiences and to provide inputs for the preparation of the manual.

493. The Commission commended the activities of the secretariat, which were carried out in co-operation with RCTT, through advisory services provided to member Governments on technology transfer. The specific services on technology transfer agreements through national seminars and training courses, draft agreements on the setting up of joint enterprises, investment agreements, technology transfers and contractual agreements for equipment and machinery in industrial, transport and other services, had proved to be extremely useful. It also noted that the demand for such services had been increasing during the past few years.

494. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the secretariat's activities in strengthening the negotiating capabilities of member countries and recommended that such work should be carried out in close co-operation with UNCTC. In that regard, it observed that efforts should be made to organize survey teams consisting of transfer specialists from participating countries in order to determine the transferable technologies available within the region. Information on such matters would provide ready access to available technologies for industrial use and development. It noted that there were several technologies which had been developed within the region and which could be used among developing countries of the region at less cost and with greater efficiency.

495. The Commission felt that advisory services on post-harvest technology should be provided on a continuing basis to interested member countries. The importance of post-harvest technology lay in its contribution to minimizing waste and bringing about other economies. In that regard, it drew attention to the importance of threshing, sorting, transport and packaging, and inspection.

496. Advisory services should be provided with regard to both the assessment of machinery and equipment and the organization of extension services, training and research. The Commission emphasized the importance of that activity and urged that those services be expanded during the coming years. It called upon member Governments to support the programme on post-harvest technology.

497. The Commission welcomed the offer of the representative of the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration to extend its co-operation to ESCAP

through the provision of experts and in particular to support a "Return of talent programme", aimed at reversing the brain drain.

498. The Commission drew special attention to the secretariat's proposed studies on the social and economic implications of new and emerging technologies. Several of those technologies, such as biotechnology, genetic engineering, laser technology and remote sensing, had attracted interest among many of the developing countries. The Commission called upon the secretariat to undertake studies on those topics and to collect data and information for the benefit of concerned Governments. It observed that those activities should be given high priority in view of the existing interest expressed by the member countries.

499. The Commission commended the secretariat on having organized the extremely useful exhibition project during the course of its session as a visual component of the technology for development theme, as well as a special symposium, at which six well-known international experts on science and technology had addressed participants on the subject of technology for development. The two projects had generated considerable interest and provided an added dimension of understanding of the subject. It was observed that the video facility which had been organized with the participation and co-operation of all member countries of the region would become a useful form for the dissemination of information and training initiatives covering several important and useful aspects of industry, technology and human settlements. The Commission recommended that the addresses made at the symposium should be issued in published form and disseminated to member Governments. It expressed appreciation of the support provided to the implementation of those two projects by the Government of Australia (for the technology exhibition) and the Government of Japan (for the organization of the symposium).

500. The Commission noted with satisfaction the range of activities which continued to be implemented by RCTT, especially in regard to specific advisory services, training activities and technology information and referral services, and commended their utility and importance in enhancing the technological capabilities of developing member countries in technology transfer and development. It endorsed the validity and utility of the network concept upon which the activities of RCTT were based, and felt that that approach had supported and effectively supplemented national activities. In view of its usefulness, particularly in enhancing regional co-operation through active participation in the implementation of the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development, the Commission called for steps to strengthen RCTT. It appreciated the support extended to the Centre by donor countries, UNDP, the United Nations Funding

System for Science and Technology for Development and other international bodies, and underscored the need to increase such support.

501. The Commission commended the useful work being done by the RNAM project, and observed that the project had demonstrated self-reliance and intercountry co-operation in the true spirit of TCDC. The Japanese Government had supported the activities by providing cash and experts on a non-reimbursable basis in the past and would contribute \$US 200,000 in 1984 to strengthen those activities further. It was encouraging to note that the participating countries were also contributing in-cash to help the project achieve its goals.

502. The Commission appreciated the work of the project in promoting meaningful intercountry projects. RNAM had assisted the participating countries in developing their in-house capabilities for the design, development and testing of farm machinery and had helped the countries to produce that machinery locally by providing experts, training and catalytic funding. The Commission viewed with grave concern the possible withdrawal of UNDP funds for institutional support to RNAM, which would prematurely curtail the activities of its programmes.

Human settlements

503. The Commission recognized that human settlements covered a wide range of activities involving legislative arrangements, institutional framework and fiscal measures. It noted with concern the existing deficiencies in the development, planning and management of human settlements, especially the continuing deterioration in the shelter, infrastructure and living conditions of most of the developing countries in the region. Attention was drawn to the problems which required immediate attention relating to rapid urbanization, proliferation of urban areas, serious housing shortages, inadequacy of infrastructure, lack of financial resources and technical capabilities, and the plight of the rural poor. In that connection, the Commission stressed the importance of continuously undertaking effective programmes and projects for human settlements development on a priority basis, and the need for making optimum utilization of land and scarce financial resources. Emphasis was also laid on the need for attaining self-reliance through self-help, raising the income levels of the people, and the involvement of the private sector, non-governmental organizations and the communities in the human settlement development process.

504. While recognizing that land was one of the most critical issues in the development of human settlements, the Commission emphasized the importance of formulating effective land policies to ensure equity in land distribution, efficiency in land use and an increase in land supply for housing the poor. It also stressed

the importance of secured land tenure, and accessibility of land to the poor, as well as the need for conducting training courses and workshops on land management for the benefit of developing countries.

505. It was pointed out that the formulation of a land policy was mainly an administrative and political issue and the enactment of legislation and the creation of institutions with appropriate power to deal with land issues would have to be supported by political commitment.

506. The Commission supported the Committee's recommendations that further discussions should be held on the subject of land acquisition, land development and land management, as those were key factors in ensuring a steady supply of land for housing the poor. In that connection, the Commission noted with appreciation the financial support provided by the Government of India to the secretariat for undertaking a study on land policies for human settlements in Asia and the Pacific. It also noted that an expert group meeting would be held in October 1984 to review the study, which would then be published and widely distributed in the region.

507. The Commission took note of the important issues raised in the document pertaining to shelter policy; dissemination of information; building construction and technologies; settlement planning, infrastructure and neighbourhood improvement; and management of human settlements. In view of the diversity and magnitude of the problems involved in the development of human settlements and the limited resources available to the secretariat, the Commission reaffirmed its endorsement of the implementation of programme elements of the priority areas for the next biennium, which were: "Promotion of innovative and appropriate technologies", "Settlement planning and techniques" and "Integrated programme on improvement of slums and squatter settlements".

508. The Commission expressed concern over the serious housing shortage in the region and the difficulties being faced by many developing countries in the provision of basic shelter and infrastructure to the needy population, especially low-income families, the homeless and the disadvantaged. Attention was also drawn to the basic needs of the masses and to what the Government and beneficiaries could afford to pay. The Commission felt that a shelter policy was a new approach to the housing problem, and that it would be of relevance to developing countries with limited resources, especially the least developed countries in the region. The Commission generally expressed support of a shelter policy which should be formulated in the context of specific national situations. In that connection, the need for the provision of site and services, the promotion of self-help methods of construction and long-term financing schemes for the poor was also stressed.

509. The Commission recognized the catalytic role and significance of the construction industry as an important agent in the development process and as a generator of employment and skills. It therefore stressed the importance of strengthening that industry in general and small contractors in particular. Many countries were currently engaged in large shelter programmes, and the Commission heard with interest that programmes were under way in various countries to improve building designs and construction technologies, notably the UNDP/UNIDO-supported project in Indonesia and the World Bank-financed "Sri Lanka construction training project" aimed at gearing up the local construction industry to meet the challenge of that country's "Million houses programme".

510. In that connection, the Commission urged that attention be given to the development of low-cost designs, training in building technology and construction management and the establishment of appropriate building standards and regulations, taking into consideration the real needs of the residents, particularly the poor. The application of self-help techniques was regarded as a viable avenue to the provision of shelter for large numbers of people, and the change towards the implementation of site and service schemes based on self-help, as witnessed in several countries, was seen as a positive trend.

511. The Commission noted with appreciation the secretariat's efforts to promote the improvement and use of indigenous building materials and urged that further work be undertaken to assist member countries in their efforts to expand that sector of the building industry. That would require support to national building research institutes and assistance in establishing such institutes where they did not exist. It would also imply the dissemination of research results and exchange of experiences among member countries in order that maximum use could be made of the limited research capacities and facilities available. Similarly, the secretariat should collect such relevant information from global sources and conduct studies for dissemination to appropriate government agencies and institutions engaged in building research.

512. As information dissemination was considered an important function of the secretariat in many sectors, the Commission expressed appreciation of the clearing-house function performed by the secretariat in regard to human settlements, as well as its contribution to the preparation of a revised human settlements thesaurus, which was found to be very useful for all classification, reference work and publication of bibliographies on that topic at both the regional and global levels. The Commission heard with interest that the Government of Sri Lanka was making a conscious effort to incorporate information and training in all its shelter programmes. The experience so gathered would, as would

that of Thailand's Centre for Housing and Human Settlements Studies, be shared with other member countries. The Commission suggested that that could be done under ESCAP auspices with a view to promoting innovative and appropriate technologies for building construction.

513. The growth of slums and squatter settlements, which was caused by a variety of socio-economic factors manifested in a population drift to particularly large cities, was a problem faced by most countries of the region. As it was not considered possible to reverse that trend, action 'was needed to divert the flow of migrants to other urban areas and to improve the living conditions in existing settlements. In that connection, the Commission heard with interest the experiences of several countries. They included development strategies based on traditional values, such as self-reliance and self-help, upgrading programmes based on the provision of infrastructure and services, and other innovative approaches. In view of the promise held by such approaches, the secretariat was requested to study and evaluate them and disseminate its findings to the relevant agencies and professionals in member countries.

514. Appreciation was expressed by the Commission of the generous assistance of the Government of Japan in the preparation of the Human Settlements Atlas for Asia and the Pacific and the Study and Review of the Human Settlements Situation to which the United States Agency for International Development had also provided substantial assistance. While several countries had made excellent inputs to both the national- and community-level sections of the Atlas, some countries had yet to forward such material to the secretariat, and in view of the importance of rendering the Atlas both accurate and up to date the Commission urged those countries to do so as early as possible in order not to delay its completion.

515. With regard to the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless in 1987, the Commission supported the objectives and promotion of the Year. It urged countries to take initiatives, organize programmes and co-ordinate activities, including the selection of demonstration projects and the convening of inter-governmental expert group meetings at the regional level, to give greater regional focus to the Year. The Commission noted that 86 Governments, including 12 from the ESCAP region, had already designated national focal points to facilitate co-operation in the implementation of activities for the Year. Some delegations stated that their countries were in the course of making the necessary preparations for the Year, including the convening of meetings at national and local levels, and the assessment of shelter conditions, progress and prospects.

516. The Commission recognized that the rapid process of urbanization and the accelerated growth

of major cities taking place in the region required solutions to urban problems. It noted that lack of proper and effective management of human settlements could lead to such problems as excessive rates of rural-urban migration, insecurity of employment, traffic congestion, uneven distribution of urban centres, the growth of slums and squatter settlements, and inadequacy of public services and amenities. It stressed the need for adopting an integrated approach to development, planning and management of principal cities, intermediate towns and rural centres, as such an approach would help not only to alleviate the problems of regional inequity and unbalanced development, but also to stimulate the growth of rural areas. In that connection, it urged countries to adopt strategies and innovative approaches for the improvement of rural areas, including the physical pattern of rural settlements, neighbourhood layout, basic infrastructure and services.

517. The Commission expressed its gratitude to the Government of the Netherlands for providing financial support to the secretariat in the implementation of a roving training seminar/workshop on rural centre and settlement planning. It noted that the seminar would be held in five or six countries in the region, and urged countries to provide support and host facilities for the seminar, which was scheduled to be held in October 1984.

518. The Commission supported the secretariat's efforts to convene a regional congress on the planning and management of principal cities in Asia and the Pacific in Manila, in response to the Yokohama Declaration adopted at the Regional Congress of Local Authorities for Development of Human Settlements in 1982. While endorsing the recommendations in the Declaration, the Commission suggested that the proposed congress should not be restricted to a particular category of cities, but be open to all interested principal cities, and advised that in preparing and sending the documentation, the secretariat should provide sufficient time for consideration and internal arrangements by member countries. It also expressed the hope that member countries would send their respective delegations to the Manila congress.

519. The Commission noted that a study and review of the human settlement situation in Asia and the Pacific were being published in two volumes, to be available for distribution by the end of 1984. 520. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the various activities undertaken by the secretariat in implementing its programme in regard to human settlements. It stressed the importance of the secretariat's continuously undertaking activities in co-operation with Governments in the region and international organizations in order to avoid duplication of efforts. The Commission also stressed the need for activities to be undertaken by the secretariat to assist countries in the Pacific subregion in training for the

development of human settlements. It directed the secretariat to pay special attention to the development assistance needs of those countries.

521. The Commission underlined the need for the enhancement of co-ordination among the United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations as well as the existing regional centres in Bandung, Indonesia, New Delhi, India, and Ngoya, Japan, and the United Nations University.

522. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the financial and technical support provided by the Government of Japan for the various human settlement programmes. It also noted with interest the various activities undertaken by the United States Agency for International Development to assist developing countries of the region in the planning and improvement of human settlements.

Environment

523. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/348 and E/ESCAP/358.

524. The Commission commended the role of the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit in providing environmental dimensions to its activities in various sectoral areas and in implementing selected activities in various priority areas, namely: the promotion of environmental awareness, the strengthening of the institutional and legislative framework for environmental protection and management, the management of terrestrial ecosystems, and protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems. Reiterating its views expressed at the thirty-ninth session, the Commission suggested that the Environmental Co-ordinating Unit should continue to play a central role as the regional focal point of the United Nations system for the effective implementation of the Nairobi Action Programme on the Environment adopted at the special session of the UNEP Governing Council in 1982.

525. The Commission endorsed the recommendations of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment at its seventh session relating to environmental issues. In particular, it stressed the need for early implementation of Commission resolution 224 (XXXVIII) of 1 April 1982 on incorporation of environmental considerations into the economic and social development activities of the Commission.

526. Regarding the convening of a ministerial-level conference on the environment in Asia, the Commission endorsed the date (6-12 February 1985), venue (Bangkok) and agenda as presented in document E/ESCAP/358. However, it was agreed that the title of agenda item 6 as presented in the document should be modified to read: "Co-operation in the field of environment concerning natural resources". One delegation suggested that the "Declaration on the Asian Environ-

ment" which was to be adopted at the conference should take into consideration the fact that environmental awareness at the policy-making level was vitally important for the harmonization of environmental conservation with sustainable development; and adequate preparation should be undertaken in order to ensure the success of such a high-level meeting.

527. A large number of delegations were in favour of splitting the existing Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment into two committees, one of which should deal with the environment and human settlements, while some delegations held the view that the matter should be considered in the overall context of the improvement of legislative committees. Accordingly, the Commission decided to continue serious consideration of the proposal and to take a final decision at its forty-first session.

528. The Commission appreciated the efforts of the secretariat in promoting environmental awareness through the publication of the environment-development series, the state-of-the-environment report, newsletters, the organization of essay and painting competitions among students and other meetings/workshops for representatives of the media. Noting the significance of those activities in the 'environmental management of the region, the Commission suggested that the secretariat should continue the campaign more widely and actively through its programme of work.

529. The Commission expressed the view that environmental awareness in the region should be built up on the basis of appropriate national strategies and policies on environmental management for which purpose the countries of the region should attach high priority to the process of integrating environmental considerations into the development planning process. One way of achieving that objective was to share their national experiences in integrating environmental considerations into the implementation of major development projects. In that regard, the Commission emphasized the need for the publication and dissemination of environmental impact assessment guidelines and case studies. The Commission requested both ESCAP and UNEP to co-ordinate their promotion of environmental awareness, since UNEP through its regional office, intended to carry out similar activities.

530. Recognizing the role of non-governmental organizations in promoting environmental education and awareness, the Commission recommended that the secretariat should co-operate with and assist the non-governmental organizations to the extent permitted within available resources, such as through the dissemination of environmental information and the distribution of ESCAP Environment News. Regarding the mode of interaction, direct and indirect communication through the concerned ministries and agencies were both recommended. The Commission requested the

member Governments to transmit to the secretariat lists of the non-governmental organizations actively involved in environmental matters in their respective countries, in order to facilitate that interaction.

531. The Commission noted with satisfaction the activities of the secretariat in strengthening the institutional and legislative framework on the environment at the regional and national levels. In that regard, the Commission welcomed the proposal for convening an expert group meeting on the subject, "Integration of environment into development: institutional and legislative aspects", in Tokyo., from 5 to 11 June 1984. However, it was suggested that items 4 and 6 of the agenda for that meeting, relating to consideration of the state of the environment and the draft declaration and action plan, should be deleted, as those matters could ideally be considered by the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on the Environment scheduled to meet in October 1984. In that regard, the Commission expressed its appreciation to the Government of Japan of the technical and financial support it had provided to the secretariat.

532. Expressing its deep concern at the environmental problems relating to soil erosion, deforestation and desertification, the Commission urged member countries to take urgent measures to assess those processes as early as possible. In that regard, it was noted that integrated land-use planning and management constituted an indispensable precondition for the solution of the many serious environmental problems of desertification and deforestation.

533. The Commission noted with satisfaction that, at the regional level, the secretariat was organizing various activities concerned with the management of terrestrial ecosystems in the areas of deforestation and desertification. It expressed the hope that the secretariat project entitled "Study and expert group meeting on environmental management of tropical forests", for which extrabudgetary funds were being provided by the Federal Republic of Germany, would promote sustainable and rational management techniques and help to achieve the environmentally sound use of tropical forest resources within the ESCAP region. The Commission further noted with interest the willingness of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to co-operate with ESCAP in combating the desertification process and in organizing courses on desertification control during the second half of 1984. It expressed its appreciation to the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany and the USSR for their assistance and support in implementing the secretariat's programme of work on terrestrial ecosystem management.

534. With regard to the management of the mountain ecosystem, the Commission advised the secretariat to study possible areas of joint activity with the International Centre for Integrated Mountain

Development in close collaboration with the countries concerned. The representative of the Centre expressed appreciation of the initiatives taken by the Commission.

535. On the protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems, the Commission noted the requests made by a number of developing countries for technical and funding support from ESCAP in developing coastal environmental management plans, following the successful implementation of two similar projects during the 1983-1984 period. In line with the recommendations of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment at its seventh session, the Commission endorsed the proposal for the establishment of a regional mangrove research institute in Bangladesh which should be included in the revised programme of work for 1984-1985, and recommended that a feasibility study for the purpose should be undertaken by ESCAP in the near future.

536. The Commission adopted resolution 239 (XL) on the prevention of oil pollution of the marine environment of the ESCAP region. One delegation reserved its position on the resolution on account of its preambular paragraphs and another delegation expressed its reservation on the second to fifth preambular paragraphs. Another delegation spoke of pollution of the marine environment of the Persian Gulf and of the adverse effects on the environment caused by the use of chemical weapons that had occurred recently, considering it as being of traditional concern and interest to ESCAP on a regional and international scale despite the appearance of its being a localized issue.

537. The Commission supported the secretariat's growing involvement in the environmental issues of the Pacific and suggested that closer co-operation and co-ordination should be maintained with the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme.

538. In dealing with technology for development, the Commission stressed the need for considering its impact on the environment. It recognized the fact that environmental aspects were as important in bringing about improvement in the quality of life as other economic activities. In their endeavours to achieve economic progress, the developing countries of the region should also be alert to the problem that might arise out of unplanned development activities and indiscriminate exploitation of natural resources. The Commission therefore recommended that the Secretariat should pay due attention to the development of technology for combating environmental pollution, deforestation and desertification.

539. The representative of UNEP briefed the Commission on its activities on the environment in various areas in the Asian and Pacific region and its co-operative activities with ESCAP and other agencies within the region. In commending the achievements of the Environ-

mental Co-ordinating Unit and the approach it had pursued in undertaking its task, the representative of UNEP stated that the role of the Unit in the Commission was very significant, and UNEP would continue to extend its support to it. In highlighting the global framework provided by the System-wide Medium-term Environment Programme of UNEP, which under-scored the fact that the environment was multi-dimensional in nature, it was pointed out that the Programme was a mechanism through which the manpower and financial resources of the United Nations system could be "utilized effectively and to the optimum to augment and support "the work of countries on the environment.

540. The Commission expressed its appreciation to the various donor countries and agencies of their provision of extrabudgetary assistance to the secretariat in implementing its programme of work on the environment. The Commission noted that France had supported the preparation of the report on the state of the environment. Considering the severe regular budget resource limitation the Commission urged potential donors to provide the necessary extrabudgetary support to the secretariat in implementing its activities concerning the environment during the biennium 1984-1985. It was noted that such assistance, in particular, was required for the preparation of the state-of-the-environment report, organization of the ministerial-level conference, the promotion of environmental awareness through various target groups such as the media, youth and non-governmental organizations, the development of marine environment protection plans and the establishment of a regional mangrove research institute in Bangladesh.

International trade

541. In reviewing the main issues with regard to inter-national trade, the Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/351 and E/ESCAP/356. The Commission noted that in 1983 the developing countries of the region had continued to experience the effects of the severe recession as they had in previous years. They had withstood the ill effects of the recession in the world economy during the first three years of the Third United Nations Development Decade better than developing countries in most other regions. However, the performance of each country varied, and, in particular, the economies of the least developed and the island developing countries in the region were hardest hit by the recession. The developing countries of the region were still grappling with the problems brought about by the slow-down in economic growth and stagnation in international trade together with continuing high unemployment, a substantial decline in the prices of commodities, deteriorating terms of trade, high rates of interest and volatile exchange rates, payments imbalances, difficulties of market access, intensification of protectionist measures and

fresh barriers to trade. In addition, many of them also faced mounting external debt burdens which not only stifled their economic growth, but also reduced their capacity to import goods essential to economic development. Concern was expressed that for most of the developing countries, the economic outlook for 1984 would not be much different from that of the previous year, although there were indications that recovery had already begun in some developed countries. The Commission noted that a number of countries had taken steps to liberalize their trade.

542. The Commission noted that the main problems and issues concerning international trade and their effects on economic development continued to be gaining improved access to markets, the search for new markets, diversification of commodity trade patterns and greater participation by the developing countries in the economy of their commodities through various measures to increase local processing as well as participation in the marketing and transportation of their exports. Concern was expressed that protectionist measures had continued to impede exports of products of special interest to many developing ESCAP countries. Those measures covered tariff as well as quantitative restrictions, voluntary export restraints, orderly marketing arrangements, and so on. Little or no progress had been achieved in the elimination of those restraints. A number of countries stressed the need for implementation of the commitments already undertaken on the standstill on protectionism and the roll-back of the existing protectionist measures. Developing countries urged that special and differential treatment be accorded to them, as accepted in GATT. One country suggested that it was time to consider a new round of trade negotiations which would cover the unresolved matters under the Tokyo Round in addition to dealing with new areas.

543. Developing countries expressed concern about the erosion of generalized system of preference schemes as a result of the inclusion of safeguard clauses, the application of the graduation principle resulting in the withdrawal of preferential tariff concessions and the imposition of tariff quota limitations for several developing countries on specific products after they had acquired a comparative advantage. The developed countries were urged to improve their schemes by increasing the product coverage and by deepening tariff cuts.

544. The Commission expressed its disappointment with the slow progress in the implementation of the Integrated Programme for Commodities and the functioning of the Common Fund for Commodities. It urged member countries that had not yet done so to ratify the Agreement Establishing the Common Fund for Commodities as soon as possible.

545. The Commission stressed the priorities which should continue to be attached to the pro-

gramme of raw materials and commodities. It welcomed the successful conclusion of the International Tropical Timber Agreement in November 1983 and the establishment of the International Jute Organization at Dhaka in January 1984.

546. The representative of China informed the Commission that his Government would host the ninth session of the Government Consultation among Jute Producing Countries in October 1984. In that connection, the Commission urged that the secretariat, in close collaboration with FAO, ITC UNCTAD and UNIDO, continue assisting the jute-producing countries in the region in their participation in the International Jute Organization and in planning and implementing specific co-operative activities among themselves. It thanked the Government of the Netherlands and UNDP for their continuing interest and assistance in promoting closer co-operation among the jute-producing countries in the region.

547. The Commission noted with appreciation the progress made by members of the Regional Consultative Group on Silk in implementing specific co-operative activities related to the production, processing and marketing of silk and silk products. It welcomed the decision of the Group to organize the Asian Silk Fair in Hong Kong from 16 to 20 August 1984, together with a buyers/sellers seminar on export prospects and the promotion of silk and silk products. It requested other United Nations agencies and donor countries to provide the necessary technical assistance and advisory services for making the co-operative activities of the Group more effective.

548. The Commission also took note that the Inter-governmental Consultative Forum of Developing Tropical Timber Producing/Exporting Countries under the auspices of ESCAP and FAO had served as an effective forum for planning and implementing TCDC/ECDC activities as well as formulating a common position on matters related to the International Tropical Timber Agreement.

549. The representative of ANRPC informed the Commission of the important achievement recently made by his Association in the signing of the Agreement on South American Leaf Blight in February 1984 with the object of effectively preventing the entry and spread of the disease into ANRPC member countries. He thanked the Government of the Netherlands and the ESCAP secretariat for providing technical assistance to ANRPC in specific projects of importance to the Association. He requested the Government of the Netherlands and ESCAP to continue providing technical assistance to ANRPC, as well as other regional commodity arrangements, in order to make their work more effective and beneficial to their members. In that connection, the Commission urged UNDP and donor countries to continue providing technical and expert assistance.

550. The Commission recognized the potential for expansion of trade among developing countries of the region and welcomed the initiatives of the developing countries in increasing co-operation among themselves and expanding their economic relations by setting up arrangements such as the Bangkok Agreement, the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) and the Asian Reinsurance Corporation (ARC). While acknowledging that ACU and the Bangkok Agreement, which were established in 1975, and ARC, established in 1980, had made steady progress, the Commission noted that their contributions to the expansion of intraregional trade and payments had been small owing to their limited membership and coverage. The Commission urged other member countries to join those institutions so as to enhance the expansion of intraregional trade.

551. The Commission noted that the Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement was preparing for the second round of negotiations. It also noted that under the terms of the Agreement, developing countries of the region were expected to exchange tariff concessions on products of interest to them for the purpose of expanding intraregional trade. It welcomed the offer made by the representative of the Republic of Korea to host the second round of negotiations of the Agreement. In that connection, the Commission urged other developing countries of the region to participate in the second round so as to make that activity for economic co-operation among developing countries meaningful.

552. The suggestion was made that the secretariat should attempt to propose appropriate measures for linkages among the trade arrangements of ASEAN, the Bangkok Agreement, and Regional Co-operation for Development, in order to accelerate the economic advancement of the region as a whole.

553. The Commission was informed of the decision of the Board of Directors of ACU to channel the proceeds of petroleum and gas products through the Union; which would increase the volume of its business substantially. The Commission recognized the importance of other member countries joining ACU, particularly those with strong reserves, and urged them to become members so as to make it possible for ACU to extend its settlement period and to provide credit to settle imbalances resulting from trade transactions.

554. The Commission re-emphasized that credit had become an important element of international trade and that exporters often had to sell their products on the deferred payment basis. The secretariat was therefore requested to accelerate its efforts towards the early establishment of an export refinancing scheme.

555. The Commission noted that the intercountry programme for the land-locked countries, funded by UNDP and executed jointly by UNCTAD and ESCAP, had contributed to the evolution of co-operation

between the transit and land-locked countries and of solutions to ease transit trade problems.

556. The Commission endorsed the report of the Special Body on Land-locked Countries on its seventh session. In that connection, the Commission welcomed the offer made by the International Civil Aviation Organization to assist ESCAP and UNCTAD in organizing a seminar on air cargo movement between the least developed land-locked countries and their trading partners. The countries of the ESCAP region urged UNCTAD and UNDP to continue providing financial and technical assistance to implement the work programme endorsed by the Special Body as the basis for the regional programme for the land-locked countries in the ESCAP region for 1984-1985.

557. The suggestion was made that secretariat work on trade facilitation should be undertaken by the International Trade Division instead of the Transport, Communications and Tourism Division, since it dealt primarily with trade and customs procedures. Such an arrangement would facilitate better co-ordination of the work within the countries as well as between ESCAP and UNCTAD.

558. Given the signs of increasing protectionism, including more anti-dumping countervailing duty actions in international trade, the International Trade Division should assist developing countries in obtaining information on such practices and procedures of specific interest to them.

559. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the work being carried out by the Trade Promotion Centre (TPC) in close collaboration with ITC in assisting the trade promotion efforts of the developing countries of the region. The suggestion was made that since it was more than four years since the previous meeting of heads of trade promotion organizations of the region, the secretariat should organize another such meeting in the near future in order to seek new directives concerning its trade promotion activities to meet the emerging needs of the developing member countries.

560. The secretariat was also requested to assist the Pacific island countries by organizing mobile seminars on trade promotion similar to those organized by ESCAP/ITC/SPEC in July-August 1983, with financial support from the Governments of Australia and New Zealand and from UNDP. In addition, the provision of advisory services as follow-up activities by ESCAP in the Pacific region to its brochure "Advice on exporting for Pacific island businessmen" should be considered.

561. The Commission heard with interest the statement by the representative of ITC on its co-operation with TPC and urged that that co-operation be further strengthened.

562. The Commission requested the secretariat to pay special attention to the problems relating to the processing, marketing and distribution of com-

modities of socio-economic importance to the region in pursuance of the resolution adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its sixth session on the implementation of the Integrated Programme for Commodities in the area of processing, marketing and distribution, including transportation.

563. The Commission noted the progress made in the organization of the Asia-Pacific International Trade Fair (ASPAT '85), to be held in Beijing from 15 to 30 November 1985. The Fair, which was co-sponsored by ESCAP, was being organized by the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade. A number of countries had indicated their intention of participating in the Fair as it would be a further means of promoting economic co-operation, trade expansion and the development of industry and technology among the member countries of ESCAP and with other countries. It urged other member countries to participate in the Fair.

564. The Commission noted the readiness of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) to strengthen the co-operation between the CMEA and ESCAP secretariats by working out a joint CMEA/ESCAP programme for expansion of trade between the East European socialist countries and the developing countries of the ESCAP region. For that purpose, it was suggested that a meeting should be held in 1984 between the officials of the two secretariats.

565. The Commission expressed its appreciation to the Governments of Australia, China, Finland, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden and the USSR, and to ITC, UNCTAD and UNDP, of their financial and technical assistance to the secretariat's activities in regard to international trade and raw materials and commodities. It urged that such assistance be continued to enable the secretariat to implement its programme of work in that field.

566. In reviewing trade and economic co-operation among ESCAP countries, the Commission agreed that it would be necessary to convene a meeting of ministers of trade. It further agreed that the Committee on Trade, at its twenty-fifth session to be held in November 1984, should seriously study that question, prepare the provisional agenda and recommend the dates and venue. It should also review the preparatory work undertaken by the secretariat and initiate other preparatory steps for the ministerial meeting, bearing in mind the Commission's objective that such a meeting must be productive and meaningful so as to increase intraregional trade and the economic development of the region. The recommendations of the Committee on Trade would be considered by the Commission at its forty-first session so that a final decision could be taken to convene a ministerial meeting, preferably before the end of 1985.

Natural resources and energy

567. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/342 and E/ESCAP/359 and Corr.1.

568. It endorsed the report, including the recommendations, of the Committee on Natural Resources on its tenth session. It also commended the secretariat and expressed appreciation of its activities in the natural resource and energy sectors to which it attached great importance.

Energy resources

569. The Commission noted the importance of the provisional agenda for the eleventh session of the Committee on Natural Resources, as contained in document E/ESCAP/359, which would deal principally with the subject of energy resource development. One delegation suggested that on account of its importance in the ESCAP region, natural gas should be included as a separate item on the provisional agenda for the eleventh session of the Committee.

570. The Commission requested that the Committee on Natural Resources, at its eleventh session, be fully informed of the activities of agencies or other organizations involved in energy-related projects and of the results of such activities, so as to ensure that account was taken of them in the formulation of any recommendations for further activities undertaken by ESCAP.

571. The Commission endorsed the proposal that the Regional Meeting of Energy Ministers, which was originally scheduled for 1985, be postponed to a later date, possibly 1986, in order to ensure adequate preparation in the formulation of objectives, subject matter and possible outcome.

572. In the development of new and renewable sources of energy pursuant to the Nairobi Programme of Action for the Development of New and Renewable Sources of Energy, the Commission noted the need for progressive implementation with the main thrust and effort being provided by the countries themselves through the full mobilization of domestic resources. The research, development and use of new and renewable sources of energy should be continued. ESCAP could usefully promote a sound regional evaluation of photovoltaic technology and its potential uses, among other aspects, with a thorough review of the experience gathered to date from various countries in the region and an evaluation of the regional capabilities required to assess the technical and economic aspects of photovoltaic technologies.

573. It emphasized the need for an effective regional programme on new and renewable sources of energy supportive of national efforts. It was suggested that the possibility of establishing a regional intergovernmental committee on new and renewable sources of energy

be explored. Such a committee could be patterned after the global intergovernmental committee established by the General Assembly. It could facilitate periodic consultations among member countries in the region and review the programme concerning that topic.

574. The Commission stressed that the use and improvement of conventional sources of energy would continue to be important for development. The need to give greater attention to energy conservation as an essential component of energy planning should not be overlooked. On the subject of the future trend of electric power generation in the region, it was suggested that the value of diesel generation should not be overlooked as in many situations in remote places it was more appropriate than alternative systems. Training programmes and the improvement of institutional arrangements for diesel-generated power should be continually fostered in countries where there were many isolated stations. The Commission noted the readiness of the USSR to contribute to the implementation of the Commission's programme of work on energy resources for 1984-1985, in particular, by preparing studies on "The use of peat as fuel" and "Socio-economic aspects of rural electrification".

575. The Commission noted With appreciation the interagency co-operation concerning energy as reflected in the programmes of the regional energy development programme and the Pacific energy development programme for which ESCAP was the executing agency.

576. It also noted with appreciation all the support contributed to ESCAP by countries, both developed and developing, and other donors which enabled ESCAP to carry out its energy programmes for the region. Mineral resources

577. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the various activities undertaken by the secretariat in implementing its programme on mineral resource development and it commended the important role of the secretariat in promoting the strengthening of national capabilities of developing countries in the region in the rational development, management and utilization of their mineral resources, both onshore and offshore.

578. It supported the secretariat's efforts in the preparation of reviews and analyses of mineral resources in the region, the compilation of regional special purpose maps on geology and minerals, stratigraphic correlation studies, and programmes for the dissemination of experience and technology on the search and exploration of mineral and energy raw materials onshore and offshore, and it endorsed those activities. It also recommended the expansion of the programme on the stratigraphic correlation between sedimentary basins of the ESCAP region.

579. The Commission also expressed appreciation of the positive efforts of the secretariat in assisting the regional and subregional projects: CCOP, CCOP/SOPAC, RMRDC and SEATRADC.

580. It requested the secretariat to ensure co-ordination of the activities among the regional mineral programmes and with other United Nations organizations and agencies to avoid duplication of efforts. Bearing in mind the limited resources available to the regional mineral programmes, the Commission also urged promotion of the pooling of resources in the implementation of those programmes.

581. The Commission expressed deep gratitude to donor countries and UNDP for providing generous financial and technical support to the various programmes in the mineral sector.

582. In view of the continuing need for and the useful contributions of the major regional mineral programmes, such as CCOP, CCOP/SOPAC, RMRDC and SEA TRADC, to the development of mineral resources in the region, the Commission urged UNDP to continue providing financial support to such programmes and also to reconsider its policy of phasing out or terminating institutional support for the four regional mineral programmes.

Water resources

583. Noting that at its tenth session the Committee on Natural Resources had reviewed the progress of the ESCAP regional member countries in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan and identified some of the main problems encountered by the countries in that regard, the Commission endorsed the recommendations made by the Committee to accelerate the implementation of the Action Plan. It also urged the international community and the financing agencies to take urgent and appropriate steps to enable the developing countries to achieve the objectives of the Action Plan. In expressing appreciation of the co-operation of members which had supplied information for the review, it also hoped that all members would continue to supply ESCAP with water resource statistics on an annual basis as well as the information required for the 1985 global review of the Mar del Plata Action Plan which would include the mid-period review of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade. In that connection, it noted with appreciation the steps being taken by some members to compile the data required for the latter review.

584. In the implementation of the objectives of the Mar del Plata Action Plan, the view was expressed that there was a need for intensified co-operation at the subregional level with international support for technical and financial assistance. It was felt that ESCAP could play a useful catalytic role in evolving subregional programmes for the development of water resources.

With regard to the development of shared water resources, the view was expressed that bilateral arrangements would be the best approach.

585. The Commission endorsed the view that the application of the multidisciplinary and systems approach to integrated river basin development would be beneficial provided careful consideration was given to such factors as the setting up of an overall river basin authority or similar body as an advisory body to decision-makers, the availability of sufficient and reliable data, and the testing for suitability of models for the country concerned or the problem under consideration. It endorsed the recommendation that the secretariat should encourage and support the exchange of information regarding the experiences and results of the application of that approach among countries of the region.

586. The Commission agreed that a comprehensive approach to the improvement of irrigation efficiency in the irrigated areas of the region should be adopted. Such improvement was necessary in order to maximize agricultural production and minimize waterlogging and salinity problems. The approach should include engineering, managerial, agricultural, socio-economic and institutional measures. The Commission agreed with the recommendation of the Committee on Natural Resources that a methodology should be devised so that irrigation efficiency in the ESCAP region could be determined on the basis of uniform standards. The Commission urged that the methodology should include consideration of the effectiveness of irrigation schemes as well as their efficiency, and also urged the secretariat to keep in mind the value of small-scale, simple technology projects which tended to avoid the management maintenance, and social complications which in large-scale schemes often inhibited effective water use. Further taking into account the fact that the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) was already carrying (It an assessment of irrigation efficiency in the ESCAP region it was suggested that the secretariat consult with ICID on the possibility of taking account, in the ICID assessment, of the above two points on effectiveness and small-scale schemes.

