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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

ANNUAL REPORT

(24 April 1983 – 14 April 1984)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
✓ **OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1984**

SUPPLEMENT No. 13

VOLUME I

UNITED NATIONS



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New York, 1984

NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures.
Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

E/1984/23 E/ECE/1083

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Annual Report covering the period from 24 April 1983 to 14 April 1984

INTRODUCTION

1. The present Annual Report of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), which covers the period 24 April 1983 to 14 April 1984 inclusive, was adopted unanimously by the Commission at the thirteenth meeting of its thirty-ninth session on 14 April 1984.

CHAPTER I

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

2. No draft decisions were recommended by the Commission for adoption by the Council.

CHAPTER II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

3. The list of meetings of the Commission's subsidiary bodies held in 1983/84 can be found in Annex II to this Report. It contains the dates of the meetings, the names of the officers and the symbols of the reports adopted. These reports give a full account of discussions held and record the agreements reached and decisions taken. The reports of the Commission's Principal Subsidiary Bodies contain in addition the programmes of work adopted by these bodies; these programmes have been incorporated in the Commission's programme of work for 1984-1988 pursuant to operative paragraph 4(b) of Commission resolution 5(XXIV) (see Chapter V of this Report).

B. Other activities

4. Pursuant to the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Commission, the Executive Secretary has submitted to the thirty-ninth session a number of reports on the work done on projects carried out under the direct authority of the Commission itself. A list of these reports and their symbols can be found in Annex III.

5. During the period under review, the secretariat serviced the session of the Commission and the meetings of its subsidiary bodies as well as special meetings held under ECE auspices. The publication of periodic surveys and reviews, including the annual Economic Survey of Europe, the Economic Bulletin for Europe, and a series of specialized statistical bulletins, covering general energy, coal, electric power, gas, housing and building, steel, engineering, chemicals, timber and transport, as well as the issuance of monthly statistical indicators of short-term economic changes in ECE countries, was continued. The secretariat of the Commission maintained close and regular liaison with the secretariat at United Nations Headquarters and co-operated with the Departments concerned, as well as with the secretariats of the other regional commissions on projects of common interest.

C. Relations with other United Nations Programmes

6. In a Note submitted to the thirty-ninth session (E/ECE/1069) the Executive Secretary described the co-operation of the Commission and its secretariat with United Nations specialized agencies and other international organizations as well as with their secretariats.

CHAPTER III

THIRTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

7. The thirty-ninth session of the Commission was held from 3 to 14 April 1984. The Commission heard statements by the outgoing Chairman, Mr. F. Reino, by the newly elected Chairman, Mr. L. Gotzev, and by the Executive Secretary of the Commission, Mr. K.A. Sahlgren.
8. The thirty-ninth session was attended by representatives from Albania; Austria; Belgium; Bulgaria; Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic; Canada; Cyprus; Czechoslovakia; Denmark; Finland; France; German Democratic Republic; Germany, Federal Republic of; Greece; Hungary; Iceland; Ireland; Italy; Luxembourg; Malta; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic; Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United States of America and Yugoslavia.
9. Representatives of the Holy See and Liechtenstein participated under article 8 of the Commission's terms of reference.
10. Representatives of Israel and the United Republic of Tanzania were also represented under article 11 of the Commission's terms of reference.
11. Representatives of the World Food Council (WFC), of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and of the following specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations were in attendance: International Labour Organisation (ILO); Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); International Monetary Fund (IMF); International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA); European Economic Community (EEC).
12. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: International Alliance of Women (IAW); International Chamber of Commerce (CIC); International Council of Women; International Organization for Standardization (ISO); United Towns Organization; World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU); Friends World Committee for Consultations; International Bar Association; International Council for Environmental Law (ICEL); International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC); International Federation of University Women and Zonta International.
13. Also present at the invitation of the secretariat were representatives of the secretariats of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and of the International Energy Agency.
14. A complete list of participants can be found in document E/ECE(XXXIX)/L.3.
15. The Commission unanimously elected Mr. Luben Gotzev (Bulgaria), Chairman, and Mr. Athanasios Petropoulos (Greece), Vice-Chairman, of the Commission.
16. The Commission unanimously elected Mr. Ernst Schmidt (Federal Republic of Germany), Chairman, and Mr. István Náthón (Hungary), Vice-Chairman, of the Sessional Committee.

17. Mr. Jan Bielawski (Poland) and Mr. Anders Aslund (Sweden), were appointed Rapporteurs.

18. The Commission decided to pass to the Sessional Committee, in addition to agenda item 4 (f) - Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission - the following agenda items for preliminary consideration:

- 4 (e) - Concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work (to be discussed also in the Plenary);
- 8 (a) - Air pollution;
- 8 (b) - Energy (to be discussed also in the Plenary);
- 8 (c) - Introduction and harmonization of summertime in Europe;
- 8 (d) - The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference on Population, 1984;
- 8 (f) - Standardization;
- 8 (g) - The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women;
- 8 (h) - Engineering industries and automation;
- 8 (i) - Monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution;
- 8 (j) - Co-operation in the field of protection and improvement of the environment;
- 9 - Programme of work.

19. The Sessional Committee met from 3 to 10 April 1984.

20. The account of the consideration by the Sessional Committee of item 4 (f) can be found in paragraphs 101 to 257 below. The account of the discussion on those items which had been assigned to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration, referred to in paragraph 18 above, are contained in paragraphs 273-300 and 311-335 below. For the recommendations of the Sessional Committee to the Plenary and the action taken by the Commission on these recommendations, see paragraphs 336 to 343 below.

B. Agenda

21. The Commission adopted its agenda (E/ECE/1065) which reads as follows:

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda
- 2. Election of Officers
- 3. Review of the economic situation in Europe

4. Work of the Commission as a whole, including:

- (a) The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1983 (Commission resolution 2 (XXV)) E/ECE/1066
- (b) Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly E/ECE/1067
- (c) Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries E/ECE/1068
- (d) Co-operation with other international organizations E/ECE/1069
- (e) Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work (Commission decision E (XXXVIII)) E/ECE/1070
- (f) Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission 1/

5. Implications of the provisions of the concluding document of the Madrid meeting 1980 of representatives of the Participating States of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe for the further work of the Economic Commission for Europe

6. The work and future activities of the Commission and proposals in regard to all-European co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, energy and other fields E/ECE/1066

1/ Under this agenda sub-item, the Commission had before it the following documentation:

Committee on Agricultural Problems	ECE/AGRI/73
Chemical Industry Committee	ECE/CHEM/47
Coal Committee	ECE/COAL/77
Conference of European Statisticians	ECE/CES/22
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems	ECE/ENV/43
Committee on Electric Power	ECE/EP/59
Committee on Gas	ECE/GAS/70
Committee on Housing, Building and Planning	ECE/HBP/47
Inland Transport Committee	ECE/TRANS/57 and Adds.1 & 2
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	ECE/SC.TECH/25
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	ECE/EC.AD/23
Steel Committee	ECE/STEEL/44
Timber Committee	ECE/TIM/23
Committee on Water Problems	ECE/WATER/33

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 7. Development of trade and industrial co-operation | E/ECE/1071
ECE/TRADE/147 |
| 8. Follow-up action on relevant Commission decisions: | |
| (a) Air pollution (Commission decision B (XXXVIII)) | E/ECE/1072 |
| (b) Energy (Commission decision A (XXXVIII)) | E/ECE/1073 |
| (c) Introduction and harmonization of summertime
in Europe (Commission decision H (XXXVIII)) | E/ECE/1074 |
| (d) The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work
for the World Conference on Population in 1984
(Commission decision C (XXXVIII)) | E/ECE/1075 |
| (e) Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the
light of the Final Act of the CSCE
(Commission decision I (XXXVIII)) | E/ECE/1076 |
| (f) Standardization (Commission decision J (XXXVIII)) | E/ECE/1077 |
| (g) The Commission's contribution to the preparatory
work for the 1985 World Conference to Review and
Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations
Decade for Women (Commission decision D (XXXVIII)) | E/ECE/1078 |
| (h) Engineering industries and automation
(Commission decision K (XXXVIII)) | E/ECE/1079 |
| (i) Monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water
pollution (Commission decision G (XXXVIII)) | E/ECE/1080 |
| (j) Co-operation in the field of protection and
improvement of the environment
(Commission decision F (XXXVIII)) | E/ECE/1081 |
| 9. Programme of work for 1984-1988 | E/ECE/1082 |
| 10. Other business | |
| 11. Annual Report of the Commission | |

C. Account of proceedings

Review of the economic situation in Europe

(agenda item 3)

22. For the discussion of this item the Commission had before it, as background material, the pre-publication text of the Economic Survey of Europe in 1983 (ECE(XXXIX)/1 and Add.1) and the Economic Bulletin for Europe, Volume 35, (TRADE(XXXII)/1). The Executive Secretary also provided, as an experimental measure, A Summary of Economic Developments in the ECE Region, (ECE(XXXIX)/2).

23. Delegations reported on recent economic developments in their own countries, summarized current economic policies and discussed prospects.

24. Several delegations noted that the longest and deepest post-war recession had come to an end in 1983 with a vigorous recovery of output in North America. In western Europe as a whole the rise in output was not only weaker than in North America but had yet to affect all countries in the region. However, it was felt by these delegations that the recovery had strengthened in recent months and that prospects were now considerably better than they had been for some time, in particular, for growth, investment and real income. This had to a large extent been the consequence of economic policies, which, more than in the past, were oriented towards medium-term objectives, as opposed to short-term measures aimed at stimulating domestic demand.

25. Nevertheless several delegations pointed to areas of risk or concern, such as the debt problem of the developing countries and the growth of protectionism. The need for greater flexibility in their economies in order to respond to the new challenges of the microchip revolution was also stressed by a number of west European delegates.

26. Several delegations stated that in southern Europe a recovery from recession had not yet occurred. Economic policies had been dominated by the need for balance of payments adjustment and for lower rates of inflation and public sector deficits. There had been some improvement in current accounts but unemployment continued to rise.

27. Other delegations pointed out that there was a clear upturn in economic growth in the centrally planned economies of the region. This acceleration of economic growth was attributed to a more balanced structure of production, improvements in general efficiency and, in these countries, an improvement in the balance of payments.

28. Delegations of the centrally planned economies also stressed that the over-all direction of their economic policies was maintained in 1983, and that this explained the acceleration in their economic growth. They also stated that living standards were maintained or increased. Among the factors making this possible were increasing labour productivity and a closer link between the growth of wages and of productivity.

29. The same delegations agreed with the assessment in the background documents that the centrally planned economies were now aiming to maintain present rates of economic growth, with more emphasis on the efficient use of all factor inputs, and a faster rate of scientific and technological development. The delegation of Bulgaria pointed out the significant achievements in the economic and social life of its country, obtained on the eve of the fortieth anniversary of the victory of the Socialist revolution in Bulgaria. These delegations pointed out that growing military expenditures exerted a negative influence on the economies of the ECE countries and on international economic relations. One delegation stressed that the ECE should attempt to introduce confidence-building measures into the economic relations between the ECE member States.

30. There was some increase in the volume of world trade in 1983, following three years of stagnation or decline. The ECE region shared in this upturn. There was a certain growth in east-west trade. Some delegations pointed out that the growth of east-west trade had had a positive effect on employment.

31. A number of delegations expressed concern about obstacles to the expansion of trade. Several delegations of the centrally planned economies noted the desire of their Governments for greater stability of trade growth and drew attention to the political nature of the trade constraints which they had encountered. In this statement, other delegations referred to the views expressed by them under other agenda items. Some delegations of the market economy countries noted that their deficits in east-west trade threatened the future expansion of this trade.

32. The background documents prepared by the secretariat for the session were favourably received by delegations who considered that they were of a high professional level and provided a useful review of the economic situation in the ECE region.

