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Technical Committee
Sixth session
13-15 March 1989

Item 6(a) of the provisional agenda

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

**PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 1988-1989**

Status of programme performance and proposed modifications



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FOR WESTERN ASIA



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STATUS OF PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE AND PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

Corrigendum

Page 2, line 4

The number 24 should read 22

Page 3, table 1

Item 13, third column: insert the figures 5(+1)

Item 13, fifth column: delete (+1)

Page 4, table 2

Item 3, fourth column: for 2 read 1

Item 3, sixth column: for 2 read 3

Item 15, fourth column: for 3 read 2

Total, fourth column: for 52 read 50

The 1988 report of the Executive Secretary to member States^{1/} included a thorough analysis of programme performance for the 1986-1987 biennium. This report covers, therefore, only the first year of the biennium 1988-1989.

Despite the high vacancy rates, the year 1988 recorded a satisfactory rate of implementation in the work programme for the period 1988-1989. The ESCWA secretariat completed 29 outputs out of 68 outputs planned for 1988, thus registering an implementation rate of approximately 43 per cent. This performance rate does not include 55 outputs which were at various stages of progress by the end of 1988. Table 1 reflects the status of programme performance by the end of 1988, while table 2 summarizes the progress achieved in the implementation of the biennial programme including proposed adjustments in terms of postponement, termination and addition of new outputs.

The performance of ESCWA should be regarded as significant in the light of the high vacancy rate under the substantive programmes which, as in previous bienniums, continued to have adverse effects on performance. As indicated in table 3, the overall vacancy situation under the substantive programmes reached approximately 34 per cent in 1988. However, with regard to the filling of vacancies in 1989, the situation has been improving considerably. Table 3 also shows the professional vacancy situation as expressed in work-months at the programme level.

Performance was also affected to a lesser degree by the carry-over of outputs from the previous biennium; there were 11 under the various substantive programmes as indicated in tables 1 and 2. Furthermore, the overload on Conference Services in peak periods delayed the processing and distribution of publications.

ESCWA performance, as indicated in the above-mentioned tables, does not include activities to promote co-operation with regional and international organizations nor does it include technical assistance and operational activities. In this regard, ESCWA efforts to assist member countries in 1988 included formulation of a desertification project for the Yemen Arab Republic, holding a workshop on desertification control and organizing training workshops at the national level in agricultural planning and project analysis which covered the Yemen Arab Republic, Democratic Yemen, Egypt and Iraq. Furthermore, ESCWA organized study tours on biogas for rural areas in selected Arab countries and also formulated and implemented a number of projects aimed at development of national and regional capabilities for the identification, formulation and implementation of projects for the development of women. Details of technical co-operation activities and advisory services are covered in part II of this report (E/ESCWA/C.1/15/4(part II)).

A number of changes were made in the biennial programme, partly in response to ESCWA resolution 156(XIV), "Programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1988-1989" of 5 April 1987. However, the proposed modifications

^{1/} See Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Report of the Executive Secretary: April 1987-April 1988 (E/ESCWA/88/1/Rev.1) United Nations, New York, 1988.

are also based on assessment of a number of factors, including the vacancy situation, availability of extrabudgetary resources, obsolescence of several outputs, and reassessment of programme priorities within the context of the preparation of the 1990-1991 programme budget. Consequently 24 outputs were identified for termination and 10 for postponement to the next biennium. They are reflected in table 2 on the progress achieved in the implementation of the 1988-1989 work programme. A number of other programme modifications, consisting largely of reformulation of specific outputs or addition of new ones, are proposed in order to take into consideration, to the greatest extent possible, the implications of the changing socio-economic conditions in the region and to promote co-operation with regional and international organizations.

The above-mentioned proposals are grouped and summarized in the annex to this document which indicates the status of programme performance and the proposed modifications at the programme as well as the output level. The proposals represent the minimum modifications required in order to avoid "carry-over" activities in the next biennium and to ensure full implementation of the revised programme.

Table 1. Status of performance of the 1988 planned programme of the 1988-1989 biennial programme by end-December 1988

Programme	Outputs planned for 1988-1989 ^{a/}	Total outputs planned for 1988	Outputs completed in 1988 ^{b/}	Outputs in progress end 1988 ^{c/}
1. Food and Agriculture	13 ^{d/}	6	5	1
2. Development Issues and Policies	7	3	2	3
3. Environment	4 ^{d/}	1	--	1
4. Human Settlements	8(+2)	4(+2)	(+1)	4(+1)
5. Industrial Development	13 ^{d/}	5	1	9
6. International Trade and Development Finance	5	2	1	3
7. Natural Resources	5	2	--	4
8. Population	14 ^{d/} (+2)	8(+2)	--	7(+2)
9. Public Administration and Finance	4	2	1	1
10. Science and Technology	4	1	--	3
11. Social Development	9 ^{d/} (+3)	4(+3)	1(+2)	4(+1)
12. Statistics	11 ^{d/} (+1)	5(+1)	4	2(+1)
13. Transport and Communications	12 ^{d/} (+1)		5(+1)	3(+1)
14. Energy Issues	11	6	5	3
15. Transnational Corporations	7 ^{d/} (+2)	3(+2)	(+2)	2
Total	127(+11)	57(+11)	23(+6)	50(+5)

^{a/} Outputs carried over from the 1986-1987 biennium are mentioned separately as additionally planned outputs and are enclosed in parentheses.

^{b/} Excluding two outputs undertaken and completed at the initiative of the secretariat, one under International Trade and one under Statistics.