587. The Commission noted that pollution and health problems could arise in low-cost technology applications in water supply and sanitation owing to faulty conception and application of the technology. They were potential sources of infection leading to a large number of diseases which were water-borne and water-related. The Commission endorsed the strategies recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources to overcome such problems, including dissemination of information, monitoring and evaluation of the performance and utilization of the facilities, training programmes for the staff, educational programmes for the public, and closer co-operation with primary health care programmes in the countries concerned. The Commission

also urged that the ESCAP member countries adopt the recommended strategies so as to ensure the achievement of the basic health objectives associated with water supply and sanitation. It recommended that the secretariat take note of the results of the Regional Workshop for Planning and Designing of Low-cost Water Supply Systems jointly sponsored by the Asian Development Bank and UNDP in Manila from 6 to 14 February 1984.

588. Appreciation was expressed of the ESCAP studies on low-cost technology applications to water supply and sanitation and on pollution problems which could arise as a result of improper application of such technology. The studies had provided useful insights on the subject.

589. Considerable support was expressed for the proposed seminar on water-quality monitoring, which was considered very timely and relevant. There was a suggestion that the objectives of the seminar should take into account the level of technical understanding and type of equipment available. Information on the extent of deterioration of water resources in the countries of the region could also be used to determine the level of participants in the seminar. In that connection the Commission noted with appreciation that Australia and New Zealand were prepared to contribute expertise to the seminar. The Commission also noted with satisfaction the readiness of the USSR to hold in the USSR in May 1984 a seminar on effective uses of water resources for energy development and in 1985 a seminar-cum-study tour on rational uses of investments in the development of the water economy.

590. The Commission urged that the proposed regional network on training for water resource development be established as early as possible.

591. The Commission agreed that there was a need for TCDC activities in water resource management and development on a greater scale and caned upon the secretariat to expand its activities in that regard. It expressed the hope that the registry of water specialists available for TCDC in water resource development and management in the region would be completed as soon as possible. It encouraged the organization of more interdisciplinary missions on water which would be staffed by experts of various United Nations agencies and specialists listed in the registry.

592. The Commission endorsed the addition to the programme of work for 1984-1985 of the programme element "Study tour to selected irrigation systems in the region" and noted with appreciation that China was one of the countries prepared to host the study tour.

593. The Commission commended the secretariat's initiatives to improve the flow of information on water resource development, particularly through the ESCAP water information exchange system.

Remote sensing

594. The Commission strongly supported the efforts made in upgrading the remote sensing capabilities of the developing countries in the region.

595. It expressed the hope that the intergovernmental consultative committee would be established soon to serve as an advisory body to the UNDP-supported regional remote sensing programme.

596. The Commission welcomed the standing offer by the Philippines to host a three-week training course on digital image interpretation through the Natural Resources Management Center and the University of the Philippines.

597. It also noted with interest the offer of Bangladesh to use its satellite remote sensing ground receiving station facilities as a regional facility for the countries of the region.

598. The Commission expressed its thanks to UNDP for its generous funding of the programme. Population 599. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/347 and E/ESCAP/360.

600. It stressed the basic importance of the various population issues to the economic and social development of the members and associate members, and endorsed the report of the Committee on Population on its third session held in August 1983.

601. The Commission recognized the interrelationships between population and development variables and expressed the need to integrate population factors into development planning. In that connection, it was observed that the knowledge base for effecting such integration should be expanded through appropriate data collection, evaluation and analysis. The Commission recommended that the secretariat should provide technical assistance and advisory services to countries, upon request, in that regard.

602. The Commission noted that the socio-economic status of women had a significant impact on levels of fertility, mortality and migration. It further noted that women's status was closely associated with the level of national development and that women's participation was essential for development. Actively involving women in national development should, therefore, both promote development and assist in lowering fertility and mortality rates. As the relationships between development, women's status and demographic behaviour were complex, the Commission recommended that the secretariat carry out detailed comparative studies among countries of the region to assist in developing policies to achieve the desired goals. It urged the secretariat to provide technical assistance

to member countries in the integration of policies related to women's status, population and development.

603. The Commission noted that international migration significantly affected development in several ways. The temporary movement of skilled and unskilled workers from countries in the ESCAP region to oil-producing countries in the Middle East had become a major source of foreign exchange for several countries in the region. It also noted that several countries had experienced the permanent as well as temporary emigration of large numbers of their population each year, but that there had been very little analysis of the demographic, social and economic impact of such migration. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the secretariat was undertaking comparative studies in the region on international migration policy and on the impact of permanent emigration.

604. Internal migration and spatial distribution of population were closely related to the process of balanced development. It further noted that in only a few countries, policies intended to affect migration and urbanization could be considered to have achieved their goals. National migration surveys based on ESCAP survey designs could be valuable in that regard. The Commission urged the secretariat to continue to provide technical assistance in conducting such surveys.

605. The Commission noted with concern that, despite progress in reducing the levels of mortality, life expectancy remained below 50 years in several countries, particularly in South Asia. It observed that high infant and child mortality mainly contributed to the low levels of life expectancy. It also noted that in most countries striking mortality differentials were still prevalent, notably those relating to urban-rural residence, socio-economic class and sex. In order to formulate integrated health development policies aimed at reducing mortality and morbidity, the Commission urged the countries to assess the health situation prevailing in each country and to evaluate different health intervention programmes.

606. The Commission endorsed the view of the Committee on Population that there was a need for continuous monitoring of mortality levels, measures to reduce mortality and appropriate policy formulation. It recommended that the secretariat assist countries in the collection, evaluation and analysis of mortality data. It noted with satisfaction that the secretariat was collaborating with WHO in developing specific health and social policy recommendations applicable to countries at different stages of mortality decline.

607. The Commission noted that in some developed countries in which there had been an increase in life expectancy, the socio-economic implications of aging had emerged as an important population issue. It further noted that in some developing countries which had also succeeded in significantly bringing down their

levels of mortality, aging would soon become an important issue.

608. In most of the countries of the region, vital rates were indirectly estimated on the basis of sample survey data and demographic models. While emphasizing the importance of reviewing and appraising the validity of those models and the reliability of sample survey data, the Commission observed that special emphasis should be placed on the review and appraisal of the vital registration systems in the member countries.

609. The Commission also noted that fertility had been declining in the countries of the region with variations among countries as well as within countries. The countries which had experienced the most rapid declines in fertility for a decade due to changing demographic factors, such as the rising age at marriage, were facing the problem of slower fertility decline attributable to certain socio-psychological factors which governed the desired family size, such as the preference for sons. Moreover, although fertility had declined substantially, it was still above the replacement level in some countries and in others it was still far above that level. Various factors had contributed to the decline including changes in socio-economic conditions and successful implementation of family planning programmes. However, the relative contribution of such factors was not fully understood. In view of the above, the Commission endorsed the secretariat's proposal to continue to monitor the levels and trends of fertility and to study the economic, social, cultural and psychological factors influencing them.

610. The Commission considered the development of family planning programmes in the countries of the region and recognized their importance in the reduction of fertility levels. It was, however, emphasized that family planning programmes alone would not bring down fertility to the desired level. There had to be accompanying structural changes in society and development efforts in order to reduce the demand for children. Further, to make family planning more effective there was a need to integrate family planning with other development efforts and to create greater community participation. The Commission endorsed the initiative of the secretariat in that regard.

611. The Commission noted with great concern the recent problem of the "plateau" observed in recruiting new acceptors and the high discontinuation rates of family planning practices in some countries. It recommended that the secretariat should initiate studies of the problem.

612. The Commission recognized the implications of increasing the demand for family planning services in terms of limited resource availability and the associated problems of management and logistic support. It, therefore, directed the secretariat to assist Governments, upon request, in their efforts to

strengthen family planning programmes by improving the efficiency of the programmes.

613. The Commission stressed the importance of training and affirmed that the secretariat's activities in training at the national, subregional, and regional levels for manpower development in population matters should continue with increased emphasis.

614. Recognizing the central role of information exchange in the integration of population and development, policy formulation and programme implementation, the Commission recommended an expansion of the population information activities of the secretariat and increased technical assistance to assist countries in setting up new national centres and networks and in strengthening existing centres and networks in order to enhance the effectiveness of information systems and services. The Commission noted that such steps would facilitate easy access to timely and useful information for decision-makers and staff involved in population and development programmes.

615. The Commission noted that the secretariat was the focal point in the Asian and Pacific region for the International Population Information Network which had encouraged and assisted the development of viable systems for an organized exchange of information at the regional level. It supported such a role for the secretariat since, by having a clearing-house system, results of studies conducted in member countries could be easily obtained thus making it possible to reduce unnecessary duplication of studies of a similar nature and permitting the limited available funds to be used elsewhere. It further noted that by assimilating the obtained information, countries could formulate appropriate policies not only with regard to population and development but also in other matters such as public health.

616. The Commission appreciated the technical assistance and advisory services in population matters provided by the secretariat to the countries of the region. It recommended that such services should continue and should include, among other elements, assistance in the analysis of data from censuses, surveys and vital registration.

617. The Commission heard a detailed account of the preparations to date for the International Conference on Population, 1984, from the Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference. It noted with satisfaction the preparations that were being made by different countries for participation in the Conference in terms of setting up national committees and preparing documentation.

618. The Commission considered the documentation prepared for the Conference and endorsed the recommendation of the Committee on Population that the major contribution of the Asian and Pacific region

to the deliberations of the International Conference Should be the Asia-Pacific Call for Action on Population and Development adopted unanimously by the Third Asian and Pacific Population Conference and endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-ninth session.

619. The Commission noted with appreciation that several countries of the region, as an expression of the importance theory attached to the International Conference, had made significant financial contributions to it.

620. The Commission recognized the importance of the role of non-governmental organizations in promoting innovative approaches in implementing national family planning programmes. It requested the secretariat to continue its efforts to create a technical group of such organizations to advise the secretariat on working out ways and means of further involving them in supplementing the efforts of national Governments.

621. The Commission also recognized the importance of reaching adolescents, where appropriate, with family life and population education and family planning counselling services. It urged the secretariat to give due attention to that matter.

622. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the extrabudgetary support provided to the secretariat's work programme on population by the Government of Japan and by UNFPA. It also thanked the Government of the United Kingdom for having provided an expert on a non-reimbursable basis.

623. The Commission noted with concern the increasing financial constraints encountered by the secretariat in undertaking some of its population activities and in providing technical assistance and advisory services to the members and associate members. It urged the secretariat to review its priorities, taking into account the urgent needs of the developing countries of the region. It strongly urged the donor countries, especially those which were members of ESCAP, and international agencies, especially UNFPA, to increase their financial support substantially.

Shipping, ports and inland waterways

624. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/365.

625. It noted that as a result of the world economic recession the volume of world sea-borne trade declined by some 293 million metric tons or 8.4 per cent in 1982 and that the world shipping tonnage also shrank. However, the share of merchant fleets of the ESCAP countries increased by 2.8 per cent in the world tonnage and those of the developing ESCAP countries increased from 6.9 per cent to 11 per cent. The Commission further noted that the shipping countries of the region continued to be confronted by a number of major problems arising out of the rapid introduction of new

and advanced technology in fleet units and cargo handling, and out of the depressed freight market when viewed against the high cost of ship acquisition and operation.

626. Several delegations outlined the developments of the maritime industry in their respective countries during the period under review. The Commission was further informed that the shipping lines of the developing countries in the region had been operating under severe financial stress, as was the case of shipping lines of the highly developed maritime nations. In that connection, the secretariat was urged to give due attention to assisting in overcoming the existing difficulties facing the national lines of the developing ESCAP countries.

627. The Commission commended the secretariat for adequately and ably assisting the developing countries to face the challenging situation posed by the persisting shipping recession and the rapid introduction of new shipping technologies. It stressed that the secretariat's activities with regard to shipping, ports and inland waterways had been very pragmatic and had brought immense benefit to the developing ESCAP countries by appropriately addressing the main problems and issues. It endorsed the secretariat's programme of work and priorities for 1983-1984 and the draft programme of work for 1984-1985 and strongly recommended strengthening and enhancement of its staff resources. It urged UNDP and donor countries to give further support to the programmes of the secretariat to enable it to expand its shipping, ports and inland waterways activities.

Manpower development

628. The Commission considered that the manpower development programme in shipping, ports and inland waterways was a key component of various projects and activities. It noted that there was an urgent need for training of maritime personnel in the region, particularly in view of the wish of a number of developing countries to improve and develop their national merchant marines, ports, inland waterways and maritime institutions. In commending the secretariat on the broad range of its training activities, the Commission placed great importance on the continuation of the programme on a high-priority basis.

629. The programme should, among other aspects, incorporate projects designed to improve efficiency and economy in fleet management and operations including the adoption of fuel- and other cost-saving measures. It was necessary to enhance the knowledge and capability of ship managers, officers and crews to operate under the new technological maritime regime of containerization, specialized cargo vessels, international sea safety conventions and automation.

630. The Commission was also informed of the assistance given by the secretariat in the development of a three-year teacher development programme in China in shipping economics. The secretariat was further urged to assist training institutions in providing teachers and training material in management systems and practices, equipment selection, operation and maintenance.

631. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Governments of Denmark, France, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the USSR and the United Kingdom for their generous financial and expert assistance and the Governments of China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand for hosting various seminars and workshops, and to UNDP for its financial support.

Development of maritime policy and institutions

632. The Commission reaffirmed the need to collect and compile relevant and reliable shipping statistics and information as they were crucial for shipping policy formulation and investment decision-making and it urged the secretariat to continue to assist the developing countries in implementing the project on economic statistics of shipping (L.2 scheme). It noted that a number of ESCAP countries had implemented the scheme but that in some cases implementation had not always been a great success because of a shortage of trained manpower. In that connection, the secretariat was requested to provide expert services for a longer period to impart training to counterpart officials. The Commission urged the secretariat to identify and outline statistical formats essential for monitoring and planning the various activities of the national shipping industry.

633. The Commission commended the secretariat's efforts in formulating guidelines for maritime legislation to provide basic and useful information as well as to meet the need for uniformity in formulating and updating maritime legislation. It felt that future activities of the secretariat on maritime legislation could be at two levels:

(a) A periodic updating of the guidelines in line with international conventions. Topics suggested for consideration under the proposed updating in 1984 would include, among others, safety of life at sea, maritime pollution, search and rescue, Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping, maritime safety, and control of offshore industry structures, units and vessels;

(b) Reformulation and codification of national maritime legislation based on the guidelines. Such activities would be of a purely national character. However, the secretariat was urged to arrange for expert assistance to the countries whenever difficulties were encountered in the implementation of the guidelines.

634. The early response of the secretariat to the urgent need of developing countries for a better understanding of the United Nations Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences was highly appreciated. The Regional Workshop on that topic organized by the secretariat, in co-operation with UNCTAD, had underscored the fact that the Code had substantive provisions for a framework of better relationships between shippers' organizations and liner conferences. As wider dissemination of information about the Code could lead to clearer understanding and harmony among all parties concerned, the secretariat was urged to organize similar workshops on the Code at the country level.

Merchant marine and shipping services development

635. The Commission commended the secretariat for its work on the development of merchant marine and shipping services in the ESCAP region.

636. It recognized that in many developing member countries fleet financing met with great difficulties. It noted that deferred fleet replacements adversely affected operational results and could lead to serious situations of block obsolescence of fleet segments. To avoid such situations and in order to facilitate phased fleet replacement programmes the secretariat was urged to assist member countries in their efforts to secure fleet development financing at easy terms, and to increase fleet utilization. It was also considered that liner fleet development warranted special attention. The Commission felt that projects such as the maritime data bank, once operational, would substantially facilitate studies on fleet development and operational research.

637. As regards ship operation, the Commission considered that fleet maintenance, supporting repair facilities and capabilities in many developing ESCAP countries constituted problem areas. In that context, the Commission took note of the meeting of the Expert Group on Shipbuilding and Shiprepair Development for Asian and Pacific countries, held at Jakarta, in March 1984, in co-operation with UNIDO. It also took note of the Meeting of Intergovernmental Experts on Shipbuilding and Shiprepair Development to be convened by the secretariat in the latter part of 1984.

638. Considering the capital-intensive nature and the highly competitive features of the industry, as well as potentials for ECDC/TCDC, the Commission urged the secretariat to review possibilities of a good geographical spread of shiprepair facilities in the ESCAP region through regional arrangements and to explore further approaches to optimize resources and returns.

639. The Commission acknowledged the attention given by the secretariat to the effects of the introduction of new and advanced technologies which expressed themselves in a wide variety of forms such as cargo

conveyance techniques, ship design and construction, vessel specialization, advanced electronic and other equipment, and propulsive techniques and related machineries. The Commission emphasized its concern regarding the effects of such technologies which, in most cases, were developed in industrialized maritime nations. It considered that the secretariat should play an important role in guidance and advice on the choice of techniques and on the methods of application and introduction, and should assist member countries in overcoming technology-related problems.

640. Some delegations expressed disappointment at the lack of discussion on the problems of inter-island shipping for Pacific island countries. The Commission supported the activities of the secretariat designed to improve shipping services in the Pacific subregion and agreed that inter-island shipping was a major problem area. It also considered that the secretariat should foster co-operation in marine insurance and in protection and indemnity risk coverage.

641. The Commission noted that many developing ESCAP countries were among the important producers and exporters of various primary commodities such as jute, copra, timber and rubber, among others. Because of their socio-economic impact, it was considered essential to keep shipping of those and similar commodities under continuous monitoring in order to provide the earliest possible assistance should shipping problems occur. The secretariat was urged to promote early adoption of measures for the facilitation of documentation in line with international conventions.

642. The Commission stressed the need for a continuation of the work of the secretariat on fuel and other cost-saving measures in shipping. It took note of the recently held Meeting of Experts on the Application of Wind-power in Shipping, jointly organized by the secretariat and the Japan Marine Machinery Development Association, the information on which topic was found enlightening.

Development of ports and port management

643. The Commission recognized that if ports were to fulfil their potential for providing an important focus and catalyst for industrial development as well as their traditional role as the link between maritime and land transportation, a whole range of pressing problems, operational, organizational and institutional, should continue to receive urgent attention. It felt that the ports of the Asian and Pacific region had to accept and align themselves with the drastic changes in ship and cargo handling technologies, the foremost of which was containerization, if they were to provide improved services to port users, attract more trade and increase the economic and social well-being of their hinterland and the country as a whole. In that context, the Commission was pleased to note that the detailed ESCAP programme had been pragmatic

and often tailored specifically to such a scenario. Much still remained to be done however and the Commission considered specific attention had to be given to many of the problems which confronted ports, particularly regarding port development policy, design, planning, construction methodologies, equipment selection and maintenance, documentation and information computerization, management systems and practices, upgrading and rationalization of labour, port pricing and investment policy, tariff systems, inland container depot requirements and locational needs, the linkages between ports and inland transportation systems and the implications of multimodal transportation.

644. On the subject of port development policy, the Commission was pleased to note that in response to the strong request from participants at the first Seminar on Port Development Policy convened at Bangkok in January 1983, the Japanese Government had offered to provide further financial and technical support by organizing a seminar-cum-study tour on port development policy in late 1984.

645. The Commission considered the secretariat's port management activities had been very useful and supported its continued efforts in that regard. The port management information system project was of particular interest with the implementation of the model system at a port in the region and the training of a cadre of experts in port management information systems. In that context, the Commission was pleased to note Malaysia's offer to share its experience with other countries in the region, New Zealand's willingness to consider a request for financial assistance for a seminar on the subject as a follow-up to the Seminar on Port Containerization for Pacific Island Countries convened at Suva in May 1983, the USSR's planning to organize a seminar on port organization, planning and management and Australia's preparedness to support further work that placed emphasis on port infrastructure and port management development.

646. The rapid growth of containerization in the ESCAP region had been extremely significant, often necessitating scarce resources to be diverted to new port development projects. However, the Commission recognized that the efficient operation of container terminals also depended on enhancing expertise and skills for which further assistance was of crucial importance if countries were to avoid unnecessarily subsidizing investments. In addition to special management and operational difficulties, particular problems related to selection, maintenance and management of the sophisticated capital-intensive equipment associated with containerization, unitization and other new technologies required further continued attention and in that context the Commission was pleased to note the assistance that had been provided by the Crown Agents (London) and the Government of the United Kingdom as well as the Japanese

Government's offer to provide training on modern port equipment management and the Auckland Harbours Board's continued sponsorship of Pacific island port management scholarships.

647. The Commission requested the secretariat to provide further assistance to strengthening national port training institutes by providing adequate expertise and training aids.

648. The Commission appreciated the constant dialogue and contact the secretariat maintained with ports in the region through seminars and meetings of experts which were of great benefit to both the participants and the secretariat alike, especially with regard to updating information and discussing issues relevant to commerce, operations, finance and policy. In that regard, the Commission was supportive of further regional and subregional co-operative efforts to attain balanced improvement of operational efficiency in ports along trade routes and assistance between neighbouring countries through the provision of access to port facilities.

649. With the adoption of rapidly changing ship and cargo handling technologies in the region, the Commission endorsed the secretariat's efforts to identify, monitor and assess the impact of problems in ports of the region and in that context, welcomed the assistance of the Netherlands Government in making consultancy services available for a fact-finding mission, the findings of which could pave the way to a longer-term commitment by the Netherlands to providing assistance.

650. With the increasing significance of ports to ESCAP member countries and the great importance attached to their construction and development to keep pace with expanding national economies and technological developments, the Commission would warmly welcome increased assistance from the secretariat and an expansion of activities to improve the development of ports and port management. It requested UNDP and donor countries to give further support to the programmes and activities in the ports sector which had consistently provided assistance of great benefit to the developing countries of the region. In/and water transport

651. In recognizing the importance of developing and improving inland water transport in the region as the most economic mode of transport, the Commission underlined the very urgent need to find solutions to such problems as the poor state of waterway infrastructure, the scarce technical knowledge of waterway conservancy and maintenance, the deficiency in operation and maintenance of mechanical equipment, the lack of management and operational skills, and the inadequacy of information and regular statistical data. In that connection, it stressed the important role that

the secretariat could play by reintensifying its work through the organization of training courses and seminars and the provision of advisory services.

652. Several delegations outlined the developments of inland water transport in their respective countries. The Commission was also informed that inland water transport, being the most economic and important mode of transport in Bangladesh, carried about 50 per cent of that country's arterial freight traffic and about one fourth of its passenger traffic. It noted that substantial investments were required from donor countries and agencies to improve the navigational conditions of channels, to develop river port facilities, to provide conservancy and pilotage services and to undertake hydrographic surveys and hydraulic investigations with a view to making meaningful progress in the sector which catered to the needs of a vast majority of the population in Bangladesh.

653. The Commission commended the secretariat on its very useful activities concerning inland water transport and inland waterways. It appreciated the Seminar on Inland Waterways held in France in June 1983 as the experience and knowledge gained at the Seminar and through field visits, especially in the overall development of water resources, were most valuable. In that connection, the Commission urged the secretariat to continue to organize similar seminars. It noted that the use of canals by mechanized vessels called for their extensive lining and that it was necessary to develop mechanized lining systems. It therefore urged the secretariat to include that activity in its programme of work.

654. The Commission emphasized that assistance from the developed countries as well as co-operation among the developing countries were both needed so that problems faced by the developing countries could be better resolved and the vast potential of the inland waterways of the region be duly utilized for the benefit of the social and economic development of the region.

655. The Commission welcomed the offer made by the Government of France to continue to provide technical assistance to member countries on inland waterways. It also welcomed the offer of China to share its experience and expertise with other countries of the region in that regard.

656. Recalling the recommendation made at the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing), at its sixth session, the USSR delegation expressed its support to the secretariat in its programmes concerned with the design and construction of new types of inland vessels and river ports, the introduction of modern navigation and cargo-handling techniques, the upgrading of information and statistical systems etc. It also expressed its readiness to host a seminar-cum-study tour on river ports and the exploitation of inland water-

ways, to provide expert services, and to conduct training courses for river-vessel operators of ESCAP countries at its Water Transport Institute in Leningrad on agreed terms.

Dredging

657. The Commission noted with appreciation the initiative of the secretariat in dealing with the very important aspect of dredging of ports and inland waterways. The limitations imposed by inadequately developed capabilities within the member countries were fully recognized. It had not only prevented the member countries from making full use of the latest shipping technologies as a result of non-availability of appropriate depths in rivers, estuaries and ports, but had imposed serious financial burdens on the ports and waterways of the region in dealing with recurring maintenance and conservancy dredging. The necessity for improving national and regional capabilities in dealing with that problem was therefore fully recognized and the steps initiated by the secretariat for dealing with the problem were endorsed. The Commission noted that the problem was being tackled by the secretariat on three fronts: (a) through conducting regional/ country-level seminars; (b) through advisory services in operations and management; and (c) through training programmes for operators and supervisors.

658. The Commission urged the secretariat to continue such activities and requested donors and UNDP to make that possible through appropriate assistance. The Commission noted with appreciation the national dredging requirement survey for some countries conducted by the secretariat during the period under review. The Seminar on Management of the Dredging Industry held at Shanghai in December 1983 was considered successful and fruitful. The delegation from Bangladesh referred to the serious problems of dredging faced by that country in its seaports and waterways and urged the secretariat to address the problems of higher costs of dredging, hydrographic survey and hydraulic studies to reduce siltation. The Netherlands delegation, while stressing the importance of dredging, mentioned the high expertise that existed in that country, its great interest in solving dredging needs of the region and the joint project in Indonesia under which high-technology split-type dredgers had been built in an Indonesian shipyard to international standards of workmanship.

Shippers' organization and co-operation

659. The Commission commended the secretariat on the very useful work undertaken regarding shippers' co-operation. It stressed that the shippers in the ESCAP region must be appropriately organized, informed and technically trained. In that connection, it noted that the secretariat had organized a number of seminars and workshops during the period under review which had

been aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skills of the shippers and their organizations. It further noted that one of the important achievements of the project was the recent establishment of a subregional shippers' organization, namely, the Association of Shippers' Councils of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

660. The Commission recognized that co-operation among maritime sectors was essential for the smooth and economic carriage of cargoes, and that developing and strengthening shippers' organizations in the region would facilitate closer co-operation with the shipowners' associations and port authorities. The Commission was informed that on the occasion of its tenth anniversary, the Philippine Shippers' Council presented a testimonial award to the ESCAP secretariat in recognition of its valuable assistance to developing countries with regard to shippers' organizations and co-operation.

661. Recognizing the immense value of the ship users' co-operation project, the Commission was deeply appreciative of the long-term generous contributions of the Government of Norway to the project and urged continuation of the same. It hoped that similar projects could also be developed along the pattern of long-term extrabudgetary assistance to include other maritime parties such as shipowners, ships' agents, maritime lawyers, marine insurers, bankers and freight forwarders with a view to achieving greater co-operation and understanding among themselves. Transport, communications and tourism

662. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/350 and E/ESCAP/366.

663. It strongly supported the proclamation of a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994. It was of the view that the decade would be extremely useful in serving as a "prime mover" for the intensification of various activities at the regional level and in support of activities at the national level for the development of the transport and communications sector and thus for the acceleration of economic and social development throughout the region. It also believed that ESCAP would be well placed to act as the focal point for the regional programme of action designed to support national activities.

664. It commended the secretariat on the wide variety of practical activities it had pursued in transport, communications and tourism matters and endorsed the report of the seventh session of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Transport, Communications and Tourism Wing).

665. It stressed that as transport and communications were of vital importance to the development process and deserved priority attention, donor countries and funding agencies should expand their contributions in such a priority area of ESCAP's work programme.

666. It noted with appreciation the secretariat's efforts to ensure that the special transport and communications problems faced by the least developed, land-locked and developing island countries of the region received concerted attention, and it urged that such efforts should be continued and intensified further to ensure that the full potential of transport and communications as a leading sector in the development process was mobilized.

667. One delegation expressed its reservation on a project indicated in paragraph 35 of document E/ESCAP/350.

668. Recognizing that transport, communications and tourism activities offered many opportunities for increased co-operation among the countries of the region, the Commission welcomed the continuing initiatives taken by the secretariat with regard to such co-operative activities as the Asian Highway, the Trans-Asian Railway Project, the Asian Railway Master Plan, the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group, numerous seminar-cum-study tours to permit the countries to share their experiences and expertise, and the strategy and regional action programme for a transport and communications decade for the region.

669. The Commission considered it important to develop transport and communications along co-ordinated and carefully integrated lines. It noted that an integrated approach to transport and communications planning would enhance the contribution of the sector to national strategies to meet development goals.

Railways and railway transport

670. Stressing the need for railways to play an increasingly important role in the developing countries to help achieve progress and self-reliance in view of the railways' advantageous energy characteristics, high capacity and high safety standards, lower environmental pollution etc., the Commission commended the secretariat on its continuing efforts in providing assistance to member countries concerning railways and railway transport rehabilitation, modernization and development.

671. As the modernization of the motive power of railways in developing countries through electrification was an important technological innovation, reducing the use of and dependence upon fossil fuels while at the same time increasing operating efficiency and improving services, the Commission noted with appreciation the initiative of the secretariat in undertaking a detailed feasibility study on electrification of the Bangkok-Chiang Mai main railway line in Thailand, the finding of which would be disseminated to other countries, and it stressed the need for the secretariat to intensify its activities regarding railway transport. It welcomed the offer of Japan to undertake, if requested by the secretariat, a study on low-cost railway electrification systems.

672. The Commission recognized that the pace of progress in railway transport development in the region could be accelerated by adopting modern technology suited to the region's requirements and through sharing the accumulated experience of countries of the region and outside and that the secretariat should continue its efforts in such endeavours as preparing technological surveys, undertaking studies on common railway problems, improving the operational efficiency of railways through better utilization of existing assets, and introducing modern maintenance methods with better policy guidelines, among others. It commended the study on the common problem of excessive railwear and derailment which had been carried out by the secretariat at the request of Bangladesh, Malaysia and Thailand, the major findings and recommendations of which were to be disseminated among railways of the developing countries of the region through a workshop,

673. Noting the importance of providing technical assistance to member countries at their request, the Commission stressed that the secretariat should intensify the activities of the ESCAP joint roving missions of railway experts with the participation of experts from interested countries so as to share their experiences and expertise.

674. Recognizing the problem of railway manpower development the Commission stressed that the secretariat should continue its training efforts through such activities as seminars and study tours, workshops, roving training courses and upgrading of training centres. It noted with appreciation the offers made by the Governments of China, France, India and the USSR to host railway seminars-cum-study tours in 1984- 1985, and the offer of the Government of Bangladesh whereby the Railway Training Academy under construction at Chittagong could be utilized for training railway personnel of other countries.

675. Recalling the Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Railways and the Bangkok Declaration which set up the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group as an important landmark in ensuring greater and closer co-ordination in railway matters, the Commission expressed satisfaction at the progress made during the first year of the Group's formation. It reiterated its support of the Group and urged UNDP, interested donor countries and international lending agencies to provide necessary financial and other support to enable the Group to pursue its objectives. In that connection, it noted with appreciation the intention of the Government of Japan to continue to provide expert services in statistics.

676. It took note of the Group's rules of procedure and management, its priority functions and the setting up "Of its subgroups with their rules of procedures. It also took note of the Group's guiding-principles (a) that, as it had been established within ESCAP and participating railways were nominated by the respective

Governments, its reports should be submitted to the Commission annually; and (b) that the Transport, Communications and Tourism Division of the secretariat should continue to play a pivotal role in the Group's activities to ensure proper co-ordination of its work.

677. Noting the importance attached by the interested countries of the region to the Trans-Asian Railway project and the Asian Railway Master Plan in promoting regional co-operation and in developing intraregional and interregional railway linkages, the Commission stressed that those projects should be pursued more vigorously to enable them to become real ongoing projects. It was also felt that with regard to the Trans-Asian Railway network higher priority should be given to modernization of existing lines than to establishment of new lines with final decisions being based on cost-benefit analysis. It requested UNDP and other international financing agencies to provide the financial support necessary for promotion of those projects, as they were a significant programme of ESCAP.

678. In recognizing the important role of co-ordinated, multimodal and integrated transport systems, the Commission emphasized that railways should fully realize their advantageous energy capacity and other characteristics within such a framework and it stressed that efforts should be continued in the promotion and development of container transport and rail-cum-sea -transportation. It commended the first phase of the study on inland container transport carried out by the secretariat in 1983 and urged that the study should be continued to a conclusion.

Highways and highway transport

679. The Commission stressed the importance of highways and highway transport in social and economic development, particularly in view of their inherent advantage of flexibility and their ability to provide faster and door-to-door services. It commended the secretariat on its successful completion of a number of useful and impact-oriented activities in recent years.

680. The Commission reiterated its earlier support for formulation of a long-term strategy for the development of highways and highway transport for interested countries of the region. It stressed that work on that should start during 1984/85 and cover: (a) completion of missing links of the Asian Highway and strengthening of substandard sections; (b) provision of road linkages between all important industrial and agricultural production centres and the main sea and river ports; and (c) provision of rural road linkages to the main road network as part of a rural road master plan. It further suggested that the detailed scope of that strategy should be discussed at the Intergovernmental Meeting of Highway Experts in 1985.

681. The Commission emphasized the importance of rural transport development in providing

improved accessibility to millions of people living in rural and isolated areas. It noted with appreciation the secretariat's activities concerning quality control in construction and maintenance of rural roads and urged that such activities should continue to be vigorously pursued. The Commission emphasized the need for seminars and study tours covering various aspects of rural road transport development to facilitate the exchange of views and experiences among concerned officials and experts in the region.

682. The Commission noted with appreciation the successful completion of the Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Rural Road Construction and Maintenance held in China in September 1983. It urged the secretariat to undertake early implementation of the Seminar's recommendations, particularly those relating to the transfer of technology regarding two-way and rigid frame arch bridges. Assistance in that matter was requested by Bangladesh, Malaysia and Thailand.

683. The Commission was happy to note the outcome of the Workshop-cum-Exhibition on Non-motorized Transport organized by the secretariat in 1983. It recognized that non-motorized transport would continue to play an important role in rural areas for the foreseeable future. It recommended that the secretariat should undertake a study on the potential of low-cost motorized transport for rural and small urban areas.

684. The Commission recognized that the energy problem, although eased for the time being, would continue to be a matter of serious concern. It noted with interest the outcome of the Expert Meeting on Energy Audits in the Transport Sector held in July-August 1983 and the secretariat's study on alternative sources of energy for transport and other energy conservation measures. It recommended that a study should be undertaken on the impact of various policy measures on the efficiency and uses of alternative sources of energy in the transport sector, including use of natural gas in its various forms in different modes of transport.

685. It also recognized that road maintenance continued to be a major problem in many countries of the region mainly due to resource constraints. While it stressed the need for an effective and practical maintenance policy in the developing countries, it recommended that countries should actively consider undertaking studies on road users' costs wherever needed. The Commission welcomed the offer of Japan to host a seminar-cum-study tour on the management and techniques of road maintenance in 1984.

686. It further recognized the need to improve the operational efficiency of road transport and recommended that a study on the improvement of management capabilities of truck/bus operators should be undertaken. It also noted with appreciation the secretariat's initiative in convening an ESCAP/International

Road Transport Union meeting on national and international transportation of goods by road at Bangkok in November 1984.

687. The Commission expressed its concern over the alarming rate at which traffic accidents had been increasing in most of the developing countries of the region. It stressed the need to take appropriate action at the national level to overcome the situation and urged the secretariat to organize forums and seminars where an exchange of experiences and ways and means of reducing highway accidents could be discussed. It also noted the need for the provision of advisory services to the countries on the issue of highway safety.

688. It also expressed its concern for the continuing damage being caused to roads by overloading and by oversized vehicles. In that context, it stressed the need for regional technical standards on vehicle weights and dimensions and recommended that expert group meetings should be held to sort out the various issues involved. It also advised that, while developing maximum permissible vehicle weights and dimensions as well as minimum safety devices, the issues should not be examined solely from the highway design point of view. Factors such as the technical characteristics of vehicles, economics of larger vehicles, overall policies on transportation of goods, containerization and integrated transport should also be taken into account.

689. The Commission felt that in many countries of the region the private sector could play a positive role by supplementing governmental initiatives in the development of road infrastructure. It recommended that the secretariat should undertake a study on the potential of toll road construction and maintenance, financed by the private sector, in intra- and inter-urban areas.

690. The Commission expressed satisfaction that the secretariat had been taking the initiative in convening a meeting in the Pacific subregion to discuss transport problems, particularly those relating to isolated areas, with a view to identifying ways and means of resolving them.

691. In noting the importance of the ESCAP review report on trends in the development of roads and road transport, the Commission urged the secretariat to convene a meeting of experts to discuss the standardization of data and information and their definitions.

692. The Commission recognized that the Asian Highway Guidemaps continued to play a very important role in the promotion of international road transport, tourism, and mutual understanding and co-operation among the countries of the region. It stressed the need for continuing publication and revision of the Guidemaps on a regular basis and expressed its gratitude to Japan for its continuing assistance.

693. The Commission noted with appreciation the offer of China to host, in 1985, a seminar-cum-

study tour on low-cost mechanized techniques in the construction and maintenance of roads. It also noted with appreciation the offer of the USSR to host, in 1985/86, a seminar-cum-study tour on low-cost construction of roads through swampy and arid areas, and to assist the Secretariat in undertaking studies on specific topics, on request. It took note of the request of Bangladesh for assistance in the translation of ESCAP manuals on rural road construction and maintenance.

Air transport

694. The Commission felt that with the rapid development of technology, air transport was becoming increasingly important as a major mode of transport, both domestically and internationally. In fully supporting the secretariat's air transport activities, the Commission stressed that the secretariat should play a more active role in the economic aspects of air cargo transport in order to assist member countries to overcome their problems and handicaps in that regard. The Commission reiterated its recommendations made during its previous sessions that the secretariat should continue to strengthen its activities concerning air cargo transport.

695. The Commission urged the secretariat to increase its efforts to bring about closer understanding and co-ordination between users and suppliers of air freight services at national and regional levels and to continue to promote increasing regional and subregional co-operation in air cargo transport. It also voiced its concern that the small developing countries of the ESCAP region were facing special difficulties in the development of their maintenance, overhauling and modern computer facilities. In view of that, it felt that ample potential existed for the promotion of regional co-operation. It requested the secretariat to explore such possibilities and undertake necessary steps in that direction.