33. Some delegations made suggestions as to the structure and content of the Survey and regretted its late arrival.

34. Several delegations welcomed the innovation of a Summary of Economic Developments in the ECE Region delivered in advance of the main Survey. However other delegates expressed reservations as to its usefulness.

Work of the Commission as a whole
(agenda item 4)

The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1983
(agenda item 4(a))^{2/}

Implications of the provisions of the Concluding Document of the Madrid meeting 1980 of representatives of the Participating States of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe for the further work of the Economic Commission for Europe
(agenda item 5)

and

The work and future activities of the Commission and proposals in regard to all-European co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, energy and other fields
(agenda item 6)

35. The Commission agreed to consider items 4(a), 5 and 6 in conjunction with the following item:

^{2/} For agenda subitems 4(b) to 4(d), also considered in the Plenary, see paragraphs 67-81 below. For agenda subitem 4(e) - Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work, which was discussed both in the Plenary and in the Sessional Committee, see paragraphs 82-100 below. For subitem 4(f) - Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission, which was allocated to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration, see paragraphs 101-257 below.

Energy
(agenda item 8(b))

This subitem was discussed both in the Plenary and in the Sessional Committee.^{3/}

36. The Commission had before it the following documentation:

- for agenda subitem 4(a) and agenda item 6: the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1066 on the Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1983, which was prepared pursuant to Commission resolution 2 (XXV) and contained an account of the most important work accomplished or planned by the Commission and its subsidiary bodies since the thirty-eighth session;
- for agenda subitem 8(b): the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1073, prepared in accordance with Commission decision A (XXXVIII) and the reports of the ad hoc Meetings on New and Renewable Sources of Energy (ECE/AC.11/2), convened pursuant to operative paragraph 6 of decision A (XXXVIII), and on Energy Conservation (ECE/AC.10/2), convened pursuant to operative paragraph 4 of the same decision.

37. Many delegations referred to ECE's unique position as a forum for multilateral co-operation in economic and related fields among countries with different economic and social systems and at different levels of economic development. Hope was expressed that it would be possible to preserve and build on past achievements. All delegations participating in the debate reaffirmed their intention to do everything possible to ensure that the Commission's thirty-ninth session contributed to economic co-operation in the region.

38. Delegations welcomed the adoption of the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting of Representatives of the Participating States of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), which they considered balanced and realistic with positive impulses to ECE's activities. The Madrid Concluding Document was, they suggested, further evidence of the desire of the States participating in the CSCE to find concrete and practical forms of co-operation. It was noted that many of the relevant provisions of the Madrid Concluding Document referred to activities already included in ECE's programme of work, while others could lead to new ECE activities, such as on marketing, scientific co-operation agriculture and the holding of a symposium on management training. Several delegations emphasized the importance of confidence-building measures in international economic relations and suggested that the ECE should explore the possibilities of adopting such measures aiming at the restoration and strengthening of confidence among its member States with a view to promoting east-west co-operation.

39. Some delegations drew attention to prevailing political tensions in the region, which, in their view, endangered détente, notably because of the deployment of nuclear missiles in western Europe. In this situation it was in

^{3/} For an account of the discussion of subitem 8(b) in the Sessional Committee, see paragraphs 282-293 below.

the general interest to maintain or intensify economic co-operation notably by implementing without delay the provisions of the Madrid Concluding Document.

40. Other delegations disagreed with this argument and contended that ECE was not an appropriate forum to discuss such matters, which were extraneous to its agenda. These delegations furthermore stressed that the Madrid Concluding Document was a balanced whole and that progress in one area could not be achieved separately from that in other areas.

41. The delegation of Albania reiterated its position that the CSCE was unrelated to the United Nations system. Albania had not participated in the CSCE process and would not consider itself bound by any of the documents, decisions and resolutions of the Commission which referred to the CSCE process.

42. Another delegation, while associating itself with those who attached great importance to the conclusions of the Madrid Meeting, stated that it would be useful for delegations to pause for reflection, to suspend mutual accusations and to listen to what others had to say about their behaviour.

43. Many delegations welcomed the significant progress achieved in the field of environment, notably as a result of the entry into force of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, which had now been ratified by almost all member countries of the Commission. One delegation called on those few countries which had not yet done so to ratify the Convention as soon as possible. Several delegations drew attention to the International Conference of Ministers on Acid Rain, held in Ottawa (Canada) in March 1984, when ministers of 10 countries which had signed the Convention committed themselves to reducing sulphur emissions by at least 30 per cent as soon as possible and at the latest by 1993, as well as reducing emissions of nitrogen oxides. These delegations urged other signatories of the Convention to make similar commitments.

44. Attention was also drawn to the multilateral environmental conference to be held in Munich (Federal Republic of Germany) in June 1984, to which all signatories of the Convention had been invited. One delegation expressed its country's willingness to participate in the Munich conference providing it was held under ECE auspices and with the observance of all provisions of the Quadripartite Agreement of 3 September 1971. The delegation of the United Kingdom, speaking on behalf of the delegations of France, the United States and the United Kingdom, repeated the view of the Three Powers that States which were not a party to the Quadripartite Agreement were not competent to comment authoritatively on its provisions.

45. Several delegations expressed the hope that a solution would soon be found for the financial arrangements for the Co-operative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants (EMEP).

46. Many delegations stated that they attached very high priority to the activities on long-range transboundary air pollution and stressed that adequate resources must be made available for these activities. It was hoped that the meeting of the Executive Body of the Convention to be held in September 1984 would make further progress in this area.

47. Several delegations and the representative of the CMEA welcomed the Commission's other activities in the field of environment, notably the preparation of a strategy for environmental protection and rational use of natural resources in ECE member countries concerning the period up to the year 2000 and beyond, the work on environmental impact assessment, on low- and non-waste technologies, on protection of flora and fauna and on transboundary water pollution. Co-operation in the latter field was especially emphasized by one delegation. It was also suggested that ECE undertake work on marine pollution especially in regions where UNEP was not active. Another delegation expressed doubt on whether a long-range strategy was of a high priority for ECE at this time.

48. Many delegations expressed their appreciation of the Commission's activities in the field of transport. Particular mention was made of the International Convention on Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, and the Inland Transport Committee's work on improvement of railway transport, on the transport of dangerous goods, on vehicle safety, on transport in the Mediterranean region, on the harmonization of technical regulations and on transit traffic. Some delegations urged the Committee to take up work on a programme of transport development in Europe to the year 2000. Several delegations reiterated the proposal that transport questions should be the theme of a high-level meeting. The delegation of Turkey declared that transport links between Europe, the Mediterranean region, the Middle East and North Africa were of great importance and necessitated a solid infrastructure and good co-ordination; Turkey, because of its location, was prepared to accept its responsibilities in this respect.

49. Several delegations expressed the view that trade and industrial co-operation played a significant role in the relaxation of tension between member States and occupied an important place in the Commission's activities. On questions of trade and industrial co-operation, several delegations regretted the failure of the Committee on the Development of Trade to reach consensus on future action on compensation trade and on obstacles to the development of trade. A number of delegations considered that sufficient work had been carried out on the identification of obstacles to the development of trade. It was now time, in their view, to take action in order progressively to remove these obstacles. It was also suggested that ECE might give new impetus to the examination of new patterns of trade, to examine the financing problems that seemed to be acting as a constraint on intra-regional trade, and continue to look at the problems of small- and medium-sized enterprises in international trade. The ECE should also continue to analyse trade between south European countries and between them and other Mediterranean countries. One delegation considered that if delegations to the Committee on the Development of Trade were not ready to discuss with an open mind the preoccupations of other delegations, the Committee might cut itself off from the commercial realities of the region.

50. Several delegations believed that improving commercial and economic information could be appropriately included in ECE's future work programme.

51. A number of delegations regretted that new barriers to trade had been introduced by some countries for non-economic reasons, contrary to the relevant provisions of the Helsinki Final Act. These delegations stressed that such measures would be harmful to all parties.

52. One delegation mentioned its proposal, made in the Committee on the Development of Trade in December 1983 that a study group be convened to examine east-west trade issues bringing together officials responsible for east-west economic relations. This proposal could be brought to the attention of the next session of the Committee.

53. One delegation suggested that the Commission do more to explore ways of promoting industrial co-operation, including the holding of seminars and symposia.

54. Many delegations welcomed the Commission's continuing work in the energy field, notably that carried out by the Committees on Coal, Gas and Electric Power, the ad hoc meetings on new and renewable sources of energy and on energy conservation, and the Symposium on the Rational Utilization of Secondary Forms of Energy in the Economy held in Bucharest (Romania) in October 1983. Delegations noted, however, that there had been no consensus on the convening of the fifth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy. Many delegations expressed support for the convening of this meeting. Some delegations and the representative of the CMEA urged that the meeting be convened as soon as possible and that the Senior Advisers be allowed to carry out all parts of their mandate; they reiterated their proposal that energy questions should be the subject of a high-level meeting. Other delegations stressed that if the meeting was to serve a useful purpose, it should be constructive and aim at concrete activities within its programme of work.

55. A number of delegations expressed their support of the Commission's activities in the field of science and technology and suggested they be strengthened. These delegations suggested that the co-ordinating role of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology be increased. There should be co-operation with other bodies, notably with the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation and with the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments. Suggested areas for future work included micro-electronics, robotechnics, flexible manufacturing, biotechnology, low-calorific value fuels, high voltage direct current technology and agriculture. It was also suggested that the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology work together with the Senior Economic Advisers to identify obstacles to east-west technology transfer and analyse the economic impact of science and technology. One delegation suggested that practical measures should be developed to examine, transfer and have access to the achievements of science and technology in agreed areas, on a mutually advantageous basis.

56. One delegation considered that the Commission's activities in the fields of science and technology and of industry were not sufficiently oriented to operational questions and therefore should not be assigned high priority.

57. Several delegations expressed their interest in the project on the Over-all Economic Perspective to the Year 2000 (OEP). It was suggested that the project should aim, among other things, at identifying new possibilities for east-west co-operation. The Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments should also examine the repercussions of economic policies on regional growth. One delegation, however, expressed scepticism about the utility of the OEP.

58. Appreciation was expressed of a number of the Commission's other programmes, including those on agriculture, human settlements, standardization, statistics, timber (notably the Seminar on Forest Fire Prevention and Control, to be held in Portugal and the Seminar and study tour on Techniques and Machines for the Rehabilitation of Low-Productivity Forests, which will be held in Turkey in May 1984), and population (notably the regional Meeting on Population, held in Sofia, Bulgaria). One delegation referred to the two studies by the secretariat on population, especially the one on demographic trends in southern Europe, and emphasized that this effort should be carried on in the future.

59. It was suggested by some delegations that the Commission should contribute more to the development of the Balkan region, by giving more attention to economic, technical, scientific and environmental projects in this region. These delegations considered there was also a need for bilateral and multilateral co-operation in the Balkan region.

60. Appreciation was expressed of the Commission's operational projects, notably the Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) and the Interconnection of the Electric Power Transmission Systems of Balkan Countries.

61. A number of delegations noted that the very large sums of money spent on armament were thereby diverted from productive uses. They reiterated their suggestion that ECE prepare a study on the relation between disarmament and economics.

62. Some delegations pointed out that ECE was not only an instrument for east-west economic co-operation but had a task also to further greater economic co-operation between the more developed countries of the region and those which were developing from the economic point of view.

63. Delegations commended the Executive Secretary for the work carried out in the course of the year in the preparation of the suggestions contained in E/ECE/1070. They agreed that there was a need for a review of the Commission's activities. Several delegations maintained there was room for a rationalization of the work. Certain projects had lost a great deal of their utility and should therefore be discontinued or merged with other projects. While some delegations stressed the need to maintain established priorities in the ECE programme of work, it was agreed that the Executive Secretary's proposals would be carefully examined by the Commission and its Principal Subsidiary Bodies. One delegation pointed out that any changes in the Commission's programme would have to be undertaken in stages, on the basis of consensus. In order to achieve concrete and operational results within a zero growth budget, it might be advisable for each Principal Subsidiary Body to identify two or three priority programme elements where most resources would be concentrated until results had been achieved. The same delegation drew attention to the need for co-ordination between different parts of the

Commission's programme, a problem which had become more acute as the multi-disciplinary nature of many activities was recognized. The structure of the Commission and the secretariat should be gradually adapted to encourage this multi-disciplinary approach.