^{c/} Including outputs planned for 1989 but initiated in 1988 as well as those outputs which have been initiated but will be completed next biennium.

^{d/} Excluding technical assistance and operational activities. These include activities under Food and Agriculture, Environment, Industrial Development, Population, Social Development, Statistics, Transport and Transnational Corporations.

Table 2. Progress achieved in the implementation of the 1988-1989 work programme by end December 1988

Programme	Planned outputs for 1988-1989a/	Outputs completed in 1988	Outputs in progress	Outputs not commenced	Outputs proposed for termination	Outputs proposed for postponement	Additional outputs proposed
1. Food and Agriculture	13b/	5	1	6	1	-	
2. Development Issues and Policies	7	2	3	1	1	-	
3. Environment	4b/	-	2	-	2	-	
4. Human Settlements	8(+2)	(+1)	4(+1)	-	3	1	
5. Industrial Development	13a/	1	9	2	1	-	
6. International Trade and Development Finance	5	1	3	1	-	-	1
7. Natural Resources	5	-	4	-	1	-	
8. Population	14b/ (+2)	-	7c/ (+2)	3	1	6	1
9. Public Administration and Finance	4	1	1	1	1	-	
10. Science and Technology	4	-	3	1	-	-	
11. Social Development	9b/ (+3)	1(+2)	4(+1)	1	1	2	3
12. Statistics	11b/ (+1)	4	2(+1)	4	-	1	1
13. Transport and Communications	12b/ (+1)	3(+1)	3	1	5	-	
14. Energy Issues	11	5	3	2	1	-	
15. Transnational Corporations	7b/ (+2)	(+2)	3	1	3	-	
Total	127(+11)	23(+6)	52(+5)	24	22	10	6

a/ Outputs carried over from the 1986-1987 biennium are mentioned separately as additionally planned outputs and are enclosed in parentheses.

b/ Excluding technical assistance and operational activities.

c/ Including three outputs in progress which will be completed next biennium.

Table 3. Resources required and resources available in 1988
 (work-months of Professional staff)

Programme	Resources planned for 1988 in W/M	Resources available in 1988 in W/M	Vacancies in 1988 in W/M	Vacancy rate (percentage)
1. Food and Agriculture	120	72	48	40
2. Development Issues and Policies	84	60	24	28
3. Environment ^{a/}	24	--	24	100
4. Human Settlements	72	35	37	51
5. Industrial Development ^{b/}	108	72	36	33
6. International Trade and Development Finance	24	24	0	--
7. Natural Resources	24	12	12	50
8. Energy Issues	60	60	0	--
9. Population	108	77	31	29
10. Public Administration and Finance	24	12	12	50
11. Science and Technology	36	24	12	33
12. Social Development	72	59	13	17
13. Statistics ^{b/}	72	48	24	33
14. Transport and Communications	84	41	43	57
15. Transnational Corporations	24	12	12	50
Total	936	608	328	35

^{a/} Post expected from UNEP was not available in 1988 due to withdrawal of UNEP support.

^{b/} Two Extrabudgetary Professional posts, one in Industry and one in Statistics, expected from donor countries, were not available in 1988.

Annex

**STATUS OF ESCWA PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE BY END-1988 AND PROPOSED
MODIFICATIONS AT PROGRAMME AND OUTPUT LEVELS**

PROGRAMME: 1. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Subprogramme 1. Monitoring and management of agricultural development and agricultural products	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
Programme elements and outputs				
1.1 Review and appraisal of agricultural development				
Technical publication: annual bulletin, Agriculture and Development in Western Asia:				
- No. 11 (fourth quarter, 1988);	1988			
- No. 12 (fourth quarter, 1989).	X		1989	Substantively completed. As planned.
1.2 Activities in support of the combat against desertification				
Operational activities:				
(a) Formulation of a national plan of action to combat desertification in a selected country (fourth quarter, 1989);		X		As planned.
(b) Formulation of specific desertification control projects in two selected ESCWA countries (fourth quarters, 1988 and 1989).	1988 output X		1989 output X	As planned.
1.3 Training in resource conservation				
Operational activities:				
(a) Workshop on desertification control (third quarter, 1988);	X			As planned.
(b) Training course in economics of resource conservation and land-use planning (third quarter, 1989).			X	As planned.

PROGRAMME: 1. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (continued)

Subprogramme 2. Food planning and policy	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
Programme elements and outputs				
2.1 Training in agricultural planning and project analysis				
Report to the Commission on training in agricultural planning and project analysis (fourth quarter, 1989).			X	As planned.
<u>Operational activities:</u>				
(a) Training workshop at the national level in agricultural planning and project analysis (fourth quarter, 1988);	X			As planned.
(b) Training workshop at the regional level in agricultural planning and project analysis (fourth quarter, 1989).			X	As planned.
2.2 Strengthening and co-ordination of agricultural planning and policy formulation in countries of the region*				
Technical publications: strengthening and co-ordination of agricultural planning and policy formulation in two selected ESCWA countries (fourth quarters, 1988 and 1989).	1988 X			E/ESCWA/AGR/88/11B/ As planned.
2.3 Improvement of agricultural policies at the farm level				
Technical publications: assessment of agricultural policies at the farm level in two selected countries of ESCWA region (fourth quarters, 1988 and 1989).	1988 X			Reformulated and substantively completed by end December 1988. The reformulation is the "Report to the Commission on the results of the Training Workshop in the Use of Personal Computers for Gathering, Storing, Processing and Retrieving Farm Data" (E/ESCWA/C.1/15/4/Add.3).
			1989 X	The 1989 output is proposed for termination in order to accommodate a new operational activity as a follow-up workshop on the above: "Advanced training workshop on FARMAP" to be organized in co-operation with the Agriculture and Water Research Centre in Iraq.