696. With the rapid development of civil aviation in the ESCAP region, the Commission noted that there was an urgent need for training and upgrading of skills in the various aspects of aviation. In that connection, the Commission welcomed the offer of the Government of Singapore to make available its training facilities to countries in the region and especially to grant preferential access to candidates from the least developed countries and the South Pacific island countries. It took note of the request of Singapore for assistance in obtaining resources for its training programmes in 1985/86.

697. It also took note of the offer of the Government of India to provide host facilities for a seminar on the economic aspect of air cargo transport.

698. In view of the geographical location of the island countries, the Commission felt that transport in those countries should be developed in an integrated manner covering shipping, ports, rural and

feeder roads and air transport. It recommended that the secretariat undertake a study of that nature.

699. The Commission heard the statement of the representative of the International Civil Aviation Organization and noted with satisfaction the desire of that Organization to foster constructive co-ordination with the ESCAP secretariat. It also noted the growing co-operation between the regional office of that Organization and the ESCAP secretariat and stressed the need for closer co-operation between them.

Urban and public transport

700. The Commission felt that there was an urgent need to take action to remedy existing problems and make effective preparations for dealing with growing urban transport constraints and to meet the growing demand for such transport. In that connection, it requested the secretariat to undertake comprehensive studies and to explore the possibilities of organizing roving missions and regional seminars and training programmes on specific topics, including urban planning and public transport systems.

701. The Commission noted with appreciation the organization by the secretariat, in co-operation with the Government of Belgium, of a seminar-cum-study tour on urban public transport with emphasis on the integration and co-ordination of various modes of transport in 1983. It also noted with appreciation that an ESCAP seminar-cum-study tour on urban and public transport would be hosted by the French Government in June 1984.

Facilitation

702. The Commission noted that documents and procedures relating to the international movement of goods and traffic continued to constitute a crucial cost element. It was informed that the secretariat had actively assisted developing member countries through advisory services, seminars and training programmes. The most recent seminar had been organized at Bangkok in November 1983 by the secretariat in co-operation with the Customs Co-operation Council, the major theme of which had been the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures adopted at Kyoto in 1973. It was however recognized that a great deal remained to be done, especially in training officials involved in the international movement of goods and traffic in facilitation methodology and measures.

703. The Commission appreciated the usefulness of the revised draft agreement on compulsory insurance against civil liability in respect of motor vehicles as a guideline for member Governments in the preparation of national legislation on that topic. However, in view of the diversity among the member countries of the region with regard to insurance

policy questions as well as other numerous relevant factors, the view was expressed that the draft agreement should be examined cautiously and thoroughly.

Telecommunications

704. The Commission emphasized the importance of telecommunications as an integral part of overall national socio-economic development and stressed the need for higher priority to be given to that sector to overcome the constraints impeding its growth in the ESCAP region.

705. It noted with satisfaction the close collaboration existing between ESCAP and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and appreciated some of the tasks undertaken in connection with the improvement of telecommunication maintenance and the quality of services. It also noted the initiatives that had been taken by ITU and ESCAP in identifying the needs for the extension and improvement of the Asian Telecommunication Network. In undertaking that project, the Commission stressed the need for a joint approach by ESCAP, ITU and the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity through a pooling of their resources.

706. The Commission also stressed the need for the establishment of a computerized data base to facilitate the compilation of essential telecommunication data as a tool for the planning of telecommunication services in the region. It recommended the setting up of a communications data network to facilitate the effective flow of telecommunication information.

707. While appreciating the outcome of the joint ESCAP/ITU studies on the socio-economic usage of telecommunication services in the region, the Commission stressed the need for extension of those studies to cover more countries of the region with a view to establishing reliable indicator that could be used to assist planning and reorientation of tariff policies.

708. The Commission noted with satisfaction the setting up of the Independent International Commission for Worldwide Telecommunication by ITU to identify the methods for transfer of resources and technology and other measures to accelerate telecommunication development. It also noted with appreciation the decision of ITU to strengthen its personnel in the region through the posting of an ITU representative in South Asia and South-East Asia as well as a senior ITU representative at ESCAP headquarters in Bangkok.

Postal services

709. The Commission noted that the importance of postal services had been increasingly recognized by the member countries of the ESCAP region. Important factors behind that trend were the growing rates of literacy and also the persistent migration

from rural to urban areas. It noted with appreciation the organization of the Seminar/Symposium on the Post in the 1980s by ESCAP, in co-operation with UPU and the Asian-Pacific Postal Union (APPU), at Bangkok in May-June 1983 and the Seminar on Organization and Mechanization of Postal Services held at Riga in October 1983 in co-operation with UPU and the Government of the USSR.

710. The Commission felt that there was a need for mail to be more speedily conveyed between countries in the ESCAP region. Speedy delivery of mail required both faster processing and faster conveyance. Accelerated conveyance could be achieved by carrying more mail by air. Surface mail which was being transported by ships in the region was frequently delayed because of infrequent sailing. The Commission felt that the concept of maximizing air conveyance should be applied and that ways and means should be explored for the carriage of more mail by air. The Commission urged the secretariat to organize a seminar/symposium for the region's postal and air transport authorities to consider the prospects for possible airmail maximization in the region.

711. The Commission also felt that there was a strong need to modernize postal services in the developing countries of the region. Mechanization of postal services, however, often involved high capital investment, and a cautious approach was therefore required in prioritizing the allocation of resources to balance the need for the expansion of basic postal infrastructures against other means of improving postal services.

712. The Commission noted that, with the financial assistance of UNDP, a documentation service was being set up by UPU at APPU headquarters in Manila which would provide much needed statistical information relating to postal management and training to the countries of the region.

713. The Commission also noted with appreciation the increasing co-operation between ESCAP and UPU and APPU in the development of postal services in the region.

Tourism

714. The Commission expressed its appreciation that the major thrust of the secretariat's activities in the fast-growing tourism sector was to assist the member countries in the assessment of the economic impact of tourism so that improved policies could be adopted to boost the contribution of tourism to economic growth. It emphasized the importance of tourism as a means of earning foreign exchange, increasing employment and, in appropriate cases, of improving infrastructure. It noted the increasing environmental, social and manpower problems emerging with the expansion of tourism and it recommended that the

secretariat undertake activities to assist the countries of the region to resolve such problems.

715. The Commission felt that as transport and communication development promoted tourism, efforts should be made by member countries to ensure better co-ordination between the development of transport and tourism. The increase of tourism in the region was recognized to depend on transport and communication facilities. In that connection, the Commission felt that an auto venture from Singapore to Thailand annually organized jointly by ESCAP and the tourism authorities of Singapore and Thailand was a good example since the Asian Highway made it possible for tourists from Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand to visit one another's countries by car.

716. The Commission noted that Bangladesh had been contemplating the formulation of a perspective tourism master plan for the development of its tourism industry, and it took note of the request of that country for assistance from ESCAP in its preparation and implementation. It also took note of the requests made by Cook Islands, Maldives and Solomon Islands for more assistance from the ESCAP secretariat in the development of their training programmes.

717. The Commission noted with appreciation the assistance rendered by the Government of Japan to the ESCAP secretariat in undertaking its tourism activities.

718. It also noted with interest that Australia would host during September-October 1984 the thirteenth World Tourism Organization Regional Commission on East Asia and the Pacific Workshop, the theme of which would be related to the provision of training for tourism and in which the ESCAP secretariat would be invited to participate.

719. The Commission expressed its gratitude for the very valuable assistance and continuous support provided to the secretariat during the past year from the Governments of Belgium, China, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, and the USSR and from other Governments and organizations, without which many of the projects could not have been implemented. It looked forward to similar close and continuing co-operation between Governments and agencies and the ESCAP secretariat.

Social development

720. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/362 and Add.1 and E/ESCAP/363.

721. The Commission noted that despite relatively impressive economic performances by many countries, the region was still beset with massive social problems which required priority attention. Foremost among them were poverty, hunger and malnutrition, poor health, illiteracy, unemployment,

rapid population growth, migration, poor housing and child labour. It was clear that the benefits derived from the region's economic development had failed to reach the most needy sections of society, namely the poor and other severely disadvantaged groups.

722. The Commission was of the view that the efforts of Governments were still insufficient for enhancing the social aspects of development. There was a clear need to adopt a more coherent approach to development encompassing both economic and social goals. It was stressed that progress depended not simply on economic growth but also on national efforts which consciously incorporated social goals at the planning and implementation stages. Those goals included equitable distribution of income, resources and benefits of development; broad-based participation of people in the process of development including decision-making; and special measures that would enable disadvantaged groups, such as the poor, women, youth, the disabled and the aging, to move from the periphery to the mainstream of development.

723. The Commission fully supported the secretariat's proposals for redirecting the social development programme, including the strategic framework for programme activities. That was defined in terms of four related components: distributive justice, participation, human development and social integration of the disadvantaged sections of the population.

724. The Commission fully endorsed the priority areas of work identified by the secretariat in the context of the programme priorities adopted by the Commission at its thirty-ninth session. They included the development of a regional social development data base; the expansion of research on social issues; and the extension of training, technical and advisory services. It was pointed out that the development of a data base would provide much needed information on the social situation of the region for member Governments and the secretariat, and would serve as a basis for qualitative assessment and identification of social trends. In that regard, the secretariat was urged to make a major effort to become a primary source of social information, analysis and exchange in the region.

725. The Commission underlined the need in the region for a more systematic approach to undertaking research in social development. It supported the secretariat's proposals to conduct research on various social dimensions of development. Those included issues in social policy and planning, strategies for integrating special population groups in national development, the role of such groups in the economy, and the health status of the population in its intersectoral aspects.

726. The Commission noted that training was a well-established and successful component of the secretariat's work and requested that such activities

be expanded. It supported the variety of training approaches of the secretariat which were directed at different levels and specific target groups, such as national planners and policy makers, social development personnel and population groups at the grass-roots level.

727. Several delegations noted the importance of peace and stability as a prerequisite for attaining the goals of social development.

728. The Commission reaffirmed its recognition of the substantial contribution that women made to national development. It stressed the need for Governments to invest further in the capacities of women in order to fulfil national development goals and to raise their status. The Commission emphasized the need to integrate women and their interests at all levels of development planning and administration, and in decision-making processes. It was mentioned that the composition of government delegations to the Commission sessions should reflect those concerns. It was further stressed that national efforts at developing the full potential of women should lead to the goal of equality.

729. The Commission supported the work of the secretariat in promoting the full integration and participation of women in development. It commended, particularly, the successful holding of the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women at Tokyo in March 1984 and expressed its gratitude to the Government of Japan for providing excellent host facilities for the Meeting. The Commission endorsed fully the recommendations of the Meeting. It noted the Meeting's view that a decade had simply been too short a time for countries to fulfil the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women. Accordingly, the Commission strongly endorsed the recommendation that the Programme of Action for achieving the goals of the Decade be extended to the year 2000. To provide the necessary legislative framework for the Programme of Action, it urged member Governments to accede or ratify, if they had not already done so, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

730. Recalling resolution 211 (XXXVII) of 19 March 1981 on strengthening the secretariat's role in the integration of women in development, the Commission noted with satisfaction the redeployment within the secretariat of a senior-level post to the women's programme of the Social Development Division. It also commended the initiatives by the secretariat of incorporating women's concerns as a priority element in all relevant sectors of the secretariat's work. Support was expressed for the reinforcement of interdivisional as well as interagency co-operation in that regard.

731. The Commission noted with appreciation the agreement by the Governments of Australia and the Netherlands to provide funds for the support of a senior regional programmer in the women's programme so as further to strengthen and expand its work. It also welcomed the offer by the Government of Japan to fund a major comparative study to review the extent of women's participation in national economies and assess its impact on the status of women.

732. The Commission noted with satisfaction that national efforts to maximize the integration and participation of youth in development had intensified. It noted particularly the variety and number of programmes being implemented at the national level in preparation for the observance of International Youth Year (IYY) in 1985. In that regard, it expressed its appreciation of the establishment by almost all countries in the region of national committees to co-ordinate the activities of IYY. Many countries expressed the view that the activities of IYY should be focused more on the national than the international level.

733. The Commission expressed its appreciation of and support for the activities of the secretariat's programme for the mobilization of youth. for national development, the various youth training workshops, field attachment programmes, seminars and forums in accordance with resolution 231 (XXXIX) of 28 April 1983 on strengthening regional co-operation in programmes for youth development. It also supported the technical and advisory services rendered to member Governments for their youth policies and programmes as well as the ongoing youth research and information activities of the secretariat.

734. The Commission commended the secretariat's preparatory activities for IYY in pursuance of resolution 223 (XXXVIII) of 1 April 1982. The Commission noted the outcome of the Regional Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for IYY held at Bangkok in July 1983 and endorsed the Regional Plan of Action for the International Youth Year and Beyond formulated by that Meeting.

735. While the Plan's main principles and objectives found support, a few delegations expressed reservations on the political nature of some recommendations and on the practical aspects of others. Some innovative proposals for youth development in the plan were commended.

736. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the contribution of the non-governmental youth organizations in promoting the participation of youth in development, and specifically in preparing for the observance of IYY. It urged continued collaboration between ESCAP and regional and national youth organizations in that endeavour.

737. The Commission expressed its gratitude to donor countries, international funding agencies and non-governmental organizations for the generous technical and financial support of the secretariat's youth programme. In particular, it expressed its appreciation to the World Council of Churches of its continued support to ESCAP's rural youth development activities with particular emphasis on least developed countries. The Commission also acknowledged the contributions of developing countries in the region to the programme, particularly in providing host facilities for youth meetings.

738. Noting with concern the significant number of disabled persons in the region, the Commission expressed full support for the secretariat's activities on their behalf. It urged the secretariat to continue to assist Governments in promoting effective measures and programmes for the prevention of disability, for the rehabilitation of disabled persons and for the equalization of opportunities in line with the World Plan of Action concerning Disabled Persons. The Commission drew attention to the need for ESCAP to establish mechanisms to facilitate communication and co-operation with governmental as well as non-governmental organizations involved in the field of disability. It reiterated that the ESCAP secretariat should serve as a focal point for regional activities in that regard.

739. The Commission noted the significant role that non-governmental organizations such as Disabled People's International (DPI) had played in planning programmes and services for disabled persons. It appreciated the offer by DPI to provide personnel support to assist the secretariat in further developing its disability programme especially in technical co-operation activities. It also noted with appreciation DPI's invitation to ESCAP to participate at the First DPI - Asia/Pacific Regional Convention to be held in Australia in November 1984.

740. In view of the steady increase in the proportion of the aging in the population of some countries of the region, the Commission urged Governments to take into account more fully the special problems of the aged in their overall economic and social development planning. It pointed out that the traditional structures of protection and care for the elderly were beginning to weaken in many countries as a result of deteriorating economic conditions and changing socio-cultural values and attitudes. More government initiatives would be required to ensure that the basic needs of the aged were met and that their capacities to participate in development were enhanced. The Commission also noted the importance of conducting reviews and assessments of national situations to provide a basis for policy formulation and programme implementation. The secretariat was urged to provide technical assistance to Governments in support of such activities.

741. The Commission was of the view that in many countries in the region, unbalanced socio-economic development had exacerbated crime conditions. It thus appreciated the holding by the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and ESCAP of the Asia and the Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders at Bangkok in July 1983 as a preparation for the World Congress in 1985. The Commission supported the substance of a resolution adopted by the Meeting which emphasized the usefulness of regional co-operation in crime prevention and criminal justice and stressed the instrumental role of ESCAP and the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in that respect. In responding to the resolution, the Commission urged the secretariat to incorporate crime prevention and criminal justice as topics in its social development programme. As an initial activity, the Commission was of the view that ESCAP in close co-ordination with the Centre and the Institute should explore the possibility of providing regional advisory services to member Governments upon their request. The advisory services to be rendered would focus on the formulation of crime prevention policies in the context of socio-economic development, the training of criminal justice personnel, and the exchange and dissemination of information. The Commission welcomed the offer of the Government of Japan to support such activities through the provision of personnel support. It also urged that as part of the decentralization exercise being conducted by the United Nations, a post be redeployed from the Centre to ESCAP for the crime prevention programme.

742. The Commission endorsed the recommendations of the intergovernmental Meeting on Health and Development jointly convened by ESCAP, WHO and UNICEF in pursuance of its resolution 228 (XXXVIII) of 1 April 1982. It stressed the role of health in an integrated and multisectoral approach to accelerating development and improving the quality of life of the poor, so that the goal of "Health for All by the Year 2000" might be attained. In commending the work of the secretariat in regard to health and development, the Commission supported the strengthened emphasis by the secretariat on carrying out activities in compliance with the new priorities assigned by the Commission at its thirty-ninth session in matters concerning primary health care, basic community services, planning, for health and pharmaceuticals. The Commission expressed its gratitude to the Government of the Netherlands for its financial and technical support to the health programme and to the Governments of the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Thailand for their co-operation and institutional support as host countries for the activities conducted by the secretariat in regard to health during 1983. The Commission also expressed its recognition of the financial and technical contribution of the UNCTC, UNICEF, UNIOO and WHO and

noted that such successful interagency co-operation should be extended.

743. In recalling its decision at the thirty-ninth session to hold the Third Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development in 1985, the Commission urged that the Conference be scheduled in late 1985 so that useful inputs from such global events as the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, the 1985 International Youth Year, the 1984 World Population Conference and the 1985 Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders could be considered.

744. The Commission commended the secretariat on its comprehensive report on ESCAP activities with regard to the social aspects of rural development in pursuance of resolution 232 (XXXIX) of 28 April 1983. It called on Governments to pay particular attention to the social aspects of rural development and invited interested Governments to present their national experiences in that respect to the secretariat. It further requested the secretariat to provide, within existing resources and on the basis of available country papers, a report to the Commission on the social aspects of rural development.

745. The Commission adopted resolution 238 (XL) on social aspects of rural development.

746. In recognizing the value of technical co-operation among developing countries, the Commission urged the secretariat to continue to incorporate that approach in the implementation of its social development activities.

747. As a preparatory activity for the fourth session of the Committee on Social Development, scheduled to be held in 1986, the Commission requested the secretariat to prepare a review and assessment of the social situation of the region as a basis for the Committee's discussion.

748. One delegation noted with appreciation the initiatives undertaken by the secretariat in human rights mainly through the holding of two regional meetings in 1982 under ESCAP auspices. The secretariat was urged to conduct follow-up work and to assume a co-ordinating role in such activities in the region.

749. Recognizing the multisectoral nature of social development, the Commission underscored the importance of collaboration among divisions of the ESCAP secretariat and with the United Nations bodies and specialized agencies involved in related work. It noted that many activities undertaken by the various agencies were complementary to the work of the secretariat and in line with the new priority areas identified in social development.

Statistics

750. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/346 and E/ESCAP/364. It endorsed the report of the Committee on Statistics on its fifth session.

751. The Commission heard with interest reports on major statistical activities and developments in countries of the region.

752. The work of the secretariat regarding statistics was commended. The Commission strongly supported the continuing basic objective of the work programme, namely the strengthening of national statistical capabilities. It recognized that such capability-building was a long-term process involving sustained efforts. The Commission felt that document E/ESCAP/364 provided a clear summary of a number of major issues facing countries in the development of national statistical services. It generally concurred with the main thrust of that document.

753. One delegation reiterated the view it had expressed at the fifth session of the Committee of Statistics concerning the presentation of the statistical work programme. That presentation created difficulties in evaluating performance and in making recommendations for future work. The Commission was informed that because of the standardized United Nations work programme format, such difficulties were not necessarily confined to the statistics sector. The secretariat would be providing additional programme-related information to the sixth session of the Committee on Statistics and looked forward to working with the delegation concerned on improving presentation and related aspects.

754. The Commission stressed the importance of statistics in the formulation of sound national plans and in the decision-making process. Upgrading the quality and quantity of data was indispensable for the execution of effective development programmes. The Commission emphasized, however, that the national statistical system had to be geared to the needs of planners, administrators and other user groups. That implied both an active dialogue between producers and users to ensure that statistics were timely and of continuing relevance, and long-range planning to meet future national data requirements. It was suggested that such consultations should cover agreement on the use of standard concepts and definitions of statistical terms and could pay particular attention to data requirements at lower levels of disaggregation. The Commission noted that consultative forums were already active in several member countries, and strongly supported the convening by the secretariat of an expert group meeting to bring together representatives of various user groups and of government statistical services. The hope was expressed that smaller Pacific countries would be enabled to be suitably represented at that meeting.

755. The Commission noted with concern the preliminary results of a secretariat study that generally indicated declining shares of national budgetary allocations devoted to statistical work. It recognized that sufficient financial provisions were needed for statistical activities; and increased allocation should demonstrably improve coverage, reliability and timeliness of data. Greater use of sample surveys was reported in order to meet both established and emerging data requirements, such as statistics for small areas, while holding down costs.

756. Strong support was reiterated by the Commission for the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP), which was gathering momentum in the region. The Programme was felt to be a very positive development in enhancing developing countries' capabilities to undertake household surveys cost-effectively and in a flexible manner which responded to user needs in each participating country. It was suggested that in certain countries there would be advantages in dovetailing NHSCP with existing survey programmes. Maintaining those programmes while drawing on the expertise available through NHSCP to improve methodology and infrastructure should eventually lead to greater self-reliance in survey-taking. It was also suggested that ESCAP might act as a focal point in gathering and disseminating information on successful experiments conducted by countries with regard to household surveys, which were often the only means of gathering certain types of information.

757. The Commission noted with appreciation the work of the Government of India in conducting, with financial assistance from UNDP, NHSCP-related training courses on sampling and household survey methodology and on electronic data processing. Further courses would be held later in 1984 and in 1985. The Commission noted with interest the subregional approach to NHSCP being taken in the Pacific. It welcomed the announcement that the Government of Australia would be prepared to consider favourably any approach for assistance in setting up the Pacific subregional team.

758. The Commission recognized that administrative records were a potential source of useful statistical information. Indeed, many countries obtained their foreign trade statistics and information on vital events from administrative documents. Other areas also held out considerable promise. The Commission recognized, however, that the development of reliable statistical series from administrative records would necessarily be a slow process. Administrative departments would need to co-operate closely with national statistical offices in resolving organizational and institutional issues, especially those relating to definitions and coverage. High-level committees at the national level could assist in that regard. It was suggested that regional advisory or expert services, as well as training of

personnel compiling administrative forms, could also be instrumental in realizing the full potential of administrative records for statistical purposes.

759. With the growth in statistical collection activities in response to increasing demands for information, there was a heightened concern in many countries about response burden and individual privacy. The Commission recognized that concern and suggested that it might be alleviated to a large extent if the national statistical offices were bestowed with a stronger co-ordinating role in the data collection programme. National statistical advisory councils, comprising all interested and affected parties, could also assist significantly in that regard. While individual, household and establishment data must necessarily be collected, privacy and confidentiality of information were usually protected by appropriate legislation which, the Commission suggested, should exist in all countries. Public relations measures were also important in improving survey response rates and in assuaging fears that privacy would be encroached upon.

760. The Commission recognized that computer technology was evolving at a rapid pace, making computer hardware, especially mini- and microcomputers, increasingly affordable by even the smallest countries. Low costs, and the user-friendliness of associated software, permitted decentralization of data processing since sections within the national statistical office, as well as other departments and ministries dealing with data, could usefully employ such equipment for initial tabulation and summary. The Commission noted that in some countries mini- and microcomputers were also used at the project level. For general statistical applications, however, the Commission observed that there was a general dearth of trained manpower knowledgeable in using mini- and microcomputers effectively. Moreover, there was an acute shortage of software packages for statistical purposes which could run on smaller machines. Some countries had embarked on developing such packages. The Commission suggested that concerted efforts at the regional level might be expended in that regard and that information on suitable software packages should be widely disseminated among developing countries. The Commission noted with appreciation SIAP's activities in the operation of its software demonstration and training centre and its courses in electronic data processing. It also welcomed the offer of the Government of India to consider organizing, with financial support from UNDP, training courses on computer applications and development.

761. The Commission expressed very strong support for the secretariat's programme of technical assistance in statistical matters. In particular, the services of the multidisciplinary team of regional advisers were in very heavy demand and were highly valued by the countries of the region, especially those in the earlier stages of statistical development.

The Commission therefore considered it of paramount importance to continue the existing services in national accounts, population censuses and surveys, data processing, household income and expenditure and labour force surveys, and industrial statistics. Because of the effectiveness of the country-specific services provided by the regional advisers, the Commission strongly endorsed their proposed extension, in particular to social statistics, energy statistics, sampling methodology and small-area statistics. The Commission therefore urged donor countries and organizations to pay special attention to requests for assistance in those areas. It recognized, however, that to preserve the effectiveness of the regional advisory service great care would need to be exercised in choosing suitable candidates. The Commission also recognized that certain countries required assistance for longer periods than could be provided by regional advisers.

762. The Commission appreciated the secretariat's efforts in organizing technical meetings in statistics by mobilizing extrabudgetary support, and noted that those meetings usually contributed to the training of participants through an exchange of ideas and experiences. It also gratefully welcomed the generous offers of the Republic of Korea to finance and host the Seminar on Social and Related Statistics in May 1984, of the USSR to host the Seminar on the Organization of Statistical Work in a Changing Environment during the second half of 1984, and of Japan to fund and host the Asia/Pacific Meeting on the International Comparison Project and Price Statistics in October 1984. As a follow-up to the Seminar on Labour Productivity Statistics held at Moscow in 1981, one delegation suggested an expert group meeting to look into the difficult problems of productivity measurement in such important sectors as agriculture, forestry and fishing, small-scale and household industries, trade, transport and services. 763. Since the level of statistical attainment and needs of the Pacific nations were significantly different from those of the Asian countries, the Commission commended the secretariat on organizing, whenever feasible, technical meetings on a subregional basis. Such an approach also corresponded with the expressed wishes of the countries of the subregion.

764. The Commission noted the continued importance of training in building up enduring national capabilities in statistics. In that connection, the achievements of SIAP were lauded and great emphasis was laid on the desirability of continuing its activities into the fourth phase, taking into account the observations of the recently-convened SIAP Advisory Council and the needs of the least developed, land-locked and developing island countries.

765. The Commission noted that the secretariat's statistical activities among the Pacific countries had increased significantly in recent years. That work was highly valued by the countries concerned. The

South Pacific Commission (SPC) also provided statistical services in the subregion. Since there was close and continuing co-operation and collaboration between SPC and ESCAP, however, duplicative or overlapping activities were very largely avoided, while at the same time no country was deprived of any urgently needed service. The Commission also noted that, despite their keen interest, Pacific countries generally were unable to attend sessions of the Committee on Statistics because of budgetary constraints and the high costs involved. The situation was further aggravated by the short lapse of time between SPC's Conference of Statisticians and the ESCAP Committee. The Commission felt that there should therefore be at least a six-month interval between the two meetings, and that they should preferably be held in different fiscal years. The de facto representation of the Pacific countries at Committee sessions by the SPC Statistician, though very valuable, was not ideal and in that regard one delegation observed that some financial provision to assist Pacific countries to attend the Committee of Statistics would be helpful.

766. The Commission noted with appreciation TCDC in statistical matters was prevalent in the region. Papua New Guinea had trained statisticians from other Pacific countries in its National Bureau of Statistics and requested ESCAP to arrange fellowships to facilitate the continuation of the programme; Bangladesh had already organized several training courses with participation from other ESCAP countries at its National Demonstration Centre; India was currently hosting training courses related to NHSCP on a TCDC basis; and Malaysia was willing to share its experiences in the computerization of an integrated system of trade and shipping statistics.

767. As regards activities not specifically mentioned in the secretariat's work programme, the Commission noted that ESCAP intended to collaborate actively with the international agencies concerned in the revision of the System of National Accounts, especially with a view to producing a simplified system which could be easily adopted in the developing countries. With regard to social statistics and indicators, the view was expressed that the secretariat might provide guidelines on a conceptual framework, standardized definitions and similar topics. It was also suggested that a study be made on improving comparability among countries of the region of statistical information relating to trade, industry, shipping and so forth, in co-operation with relevant divisions of the secretariat.

768. The Commission noted that various countries and agencies had supported the secretariat's statistical activities during the year under review, and further assistance was expected from them as well as from others. Included in the above categories were Australia, the Federal Republic of Germany, Fiji, India, Japan, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, the USSR

and Vanuatu as well as UNDP, UNFPA and ILO. The Commission expressed its deep appreciation and gratitude to those countries and agencies and hoped that they and others would maintain and increase their support in the future.

The Commission's activities in the Pacific

769. In considering its activities in the Pacific, the Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/367 and Corr.1 and" 2 and E/ESCAP/394 which set out the activities of the United Nations Development Advisory Team for the Pacific (UNDAT). The Commission appreciated the comprehensiveness of information provided in those documents and directed that a special paper on ESCAP activities in the Pacific should continue to be submitted at future sessions of the Commission.

770. The Commission noted that there had been an appreciable expansion in both the number of activities undertaken by the ESCAP secretariat in the Pacific and the range of involvement of the different divisions and units of the secretariat in implementing such activities. The Commission also noted with satisfaction the activities of the ESCAP Pacific liaison Office which had contributed to increased participation by developing Pacific island countries with regard to the programming of technical assistance activities designed to assist such countries, as well as the continuing short-term consultancy services rendered by UNDAT.

771. The Commission noted with appreciation that a Standing Task Force on Pacific Operations had been constituted by the Executive Secretary within the secretariat, under the chairmanship of the Deputy Executive Secretary. It was felt that that would prove both the programming of technical assistance activities for the Pacific island countries and the mobilizing of resources for such activities.

772. The Commission was of the view that in the programming and implementing of technical assistance activities, duplication of effort with other organizations undertaking technical assistance projects in the Pacific subregion should be avoided. That called for appropriate institutional arrangements for periodic consultation with the South Pacific Commission and the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation. The Commission noted that institutional arrangements already existed for such consultations amongst the organizations in the Pacific subregion and that those could be considered for similar use with regard to the programming of ESCAP activities.

773. The Commission further noted that continuous consultations with the Pacific island countries should become a feature of the programming of ESCAP technical assistance activities. That would enhance the relevance of such activities to the unique and special

needs of each of the Pacific island countries as well as of the subregion as a whole.

774. Note was taken by the Commission of the applications made by Kiribati and by Tuvalu to the United Nations Economic and Social Council for their designation as least developed countries. The Commission urged the secretariat to provide technical assistance to the two countries to help them in their preparation of data for submission to the Council in support of their applications.

775. The Commission also noted with appreciation the assistance rendered to the developing Pacific island countries through the orientation programme for government officials of such countries. It requested that that programme should continue.

776. While appreciating the efforts made by the ESCAP secretariat as well as its regional institutions and major regional projects to provide technical assistance to the developing Pacific island countries, the Commission was of the view that more such technical assistance activities should be undertaken for the countries of the subregion. The Commission therefore urged the secretariat to programme additional activities for the subregion and strongly requested donor countries and multilateral funding agencies, such as UNDP, to provide increased resources for that purpose.

777. The Commission called for continuation and expansion of the work of the secretariat for the Pacific subregion in all sectors and programme areas. Within that overall expansion, several programme areas were emphasized as requiring specific attention. They included agriculture, particularly the work of FADINAP and ARSAP and relating to farm broadcasting, as well as that on CGPRT crops; the integration of women and of youth in development; small-scale industries; development planning; environment; international trade, particularly trade information; shipping and ports; mineral resources; water resources; cyclone and typhoon disaster prevention measures; tourism; transport and communications; energy; human settlements; technology; public administration; statistics; and transnational corporations.

778. The Commission felt that there should be increased opportunities for suitably qualified persons from the developing Pacific island countries to serve in the secretariat of the Commission and that, within the availability of opportunities and resources, appropriate action should be taken to achieve that objective.

779. The Commission adopted resolution 237 (XL) on the Commission's activities in the Pacific.

780. The representative of Samoa offered to host a workshop on farm broadcasting in consultation with the secretariat.

ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre

781. In considering the creation of the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre, the Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/369. It took note of the sequence of events leading to the recommendation on the integration of the ESCAP Pacific liaison Office and the United Nations Development Advisory Team for the Pacific (UNDAT), and the consultations which had been undertaken in regard to that matter since the thirty-ninth session. The Commission endorsed with appreciation the desire of the ESCAP secretariat to strengthen its activities in the Pacific, enhance the efficiency of such activities and increasingly shift from purely advisory assistance to activities of an action-oriented operational type. The Commission welcomed the proposal to merge the ESCAP Pacific liaison Office with UNDAT, with that objective in view. It noted that the proposed merger would enhance the cost-effectiveness of ESCAP activities in the Pacific.

782. The Commission was of the view that the proposed merger and the creation of the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre would facilitate the increased involvement of the Pacific island countries in the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of ESCAP activities in the Pacific. It would also lead to effective institutional arrangements for the co-ordination of such activities with those of Pacific subregional organizations, as well as of entities of the United Nations system which were active in the subregion.

783. The Commission noted with deep appreciation the consensus arrived at by the developing Pacific island countries on the setting up of the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre and its location at Port Vila, Vanuatu. The Commission endorsed that decision and requested the Executive Secretary to take early action to give effect to it.

784. The Commission also recorded its deepest gratitude to the Government of Fiji for its contribution to the development of the Pacific subregion, through its generosity in providing host facilities to UNDAT for many years, and its deep gratitude for its generosity to the Government of Nauru in hosting the ESCAP Pacific liaison Office since its inception. It further recorded its appreciation of the good work done by both the ESCAP Pacific Liaison Office and UNDAT in the past, and hoped that the new ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre would be able to build on and expand further the achievements of its predecessors.

785. Towards that end, the Commission recognized the importance of the availability of resources and requested donor countries and multilateral development assistance institutions to provide increased support to the work of the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre.

Economic assistance to Vanuatu

786. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/368 and Add.1. The Commission noted that the topic had been placed before it in response to General Assembly resolution 38/218 which, among other things, requested the Commission to bring to the attention of its governing body, for its consideration, the special needs of Vanuatu and to report its decisions to the Secretary-General by 15 July 1984.

787. The Commission took note of the information provided by the secretariat in regard to the technical assistance activities which had been undertaken by the secretariat or which were planned for future implementation and which would assist Vanuatu.

788. It heard with appreciation from several delegations both offers of future assistance to Vanuatu and details of assistance already being provided bilaterally. The Commission directed that activities undertaken by the secretariat to provide assistance to Vanuatu should be in areas and programmes which were identified by the Government as being of priority importance to the immediate development needs of the country. In that regard, the Commission took note of the priority areas as placed before the commission by the delegation of Vanuatu and directed the secretariat to take those into consideration in future programming of technical assistance.

789. The Commission also noted, with appreciation, the indication made by several delegations of the readiness of their Governments to provide resources to the secretariat to undertake projects which would provide assistance to Vanuatu. The Commission noted the statements of several delegations of their intention to continue their bilateral assistance programmes to Vanuatu under the auspices of General Assembly resolution 38/218. The Commission appreciated the attention which the secretariat had paid to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 38/218 and urged the secretariat to strengthen its activities in that regard. The Commission requested the secretariat to report to the Secretary-General, as requested in General Assembly resolution 38/218, details of technical and economic assistance provided by members of the Commission to Vanuatu both directly and through support of technical assistance projects undertaken by the secretariat, as well as indications of similar future assistance made during the discussions.

Information systems and documentation services

790. The Commission, which had before it document E/ESCAP/370, recognized that information was a key resource within governments. It re-emphasized the recommendations it had made at previous sessions on the need for improved co-ordination and management of information so as to facilitate effective administration, planning and decision-making.

791. It felt that the satisfactory co-ordination of information within government could best be achieved through a national authority invested with the requisite power to establish central policies for the co-ordination and management of information systems and related resources. Such an authority could be assisted through appropriate co-operation and co-ordination with local-level bodies empowered to effect such policies at the decentralized level.

792. The Commission welcomed the country reports of the information systems mission which had visited six member countries early in 1983. The mission was organized by the ESCAP secretariat in accordance with recommendations made during information programme meetings held in previous years. The mission, *inter alia*, encouraged countries to intensify activities to develop a corporate-like approach with regard to computerization policy and a strategic basis for its realization. It also urged the establishment of the necessary infrastructure for computerization in the public sector and the development of computerized information systems at the decentralized level in order to move computerization downward through the administrative hierarchy. The Commission noted with interest that the recommendations in the country reports were already being implemented by several of the concerned Governments.

793. The Commission expressed its gratitude to the Government of France for funding and hosting the third session of the Study Group on the Co-ordination of Government Information Systems, and welcomed the Study Group's recommendations. In that connection, it recognized that mini- and micro-computers were becoming more prevalent as tools within public administration, and it recommended a co-ordinated approach to their acquisition and use. It noted the need to provide requisite training to realize the benefits of that emerging technology effectively. It also recognized the importance of the interrelation of computerization, telecommunications and newly evolving information technologies.

794. The Commission expressed its warm appreciation to the Government of France, the Government of Japan and UNFP A of their provision of the services of regional advisers under the information systems programme, to enable member countries to strengthen their information infrastructures.

795. The Commission noted with interest the establishment of a rural data system for village-level planning, decision-making and administration at Kalutara District in Sri Lanka. Microcomputer technology was being introduced to permit local-level staff to develop computerized administrative and statistical information systems to assist them in their normal administrative activities and enable them to formulate local-level programmes of economic and social development. The methodologies and systems

design arising from the project were intended to be documented and presented in a form suitable to transfer to other countries.

796. The Commission expressed its gratitude to UNESCO and Data for Development International Association (DFD) for their collaboration and support in the Kalutara project, and to DFD for its support in other aspects of the ESCAP regional information programme.

797. The Commission welcomed the offer of the Government of Japan to host a training course on administrative information systems to be held at Tokyo in early 1985 and to accept trainees from ESCAP countries.

798. The Commission noted with interest the potential of audio-visual materials for furthering ESCAP programmes and training activities and recommended that the secretariat study the feasibility of setting up an audio-visual component. Such a unit could be centralized under the ESCAP library and would be available for all sectors of the secretariat. The Commission requested that a report on the matter be presented to it at its forty-first session.