64. Several delegations expressed support for the suggestion that suitable arrangements be made to mark in an appropriate fashion, in 1985, the fortieth session of the Commission and the tenth anniversary of the signature of the Helsinki Final Act.

65. Delegations expressed their appreciation of the services rendered to ECE by Mr. Y.P. Chestnoy who had just relinquished his functions as Deputy Executive Secretary of the Commission and welcomed his successor, Mr. G. Biryukov.

66. At its thirteenth meeting, the Commission adopted its resolution 1 (XXXIX) on the work of the Commission as a whole and its future activities (for the text, see chapter IV).

Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the
Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly
(agenda item 4(b))

67. For the consideration of this item the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's Note E/ECE/1067 on the resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

68. A number of delegations considered that ECE could play a useful role in implementing General Assembly resolutions 38/196 on confidence-building in international economic relations, 38/188 on general and complete disarmament and 38/56 on the International Year of Peace, and stressed the importance of possible ECE actions to this effect.

69. One delegation, urging increased contribution from developed ECE countries to development efforts (regional and interregional) noted that such action would be in accordance with ECOSOC resolution 1983/66 on promotion of interregional economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

70. One delegation referred to ECOSOC resolution 1983/62 when urging ECE to **continue** its participation in the work on the Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar, a view that was also shared by another delegation.

71. Several delegations considered that the implementation of ECOSOC resolution 1983/7 on the transport of dangerous goods deserved the attention of the Commission.

72. A number of delegations welcomed the Commission's actions to implement General Assembly resolution 37/57 on the United Nations Decade for Women, noting with satisfaction that a regional seminar had been convened for October 1984 and that the 1979 study, The Economic Role of Women in the ECE Region, would be revised.

Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes
designed to assist developing countries

(agenda item 4 (c))

73. For the consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's Note E/ECE/1068.

74. Some delegations stressed that it was the responsibility of ECE member countries, many of whom were among the most developed in the world, to contribute as much as possible to the development efforts, both as regards developing countries outside the region and ECE member countries which were developing from the economic point of view. They noted their own Governments' willingness to do this.

75. Several delegations noted with regret that economic trends in southern Europe were not as positive as in western and eastern Europe and North America, thus widening the north-south gap within the ECE region.

76. One delegation regretted the lack of significant progress in finding solutions to the problems facing developing countries, and called for a new approach to global economic problems, based on the realization that Governments had a common interest in economic and political stability in a world of increasing interdependence and where unilateral, restrictive or protectionist measures had been shown to be ineffective. This delegation concluded that more use could be made of ECE's specific capacity to support the efforts of developing countries and to contribute to the building of the New International Economic Order. In this context it considered that the Executive Secretary's proposals regarding the creation within ECE of a Service for Exchange of Economic Data (SEED) merited close attention.

77. Another delegation expressed the opinion that building bridges between east and west would be more successful if ECE member countries made a more meaningful contribution to preventing the dangerous separation of north and south. Several other delegations also drew attention to the importance of reducing the north-south gap.

Co-operation with other international organizations

(agenda item 4 (d))

78. For the consideration of this item the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's Note E/ECE/1069.

79. Delegations welcomed the continuing close co-operation between ECE and other international organizations. Reference is made elsewhere to delegation's views concerning ECE's co-operation with UNDP (on operational projects, including the Trans-European North-South Motorway - see paragraphs 60, 136, 121 to 182 and 303) and ECA and ECWA (for programmes of interest to Mediterranean countries - see paragraphs 301-310).

80. The representative of FAO mentioned the continuing co-operation between ECE and FAO in the agriculture and forest sectors, notably through a number of joint bodies and the Joint ECE/FAO Agriculture and Timber Division. Through this co-operation FAO was able to draw on European experience and knowledge to assist developing countries, for instance in the Mediterranean area. He also

drew attention to the fourteenth FAO Regional Conference for Europe, to be held in Reykjavik (Iceland) in September 1984, at the joint initiative of the Government of Iceland and the Ministers of Agriculture of all Nordic countries, in co-operation with the Director-General of FAO and the Executive Secretary of ECE. He also spoke of three of FAO's co-operative programmes in Europe and stressed that FAO and ECE programmes were carefully co-ordinated to avoid overlapping.

81. The representative of the CMEA secretariat described the co-operation between his organization and the ECE in more than 20 concrete projects in a number of fields including environment, transport, trade and industrial co-operation, science and technology, statistics, coal, electric power, agriculture and timber, etc. He pointed to co-operation between ECE and CMEA over 25 years, intensified since the signature of the Helsinki Final Act, and considered that the agreement on the Madrid Concluding Document would bring positive impulses to ECE's work and increase its authority. Co-operation between ECE and CMEA would contribute to the improvement of economic relations between countries with different social and economic systems.

Concentration and integration of the
Commission's programmes of work

(agenda item 4 (e))

82. For consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the report of the Executive Secretary on the concentration and integration of the programme of work of the Commission (E/ECE/1070). This item was examined by both the Plenary and the Sessional Committee.

83. The item was introduced by the Executive Secretary. Referring to Governments' replies to the secretariat questionnaire, the Executive Secretary stated that there was general satisfaction with the content and orientation of the present programme and that no substantial reorientation of it was required. However, support had been expressed for an adaptation of the programme to make it more manageable and to provide scope for new ideas and initiatives. The proposed programme contained in document E/ECE/1070 had no radical departures from the present programme but was presented in a more orderly structure. Some new programme elements, however, had been suggested for consideration by the Commission.

84. The Executive Secretary also indicated that the benefits to be derived from the re-arrangement of the programme of work might be further enhanced by a modification of the structure of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission. He suggested that the Commission authorize him to make proposals as to the possible structure and methods of work of the subsidiary organs of the Commission, to be examined at its fortieth session.

85. The Executive Secretary also proposed some changes in the present structure and method of work of the Sessional Committee. He indicated that the Sessional Committee could make a greater contribution to the Commission if its status were enhanced by transforming it into a programme and co-ordination committee and by having it meet prior to the Commission session.

86. Delegations who spoke on the subject commended the Executive Secretary's report and efforts to rationalize the programme of work of the Commission and to adjust it to the Commission's needs and resources.

87. Some delegations pointed out that this was a timely occasion for the Commission to analyse its programme of work in depth in order to make it more efficient and to serve better the interests of its member States. They found it premature to comment in detail, at this stage, on all of the Executive Secretary's proposals. These delegations expressed their willingness to participate in an inter-sessional process which would further examine the Executive Secretary's proposals.

88. A number of delegations suggested that the proposals made by the Executive Secretary should first be considered by the appropriate Principal Subsidiary Bodies which would have an opportunity to express their views and make recommendations for the Commission's decision at its fortieth session.

89. Several delegations stated that possible recommendations by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies should be considered as a whole from a cross-sectoral perspective. These recommendations could then be considered by an ad hoc meeting of the whole which would report to the Commission at its fortieth session.

90. These delegations were of the opinion that before new proposals were introduced into the programme of work, there should be a discussion of their relative priorities vis-à-vis other projects taking into account the resources available. They suggested that the Executive Secretary prepare a report on possible strengthening of intra-secretariat co-ordination.

91. Many delegations thought that the Principal Subsidiary Bodies should review the proposals of the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary's suggestion to convene inter-sessional ad hoc meetings to review his proposals, as well as views expressed thereon by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, was supported by some delegations. The suggestion was seen as an occasion to discuss means of improving ECE performance in relation to its priorities. One delegation suggested that two ad hoc inter-sessional meetings be convened: one in autumn 1984 which would consider the recommendations made by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies which met between May and November; and a second meeting later, to examine the views expressed by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies which met between November and March. These meetings would formulate recommendations for decision by the Commission at its fortieth session.

92. Some delegations considered that the work of the Sessional Committee was too concentrated on past activities and constituted a repetition of the discussions in the Principal Subsidiary Bodies. In order to attain a greater emphasis on future activities and cross-sectoral co-ordination, a revision of the functions of the Sessional Committee should be carried out. Several delegations felt that the potential co-ordinating role of the Sessional Committee was not yet fully utilized and that the desired changes could be brought about within its present structure. It was suggested by some delegations that the Executive Secretary might be invited to prepare, on the basis of comments made at the present session of the Commission, further detailed proposals on the functions and work methods to be attributed to the Sessional Committee, in order to avoid overlapping of the activities of different bodies of the ECE as well as overlapping with the activities of other international organizations.

93. Several delegations were of the opinion that the existing Commission structure and programme of work were appropriate and reflected the interests and needs of all member countries and were shaped on the basis of a long experience of the Commission; therefore there was no urgent need to call for any major substantive or organizational reform. These delegations pointed out that more positive results could be achieved if the Commission concentrated its efforts on the already designated priority areas, as well as on activities dealing with energy and transport.

94. Some delegations recommended that the Executive Secretary be offered every encouragement to continue to draw the Commission's attention, on a regular basis, to sectors where further attention could be devoted to concentration and integration.

95. It was generally considered that decisions on the subject should be based on the principle of consensus and take into consideration the interests of all members of the Commission.

96. One delegation expressed the wish that the Executive Secretary would evaluate the financial and personnel implications of each decision that was proposed for adoption by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies.

97. With regard to the proposed evaluation of ECE publications, one delegation stated that the conclusions to be drawn from the evaluation should take into account the views of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned.

98. One delegation spoke in support of the Executive Secretary's proposal to get more feedback from participants in meetings and seminars on their value through questionnaires or other similar means.

99. Specific comments on individual proposed new projects made during the discussions on the related items of the agenda are reported below:

- (i) Telematics: One delegation stated that this subject had been, for some years, examined by some subsidiary bodies, namely the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation and to some extent by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology. This delegation expressed doubt about the introduction of a new programme on the subject.
- (ii) Standardization: Some delegations commented on the Executive Secretary's proposals as regards standardization which were found to be relevant and acceptable. One delegation, which found the proposed programme acceptable, suggested that programme element 01.(c).3.3 should become 01.(c).3.1 and the subsequent programme elements in that subprogramme should be renumbered accordingly.
- (iii) Processing of agricultural products: Two delegations welcomed the proposal of the Executive Secretary to include in the programme of work developments in the processing of agricultural products and their impact on agriculture. One of these delegations pointed out that it had expressed its interest on various occasions, because, nowadays, a large part of agricultural produce reaches the consumer after some form of processing; the proposal therefore filled an important gap and deserved a prominent place in the programme of future work. The other

delegation felt that the future activities of the Committee on Agricultural Problems should be expanded to include relations with all sectors relevant to agriculture, such as the food industry, storage, transport, marketing and distribution of agricultural and food products and the sectors supplying material inputs or rendering services to agriculture. Such an orientation would better correspond to the realities of European agriculture which had become a modern branch and was fully integrated into the economy. The Commission should therefore recommend to the Committee on Agricultural Problems that it take up the proposal of the Executive Secretary. The representative of FAO pointed out that the proposed extension of the work programme had an impact also on the Joint ECE/FAO Agriculture and Timber Division. He suggested that the Committee should look in more detail at this proposal which, in line with the traditional close co-operation, should be further discussed and examined by both ECE and FAO.