* Highest priority.
 a/ Arabic only.

PROGRAMME: 1. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (continued)

Subprogramme 2. Food planning and policy	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
Programme elements and outputs				
2.4 Promotion of an efficient food marketing and distribution system**				
Technical publications: rationalizing the system of food consumption subsidies and food distribution: case-studies on two selected countries (fourth quarters, 1988 and 1989).	1988 X		1989 X	E/ESCWA/AGR/88/10a/ As planned.
Subprogramme 3. Support to the agrarian reform and rural development programme				
Programme elements and outputs				
3.1 Evaluation of rural development projects and programmes	1988 X			Substantively completed as planned.
Technical publications: evaluation of rural development projects and programmes in two selected ESCWA countries (fourth quarters, 1988 and 1989).			1989 X	As planned.
3.2 Monitoring of rural development projects				
Technical publications: establishment of monitoring systems for rural development projects in two selected ESCWA countries (fourth quarters, 1988 and 1989).		1988 X	1989 X	As planned.

** Lowest priority.
 a/ Arabic only.

PROGRAMME: 4. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Subprogramme 1. Integration of physical planning with economic and social planning	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status modifications
Programme elements and outputs				
1.1 Human settlements planning*				
Technical publication: appropriate human settlements planning for the ESCWA region (fourth quarter, 1989).		X		The completion of this study is proposed for postponement within the framework of the 1990-1991 programme budget to the second quarter of 1990 owing to the high vacancy situation in the programme.
1.2 Review and appraisal of the human settlements situation in the ESCWA region**				
Technical publication: trends in the field of human settlements in the ESCWA region (fourth quarter, 1988).		X		This output is proposed for reformulation into a technical publication on Human Settlements data sheets for the ESCWA region to be completed by the third quarter of 1989. Furthermore, as a follow-up a new additional output has been initiated as a technical publication on the human settlements situation in the ESCWA region to be completed in the first quarter of 1990 as programmed in the 1990-1991 programme budget.
1.3 Public housing policies				
Technical publication: analysis of public housing policies and proposals for their improvement (fourth quarter, 1989).		X		As planned.
1.4 Urban transport policies				
Technical publication: assessment of urban transport policies (fourth quarter, 1989).				The output is proposed for termination within the framework of the 1990-1991 work programme owing to the high vacancy situation in the programme.
Subprogramme 2. City management				
Programme elements and outputs				
2.1 Managerial and environmental issues in urban settlements				
Technical publications:				
(a) Alternative approaches to city management issues with special reference to human settlements (fourth quarter, 1988);		X		As planned, only change in completion date to the third quarter of 1989 owing to the vacancy situation in the programme.
(b) Guidelines to appropriate environmental considerations in urban settlements development (fourth quarter, 1988).		X		This study is proposed for reformulation into a technical publication on "proceedings of a seminar on appropriate management of urban development" to be completed in the fourth quarter of 1989.

* Highest priority.
 ** Lowest priority.

PROGRAMME: 4. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (continued)

Subprogramme 3. Building materials	Programme elements and outputs	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
3.1 Production of building materials from local resources ^{a/}					
Technical publication: development and use of local building materials: case studies (fourth quarter, 1989).					Output is proposed for termination within the framework of the 1990-1991 programme of work owing to vacancies and the incorporation of related issues under subprogramme 1.
Subprogramme 4. Survey, analysis and evaluation of the impact and effectiveness of prefabrication					
Programme elements and outputs					
4.1 Survey and assessment of prefabrication in the ESCWA region					
Technical publication: survey and evaluation of the existing situation regarding prefabrication in selected countries of the ESCWA region (fourth quarter, 1988).					Output is proposed for termination within the framework of the 1990-1991 programme of work owing to vacancies and the incorporation of related issues under subprogramme 1.

Note: The above modifications under the Human Settlements programme have been made upon a thorough reassessment of the vacancy situation and the availability of extrabudgetary resources. This reassessment was reflected in the third revision of the current medium-term plan.

^{a/} Two outputs were carried over from the 1986-1987 biennium under this programme element: one is a report to the Commission on assessment of alternative building materials and architectural designs and the other is proceedings of an expert group meeting on appropriate building materials. The proceedings were completed and issued in 1988 while the report to the Commission was completed in 1989 in time for submission to the present session (E/ESCWA/C.1/15/4/Add.10).

PROGRAMME: 5. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Subprogramme 1. National planning and regional co-ordination of the industrial sector	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
1.1 Industrial development and regional co-operation in the ESCWA region				
Technical publication: study on the role of regional co-operation in industrial development, in the "Industrial Development Series" (fourth quarter, 1989).	X			As planned.
Intermediate activity: substantive servicing of:				
(a) The Seventh Arab Industrialization Conference (1989);	X			As planned.
(b) The Fifth General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (fourth quarter, 1989).	X			As planned.
1.2 Industrial programming for the least developed countries of the ESCWA region				
Technical publication: resource-based programme of industrial development for the least developed countries of the ESCWA region (third quarter, 1989).		X		As planned.
Subprogramme 2. Trade in manufactured products and financing of industrial development				
Programme elements and outputs				
2.1 Development of intraregional and interregional trade in manufactured products**				
Technical publication: issues related to the development of intraregional and interregional trade in manufactured products, in the "Industrial Development Series" (third quarter, 1989).		X		As planned.