799. The Commission was informed that the computerized ESCAP Bibliographic Information System (EBIS), under the aegis of the library, had continued to expand both in its coverage of literature pertinent to economic and social development in the region and in the provision of information services to regional users. It felt that the secretariat was undertaking with competence its mandate under Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/71 of 10 November 1982 to respond to the needs of users of information at the national level and urged the secretariat to continue its efforts in that direction. It reiterated the imperative need for the ESCAP library to enlarge its role as the central focal point in the region in co-ordinating the dissemination of development-related literature. The Commission appealed for adequate resources to be provided for the library to enable it to undertake its mandate with maximum effectiveness.

800. The Commission felt that the ESCAP library should take the lead role in establishing a more formal region-wide economic and social development information network. That should be done principally through the establishment of a system of national information centres forming the links in the network.

801. The contribution to the development of EBIS through the installation of a computer system in March 1981 provided by the Government of Japan was noted with gratitude by the Commission. It felt that the computer system was a vital element in the information systems and documentation services programme, particularly in the dissemination

of development information, and encouraged its enhancement through the provision of telecommunication facilities, increased processing capability and an expanded number of video display terminals for on-line access by users of the computer system. It urged that the Data Processing Section be strengthened. In that context, it also recommended that the question of training in data processing in the region be addressed. The Commission greatly appreciated the objectives of the programme in information systems and documentation services and felt that it was addressing a subject of much concern to member countries.

802. The Commission noted the inclusion of co-ordination and improvement of development-related government information systems as a component of the statistics programme. It felt that such an arrangement would make more efficient use of resources and provide better advisory services on emerging technologies, especially mini- and microcomputers.

Integrated rural development

803. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/371.

804. It noted that Governments in the region had devoted considerable resources to development efforts which were yielding positive results and would doubtless continue to do so. It also noted, however, that conditions in the rural areas for the majority of people were not improving and in many cases were worsening. The lower-income group had not been able to obtain a proportionate share of the benefits of development. That important realization had been the foundation for the concept of integrated rural development, which advocated a related group of ideas, such as the need for rural development efforts to be focused on poverty eradication, institutional reform to enable the poorer groups to have access to basic productive assets and services, and facilities for their participation in the decision-making processes.

805. The Commission was informed of the activities under the Interagency Co-ordinated Plan of Action on Integrated Rural Development being carried out in support of national rural development programmes by the Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific through co-operation and joint action among the participating United Nations agencies, that is, UNEP, UNIDO, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, ESCAP, ILO, FAO, UNESCO and WHO.

806. The Commission strongly supported the interdisciplinary and interagency programme on integrated rural development and its projects designed to contribute to the economic and social progress of the rural poor. It agreed with the Interagency Committee's effort to limit the scope of assistance to specific areas, such as: (a) training of officials at the local level, for

example, supervisors in rural development and personnel of rural banking institutions; (b) monitoring and evaluation; (c) case studies of the socio-economic disabilities of the rural poor and of organizations successful in overcoming such disabilities; (d) assistance to Governments in the preparation of poverty-focused "area-based, integrated rural development projects; (e) poverty-focused, integrated rural development planning methodology; and (f) exchange of information on integrated rural development. It further suggested that the Interagency Committee should concentrate its efforts on practical projects and advisory activities. In that connection, it recommended that the Interagency Committee could play an important role in conducting a seminar or workshop for the training of officials in decentralized planning and implementation at the provincial and local levels, in order to upgrade national capabilities in that regard.

807. With regard to area-based integrated rural development, the Commission was gratified to note that the Pangasinan Province integrated area development plan had been regarded as a working model in the comprehensive integrated area development planning strategy in the Philippines and that the Government had requested the Interagency Committee to assist in a similar project for another least developed province. The Commission urged that the Interagency Committee obtain the necessary funds in order to implement the project as soon as possible.

808. The Commission noted that the Interagency Committee was conducting a comprehensive review of its activities against the priorities laid down in its Plan of Action, and of its existing organizational and institutional arrangements, and reaffirmed its decision at the thirty-ninth session to convene an ad hoc intergovernmental meeting in 1984 or 1985 to consider the results of such a review and to provide a fresh mandate for activities for the further implementation of the Co-ordinated Plan of Action.

809. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the financial assistance provided by the Governments of Australia and the Netherlands to the work of the Interagency Committee.

Programme changes for the biennium 1984-1985

810. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/372 and Add.1 and Corr.1, and endorsed the proposed programme changes contained therein to the programme of work and priorities, 1984-1985, with the following modifications.

811. In the programme on the environment, national meetings for the representatives of print and broadcasting media should not be deleted from element 1.1 (iii) (b). The secretariat should take into account the problems of air and noise pollution in programme element 1.1 (ii)(c). A feasibility study on

the establishment of a regional mangrove research institute in Bangladesh should be added to programme element 1.4 (iii) on the protection of marine environment and related ecosystems in Asia and the Pacific.

812. In the programme on food and agriculture, an element, 1.1 (iii) (d), "Advisory services for the improvement of socio-economic conditions of producers of farm products and for farming systems" should be added.

813. In the programme on transport, communications and tourism, the proposed additional study on appropriate modifications and gradation of railway specifications and standards under programme element 3.2 should be carried out by the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group, and additional study on energy consumption of different transport modes should be combined with the study on policies for improvement of energy efficiency under programme element 2.2.

814. In implementing the disability-related activities, the Commission urged that full account should be taken of the recommendations on a TCDC approach made by the Commission at its thirty-ninth session. With regard to transnational corporations, the need for further regional co-operation was emphasized.

815. With regard to the programme on science and technology, the Commission decided that the secretariat should identify, within existing resources, changes in the work programme required for the purpose of implementing the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development and present those changes through the forthcoming eighth session of the Committee on Industry, Human Settlements, Technology and Environment to the Commission at its forty-first session.

816. Most delegations emphasized that the work programme should be commensurate with the vast needs and difficult economic and social problems of the developing countries of the region. Some delegations, however, expressed concern over increases in the size of the work programme, while it was highly unlikely that the resources necessary to implement the programme effectively would be forthcoming. The Commission supported the need to incorporate the plans of action on technology, and transport and communications in the current and forthcoming programmes of work.

817. The programme of work and priorities, 1984-1985, as revised to incorporate the approved changes is given in annex I to the present report.

Tentative calendar of meetings, 1984/85

818. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/374 and Corr.1 and endorsed the calendar of meetings, 1984/85, covering the period from April 1984 to March 1985 as contained therein. Meetings

should be scheduled after details had been finalized between host country and the secretariat. Some delegations expressed concern at the increase in meetings in the category of "Other group activities". The Commission was informed that the actual number of meetings to be held would probably be less than that planned, because most of the meetings depended on availability of extrabudgetary resources. It was stressed that ACPR had an important role to play in reviewing the calendar and setting realistic estimates.

First revision of the medium-term plan, 1984-1989

819. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/376 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and endorsed the revisions contained in those documents, with the following modifications :

(a) With regard to the proposed revision of the introduction to the medium-term plan (see E/ESCAP/376, annex), the Commission replaced the second sentence by the following:

"The criteria include contribution to the establishment of a new international economic order, the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations "Development Decade, the strengthening of South-South co-operation, the alleviation of poverty, the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for Least Developed Countries, assistance to the least developed countries, land-locked developing countries and developing Pacific island countries, and the promotion of regional and subregional co-operation".

(b) With regard to the proposed new programme on marine affairs, the Commission endorsed the text given in E/ESCAP/376/Add.1, with the deletion of the words at the end of section (d), on a strategy for the period 1984-1989, "and the committee for Indian Ocean exploration if its feasibility is established".

820. The Commission also decided that the programme on science and technology in the medium-term plan should be changed to reflect the activities to be undertaken for the implementation of the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development, and directed the secretariat to make the necessary revisions.

Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

821. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/ 377 and expressed appreciation of the action of the secretariat in making the information contained in that document available to it.

822. It took special note of the success of the Inter-governmental Consultations on the Formulation

and Implementation of Programmes on TCDC organized by the secretariat at Beijing in November 1983, and felt that that activity provided a useful model for future activities on TCDC by the secretariat. The Commission stressed the importance of adequate preparatory work in regard to such consultations, particularly in terms of matching the needs and capacities of the participating countries. The Commission felt that the form of future such consultations, as to whether they should be multisectoral or unisectoral, should be determined on a case-by-case basis. The Commission also endorsed the guidelines for organizing future consultations, based on the experience of the Beijing consultations, which were contained in document E/ESCAP/377.

823. Delegations of all developing countries expressed their support of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for TCDC and the Caracas Programme of Action. It was noted that the Caracas Programme of Action had been harmonized with the Non-Aligned Programme of Action for ECDC. It was also stressed that South-South co-operation was not a substitute for North-South co-operation.

824. The Commission felt that ESCAP, as a regional commission of the United Nations, could play a very useful catalytic role in the promotion of economic and technical co-operation among its developing member countries and urged the secretariat to continue its activities in that direction.

825. The Commission heard with interest statements from many delegations concerning their economic and technical co-operation activities. Those indicated a wide range of development activities in which co-operation among developing countries was increasing. It noted with appreciation the contributions being made by such countries through the provision of resources, through national budgets and UNDP country programme resources. The Commission felt that lack of financing continued to be an impediment to the successful implementation of TCDC. It recognized the very important role which was being played by the use of the supplementary financing facility provided by ESCAP through extrabudgetary resources in overcoming some of those difficulties, and strongly recommended that ESCAP should expand that facility. The Commission also considered it important to involve donor countries and donor organizations outside the United Nations system in consultations being convened to formulate and implement TCDC activities as a means of alleviating the funding constraints.

826. The Commission recommended that the clearing-house functions of the secretariat should be both streamlined and expanded, as that would provide a very useful means of matching needs and capacities. There was a need to proceed beyond the collation and storage of information to its analysis and synthesizing. The dissemination of information on needs and capacities should be followed by activities designed to link the

suppliers and users of the information so provided. For that purpose, it was important to establish a network of linkages with national focal points. Equally important was the readiness of the countries to provide information as required by the clearing-house system.

827. The Commission also felt that ESCAP activities in economic and technical co-operation among developing countries should be supportive rather than duplicative of or reductive of the effectiveness of existing economic and technical co-operation arrangements. A few delegations reiterated the principles of universality and transparency in the organization of inter-governmental consultations among developing countries as negotiating forums for co-operation among such countries.

828. The Commission recognized the great potential of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries as a basis of technical assistance at the intergovernmental level. It was of the view that such economic and technical co-operation effectively reinforced other forms of technical assistance. Technical and economic co-operation among developing countries was not merely a programme but an approach which should permeate all technical assistance programmes. It therefore urged the secretariat not only to continue its special programme activities in that field but to incorporate such an approach in all its work.

Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific 1985-1994 (Commission resolution 234 (XXXIX))

829. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/400.

830. It noted that, while the past three decades of development in the countries of Asia and the Pacific had seen great achievements in the rapid expansion of production and economic and social restructuring, fundamental infrastructural requirements, particularly in the transport and communications sectors, had not received adequate attention. The deleterious effects of that neglect had been compounded by the several oil price crises, worsening terms of trade and economic recession in most of the developing countries, with the result that scarce resources had been diverted away from maintenance and improvement of the transport and communications infrastructure to the more immediately evident need to cover day-to-day operating costs. The Commission expressed its concern over that situation, especially in the light of the growing recognition throughout the region that the urgent economic and social development issues facing the developing countries were intimately linked with the availability of adequate transport and communications facilities.

831. In that connection, the Commission recalled that at its thirty-ninth session it had adopted resolution 234 (XXXIX) on a transport and communica-

tions decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994, in which it had, among other things, requested the Executive Secretary to set up an ad hoc intergovernmental group to prepare a phased programme of action; assess the financial implications of the programme of action; recommend the mechanism for its implementation; and take appropriate steps to ensure United Nations interagency co-ordination for the decade and avoid duplication of work.

832. The Commission took note of the findings and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Group, which had met at Bangkok in October 1983 and January 1984. It commended the Group on the high quality of its work and it also noted with approval the realistic approach taken by the Group in formulating the objectives and strategy for the decade and expressed its appreciation of the comprehensive manner in which the Group had formulated a regional action programme, guidelines for national action programmes, organizational framework and phasing and cost implications for the decade.

833. The Commission, in endorsing the relevant recommendations of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Group, unanimously adopted resolution 236(XL) proclaiming the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994.

834. The Commission recognized that the regional action programme for the Decade covered the needs and aspirations of all the developing countries of the ESCAP region. It emphasized, however, that special attention should be given in the course of the Transport and Communications Decade to the problems facing the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries of the region. It felt that a number of concrete action programmes might be formulated with special reference to those groups of countries and that priority attention should be turned to the mobilization of resources for the implementation of those programmes within the framework of the Decade.

835. Referring to the 22 thrust areas comprising the strategy for the Decade, it was suggested that attention might be turned to the question of prioritization. It was felt that prioritization of the thrust areas would permit the Commission to focus attention more effectively on key issues concerning the development of transport and communications. It was appreciated that comprehensive coverage of the thrust areas at the regional level would provide individual countries with the opportunity to set their own priorities in accordance with their national objectives and priorities and their special circumstances.

836. It was noted that one of the major objectives of the Decade should be the development and strengthening of intraregional and interregional transport and communications linkages.

837. The urgent need for research and development in new transport and communications technologies was stressed. It was proposed that the development and transfer of appropriate technologies might be accorded priority attention during the Decade as a means of fostering the more efficient development of those critical sectors in the countries of the region.

838. The Commission recognized that the implementation of national action programmes during the Decade would rest primarily with the member countries. It pointed out, however, that the secretariat should assist actively in the formulation and implementation of national action programmes. It noted that the implementation of the action programmes for the Decade would contribute greatly to the aims and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.

839. It urged interested member countries to establish a high-level national standing committee for the effective implementation of national programmes as well as to co-ordinate their activities with the regional action programmes.

840. Many delegations felt that the resource requirements of '\$US 20 million for the first five years of the regional action programme' were quite modest considering the far-reaching impact of the programme on transport and communications development on a large proportion of the people living in the ESCAP region.

841. The Commission noted that the Executive Secretary would not seek to increase the secretariat's regular budget resources during the 1984-1985 biennium as a result of the proclamation of the Decade. It stressed that the Decade could receive support through a reallocation of resources within the ESCAP secretariat and from within the United Nations system, and through extrabudgetary contributions. However, the Commission did not preclude the possibility of enhanced regular budgetary resources becoming available as a result of improvement in the world economic situation in the future.

842. The Commission urged UNDP, international funding agencies and interested donor countries to provide financial and other support for the effective implementation of the Decade.

843. Several developed member countries indicated that they would provide financial assistance on the basis of the merits of individual projects and activities within the regional programme of action for the Decade. The Commission noted with appreciation the offers by France and the Federal Republic of Germany of the services of experts to the secretariat in connection with the implementation of the regional action Programme for the Decade. It also noted with appreciation the offers of assistance on the part of China, India, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Singapore and the USSR for certain aspects of the Decade programme.

Progress reports on special regional projects and regional institutions

Regional institutions

844. The Commission took note of document E/ESCAP/378, containing an account of the progress made on the action taken by the secretariat pursuant to a decision of the Commission at its thirty-ninth session, as well as the report of the Working Group on Regional Institutions and that of the mission on regional institutions of ESCAP. It noted that the Working Group, constituted by the Commission at its thirty-ninth session, had met in July 1983 and that, after careful consideration of the data provided to it, had identified a total annual gap of \$US 1,040,000 for the four regional institutions, SIAP, the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific (CGPRT Centre), RCTT, and RMRDC. It further noted that the annual deficit so identified was \$US 230,000 for SIAP, \$US 150,000 for the CGPRT Centre, \$US 400,000 for RCTT, and \$US 260,000 for RMRDC.

845. It also noted the action taken by the Executive Secretary, on the recommendations of the Working Group, to field a mission to several of the member countries. It felt that the convening of the Working Group and the fielding of the mission had made a useful contribution to increasing the understanding, on the part of the member Governments, of the financial needs of the regional institutions to meet their institutional costs. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the work done by the Working Group and by the mission.

846. The Commission recognized that there was a general consensus regarding the great potential of the ESCAP regional institutions as instruments of development co-operation and development assistance for the countries of the region. It endorsed the observations of the mission that both the secretariat and the directors of the institutions should take continuing action, as a matter of priority, to institute a dialogue between the regional institutions and the decision-making levels of the Governments. It also endorsed the recommendation of the mission concerning the need for a further definition of the role of the governing and advisory councils to include planning in regard to financial and related matters. In addition, it took note of the need for improvement in regard to assessment of the actual technical assistance needs of member countries from the regional institutions and for formulation of programme activities to specifically serve such needs. There was also a need for the specific operational objectives of each of the institutions to be identified and clearly delineated so that member countries would have clearer parameters for the evaluation of each institution's performance.

847. The Commission took note of the increases in cash contributions which had been indicated subsequent to the thirty-ninth session of the Commission and welcomed those announcements as marking the beginning of a process towards bridging the gaps in, the institutions' support funds. However, it was felt that there was still a considerable gap to be bridged, and the Commission strongly urged its members to take further action to increase their current contributions or to make new contributions. Hence, it was recognized that there should be an increasing responsibility for institutional support by recipient countries of the services of the regional institutions and that programme support was dependent on donor countries.

848. It requested the Executive Secretary to pursue the efforts for mobilization of adequate funding for institutional support and to report to the Commission at its forty-first session on the progress achieved, so that the Commission would be in a position at that session to provide specific guidance in regard to the future of each of the four institutions. Those efforts should include the carrying out of further missions to member countries, as appropriate, for specific consultations in respect of each of the institutions.

Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre

849. The Commission, in considering document E/ESCAP/378, on the financial situation of the regional institutions, and E/ESCAP/385, on the Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre, noted the activities that had been carried out by RMRDC during the period under review, which included 14 missions to 11 countries in the region. A number of representatives expressed appreciation of the services it had provided.

850. The Commission noted with satisfaction the various workshops and training courses organized or being planned by RMRDC. In addition to the activities reported earlier, the Commission heard that RMRDC had co-operated with CCOP in holding a course on the geomorphology of coastal and alluvial areas in Malaysia in September 1983.

851. The Commission was informed of the 1984 programme which included, in addition to the sixth post-graduate training course at the Geological Survey of India Training Institute, an international symposium on the geology of tin deposits in China in October-November, and a workshop on mineral policy for small-scale mining in India in November. RMRDC would be a major sponsor of those activities. It was also co-operating in the organization of a number of activities, including a workshop on the water supplies of small islands in Fiji in July sponsored by the Commonwealth Secretariat, and a workshop on mining techniques for alluvial tin deposits which was being organized by SEATRADC in October.

852. Further to the discussion at its thirty-ninth session, the Commission gave special attention to the staffing and financial problems of the Centre and commended the secretariat on the efforts which it had made during the past year to deal with those problems. It urged that continuing efforts be made to fill the post of co-ordinator on a long-term basis and to make adequate provision for the institutional costs of RMRDC, which would no longer be Covered by UNDP. It was noted that cash contributions fell far short of even minimum institutional requirements, and that a variety of alternatives should be considered to assure the continued functioning of RMRDC.

853. Representatives made a number of suggestions on how the staff/financing problems might be dealt with, including:

(a) Cutting down on requirements through identifying the minimum amount needed for operation of RMRDC and through careful management to make savings;

(b) Having the cost of advisory services borne partly by the recipient countries ;

(c) Obtaining staff services, including co-ordinator services, on a TCDC basis, possibly supplemented by third country contributions or funds from UNDP country indicative planning figures ;

(d) Requesting ESCAP to investigate ways in which it might provide a full-time co-ordinator to be paid under the regular programme or from extrabudgetary sources.

854. One representative gave support to the proposal for a new RMRDC project that would strengthen information and data facilities in mineral development, and offered to co-operate in that project and to conduct a pilot project at the country level.

855. Two representatives referred to the report of the mission on regional institutions calling attention to its recommendations on clarifying the mandate of RMRDC and improving its visibility and operations, particularly in the matter of mission follow-up. The Commission was informed that those recommendations were being implemented by RMRDC staff and would be of great value in improving the effectiveness and impact of the Centre.

856. The Commission expressed its gratitude to the Governments of France, the Federal Republic of Germany and Japan, which had provided specialists, to the Governments of India, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand, which had provided host facilities for RMRDC activities during the period under review, and to UNDP, which was continuing to provide important programme support.

Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific

857. The Commission considered documents E/ ESCAP/ 386 and Add.1.

858. It noted with satisfaction the progress of work performed by the Centre after the transfer of its operation to Bogor, Indonesia, and the support provided by the secretariat to the Centre. It was informed that the programme of work of the Centre was primarily directed towards assisting the developing member countries in research and development relating to the socio-economic aspects of selected major coarse grains, pulses, roots and tuber (CGPRT) crops in the humid tropics of the ESCAP region. As for the priorities assigned to the Centre's programme activities, the Committee on Agricultural Development, at its fifth session, had recognized that the Centre was taking an appropriate approach to the urgent needs of the countries concerned. The Commission endorsed that view.

859. The Commission reiterated the importance of CGPRT crops to the developing members and associate members in the region and the vital role played by the Centre in assisting those countries to strengthen their national research capabilities related to those crops. Considering that socio-economic problems tended to be specific to each country , the Commission recommended that in pursuing its aim of a regional research network approach, the Centre should attempt to harmonize its programmes with the national needs and research programmes of each of the member countries.

860. The Commission was informed that the Centre was carrying out or planning three study projects. The first was a series of socio-economic studies on the implications of expanded production of selected CGPRT crops in the humid tropics of Asia. Those studies would examine the socio-economic constraints to the development of CGPRT crops; the demand for CGPRT commodities for food, feed and industrial uses; and the potential socio-economic impact of increased production of CGPRT crops. The second project was a workshop on the future potential of cassava in Asia and the research development needs in that regard. It was proposed that the project be undertaken in Thailand in early June 1984, under co -sponsorship with Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical (CIAT) and in co-operation with the Government of Thailand. The third project was a study on the soybean commodity system in Indonesia which was currently under way in collaboration with the Central Research Institute for Food Crops, Indonesia.

861. The Commission was also informed that with a view to forming an effective research network at the national and regional levels, contacts had been

made with appropriate national focal points of several countries in Asia. Contacts had also been established with such international and regional research institutes as CIAT, the International Food Policy Research Institute, the International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics and the Asian Vegetable Research and Development Centre. Furthermore, close communication had been maintained with FAO and UNDP.

862. The Commission noted that the Centre planned to contact appropriate institutions and agencies in 1984 to prepare a work plan of co-operative programmes with the countries in the Pacific subregion. Recognizing the importance of agricultural development for the economy of the Pacific countries, the Commission stressed that the secretariat, including the Centre, should strengthen its co-operative programmes with those countries.

863. The Commission was informed that the Governing Board of the Centre had approved in general the proposed programme of work for 1984 and endorsed the priorities of the Centre's programme activities for the year. The Commission recommended that the Centre be further selective in its choice of subjects to meet the direct needs of the countries concerned. The Commission endorsed those recommendations of the Governing Board.

864. The Commission was informed that three core staff members had recently joined the Centre and that another staff member was expected to join in mid-June 1984. Some supporting staff had been generously provided by the Government of Indonesia. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Governments of Indonesia, France, Japan and the Netherlands for their support to the Centre's work.

865. The Commission noted that the minimum requirements for 1984 would amount to \$US925,000, comprising \$US430,000 (47 per cent) for institutional support costs, including those of the Director and three core staff, and \$US495,000 (53 per cent) for programme activities. It was informed that the total funds available for 1984 were \$US 488,000 and the remaining sum of \$US437,000 would have to be met by contributions from member countries and donors. In that respect, representatives of France, Indonesia and Japan expressed the intentions of their respective Governments to continue financial and/or technical support to the Centre's work for 1984. Representatives of India, the Netherlands, Pakistan and Thailand also expressed the intentions of their respective Governments to initiate support in the immediate future. The Commission expressed its appreciation to the Governments of those countries and UNDP of their generous support to the Centre's work programme for 1984.

866. The Commission noted that in endorsing the budget of the Centre for 1984, the Governing Board had expressed concern over the continuing uncertainty regarding the Centre's financial resources and had made a strong appeal to members and associate members of ESCAP and to donor agencies and countries to support the Centre's programme of activities and operations. The Commission endorsed the appeal of the Board. In that context, the Commission urged UNDP to extend financial support directly to the implementation of the Centre's programme. It recommended that the report of the mission on regional institutions of ESCAP, contained in document E/ESCAP/378, should receive the due consideration of the Governing Board of the Centre as well as of the Commission.

Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

867. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/380. It noted that issues relating to the contribution of fellowships for basic courses by the Government of Japan had been resolved and it was gratified by the assurance that, in future, training programmes would be held according to normal schedule.

868. The Commission expressed great appreciation of the programmes and activities of SIAP. It was suggested that preparation for the fourth phase project should be commenced early and that in that phase some additional programmes might be considered including support for the United Nations National Household Survey Capability Programme, training in automatic data processing; intercountry courses for technicians; special courses for the Pacific; and courses related to water balances, energy balances, land type and use, environmental pollution, and the socio-economic conditions of vulnerable social groups. High priority should also be given to least-developed, land-locked and island countries.

869. The Commission strongly desired that SIAP should retain its regional character. It recognized that that would be facilitated by the establishment of appropriate relationships with major donors including the host Government, Japan, and also by the adequacy of the financial and other involvement of the countries of the region. It was recognized that there should be an increasing responsibility for institutional support by the recipient countries of the services of the regional institutions and that programme support was dependent on other donors. Among others, one measure of the worth of the Institute was the level of institutional support given by the recipients, *inter alia*, to SIAP services.

870. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the large and increasing contributions in cash and in kind by the Government of Japan, the funding of a full-time lecturer, fellowships and literature by the Government of the Netherlands, the supply of

short-term experts by the Government of the United Kingdom, cash contributions by the developed and developing countries of the Region, and substantial programme support by the UNDP.

Regional Centre for Technology Transfer

871. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/387, the Report of the Regional Centre for Technology Transfer, and E/ESCAP/388 and Corr.1, the draft statute of the Centre.

872. The Commission noted that the primary objective of RCTT was to strengthen the capabilities of the developing countries of the ESCAP region in technology transfer and development. RCTT had sought to achieve that broad objective through: (a) improving policy and institutional infrastructure dealing with technology; (b) enhancing the capabilities for assessment, choice, negotiation, application and assimilation of imported technologies; (c) fostering linkages between the production sectors and research and development units engaged in the adaptation of imported technologies, as well as the production of endogenous technologies; and (d) streamlining the system for the collection, processing and dissemination of technological information.

873. The Commission reiterated the four approaches and modalities adopted by RCTT in its operations: (a) networking among focal-point institutions for the purpose of information sharing, exchange of experiences, and co-operative research, development and demonstration; (b) technological capability surveys in very selected areas, which were to be gradually expanded, continuously upgraded, and regularly disseminated; (c) group training activities, involving regional and national workshops or seminars; and (d) individualized activities, such as expert consultancy services and fellowships for specific skill development.

874. The Commission took note of the remarks of the Director of RCTT that currently the Centre was passing through a very critical phase and that two main issues required to be resolved urgently: financial support to RCTT to meet its basic institutional costs on a regular basis, and an adequate legal basis for its smooth and efficient operation.

875. Although operating with limited funds and personnel, the Commission felt that RCTT had performed a significant role in strengthening the technological capabilities of developing member countries and therefore favoured its continued existence and further strengthening.

876. The Commission noted the appreciation of many developing member countries which had benefited from RCTT activities, such as (a) regional and national workshops on technology policies and institutional development, (b) consultancy and advisory

services, (c) technical information assistance on projects, and (d) individual training and fellowship programmes. It emphasized the need for strengthening those activities further.

877. The Commission felt that, in addition to its current activities in selected technologies, such as low-cost construction materials, renewable sources of energy, and waste recycling among others, RCTT should expand its activities with respect to selective fields of advanced technologies like microelectronics and microprocessors, biotechnology and genetic engineering. The Commission expressed the desire that RCTT activities be revised based upon past experience, close interaction with participating countries and the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development.

878. It was of the opinion that RCTT could also undertake immediately the work relating to surveys on identification of technological capabilities and needs of various ESCAP developing countries and also organize the establishment of pilot and demonstration projects in selected high priority areas. It noted with satisfaction the offer by some countries of their assistance and active involvement in the implementation of those projects.

879. The Commission felt that RCTT should expand its activities relating to the technology development needs of least developed, land-locked and Pacific island developing countries.

880. It noted with appreciation the increases in contributions to RCTT for institutional purposes by developing member countries of the region and hoped that the participating countries would assume greater responsibilities for institutional costs in the future.

881. It also appreciated the generous contributions for programme support received from donor countries and United Nations agencies and appealed to them for enhanced programme support in view of the expressed needs of developing countries. It further desired that a flexible attitude be adopted towards institutional support until the participating developing countries were able to shoulder an increased share of responsibilities.

882. The Commission also noted that UNDP had withheld institutional support and reduced programme support to RCTT and urged that UNDP support should be augmented so as to enable the Centre to perform its functions effectively. The Commission also urged the United Nations Funding System for Science and Technology for Development (UNFSSTD) to provide additional resources for the continuation and further expansion of RCTT activities.

883. The Commission noted with appreciation the reiteration of the Government of India's commitment to contribute \$US 1 million for providing permanent headquarters facilities for RCTT. The

Commission noted the concern of a few member countries regarding the current temporary location of those facilities from the point of view of communications.

884. The Commission constituted an informal working group on RCTT under the chairmanship of M.M. Sainju of Nepal and consisting of representatives of India, Indonesia, Japan and the Philippines to consider the adoption of the draft statute of RCTT by the Commission, as contained in document E/ESCAP/388. It accepted the recommendations of the informal working group on RCTT, and recognized that RCTT should acquire legal status and that a statute should be adopted as early as possible. Considering the legal formalities to be completed before the adoption of a statute, the Commission decided that the draft statute, with amendments proposed thereto, be considered by a special intergovernmental meeting to be convened within three months. Thereafter, if necessary, the draft statute might be considered by the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment, scheduled to meet in September 1984, before being submitted for adoption by the Commission at its forty-first session. The Commission felt that, pending adoption of the draft statute, RCTT should be enabled to play its designated role, particularly in view of the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development. The Commission therefore urged UNDP and UNFSTSD, as well as donor countries, to provide assistance for its smooth and effective functioning.

885. The Commission noted the eagerness of several member countries to participate in the activities of the Governing Body as well as of the Technical Advisory Committee in order to review and formulate the work programme of RCTT as provided in the draft statute.

Asian and Pacific Development Centre

886. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/378.

887. It was advised that member Governments, signatories to the Charter of the Centre, had pledged to continue their support to APDC. UNDP had also pledged to continue providing financial assistance to support APDC's work programmes. Extrabudgetary support was also expected from an increasing number of regional and international organizations. The Commission noted that, in implementing its future activities, APDC would collaborate closely with national institutions in related fields of training and research and give special attention to the special needs of the Pacific island and land-locked countries.

888. The Commission noted the progress in the implementation of the programme of work of APDC and acknowledged the contribution of its activities towards meeting the development needs of the countries of the region. Recognizing the potential of

APDC as a "think-tank", it was suggested that it should undertake in-depth studies as a basis on which to highlight more clearly the development problems faced by countries in the region. It was felt that APDC should organize more training activities that were practical and useful. The Commission urged countries which had not yet joined APDC to do so.

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

889. The Commission took note of the annual report of the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin for 1983 which was presented to the Commission for information by the Chairman of the Interim Mekong Committee and by the Executive Agent of the Committee. In introducing the report, the Chairman referred to the member Governments' firm commitment to the role and functions of the Interim Committee as a principal and unique instrument for the promotion of peaceful co-operation in the region as reaffirmed during the very important nineteenth session (plenary) of the Interim Committee held at Chiang Mai, Thailand, in January 1984. In highlighting the main features of the annual report, the Chairman also gave an account of the progress achieved so far in implementing the work programme and explained the member countries' priority concerns in the development of the basin. In his statement, the Chairman expressed his gratitude for, and stressed the crucial role of co-operating countries and agencies, both within and outside the United Nations system, in assisting the Committee's member Governments to attain their long-term objective of improving the welfare of their people. He appealed for more support on the part of the international community as a follow-up to the positive response to an earlier appeal made to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Administrator of UNDP, and expressed the hope that the prevailing spirit of regional co-operation would help the Interim Committee to resolve outstanding regional problems.

890. Following the presentation of the annual report, several co-operating countries and organizations made interventions. In addition, during the general debate on agenda item 10, several co-operating countries also made statements with regard to the Interim Committee. They all pledged further assistance in cash and in kind to the Interim Committee in its effort to implement the work programme for 1984. In particular, the Commission affirmed its determination to continue to function in close collaboration with the Interim Committee and to provide the usual framework of co-operation for its member Governments. The co-operating countries and organizations expressed satisfaction with the renewed spirit of co-operation strongly manifested by the member countries, especially during the session held at Chiang Mai, since they considered the Mekong Committee was a unique example of co-

operation among countries having different social, economic and political systems and that it was a positive factor making for peace and stability in the subregion. They also welcomed steps to reorganize the secretariat of the Interim Committee with a view to further increasing its operational capability. While recognizing the need for sustained long-term planning for the development of large-scale projects to ensure that they could be implemented with minimum delay when it was opportune to do so, they supported the view that implementation of medium-scale projects would be useful" in meeting the short-term needs of the basin's inhabitants.

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

891. The Commission considered document E/ ESCAP/382 and r:loted with satisfaction the multifarious activities of CCOP in the past year.

892. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the in-depth study of porphyry copper deposits which would serve as a prime model for an island arc type of mineralization.

893. It also expressed appreciation of the hydrocarbon programme, especially in the development of petroleum data management systems in co-operation with the ASEAN Council on Petroleum in the assessment of hydrocarbon resources in the ASEAN area. It was highly appreciative of the successful geophysical surveys for tin and other minerals carried out in the South China Sea and other areas and the importance of Quaternary geological studies.

894. The Commission expressed satisfaction that member countries were unanimous in their support of the continued activities of CCOP after UNDP terminated its institutional support.

895. The Commission reaffirmed that CCOP's work programme and achievements were well known not only in the region but throughout the world. It urged that UNDP and its forthcoming Second Meeting of Aid Co-ordinators take into consideration the outstanding performance of the project office and the benefits received by member countries in the exploration, exploitation, development and management of their near- and offshore mineral resources and that UNDP continue to provide CCOP with the necessary funding to enable it to implement its work programme.

896. The Commission welcomed the statement that Indonesia would double its contribution to CCOP for 1985. It urged other member countries of CCOP to increase their contributions to CCOP .

897. It noted the reiteration of the standing offer to provide a Soviet research vessel for a geological-

geophysical research survey in the geological area 2 under the Studies of East Asia Tectonics and Resources programme. Technical personnel from CCOP member countries could also receive training on board the Soviet research vessel.

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

898. The Commission considered the report of the activities of the CCOP/SOPAC during 1983 (E/ ESCAP/383).

899. It was informed of the results of the twelfth annual session of the Committee held in Tonga in October 1983. Tuvalu had been admitted as the eleventh member of the Committee and the member countries had agreed to double their annual cash contributions. It also noted that CCOP/SOPAC had agreed to recruit a director for its technical secretariat from its member countries, and that an extraordinary meeting to examine the Committee's future legal status and ensure its continued existence would be convened in Cook Islands in May 1984. 900. The Commission, noting the importance of the work of CCOP/SOP AC to the economic development and future prosperity of developing island countries and the high priority accorded to it by those countries, expressed strong support for the continuation of the activities of the Committee. It commended CCOP/SOP AC on the achievements and progress made and on its excellent programme.

901. The Commission noted that at the specific request of the Pacific island developing countries, Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America had mounted the Tripartite Research Cruise Programme. The second phase would begin shortly.

902. The Commission noted with appreciation that New Zealand would be meeting half the cost of holding the extraordinary meeting of CCOP/SOPAC in Cook Islands in May, and that additional cash and services would also be provided to meet the costs of a 45-day oceanographic research cruise in 1985 and other activities of the Committee.

903. It also noted with appreciation that Japan had been providing assistance by carrying out a joint research programme for study of the Indian-Pacific Plate Boundary Arc, in co-operation with Australia, New Zealand and CCOP/SOP AC. Japan would continue to support fully the activities of the Committee for the development of the marine resources of the area.

904. The Commission expressed concern over the decision of UNDP to phase out institutional support after 1986. It therefore hoped that donor countries, UNDP and other international organizations would find ways to continue providing support for CCOP/ SOPAC.

905. The Commission was informed that at the eleventh session of the Committee in 1982, a proposal had been made by the Soviet Union's technical advisers to organize an international geological and geophysical expedition to study the South-West Pacific. The Commission was also informed that that proposal had not been accepted by the Committee which preferred that its oceanographic research activities be undertaken by Australia, New Zealand, the United States and Japan.

Typhoon Committee

906. The Commission commended the progress of and expressed satisfaction with the work of the Typhoon Committee as reported in document E/ESCAP/384.

907. The Commission considered the programme of the Committee to be of vital importance to the economic development of the region and that it had made a valuable contribution to the improvement of its members' capabilities of detecting, tracking and forecasting typhoons and of disaster prevention and preparedness through appropriate effective measures.

908. It was pleased to note that the second Typhoon Operational Experiment (TOPEX) had been successfully carried out from 1 August to 15 October 1983 through the co-operation and collaborative efforts at various levels of scientists and technicians of the members of the Committee. It noted the usefulness of TOPEX which, in addition to the benefits gained from its technical aspects, had laid a good foundation for better effective and closer co-ordination among members. It hoped that the members of the Committee would take advantage and make full use of the large quantity of data obtained during the Experiment in their efforts to mitigate typhoon damage.

909. The Commission noted that the Committee had considered a medium- to long-term plan (1984-1992) drawn up by a working group formed to carry out that task. The view was expressed, however, that the plan covered too broad an area and was not specific enough.

910. The Commission was informed that if resources could be obtained the secretariat planned to organize a regional training seminar on the application of remote sensing techniques to flood hazard assessment and flood loss prevention and management during the 1984-1985 biennium.