- (iv) Hazardous wastes: This proposal was raised during the consideration of the programme of work of the Chemical Industry Committee, and the programme of work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems. Several delegations expressed the view that the question of hazardous wastes was gaining increasing importance in the ECE region, that the proposal was of concern to ECE Governments and that it should therefore be included within the scope of the Commission's activities. Some delegations considered that new technologies should be developed to solve the existing problems in the field of hazardous wastes, and that the issue should be further discussed by the Chemical Industry Committee at its seventeenth session. Other delegations recommended that the proposal be referred to the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems for consideration at their thirteenth session. One delegation stated that the work of other international organizations should be taken into account in the formulation of proposals on further action.
- (v) Land-use planning: Two delegations expressed reservations with regard to the proposal to transform the Working Party on Urban and Regional Planning into a Working Party on Land-use Planning, serving both the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning and the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems.
- (vi) Special micro-circuit ("smart") card for international transport of goods by road: Some delegations expressed interest in this proposal, and suggested that the Inland Transport Committee devote particular attention to it, in conjunction with the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures.
- vii) Woodpulp, paper and paperboard: Some delegations as well as the representative of FAO, discussed the proposal to incorporate questions relating to woodpulp, paper and paperboard more fully in the Timber Committee's activities. It was suggested that this question be referred to the Timber Committee for detailed consideration. While recognizing the importance of pulp and paper as part of the over-all forest productions sector, some delegations

expressed reservations about the implications of such a new work programme element for the already strained resources of the secretariat. They cautioned against extending the agenda of its annual session, expanding the size of delegations and creating the risk of duplication of effort with other organizations. One delegation suggested that it would be useful for the Timber Committee to be briefed on market developments in pulp and paper at its annual sessions, beginning at its forty-second session.

- (viii) Proposed programme for trade and financing of intraregional trade: Some delegations commented on the Executive Secretary's proposals with regard to programme category 15 of the Commission's programme of work. Several delegations stated that it was essential that the work of the Committee on the Development of Trade be balanced so as to serve the interests of member countries uniformly. They noted that, although the Committee's work programme continued to include the identification of obstacles to trade as a full subprogramme there was no mention of the equally important activities on compensation trade. One delegation found that the proposals as regards financing had some interesting aspects but that they required much further study before a definite decision could be taken on them. Another delegation could not support those aspects of the work programme which related to financing since east-west finance decisions should be left to the market. One delegation stated that MUNOSYST should not be continued in its present form. Other delegations recalled that MUNOSYST stemmed from the Helsinki Final Act and suggested that it should be continued, for example by the preparation of a new study on the system.

100. At its thirteenth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision A (XXXIX) on concentration and integration of the programme of work of the Commission (for the text, see chapter IV).

Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission

(agenda item 4 (f))

101. The account of the preliminary consideration of subitem 4 (f) by the Sessional Committee is contained in paragraphs 102 to 257 below.

Committee on Agricultural Problems

102. For its consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the report of the Committee on Agricultural Problems on its thirty-fifth session (ECE/AGRI/73).

103. Delegations expressed their appreciation of the work of the Committee and of its subsidiary bodies. In general, the programme of work was considered well balanced, covering economic as well as technical and scientific aspects of topical and wide interest, and thus contributing to the further development of agriculture and of international co-operation.

The delegations of Turkey and Yugoslavia expressed their particular interest in all issues relating to the development of agriculture in southern Europe. The delegation of Romania proposed that in future more attention be given to the relations between agriculture and the sectors upstream and downstream. The delegation of Switzerland and the representative of the EEC stated their preference for a concentration on specific practical projects rather than on general studies.

104. Considerable emphasis was placed on the continuation and further strengthening of co-ordination of activities within ECE (the delegation of Switzerland pointing out that questions of interest also to agriculture, e.g. in the areas of environment and energy, were being dealt with by other ECE bodies) and with FAO as well as other international organizations. The representative of FAO welcomed the close co-operation with ECE which found its expression also in the preparations for the forthcoming fourteenth FAO Regional Conference for Europe; he hoped that this Conference would contribute to further improving co-operation and understanding in the region and to strengthening international co-operation in agricultural research and technology. The representative of the CMEA also pointed with satisfaction to the growing contacts and the expanding mutual exchange of information between the CMEA and ECE which his organization intended to continue and further intensify.

105. The annual review of recent developments in ECE agriculture and the annual trade, market and price reports were commended by several delegations for providing valuable and up-to-date information. The representative of the EEC felt that their value, and the reputation of ECE for early publication of these reports, would be enhanced if all countries complied with the Committee decisions and contributed the required information in time.

106. The delegation of Albania informed the meeting of the main developments of its agriculture and the major orientations of agricultural policy in its country.

107. With reference to agricultural trade the delegation of Yugoslavia pointed out that the steadily expanding production in the developed market economies of the region resulted in higher exports as well as low imports on the part of these countries and measures to protect their markets, whereas a liberalization of trade would improve the purchasing power of less developed countries, facilitate the reactivation of their economies and thus be in the general interest. This delegation felt that the Committee should pay due attention to these problems, including the links between agricultural programmes and social development policies, taking into account the different levels of development. The delegation of Hungary also called for more attention to be given to trade problems taking into account the high level of protection existing in this sector in certain countries. The delegation of Romania saw a need for considerably developing European co-operation in agricultural trade, because its liberalization and expansion would stimulate agricultural development in the developing countries of the region.

108. The importance of co-operation in agricultural research, the results of which would be of interest also to developing countries, was mentioned by the delegation of Czechoslovakia. The delegations of Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Romania and the USSR emphasized the usefulness

of a wide exchange and dissemination of scientific and technological information. They invited the Committee to pay due attention to the relevant recommendations which were contained in the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting and were specifically addressed to the ECE activities in the field of agriculture. The delegation of Romania, referring to its detailed proposals made at the thirty-fifth Committee session and to the discussion of agricultural research at the forthcoming FAO Regional Conference for Europe, requested ECE and the Committee to further develop, encourage and strengthen economic, technical and scientific co-operation in agriculture. With regard to the proposed intensification of work on science and technology, the delegation of Switzerland raised the question whether the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology would not be better qualified to deal with these issues in co-operation with the Committee on Agricultural Problems whenever this was appropriate; this delegation also felt that in the preparation of technical reports the Committee should avoid long and complicated questionnaires which ran the risk of a limited response rate and could thus result in reports which covered an insufficient number of countries and were not fully representative.

109. The following delegations expressed interest in specific projects in the Committee's programme of work:

Work area 02.1: Long-term trends and perspectives

02.1.1.1 Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

02.1.1.2 Ukrainian SSR and USSR.

02.1.3 Turkey, Yugoslavia.

Work area 02.2: Current developments and short- and medium-term prospects, including international trade

02.2.1) Bulgaria, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Yugoslavia,
02.2.2) EEC.

02.2.3 Bulgaria, Switzerland, Turkey, Yugoslavia.

02.2.4 Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Switzerland, Turkey, United States.

The Byelorussian SSR, Ukrainian SSR and the USSR shared this interest, but felt that the elaboration of standards should be speeded up and that more attention should be paid to products of animal origin.

Work area 02.3: Selected economic and technological problems

02.3.1 Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Ukrainian SSR, USSR (02.3.1.3) and EEC (02.3.1.1).

02.3.2 Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Poland, Turkey, USSR, United States and EEC, and, with particular reference to energy problems, Czechoslovakia, Ukrainian SSR and USSR.

02.3.4 The Byelorussian SSR, the German Democratic Republic and the USSR supported the proposals to study modern possibilities of genetic engineering for the selection of agricultural plants, and new trends and technology for the under-soil introduction of mineral fertilizers and other agricultural chemicals.

- 02.3.4.2 The Byelorussian SSR, the German Democratic Republic, the Ukrainian SSR, the USSR and the CMEA supported the proposal to study technical and economic factors which influence the productivity of grain crops and the stability of grain yields.

The EEC will carefully examine the revised proposal.

- 02.3.4.3 Byelorussian SSR, Turkey and USSR.

- 02.3.4.4 Byelorussian SSR and Ukrainian SSR (as to rational land use, land-use planning and land reclamation) and Poland (legal aspects of land protection).

- 02.3.4.5 Turkey and EEC.

- 02.3.5 Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR and Czechoslovakia (large-scale animal husbandry);

Bulgaria and USSR (long-term trends and prospects of technical solutions for the feeding of dairy cattle);

Byelorussian SSR (rational organization of the production of feedstuffs on livestock holdings).

- 02.3.5.1 The Ukrainian SSR invited the Committee to reconsider its decision not to prepare such a report for large pig holdings.

- 02.3.5.2 Ukrainian SSR and USSR.

Work area 02.4: Environmental aspects relating to agriculture

Byelorussian SSR for environmental questions in general.

The EEC proposed that nitrate pollution of ground water by agriculture should be included as a priority question.

Work area 02.5: Statistics

In general: EEC.

- 02.5.1 Poland.

Chemical Industry Committee

110. For its consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the report of the sixteenth session of the Chemical Industry Committee (ECE/CHEM/47).

111. Delegations emphasized the importance of the chemical industry within the economies of ECE member countries, and the fact that it was one of the most dynamic industrial sectors having close ties and interrelationships with virtually all other sectors of the economy.

112. Delegations stressed the far-reaching consequences of the structural changes occurring in the chemical industry and agreed that it would, therefore be useful and desirable for all countries of the region to work together constructively in the search for solutions to the problems facing the

industry. This could be fostered by the undertaking of policy-oriented studies and projects dealing with longer-term perspectives and structural changes.

113. The Committee's work during the past year, and the programme of work for 1984-1988 were assessed positively. The effective execution of the Committee's programme, the objectivity displayed in the selection of projects, as well as the concentration on major issues currently facing the industry received favourable comment.

114. Areas which could be considered for incorporation in the programme of work of the Committee included biotechnology (German Democratic Republic); the use of microprocessors and robots in the chemical industry (Byelorussian SSR; USSR); the reduction of manual labour in the chemical industry (Byelorussian SSR); the improvement of statistical analysis and the introduction of forecasts (USSR); raw materials and the protection of the environment (Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Poland; Romania); new developments in engineering plastics (German Democratic Republic; USSR); trends in energy requirements (German Democratic Republic); and membrane technologies and safe disposal and re-use of wastes from wet phosphoric acid production (USSR). The delegation of the German Democratic Republic maintained that the Committee's co-operation with the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments in elaborating long-term economic forecasts and studies on trend developments should receive greater attention. The delegation of the United Kingdom ^{4/} urged that future studies should aim at meeting the needs of both the business community and Governments. A few activities of the Committee had attracted insufficient participation to make them worthwhile.

115. Among the activities singled out as being of particular interest, were the studies on trends in feedstocks for organics, and on low- and non-waste technologies in the production of organics. Delegations also underlined the usefulness of the projects on regulations and legislation on food additives and chemicals for food packaging and the elaboration of new world-wide statistics. Support was expressed for the Committee's statistical work, with particular mention of the Annual Review of the Chemical Industry and the Annual Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products. It was noted with approval that the new advance version of the Annual Review provided key data on the chemical industry at an earlier date than had been possible with the regular Annual Review. An appeal was made to member countries to support and improve these statistical activities by submitting fuller data wherever possible.

116. The representative of the ILO expressed satisfaction with the close co-operation existing between the ILO and the Committee, and welcomed the inclusion of employment data in the statistics presented by the Committee.

117. The delegation of the United Kingdom thought that the Committee would wish to examine the implications of General Assembly resolution 37/137 for the chemical industry. A list of banned or severely restricted substances, drawn up as a result of the resolution, was now available.

118. Delegations expressed the opinion that in the past the Committee's programme of seminars and study tours had been useful, providing important commercial, scientific and technological contacts, and that these activities should be continued. Appreciation was expressed to the Government of Bulgaria for having hosted the study tour following the sixteenth session of the Chemical

^{4/} Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of the United Kingdom is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

Industry Committee, and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for the organization of a plant visit following the Seminar on Chemicals from Synthesis Gas. Interest was expressed in the forthcoming seminars on Plastics - Developments and Prospects (1984, Cracow, Poland), and on Recent Technological Developments in the Fertilizer Industry (1985, Istanbul, Turkey). The delegation of the USSR confirmed its intention to act as host to a seminar in 1987 on the chemical industry and its role in future food production.