** Lowest priority.

PROGRAMME: 5. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Subprogramme 3. Development of selected industrial branches and identification of regional projects	Programme elements and outputs	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
3.1 Promotion and identification of regional projects in capital goods and other engineering industries					
	Technical publication: pre-feasibility studies in the "Industrial Development Series" on:				
	(a) Food-processing equipment (fourth quarter, 1989);	X			As planned.
	(b) Oil-drilling equipment (fourth quarter, 1989).	X			As planned.
3.2 Development of agro-food industries					
	Technical publication: two pre-feasibility studies on two selected agro-food industries in the ESCWA region (fourth quarter 1988 and third quarter 1989).	1988			1988 output will be implemented as planned with completion date delayed to the second quarter of 1989 owing to vacancies.
		X		1989	As planned.
				X	
3.3 Specialized industrial technologies					
	Technical publication:				
	(a) Assessment of training research and development needs in micro-electronics in the region (fourth quarter, 1988);	X			Proposed for reformulation into technical publication on "Electronics industries in the Arab countries: status and perspective" (third quarter, 1989). The purpose of the reformulation was to expand it in scope and co-sponsor it with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the Ministry of Industry in Algeria.
	(b) Identification of development issues related to genetic engineering and bio-technology (fourth quarter, 1988);	X			Proposed for reformulation into a technical publication on Proceedings of the First Conference on Perspectives of Modern Biotechnologies in the Arab Countries (fourth quarter, 1989). The purpose of the reformulation was to avoid duplication with other regional organizations and to co-sponsor a joint activity with UNIDO, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Royal Scientific Society in Jordan and the Federation of Arab Scientific Research Councils.
	(c) Techno-economic study on the establishment of a regional silicon foundry (third quarter, 1988);	X			As planned, only proposed change in completion date to the third quarter of 1989 owing to vacancies.

PROGRAMME: 6. INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

Subprogramme. Trade expansion and diversification	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
Programme elements and outputs				
1.1 Review and analysis of developments in the external sector ^{a/}				
Technical publications: two in-depth studies on analysis of developments and issues in the external trade and payments situation of countries of Western Asia (fourth quarters, 1988 and 1989).	1988 X			As planned. E/ESCWA/DPD/88/2
1.2 New export industries and trade expansion and desertification in Western Asia*		1989 X		As planned.
Technical publications:				
(a) Study on identification of new export industries (fourth quarter, 1989); and (b) analysis of problems and policies affecting export performance (fourth quarter, 1989).		X		Proposed to merge these two outputs into one study as originally anticipated.
1.3 Services and the development process in Western Asia**				
Substantive servicing of an intergovernmental meeting on the role of services in the development of countries of Western Asia (fourth quarter, 1988).		X		Change of completion date to the first quarter of 1989 owing to prior commitments of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), which collaborated in organizing the meeting which was held from 17 to 19 January 1989.

* Highest priority.

** Lowest priority.

^{a/} Work on a technical publication entitled "Terms of trade index numbers" was undertaken at the initiative of the secretariat and completed in 1988.

PROGRAMME: 7. NATURAL RESOURCES

Subprogramme. Water resources	Programme elements and outputs	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
1.1 International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, end-of-Decade review*	Report to the Commission on the end-of-Decade review of the activities undertaken in the ESCWA region to achieve the goals of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (fourth quarter, 1989).				Output terminated within the framework of the 1990-1991 programme budget to avoid duplication of activities with United Nations organizations namely, WHO/EMRO. a/ As a result change of priority to programme element 1.4 is proposed: water security is of high priority to the region.
1.2 Identification and assessment of shared ground-water potential in two basins within the ESCWA region	Technical publication: optimum use of water in two shared basins within the ESCWA region (fourth quarter, 1988) (XB).		X		As planned, only change in completion date to the fourth quarter of 1989 is proposed owing to vacancies in the programme.
1.3 Data bank for water and other natural resources in the ESCWA region**	Technical publication: assessment of the need for data on water and other natural resources in the ESCWA region (fourth quarter, 1989).		X		As planned.
1.4 Water security in the ESCWA region	Technical publication: proceedings of an expert group meeting on water security in the ESCWA region (fourth quarter, 1989).		X		As planned but given high priority as explained above.
1.5 Manpower training in the water sector in the ESCWA region	Report to the Commission on and ad hoc group meeting on manpower training needs in the water sector in the ESCWA region (fourth quarter, 1988).		X		Meeting is postponed to June 1989, owing to unavailability of XB resources, thus change in completion date to the second quarter of 1989 is proposed.

* Highest priority.