911. It noted that the implementation of the Committee's work plan would require considerable resources. It therefore appealed to ESCAP members and to United Nations organizations concerned for support. In particular, it requested ESCAP to provide from its resources adequate funding support at a level similar to that being provided by WMO. Many delegations appealed to UNDP to increase its intended support to the Committee for the years 1985-1986. In that connection,

it noted the recommendation of one member that provision be made for the continuation of the valuable services of the electronics and telecommunications expert beyond 1984. It also welcomed the readiness of Thailand to consider making a financial contribution to the Committee to the extent possible in the spirit of increasing self-reliance. The hope was expressed that each member of the Committee would do likewise.

912. The Commission expressed appreciation of the co-operation and support provided by a number of countries, UNDP and international organizations to the work of the Committee and its secretariat. In particular, it expressed its deep appreciation of the considerable and substantial support and assistance provided to the Committee by the Government of Japan which included, among others, the establishment of the International Experiment Centre (IEC) in Tokyo, providing a director, supporting staff and facilities and equipment for IEC, financing the cost of scientists of the members in the work of IEC, hosting the planning meetings, Management Board meetings and Evaluation Meeting of TOPEX, organizing roving seminars concerning TOPEX and hosting the sixteenth session of the Committee in December 1983. It welcomed with appreciation the readiness of the Government of the Philippines to continue to provide facilities for the Typhoon Committee secretariat and the services of a co-ordinator and a meteorologist.

913. The Commission noted the readiness of the USSR to co-operate with members in various activities of the Committee's programme to expand co-operation in the field of co-ordination of tropical cyclone studies on the basis of the first and second phases of TOPEX, to assist the Committee member countries in training specialists in meteorology, using meteorological equipment by providing WMO Voluntary Co-operation Programme scholarships, and to provide help by sending experts to the countries of the region to assist them in developing their national meteorological services and by participating in carrying out international experiments.

914. The Commission also noted the information provided by WMO concerning the WMO Tropical Cyclone Programme.

Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery

915. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/389.

916. It noted that RNAM had proved to be one of the more viable projects of ESCAP and was of great benefit to the participating countries. The activities of the project, conducted through its six subprogrammes, had assisted the countries in establishing their own national networks and helped in developing capabilities for the design, development, testing and popularization

of appropriate machines in the participating countries. The assistance provided by RNAM through its experts, catalytic funding and various publications was of immense importance to the countries and it was already beginning to bear positive results in the form of increased rural productivity, the creation of employment and in a general improvement in the living standards of the rural population of the member countries. The project had amply demonstrated the viability of ECDC/TCDC concepts.

917. The Commission viewed with grave concern the withdrawal of UNDP from institutional support to RNAM, particularly its timing, when most of the participating countries were experiencing economic hardships. It believed that sustaining the operations of RNAM was essential and crucial. The intercountry, mutually supportive activities under way and the linkages already established would be terminated prematurely if the institutional support for RNAM was not forthcoming. The Commission appealed to the member countries for increased contributions to the project.

9f8. The Commission endorsed the recommendation made at the ESCAP Preparatory Meeting of Ministers of Industry for the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO that the RNAM project be extended throughout 1985 and 1986, with a further extension of five years to coincide with the UNDP programming cycle for regional indicative planning figures, 1987-1992.

Regional energy development programme

919. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/390 and took note of the evolving role of the secretariat as an executing agency in implementing energy projects in the region. It observed that energy was of common concern to the developing countries and that energy projects would continue to play a vital role in helping to raise the quality of life of the people in the region, in determining the pace of progress and in accelerating the process of modernization.

920. In that context, the Commission was pleased to learn that the long-term objective of the UNDP-funded regional energy development programme was to assist the participating Asian countries and to foster intercountry co-operation among them in (a) the planning and management of energy programmes, (b) the efficient use of energy and (c) the development of both conventional and new and renewable sources of energy.

921. The Commission also noted that the programme's steering committee had comprehensively reviewed its progress and the activities proposed for phase II during its meeting at Bangkok on 10 and 11 May 1983. It also noted that the constitution of the programme's steering committee was in accordance with the formula stipulated in the project document for phase I, and that senior officials representing the Governments of

Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam would constitute the steering committee during the initial term. The Commission further noted that the representatives of agencies and member Governments had expressed satisfaction with the progress achieved by the project and endorsed the recommendations of the steering committee on modifications in the direction and orientation of phase I activities, and in the proposed activities for phase II, during the meetings of the Inter-Agency and Inter-Institutional Working Group and the tripartite review held respectively on 12 and 13 May 1983.

922. The Commission was pleased to note that in spite of the late launching of phase I (1982-1983) and the constraints faced by the project, of the 19 remaining activities to be implemented in 1982-1983, 16 had been completed, 1 had been dropped owing to lack of response, and 2 were well under way and were expected to be completed in 1984. The Commission noted that 207 officials and experts from Asian members and associate members, and 122 officials and experts from the United Nations system and other agencies had participated in the completed activities of phase I. The Commission thus commended the achievement of phase I (1982-1983).

923. The Commission also noted that, during July to September 1983, the project document for phase II had been prepared and completed based on the focus proposed and endorsed during the thirty-ninth session of the Commission, the set of activities proposed by the joint UNDP/ESCAP review mission in consultation with the authorities of countries visited by the mission, and also taking into account the comments and views of other Governments, as well as extensive consultations with relevant divisions of the ESCAP secretariat and with associated agencies. The project document, in its final form, had been submitted to member Governments for consideration and endorsement during the last week of March 1984.

924. The Commission further noted that a new senior co-ordinator had assumed his post on 4 November 1983, since the former senior co-ordinator had rejoined his Government effective 20 September 1983.

925. The Commission gave full support and endorsement to the objectives and activities of phase II (1984-1986). At the same time, it noted that various countries attached importance to and expressed interest in the activities of the programme and stated that they had appointed high-level officials to function as the national focal point to co-ordinate implementation of the programme's activities in the respective countries, and to represent the respective Governments in steering committee meetings, if and when appropriate, according to the formula stipulated in the project document. The Commission urged that in the implementation

of phase II of the programme, special attention should be given to the needs of the least developed countries.

926. Realizing that the effort to assist Asian member countries in the planning and management of the energy sector, and to foster intercountry co-operation among them, was a long-term process, the Commission recommended that the secretariat project the future needs of the region in the energy sector, and plan ahead for a continued regional interagency programme beyond 1986, in particular for the medium-term, 1986-1991. The Commission further recommended that the steering committee of the programme, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of ESCAP, develop the premises and the framework for the continuation of the regional interagency programme for the energy sector for the period 1986-1991.

927. The Commission expressed its gratitude to UNDP for its support of the project during phase I (1982-1983), and for its continued support until the end of phase II (1984-1986); to participating and host countries, namely, Australia, China, India, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines and Thailand, for making the project a viable one; and to the six associate executing agencies (the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, UNIDO, ILO, FAO, UNESCO and the Asian Development Bank), for their co-operation in implementing certain project activities in phase I (1982-1983).

Pacific energy development programme

928. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/391. It was informed of the activities of the Pacific energy development programme, including those completed since the distribution of the document. The Commission, noting the results of the first tripartite review held in the Cook Islands in March 1984 at which satisfaction with the progress of the programme had been expressed, requested a continuation of the emphasis on flexibility with rapid response to requests for advisory services, and recommended that the Pacific energy development programme concentrate on a smaller number of priority areas.

929. The Commission expressed strong support for the Pacific programme and appreciation of the progress and services completed. It requested the secretariat to fill the vacancies in the project as soon as possible. It noted the offer of New Zealand to share information concerning a small wind energy system. Regional remote sensing programme

930. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/392 and reiterated its appreciation for the support of UNDP to the regional remote sensing programme. It strongly supported the activities of the programme, which enhanced the development of the regional capability in remote sensing. It noted that various

countries in the region were actively undertaking remote sensing programmes to support national development plans and were fully participating in the programme.

931. Concern was expressed about the disproportionate attention given to the use of satellite remote sensing while aircraft-borne remote sensing might often be more appropriate and less expensive, especially for those situations where more detailed data would be required on smaller areas.

932. The Commission was also advised of the renewed offer by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to consider hosting a seminar on applications of remote sensing techniques for prospecting and exploration of mineral deposits. The Commission was grateful for the contribution by the Philippines to offer a three-week training course on digital image interpretation for the region. The Commission noted the interest of Bangladesh to host a number of activities such as seminars, workshops and a data bank, and the proposal to regionalize the national remote sensing centre for the benefit of the region.

Announcement of intended contributions

933. The Commission considered documents E/ESCAP/393 and E/ESCAP/394.

934. The Executive Secretary referred to the changing and expanding nature of technical assistance requirements as reflected in the work programme and the need for greater extrabudgetary resources to be generated if such demands for technical assistance were to be adequately met. He expressed appreciation of the fact that the level of extrabudgetary resources available for projects had been maintained despite the adverse economic conditions which had been experienced. However, one problem that had been encountered was that, in several cases, the contribution levels were determined in the currencies of the respective countries, many of which had fluctuated adversely against the United States dollar, the currency in which project expenditures were incurred.

935. The Executive Secretary referred also to the various cost-effective measures that had been taken within the secretariat to ensure that, with the limited extrabudgetary resources available, the priority concerns of the Commission were addressed, including a more rigorous scrutinizing of project proposals by the Project Review Committee which was in its second year of operation. A monitoring exercise on the implementation status of all ongoing projects had also been instituted. Similarly, within the resources available, evaluation studies were being made on some completed projects. In addition, steps were being taken towards the formulation of larger scale yet more cost-effective projects which would have greater impact and preferably would utilize an intersectoral approach to maximize use of the secretariat's multidisciplinary character.

936. The Executive Secretary made a strong plea to the member countries for continued contributions of resources for the work of the secretariat and for support of the Commission's regional institutions.

937. The Commission took note of the following intended contributions announced for 1984.

938. *Afghanistan.* The representative of Afghanistan announced that the intended contribution of his Government for 1984 would be at the same level as that for 1983, namely \$US3,000 for APDC.

939. *Australia.* The representative of Australia announced that the contribution of his Government for the year 1 July 1983-30 June 1984 for ESCAP projects and the regional institutions would amount to \$A 1,154,000, including savings of \$A 104,000 from completed Australian Government-financed projects. It would consist of the following, in addition to the continuing annual contribution to APDC (\$A 145,000):

SIAP	\$A 60,000
RNAM	\$A 100,000
UNDAT	\$A 300,000
CGPRT socio-economic study	\$A 103,000
Expert services in the fields of industrial development, international trade and solar energy	\$A 189,000
CCOP/SOPAC	\$A 134,000
Interim Mekong Committee	\$A 150,000
Other projects	\$A 14,000
	<u>\$A1,050,000</u>

(Approximately \$US 1,001,400)

The representative of Australia indicated that in view of the extent of support for technology for development, the prospect of support for RCTT would be considered in the planning of the Australian aid budget for 1984/85. He also stressed the importance of improving the reporting on the projects which were under implementation and the selective evaluation of some of them, which would lead to greater feasibility of the benefits gained from the use of extrabudgetary assistance.

940. *Bangladesh.* The representative of Bangladesh announced the intention of his Government to maintain its contributions to the following institutions at the current annual levels, namely:

APDC	\$US 15,000
SIAP	\$US 5,000
RMRDC	\$US 1,000
CGPRT Centre	\$US 1,000

The total contribution of Bangladesh in 1984 would thus be \$US 22,000. The representative of Bangladesh indicated that his Government planned to make a contribution to RCTT, details of which would be communicated to the secretariat at a later date. In addition, the Government would contribute \$US 2,000 for the food supply sector of ESCAP activities during 1984.

941. *Burma.* The amount of Burma's contribution towards the work programme of ESCAP for 1984 would be the same as the previous year.

942. *China.* The representative of China announced that the contribution of his Government in 1984 would amount to \$US 80,000 and ¥RMB 220,000 for the work programme of ESCAP. In addition, contributions would also be made to the following regional institutions, projects and other intergovernmental institutions:

RMRDC	\$US 10,000
SIAP	\$US 20,000
CCOP	\$US 20,000
APDC	\$US 50,000
Typhoon Committee	\$US 12,000

The total contribution of China would thus be \$US 192,000 and ¥RMB 220,000.

943. *France.* The representative of France announced the intention of his Government to provide assistance to ESCAP in the following areas of work:

- (a) Energy;
- (b) Transport;
- (c) Natural resources;
- (d) Agro-economic research.

It was envisaged that the total value of the assistance of France to ESCAP in 1984 (including trust fund contributions as well as non-reimbursable loans) would be increased by 25 per cent of the 1983 level, and would amount to more than F 7 million.

944. *India.* The representative of India announced that his Government would make the following cash contributions in 1984:

- (a) An amount in Indian rupees equivalent to \$US 70,000 towards institutional support for RCTT;
- (b) \$US 5,000 for RMRDC;
- (c) \$US 10,000 for SIAP;
- (d) \$US 5,000 for the CGPRT Centre;
- (e) \$US 70,000 for APDC.

The Government of India continued, as in previous years, to consider making contributions to ESCAP

studies and projects as well as to the costs of the training of ESCAP-sponsored trainees in India.

945. *Indonesia*. The representative of Indonesia announced the intention of his Government to make the following contributions in 1984:

- (a) \$US 20,000 for CCOP;
- (b) \$US 47,300 for APDC;
- (c) \$US 10,000 for RMRDC;
- (d) \$US 40,000 for SIAP;
- (e) \$US 5,000 for RCTT;
- (f) \$US 6,500 for RNAM.

In addition, the Government of Indonesia would contribute \$M 587,450 to SEATRADC and \$US 10,000 to the Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific.

946. *Islamic Republic of Iran*. The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced that, subject to the approval of the Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the contribution of his Government to ESCAP in 1984 would be increased by 50 per cent over its contribution in the previous year, to \$US 15,000.

947. *Japan*. The representative of Japan announced that the total assistance of his Government for 1984 was expected to be of the order of \$US 5.4 million, representing an increase of approximately 11 per cent over the 1983 level. That contribution would be composed of:

- (a) \$US 2,060,000 for the implementation of ESCAP projects under the Japan-ESCAP Co-operation Fund (marking an increase of 25 per cent over the previous year);
- (b) \$US 30,000 for the Interim Mekong Committee;
- (c) \$US 746,000 for training courses in Japan, including two under SIAP;
- (d) \$US 905,000 for the provision of experts on a non-reimbursable loan basis;
- (e) A cash contribution of \$US 643,000 for SIAP;
- (f) Assistance in kind towards host facilities for SIAP amounting to \$US 682,000;

The Japanese contribution to APDC would be \$US 350,000.

948. *Malaysia*. The representative of Malaysia announced the following contributions by his Government for 1984:

- (a) \$US 5,000 for RCTT;
- (b) \$US 7,000 for SIAP;
- (c) \$US 5,000 for RMRDC.

In addition, the Government of Malaysia would contribute \$M 587,450 to SEATRADC.

949. *Mongolia*. The representative of Mongolia announced a contribution, by his Government, in its currency, equivalent to \$US 1,000 for the support of ESCAP activities.

950. *Nepal*. The representative of Nepal announced the following contributions in 1984:

- (a) \$US 500 for the CGPRT Centre;
- (b) \$US 500 for RCTT;
- (c) \$US 500 for RMRDC;
- (d) \$US 500 for SIAP;
- (e) \$US 2,492 for the ESCAP work programme;
- (f) \$US 1,500 for APDC.

951. *The Netherlands*. The representative of the Netherlands stated that he was not yet in a position to announce the exact amount of his Government's contribution to ESCAP in 1984. However, he affirmed the intention of his Government to continue to support projects under the ESCAP work programme. The contribution for training activities under SIAP would amount to f. 300,000 in 1984.

952. *New Zealand*. The representative of New Zealand indicated that the details of New Zealand's contributions to ESCAP projects and institutions had yet to be finalized. However, he indicated that it was expected that the same level as last year would be maintained. New Zealand would be contributing approximately \$US 500,000 in cash and services to CCOP/SOPAC.

953. *Pakistan*. The representative of Pakistan announced the following contributions in 1984:

- (a) An amount of Rs 15,000, equivalent to approximately \$US 1,000, for the CGPRT Centre;
- (b) \$US 5,000 for RCTT;
- (c) \$US 500 for RMRDC;
- (d) \$US 8,000 for SIAP;
- (e) \$US 20,000 for APDC;
- (f) \$US 7,260 for Asia-Pacific Telecommunity.

954. *The Philippines*. The representative of the Philippines indicated that the same level as in 1983 would be maintained for contributions in 1984. However, the Government of the Philippines was considering increasing its contribution to RNAM, details of which would be provided later.

955. *The Republic of Korea*. The representative of the Republic of Korea announced the intention of his Government to contribute the following:

- (a) \$US 35,000 for RCTT;
- (b) \$US 17,500 for SIAP;
- (c) \$US 7,500 for RMRDC;
- (d) \$US 20,000 for RCTT;
- (e) \$US 22,976 for activities under the ESCAP work programme;
- (f) \$US 10,500 for RNAM;
- (g) \$US 10,000 for CCOP.

956. *Singapore.* The representative of Singapore stated that his Government would contribute \$US 5,000 to SIAP for 1984.

957. *Sri Lanka.* The representative of Sri Lanka announced the following contributions :

- (a) \$US 25,000 for APDC;
- (b) \$US 5,000 for SIAP;
- (c) \$US 5,000 for RCTT.

958. *Thailand.* The representative of Thailand announced the intention of his Government to make the following contributions in 1984:

- (a) \$US 5,000 for RMRDC;
- (b) \$US 5,000 for RCTT;
- (c) \$US 10,000 for SIAP;
- (d) \$US 30,000 for CCOP;
- (e) \$US 40,000 for APDC.

In addition, it would provide host facilities for CCOP from 1 January 1985.

959. *The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.* The representative of the USSR announced that, as in previous years, his Government would conduct in 1984 five seminars and study tours in the USSR. Ten fellowships were offered for trainees from the developing countries of the ESCAP region; His Government was also prepared to provide experts and the use of scientific research vessels for geological studies.

960. *The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.* The representative of the United Kingdom indicated that his Government's assistance to ESCAP in 1984 would include :

(a) The continuation of the services of a demographer until July 1984 ;

(b) Short-term technical advisory services to the Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific on computerization systems from April to June 1984;

(c) Study tour for seven Chinese fishery officials to the United Kingdom ;

(d) Study on the impact new technology, for the Division of Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways, for CCOP;

(e) Training facilities, special advisers for CCOP;

(f) Short-term lecturers for SIAP;

(g) Assistance to the Interim Mekong Committee.

961. *The United States of America.* The representative of the United States announced that it was supporting, along with Australia and New Zealand, a research cruise in the South Pacific under the auspices of CCOP/ SOPAC. He also noted that the United States was continuing to provide financial and other assistance to ESCAP for the Agriculture Division's project on agro-climatic modelling.

962. *Vanuatu.* The representative of Vanuatu indicated that his Government would contribute \$US 2,500 towards the ESCAP work programme in 1984.

963. *Viet Nam* The representative of Viet Nam announced the intention of his Government to contribute the equivalent of \$US 5,000, in its currency, to APDC in 1984.

964. *Federal Republic of Germany.* The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany announced that the contribution of his Government in 1984 towards ongoing projects would amount to DM 2,940,000. Its contributions in 1985 for ongoing projects would be DM 20,000 and in 1986; DM 700,000, for the extension of contracts or experts and for specific programme activities to be agreed upon.

965. *Switzerland.* The representative of Switzerland indicated financial support to CCOP for a workshop on age-dating of young sediments at the level of Sw F 180,000, approximately equivalent to \$US 80,000.

966. The forecast of intended contributions for 1984 indicated a total of approximately \$US 12.5 million. It was noted that the forecast so far made did not include possible contributions from several donor countries which were not represented at the session, as well as the value of several uncostered contributions in kind.

967. The Executive Secretary expressed his Gratitude to the member countries for their announcements of intended contributions. However, he pointed out that the financial situation of the regional institutions in regard to their institutional costs still remained uncertain, and that that would mean that the coming months would call for the further review of the viability of those regional institutions and a decision as to the specific action to be taken in case they were shown to be not viable.

**Activities of the Advisory Committee of
Permanent Representatives and Other
Representatives Designated by
Members of the Commission**

968. The Commission considered document E/ESCAP/396, which was introduced by the Alternate Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to ESCAP, who had been designated by ACPR for that purpose. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the important role that ACPR had played during the year, by providing a useful linkage between member Governments and between them and the secretariat, and facilitating the proceedings of the fortieth session of the Commission in its consideration and decision-making on important issues taken up under the various agenda items. The Commission expressed its gratitude particularly for the contributions made by ACPR in the deliberations on agenda items 5 and 6: "Technology for development" and "Structure, frequency and duration of Commission sessions".

969. Recognizing the important and unique role of ACPR, the Commission felt that ACPR should perform its functions effectively as specified in its terms of reference, in maintaining close co-operation and consultations, in reviewing the programme of work and priorities, the medium-term plan and the calendar of meetings, in assisting in the preparation of the Commission sessions and other important meetings, and in any other matters within the competence and nature of ACPR.

970. "The Commission also felt that in order for the secretariat to be able to make sufficient preparation for the next session which would be conducted under the new structure decided by the Commission at the current session, it would be desirable that ACPR play an important consultative role in considering alternative modalities for implementation of those decisions in such aspects as the allocation of work between the two committees of the whole, the formulation of issue-oriented agenda specifying issues for consideration as separate items or subitems, and arrangements for an appropriate mechanism of consultations on draft resolutions. With respect to improvement of the functions of the legislative committees, the Commission requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with ACPR, to submit proposals to the Commission at its forty-first session for final decision.

971. The Commission recognized the co-operative spirit which had existed between ACPR and the secretariat. It felt, however, that such a co-operative relationship could be further improved. While reaffirming the advisory role of ACPR to the Executive Secretary, the Commission recognized the useful contributions that ACPR could make for the benefit of member Governments as well as for the secretariat if that unique mechanism could be utilized even more effectively.

**Date and venue of the forty-first session
of the Commission**

972. The Commission decided that its forty-first session would be held at ESCAP headquarters at Bangkok some time in March or April 1985. The Executive Secretary, after consultation with member Governments, would determine the exact dates of the session and would inform the members of the Commission accordingly.

Other matters

973. The Chairman announced that the representatives of 23 non-member countries had attended the current session in a consultative status. Some of them had wanted to make statements or interventions. However, because of the pressure of time during the session and because of their status, the statements received from some of them had been distributed through the pigeon holes. However, he thanked them for the interest they had expressed in the work of the regional commission.

**Amendment of the terms of reference of the
Commission : membership of Vanuatu**

974. The Commission considered and unanimously approved a draft resolution relating to the amendment of paragraphs 3 and 4 of its terms of reference in the light of Vanuatu's admission as a member of ESCAP, for submission to the Economic and Social Council for action. (For the text, see chapter I above.)

**Adoption of the annual report of
the Commission**

975. At its 614th meeting on 27 April 1984, the Commission unanimously adopted the draft report prepared by the Technical and Drafting Committee.

Chapter IV

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED- BY THE COMMISSION A T ITS FORTIETH SESSION

235 (XL). Tokyo Programme on Technology for Development in Asia and the Pacific¹

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/218 of 19 December 1979 on the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development,

Recognizing the need for a more purposeful and accelerated practical implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development adopted by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development held in 1979,

Recalling also all the relevant sections of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980,

Expressing its appreciation of the study on technology for development, compiled by the secretariat of the Commission, which provides the basis for discussions on the potential framework for regional co-operative activities concerning technology for development,

Appreciating the contribution made by the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission, the High-level Expert Group Meeting on Technology for Development and the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in formulating the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development,

Noting with satisfaction the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development agreed to by the Intergovernmental Meeting on Technology for Development on 3 February 1984,

Recognizing the need for member countries to share experiences in technology for their social and economic development,

1. *Adopts* the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development as a guideline for

further activating technology-related activities in the Asian and Pacific region in order to accelerate the socio-economic development of the members and associate members of the Commission;

2. *Invites* Governments in the region to consider undertaking specific projects in technology at the national and subregional levels as an integral part of their respective social and economic development programmes on the basis of the ESCAP Plan of Action;

3. *Calls upon* the Governments of developing countries in the region to enhance co-operation among themselves and with developed countries to strengthen the national technological capabilities of the developing countries;

4. *Requests* all member countries as well as other interested countries to support the implementation of the ESCAP Plan of Action through the provision of financial and /or other assistance for the implementation of specific regional co-operative projects in consultation with and for the mutual benefit of the countries in the region;

5. *Urges* the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, within the scope of their capabilities, to support and participate effectively in the implementation of specific activities on technology for development in the Asian and Pacific region;

6. *Invites* the United Nations Development Programme to enhance its involvement in technology-related activities in the Asian and Pacific region through adequate financial support to regional projects and regional institutions in the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development;

7. *Calls upon* all intergovernmental organizations and institutions concerned with technology for development to extend their co-operation in the implementation of the ESCAP Plan of Action;

8. *Decides* that a review of the implementation of the ESCAP Plan of Action shall be included in the agenda of the next session of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment and of the Commission at its forty-first session;

¹
See paras. 348-385 above.

9. Requests the Executive Secretary to :

(a) Assure the integration of actions proposed on the basis of the ESCAP Plan of Action into the regular work programme and medium- and long-term planning of ESCAP;

(b) Prepare specific and detailed project documents, on the basis of the report of the Commission on its fortieth session, utilizing the innovative approaches for enhancing co-operative regional activities envisaged in the ESCAP Plan of Action;

(c) Give special attention, after due consultations with interested countries, to the preparation of projects to establish co-operative and/or tripartite activities in :

(i) Research, development and demonstration projects in selected areas of technology;

(ii) Efforts to identify technological needs, capabilities and levels of technological development in the relevant areas aiming at the publication of a technology atlas, as feasible ;

(iii) Finding practical ways of sharing information;

(iv) Promotion of regional co-operative activities for the creation of a favourable technological climate;

(v) Initiating measures for the technological development of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries ;

(d) Enhance the effectiveness of the secretariat in incorporating technological considerations in the work programme and intensify the activities of the established regional institutions in the sphere of technology in order to implement effectively the ongoing and new activities within clearly defined work and action programmes ;

(e) Initiate contact with relevant agencies and dialogue with developed countries with a view to obtaining their support and commitment for the implementation of specific projects ;

(f) Initiate, after appropriate preparations and consultations, the implementation of the specific projects during the period 1984-1985 within the available budget and extrabudgetary resources;

(g) Prepare a progress report to be presented to the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment at its next session and a report to be presented to the Commission at its forty-first session on the measures taken, progress made and activities envisaged in the implementation of the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development and their incorporation in the regular work programme and medium- and long-term planning of ESCAP .

614th meeting
27 April 1984

236 (XL). Proclamation of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994²

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980, containing the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, in particular the development objectives for the transport and communications sectors contained in paragraph 30 of the Strategy,

Recalling also the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries adopted unanimously by the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 36/194 of 17 December 1981, in particular the section relevant to the improvement of the transport and communication infrastructure ,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/69 of 29 July 1983 regarding a transport and communications decade in Asia and the Pacific during the period 1985-1994,

Recalling further Commission resolutions 230 (XXXVIII) of 1 April 1982 and 234 (XXXIX) of 29 April 1983 on a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994,

Taking note of the findings and recommendation of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Group Meeting in Preparation for a Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994, and in particular its formulation of a phased programme of action for the proposed decade,

Recognizing the need for an integrated approach to the planning of transport and communications development, and taking into account the positive contribution which the proclamation of a transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994, could make towards the mobilization of support for such an approach,

Noting that the Executive Secretary does not propose to seek additional regular budgetary resources in the course of the biennium 1984-1985 in order to implement the programme of action for the decade,

1. *Proclaims* the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994, such proclamation to be known as the "Tokyo Proclamation", with a view to:

(a) Raising the transport and communications infrastructural facilities of developing member

²

See paras. 829-843 above.

countries to a level commensurate with their development objectives and priorities, giving particular attention to the special needs of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries of the region ;

(b) Identifying systematically and in a comprehensive manner the problems of transport and communications in the region and working out feasible solutions;

(c) Promoting a more effective and efficient transport and communications network comprising all modes and means in an integrated way, in particular for development of intraregional and interregional transport and communications linkages as well as in the fields of the maintenance and co-ordination of networks, tariff setting and physical planning;

(d) Encouraging effective co-ordination and co-operation in the field of transport and communications in the region ;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to endorse this Proclamation and to encourage relevant international organizations to provide appropriate support at the global level;

3. *Calls upon* the Executive Secretary to assist, from available resources, both budgetary and extra- budgetary, member and associate member Governments in their preparation of a practical and integrated programme of action for the Decade at the country level and to mobilize the necessary international support for the successful implementation of the programmes for the Decade ;

4. *Further calls upon* the Executive Secretary to promote intergovernmental and interagency co-ordination at the regional and subregional levels ;

5. *Invites* the Governments of the developing members and associate members to designate appropriate mechanisms to co-ordinate their national programme with the regional programme of action for the Decade, consistent with their development needs and objectives ;

6. *Urges* the United Nations Development Programme and other international bodies and agencies to contribute effectively to the implementation of the regional action programme for the Decade ;

7. *Invites* all Governments, in particular those of the developed countries and others in a position to do so, to contribute and participate effectively in the implementation of the regional action programme for achieving the objectives of the Decade ;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-first session on the progress made in implementation of the programmes for the Decade.

614th meeting
27 April 1984

237 (XL). The Commission's activities in the Pacific³

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolutions 173 (XXXIII) of 29 April 1977 on increased participation by the developing island countries of the Pacific in the Commission's activities and 188 (XXXIV) of 17 March 1978 and 208 (XXXVI) of 29 March 1980 on the Commission's activities in the Pacific,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 3338 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, in which the General Assembly, inter alia, invited the executive heads of the organizations concerned within the United Nations system to intensify their efforts with respect to developing island countries within their fields of competence,

Recalling further resolution 98 (IV) of 31 May 1976 of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the least developed among the developing countries, developing island countries and developing land-locked countries, and resolution 111 (V) of 3 June 1979 of the Conference on specific action related to the particular needs and problems of island developing countries,

Reaffirming the desire of the developing Pacific island countries to participate effectively in the affairs of the Commission as a whole, Noting the wish of certain Pacific developing island countries to be included in the United Nations' list of least developed countries,

Bearing in mind the limited resources and special geographic problems of island developing countries which work against the development of such countries,

1. Expresses appreciation of the efforts made by the Executive Secretary to increase the effectiveness of the Commission's role in the economic and social development of the developing Pacific island countries ;

2. Commends the establishment and progress of the ESCAP Pacific Liaison Office as a positive step in the Commission's activities in the Pacific subregion;

3. Welcomes the decision to merge the offices of the ESCAP Pacific liaison Office and the United Nations Development Advisory Team for the Pacific and to base the new office which will be called the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre, in Vanuatu;

4. Expresses its appreciation to the Governments of Nauru and Fiji of their generous contributions made over many years as host countries of these offices ;

3

See paras. 769-785 above.

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to ensure that with the merger of the ESCAP Pacific Liaison Office and the United Nations Development Advisory Team for the Pacific there is an improved capability by the merged office to respond directly to requests from the Governments of the developing island countries of the Pacific subregion;

6. Also requests the Executive Secretary to assist the Governments of Kiribati and Tuvalu in the preparation of data and statistics to enable them effectively to present to the Economic and Social Council their case for inclusion in the United Nations' list of least developed countries;

7. Calls upon the Governments of developed member countries and multilateral financing agencies, in formulating and implementing their development assistance, to consider favourably the special problems of the Pacific island countries ;

8. Further requests the Executive Secretary to -study ways in which the Commission might be of assistance to developing island countries in overcoming their peculiar problems so as to enable them to play a full role in the Commission's activities, committees and sessions;

9. Urges the Executive Secretary to make every effort to increase the number of Pacific island nationals employed in the secretariat of the Commission by bringing their number closer to the quota ;

10. Further requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*614th meeting
27 April 1984*

238 (XL). Social aspects of rural development⁴

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969,

Recalling also the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, particularly that part of it related to social development, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980,

Recalling further the main conclusions and specific recommendations of the Second Asia and Pacific

Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development related to integrated social development,

Reaffirming that the social aspects and goals of development form an integral part of the overall development process,

Stressing the need to implement comprehensive rural development programmes in the light of the specific conditions of each country, in order to raise the standard of living of rural populations,

Recalling its resolution 232 (XXXIX) of 28 April 1983 on social aspects of rural development,

1. *Takes note* of the report on the secretariat's activities with regard to the social aspects of rural development;

2. *Urges* the Governments of members and associate members to give special attention to the social impact of policies relating to integrated rural development programmes;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue his efforts relating to the social aspects of rural development and to invite once more interested Governments of members and associate members to present to the secretariat country papers reflecting their national experiences on the social aspects of their rural development policies and programmes;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare, within existing resources, and on the basis of available country papers, a report on the policies and programmes undertaken by the members and associate members and on national experience in solving different problems related to the social aspects of rural development and make it available to the Commission at its forty-second session.

*614th meeting
27 April 1984*

239 (XL). Prevention of oil pollution of the marine environment of the ESCAP region⁵

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the international conventions and protocols on the field of the environment,

Bearing in mind the involvement of all countries in the protection of the environment with a view to enhancing the quality of life for future generations,

Aware of the aims of the International Maritime Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme, as well as of other international

⁴

See paras. 744-745 above.

⁵

See para. 536 above.

and inter-governmental organizations concerned with the problem of oil pollution of the marine environment,

Noting that severe oil pollution of the marine environment has occurred in the Asian and Pacific region, thus endangering marine life,

Recalling that part of the report of the Commission on its thirty-ninth session which addressed the problem of marine pollution in the Asian and Pacific region,

1. *Expresses its* grave concern about the oil pollution of the marine environment in the Asian and Pacific region;

2. *Further expresses* its deep concern regarding the possibility of further oil pollution of the marine environment:

3. *Calls upon* all the members and associate members of the Commission to refrain completely from resorting to action which might cause oil pollution of the marine environment, thereby endangering human or marine life;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to bring this matter to the attention of other relevant international organizations with a view to their taking appropriate steps to carry out a programme of evaluation and survey of the manifold environmental effects of marine oil pollution in the Asian and Pacific region and to ensure that their procedures address this problem adequately.

614th meeting
27April1984

Annex I

REVISED PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES, 1984-1985

Introduction

The programme of work and priorities, 1984-1985, as endorsed by the Commission at its thirty-ninth session and revised at its fortieth session is presented below.

The programme of work contains 14 substantive programmes following the programme classification of the medium-term plan of the United Nations as follows:

1. Development issues and policies
2. Energy
3. Environment
4. Food and agriculture
5. Human settlements
6. Industrial development
7. International trade and development finance
8. Natural resources
9. Population
10. Science and technology
11. Social development and humanitarian affairs
12. Statistics
13. (a) Transport I (Transport, communications and tourism)
(b) Transport II (Shipping, ports and inland waterways)
14. Transnational corporations

Those programme elements marked by an asterisk (*) are priority programme elements identified by the Commission at its thirty-ninth session on the basis of criteria that it adopted for setting priorities at the programme-element level.

At its fortieth session, the Commission adopted two major programmes of action, the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development and the Regional Programme of Action for the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific. It requested that these be incorporated in the current and forthcoming programmes of work. As to the programme on science and technology, while major revisions to the work programme will be necessary, initial activities in the preparation of a technology atlas will be undertaken under subprogrammes I and 2 and the immediate concerns regarding research, development and demonstration projects in selected areas of technology will be covered under the existing subprogramme 3. Further and detailed changes to incorporate the plan of action fully will be submitted to the Committee on Industry, Human Settlements, Technology and the Environment at its eighth session in September 1984, prior to submission to the Commission for endorsement at its forty-first session. As to the programmes on transport, the secretariat will collect data, execute fact-finding missions and undertake in-house reviews to assess the need and nature of programme changes to reflect effectively the activities for the Transport and Communications Decade. The revised work programmes for Transport I (Transport, communications and tourism) and Transport II (Shipping, ports and inland waterways) for implementation during the Decade, which is to commence in 1985, will be submitted to the Commission for endorsement at its forty-first session.

PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES

Subprogramme 1: Economic and social development strategies and policies

Objectives: To examine in depth the fundamental issues constituting obstacles to economic and social development in the region and devise appropriate development strategies and suggest a range of possible policies that

member Governments might fruitfully apply to the resolution of the fundamental issues; to analyse possible collective approaches to regional and subregional co-operation; and to consider the implications of long-term changes in the world economy for the formulation of regional, subregional and national development strategies and policies (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 10, para. 10.163)

*** 1.1 *Analysis and assistance on special economic and social policy issues of major concern to the region***

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the fifth session of the Committee on Development Planning (1984)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Two studies on issues of major economic and social concern to the region, incorporated in the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (b) Four studies on selected development policy issues including the role of the service sector, aspects of urbanization, development of capital markets and incidence of poverty (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Two sessions of the Expert Group on Development Issues and Policies (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (b) Four meetings on selected development policy issues (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

1.2 *Review and evaluation of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Reports to the Commission concerning periodic review and evaluation of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)

1.3 *Economic co-operation among developing countries, including the promotion of regional and subregional economic co-operation

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Studies on issues relating to interregional, regional and subregional co-operation (1984-1985); and (b) Studies on South Pacific subregional economic co-operation (1984-1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Meeting on issues relating to interregional, regional and subregional co-operation (1985) (XB); (b) Meetings on South Pacific subregional economic co-operation (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Missions to member countries and subregional institutions to assist in the strengthening of subregional co-operation (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: *Development planning methods, modelling and projections and administrative systems*

Objectives: To assist member countries in formulating and implementing effective development plans through the application of appropriate development planning methods, models and projections and administrative systems (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 10, para. 10.167)

2.1 *Strengthening of development planning methods and capabilities

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Four studies on development planning methods, with particular reference to sectoral and regional (subnational) planning and incorporation of environmental considerations into development planning (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Seminars-cum-study tours on special aspects of development planning (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Two roving training seminars on sub national planning techniques (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) One seminar and three workshops on incorporation of environmental considerations into development planning (1 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Substantive assistance to regional institutions, including the Asian and Pacific Development Centre (1984, 1985)

2.2 ***Development modelling and projections***

Outputs:

- (i) Regional planners' meetings on a perspective forecast of major economic and social variables to the year 2000 (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Econometric forecasts of intraregional trade flows and impact thereon of policies intended to foster subregional and regional economic co-operation (1984, 1985); (b) Regional econometric forecasts of macro-economic variables taking into account the interdependence between the region and the rest of the world (1984, 1985); and (c) Regional perspective forecast of major economic and social variables, applying alternative long-run policy scenarios, to the year 2000 (1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: Seminars with national research institutions and planning agencies to improve national econometric forecasting models and projections techniques (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

2.3 ***Analysis and assistance on special aspects of public administration of major concern to the region***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Four studies on trends and recent developments in public administration, with particular reference to personnel and financial administration and other managerial aspects of public enterprise (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Six advisory missions on improving capabilities in the administration of national development programmes (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); (b) Two workshops on performance improvement of public enterprise (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Two seminars on public service delivery systems at the local level (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 3: Special measures in favour of the least developed countries

Objectives: To monitor and review the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries and to assist this group of countries in framing and implementing action programmes and projects and increasing their co-operative efforts to accelerate their development (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 10, para. 10.171)

3.1 *Monitoring and review of progress in implementing the Substantial New Programme of Action in the region (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Reports to the Commission concerning periodic monitoring and review of progress in implementing the Substantial New Programme of Action in the region and also as inputs to the global review process (1984, 1985) .
- (ii) Technical assistance: Six advisory missions to strengthen the capabilities of the least developed countries to monitor, review and appraise progress in implementing the Programme (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB)

3.2 *In-depth studies on problems of special concern to the least developed countries of the region (NEW)*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Four studies on selected issues of major economic and social concern to the least developed countries in the region, including domestic savings mobilization and strengthening of export production (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Two meetings to consider selected issues of major concern to the least developed countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

3.3 ***Assistance to the least developed countries in formulating and executing policies and action plans, programmes and projects to accelerate development (NEW)***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Six missions to least developed countries in the region to advise on formulating and executing policies and action plans, programmes and projects to accelerate development (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Assistance in the preparation of documentation for country review meetings and presentation of project feasibility reports and background studies to donor governments and agencies (1984, 1985)

Subprogramme 4: Surveys and information on economic and social developments

Objectives: To provide member countries, the Economic and Social Council and other interested parties with annual surveys of recent economic and social developments in the ESCAP region, information on development planning and related matters and the results of research on particular development issues conducted under other subprogrammes (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 10, para. 10.175)

*4.1 ***Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Two studies of recent economic and social developments in the region, incorporated in the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific (1984, 1985)

4.2 ***Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on major development issues***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (b) Development Papers (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (c) Development Planning Newsletter (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (XB)

PROGRAMME: ENERGY

Subprogramme 1: Energy assessment and planning in Asia and the Pacific

Objectives: To assist developing countries of the region by strengthening their national capabilities in preparing and carrying out comprehensive energy development programmes (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 11, para. 11.120)

1.1 ***Regional energy scene and methodologies for the preparation of energy balances***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Survey of the regional energy scene (1984); and (b) Survey of electric power in Asia and the Pacific (1984)

*1.2 ***Strengthening of national capabilities in integrated energy planning and programming***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Training course on energy planning and management (1985) (XB); (b) Four advisory missions on energy assessment and financing of energy development programmes and projects (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (c) One expert group meeting on a pricing study (Regional energy development programme) (1984)

***1.3 Policy options and strategies for the development of energy resources and for the management of energy demand**

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Natural Resources (1984)
- (ii) Technical publication: One publication on energy resource development problems in the ESCAP region (1985)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Meetings of steering committees of regional programmes (Regional energy development programme, Pacific energy development programme, and new and renewable sources of energy) (1984, 1985); (b) High-level energy planners' meeting (1984) (XB); and (c) Technical back-stopping to the Regional energy development programme and the Pacific energy development programme (1984, 1985)

Subprogramme 2: Accelerated development and use of new and renewable sources of energy

Objectives: To assist developing countries of the region to undertake joint action by strengthening their national capabilities for the assessment, exploration, development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy through the collection and dissemination of information, on a regional and subregional basis, on research and development of new and renewable sources of energy, in co-operation with other United Nations agencies, fostering of co-operative research on new and renewable sources of energy at the subregional or regional level, and construction of demonstration plants using new and renewable sources of energy in countries which could be centres of subregions of ESCAP by the end of the medium-term plan (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 11, para. 11.125)

2.1 Assessment of new and renewable sources of energy and integrated planning

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Four advisory missions (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Training course on methodological aspects of assessment of new and renewable sources of energy and integrated planning (1984) (XB)

***2.2 Co-operative research, development and demonstration**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Two advisory missions on the networks on biomass, solar and wind energy (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (new and renewable sources of energy) (XB); (b) Two meetings of networks (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Two training courses in selected new and renewable sources of energy fields for research, development and demonstration (2 in 1985) (XB); (d) Training missions to hold training programmes for extension workers involved in rural energy programmes at the national level (2 in 1985) (XB); and (e) Rural energy planning study including workshop-cum-training programme (1985) (Rural energy development programme)

***2.3 Transfer, adaptation and application of mature new and renewable energy technologies**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Newsletters (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Study on local manufacture of energy equipment (1984) (Rural energy development programme) -
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four advisory missions for the establishment of demonstration projects, exchange of hardware and field trials of prototypes (new and renewable sources of energy) (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Regional consultative meeting of financial institutions, funding agencies, donor and recipient countries (new and renewable sources of energy) (1984) (XB); and (c) Expert group meeting on the study on local manufacture of small-scale energy equipment (Regional energy development programme)

Subprogramme 3: Integrated investigation, development, conservation and efficient use of overall energy with emphasis on conventional sources of energy

Objectives: The general objective of the secretariat is to assist the developing countries of the region, particularly energy-deficient countries, through the provision of adequate financial and technical support for the

accelerated development of conventional energy resources and for conservation and efficient use of overall energy (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 11, para. 11.129)

3.1 *Development and utilization of coal resources

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on economic aspects of coal exploration and exploitation (1985) (XB); (b) Review of developments in coal technologies, including coal gasification and liquifaction (1985) (XB); and (c) Scenario of logistics for emerging trading pattern of coal in the Asian and Pacific region (Regional energy development programme) (1984)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Training course in coal mining, handling and beneficiation (1985) (XB); and (b) Expert group meeting on regional coal logistics (1984) (Regional energy development programme)

3.2 *Development and utilization of oil and natural gas resources

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Three advisory missions (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985) and two training courses (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) on oil exploration contracts, supply contracts and investments (XB); (b) Advisory mission for the establishment of a regional network on natural gas utilization (1985) (XB); (c) Techno-economic study on production and reserves of natural gas followed by an expert group meeting on natural gas planning and utilization (Regional energy development programme) (1984-1985); and (d) Study on the technical feasibility and cost of methanol/compressed natural gas/hydrogen/liquefied petroleum gas (1985) (Regional energy development programme)

3.3 *Energy conservation and conversion policy

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: A study on the status and potential of the total energy system in the ESCAP region (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two advisory missions on energy conservation in various sectors (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (Regional energy development programme) (XB); and (b) Three training courses on energy conservation in small- and medium-scale industries (1985) (Regional energy development programme) (XB)

3.4 *Power system planning and management*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Study on socio-economic benefits of rural electrification (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Training seminar on computer applications for power system planning and management (1985) (XB); (b) Two advisory missions on optimization, load dispatch, capacity utilization, loss reduction and improving the management of power systems (1985) (XB); (c) Advisory missions on planning and management of rural electrification (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Study on trans-country power exchange and development (1985) (Regional energy development programme)

3.5 *Peaceful uses of nuclear energy*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Regional survey for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy; and (b) Expert group meeting on peaceful uses of nuclear energy (1985)

PROGRAMME: ENVIRONMENT

Subprogramme 1: Environmental problems in the ESCAP region

Objectives: To develop and strengthen the legislative and institutional machineries for environmental protection and management aimed at combating desertification processes, ensuring sound environmental management of land ecosystems and protecting the marine environment and-related ecosystems (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 12, para. 12.92)

1.1 *Environmental awareness*

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of a meeting of Asian ministers of the environment (1985); Substantive servicing of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment (1984, 1985); and Report to an intergovernmental meeting on the Asian Plan of Action for the Human Environment (1984)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) State of the environment in Asia and the Pacific (1984) (XB); (b) Environment Newsletters (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985); and (c) Nine guidelines on: environmental management of mineral resources development, environmental management of water quality, production and use of pesticides, utilization of agricultural residues, industrial pollution control, technologies to combat desertification, environmental impact assessment of transport infrastructure development, environmental impact assessment of tourism development, environmental impact assessment of development of hydroelectric and thermal power projects (6 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Two meetings on the utilization of agricultural residues (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Regional meeting (1984 or 1985), two subregional meetings (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) and four-national meetings (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) for representatives of print and broadcasting media (XB); (c) Three meetings for (i) non-governmental organizations (1984), (ii) youth (1985) and (iii) other citizens' groups (1985) (XB); (d) Meeting on environmental impact assessment of transport infrastructure development (1984) (XB); (e) Advisory mission on the application of remote sensing to assessment and monitoring of desertification and the marine environment (1984) (XB); (f) Regional meeting and roving seminars for planners and decision-makers on the incorporation of environmental considerations into the development planning process; (g) Establishment of an information network on environmental legislation (1984) (XB); and (h) Working group of experts on the environment (1984) (XB)

1.2 *Institutional and legislative aspects of environmental protection and management (NEW)*

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of an intergovernmental meeting on environmental legislation (1984); and Report to an inter-governmental meeting on the development of environmental legislation (1984)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Three advisory missions on the development and strengthening of the institutional framework for environmental protection and management (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

1.3 *Management of terrestrial ecosystems (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Technical handbook on environmental management of terrestrial ecosystems (1984) (XB); (b) Handbooks on environmental impact assessment of development projects (1984) (XB); (c) Three case studies on environmental impact assessment (1984) (XB); and (d) Three country monographs on desertification control (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Expert group meeting on environmental and socio-economic impacts of tropical deforestation (1984); (b) Expert group meeting on mountain ecosystems (1984) (XB); (c) Two training courses on desertification control (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (d) Five advisory missions on environmental impacts of tropical deforestation (3 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (e) Regional meeting to be followed by study tour on desertification control (1985) (XB); (f) Study tour on mountain ecosystems (1985) (XB); and (g) Training workshop on environmental impact assessment of development projects (1985) (XB)

***1.4 Protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems**

Outputs:

- (i) Intergovernmental meeting of maritime member countries on the protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems (1985); Reports to intergovernmental meeting on (a) the situation of the marine environment in the Asian and Pacific region (1985), (b) needs for training and technical assistance for the protection of the marine environment (1985) and (c) institutional and legislative aspects for the protection of the marine environment (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Four audio-visual modules on the environmental situation in selected areas of the region in consultation with countries concerned (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Three reports on the preparatory and feasibility studies for three environmental management plans (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (c) Five information bulletins on the major marine environmental issues in the region (2 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Marine environmental problems and issues in the ESCAP region (1984) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Formulation of environmental management plans in three coastal zones through studies on the environmental carrying capacity of resource development and the identification of environmentally sustainable development potential: one each in the South Asian, East Asian and South Pacific subregions (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Three subregional training courses on the environmental management of the marine environment, the coastal zone and specialized marine ecosystems: one each in the South Asian, East Asian and South Pacific subregions (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (c) Six advisory missions on the protection and management of the marine environment and related ecosystems such as coral reefs (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); (d) Implementation of the action plan for environmental management in the South Pacific subregion (follow-up of the action plan for managing the natural resources and the environment of the South Pacific adopted at the Conference on the Human Environment in the South Pacific, Rarotonga, Cook Islands, March 1982) (1984, 1985) (XB); and (e) Feasibility study on the establishment of a regional mangrove research institute in Bangladesh (1984, 1985) (XB)

PROGRAMME: FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Subprogramme 1: Agriculture development policy, planning and information systems

Objectives: To review the progress achieved in the implementation of the food and agricultural development strategy for the 1980s, to analyse emerging problems and to disseminate information to assist member Governments in improving their planning and information systems (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 13, para. 13.77)

*** 1.1 Review of agricultural development policies, strategies and plans**

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Agricultural Development to enable the Committee to undertake a thorough review of major policies, strategies and plans (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Biannual review of major agricultural policies, strategies and plans (1985); and (b) Study on farm price policies in the context of intersectoral growth linkages (1984) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Training seminar in agricultural project formulation and analysis (1984) (XB); (b) Expert group meeting on major agricultural development policies, strategies and plans (1984) (XB); (c) Study tours by agricultural and fishery planners, project managers and experts (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Advisory services on the improvement of socio-economic conditions of producers of farm products and on farming systems (1 in 1985)

***1.2 Food supply and distribution (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Publication of reports and country papers on the food supply and distribution study (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Agro-climatic impact assessment programme including a training course (1984), advisory mission (1984) and seminar (1985) (XB); (b) Study on food entitlement (XB); and (c) Rapid deployable means for handling food emergencies (XB)

*** 1.3 Development of agricultural information systems**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) *Agricultural Information Development Bulletin* (4 issues each in 1984 and 1985) (XB); and (b) Guidelines for rural broadcasting (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Substantive assistance to the information system of the Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (XB); (b) Development of a computerized data base on fertilizers for end-users in public and private sectors (XB); (c) Training for officers involved in rural broadcasting (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Advisory missions (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) and training programme/workshop aimed at strengthening national data collection related to fertilizers and other agricultural inputs (1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Understanding of critical elements of agricultural development

Objectives: To facilitate exchange of experience and co-operative activities among member Governments on crucial aspects of food and agriculture such as rural investment, marketing facilities, institutional mechanisms, food security systems and related matters (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 13, para. 13.81)

***2.1 Operation of the Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Regional Information Support Service on agro-chemicals (fertilizers and agro-pesticides) (6 issues each in 1984 and 1985) (XB); (b) Agro-chemicals News in Brief (6 issues each in 1984 and 1985) (XB); (c) Fertilizer Price and Trade Information (12 issues each in 1984 and 1985) (XB); (d) Calendar of meetings on agro-chemicals (4 issues each in 1984 and 1985) (XB); (e) Country reports (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985) and a regional comparative study (1984) on marketing, distribution and use of fertilizer (XB); (f) Handbook for instructors of fertilizer distributors and users (1984) (XB); and (g) Manual (in national languages) for village-level fertilizer distributors (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory missions on fertilizer distribution and related problems (5 in 1984, 5 in 1985) (XB); (b) Advisory missions on fertilizer project identification (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Study tours and expert group meetings on fertilizer production, marketing and use (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (d) Training courses for fertilizer retailers (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (e) Training workshops for fertilizer management personnel (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

2.2 Agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Study on regional co-operation for development of specific crop/horticulture seeds (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Training courses on safe handling and efficient use of agro-pesticides for instructors of village-level retailers (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

***2.3 Research and development of coarse grains, pulses, roots and tuber (CGPRT) crops**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: Substantive backstopping to the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of CGPRT Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific, Bogor, Indonesia

***2.4 Improving agricultural credit, marketing and extension systems (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Rural marketing systems (1985) (XB); (b) Case studies on effective channelling of credit to the rural poor (1985) (XB); and (c) Manual on innovative methods of agricultural extension, including the "Farmer-trains-farmer" extension methodology for self-reliant development (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) National training workshops (3 in 1984, 1 in 1985) and study tour for marketing officials on rural marketing (1985) (XB); (b) Study tours and national training workshops (4 in

1984, 2 in 1985) and regional training seminar for credit institutions -2nd collection of rural credit (1985) (XB); (c) National training workshops on innovative extension methodology (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Regional meeting of national extension agencies for the preparation of a manual on innovative extension methodologies (1984) (XB)

Subprogramme 3: Rural development focusing on improving the conditions of disadvantaged groups

Objectives: To facilitate exchange of experience and stimulate experiments in local-level planning and decentralized operations, small farmers' organizations, promotion of the co-operative movement, mobilization of local resources, agrarian reform and related matters (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 13, para. 13.85)

3.1 Integrated rural development planning

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Field testing of guidelines for local-level planning (2 case studies, 1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Study of existing institutional and organizational arrangements to strengthen linkages among rural economic activities (1985) (XB); (c) Comparative analysis of strategies in the implementation of target-group oriented programmes (1984) (XB); (d) Study on policies for strengthening capabilities for the planning and implementation of integrated rural development programmes in least developed and backward areas (1985) (XB); and (e) Guidelines for the planning and implementation of poverty-focused rural development programmes and projects (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) National workshops for planners on field-testing of guidelines for local-level planning (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Regional seminar of planners to exchange experience in local-level planning (1985) (XB); (c) Workshop on the strengthening of institutions for improved linkage among rural economic activities (1985) (XB); (d) Workshop on effectiveness of target-group oriented programmes and projects (1984) (XB); (e) Workshop on implementation of integrated rural development projects in least developed and backward areas (1985) (XB); and (f) Regional workshop on the formulation of guidelines for the planning and implementation of poverty-focused rural development programmes and projects (1984) (XB)

***3.2 Improving the socio-economic condition of rural disadvantaged groups such as small farmers, tenants, fisherfolk communities and women**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Report on field-testing of modified cost-benefit analysis as applied to rural development projects (1984) (XB); (b) Case studies on socio-economic problems related to afforestation and community development (1985)(XB); (c) Surveys of the socio-economic condition of small-scale fisherfolk communities (1985) (XB); and (d) Reports on women's training programmes/workshops in sericulture, poultry farming, nutritional improvement and other agricultural and rural development activities (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) ESCAP/FAO study tour and seminar on the FAO small farmer development programme, including field workshops on participatory monitoring (1984)(XB); (b) Technical evaluation of pilot projects for fisherfolk communities (1984) (XB); (c) National workshops for expansion of pilot projects (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (d) National workshops on afforestation and community development (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (e) Training programmes/workshops to improve the socio-economic condition of rural women in various areas of agricultural and rural development (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (f) Seminar on the role of agricultural co-operatives in economic development (1984) (XB)

3.3 Effective mobilization of the rural poor and improved management of supplies and services for their benefit (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Guidelines on training methodologies for mobilization of the rural poor (1985) (XB); and (b) Case studies on programmes of non-governmental organizations in sensitizing and mobilizing low-income groups to improve their participation in development (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Workshop for the preparation of guidelines on training methodologies for mobilization of the rural poor (1984) (XB)

PROGRAMME: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Subprogramme 1 : Integrated settlement policies and planning

Objectives: Formulation and implementation of effective policies and programmes for the improvement of human settlements with promotion of comprehensive technology of physical planning at the national, regional, metropolitan, city and town levels, as well as in rural areas (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 14, para. 14.124)

1.1 *Settlement policies, programmes and strategies*

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Regional guidelines on formulation of resettlement policies (1985); (b) Human settlements atlas (1984) (XB); and (c) Energy requirements and conservation in human settlements (1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Expert group meeting on human settlements finance and management (1985) (XB); and (b) Information network on human settlements (1985)

1.2 *Settlement planning and techniques (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on strategies for improving the capacity of civic services in secondary cities (1984) (XB); (b) Study on alternative methods of garbage collection and waste disposal (1984) (XB); and (c) Study on human settlement planning in disaster-prone areas in selected countries of the region (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Roving seminar on rural centre planning (1985) (XB); and (b) Expert group meeting on guidelines for alternative methods of garbage collection and waste disposal (1984) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Development of shelter, infrastructure and land

Objectives: Improvement in the provision of shelter, infrastructure and services and in land-tenure systems for the development of human settlements (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 14, para. 14.128)

2.1 *Promotion of innovative and appropriate technologies (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on indigenous materials and construction industries (1984) (XB); (b) Expert group meeting on guidelines for national building regulations in ESCAP countries; and (c) Study on methods, costs and techniques of low-cost housing (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Roving seminar for the introduction and use of standardization and modular co-ordination (1985) (XB); (b) Seminar/study tour in the USSR on the activities of local housing authorities (1984) (XB); and (c) Seminar/study tour on the development and improvement of rural housing (1984) (XB)

2.2 *Integrated programme on improvement of slums and squatter settlements

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Study on the methods of upgrading slums and squatter settlements (1984)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Training courses for community leaders and government officials on improving the quality of life in slums and squatter settlements (2 in 1985) (XB)

2.3 *Land policies and land-control measures*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Case studies on land use in major cities (2 each in 1984 and 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Technical guidelines and expert group meeting on land policies and land-control measures (1984)

Subprogramme 3: Stimulation of institutional capabilities and public participation

Objectives: Stimulating institutional capabilities and managerial skills with encouragement of public participation (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 14, para. 14.132)

3.1 *Strengthening institutional capabilities (NEW)*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Regional congress of local authorities for development of human settlements (1984) (XB); (b) Backstopping regional activities of the United Nations Regional Housing Centre, New Delhi, and the United Nations Regional Centre for Research into Human Settlements, Bandung (1984, 1985); and (c) Meeting of directors of building and human settlements research institutes (1984) (XB)

3.2 *Public participation*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: Regional seminar on public participation in national human settlements programmes (1985) (XB)

PROGRAMME: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Subprogramme 1: Policies and strategies

Objectives: To assist the developing member countries in determining suitable policies and strategies to achieve higher rates of industrial growth with qualitative improvement in the content of industrialization (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 15, para. 15.148)

1.1 *Regional review of industrial progress with special reference to the growth target envisaged in the Lima Declaration*

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of (a) Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment (1984, 1985); and (b) Technical Advisory Group (1984, 1985)
- (ii) Regional meeting of ministers of industry preparatory to the fourth General Conference of UNIDO (1984)
- (iii) Technical publications: (a) Annual review of industrial progress (1984, 1985); and (b) Two issues of Industrial Development News, Asia and the Pacific (I in 1984, I in 1985)
- (iv) Technical assistance: ESCAP/UNIDO workshop on the development of selected industries in the developing ESCAP region (1984) (XB)

1.2 *Industrial plans and policies

Outputs:

- (i) Study on linkages between large and small-scale industries with special reference to the minimum programme assigned by the ad hoc meeting of ministers of industry (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Four case studies on plans and policies of industrial development (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (b) Studies on the appropriate role of basic industries (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: Expert group meeting on a review and appraisal of industrial plans and policies (1985) (XB)

1.3 *Assistance to the least developed, land -locked and island developing countries with regard to plans and policies for industrial development*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Four advisory missions on planning and policy formulation for industrial development (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (b) Two missions to undertake feasibility studies for the "prime mover" industry in the least developed countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

1.4 ***Organization and follow-up of intergovernmental meetings on agro- and allied industries***

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of the intergovernmental meeting on agro- and allied industries (1984)
- (ii) Technical publications: Two reports on agro-industrial processing possibilities of selected industries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Three advisory missions" on agro-industry development, including industrial processing of selected raw materials and commodities (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Study tour to selected countries of the region on development of agro-industries and integrated agro-industrial complexes (1985) (XB)

*1.5 ***Institutional and infrastructural requirements for the development of small-, and medium-scale industries***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Two studies on problems and prospects of small- and medium-scale industries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Ad hoc expert group meeting on the development of small- and medium-scale industries (1985) (XB); (b) Two advisory missions on development of small-scale industries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Workshop on modernization and improvement of the efficiency of small- and medium-scale industries (1984) (XB)

* 1.6 ***Enhancement of private sector involvement in industrialization (NEW)***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: Examination of policies, investment and productivity of the private sector in the developing countries (1984, 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Resource mobilization and project development and implementation

Objectives: To assist developing countries to mobilize domestic resources for industrial development and promote a greater flow of external resources to the industrial sector and to assist in the development and strengthening of indigenous capacities in the formulation and implementation of industrial projects (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 15, para. 15.152)

*2.1 ***Resource mobilization programme***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Ad hoc meeting of industrial planners and representatives of financial institutions to identify projects for financing (1984); and (b) Four panel services for improvement of tax and incentive systems in selected countries (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

*2.2 ***Programme on project development and implementation***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Four project feasibility reports to governments on industrial development in non-metropolitan areas (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Two studies on fuller utilization of manufacturing capacities of industrial enterprises (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Two studies on problems and prospects of export industries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Meeting of government officials on the fuller utilization of manufacturing capacities of industrial enterprises (1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 3: Regional and subregional industrial co-operation

Objectives: To expand the scope of industrial co-operation among the developing member countries through trade in manufactured products, sharing of industrial production on the basis of complementarity and dynamic comparative

advantage, joint ventures, sharing of experts and training facilities, exchange of technologies etc. (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 15, para. 15.156)

3.1 Subregional co-operative arrangements on industrial development

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Two studies on sectoral industries with a view to bringing about industrial plan harmonization (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Expert group meeting to consider ways of harmonizing industrial plans and policies on a subregional basis (1985) (XB); and (b) Four advisory missions to examine the feasibility of projects identified by the industrial survey of the South Pacific (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)

***3.2 Regional industrial co-operation among developing countries**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Four newsletters (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) and four technical bulletins (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) on the development of biomass energy in the region (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two meetings to expand the scope of the ESCAP "club" for industrial development (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Organization of an industrial exposition for promotion of TCDC on a regional and subregional basis with focus on rural areas (1985); and (c) Missions to establish a regional information network on the development of biomass energy (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 4: Enhancing the role and efficiency of industrial undertakings in the public sector

Objectives: To assist the developing member countries in enhancing the efficiency and contribution of their public sector manufacturing industries (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 15, para. 15.160)

***4.1 Development of public sector industries**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Two technical bulletins (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Seminar/study tour to selected countries to observe the functioning of public sector industries, including basic and large-scale industries (1984) (XB); and (b) Missions to advise on improvement of efficiency of public sector activities (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985)

4.2 Promoting efficiency in public sector industrial enterprises

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: 11 country studies, four special studies and one regional study (1984, 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Regional conference of high-level country representatives and top managers of public enterprises (1985) (XB)

PROGRAMME: INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

Subprogramme 1: Trade expansion, trade facilitation measures and monetary co-operation

Objectives: To assist the member countries in identifying possible areas of trade expansion, trade facilitation and monetary co-operation in dealing with various technical problems involved; to promote monetary and credit co-operation between the countries of the region, including strengthening of existing institutional arrangements; to help expansion of trade through long-term trading arrangements in selected commodities and through trade-creating joint ventures in selected sectors; to carry out studies on tariff and non-tariff barriers on items of export interest to the countries of the region; to assist in the establishment of a regional scheme for export credit insurance and in the development of national markets in the field of insurance and reinsurance; and to achieve greater harmonization of trade statistics, customs tariff nomenclatures and customs and transport facilitation procedures and documentation (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 16, para. 16.180)

*** 1.1 Trade expansion and major policy issues**

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Trade (1984)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Two studies on trade flows and tariff and non-tariff barriers (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Two country studies (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) on expansion of trade between developing ESCAP countries and socialist countries of Eastern Europe and the USSR and one comprehensive "group-vis-a-vis-group" report (1985) (XB); (c) Two studies on expansion of trade between developing ESCAP countries and developed market economy countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Study on counter-trade: practices and policies
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Two seminars on the maximization of benefits under the generalized system of preferences (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Two meetings on the promotion of interregional trade with countries of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Economic Commission for Africa (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (c) Four meetings of the Standing Committee of the Bangkok Agreement (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (d) Two seminars on expansion of trade between ESCAP countries and developed market economy countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (e) One technical meeting to establish a joint Council on Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) ESCAP programme for expansion of trade among countries having different economic and social systems (1984) (XB); (f) Seminar on expansion of trade between developing ESCAP countries and socialist countries of Eastern Europe and the USSR (1985) (XB); and (g) Two meetings of the Trade Co-operation Group (TCG) (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (iv) Follow-up action on decisions of the meeting of ministers of trade in 1984 (1984-1985)

1.2 Harmonization of trade statistics, customs tariff nomenclatures and customs and trade facilitation procedures

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Two working parties on customs administration (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Two advisory missions to countries to facilitate adoption of a manual on trade statistics (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Intergovernmental meeting on arrangements for mutual administrative assistance and co-operation among customs administrations of ESCAP countries for action against customs fraud and smuggling (1984) (XB); and (d) Two meetings of TCG Subgroup for Harmonization of Trade Statistics, Customs Tariff Nomenclatures and Customs and Transport Facilitation Procedures and Documentation (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

1.3 Trade-creating joint ventures and long-term trading arrangements

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Two studies on trade-creating joint ventures on selected products in electronics and agro-industries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two seminars (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) and two expert group meetings (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) on trade-creating joint ventures (XB); (b) Seminar to promote the use of long-term contracts (1984) (XB); (c) Seminar on the use of long-term contracts in CMEA countries (1985) (XB); (d) Expert group meeting on draft guidelines for long-term contracts and standard clauses (1984) (XB); (e) Two meetings of the TCG Subgroup for Long-term Contracts (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (f) Two meetings of the TCG Subgroup for Trade-creating Joint Ventures (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

1.4 Financial and credit co-operation

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of an intergovernmental meeting on the establishment of facilities for refinancing exports (1984, 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Substantive servicing of two sessions of the Board of Directors of the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) (1984, 1985); (b) Technical studies and missions for the enlargement of the membership of ACU, including linkages with other payments arrangements (1984, 1985) (XB); and (c) Two meetings of the TCG Subgroup for Monetary and Credit Co-operation (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

1.5 **Insurance and reinsurance schemes**

Outputs:

A. General insurance

- (i) Organization of an intergovernmental meeting to finalize and adopt an agreement establishing an export credit insurance scheme (1984, 1985)
- (ii) Organization of an expert group meeting for the establishment of regional co-operative arrangements for island developing countries in the field of reinsurance (1984) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: Three seminars/training courses in the field of insurance (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985), including a high-level course on insurance management; support services as required for the Asian Reinsurance Corporation (XB)

B. Specialized insurance (crop insurance)

- (i) Organization of a round-table meeting to prepare and finalize a regional crop reinsurance exchange scheme (1984, 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to promote the establishment of new crop insurance and strengthen the existing scheme (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Two training courses/seminars on technical and management aspects of crop insurance (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Trade promotion and development

Objectives: To assist both the public and private sectors in member countries in trade promotion and development by rendering such necessary services as training, advisory services, product/market research and trade information (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 16, para. 16.184)

***2.1 Trade information**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Trade Information Sources Data Bank {10 issues per year}; (b) Six issues of Trade Information Sources Director}. (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); (c) TIS QUICK (40 issues per year); (d) Trade information sheets (20 issues per year); (e) Two trade profiles (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (f) Prices of Selected Products in Asia and the Pacific (monthly) (XB); (g) Commodity profiles (1984, 1985); (h) Exporters/ importers directory of ESCAP member countries (1985); and (i) Directory of trade promotion and development organizations (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Ten missions to develop/strengthen national trade information centres (5 in 1984, 5 in 1985) (XB); (b) Twelve training courses on specific aspects of trade information services at regional and national levels (6 in 1984, 6 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Regional workshop on the development of a trade information network (1985) (XB)

***2.2 Trade promotion development**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study of the means of improving rural marketing services with particular emphasis on pricing effects for consumers and producers (1984) (XB); and (b) Trade fair manuals (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two advisory missions to national, subregional and regional training. Institutions engaged in training personnel for trade promotion (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Seminar on trade promotion techniques and seminar on trade negotiations techniques (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Seminar on training of trainers in export promotion and marketing (1984) (XB); (d) Seminar on import management (1985) (XB); (e) Meeting of heads of national trade development and promotion agencies (1985); (f) Meetings of the Subgroup for a Network of Trade Promotion Centres (1984, 1985); (g) Eight missions to render technical advice on various aspects of trade promotion and development activities (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (XB); (h) Advisory missions to assist developing countries in formulating programmes and activities on consumer protection (1984, 1985) (XB); and (i) ESCAP/ ITC/China Council for the Promotion of International Trade workshop-cum-study tour on management of and participation in trade fairs and exhibitions (1984) (XB)

***2.3 Market and product development**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Guide to the Australian market (1984) (XB); (b) Guide to the Japanese Market as a Marketing Aid for Asian Exporters (revised edition) (1984, 1985) (XB); (c) Guide to the Market of the Federal Republic of Germany (revised edition) (1984, 1985) (XB); (d) Guidebook on Trading with the People's Republic of China (revised edition) (1984, 1985) (XB); (e) Guides to other markets (1984, 1985) (XB); (f) Two case studies on export and import techniques, procedures and documentation (I in 1984, I in 1985); (g) Report of the Asia-Pacific trade exhibition (likely to be held at Beijing (1985»); and (h) Study of export inspection systems of selected ESCAP countries (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four technical assistance to trade missions (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Two National seminars or workshops as a follow-up to the case studies on international subcontracting (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Advisory assistance in export marketing to countries on selected products/commodities of interest to them (1984) (XB); and (d) Six market surveys and marketing reports on selected products (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 3: Raw materials and commodities

Objectives: To provide information, technical assistance and advisory services in commodities of socio-economic interest to member countries in identifying priority problems, formulating and adjusting commodity development policies, planning and implementation; to promote and expand co-operation, including technical and economic co-operation, among producing countries and between producing and consuming countries in the region in all aspects of raw materials and commodities; and to formulate specific co-operative programmes and to assist in the establishment of institutional arrangements at the subregional and regional levels for selected commodities (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 16, para. 16.188) .

***3.1 Promotion of subregional, regional and interregional co-operation in selected raw materials and commodities and assistance to the commodity communities/associations in the region**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Eight studies on co-operative measures for selected raw materials and commodities (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four meetings on co-operative measures for selected raw materials (1984); (b) Two seminars/workshops to promote subregional, regional and interregional co-operation in selected raw materials and commodities (I in 1984, 1 in 1985); (c) Assistance to the Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries, the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community and the International Pepper Community and new regional commodity arrangements/communities/associations (1984, 1985); and (d) Two meetings of the TCG Subgroup for Commodities (I in 1984, I in 1985) (XB)

***3.2 Planning, implementation and development in commodities of socio-economic interest**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Eight studies on commodities of socio-economic interest to member countries, namely, jute, tropical timber, tapioca, hides and skins, dried fruits and edible nuts, silk, shrimps/marine products, oil seeds, hand-made carpets of silk and wool and machine-made carpets of jute (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Six missions to member countries to advise on the formulation of plans and policies for raw materials and commodities (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985)

Subprogramme 4: Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries

Objectives: To assist governments in developing professional skills of personnel engaged in both the public and the private sectors in improving transit/transport infrastructure, both physical and administrative, including the promotion of co-operation between land-locked and transit countries, and in identifying complementarities in the promotion of inter-island trade and trade between island countries and other countries (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 16, para. 16.192)

4.1 *Export and import planning techniques and marketing

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Three studies on products of export interest to the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Two studies on the import requirements of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, containing information on some of the most suitable supply sources (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Establishment and strengthening of national trade promotion services (1984, 1985) (XB); and (b) Four training courses for personnel engaged in the promotion and management of foreign trade in specific fields (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

4.2 *Transit trade facilities for trade of the land -locked countries*

Outputs:

- (i) Meeting of the Special Body on Land-locked Countries (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: Two surveys of the external trade of land-locked countries and existing/potential transit facilities (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB) .
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to assist in the improvement of transit trade facilities and procedures and formalities (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Two workshops on facilitation of the transit trade of land-locked countries (1984, 1985) (XB)
- (iv) Fellowships to personnel involved in the operation of the transit trade of the land-locked countries (1984, 1985) (XB)

4.3 *Expansion of the trade of island developing countries*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Two studies on the promotion of co-operation in commodity trade among the island developing countries (XB) ; and (b) Reports on identification of non- tariff barriers to commodities of export interest with a view to promoting expansion of inter-island trade (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 5: Economic co-operation among developing countries in trade-related areas

Objectives: To assist member countries of the region in planning, organizing and implementing schemes for economic co -operation as a basic component of their efforts towards the establishment of a new international economic order (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 16, para. 16.196)

5.1 *Promotion of ECDC, including follow-up activities on UNCTAD resolutions and decisions

Outputs:

- (i) Two intergovernmental meetings of developing countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Studies and missions for achieving and strengthening regional co-operation among Asian state trading organizations in joint marketing, joint imports and joint storage/transit/trans-shipment facilities (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Study and missions for preparations for the establishment of multinational marketing enterprises among developing countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Advisory and technical assistance to developing countries for participation in ECDC activities (XB); and (d) Studies and missions to facilitate establishment of joint ventures among private trading organizations in developing countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

PROGRAMME: NATURAL RESOURCES

Subprogramme 1: Exploration, evaluation, rational utilization and management of mineral resources

Objectives: To assist the developing countries of the region in the rational development, management and utilization of their mineral resources (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 17, para. 17.120)

1.1 ***Appraisal of geology and of occurrence and development of mineral resources***

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Natural Resources (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Triennial review of activities for the development of mineral resources in the ESCAP-region (1982-1984) (1985); (b) *ESC4P Atlas of Stratigraphy IV* (1985); (c) *Map of the Sedimentary Basins of the ESCAP Region* (second edition, in colour) (1984); (d) Atlas of mineral resources of the ESCAP region (1985); and (e) Mineral concentrations and accumulations in the region (1985)

* 1.2 ***Promotion of regional co-operation, and technical and administrative support to regional and subregional mineral projects***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Technical and substantive support to the Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre (RMRDC); assistance in servicing two RMRDC Governing Council meetings (XB); Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre (XB); Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas (CCOP/SOPAC) (1984, 1985); (b) Assistance in servicing two annual sessions each of CCOP/SOP AC and the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas (CCOP) (1984, 1985) (XB); and (c) Support to co-operative mechanism on exploration in the Indian Ocean^a (XB) (1985)

1.3 ***Strengthening of national capabilities of investigation and development of mineral resources***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to advise least developed countries on formulation of national mineral resource programmes (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (b) Seminar on exploration and development of coal resources in the region (1984) (XB); (c) Seminar on drilling, sampling and borehole logging (1985) (XB); and (d) Seminar on offshore geophysical exploration for petroleum in the ESCAP region (1985) (XB)

*1.4 ***Strengthening of national capabilities relating to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (NEW)***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Report on new marine technologies, methods and techniques and new developments on the Convention on the Law of the Sea (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Seminar on institutional and legal aspects of the Convention (1985)

Subprogramme 2: Rational development, management and utilization of water resources

Objectives: To formulate and implement plans and programmes for the proper assessment, development, efficient use and management of water resources, including the mitigation of damage caused by water-related natural disasters; to support national economic and social development plans; to assist the governments of the region in achieving the above objectives, in particular the promotion of an integrated and comprehensive approach to water resources development and management; to establish water-quality monitoring systems in approximately four developing countries of the region by the end of 1989; and to establish a regional network for training in water resource development by 1989 (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 17, para. 17.124)

2.1 ***Support for the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan (NEW)***

Outputs:

- (i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources at its twelfth session on the preparation of national master water plans (1985); report to the Committee on Natural Resources at its eleventh session on policy analysis for water resource management (1984); and report to the Economic and Social Council Committee on Natural Resources at its ninth session on progress in the ESCAP region in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan (1984)

^a

One delegation expressed reservations about high priority being accorded to output (i) (c).

- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Regional seminar on water quality monitoring (1985) (XB); (b) Two inter-agency interdisciplinary missions on water resources (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (c) Regional advisory services to eight countries on water resources development (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985); (d) Four advisory missions on accelerated manufacture of hand pumps for rural water supply (1985) (XB); and (e) Study tour to selected irrigation systems in the region (1985) (XB)

***2.2 Promotion of regional co-operation in water resource development (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources at its thirteenth session on the problems and prospects of the development of shared water resources in the region (1986)
- (ii) Technical publication: ESCAP register of water resource specialists available for TCDC (1984)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Support to the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin (1984, 1985); and (b) Regional symposium on shared water resources^b (1985) (XB)

2.3 Mitigation of damage from cyclones, floods and droughts

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Two sessions of the Typhoon Committee (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Assistance in the organization of two sessions of the WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (c) Assistance to the Typhoon Committee and the WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones (1984, 1985); and (d) Meeting on the establishment of a cyclone council for the South Pacific (1984)

***2.4 Information and training in water resources development**

Outputs:

- (i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources at its eleventh session on the survey of the capabilities of potential participating institutes in the proposed regional network for training in water resource development (1984); and organization of an intergovernmental meeting on the establishment of the proposed regional network for training in water resource development (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Eight issues of the Water Resources Journal (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985); (b) Four reports containing summaries of activities of major water resources countries in the region (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (c) Three issues of the Water Resources Series (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985)
- (iii) Regional seminar on systems analysis for water resource development (1984) (XB)
- (iv) Seminar on the efficient use of water in energy resource development (1984) (XB)

Subprogramme 3: Cartography and remote sensing

Objectives: To assist the developing countries of the region in the exploration and assessment of their natural resources and in environmental monitoring through mapping and remote sensing techniques (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 17, para. 17.132)

***3.1 Technical and administrative support to the regional remote sensing programme and promotion of regional co-operation in the application of remote sensing techniques for efficient management of natural resources and the environment**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Four newsletters (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Four technical reports on joint research/pilot application projects (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Technical and substantive support to the regional remote sensing programme (1984, 1985) (XB); (b) Two regional symposiums (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Three seminars/workshops (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Three study tours (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (iii) One hundred fellowships to provide training in the application of remote sensing to resource management (50 in 1984, 50 in 1985) (XB)

^b One delegation expressed reservations about high priority being accorded to output (iii) (b).

PROGRAMME: POPULATION

Subprogramme 1: Population and development

Objectives: To assist member Governments and subregional groups in formulating more effective development strategies through a better understanding of the interrelationship between development objectives, population and other socio-economic factors, as well as in the formulation and implementation of population programmes (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 18, para. 18.121)

1.1 *Formulation and implementation of population policies and programmes for development

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Population (1985)
- (ii) Technical publication: Review of demographic characteristics of member countries in the region (1985)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Ten advisory missions on population matters, including formulation of country-level population projects (5 in 1984, 5 in 1985); and (b) Two workshops on monitoring and evaluation systems for population trends and policies (1984, 1985) (XB)

1.2 *Development of a know/edge base on the interrelationships between population and development variables*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Three studies on an analysis of trends and patterns of mortality, based on six country studies (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985, 1 in 1986) (XB); (b) Study on demographic and development implications of emigration in countries of origin (1984); (c) Two country monographs containing comprehensive analysis and information on the size, changes, structure and distribution of population in relation to socio-economic development (1984) (XB); (d) Study on intercountry comparative analysis of the interrelationship of migration and urbanization to development (1984) (XB); (e) Guidelines for the tabulation of migration and urbanization survey data (1984) (XB); and (f) Study on an analysis of fertility and development variables based on population census data (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) ESCAP/WHO meeting on analysis of trends and patterns of mortality for selected ESCAP countries (1984) (XB); and (b) Expert group meeting on international migration in Asia and the Pacific (1984) (XB)

1.3 *Promotion of exchange of experience in integrated population and development programmes*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Meeting on development of a monitoring and evaluation system for population trends, policies and programmes at the national level (1984); and (b) Regional seminar of health and social planners and policy-makers for developing a plan of action aimed at mortality reduction (1985)

1.4 *Population composition, estimates and projections*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications; Two annual publications on demographic estimates for Asian and Pacific countries (1984, 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Eight missions to member countries to assist national institutions in population and household projections (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985)

*** 1.5 *Methodologies for data analysis and training***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Two regional training seminars/workshops on population and development planning (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Eight missions to member countries to provide assistance in analysis of censuses on migration and urbanization (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Population policies

Objectives: To assist the countries of the region to achieve their fertility goals through the formulation of integrated population policies, the formulation and implementation of family planning programmes, and the study of factors affecting fertility change and their policy and programme implications (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 18, para. 18.125)

***2.1 Formulation of fertility-related policies and programmes**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to advise on the formulation and implementation of fertility and family planning projects at the country level (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Regional workshop of policy-makers for fertility and family planning related policy formulation and programme development (1984) (XB); (c) Regional workshop of programme managers for the development and improvement of family planning programme operations (1985) (XB); and (d) Regional workshop for mid-level planners on the development of family planning policies and programmes: translation of fertility goals into programme elements, setting up of targets and priorities and allocation of resources (1984) (XB)

2.2 Promotion of an integrated approach to fertility and family planning policies and programmes through community participation

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on mechanisms and degree of community participation in family planning (1985); and (b) Two studies on innovative methods of integrating family planning with other development efforts through involvement of local communities (1984, 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Seminar-cum-study tour for programme managers of selected countries from four subregions to study community participation in family planning information and service delivery (1984) (XB); (b) Expert group meeting on integration of family planning activities with other development efforts at the community level (1984) (XB); and (c) Three regional training workshops: two on integration of family planning with other development programmes and one on monitoring and evaluation of family planning programmes (1 in 1984, 2 in 1985)

***2.3 Studies on fertility, family planning and related policies and programmes**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on the impact and efficiency of family planning programmes (1984) (XB); (b) Study on family structure and acceptance and continuation of family planning practice (1984) (XB); (c) Study on recipient's perspective in the delivery of services and supplies in family planning programmes and its effect on performance (1984) (XB); (d) Study on a methodology for improvement of programme statistics for management decisions and programme evaluation for family planning (1985) (XB); (e) Regional study on social, cultural and psychological factors affecting use/continuation of contraceptive methods (1985); and (f) Study of the fertility levels and trends in the countries of the ESCAP region: using census data of 1970 and 1980

Subprogramme 3: Population information

Objectives: To facilitate the transfer of information and experience in Information management and in the utilization of research findings in population-related fields (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 18, para. 18.130)

***3.1 Development of national population information programmes and centres in ESCAP member countries**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Manpower and programme development support to national population information centres in member countries through organization and execution of: (i) eight observation and study tours (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985); (ii) Twenty individualized manpower training programmes at third country institutions (10 in 1984, 10 in 1985); and (iii) Twelve missions for programme development and backstopping (6 in 1984, 6 in 1985); (b) Two training courses for staff of national population information centres, (10-12 trainees in each course) and individualized training (4-5 individuals per year), on advanced information handling topics for national population information centres (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Assistance in the establishment of national population information centres (1984, 1985)

3.2 ***Promotion of regional and/or subregional co-operation among national population information centres/networks and their linkage with global systems***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) 24 issues of ADOPT (monthly) and provision of data printouts from the ESCAP Population Data Bank (on-line/off-line) (XB); and (b) Two inventories/directories of population research, training and teaching institutions in the ESCAP region, and rosters of key individuals in the population field (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Country workshop (1985) and subregional workshop (1985) for the ESCAP Population Correspondent Network (XB); (b) Advisory services to Information Centre Network members; (c) Regional meeting on national population information centre programmes (1984) (XB); and (d) Assistance to subregional population information systems networks in the ESCAP region

3.3 **Population information and data services**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) 24 issues of Population Headliners (monthly) (XB); (b) Eight issues of Asian-Pacific Population Programme News (quarterly) (XB); (c) Issues of Population Research Leads, Population Studies Translation Series, inventory of local experience, reading profiles, bibliographies on specific population topics, publications list (1984, 1985) (XB); and (d) Report on a survey of population information user needs in member countries and evaluation of information products and services in meeting these needs (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Enquiry services, technical literature searches and preparation of special topic bibliographies for individuals and institutions in member countries (1984, 1985) (XB); (b) Selective dissemination of information to institutions and individuals in the region through current awareness literature searches using internal computerized data bases and based on user profiles (XB); and (c) Provision of rapid response to enquiries from institutions and individuals in the region, using internal and external computerized data bases such as POPLINE and DIALOG (XB) .

PROGRAMME: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Subprogramme 1: Institutional and policy infrastructure for science and technology

Objectives: To incorporate the recommendations of the Vienna. Programme of Action in the development strategies of member countries and to assist them in building up the appropriate institutional and policy framework for their implementation (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 20, para. 20.136)

***1.1 Improvements in science and technology framework and institutional structure**

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment
- (ii) (a) Study on the development of indicators of scientific and technological achievements suited to countries of the region (1985) (XB); (b) Survey missions to 10 countries (1984) (XB); (c) Intergovernmental meeting (1985); and (d) Regional meeting of ministers of science and technology (1985)
- (iii) Technical publications: (a) Study on patterns of science and technology policy and institutional framework and their linkages with industrial development (1984) (XB); (b) Study on economic and social implications of technology development and transfer (1984) (XB); and (c) Regional science and technology survey (1985) (XB)
- (iv) Technical assistance: Advisory missions (1984, 1985)
- (v) Meeting of an ad hoc group of regional scientists and technologists (1984, 1985) (XB)

1.2 Research and development

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study of accounting systems for research and development and criteria for the selection of research and development projects and formulation of guidelines (1984) (XB); and (b)

Survey of research and development manpower in the region and identification of gaps in their skills profile (1985) (XB)

- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Six advisory missions (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Exchange of visits of research and development personnel within the region (I in 1984, I in 1985) (XB)
- (iii) (a) Meeting of heads of research and development institutions and representatives of the productive sector (on research and development linkages) (1985) (XB); and (b) Meeting of professional bodies in various scientific and technological disciplines (1985) (XB)

*** 1.3 *Energy efficiency in industry and conversion technology (NEW)***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Five case studies analysing technological and other problems with reference to energy conservation in selected building material plants (3 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Regional report recommending measures for improving energy efficiency in the building materials industry (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Five survey missions to interested countries to study the current situation and the technology used with regard to energy consumption in selected building material plants (3 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Regional seminar on energy conservation in the ceramic and other silicate industries (1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Strengthening technological capabilities of member countries

Objectives: To assist developing member countries in strengthening their technological capabilities (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 20, para. 20.140)

2.1 *Substantive backstopping of the regional institutions

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Technical and substantive backstopping of the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (1984, 1985); and (b) Technical and substantive backstopping of the Regional Centre for Technology Transfer (1984, 1985)

2.2 *Transfer of technology (NEW)*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Manual of licensing procedures in member countries (loose-leaf) (1985) (XB); and (b) Inventory of Asian and Pacific technologies (loose-leaf) (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Fifteen advisory missions on specific problems in the area of technology transfer (7 in 1984, 8 in 1985) (XB); (b) Eight advisory missions on preparation of laws and regulations relating to technology transfer (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (XB); (c) Training workshop on negotiation and execution of licensing and technical service contracts (1984) (XB); (d) Training workshop on the use of the English language in the negotiation of commercial transactions (1985) (XB); (e) Meeting on technology transfer through engineering joint ventures (1984) (XB); (f) Seminar on technology transfer in the chemical industry (1984) (XB); and (g) Six advisory missions on development and transfer of technology for agro-industries (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB)

2.3 *Standardization and related activities*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Survey of the existing status, practices and procedures in the field of standardization, quality control, certification marking, testing etc. (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Workshop on exchange of knowledge and experience in the implementation of national and international efforts towards strengthening activities: in standardization, metrology, quality control, certification marking and testing (1984) (XB); (b) Meeting of heads of standards institutions of the region (1985) (XB); and (c) Eight advisory missions {4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (XB)

2.4 ***Technology for key industries***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on assessment of technological requirements and assistance in technology development and transfer for selected capital good industries (non -electrical machinery , electrical machinery and transport equipment), the iron and steel industry, selected chemical industries (industrial chemicals and other chemicals) and selected petrochemical industries (1984) (XB); (b) Study on assessment of technological processes involved in products derived from coconut in the South Pacific subregion (1984) (XB); and (c) Expert group meeting and study to promote regional co-operation in shipbuilding and ship-repair facilities (1984) (XB)

2.5 ***Strengthening of project generation capabilities and engineering design and consultancy services (NEW)***

Outputs:

- (i) Intergovernmental meeting on policies and measures to promote the capacities and use of local consultancy services (1984)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two training courses on project management (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Four advisory missions on the development of national industrial consultancy organizations (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Establishment of a regional network for industrial consultancy (1984) (XB)

2.6 ***Establishment of a regional network for metal industries development centres (NEW)***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Intergovernmental expert group meeting (1985); and (b) Two advisory missions to assist in setting up a regional network (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

2.7 ***Assistance in the fabrication of post-harvest equipment and utilization of integrated post-harvest technologies***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Three studies on post-harvest equipment manufacture and post-harvest technologies (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Four advisory missions on the adoption of post-harvest technologies and the manufacture of appropriate equipment (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 3: Monitoring major breakthroughs in science and technology

Objectives: To keep abreast of the major developments in science and technology and thereby assist the developing member countries in pursuing the mainstream of global technological advances (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 20, para. 20.144)

3.1 ***Assessment of new technologies (NEW)***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on socio-economic implications of the industrial application of modern achievements in micro-electronics in selected countries (1984) (XB); (b) Two studies on selected new technologies (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)(XB); and (c) Case study on mono- and poly-crystalline silicon solar cells technology (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Regional expert group meeting on genetic engineering and bio-technological applications (1984) (XB); and (b) Regional expert group meeting on micro-electronics (1985) (XB)

PROGRAMME: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Subprogramme 1 : Popular participation

Objectives: To assist countries in developing strategies, guidelines and new approaches to facilitate popular participation in national and local/rural development policy formulation, planning decisions and programme design and implementation (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 21, para. 21.92)

***1.1 Policy analysis and issues for the promotion of participation**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Two training courses to develop legal para-professional competence in existing participatory groups (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (b) Expert group meeting on the role of, and relationships among, the necessary components of popular participation (1985)

*** 1.2 Participation of women in development**

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of a regional intergovernmental meeting in preparation for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (1984)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Five country case studies on women and consumer protection (2 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); (b) Five studies on special issues concerning women in development (4 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (c) Guidelines for upgrading national mechanisms (1984); and (d) Report on the situation of women and the status of the implementation in the ESCAP region of the Programme of Action for the Second Half of the United Nations Decade for Women (1984) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Twelve missions to provide advisory services to member countries as and when requested and to strengthen national mechanisms for the integration of women in national development plans and programmes, including the formulation and implementation of national projects (6 in 1984, 6 in 1985) (XB); (b) Two regional training courses for strengthening national mechanisms for the integration of women in development (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Regional workshop on women in management (1984) (XB)

1.3 Participation of youth in development

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Manual of guidelines for the training of youth leaders, workers and trainers in youth work (1985) (XB); (b) Four studies to assess the youth situation in selected ESCAP countries (1985) (XB); (c) Eight issues of Youth Development Newsletter (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (series began in 1981); (d) Study on the role of young women in the manufacturing industry in the ESCAP region (1984) (XB); and (e) Youth Development News-sheets (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Eight missions to member countries to advise on strengthening country strategies and administrative structures for more effective mobilization of youth (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (XB); (b) Six national training workshops on (i) different aspects of the development of rural youth, (ii) pressing issues affecting youth in the urban areas and (iii) crime prevention and juvenile justice (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); (c) Four study tours and field attachment programmes for youth workers, trainers and leaders in youth programmes (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (d) Two national workshops to promote the role of youth in responsible parenthood programmes (1984) (XB); (e) Dissemination of regional information on the International Youth Year and on related youth activities and programmes in the ESCAP region (1984, 1985) (XB); (f) Regional plan of action for the observance of the International Youth Year (1985); (g) Two regional/subregional training courses in youth policy and development (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (h) Regional workshop to establish programmes aimed at improving the position of young women in the service and entertainment sector (1984) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Social development policies and programme co-ordination

Objectives: To assist in the development of new social welfare strategies and policies to ensure that social welfare activities make an effective contribution to the achievement of the objectives of national development; to improve the actual delivery of social services, in particular for the poor and disadvantaged population groups; and to promote technical co-operation among developing countries in social welfare and social development in support of the above (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 21, para. 21.96)

***2.1 Social development policies**

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of Third Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development (1985)

- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Study on the socio-economic impact of selected development programmes on low-income groups (1985) (XB); (b) Regional directory of disability-related services (1984); and (c) Study on manpower planning for integrated socio-economic development (1984)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Ten missions to provide advisory services to member countries in developing and implementing development-oriented social welfare policies and programmes (5 in 1984, 5 in 1985); (b) Field exchange programme for planners and administrators on the planning and implementation of services and programmes for the aging (1984) (XB); and (c) Reports to various United Nations bodies concerning monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons as well as the International Plan of Action on Aging (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)

2.2 ***Social development information***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Six issues of the Social Development Newsletter (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (series began in 1980) (XB); and (b) Regional data base on social development (1984)

Subprogramme 3: Health and development

Objectives: To strengthen, develop and co-ordinate social policies, strengthen planning capacities in an integrated and intersectoral manner within the context of interagency support and co-ordination, in line with the Global Strategy of Health for All by the Year 2000 (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 21, para. 21.100)

3.1 *Development of basic community services through primary health care (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Research report on community participation through health (1984) (XB); and (b) Report on primary health care: issues and challenges (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Seventh and eighth training seminars on development of basic community services through primary health care (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Technical assistance to the ASEAN centre for primary health care (1984, 1985) (XB)

3.2 *Planning of health and health aspects of development (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Report on the health situation of the Philippines (1984) (XB); and (b) Report on Asian health trends (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Fifth and sixth courses on planning, development and health (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

3.3 *Pharmaceuticals and health (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on price differentials of imported drugs (1984) (XB); and (b) Pharmaceutical industry planning manual (1984) (XB).
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Workshop on pharmaceuticals (1985) (XB); and (b) Pharmaceutical data service: periodic publication on the pharmaceutical industry in relation to health (1984, 1985) (XB)

3.4 *Children in national development (NEW)*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Atlas of children in national development (1984) (first edition in 1982) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Seminar on planning for children (1985) (XB)

PROGRAMME: STATISTICS

Subprogramme 1: Statistical development

Objectives: To develop and improve the statistical capability of the countries of the region for the production of adequate and timely social and economic statistics and for the adaptation and implementation of international concepts, definitions, standards and guidelines (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 22, para. 22.118)

1.1 *Promotion, co-ordination and management of statistical development activities in the region

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Statistics, sixth session (1985); Report to the United Nations Statistical Commission, twenty-third session (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: Eight issues of Statistical Newsletter (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Organization of a working group of statistical experts (1984); and (b) Technical and substantive support to the statistical services provided by the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre

1.2 *Promotion of overall national statistical capabilities

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Two issues of Sample Surveys in the ESCAP Region (1984, 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to countries to advise on general statistical organization and development (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Twenty missions to countries to advise on various aspects of household surveys, including the building-up of survey-taking capability (8 in 1984, 12 in 1985) (XB); (c) Seminar on statistical education and training (1985) (XB); (d) Seminar on non-sampling errors (1985) (XB); (e) Two lecture series in regional training courses (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (f) Expert group meeting of producers and users of statistics (1984) (XB); (g) Seminar on the organization of statistical work in a changing environment (1984) (XB); and (h) Two training courses in various aspects of household surveys (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

1.3 *Development of economic statistics including national accounts

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Analytical study of surveys on the supply and consumption of non conventional sources of energy in the ESCAP region (1984) (XB); and (b) Manual on international trade statistics in the ESCAP region (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Ten missions to countries to advise on national accounts (4 in 1984, 6 in 1985); (b) Ten missions to countries to advise on energy statistics (4 in 1984, 6 in 1985) (XB) (carried over from 1982-1983); (c) Workshop to review the implementation of international recommendations on energy statistics (1985) (XB) (carried over from 1982-1983); (d) Twelve missions to countries to advise on industrial statistics (6 in 1984, 6 in 1985) (XB); (e) Workshop on transportation statistics (1985) (XB) (carried over from 1982-1983); (f) Asia-Pacific seminar on price statistics and the International Comparison Project (1984) (XB); (g) Seminar on review and development of national accounts (1985) (XB); (h) Seminar on statistics of small industrial units (1985) (XB); (i) Seminar on statistics of poverty and income distribution (1984) (XB); and (j) Asia-Pacific meeting of statisticians on input-output tables (1984) (XB)

*** 1.4 *Development of social and demographic statistics***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Handbook on socio-economic indicators (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Eight missions to countries to advise on specific aspects of population statistics, censuses and surveys (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985) (XB); (b) Four missions to countries to advise on social statistics (1985) (XB); (c) Pacific subregional seminar on social and related statistics (1984) (XB); (d) Workshop on intercensal sample surveys (1985) (XB) (carried over from 1982-1983); (e) Seminar on vital statistics (1985) (XB) (carried over from 1982-1983); (f) Asian subregional seminar on social and related statistics (1984) (XB); and (g) Seminar on statistics of employment and unemployment (1984) (XB)

1.5 ***Development of cross-sectoral and other statistics***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Manual on regional guidelines and methodologies for the development of small area statistics, including statistics on rural development (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to advise on the development of small-area statistics, including statistics for rural development projects (1985) (XB); (b) Four missions to countries to advise on environment statistics (1985) (XB); (c) Report on the application of microcomputers to decentralize use of government data bases: case study in Kalutara District, Sri Lanka (1985) (XB); and (d) Report on a pilot project in data communications for access to data bases in the United Nations system (1985) (XB)

1.6 ***Improvement and co-ordination of development-related government information systems through the effective application of computer technology to the collection, organization and management of data (NEW)***

Outputs :

- (i) Organization of an intergovernmental meeting on government information systems (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: Eight issues of Government Information Systems Newsletter (4 in 1984, 4 in 1985)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Twelve missions to advise on the entry, edit, storage and retrieval of census and survey data and on the use of generalized computer edit and tabulation software (6 in 1984, 6 in 1985) (XB); (b) Twelve missions to advise on various aspects of development-related computerized government information systems, including their co-ordination, design and implementation (6 in 1984, 6 in 1985) (XB); (c) Twelve missions to advise on the enhanced effectiveness of computerized government information systems for development planning and decision-making purposes, especially at the local level through microcomputer applications (6 in 1984, 6 in 1985) (XB); (d) Workshop on the co-ordination of information systems within government (1984) (XB); (e) Subregional workshop on the use of microcomputers for statistical applications in countries of the Pacific (1984) (XB); (f) Workshop on data base management (1985) (XB); (g) Workshop on the use of microcomputers in public administration (1985) (XB); (h) Workshop on urban information systems (1985) (XB); (i) Regional workshop on access to international data bases by ESCAP member countries (1985) (XB); (j) Training seminars in three member countries on the use of small computer systems for decentralization of decision-making in government (1985) (XB); (k) Six missions to advise on computer aspects of telecommunication policy (1985) (XB); and (l) Workshop on a design for the organization of computer-based information resources and systems for decentralized administration in developing countries (1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Statistical information services

Objectives: To collect from member countries demographic, social, economic and other statistics and to maintain them in a form suitable for retrieval for publication and for other uses, with particular emphasis on data needed for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the International Development Strategy (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 22, para. 22.122)

2.1 ***Collection of basic data relating to all fields of statistics, their edit and maintenance in time-series records, and their retrieval for reformulation, special compilation and secretariat publications***

Outputs:

- (i) Ad hoc information services and special compilations
- (ii) Technical publication: Handbook on Agricultural Statistics for Asia and the Pacific (annual)
- (iii) Sales publications: (a) Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific (quarterly); (b) Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics for Asia and the Pacific; (c) Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific; (d) Foreign Trade Statistics for Asia and the Pacific, Series A (annual); and (e) Foreign Trade Statistics for Asia and the Pacific, Series B (annual)

PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT I (TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM)

Subprogramme 1: General transport planning and facilitation of international traffic

Objectives: To assist governments in planning the development of transport and devising and developing facilitation measures for implementation at the national, subregional and regional levels (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.133)

1.1 *Formulation of national, subregional and regional strategies for integrated transport development

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Transport, Communications, and Tourism Wing) (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Studies on guidelines to integrated approaches to transport planning and development (1984, 1985); (b) Study on development of containerization and multimodal transport systems (1984) (XB); (c) Four issues of Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (d) Studies on possible cost-sharing arrangements between land-locked and transit countries in development of transit/transport and infrastructure facilities; and (e) Studies on new transport technologies and modalities of interest to land -locked countries in facilitating transit traffic
- (iii) Technical assistance: Meeting of an ad hoc intergovernmental group to prepare a phased programme of action for the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994, including its financial implications (1984)

1.2 *Promotion and co-operation among transport research institutes*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Two compendia of transport research institutes (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (b) Study report on planning methodologies, evaluation criteria, technology application and investment guidelines of transport co-operative research projects (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Meeting of national transport planners/economists to identify co-operative research projects (1984)
- (iii) Five fellowships at transport research institutes in the region (1984)

1.3 *Urban, suburban and inter-city common carrier transport development

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Four studies on critical issues of urban and public transport systems (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two training courses/seminars/workshops on public transport planning and programming in relation to overall national transport development (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Two training courses/seminars/workshops on selected aspects of urban and public transport (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Two roving missions to undertake comprehensive studies on urban transport in large- and medium-sized cities (1985) (XB); and (d) Two advisory missions on improvement of bus repair and maintenance facilities, improvement of bus terminal facilities and franchise management, and improvement of staff efficiency and bus operations to assist in the 1984 campaign on more safety and no more accidents for inter-city bus passengers and to assist in setting up, in co-operation with ILO, a training centre for public passenger bus transport (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)

1.4 *Facilitation of international traffic

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of an intergovernmental meeting for the finalization of an agreement on compulsory insurance of motor vehicles against civil liability (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two advisory missions to assist in the application of the Kyoto Convention, 1973, the Conventions on Road Traffic and on Road Signs and Signals 1968, and the TIR Convention of 1975 (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) seminar on international multimodal transport of goods, with a view to promoting

acceptance of the United Nations Convention on International Multimodal Transport of Goods, 1980 (1985) (XB); (c) Four advisory missions to assist in the establishment and proper functioning of national facilitation committees/focal points (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (d) Meeting of officials of national facilitation organs/focal points to exchange experiences and to develop a system of linkage between and among such bodies, once in two years (1984); (e) Two country-level training programmes on trade and transport facilitation measures (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (f) Two regional level seminars/workshops on specific aspects of trade and transport facilitation (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (g) Two advisory missions to assist in harmonization of frontier-crossing formalities between and among the countries connected by road and rail networks (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (h) Seminar on benefits, rights and responsibilities in transit matters under the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea

Subprogramme 2: Development of highways and highway transport

Objectives: To assist member countries in the development of a well-balanced and integrated highway transport system at the national, subregional and regional levels (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.139)

***2.1 Formulation of strategies for roads and road transport development (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of an ad hoc meeting of ministers responsible for roads and road transport (1984), and organization of an ad hoc intergovernmental meeting of highway experts (1985)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Strategy for roads and road transport development in the 1980s (1984) (XB); (b) Studies on the implications of building self-financing toll roads in urban/inter-urban areas (1984) (XB) and on the techno-economic impacts of multi-axle vehicles on different types of road structures (1985) (XB); and (c) Collection and dissemination of information relating to research and technological innovation in road transport (1985) (XB)

***2.2 Energy and environment dimensions of highway transport development (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Studies on (i) policies for improvement of energy efficiency and use of alternative sources of energy, and (ii) auditing methodologies of energy conservation in the transport sector (1985) (XB); and (b) Guidelines for environmental impact assessment (EIA) of land transport infrastructure projects (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Workshop on EIA methodology (1985) (XB); (b) Seminar-cum-study tour on dual-fuel, energy-efficient/low-cost vehicles (1984) (XB); and (c) Advisory services to Thailand to implement and review priority measures of its action programme for energy conservation in road transport (1984) (XB)

***2.3 Promotion of low-cost techniques and quality control in rural roads and improvement of non-motorized transport**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Guidelines for socio-economic surveys to determine the patterns of transport use, availability, constraints and demand in rural areas to improve rural transport planning procedures (1985) (XB); (b) Research on health aspects of tricycles and handcart pullers and improved designs of non-motorized transport (1985) (XB); (c) Establishment of a network of focal points concerned with non-motorized transport to ensure continuous flow and exchange of information and to assist in the transfer of technology (1985) (XB); and (d) Low-cost techniques for construction/maintenance of rural roads through difficult terrain, including those in least developed, land-locked and island developing countries (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Training course for trainers of local-level officials responsible for rural road construction and maintenance (1984) (XB); (b) Seminar on the improvement potential and use of appropriate low-cost motorized transport (1985) (XB); (c) Advisory missions to Bangladesh, Malaysia and Thailand for the transfer of technology relating to the Chinese two-way arch bridges (1984-1985) (XB); (d) Seminar-cum-study tour on problems of low-cost road construction and maintenance through arid and marshy areas in the USSR (1985) (XB); and (e) Low-cost mechanized techniques of construction/maintenance of roads in China (1985) (XB)

2.4 ***Optimizing the operational efficiency of road transportation (NEW)***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: ESCAP/International Road Transport Union forum on operational and management aspects of road transportation (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical publication: Study on the improvement of the management capability of trucking operators (1984) (XB)

2.5 ***Promotion of safe and smooth international road transport***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Asian Highway guide map No.2 covering Asian Highway A-1 in Islamic Republic of Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan (revised edition) (1984) (XB); and (b) Asian Highway guidemap No.6 covering Asian Highway route in the Philippines (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Working group meeting on technical standards for weights, dimensions and safety devices of vehicles (1985) (XB)

2.6 ***Promotion of roads and road transport research, training and information services***

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Standardization of data/information on existing conditions of the Asian Highway and development trends of roads and road transport through a working group meeting of experts and publication of a review report containing the analysis of such data (second issue) (1985) (XB); and (b) Study on measures aimed at development of roads strengthened against natural disasters (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Seminar-cum-study tour on highway safety, management and techniques of road maintenance in Japan (1984) (XB); (b) Training course on project planning in transportation including road transport (1985) (XB); (c) Two advisory missions on techno-economic aspects of road transport development (1984, 1985) (XB); and (d) Assistance to Malaysia for the improvement of traffic accident recording and analysis systems (1984) (XB)

Subprogramme 3: Development of railways and railway transport

Objectives: To assist governments in the development of a well- balanced railway transport system at the national, subregional and regional levels (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.145)

3.1 *Railway development planning

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of the Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting (1984)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Study on the role of railways in selected member countries on alternative intermodal scenarios and on principles and methods for optimum budgetary allocation to match the needs for railway transport (1985) (XB); (b) Two studies on the Trans-Asian Railway network project and the Asian Railway master plan, including a technical and economic study on intraregional and interregional rail freight traffic (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Asian Railway master plan: (i) to determine the main industrial and rural development centres and the main sea and river ports etc. for which railway outlets from the Trans-Asian Railway and other trunk lines may be important (1984) (XB), (ii) to determine the network of railways lines on a priority basis (1985) (XB), and (iii) to determine traffic flows likely to occur by the years 1990 and 2000 (phase I) (1985) (XB); (d) Study on project appraisal and management as well as costing (1985) (XB); (e) Study on a dynamic marketing and sales strategy to increase gross revenue and identification of all possible avenues to attract revenue (including non-railway activities such as sale of land, use of advertising space and tourism) (1985) (XB); (f) Study on common climatic and geological zones in the region which will assist in solving common railway problems (1985) (XB); (g) Study on the feasibility of the establishment of a regional railway research centre (1985) (XB); (h) Technical and economic study to promote and facilitate intraregional and interregional rail freight traffic (comparative economic and technical feasibility of (i) the existing sealine system, (ii) sea-cum-land bridge system, and (iii) through-railway system) (1985) (XB); (i) Preparation of a review on modern railway technology (1984); and (j) Feasibility studies for the construction of a new railway line between the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam (1984-1985) (XB)

- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Railway Research Co-ordination Group Meeting (1984); and (b) Four missions to assist member countries for implementation of the Trans-Asian Railway Network Project (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) including feasibility studies on the Trans-Sumatra Line/(XB)

3.2 *Modernization, rehabilitation and enhancement of the efficiency of railways

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on improvement of safe and efficient train operation and protection systems (1985) (XB); (b) Study incorporating field test results and technical specifications for the proposed signalling and telecommunication system where electric power supply and adequate transmission lines are not available (1984) (XB); (c) Preparation of a practical manual for planning, contracting, constructing and maintaining a cost-effective, standardized and simple electrification system (1985) (XB); (d) Study on maximizing energy efficiency in different tractions and increase of productivity particularly with regard to increasing line capacity, higher speeds and better utilization of equipment (1985) (XB); (e) Study on the possibility of utilizing alternative sources of energy for train operation (1985) (XB); (f) Studies on effective and efficient maintenance systems, including (i) track maintenance, (ii) inventory control of rolling stock spare parts, (iii) preparation of manuals in the various fields and (iv) maintenance organization for motive power (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (g) Study on application of automation and computer techniques to the management and operation of railway transport (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Roving mission of railway experts to advise on technical, managerial, training and operational aspects of railway transport: feasibility studies for rehabilitation of the remaining railway bridges that need urgent repairs/replacement in Sri Lanka (1984) (XB); and rehabilitation of railway tunnels in Indonesia (1985) (XB); (b) Four seminars-cum-study tours on selected aspects of railways and railway transport (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (c) Two workshops on the economic and technical aspects of railway transport (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Two roving training courses on technical, managerial and operational aspects of railway transport: China, railway container transport (1984) (XB), and Bangladesh (1985) (XB)

3.3 *Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Two studies on standardization of facilities, equipment, vehicles and operations (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (b) Two studies on railway statistics and information systems (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Two studies on promotion of research (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Two studies on promotion and facilitation of intraregional and interregional traffic and co-ordination among different modes of transport (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Two meetings of Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group and subgroups (jointly at the same venue) to extend assistance to the member countries on standardization, development of railways statistics and information, promotion of research and promotion and facilitation of intraregional and interregional traffic and co-ordination among different modes of transport (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 4: Development of air cargo transport

Objectives: To determine the role that air cargo transport could play in promoting the intraregional and interregional air-borne trade of the region, particularly in remote or geographically isolated areas, and identification of the measures that could be considered for adoption by member countries of the region for this purpose (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.149)

4.1 *Promotion of economic aspects of air cargo transport*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Two annual reviews of trends and development of air cargo transport in the region (1984, 1985); (b) Study on the role of air cargo transport in the socio-economic development of member countries with special reference to the land-locked and island developing countries (1984) (XB); (c) Two reports on case studies on economics of air cargo consolidation of specific commodities in selected groups of countries in the region (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Study on the role of air cargo transport in the multimodal transport system, including containerization (1985) (XB)

- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four advisory missions to assist in techniques of air cargo packaging for exporters and freight forwarders (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (b) Training course/seminar on air cargo management (1984) (XB); (c) Training course on air cargo packaging technology (1985) (XB); (d) Advisory missions to five Pacific island countries in connection with the survey of air /sea/road and related infrastructures of the Pacific subregion (1984) (XB); and (e) Four missions to; advise on the possibility of establishing a consultative machinery between users and suppliers of air freight services (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 5: Development of communications infrastructure

Objectives: Joint promotion of telecommunication with the International Telecommunication Union and postal services with the Universal Postal Union (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.153)

***5.1 Telecommunications**

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of the second regional conference -cum -seminar on telecommunications (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Asian Telecommunication Network Map {updated and revised version} (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Study of the contribution of telecommunications to socio-economic development (1985); and (c) Country studies of the socio-economic impact of rural telecommunications (1984)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Six co-ordinating meetings for implementation of the Asian Telecommunication Network (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB); (b) Twelve regional advisory missions to assist in the choice of new technologies and training (3 in 1984, 9 in 1985) (XB); and (c) Advisory missions to four countries on broadcasting and television planning and training (1985) (XB)

5.2 Postal services

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Four technical studies on various aspects of postal development (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four advisory missions to improve rural postal services (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Organization of two seminars/workshops on postal development with particular emphasis on the problems of the least developed countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (iii) Six fellowships for postal officials to be trained at postal institutions/administrations (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 6: Development of tourism

Objectives: To formulate multidisciplinary methodologies for improvement of national tourism policies, legislation and other measures so that they most effectively contribute to co-ordinated development of tourism and to the regulation of its impacts on the social and physical environment (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para.24.157)

6.1 Role of tourism in general development and appropriate incentive schemes

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study on qualification of economic impacts of tourism in selected countries and the fiscal/financial incentives for tourism (1984) (XB); and (b) Study on direct, indirect and induced effects of tourism on employment and income (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Workshop on quantitative appraisal of economic impact of tourism and its implication on incentive schemes (1985) (XB); and (b) Six advisory missions on quantification of the economic impact of tourism for policy formulation (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985) (XB)

***6.2 Multidisciplinary planning for co-ordinating tourism development**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Four country studies on priority ranking of tourism sector projects (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Guidelines for evaluation of tourism implication of transport development

projects (1985) (XB); (c) Guidelines for regulation of the impact of tourism development upon social and physical environment (1985) (XB); (d) Guidelines for linkage of specific research and tourism planning (1984) (XB); and (e) Study on intersectoral integration in formulation of projects for tourism resource development (1984) (XB)

- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Six advisory missions to least developed countries on tourism development (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); and (b) Seminar-cum-workshop on a mechanism for regional co-operation for tourism manpower development (1985) (XB)

PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT II (SHIPPING, PORTS AND INLAND WATERWAYS)

Subprogramme 1: Development of maritime policy and institutions

Objectives: To establish at the national and regional levels the institutional framework required for the balanced development of maritime transport, to develop an integrated programme for manpower development and to promote co-operation among national institutions (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.163)

***1.1 Maritime policies and legislation (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways Wing) (1984)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Guidelines for maritime legislation (1984); and (b) Review of regional developments in shipping, ports and inland waterways, including review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1985)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to advise on formulation, updating and implementation of national maritime legislation (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Expert Group Meeting on Maritime Legislation (1985)

1.2 Economic information of shipping

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Updated handbook on economic information on shipping: concepts, definitions, methodology in the collection and compilation of information (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to advise on implementing the project on economic information on shipping (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (b) Seminar on economic information on shipping (1984)

1.3 Institutional development

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Guidelines on the establishment and functioning of freight study units (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to advise on the establishment and strengthening of institutions on shipping, ports and inland waterways for administration and management purposes (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (b) Seminar on freight study units (1985) (XB)

1.4 Development of maritime training institutions

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Survey and evaluation of needs and capacities of national maritime training centres in member countries (1985) (XB); and (b) Feasibility study of establishing subregional/regional maritime training centres (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Advisory services on the formation of a regional association of maritime training institutes (1985)

Subprogramme 2: Development of merchant marine and shipping services

Objectives: Formation and promotion of the development of merchant marine and shipping services (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.170)

***2.1 Merchant marines, shipping services and energy-saving measures (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Manual on shipping management (1985) (XB); (b) Two case studies on implementing the designed computer model for planning shipping services on specified routes (1984, 1985) (XB); and (c) Analysis of the latest developments in sail-equipped ships and fuel efficiency (1984)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to advise on energy -saving alternatives in shipping (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (b) Three missions to advise on optimizing fleet capacity, utilization and streamlining of shipping services with special reference to new ship technologies, including containerization and multimodal operations (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (c) Three missions to advise on the establishment of a regional maritime data bank to facilitate planning of fleet development (2 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (d) Seminar-cum-study tour on organization and management of shipping companies for management personnel with special reference to containerization (1984); (e) Seminar on costing and pricing of shipping services (1985)(XB); and (f) Two seminars for shipowners on the implementation of international maritime conventions {1 in 1984, 1 in 1985} (XB)

2.2 Ship financing

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Guidelines on the sale and purchase of ships (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to advise on various aspects of ship sale and purchase (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (b) Seminar on ship financing (1985)

***2.3 Development of shipbuilding and ship repair facilities (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Organization of an intergovernmental meeting of experts on shipbuilding and repair (1984)
- (ii) Technical publications: (a) Survey of shipbuilding and ship repair facilities and activities in the developing countries of the region (1984); and (b) Report on the establishment/rehabilitation of small-scale ship repair workshops (1985) (XB)
- (iii) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to advise developing member countries on various aspects of shipbuilding (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (b) Four missions to advise on development of small-scale ship repair workshops (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)

2.4 Promotion of shipping co-operation and joint shipping services

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Bulletin on the development of joint shipping services (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to promote co-operation among shipowners (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (b) Two meetings of shipowners' associations to promote regional co-operation among shipowners (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (c) Expert group meeting on implementation of international minimum standards concerning the employment conditions of merchant seafarers (1984); and (d) Two missions to advise on the operation of joint shipping services (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)

Subprogramme 3: Port development

Objectives: To develop and implement programmes of assistance to governments and port authorities in the region (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.175)

***3.1 Port operation, management and training (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Guidelines for use with video visual training exercises (1984); (b) Regional directory of port training centres and capabilities (1984); and (c) Study on innovative cargo handling methods and techniques (1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two advisory missions to South Pacific island countries, Bangladesh and India (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Four seminars at country and subregional levels on Unproved operational practices in ports (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (c) Four advisory missions to assist in setting up new training centres or upgrading existing ones, including upgrading syllabuses (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (d) Seminar on training of trainers (1985); (e) Two advisory missions to assist in documentation control, safety and industrial security (1984); (f) Two seminars on modern port management and port development policy (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (g) Six fellowships for port management personnel (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); and (h) Seminar on planned maintenance of equipment (1984)

***3.2 Port and harbour development (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Port modernization in the South Pacific island countries: establishment of design criteria (1984); (b) Port facility modernization (choice of structures, materials, site selection) and dredging (1985); (c) Proceedings of two seminars/workshops (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (d) Technical bulletin, The Dredger (1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Six advisory missions on general port development, including location and layout of new facilities in planning stages (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); (b) Six advisory missions on equipment criteria, specifications and selection (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); (c) Four advisory missions to assist in meeting urgent needs in the operation sector and to promote technical co-operation among developing countries (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (d) Two regional seminars/workshops aimed at upgrading technology on (i) operational characteristics, maintenance and repairs, spares planning and provisioning of dredging fleets (1984) and (ii) costing of dredging operations (1985) (XB)

***3.3 Implementation of a port management information system**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Updated study on port management information systems (PORTMIS) (1984); and (b) Review of port management practices in selected ESCAP countries (1984)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two advisory missions to countries in upgrading port management information systems at various levels (1984) (XB); (b) Seminar-cum-study tour on Unproved port management practices and port pricing (1985); and (c) Meeting of group of experts on PORTMIS (1984) (XB)

***3.4 Containerization and multimodal transport systems**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Survey of containerization and multimodal transport in selected ESCAP countries (1984)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Six missions to regional developing countries to advise on upgrading of Port facilities for multimodal transportation and port tariffs (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); and (b) Annual meeting of Chief Executives of Port Authorities with emphasis on port containerization and multimodal transport systems (1984, 1985)

Subprogramme 4: Development of inland water transport

Objectives: To assist member countries in achieving more effective utilization of their national inland waterways system (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.182)

4.1 Policy and planning

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Study of existing policy regimes for inland waterway operations and appropriate ways of measuring the costs resulting from the use of inland waterways and methods of determining and levying charges corresponding to those costs (1984) (XB); and (b) Inventory of major inland waterways in selected countries of the region (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to advise on policy development and planning techniques (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Four missions to advise on information and statistical services (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (c) Four missions to assist in establishing and strengthening regional institutions and training programmes (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (d) Two seminars/study tours for investigation of new developments and techniques in developed countries for possible application to developing countries (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)

***4.2 Development and maintenance of inland waterways, including development of dredging**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Proceedings of two seminars/workshops; and (b) Bulletin on agitation dredging (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Meeting of chief executives of inland water transport and inland waterway authorities (1984); (b) Two regional seminars/workshops aimed at upgrading technology of the inland waterway dredging industry (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB); (c) Four missions to member countries to provide ad hoc advisory services including those on mechanized canal lining system (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); and (d) Continuation of preparatory work on the establishment of a regional centre for inland water transport technology in Bangladesh

4.3 Fleet improvement (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Proceedings of seminars/expert group meetings (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to member countries to advise on various aspects of fleet development and management (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (b) Seminars/expert group meetings on design and construction of inland waterway craft and improvement in technical operation (push-towing, tow-in line) and economic running of the fleet (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)

***4.4 Development of terminals and landing facilities (NEW)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: A manual for the design of terminals and landing facilities to cover structures, mechanical equipment and terminal operations under various circumstances (1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Two missions to member countries to advise on development of terminals and landing facilities (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985)

Subprogramme 5 : Shippers ' organizations and co -operation

Objectives: To assist shippers and other relevant entities in acquiring knowledge of shipping economics and practices and to support the establishment and strengthening of shippers' institutions (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 24, para. 24.187)

***5.1 Establishment and strengthening of national shippers' organizations (XB)**

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Handbook for shippers (1984); (b) Studies on freight rates and surcharges (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (c) Compilation and dissemination of shipping information to member countries (1984, 1985)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory services on the establishment and operation of shippers' organizations (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); (b) Four missions to advise shippers' councils on establishment of information networks at national level (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (c) Six country-level workshops on cargo

consolidation, containerization, port environment, calculation of ocean transport costs and other aspects of shippers' co-operation (3 in 1984, 3 in 1985); and (d) Study tour of chief executives of national shippers' organizations (1984)

5.2 *Promotion of regional co-operation among shippers' organizations and between shippers' and shipowners' organizations (XB)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Two missions to advise on the implementation of schemes aimed at promoting co-operation between shippers and shipowners (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); (b) Four regional and subregional workshops on shippers' co-operation (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (c) Two meetings of chief executives of shippers' organizations and two joint meetings with shipowners' associations and port authorities (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985)

5.3 *Assistance in assessing needs for suitable carriers and services*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: Two studies on choice of shipping services (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Four missions to assist subregional groupings in the evaluation of shipping services (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB)

5.4 *Cargo consolidation, freight booking and chartering activities, including establishment of computer-based services (NEW)

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Two studies on cargo consolidation schemes and freight rates (1 in 1984, 1 in 1985); and (b) Guidelines for the establishment of computer-based shipping models' (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: (a) Four missions to assist in implementation of cargo consolidation and chartering projects (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); and (b) Workshop on the use of shipping models (1984)

5.5 *Strengthening of freight forwarders' organizations*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publication: Manual on the establishment and operation of freight forwarders' organizations (1984) (XB)
- (ii) Technical assistance: Workshop on functioning of freight forwarders' organizations (1984) (XB)

PROGRAMME: TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

Subprogramme 1: Securing an effective code of conduct and other international arrangements and agreement relating to transnational corporations

Objectives: To provide substantive support for the implementation, monitoring and review of the code of conduct; to assist governments in disseminating and publicizing the code of conduct; to service and provide substantive support to intergovernmental bodies working for the formulation, implementation and monitoring of other international arrangements and agreements; and to conduct work aimed at identifying areas for other international arrangements and agreements (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 23, para. 23.8)

1.1 *Implementation of the code of conduct and other international arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Three briefing missions on the status of the code of conduct and other international arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations (1984) (XB); and (b) Regional seminar and three advisory missions on the code of conduct and regional arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations, subject to the adoption of the code of conduct on transnational corporations (1985) (XB)

Subprogramme 2: Minimizing the negative effects of transnational corporations and enhancing their contribution to development

Objectives: To assist member Governments in analysing trends in the activities of transnational corporations and their impact on economic development and in analysing the implications of the activities of TNCs in host countries, including economic, political, social and cultural issues (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 23, para. 23.16)

2.1 *Regional support to UNCTC's global research*

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: Reports and studies for UNCTC's research programme in priority areas identified by the Commission on Transnational Corporations (1984, 1985)

2.2 *Research and analysis: country and case studies

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Four comparative studies on specific issues regarding the activities of transnational corporations (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985) (XB); (b) Four studies on transnational corporations based in developing countries (1984); (c) Three studies on the role of transnational corporations in export processing zones (1984); (d) Three studies on emerging activities of transnational corporations in least developed, land-locked and island developing countries (1984, 1985); (e) Three studies on the impact of transnational corporations on the economic and social development process (1984, 1985); and (f) Two studies on transnational corporations in selected industries (1984, 1985)

Subprogramme 3: Strengthening the capability of host developing countries in dealing with matters related to transnational corporations

Objectives: To assist member Governments in the examination of policy options related to transnational corporations, and to collect and disseminate information on law and regulations, individual transnational corporations, contracts and agreements, and other data sources; to organize and conduct training workshops, seminars, round-tables and study tours on matters related to regulating and negotiating with transnational corporations (Medium-term plan for 1984-1989, chap. 23, para. 23.21)

3.1 *Provision of technical assistance, in collaboration with UNCTC, to member Governments

Outputs:

- (i) Technical assistance: (a) Thirty advisory missions for strengthening the negotiating capacities of host countries (1984, 1985); and (b) Fifteen general and specialized training workshops and seminars on matters related to TNCs at the national, subregional and regional levels (1984, 1985)

3.2 *Information services on transnational corporations to member countries

Outputs:

- (i) Technical publications: (a) Reviews on transnational corporations and working papers on national legislation related to transnational corporations (2 in 1984, 2 in 1985); (b) Corporate profiles of regional subsidiaries and affiliates (1984, 1985); and (c) Three regional surveys on information, bibliographies and research activities (1984-1985)

Annex II

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF ACTIONS AND PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION

None of the resolutions adopted at the fortieth session of the Commission have financial implications for the regular budget of the United Nations.

Annex III

**MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD DURING
THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW**

<i>Body and officers</i>		<i>Session</i>	<i>Document symbol of report^a</i>
Committee on Statistics		Fifth session Bangkok 21-27 June 1983	E/ESCAP/346
<i>Chairman:</i>	Stephen Kuzmicich (New Zealand)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i>	Young Kwon Kim (Republic of Korea)		
	Azwar Rasjid (Indonesia)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Colin C. Greenfield (Hong Kong)		
Committee on Population		Third session Bangkok 23-29 August 1983	E/ESCAP/347
<i>Chairman:</i>	Nor Laily Binte Dato Abu Bakar (Malaysia)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i>	Wang Liangcheng (China)		
	R.P. Kapoor (India)		
<i>Chairman, Technical and Drafting Committee:</i>	M.A. Kareem Iqbal (Pakistan)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Henry Pardoko (Indonesia)		
Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment		Seventh session Bangkok 6-12 September 1983	E/ESCAP/348
<i>Chairman:</i>	Yuthasak Klongtmijrok (Thailand)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i>	W.D. Ailapperuma (Sri Lanka)		
	Xiao Yongding (China)		
<i>Chairman, Technical and Drafting Committee:</i>	P. Japhlom (Papua New Guinea)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	A.W. Chowdhuri (Bangladesh)		

^a Copies of reports that are not available through normal distribution channels at United Nations Headquarters or at Geneva may be obtained from the Regional Commissions Liaison Unit at United Nations Headquarters.

Body and Officers		Session	Document symbol of report ^a
Committee on Natural Resources		Tenth session Bangkok 25-31 October 1983	E/ESCAP/342
Chairman:	R. Rangachari (India)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Sunthorn Ruanglek (Thailand)		
	Nong Kaiqing (China)		
Chairman, Technical and Drafting Committee:	Mardjono Notodihardjo (Indonesia)		
Rapporteur:	R.S. Jayaratne (Sri Lanka)		
Committee on Agricultural Development		Fifth session Bangkok 8-14 November 1983	E/ESCAP/349
Chairman:	Sornnuk Sriplung (Thailand)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Soetatwo Hadiwigeno (Indonesia)		
	U. Sapukotana (Sri Lanka)		
Chairman, Technical and Drafting Committee:	P.D. Srivastava (India)		
Rapporteur:	A.N.M. Eusuf (Bangladesh)		
Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Transport, Communications and Tourism Wing)		Seventh session Bangkok 22-28 November 1983	E/ESCAP/350
Chairman:	Chitti Wacharasirdhu (Thailand)		
Vice-Chairmen:	K.P. Anand (India)		
	Fachri Mahrnud (Indonesia)		
Chairman, Technical and Drafting Committee:	Abdul Rahim Jalal (Malaysia)		
Rapporteur:	R.H. Henare (New Zealand)		

Annex IV

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. Publications

- Asian Pacific Economic Co-operation* (Development Papers, No.2): United Nations publication, Sales No. 83.II.F.17
- Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*, 1983: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.II.F.1
- Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*: United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.II.F.2 (vol. XXXIII, No.1, June 1982)
- Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific*: United Nations publication, Sales Nos. E.83.II.F.13 (vol. XIX, Series A); E.83.II.F.15 (vol. XIX, Series B); E.83.II.F.16 (vol. XX, Series A)
- Fuels for the Transport Sector*: Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) (Energy Resources Development Series, No. 26): United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.II.F.5
- Proceedings of the Committee on Natural Resources, Eighth Session, and of the Regional Expert Group Meeting on the Follow-up of the Nairobi Programme of Action on New and Renewable Sources of Energy* (Energy Resources Development Series, No. 25): United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.II.F.8
- Proceedings of the Meeting on Water Resources Development in the South Pacific* (Water Resources Series, No. 57): United Nations publication, Sales E.84.II.F.7
- Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics for Asia and the Pacific*: United Nations publication, Sales Nos. E.83.II.F.5 (vol. XII, No.2, June 1982); E.83.II.F.6 (vol. XII, No.3, September 1982); E.83.II.F.10 (vol. XII, No.4, December 1982)
- Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific*: United Nations publication, Sales Nos. E.83.II.F.9 (vol. XIII, No.1, March 1983); E.83.II.F.14 (vol. XIII, No.2, June 1983); E.83.II.F.18 (vol. XIII, No.3, September 1983); E.84.II.F.4 (vol. XIII, No.4, December 1983)
- Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific 1981*: United Nations publication, Sales No. E/F.83.II.F.2
- The Integration of Tax Planning into Development Planning in the ESCAP Region* (Development Papers, No.3): United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.II.F.3

B. Documents submitted to the Commission

- Report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its tenth session (E/ESCAP/342)
- Work of the Commission since the thirty-ninth session (E/ESCAP/343)
- Report on the implementation of Commission resolution 233 (XXXIX) on the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries (E/ESCAP/344)
- Structure, frequency and duration of Commission sessions (E/ESCAP/345)
- Report of the Committee on Statistics on its fifth session (E/ESCAP/346)
- Report of the Committee on Population on its third session (E/ESCAP/347) ., ,
- Report of the Committee on Industry, Technology, Human Settlements and the Environment on its seventh session (E/ESCAP/348)
- Report of the Committee on Agricultural Development on its fifth session (E/ESCAP/349)
- Report of the Committee on Shipping, and Transport and Communications (Transport, Communications and Tourism Wing) on its seventh session (E/ESCAP/ 350)
- Report of the Special Body on Land-locked Countries on its seventh session (E/ESCAP/351)
- Report of the ESCAP Preparatory Meeting of Ministers of Industry for the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO (E/ESCAP/352)
- Main issues in the field of food and agriculture (E/ESCAP/353 and Add.1)
- Main issues in the field of development issues and policies (E/ESCAP/354)
- Main issues in the field of transnational corporations (E/ESCAP/355)
- Main issues in the field of international trade (E/ESCAP/356)
- Main issues in the field of industry, technology and human settlements (E/ESCAP/357)
- Main issues in the field of the environment (E/ESCAP/ 358)
- Main issues in the field of natural resources and energy (E/ESCAP/359 and Corr.1)

- Main issues in the field of population (E/ESCAP/360)
- Amendment of the terms of reference of the Commission: Membership of Vanuatu (E/ESCAP/361)
- Main issues in the field of social development (E/ESCAP/362 and Add.1)
- Regional plan of action for the International Youth Year and Beyond: Participation, Development, Peace (E/ESCAP/363)
- Main issues in the field of statistics (E/ESCAP/364)
- Main issues in the field of shipping, ports and inland waterways (E/ESCAP/365)
- Main issues in the field of transport, communications and tourism (E/ESCAP/366)
- The Commission's activities in the Pacific (E/ESCAP/367 and Corr.1 and 2)
- Economic assistance to Vanuatu (E/ESCAP/368 and Add.1)
- ESCAP Pacific operations office (E/ESCAP/369)
Main issues in the field of information systems and documentation services (E/ESCAP/370)
- Integrated rural development (E/ESCAP/371)
- Programme changes for the biennium 1984-1985 (E/ESCAP/372 and Add.1 and Corr.1)
- Implementation of the work programme of the Commission, 1982-1983 (E/ESCAP/373)
- Tentative calendar of meetings, 1984-1985 (E/ESCAP/374 and Corr.1)
- Resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council (E/ESCAP/375 and Add.1)
- First revision of the medium-term plan, 1984-1989 (E/ESCAP/376 and Corr.1 and Add.1)
- Economic and technical co-operation among development countries (E/ESCAP/377)
- Report on the financial situation of the regional institutions (E/ESCAP/378)
- Report of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre (E/ESCAP/379)
- Report on the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific for 1983 (E/ESCAP/380)
- Annual Report of the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong, Basin, 1983 (E/ESCAP/381)
- Report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas (E/ESCAP/382)
- Report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas (E/ESCAP/383)
- Report of the Typhoon Committee (E/ESCAP/384)
- Regional Mineral Resources Development Centre (E/ESCAP/385)
- Report on the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/386 and Add.1)
- Report on the Regional Centre for Technology Transfer (E/ESCAP/387 and Corr.1)
- Draft statute of the Regional Centre for Technology Transfer (E/ESCAP/388 and Corr.1)
- Report on the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (E/ESCAP/389)
- Report on the regional energy development programme (E/ESCAP/390)
- Report on the Pacific energy development programme (E/ESCAP/391)
- Report on the regional remote sensing programme (E/ESCAP/392)
- Mobilization of extrabudgetary resources (E/ESCAP/393)
- Technical co-operation activities of ESCAP, 1983 (E/ESCAP/394)
- Technical co-operation activities in Asia and the Pacific in 1983: information papers presented by the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (E/ESCAP/395 and Add.1)
- Report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (E/ESCAP/396)
- Date and venue of the forty-first session of the Commission (E/ESCAP/397)
- Report of the Intergovernmental Meeting on "Technology for Development" (E/ESCAP/398)
- Technology for development (E/ESCAP/399 and Add.1 and 2)
- Transport and communications decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994 (E/ESCAP/400)
- Report on the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population on its meeting in 1984 (E/ESCAP/401)

Annex V

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

As adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its fourth session, amended by the Council at subsequent sessions, and revised in consequence of various General Assembly resolutions.

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered General Assembly resolution 46(I) of 11 December 1946, in which the General Assembly "recommends that, in order to give effective aid to the countries devastated by war, the Economic and Social Council, at its next session, give prompt and favourable consideration to the establishment of an Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East", and

Having noted the report of the Working Group for Asia and the Far East of the Temporary Sub-Commission on Economic Reconstruction of Devastated Areas,

Establishes an Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific with terms of reference as follows:

1. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, acting within the framework of the policies of the United Nations and subject to the general supervision of the Council, shall, provided that the Commission takes no action in respect of any country without the agreement of the Government of that country:

(a) Initiate and participate in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic reconstruction and development of Asia and the Pacific, for raising the level of economic activity in Asia and the Pacific and for maintaining and strengthening the economic relations of these areas both among themselves and with other countries of the world;

(b) Make or sponsor such investigations and studies of economic and technological problems and developments within territories of Asia and the Pacific as the Commission deems appropriate;

(c) Undertake or sponsor the collection, evaluation and dissemination of such economic, technological and statistical information as the Commission deems appropriate;

(d) Perform such advisory services, within the available resources of its secretariat, as the countries of the region may desire, provided that such services do not overlap with those rendered by the specialized agencies or the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration;

(e) Assist the Economic and Social Council, at its request, in discharging its functions within the region in connection with any economic problems, including problems in the field of technical assistance;

(f) In carrying out the above functions, deal, as appropriate, with the 'social aspects of economic development and the interrelationship of the economic and social factors.

2. The territories of Asia and the Pacific referred to in paragraph 1 shall include Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Burma, China, the Cook Islands, Democratic Kampuchea, Fiji, Guam, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kiribati, Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Niue, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.

3. The members of the Commission shall consist of Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, China, Democratic Kampuchea, Fiji, France, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Viet Nam, provided that any State in the area which may hereafter become a Member of the United Nations shall be thereupon admitted as a member of the Commission.

4. The associate members shall include Brunei, the Cook Islands, Guam, Hong Kong, Kiribati, Niue, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

5. Any territory, part or group of territories within the geographical scope of the Commission as defined in paragraph 2 may, on presentation of its application to the Commission by the member responsible for the international relations of such territory, part or group of territories, be admitted by the Commission as an associate member of the Commission. If it has become responsible for its own international relations, such territory, part or group of territories may be admitted as an associate member of the Commission on itself presenting its application to the Commission.

6. Representatives of associate members shall be entitled to participate without vote in all meetings of the Commission, whether sitting as Commission or as Committee of the Whole.

7. Representatives of associate members shall be eligible to be appointed as members of any committee, or other subordinate body, which may be set up by the Commission and shall be eligible to vote and hold office in such body.

8. The Commission is empowered to make recommendations on any "matters within its competence directly to the Governments of members or associate members concerned, Governments admitted in consultative capacity, and the specialized agencies concerned. The Commission shall submit for the Council's prior consideration any of its proposals of activities that would have important effects on the economy of the world as a whole.

9. The Commission shall invite any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that non-member.

10. The Commission shall invite representatives of specialized agencies and may invite representatives of any intergovernmental organizations to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that agency or organization following the practice of the Economic and Social Council.

11. The Commission shall make arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations which have been granted consultative status by the

Economic and Social Council, in accordance with the principles approved by the Council for this purpose and contained in Council resolution 1296 (XLIV).

12. The Commission shall take measures to ensure that the necessary liaison is maintained with other organs of the United Nations and with the specialized agencies. The Commission shall establish appropriate liaison and co-operation with other regional economic commissions in accordance with the resolutions and directives of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

13. The Commission may, after discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same general field, and with the approval of the Council, establish such subsidiary bodies as it deems appropriate, for facilitating the carrying out of its responsibilities.

14. The Commission shall adopt its own rules of procedure, including the method of selecting its Chairman.

15. The Commission shall submit to the Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, once a year.

16. The administrative budget of the Commission shall be financed from the funds of the United Nations.

17. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall appoint the staff of the Commission, which shall form part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

18. The headquarters of the Commission shall be located at Bangkok, Thailand.

19. The Council shall, from time to time, make special reviews of the work of the Commission.

Annex VI

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

As drawn up at the first session, confirmed and adopted at the second session, and amended at subsequent sessions of the Commission.

Chapter I

SESSIONS

Rule 1

The following principles shall apply as regards date and place for the sessions of the Commission:

(a) The Commission shall at each session recommend the date and place for its next session subject to the approval of the Council and in consultation with the Secretary-General. Sessions of the Commission shall also be held within forty-five days of the communication to the Executive Secretary of a request to that effect by the Economic and Social Council, and, in that case, the Secretary-General shall establish the place of such sessions in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission;

(b) In special cases the date and place of the session may be altered by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission and the Council's Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences. At the request of the majority of the members of the Commission, the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission and the Council's Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences, may also alter the date and place of the session;

(c) Sessions shall ordinarily be held at the office of the United Nations in Asia and the Pacific. The Commission may recommend holding a particular session elsewhere.

Rule 2

The Executive Secretary shall, at least forty-two days before the commencement of a session, distribute a notice of the opening date of the session, together with three copies of the provisional agenda and of the basic documents relating to each item appearing on the provisional agenda. Distribution shall be similar to that under rule 49.

Rule 3

The Commission shall invite any Member of the United Nations not a member of the

Commission to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that Member.

Chapter II

AGENDA

Rule 4

The provisional agenda for each session shall be drawn up by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chairman.

Rule 5

The provisional agenda for any session shall include:

(a) Items arising from previous sessions of the Commission;

(b) Items proposed by the Economic and Social Council; .

(c) Items proposed by any member or associate member of the Commission;

(d) Items proposed by a specialized agency in accordance with the agreements of relationship concluded between the United Nations and such agencies;

(e) Items proposed by non-governmental organizations in category I, subject to the provisions of rule 6; and

(f) Any other items which the Chairman or the Executive Secretary sees fit to include.

Rule 6

Non-governmental organizations in category I may propose items on matters within their competence for the provisional agenda of the Commission, subject to the following conditions:

(a) An organization which intends to propose such an item shall inform the Executive Secretary at least sixty-three days before the commencement of the session, and before formally proposing an item shall give due consideration to any comments he may make;

(b) The proposal shall be formally submitted with the relevant basic documentation not less than forty-nine days before the commencement of the session. The item shall be included in the agenda

of the Commission if it is adopted by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

Rule 7

The first item upon the provisional agenda for each session shall be the adoption of the agenda.

Rule 8

The Commission may amend the agenda at any time.

Chapter III

REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Rule 9

Each member shall be represented on the Commission by an accredited representative.

Rule 10

A representative may be accompanied to the sessions of the Commission by alternate representatives and advisers and, when absent, he may be replaced by an alternate representative.

Rule 11

The credentials of each representative appointed to the Commission, together with a designation of alternate representatives, shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary without delay.

Rule 12

The Chairman and the two Vice-Chairmen shall examine the credentials and report upon them to the Commission.

Chapter IV

OFFICERS

Rule 13

The Commission shall, at its first meeting of each year, elect from among its representatives a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen, designated as First and Second Vice-Chairmen, who shall hold office until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election.

Rule 14

If the Chairman is absent from a meeting, or any part thereof, the Vice-Chairman designated by the Chairman shall preside.

Rule 15

If the Chairman ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the First Vice-Chairman shall become Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term. If the First Vice-Chairman also ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the Second Vice-Chairman shall become Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term.

Rule 16

The Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairman.

Rule 17

The Chairman, or the Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman, shall participate in the meetings of the Commission as such, and not as the representative of the member by whom he was accredited. The Commission shall admit an alternate representative to represent that member in the meetings of the Commission and to exercise its right to vote.

Chapter V

SECRETARIAT

Rule 18

The Executive Secretary shall act in that capacity at all meetings of the Commission and of its subcommissions, other subsidiary bodies and committees. He may appoint another member of the staff to take his place at any meeting.

Rule 19

The Executive Secretary or his representative may at any meeting make either oral or written statements concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 20

The Executive Secretary shall direct the staff provided by the Secretary-General and required by the Commission, its sub-commissions, and all other subsidiary bodies and committees.

Rule 21

The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for the necessary arrangements being made for meetings.

Rule 22

The Executive Secretary in carrying out his functions shall act on behalf of the Secretary-General.

Rule 23

Before new proposals which involve expenditure from United Nations funds are approved by the Commission, the Executive Secretary shall prepare and circulate to members an estimate of that part of the cost involved in the proposals which could not be met out of the resources available to the secretariat. It shall be the duty of the Chairman to draw the attention of members to this estimate, and invite discussion on it before the proposals are approved.

Chapter VI

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 24

A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

Rule 25

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him elsewhere by these rules, the Chairman shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Commission, shall direct the discussion, ensure the observance of these rules, and shall accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote, and announce decisions. The Chairman may also call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Rule 26

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may raise a point of order. In this case, the Chairman shall immediately state his ruling. If it is challenged, the Chairman shall forthwith submit his ruling to the Commission for decision, and it shall stand unless overruled.

Rule 27

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the adjournment of the debate. Any such motion shall have priority. In addition to the proposer of the motion, one representative shall be allowed to speak in favour of, and one representative against, the motion.

Rule 28

A representative may at any time move the closure of the debate whether or not any other representative has signified his wish to speak. Not more than two representatives may be granted permission to speak against the closure.

Rule 29

The Chairman shall take the sense of the Commission on a motion for closure. If the Commission is in favour of the closure, the Chairman shall declare the debate closed.

Rule 30

The Commission may limit the time allowed to each speaker.

Rule 31

Draft resolutions, and substantial amendments or motions, shall be introduced in writing and handed to the Executive Secretary, who shall circulate copies to the representatives at least twenty-four hours before they are discussed and voted upon, unless the Commission decides otherwise.

Rule 32

Upon the request of any member, any motion and amendment thereto made by any speaker shall be given to the Chairman in writing and shall be read by him before any further speaker is called upon and also immediately before a vote is taken on such motion or amendment. The Chairman may direct that any motion or amendment be circulated to the members present before a vote is taken. This rule shall not apply to formal motions such as one for closure or adjournment.

Rule 33

Principal motions and resolutions shall be put to the vote in the order of their submission unless the Commission decides otherwise.

Rule 34

When an amendment revises, adds to or deletes from a proposal, the amendment shall be put to the vote first, and, if it is adopted, the amended proposal shall then be put to the vote.

Rule 35

If two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Commission shall vote first on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal; then, if necessary, on the amendment next furthest removed; and so on, until all the amendments have been put to the vote.

Rule 36

The Commission may, at the request of a representative, decide to put a motion or resolution to the vote in parts. If this is done, the text resulting from the series of votes shall be put to the vote as a whole.

Chapter VII

VOTING

Rule 37

Each member of the Commission shall have one vote.

Rule 38

Except for the provision of rule 6(b), decisions of the Commission shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.

Rule 39

The Commission shall take no action in respect of any country without the agreement of the Government of that country .

Rule 40

The Commission shall normally vote by a show of hands. If any representative requests a roll-call, a roll-call shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members.

Rule 41

All elections shall be decided by secret ballot.

Rule 42

If a vote is equally divided upon matters other than elections, a second vote shall be taken at the next meeting. If this vote also results in equality, the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

Rule 43

After the voting has commenced, no representative shall interrupt voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of the voting. Brief statements by members consisting solely of explanations of their votes may be permitted by the Chairman, if he deems it necessary , before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed.

Chapter VIII

LANGUAGES

Rule 44

Chinese, English, French and Russian shall be the working languages of the Commission.

Rule 45

Speeches made in one of the working languages shall be interpreted into the other working languages.

Chapter IX

RECORDS

Rule 46

Summary records of the meetings of the Commission shall be kept by the secretariat. They shall be sent as soon as possible to the representatives of members and to the representatives of any other government agency or organization which participated in the meeting concerned. Such representatives shall inform the secretariat, not later than seventy-two hours after the circulation of any summary record, of any changes they wish to have made. Any disagreement concerning such changes shall be referred to the Chairman, whose decision shall be final.

Rule 47

The corrected version of the summary records of public meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible in accordance with the usual practice of the United Nations. This shall include distribution to non-governmental organizations in categories I and II and those on the Roster, and on appropriate occasions to consultative members.

Rule 48

The corrected version of the summary records of private meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible to the members of the Commission, to any consultative member participating in the meeting concerned, and to the specialized agencies. They shall be distributed to all the Members of the United Nations if and when the Commission so decides.

Rule 49

As soon as possible, the text of all reports, resolutions, recommendations and other formal decisions made by the Commission, its sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and its committees shall be communicated to the members of the Commission, to the consultative members concerned, to all other Members of the United Nations, to the specialized agencies, and to the non-governmental organizations in categories I and II and those on the Roster .

Chapter X

PUBLICITY OF MEETINGS

Rule 50

The meetings of the Commission shall ordinarily be held in public. The Commission may decide that a particular meeting or meetings shall be held in private.

Chapter XI

CONSULTATIONS WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Rule 51

1. Where an item proposed for the provisional agenda for a session contains a proposal for new activities to be undertaken by the United Nations relating to matters which are of direct concern to one or more specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Executive Secretary shall enter into consultation with the agency or agencies concerned and report to the Commission on the means of achieving co-ordinated use of the resources of the respective agencies.

2. Where a proposal put forward in the course of a meeting for new activities to be undertaken by the United Nations relates to matters which are of direct concern to one or more specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Executive Secretary shall, after such consultation as may be possible with the representatives at the meeting of the other agency or agencies concerned, draw the attention of the meeting to these implications of the proposal.

3. Before deciding on proposals referred to above, the Commission shall satisfy itself that adequate consultations have taken place with the agencies concerned.

Chapter XII

RELATIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rule 52

Non-governmental organizations in categories I and II may designate authorized representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Commission. Organizations on the Roster may have representatives present at such meetings which are concerned with matters within their field of competence.

Rule 53

Written statements relevant to the work of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies may be submitted by organizations in categories I and II on subjects for which these organizations have a special competence. Such statements shall be circulated by the Executive Secretary to the members and associate members of the Commission except those statements which have become obsolete -e.g. those dealing with matters already disposed of, and those which have already been circulated in some other form to members and associate members of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies.

Rule 54

The following conditions shall be observed regarding the submission and circulation of such written statements:

(a) The written statement shall be submitted in one of the official languages;

(b) It shall be submitted in sufficient time for appropriate consultation to take place between the Executive Secretary and the organization before circulation; .

(c) The organization shall give due consideration to any comments which the Executive Secretary may make in the course of such consultation before transmitting the statement in final form;

(d) A written statement submitted by an organization in category I will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 2,000 words. Where a statement is in excess of 2,000 words, the organization shall submit a summary, which will be circulated, or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon the specific request of the Commission or of one of its subsidiary bodies;

(e) A written statement submitted by an organization in category II will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 1,500 words. Where a statement is in excess of 1,500 words, the organization shall submit a summary, which will be circulated, or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon the specific request of the Commission or other subsidiary bodies;

(f) The Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chairman or the Commission itself may invite organizations on the Roster to submit written statements. The provisions of paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (e) above shall apply to such statements;

(g) A written statement or summary, as the case may be, will be circulated by the Executive Secretary in the working languages and, upon the request of a member or associate member of the Commission, in any of the official languages.

Rule 55

(a) The Commission and its subsidiary bodies may consult with organizations in category I or II either directly or through a committee or committees established for the purpose. In all cases, such consultations may be arranged on the request of the organization;

(b) On the recommendation of the Executive Secretary and at the request of the Commission or one of its subsidiary bodies, organizations on the Roster may also be heard by the Commission or its subsidiary bodies.

Rule 56

Subject to rule 23 the Commission may recommend that a non-governmental organization which has special competence in a particular field should undertake specific studies or investigations or prepare specific papers for the Commission. The limitations of rule S4 (d) and (e) shall not apply in this case.

Chapter XIII

SUB-COMMISSIONS; OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND COMMITTEES

Rule 57

After discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same field, and with the approval of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission may establish such continually acting sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions and shall define the powers and composition of each of them. Such autonomy as may be necessary for the effective discharge of the technical responsibilities laid upon them may be delegated to them.

Rule 58

The Commission may establish such committees and sub-committees as it deems necessary to assist it in carrying out its tasks.

Rule 59

Sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and committees, sub-committees and working parties shall adopt their own rules of procedure unless otherwise decided by the Commission.

Chapter XIV

REPORTS

Rule 60

The Commission shall, once a year, submit to the Economic and Social Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies.

Chapter XV

AMENDMENTS AND SUSPENSIONS

Rule 61

Any of these rules of procedure may be amended or suspended by the Commission, provided that the proposed amendments or suspensions do not attempt to set aside the terms of reference laid down by the Economic and Social Council.

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