119. The following specific comments were made on individual programme elements of the programme of work:

Work area 03.1: Medium and long-term perspectives

- 03.1.1 Interest in this project was expressed by Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Turkey, USSR and the United Kingdom.
- 03.1.2 This project was specially mentioned by Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Romania, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.
- 03.1.4 The usefulness of this project was stressed by Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Poland, Spain and the United Kingdom.

Work area 03.2: Current developments and prospects including international trade

- 03.2.1) These projects, including the advance version of the Annual Review,
- 03.2.2) were found to be of special value by Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

Work area 03.3: Selected economic and technological problems

- 03.3.1 This project was supported by Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Finland, Poland, Romania, USSR and the United Kingdom.
- 03.3.2) Interest in these projects was expressed by Bulgaria, the German
- 03.3.3) Democratic Republic, Turkey and the United Kingdom.
- 03.3.5)
- 03.3.4 The significance of this project was stressed by the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Spain and the USSR.

Work area 03.4: Selected environmental and resource saving problems

- 03.4.1 The importance of this project was emphasized by Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Poland, Romania, Spain, Turkey and the USSR.
- 03.4.2 This project was found to be valuable by the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Poland, Romania, Spain and the United Kingdom.

Work area 03.5: Statistics and information

- 03.5.1) These projects were found to be useful by Bulgaria and the
- 03.5.3) United Kingdom.

Coal Committee

120. For its consideration of this item the Commission had before it the report of the seventh-ninth session of the Coal Committee (ECE/COAL/77).

121. Delegations noted the continuously increasing share of coal in meeting energy demand and supply, not only in the ECE region but also in other areas of the world. They emphasized the importance of multilateral co-operation in the framework of the Coal Committee which had contributed to more efficient solution of the economic and technical problems related to coal output, trade and use on both the national and international levels, and observed that the activities of the Committee had attracted the attention of a number of non-member Governments.

122. Delegations expressed appreciation of the close co-operation between the Coal Committee and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies as well as with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations - including the ILO, CMEA, EEC, OECD, IEA, ISO, GATT and ICCP.

123. Delegations considered the Committee's programme of work comprehensive and well balanced, covering the principal economic, technical and ecological problems linked to development of the coal industry.

124. Several delegates mentioned the Symposium on the Utilization of Waste from Coal Mining and Preparation held in Tatabánya (Hungary) in October 1983 as well as the progress made by an ad hoc Meeting concerning the elaboration of a new ECE classification of coals.

125. Several delegations noted with appreciation the close co-operation existing between the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology, the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy and the Coal Committee in the field of utilization of low-calorific-value fuels.

126. Most delegations considered seminars and study tours to be useful means of providing important scientific and technological contacts, and suggested that these activities be continued. Appreciation was expressed to the Governments of Hungary, the USSR and Turkey for having hosted ECE symposia, meetings and study tours during 1983 in the fields of opencast mines, utilization of low-calorific-value fuels and the utilization of waste from coal mining and preparation. Thanks were expressed to the Government of Bulgaria for acting as host to the Seventh Session of Directors of National Mining Research Institutes in Varna (Bulgaria) in May 1984.

127. The delegations of Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic and Poland were of the opinion that the experience acquired as well as the important progress made since the holding in 1979 of the second Symposium on the Gasification and Liquefaction of Solid Fuels would justify the holding of a third Symposium, possibly in 1985 or 1986.

128. The delegation of Belgium 5/ said that the programme of the Committee was deemed useful inasmuch as it allowed experts to exchange data on the technical and economic problems of the coal mining industry. It expressed the view that the Committee should further develop co-operation with other subsidiary bodies in such fields as the study of the prospects of the role of coal in overcoming energy problems in the ECE region.

5/ Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of Belgium is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the view of the European Economic Community.

129. The following new projects were suggested for inclusion in the Committee's programme of work:

- National use of lignite resources in difficult hydrological conditions (Romania);
- New techniques of coal mining in thin seams (Romania);
- Better utilization of coal resources (German Democratic Republic);
- Geophysical and drilling methods in the exploration of coal deposits suitable for opencast mining (German Democratic Republic);
- Gasification of low-calorific-value fuels (German Democratic Republic);
- New techniques of coal extraction by hydro-mechanization (USSR);
- Design and use of rotor excavators for mining of hard coal seams and overburden (USSR);
- Exchange of information on transport infrastructure in the coal industry (USSR);
- Exchange of information on long-term programmes in the field of non-conventional methods of coal mining (USSR);
- Methods of working coal which do not require the presence of men underground (USSR);
- New means of providing safety measures, including those relating to underground gasification of coals (USSR);
- Production of clean, high-calorific-value fuels - substitute natural gas - by gasification of low-quality solid fuels (USSR); and
- Improvement of coal-cleaning techniques in the case of small-sized coals (USSR).

130. The following delegations expressed interest in specific projects in the Committee's programme of work:

Work area 04.1: Medium- and long-term prospects

04.1.1 Belgium; Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; Poland; Sweden.

Work area 04.2: Current developments and prospects, including international trade

04.2.1 Belgium; Bulgaria; Poland; Sweden.

04.2.2 Belgium; Bulgaria; Poland.

04.2.2.2 Belgium; Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; Poland.

04.2.3 Belgium; Poland.

Work area 04.3: Selected economic and technological problems

- 04.3.1.1 Belgium; Poland; Romania; Ukrainian SSR; USSR; Yugoslavia.
- 04.3.1.2 Belgium; Poland; USSR.
- 04.3.1.3 Belgium; Poland; Ukrainian SSR; USSR.
- 04.3.1.4 Belgium; Poland; Romania; Ukrainian SSR; USSR; Yugoslavia.
- 04.3.1.5 Belgium; Poland; Romania; Ukrainian SSR; USSR; Yugoslavia.
- 04.3.1.6 Belgium; Poland; Romania; Ukrainian SSR; USSR; Yugoslavia.
- 04.3.2.1 Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; Poland; Romania; USSR; Yugoslavia.
- 04.3.2.3 Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; Poland; Romania; USSR; Yugoslavia.
- 04.3.2.4 Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; Poland; Romania; USSR.
- 04.3.2.5 Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; Poland; USSR.
- 04.3.3 Belgium; Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; Poland; Romania; Ukrainian SSR; USSR; Yugoslavia.
- 04.3.3.1 Belgium; Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; Poland; Romania; Ukrainian SSR; USSR.
- 04.3.3.2 Belgium; Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; Poland; Romania; Ukrainian SSR; USSR; Yugoslavia.
- 04.3.4.2 Belgium; Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; Poland; Romania; Ukrainian SSR; USSR.
- 04.3.5 Belgium; Bulgaria; Poland; USSR;
- 04.3.5.1 Belgium; Bulgaria; Poland; Ukrainian SSR; USSR.

Work area 04.4: Selected environmental and resource-saving problems

- 04.4.1 Belgium; Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; Poland; Sweden; Ukrainian SSR; USSR.
- 04.4.1.2 Belgium; Sweden.

Work area 04.5: Industrial co-operation

- 04.5.1 Belgium.
- 04.5.2 Yugoslavia.

Work area 04.6: Statistics and information

- 04.6.2 Belgium; Poland; USSR.
- 04.6.2.4) The delegation of the USSR said it had little interest in these
- 04.6.2.7) projects.

Conference of European Statisticians

131. For the discussion of this item, the Commission had before it the report of the thirty-first plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (ECE/CES/22).

132. The discussion reflected the general satisfaction of ECE Governments with the results obtained in international statistical co-operation through the work of the Conference. Several speakers emphasized that the activities of the Conference responded fully to the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE and of the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting.

133. Particular mention was made of the promptness with which the Conference had implemented decisions and resolutions of the Commission. For example, it had thoroughly reviewed its work programme as a whole with a view to streamlining and rationalizing its activities. This review had resulted in a number of significant improvements. It was noted that the Conference had always manifested a concern for careful use of its resources.

134. At the same time, several delegations stressed the need for enhanced co-ordination of statistical activities at all levels of international co-operation. Concern was expressed over the relatively high number of statistical activities pursued by Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission other than the Conference, and it was suggested that these activities be better integrated. With regard to co-operation with specialized agencies, it was proposed that the Conference assume the role of active co-ordinator with a view to delineating more clearly primary responsibility in common projects. The satisfactory state of co-operation between the statistical secretariats and offices of the Conference, and other bodies such as the United Nations Statistical Commission, the CMEA and the EEC was noted and the hope was expressed that this co-operation would be further extended.

135. A number of delegations underlined their interest in bilateral and multilateral comparisons. The International Comparison Project was mentioned as a project of particular importance. The delegations of Bulgaria and Finland reported on their positive experience during a bilateral test of a conversion key between the United Nations and CMEA activity classifications. The organization of such bilateral co-operation within the work programme of the Conference and with the active support of the CMEA secretariat was of considerable importance also to national statistical developments in the participating countries.

136. The ECE/UNDP project on the use of computers for statistical purposes and the design and development of automated statistical information systems (Statistical Computing Project) was considered important for regional statistical co-operation. Many delegations felt that the work done under the project was highly useful for the organization of statistical services. There were suggestions that, after a careful study and evaluation of the future objectives of the project, it could be integrated into the work programme of the Conference. The delegation of Ireland ^{6/} urged that serious study be carried out as to

^{6/} Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of Ireland is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

whether the project's objectives can be achieved, and, if so, that consideration be given to extending the project beyond 1984 under the auspices of the Conference of European Statisticians on cessation of UNDP funding. With regard to the transfer of project results to developing countries, this delegation stressed that it was essential that it be fully co-ordinated with other such similar projects to avoid duplication of effort and resources.

137. It was also suggested that the Conference develop activities in the area of transport statistics.

138. The following specific comments were made on the work programme for 1983/84-1987/88:

Work area 12.1: Regional statistical co-operation

12.1.2 The delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Romania, Switzerland, the Ukrainian SSR, and the USSR stressed the importance of co-ordinating statistical activities, both within the ECE itself and between the ECE and other intergovernmental organizations in Europe. The delegations of Ireland and of the CMEA emphasized the role of inter-secretariat consultations.

12.1.5 The delegation of Turkey attached particular importance to this project.

Work area 12.2: Organization and operation of statistical services

12.2.1 Particular importance was attached to this project by the delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Ireland, Romania, Turkey, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR. The delegation of the USSR stressed the need to co-ordinate the work of the ISIS Seminars and of the Working Party on Electronic Data Processing.

12.2.2 The delegations of Czechoslovakia and of Turkey emphasized the importance of work on statistical methodological problems.

12.2.3 The importance of this project, in particular the substantive discussions at plenary sessions of the Conference, was stressed by the delegations of Hungary, Switzerland, Turkey and the Ukrainian SSR.

Work area 12.3: Development and harmonization of economic statistics

12.3.1 Importance was attached to this project by the delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Hungary, Romania, the Ukrainian SSR, the USSR and the CMEA.

12.3.2.1 The delegations of Bulgaria, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Romania, and the Ukrainian SSR stressed the relevance of this project.

12.3.2.2 The delegation of the USSR considered that low priority should be attached to this project.

- 12.3.3 The delegation of Ireland stressed the importance of work on the development and harmonization of international classifications relating to economic activities and to goods and services. High priority was attached to the development of conversion keys between the United Nations and CMEA standard classifications by the delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Finland, Hungary, Romania, the USSR and the CMEA.
- 12.3.5 The delegation of Czechoslovakia and Turkey expressed interest in this project. Low priority was attached by the delegation of the USSR to statistics of consumer prices.
- 12.3.7.1 The delegation of Czechoslovakia expressed interest in this project. The delegation of the CMEA stressed the importance of work on a glossary of terms used in agricultural statistics.
- 12.3.7.2 High priority was attached to work on this project, particularly on the development of a classification of energy, by the delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, Hungary, Romania, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR.
- 12.3.7.4 The delegations of Czechoslovakia and of Finland expressed interest in this project.
- 12.3.7.9 Interest in this project was expressed by the delegation of Czechoslovakia.