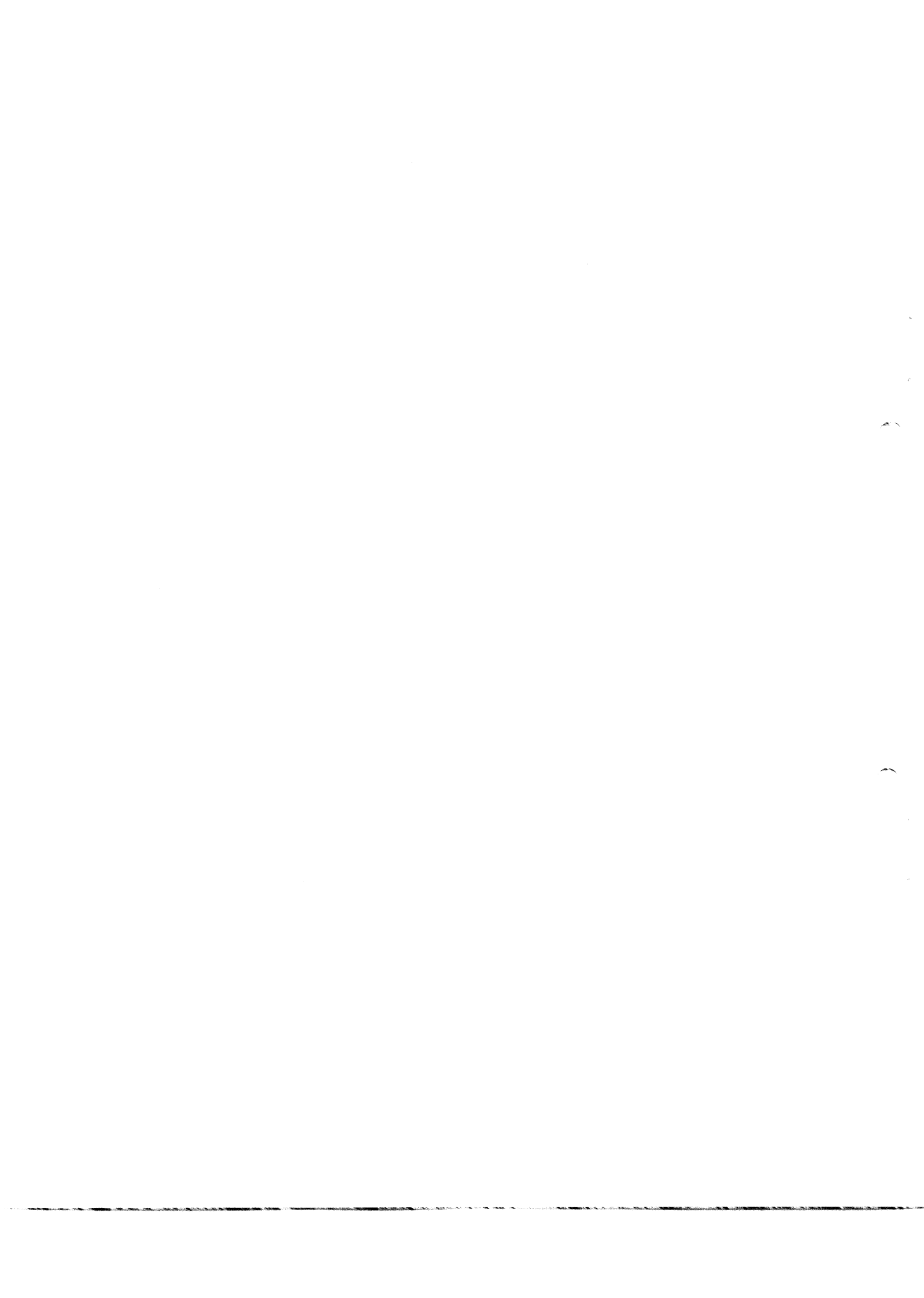
** Lowest priority.

a/ World Health Organization/Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office.

PROGRAMME: 8. ENERGY ISSUES

Subprogramme 1. Energy planning	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
Programme elements and outputs				
1.1 Monitoring of energy-related activities and developments in the ESCWA region				
(i) <u>Technical publications:</u>				
a. Print-outs of energy data (fourth quarters, 1988 and 1989);	1988 X	1989 X		Substantively completed as planned. As planned.
b. Survey and assessment of energy-related activities and developments in the ESCWA region (second quarters, 1988 and 1989);	1988 X	1989 X		As planned (E/ESCWA/NR/88/27). As planned.
(ii) Report to the Commission on the progress achieved in the promotion of regional co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in the ESCWA region (second quarter, 1988).	X			As planned (E/ESCWA/C.1/15/4/Add.7).
1.2 Assessment of the impact of changes in the oil market on energy policies and development prospects in the ESCWA region*				
Technical publication: impact of changing conditions in the oil market on energy policies in the ESCWA region (fourth quarter, 1989).		X		As planned.
1.3 Methodology for integrated energy planning in the ESCWA region				
Technical publication: appropriate methodology for integrated energy planning and construction of energy balance sheets of selected ESCWA countries (fourth quarter, 1988) (XB).				Proposed for termination, owing to the unavailability of anticipated XB resources and the redeployment of 1 P/A post and 1 GS post to the Environment Unit.

* Highest priority.



PROGRAMME: 9. POPULATION (continued)

Subprogramme 3. Population education and information (publications and clearing-house)	Completed ^a	In progress ^b	Not initiated ^c	Current status and modifications
Programme elements and outputs				
3.1 Population information storage, retrieval, processing and dissemination	No. 32			As planned.
(i) Technical publication: Population Bulletin of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Nos. 32, 33, 34 and 35) (second and fourth quarters, 1988 and 1989);		No. 33 No. 34 No. 35		As planned. As planned. It is proposed that this output be postponed to the third quarter of 1990 as programmed in the 1990-1991 programme budget.
(ii) Ad hoc information services: computer printouts on:		X		This output is reformulated into a technical publication, "Bibliography of population literature in the Arab world" and postponed to the second quarter of 1990 as programmed in the 1990-1991 programme budget.
(a) Bibliographical searches and country bibliographies;				
(b) Numerical information from the ESCWA population data base (fourth quarter, 1988).		X		It is proposed that this output be terminated within the framework of the 1990-1991 programme budget in order to avoid duplication of work.
3.2 Training in population			X	It is proposed that this output be terminated within the framework of the 1990-1991 programme budget owing to the unavailability of extrabudgetary resources.
Operational activities: Training workshop on methodologies and techniques for integrating population variables into the planning process (fourth quarter, 1989) (XB).				
Technical publication: Trilingual demographic dictionary ^{a/}				

a/ This output was initiated last biennium at the initiative of the secretariat and work is still in progress; it will be completed during 1989 along with a supplement.

PROGRAMME: 9. POPULATION (continued)

Programme elements and outputs	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
Subprogramme 4. Employment promotion and manpower development				
4.1 Review of the employment situation and developments in the labour market in Western Asia ^{a/}				
<u>Technical publications:</u>				
(i) Employment situation and labour market developments in a selected economic sector in Western Asia (fourth quarter, 1989);		X		It is proposed that this output be postponed, as programmed in the 1990-1991 programme budget; it will be completed in the first quarter 1990.
(ii) Proceedings of an expert group meeting on the socio-economic implications of return labour migration in the Arab world (fourth quarter, 1988).		X		It is proposed that this output be postponed, as programmed in 1990-1991 programme budget; it will be completed in the second quarter of 1990.
4.2 Manpower Planning in Western Asia				
<u>Technical publication:</u> review and assessment of experience in manpower planning in a specific economic sector in selected ESCWA countries (fourth quarter, 1988).				
4.3 Strengthening the infrastructure capabilities of the labour ministries in Western Asia		X		As planned, only change in completion date to the third quarter of 1989 is proposed.
No final output. Activities conducted under this programme element include the building of a comprehensive labour-force data base.				
<u>Operational activities:</u> establishing special units within labour ministries to co-ordinate, analyse and disseminate labour-force data.				
4.4 Technical and vocational education and training in Western Asia		X		As planned.
<u>Technical publication:</u> comparative study of the technical education and training systems in selected Arab countries (third quarter, 1989).				
		X		As planned, only change in completion date to the fourth quarter of 1989 is proposed.

Note: The modifications made under the Population programme were largely due to vacancies and delays in the approval of extrabudgetary funds (United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)), and to accommodate carry-over outputs from the last biennium. These modifications have been approved by the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board (PPBB).

a/ A carried-over output consisting of a technical publication on "manpower and employment situation in labour sending countries" is scheduled for completion in the second quarter of 1989 under this programme element.

PROGRAMME: 10. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Subprogramme. Financial resources mobilization and management	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
Programme elements and outputs				
1.1 Review and analysis of developments and trends in money and finance in the ESCWA region				
Technical publication: current developments and trends in the monetary and financial sectors of the economies in the ESCWA region (second quarters, 1988 and 1989).	1988 X			As planned (E/ESCWA/DPD/88/77).
1.2 Financial markets and investment promotion in the ESCWA region*			1989 X	As planned.
Technical publication: the role and operations of financial markets in the ESCWA region and their effect on promoting inter-Arab investment (fourth quarter, 1988).		X		As planned, only change in completion date to the third quarter of 1989 is proposed, owing to vacancies in the programme.
1.3 Diversification of national income sources in the ESCWA oil-exporting countries**				
Technical publication: recent policies and future prospects of diversification of national income sources in the oil-exporting countries of the ESCWA region (fourth quarter, 1989).				It was proposed that this study be terminated within the framework of the 1990-1991 programme budget owing to vacancies in the programme and its low priority.

* Highest priority.

** Lowest priority.

PROGRAMME: 11. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Subprogramme 1. Strengthening of national scientific and technological capabilities	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
Programme elements and outputs				
1.1 End-of-decade review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development		X		As planned.
Technical publication: end-of-decade review on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development (fourth quarter, 1989).				
1.2 Specialized financial institutions and development of endogenous scientific and technological capabilities*				
Technical publication: proceedings of a meeting on specialized financial institutions and development of endogenous scientific and technological capabilities (fourth quarter, 1989).		X		As planned.
Subprogramme 2. Transfer of technology				
Programme elements and outputs				
2.1 Promotion of co-operation in the field of science and technology				
Report to the Commission on the promotion of regional co-operation in the field of science and technology (fourth quarter, 1988).		X		As planned. It was completed in early 1989 and is reported to the Commission under document E/ESCWA/C.1/15/4/Add.9.
2.2 Role of public enterprises in the acquisition of technology in selected countries of the ESCWA region**				
Technical publication: role and impact of public enterprises in the acquisition, adaptation and utilization of technology in selected ESCWA countries (fourth quarter, 1989).		X		As planned.

* Highest priority.
 ** Lowest priority.

PROGRAMME: 12. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Subprogramme 1. Social integration and change

Programme elements and outputs

	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
1.1 Developments affecting social integration and change**		1988		
		X		It is proposed that this output be reformulated into a technical publication on "Social trends and social indicators" (fourth quarter, 1989).
Technical publications: review of the social situation and social developments in the ESCWA region (third quarters, 1988 and 1989).			1989	It is proposed that this output be terminated owing to the vacancy situation.
			X	
1.2 Popular participation in development				
Technical publication: social factors and policies affecting popular participation in development in the ESCWA region (fourth quarter, 1988).		X		It is proposed that this output be reformulated into a technical publication on "Review of social security systems", to be completed by the fourth quarter of 1989. The purpose is to establish a basis for social security issues that are programmed in the next biennium.
1.3 Social welfare policies and programmes for development				
Technical publication: assessment of social welfare policies and programmes and their impact on development (fourth quarter, 1989).		X		It is proposed that this output be reformulated into "Proceedings of a conference on capabilities and needs of the disabled in the ESCWA region"; its completion date is postponed to the third quarter of 1990, as programmed in the 1990-1991 programme budget.