Work area 12.4: Development and harmonization of social and demographic statistics

- 12.4.1 The importance of work on social and demographic statistics was stressed by the delegations of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Turkey and the CMEA.
- 12.4.3 The delegations of Romania and Turkey stressed the importance of this project.
- 12.4.4.1 The delegation of Turkey expressed interest in this project. The delegation of the USSR attached low priority to it.
- 12.4.4.2) Low priority was attached to these projects by the delegation of
12.4.4.3) the USSR.
12.4.4.4)
- 12.4.4.8 The delegation of Hungary stressed the importance of this project.
- 12.4.5.1 Low priority was attached to this project by the delegation of the USSR.

Work area 12.5: Development and harmonization of environment and related statistics

- 12.5.2 High priority was attached by the delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, the Ukrainian SSR, the USSR and the CMEA to work on environment statistics, particularly to the development of classifications. The delegation of the USSR felt that low priority should be attached to statistics of land use.
- 12.5.3 The delegation of the Ukrainian SSR attached importance to this project.

Committee on Electric Power

139. For its examination of this item, the Commission had before it the report of the forty-second session of the Committee on Electric Power (ECE/EP/59).
140. Delegations which spoke expressed satisfaction with the activities of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies during the period under review. The role played by the Committee in furthering co-operation among ECE countries in the field of electric power was frequently emphasized.
141. Several delegations stated that they were in favour of closer links with other international organizations having activities in the field of electric power and, in particular, with the IAEA in the sphere of nuclear energy.
142. Some delegations stressed the importance of implementing the conclusions of the Seminar on the Medium-term and Long-term Prospects of the Electric Power Industry, held in London (United Kingdom) in October 1981. The delegation of Bulgaria considered it would be useful to examine the prospects of the electric power industry by means of such seminars to be held every five years or so.
143. Several delegations were in favour of restructuring the mandate of and renaming the Group of Experts on Distribution and Rural Electrification as considered at the forty-second session of the Committee.
144. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic expressed satisfaction that attention had been paid to co-ordination with other United Nations bodies and international organizations.
145. The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR said that, in order to increase efficiency, the Committee should co-operate more closely with the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology, the Committee on Gas, and the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy, and should identify concrete problems for subsequent discussion at the intergovernmental level.
146. The delegation of the USSR supported the proposal that the Group of Experts on Electric Power Stations should examine and select for implementation recommendations of the Seminar on the Integrated Utilization of Low-calorific-value Fuels, held in Moscow (USSR) in October 1983. It considered that, in order to increase efficiency, the studies prepared should be accurate, deal with concrete questions and present conclusions and recommendations. The delegation of the Ukrainian SSR stressed the importance of the contribution made by the CMEA to the study of interconnection of electric power transmission systems between countries of eastern and western Europe.
147. Delegations which expressed particular interest in certain areas of the programme of work are listed below:

Work area 06.1: Medium-term and long-term prospects

06.1.1 Byelorussian SSR.

Work area 06.2: Current developments

- 06.2.1 Bulgaria.
- 06.2.5 The delegation of the USSR considered the project important and regretted that the seminar on research in the field of electric power had been postponed. The delegation of Spain expressed its satisfaction with the arrangements made for the seminar.

Work area 06.3: Electric power generation

The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR and of Turkey considered questions of the combined production of electric power and heat to be of great interest.

The delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, the Ukrainian SSR and Yugoslavia attached great importance to work in the field of nuclear power.

- 06.3.1)
- 06.3.2)
- 06.3.4)
- 06.3.5) Bulgaria.
- 06.3.10)
- 06.3.11)
- 06.3.13)
- 06.3.16)
- 06.3.17 Switzerland.
- 06.3.21 Bulgaria.
- 06.3.22 Yugoslavia.
- 06.3.30 The delegations of Switzerland and Turkey welcomed the decision to organize a seminar on this project.
- 06.3.44 Bulgaria.

Work area 06.4: Electric power systems and interconnections

- 06.4.1 Byelorussian SSR, German Democratic Republic, Spain.
- 06.4.2 The delegations of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Sweden and Switzerland welcomed the Seminar on High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Techniques to take place in Stockholm (Sweden) in May 1985.
- 06.4.3 Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Romania, Turkey, Yugoslavia.
- 06.4.12 Hungary.

Work area 06.6: Efficiency and rational use

The delegation of Romania considered that a reduction of consumption within thermal power stations and electric networks was one of the most important problems confronting its country.

- 06.6.8 Turkey.

Work area 06.7: Environmental problems

The delegation of Sweden appreciated the efforts made towards the solution of environmental problems connected with the production of electricity.

The delegation of Spain expressed a wish that the work carried out in the field of the effects of thermal power stations on the environment be speeded up.

06.7.1 The delegation of Czechoslovakia recommended that an in-depth study of the subject be made.

06.7.2) The delegation of the USSR felt that work on these projects should be
06.7.5) expedited.

148. The delegations of the USSR and the German Democratic Republic considered that paragraph 108 of document ECE/EP/59 did not accurately summarize the statement of the Director of the Energy Division concerning the correct appellation of the Federal Republic of Germany in Russian, since the clarification by the Office of the Legal Counsel of the United Nations Secretariat in New York, to which he referred, had appeared ambiguous at that time and asked for appropriate correction to be made. In this connection, the delegation of the USSR declared that the correct and generally accepted United Nations official name for that country in Russian was "Federativnaya Respublika Germanii", in which the word "Germaniia" is used in the genitive case and that no other name of this country in Russian was recognized by its country. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany disagreed with the interpretation of the delegation of the USSR and stated that the normative form "Germaniia" was correct and that this translation should be used, as was approved by the Legal Counsel of the United Nations.

Committee on Gas

149. For its consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the report of the Committee on Gas on its thirtieth session (ECE/GAS/70).

150. Delegations considered that the projects in the programme of work of the Committee were timely and well chosen and expressed satisfaction with the programme of work for 1984-1988.

151. The delegation of the Netherlands ^{7/} said that care should be taken to avoid duplication and/or overlapping of work with that of other international organizations in the field of gas when organizing seminars or symposia. At the most recent session of the Committee, under the agenda item concerning the activities of other subsidiary bodies, some delegates had spoken of the possible convening of a meeting of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy. The delegation of the Netherlands urged those delegations to refrain from raising such matters which should be discussed during the annual session of the Commission, while the discussion in the Committee on Gas should be strictly limited to technical and economic matters.

^{7/} Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of the Netherlands is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

152. The USSR representative suggested that the Committee initiate a study on "Problems encountered with natural gas deposits located in abnormal pressure and temperature conditions", which might be carried out by the Group of Experts on Natural Gas Resources.

153. Delegations thanked the Government of Yugoslavia for its offer to host the Seminar on Offshore Natural Gas Technology - Production and Processing, Transport and Reception to be held in Dubrovnik from 8 to 12 October 1984; the Government of Spain which had offered to host the Symposium on the LPG Situation in the ECE Region during the period 1985-2000, to be held in Madrid in October 1985; and the Government of Poland for its offer to organize a Symposium on Tendencies in the Development of the Gas Industry and Gas Markets in the ECE Region for the Period up to 2000, to be held in Warsaw in 1987.

154. The following specific comments were made on projects in the Committee's programme of work:

Work area 07.1: Medium- and long-term prospects

- 07.1.1 The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, the Netherlands, Romania, the Ukrainian SSR and Yugoslavia expressed interest in this work.
- 07.1.2 The delegations of the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR suggested that the Committee should co-operate with the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy.

Work area 07.2: Current developments and prospects, including trade

- 07.2.2 The delegations of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Poland stressed the importance of intraregional trade in natural gas.
- 07.2.3 The delegation of Romania expressed interest in this project.
- 07.2.3.1 The delegation of Turkey attached importance to this project.

Work area 07.3: Selected economic and technical problems

- 07.3.1 The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, the German Democratic Republic, the Netherlands, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR attached importance to the study to be initiated on the use of compressed natural gas (CNG) as motor fuel.
- 07.3.2 The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR and the USSR expressed satisfaction with the work undertaken under this project.
- 07.3.4 The delegation of Bulgaria expressed interest in this project.
- 07.3.5 The delegations of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania and the USSR supported work undertaken under this project.

- 07.3.7 The delegation of Poland attached importance to this project.
- 07.3.8.2 The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR expressed a special interest in the study of "Problems of transport of gas containing H₂S".
- 07.3.8.3 The delegations of Bulgaria, Romania, the Ukrainian SSR, the USSR, Yugoslavia and the United States attached importance to this project.
- 07.3.8.4 The delegations of Czechoslovakia and Poland attached special importance to this project.
- 07.3.9 The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, the German Democratic Republic, Romania and the USSR expressed interest in this project, and suggested close co-operation with the Coal' Committee and with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies as might be necessary.
- 07.3.10 The delegation of Romania expressed appreciation of this project.

Work area 07.4: Environmental problems

- 07.4.1 The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, Poland and Romania expressed interest in this project.

Work area 07.5: Efficiency and conservation

- 07.5.1 The delegations of the German Democratic Republic, Poland, Romania and the USSR appreciated the work done under this project.
- 07.5.2 The delegation of Romania expressed interest in the work initiated on stimulation and enhanced recovery.

Work area 07.6: Statistics and information

- 07.6.1 The delegation of Poland expressed appreciation of work done under this project.
- 07.6.2 The delegation of the United States appreciated both work done and further work to be carried out on the use of computers by the gas industry.

Work area 07.7: Development of international co-operation in the field of LPG

- 07.7.3 The delegations of the German Democratic Republic, the Netherlands, Romania and the USSR encouraged work carried out on the use of LPG as motor fuel.

Committee on Housing, Building and Planning

155. For its consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the report of the forty-fourth session of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning (ECE/HBP/47).

156. Delegations expressed their general satisfaction with the work accomplished. The Committee's programme of work was considered to be well-balanced as it focused on issues of major concern to ECE Governments. It was suggested that the documentation produced within the framework of the Committee could be of interest to countries in other regions, and it was desirable, therefore, to develop further co-operation with the other regional commissions and with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS).

157. In the view of many delegations, the Committee's methods of work had proved efficient. The organization of seminars and study tours and the preparation of analytical and synthesis reports were singled out as particularly useful. The efforts made to economize resources by applying a flexible periodicity for the sessions of the Committee's subsidiary bodies and the extensive use of informal meetings were commended. Some delegations felt that a further concentration of the work programme on the projects of highest priority to most countries would be beneficial.

158. Delegations confirmed the interest of their Governments in work related to urban renewal and modernization of buildings. The discussion at the forty-fourth session of the Committee on the improvement of post-war housing areas was considered valuable and the further work to be carried out was welcomed. Particular interest was expressed in the projects on the impact of energy considerations on human settlements policies, on energy conservation in buildings and on energy issues in urban and regional planning.

159. Some delegations confirmed the importance they attached to the work of the Group of Experts on Human Settlements Problems in Southern Europe, which had also attracted the attention of non-ECE member countries bordering the Mediterranean. It was announced that the next meeting of the Group of Experts would be held in Yugoslavia during 1985.

160. Delegations stressed their interest in the work on the financing of housing, on forecasting and programming of housing, on rent policy, and on the assessment of the quality and use-value of dwellings. Reference was made in this respect to the seminars planned to take place in Denmark in 1985 and in the Netherlands in 1986.

161. With respect to the work on building materials and construction, delegations indicated their support for work on a compendium of model requirements for building regulations, noting that, as far as possible, efforts towards harmonization of building regulations should be speeded up. The work on mechanization of buildings, especially the Seminar on Modern Building Technologies, to be held in Poland in 1985, and the study on the working environment in the construction industry were also cited as useful projects.