** Lowest priority.

PROGRAMME: 12. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Subprogramme 2. Human resources development	Programme elements and outputs	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
2.1 Social factors affecting rural development ^{a/}	Technical publication: assessment of the social factors affecting rural development in the ESCWA region (fourth quarter, 1989).		X		It is proposed that this output be reformulated into a technical publication on "Co-operative movement and rural development in the ESCWA region" (fourth quarter, 1989).
2.2 Assessment of employment of women in the informal sector ^{b/}	Technical publication: assessment of employment of women in the informal sector in selected countries of the ESCWA region (third quarter, 1988).		X		Change in completion date to the second quarter of 1989 owing to the vacancy situation in the programme.
2.3 Arab professional women in the field of technical co-operation among developing countries ^{c/}	Technical publication: Directory of Arab professional women for activities in the field of technical co-operation among developing countries (fourth quarter, 1989).			X	It is proposed that this output be postponed to the second quarter of 1990, as programmed in the 1990-1991 programme budget, in order to complete the carry-over output under the same title.
2.4 Development of national and regional capabilities for the identification, formulation and implementation of projects for the development of women*	Reports to the Commission on support to technical projects for the development of women (fourth quarters, 1988 and 1989).	1988 X		1989 X	As planned (E/ESCWA/C.1/15/4/Add.2). As planned.
	Operational activities: Technical co-operation projects for the development of women financed by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (fourth quarters, 1988 and 1989) (XB).		1988 X	1989 X	As planned. As planned.

* Highest priority.

^{a/} A carried-over output from the 1986-1987 biennium, entitled "Social institutions for rural development", was completed in 1988 (E/ESCWA/SDP/88/2) under this programme element.

^{b/} A carried-over output from the 1986-1987 biennium, the proceedings of an expert group meeting on socio-cultural changes among Arab women (Arabic only) was completed in 1988 (E/ESCWA/SDP/87/12) under this programme element.

^{c/} A carried-over output from the 1986-1987 biennium, entitled "Directory of Arab professional women in technical co-operation among developing countries", is in progress and scheduled for completion in 1989 under this programme element.

PROGRAMME: 12. SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Subprogramme 2. Human resources development	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
2.5 Assessment of socio-cultural changes in the Arab family				This programme element is added to deal with the challenges facing the Arab family.
(i) Technical publication: socio-economic indicators on the Arab family with special reference to women (third quarter, 1989);			X	
(ii) Technical publication: assessment of the impact of socio-economic changes on the Arab family (fourth quarter, 1989);			X	
(iii) Technical publication: proceedings of the seminar on the impact of population policies on Arab women (fourth quarter, 1989).			X	

Note: The modifications under the Social Development programme have been made with due consideration, within the constraints of available resources, to the drastically changing socio-economic conditions in the region as reflected in the third revision to the current medium-term plan which extended its coverage from 1984-1989 to 1991. These modifications have been approved by the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board (PPBB).

PROGRAMME: 13. STATISTICS

Subprogramme 1. Statistical development	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
1.1 ESCWA data base and dissemination of statistics*				
Technical publications:				
(a) Statistical Abstract of the ESCWA Region; (fourth quarters, 1988 and 1989)	1988 X		1989 X	As planned.
(b) Arab Unified Statistical Abstract.				
1.2 Development of national statistics				
Substantive servicing of the intergovernmental meeting of heads of central statistical organizations in the ESCWA region on activities undertaken and/or to be implemented in specific areas of statistics (second quarter, 1989).	X			As planned, the meeting was held in February-March 1989.
1.3 Development of data-processing capabilities of ESCWA countries				
Operational activities: Participation in training programmes and backstopping of national statistical offices in data processing.		X		As planned.
Subprogramme 2. National accounts and economic statistics				
Programme elements and outputs				
2.1 National accounts				
Technical publications:				
(a) National Accounts Studies (third quarters, 1988 and 1989);	1988 X		1989 X	As planned. As planned.
(b) Proceedings of the expert group meeting on the treatment of depletable sources in national accounts and the estimation of national accounts at constant prices (third quarter, 1988).		X		As planned, only completion date changed to the third quarter of 1989 owing to delays in holding the meetings.
2.2 Economic statistics				
Technical publications:				
(a) External Trade Bulletin of the ESCWA Region, 1988 (third quarter, 1988);	X			As planned.
(b) Bulletin on price and finance statistics in the ESCWA region (fourth quarters, 1988 and 1989).	1988 X		1989 X	As planned. As planned.

* Highest priority.
 a/ A publication entitled "Arab Unified Statistical Abstract" was initiated last biennium on the initiative of the secretariat and completed in 1988 under programme element 1.1. Another issue will be completed in 1989.

PROGRAMME: 13. STATISTICS (continued)

Subprogramme 3. Social, demographic and environmental statistics	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
Programme elements and outputs				
3.1 Social and environmental statistics**				
Technical publications:				
(a) Study on social statistics in the ESCWA region (second quarter, 1989);			X	As planned.
(b) Compendium of social statistics (fourth quarter, 1989), a/			X	It is proposed that this output be postponed to the fourth quarter of 1991 within the framework of the 1990-1991 programme budget in order to accommodate the carried-over output from the last biennium under the same title.
3.2 Demographic statistics				
Operational activities: Regional training workshop on population and housing censuses (third quarter, 1988).		X		Change of completion date to the second quarter of 1989 owing to delay of extrabudgetary funds.

** Lowest priority.

a/ Work on a carried-over output from the previous biennium, entitled "Compendium of social statistics", is in progress.

PROGRAMME: 14. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Subprogramme 1. Development of integrated transport	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
Programme elements and outputs				
1.1 Transport policy and planning*				
Report to the Commission on an <u>ad hoc</u> expert group meeting on methods of appraisal of transport projects (fourth quarter, 1989).		X		As planned (technical publication: "Project Appraisal Methods in the Transport Sector" (E/ESCWA/TCD/89/1) completed as an intermediate output).
Operational activities: Interregional seminar on transport facilities (second quarter, 1989) (XB).			X	Proposed for termination within the framework of the 1990-1991 programme budget owing to the unavailability of XB resources.
1.2 Development of multimodal transport				
(i) Report to the Commission on the promotion of the implementation in Western Asia of the United Nations Convention on International Multimodal Transport of Goods (fourth quarter, 1988);	X			As planned (E/ESCWA/C.1/15/4/Add.5).
(ii) Technical publication: trends in container traffic development in the ESCWA region (third quarter, 1989).		X		As planned
1.3 Development of land transport				
(i) Substantive servicing of the session of the intergovernmental meeting on traffic signs and signals (third quarter, 1989);			X	Proposed for termination within the framework of the 1990-1991 programme budget owing to vacancy in the programme.
(ii) Technical publication: comparative study on road construction techniques in the ESCWA region (fourth quarter, 1989).			X	As planned.
1.4 Development of maritime transport				
Technical publication: strategy and policies for the development of maritime transport in Western Asia (third quarter, 1989). ^{a/}		X		As planned.

* Highest priority.

^{a/} A carried-over output from the previous biennium entitled "Technical publication on development of ports" was completed in 1988, E/ESCWA/TCD/88/2.

PROGRAMME: 14. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (continued)

Subprogramme 1. Development of integrated transport	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
Programme elements and outputs				
1.5 Development of air transport**				
<u>Technical publication:</u>				
(a) Preferential arrangements and agreements among air carriers of the ESCWA region (fourth quarter, 1988);			X	Proposed for termination within the framework of the 1990-1991 programme budget, owing to vacancies in the programme.
(b) Development of air cargo in the ESCWA region (third quarter, 1989).			X	Proposed for termination within the framework of the 1990-1991 programme budget, owing to vacancies in the programme.
1.6 Activities of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific (1985-1994) in Western Asia				
(i) Substantive servicing of the session of the inter-governmental meeting on activities of the Decade in Western Asia (fourth quarter, 1988);	X			As planned. Meeting was held from 13 to 15 December 1988 (E/ESCWA/TCD/88/1G.1/5).
(ii) Report to the Commission on activities of the Decade in Western Asia (second quarters, 1988 and 1989 respectively).			1989 X	As planned (E/ESCWA/C.1/15/4/Add.6). Proposed for termination within the framework of the 1990-1991 programme budget. Only one output is prepared owing to the delays in convening the Intergovernmental Meeting on the Decade, which was held in December 1988.
Subprogramme 2. Communications				
Programme elements and outputs				
2.1 Development of communications				
<u>Technical publication: implementation of the telecommunications master plan in the ESCWA region (fourth quarter, 1988).</u>				Proposed for termination within the framework of the 1990-1991 programme budget owing to vacancies and the allocation of priority to the transport subprogramme. However, issues on communications have been taken up in the context of the activities of the Transport Decade since no work was carried out under this subprogramme during the period of the current medium-term plan.

** Lowest priority.

PROGRAMME: 15. TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

Subprogramme 4. Regional activities	Programme elements and outputs	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
4.13	Regional co-operation as it relates to the code of conduct and other international arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations in the ESCWA region*				
	(i) Report to ESCWA on the code of conduct relating to transnational corporations (first quarter, 1988);		X		Report is now completed and under consideration by the Commission as an addendum to this document (E/ESCWA/C.1/15/4/Add.8).
	(ii) Substantive servicing of a regional intergovernmental meeting on efforts of the United Nations towards the international harmonization of accounting and reporting by transnational corporations (second quarter, 1989)		X		
	Intermediate output: Regional contribution to report to the Commission on activities of the Centre and the Joint Unit.	X			
4.14	Research on the operations of transnational corporations in the ESCWA region ^{a/}				
	(i) Annual directory on transnational corporations operating in the region (third quarters, 1988 and 1989);			1988	Output proposed for termination owing to the vacancy situation in the programme and the completion of carry-over activities from the last biennium.
	(ii) Technical publications:			1989	As planned.
	(a) Arab petrochemicals and rising protectionism in the developed market economies: the role of transnational corporations (fourth quarter, 1989);		1989		As planned.
	(b) Review and analysis of institutional arrangements and procedures for screening and monitoring the operations of transnational corporations in Western Asia: two country case-studies (fourth quarters, 1988 and 1989).			1988	Output proposed for termination owing to the vacancy situation in the programme and the completion of carry-over activities from the last biennium.
				1989	Output proposed for termination owing to the vacancy situation in the programme and the completion of carry-over activities from the last biennium.

* Highest priority.

^{a/} Two carry-over publications were completed under this programme element: the studies are entitled "Impact of the operations of transnational corporations in Oman" and "Egypt's experience in sovereign borrowing: 1974-1985".

PROGRAMME: 15. TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

Subprogramme 4. Regional activities	Completed	In progress	Not initiated	Current status and modifications
Programme elements and outputs				
4.15 Advisory, information and training services for the ESCWA region on matters relating to transnational corporations**				
No final output. This activity provides substantive support to four training workshops and 10 advisory projects to be completed during the biennium.			X	

** Lowest priority.