162. Delegations confirmed their interest in the various projects in the field of urban and regional planning. The Seminar on Integrated Physical Planning, held in Finland in June 1983, had been considered useful and delegations looked forward to the Seminar on the City and its Transportation, scheduled to be held in the USSR in October 1984. The study on planning for recreation and leisure areas was also of interest.

163. The scope and orientation of the activities in the field of urban and regional research were generally endorsed. The Seminar on Research on Long-term Perspectives for Human Settlements Development, held in Hungary in October 1983, had been successful and further work in this area would be of special interest to ECE Governments. Delegations also declared their interest in the Fifth Conference on Urban and Regional Research, to be held in Portugal in May 1984.

164. Gratitude was expressed to the Government of Canada for the excellent arrangements made for the forty-fourth session of the Committee which had taken place in Ottawa in September 1983, and for the related study tour. Appreciation was also expressed to the Governments of Finland, Greece and Hungary which had hosted other ECE meetings in the field of human settlements in 1983.

165. The following delegations expressed interest in specific projects in the Committee's programme of work:

Work area 08.1: Integrated settlements policies and strategies

The delegations of Turkey and Switzerland expressed interest in all projects in this work area.

08.1.1 Bulgaria; Czechoslovakia; German Democratic Republic; France; 8/ USSR.

08.1.2 Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Czechoslovakia; German Democratic Republic; Finland; France; Portugal; USSR.

08.1.5 France; German Democratic Republic; Turkey; USSR.
The delegation of Czechoslovakia expressed the hope that early attention would be paid to the development of statistics on the improvement and modernization of dwellings and on the structure and size of settlements.

08.1.6 Bulgaria; France; German Democratic Republic; Portugal; Ukrainian SSR; USSR.

08.1.7 Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Czechoslovakia; Finland; France; German Democratic Republic; Portugal; Ukrainian SSR; USSR.

08.1.8 France; Portugal; Yugoslavia;

08.1.11 Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; Portugal.

Work area 08.2: Urban and regional planning

The delegation of Switzerland expressed interest in all projects in this work area.

08.2.2 Bulgaria; Finland; France; German Democratic Republic; Portugal; Ukrainian SSR.

8/ Whenever in this paragraph the delegation of France is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

- 08.2.4 Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Czechoslovakia; France;
German Democratic Republic; Portugal; Ukrainian SSR; USSR.
Particular mention was made of the seminar to be held in the USSR in
October 1984.
- 08.2.5 Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Portugal; Ukrainian SSR; USSR.
- 08.2.6 Portugal; USSR.
- 08.2.8. Czechoslovakia; Finland; Portugal.

Work area 08.3: Housing policies

The delegation of Switzerland stated its interest in all projects in this
work area.

- 08.3.1 Turkey.
- 08.3.3 Czechoslovakia; Finland; France; Turkey.
- 08.3.5 Czechoslovakia; German Democratic Republic; Portugal; Turkey;
- 08.3.7 Turkey.
- 08.3.8 Finland; France; Portugal.
- 08.3.9 Bulgaria; Czechoslovakia; France; Yugoslavia.

Work area 08.4: Building

The delegation of Switzerland stated its intention to intensify participation
in all projects in this work area.

- 08.4.2 Bulgaria; Portugal; Ukrainian SSR.
- 08.4.3 Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Czechoslovakia; Finland; France;
German Democratic Republic; Ukrainian SSR.
Particular mention was made of the seminar planned to be held in
Poland in the autumn of 1985.
- 08.4.7 Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Czechoslovakia; France; Turkey;
Ukrainian SSR; USSR.
- 08.4.8 German Democratic Republic.
- 08.4.9 Bulgaria; Czechoslovakia; Finland; France; German Democratic
Republic; Portugal; USSR.
- 08.4.11 Bulgaria.

Inland Transport Committee

166. For the consideration of this item, which was considered together with
item 8 (c) on the introduction and harmonization of summertime in Europe, the
Commission had before it the report of the Inland Transport Committee on its
forty-fifth session (ECE/TRANS/57 and Add.1 and 2) and the report by the
Executive Secretary on the implementation of decision H (XXXVIII) (E/ECE/1074).

167. The Chairman of the Committee said he thought that it had answered the Commission's expectations, as expressed in the latter's resolution 1 (XXXVIII), when it had invited the Committee to "pay attention to the problems of future development of transport in the ECE region". He then endeavoured to highlight the major future trends in the various sectors of the Committee's work. The delegations which took the floor stated that the Committee's activities should be continued in accordance with the programme of work.

168. Several delegations supported the proposal which the representatives of Czechoslovakia and of the CMEA had made at the Committee's forty-fourth session concerning the elaboration of a long-term programme for the development of transport in Europe until the year 2000, on the basis of scientific forecasts and appropriate methodologies. In that connection they stressed the importance and practical value of the preparation of an international traffic forecasting methodology and the use of that methodology for the development of transport in the ECE region, a subject already included in the Committee's programme of work. That would provide the long-term orientation for the adoption of appropriate decisions at the national and international levels.

169. The delegation of the United Kingdom 9/ said that the Group of Experts on Transport Trends and Policy had studied that proposal: the Group of Experts had noted that six items included in the proposal were already contained in the Committee's programme of work. The proposal on forecasting of transport needs could be submitted in a more thoroughly developed form, which would include a summary of the methodology to be used. The experience gained by the European Economic Community with forecasting on a shorter term basis and relating moreover to a less extensive territory, had not proved conclusive.

170. The representative of CMEA recalled the importance attached by his organization to co-operation with the ECE secretariat, particularly in respect of methodological approaches to forecasting of international traffic and their use for development of transport.

171. The delegation of Czechoslovakia said it was concerned about certain negative trends in transport policy. It took the view that the protectionist measures adopted by some countries ran counter to development and slowed down the process of liberalization.

172. The delegations that were directly or indirectly concerned stressed the importance of the Committee's activities with regard to transport in the Mediterranean region and thanked the Government of Spain for having organized, in Barcelona in 1983, a Seminar on the Transport Situation in the Mediterranean Region. They also expressed their appreciation of the proposal by the Government of Greece to host, in October 1984 at Thessaloniki, an intergovernmental conference to follow up that Seminar and took note of its intention to establish, in Greece, a technical research office to deal with transport questions in the eastern Mediterranean.

9/ Whenever in the following paragraph the delegation of the United Kingdom is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

173. The delegation of Spain recalled that the essential achievement of the Barcelona Seminar had been the establishment of a balance sheet of the current situation and of the possibilities of improving traffic and the obstacles to be overcome, so that a programme of future studies and activities could be worked out. It added that its Government had proposed the establishment of a technical office at Barcelona to study ways and means of implementing the objectives of the Seminar.
174. The delegation of Turkey informed the Commission that its Government was also considering the establishment of a research and training centre and said it thought that the number and the status of such centres should be carefully considered in the light of the proposals of the interested countries.
175. Several delegations stressed the importance of the Mediterranean roll-on/roll-off traffic in north-south trade between the continents of Europe and Africa.
176. Several delegations expressed their thanks to the Government of Hungary for having organized at Budapest, in March 1984, a Seminar on Financial Aspects in the Context of International Transport Infrastructure Investments. The delegation of the USSR drew attention to the recommendations of that Seminar concerning the project for the preparation of long-term forecasts.
177. The Delegation of the USSR recalled its decision to host in Moscow a seminar on "The City and its Transportation" in October 1984. The delegations of the USSR and the Ukrainian SSR expressed the hope that that Seminar would attract a numerous participation.
178. The delegation of Canada expressed its interest in the Committee's work on the facilitation of movement of disabled persons. It also expressed the hope that it would be possible to obtain statistics on the frequency and type of transport accidents.
179. In the field of infrastructure, several delegations expressed their support for the development of a European railway network. They also stated that the studies on the traffic flows by all transport modes between Scandinavia and southern Europe, along the corridor of the Trans-European North-South Motorway Project (TEM), between France and the Iberian Peninsular and along the Danube corridor, were all considered to be useful.
180. The delegation of Spain took the view that, as far as the south-western corridor of Europe was concerned, a gradual approach should be adopted by first making an inventory of the available infrastructure, deficiencies and bottle-necks and then establishing as complete a system as possible of traffic flow statistics, so that an intermodal approach could be developed in a second phase. It was ready to help carry out such research, which should involve France, Portugal and Spain.
181. Delegations expressed appreciation of the progress made within the framework of the Trans-European North-South Motorway Project (TEM).
182. The delegation of Poland said that the work on the Project was an example of effective co-operation among the countries of the ECE region. It was nevertheless, concerned at the decision by UNDP to give financial support to the Project at a lower level than before until 1986 and to cut off its assistance after that date. The delegations of Hungary and Turkey shared that opinion and expressed the hope that UNDP would continue its financial support after the third phase of the Project.

183. Most delegations expressed satisfaction with the results which the Committee had been able to achieve in the field of the safety of road vehicles and road traffic through the harmonization of requirements, thus simultaneously facilitating the development of trade, as well as with the work carried out in the field of standards relating to road vehicles and to vessels.

184. The delegation of Switzerland, having expressed its support for the work on the definition of main European rail and road traffic arteries, expressed the hope that, as far as the E-road network was concerned - which was currently suffering from the tight nature of its grid and uncertainties with regard to the numbering of the roads, a more linear approach connected with the main "multinational" transit arteries could lay the foundations for effective measures in respect of infrastructures and traffic flows at a time when the European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR) was in the initial stages of its entry into force.

185. Several delegations of transit countries stressed the great importance of the unification, at the European level, of the road, rail and inland water transport systems. The delegation of Yugoslavia also expressed the opinion that the existing quota system should be maintained until the state of the infrastructure had been effectively improved.

186. Several delegations expressed their concern at the differences of opinion on questions related to the introduction of an international ship's certificate. It was noted that, in certain countries, there were some deep-rooted traditions that were resistant to change and that, consequently, the application of the certificate should thus be gradual and consideration should be given to ways and means of encouraging its recognition.

187. The delegation of Switzerland emphasized the co-operative relations between the Committee and the river commissions concerned.

188. The delegation of Yugoslavia fully supported the proposal that the TIR Convention should be extended to other regions of the world.

189. Most delegations welcomed the success of the recent International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls on Goods, which had already been signed by 13 countries and by the European Economic Community. Hungary had been its first signatory. In their view, the Convention represented a significant step forward towards the elimination of difficulties at frontiers. The delegation of Finland stated that his country intended to accede to the Convention in the near future.

190. Several delegations stressed the importance of the work on the transport of dangerous goods and noted with satisfaction the progress that had been made on the revision and updating of the ADR and RID agreements. The delegation of the United Kingdom recalled the Committee's decision to give priority to work on the European Provisions concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterway (ADN). It mentioned the concern of the European Economic Community at the fact that, despite the increasing work-load in the sector concerned, resolution 1983/7 of the Economic and Social Council requesting an increase in staffing resources had not yet been implemented.

191. Several delegations noted that, at the forty-fifth session of the Committee, delegations had unanimously expressed the hope that the Governments members of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) would modify, in a direction less unfavourable to the carrier, the work on the draft convention relating to liability for damage caused during carriage by rail, road and inland waterway, and that a joint meeting of legal and technical transport experts had been proposed.

192. With respect to summer time, which had formed the subject of decision H (XXXVIII), considerable progress had been made in harmonizing the periods of application. The delegation of Poland took the view that it would be useful to standardize also the hour of transition to summer time and that of the return to ordinary time. In that connection, the Committee had accepted a proposal to collect information concerning the hour of transition.

193. The delegation of Switzerland informed the other delegations that the legal basis enabling his country to introduce and maintain summer time was no longer being contested.

194. The Committee was requested to take account, to the greatest possible extent, of the activities of other international organizations in the field of transport and to strengthen its co-operation with them, and particularly with the European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT), the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA), the International Union of Railways (UIC) and the International Road Transport Union (IRU), as well as with the other regional commissions, particularly ECA and ECWA.

195. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee paid tribute to Mr. Jordanis, the Chairman of the Committee, on the eve of his retirement. On behalf of all delegations, he thanked Mr. Jordanis for the competent manner in which he had guided the Committee's work.

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems

196. For the consideration of this item, which was taken up together with item 8 (j) - Co-operation in the Field of Protection and Improvement of the Environment - the Commission had before it the report of the twelfth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems (ECE/ENV/43) and a note by the Executive Secretary on action taken in implementation of the provisions of Commission decision F (XXXVIII) (E/ECE/1081).

197. Delegations which took part in the discussion expressed the general view that the importance of the role of ECE in matters relating to the protection of the environment had been convincingly demonstrated by the results achieved thus far and that these efforts should continue. It was stressed that the relevant sections of the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting provided an additional basis upon which to strengthen joint activities within the field of the environment.

198. Many delegations welcomed the progress made toward the development and implementation of a regional strategy for environmental protection and rational use of natural resources covering the period up to the year 2000 and beyond. Several delegations mentioned that such a strategy would also provide the regional contribution to the UNEP effort on the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond as well as serve as the basis for possible international legal instruments for the rational utilization of natural resources. They looked forward to the ad hoc meeting on a regional strategy scheduled to be held in November 1984 and encouraged full participation by all ECE Governments. The

delegations of Canada and Switzerland expressed the opinion that the development of a strategy should reflect the collective character of the region and not simply present national views.

199. A number of delegations considered that the results of the work done so far by the Group of Experts on Environmental Impact Assessment was encouraging and that the subject area was of great importance to ECE Governments. Some delegations expressed special interest in the work on the application of environmental impact assessment and indicated that there was a need to develop practical case studies of applications which could be of use in the implementation of national systems of environmental impact assessment. With respect to the proposal to expand the activities of the Group of Experts to encompass the field of environmental management, some delegations considered that the special expertise required for the work on environmental impact assessment would no longer be available if the Group of Experts' mandate were expanded.

200. The implementation of the Declaration on Low- and Non-waste Technology and Re-utilization and Recycling of Wastes was considered by many delegations to be a very effective approach to environmental protection and rational use of natural resources. Broad support was given for the current programme of work. Several delegations welcomed the progress on the compilation of the Compendium on Low- and Non-waste Technology while urging that greater efforts be made by participating member countries to increase the number of monographs submitted. The delegations of Canada and Switzerland held the view that efforts should be made to develop a line of activity that would effectively support the areas of competence of the private sector. Many delegations looked forward to the holding of the Seminar on Low-waste Technology (Tashkent, USSR) later in 1984 as the results were likely to provide new stimulus to the programme of the Senior Advisers in this area.

201. On matters relating to the protection of flora, fauna and their habitats, delegations welcomed the decision taken by the Senior Advisers to hold an ad hoc meeting in November 1984 to discuss the present situation and possibilities for further development of effective measures for the comprehensive protection of rare and endangered species of plants and animals.

202. It was emphasized that efforts to come to grips with the problems of transboundary water pollution must continue; in that context some delegations welcomed the fact that the outcome of the Düsseldorf Seminar on Co-operation in the Field of Transboundary Waters would be submitted to the Senior Advisers on Environmental Problems at their next session.

203. In view of the Commission's many environment-related projects, many delegations expressed the view that the co-ordinating role of the Senior Advisers should be strengthened in their sphere of competence.

204. The delegation of Bulgaria underlined the key role of the Commission in all-European co-operation in the field of the environment resulting from the CSCE and furthered by the High-level Meeting within the Framework of the ECE on the Protection of the Environment. With respect to the planned Conference on the Causes and Prevention of Forest and Water Damage Caused by Air Pollution, in Munich, Federal Republic of Germany (June 1984), it was mentioned that socialist countries had raised several specific questions concerning the character of the meeting. The delegation stated that its participation would be contingent on receiving an official and satisfactory reply concerning the conditions it had mentioned in the Plenary. The delegations of the German Democratic Republic,

the Ukrainian SSR, and the USSR associated themselves with the statement of the delegation of Bulgaria. The delegation of the USSR specifically mentioned that this conference should be held under the auspices of ECE and the provisions of the Quadripartite Agreement of 3 September 1971 should be observed.

205. The representative of UNEP recalled the long and productive close co-operation with ECE and emphasized the sincere desire of that organization to continue this relationship. UNEP attached special importance to the prospects for the development of a regional strategy on environmental protection and rational use of natural resources as this work would contribute to UNEP's global activities.

206. The representative of CMEA mentioned the guidance provided by the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting for continuing co-operation among ECE member countries on environmental protection. In particular, the preparation of a long-term strategy for environmental protection and rational use of natural resources would be of significance in making this co-operation more efficient and effective.

207. The following delegations expressed interest in specific projects in the Senior Advisers' programme of work.

Work area 05.1: Policy and management problems

05.1.1 Bulgaria.

05.1.2 Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Canada; Czechoslovakia; Finland; German Democratic Republic; Hungary; Switzerland; Turkey; Ukrainian SSR; USSR; CMEA. The delegations of Canada and Switzerland indicated that the strategy should not become a compendium of national environmental problems.

Work area 05.2: Environmental impact assessment

05.2.1 Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Canada; Finland; Hungary; Switzerland.
and

05.2.3

Work area 05.3: Air pollution

05.3.1 Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Canada; Czechoslovakia; Denmark; ^{10/}Finland; German Democratic Republic; Hungary; Norway; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; Ukrainian SSR; USSR; CMEA.

05.3.2 The delegations of Finland and the USSR expressed support for an expansion of activities in this area.

Work area 05.4: Low- and non-waste technology and re-utilization and recycling of wastes

05.4.1 The delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Turkey, the Ukrainian SSR, and the USSR strongly supported the preparation of a compendium on low- and non-waste technologies. The delegation of Switzerland was not in favour of continuing this programme element.

^{10/} Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of Denmark is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

05.4.4 Hungary; Norway.

05.4.5 Bulgaria; Czechoslovakia; Ukrainian SSR; CMEA.

Work area 05.5: Resource problems

05.5.1 Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Canada; Denmark; Finland; Switzerland; USSR.

05.5.2 Denmark; Switzerland.

05.5.3 The delegation of Switzerland expressed the need for a unified approach among international bodies on the sustainable use of natural resources.

05.5.4 Denmark; USSR.

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology

208. For its consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the report of the eleventh session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology (ECE/SC.TECH./25).

209. Delegations expressed satisfaction with the work accomplished by the Senior Advisers and considered this to be in line with the decisions taken at the Madrid Meeting of the CSCE. Attention was drawn to the fact that during the past year the scope of work had been considerably expanded and that this had contributed to increasing the effectiveness of the Senior Advisers.

210. Many delegations drew attention to the value of the Seminar on the Assessment of the Impact of Science and Technology on Long-Term Economic Prospects held in Rome (Italy) in May 1983, and welcomed the follow-up activities and further co-operation with the senior Economic Advisers in preparing a chapter on science and technology for the Over-all Economic Perspective to the Year 2000 (OEP).

211. A number of delegations emphasized the importance of exchanging further information on national science and technology policies and strategies and supported work on methodologies used for the evaluation of R and D, including the ad hoc Meeting on that subject to be held in Prague (Czechoslovakia) in April 1984.

212. Delegations expressed support for the Symposia on the Importance of Biotechnology for Future Economic Development, to be held in Szeged (Hungary) in June 1985, and on Trends and Perspectives in the Use of Raw Materials in Industry, to be held in late 1985 or early 1986. A few delegations proposed a study on the role of science and technology in effectively reducing air pollution. Support was also expressed for the seminar on an aspect of technology transfer to be held in Poland.

213. Several delegations suggested that the Senior Advisers should continue their work on technological forecasting on new sources of energy and low-calorific-value fuels. In the latter context, the Seminar on the Integrated Utilization of Low-Calorific-Value Fuels held in Moscow (USSR) in October 1983 was considered to have been important, and delegations expressed the hope that positive results would follow the first meeting of the Steering Committee for the Inter-country Project on International Co-operative Research on Low-calorie Coal Technology held in Sofia (Bulgaria) in March 1984. The delegation of Yugoslavia expressed support for this project and stated that the appropriate institutions in its country would participate in the project.

214. While a few delegations expressed support for work on the compendium on the organization and management of international co-operative research, others advocated a more cautious approach.

215. In referring to the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD), several delegations indicated that the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development would increasingly focus its activities on the needs of the least developed countries and suggested that an ECE contribution to the Vienna Programme of Action should be re-examined in this light at the twelfth session of the Senior Advisers.

216. The Manual on Licensing Procedures in Member Countries of the ECE had practical value, and it was suggested that it should be updated on a regular basis.

217. Several delegations considered the programme of work of the Senior Advisers to be well balanced. It was suggested, however, that the programme should reflect certain emerging areas of technological development and should include studies on ways of facilitating the transfer of advanced technologies. Attention should be given to increasing the level of co-operation between the Senior Advisers and the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation - in particular, in the more advanced fields of technology. Certain delegations suggested that the programme of work should include activities aimed at encouraging scientific and technological co-operation with countries which were developing from an economic point of view and that the interests of countries in other regions should be taken into account.

218. Delegations which expressed interest in certain projects in the programme of work are listed below:

Work area 10.1: Medium- and long-term perspectives

- 10.1.1 Czechoslovakia; Finland; German Democratic Republic; Germany, Federal Republic of; 11/ Norway; Ukrainian SSR; USSR; CMEA.
- 10.1.2 Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Czechoslovakia; Finland; German Democratic Republic; Norway; USSR; CMEA.

Work area 10.2: Developments in Science and Technology Policies

- 10.2.1 Byelorussian SSR; Czechoslovakia; Finland; German Democratic Republic; Germany, Federal Republic of; Norway; CMEA.

Work area 10.3: International co-operation in scientific and technological research

- 10.3.1 Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Czechoslovakia; Finland; German Democratic Republic; Germany, Federal Republic of; Hungary; Norway; Ukrainian SSR; USSR; CMEA.
- 10.3.2 Bulgaria; Finland; German Democratic Republic; Ukrainian SSR; USSR.
- 10.3.3 Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; German Democratic Republic; Hungary; USSR; Yugoslavia; CMEA.

11/ Whenever in this paragraph the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

10.3.4 Byelorussian SSR; CMEA.

10.3.5 Yugoslavia

Work area 10.4: Transfer of technology

10.4.1 Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; USSR; Yugoslavia; CMEA.

Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments

219. For its consideration of this item the Commission had before it the report of the twentieth session of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments (ECE/EC.AD/23).

220. All delegations participating in the discussion expressed their Governments' appreciation of and support for the work carried out by the Senior Economic Advisers. In the view of the delegations which spoke under this item, the Senior Advisers had made important contributions both to the work of the Commission as a whole and to member Governments.

221. Particular support was expressed for the exchange of information and views on the preparation and implementation of medium- and long-term plans, programmes and perspectives. Most delegations stressed that this item on their agenda was of special importance in the work of the Senior Economic Advisers. The availability of short country notes as well as the concentration of the discussion on specific subjects had enhanced the interest of the discussion. The view was expressed that the summaries of presentations should be more uniform and that the presentation be concentrated on a few selected topics. It was recognized, however, that owing to differences in national conditions, a more uniform presentation of topics might be difficult to achieve in practice.

222. Most delegations expressed their satisfaction with the work done in connection with the preparation of an Over-all Economic Perspective to the Year 2000 (OEP) which was considered the central element of the Senior Advisers' activities for the coming years. The usefulness of this exercise was emphasized by a number of delegations both as a frame of reference for national planning and policy-making and as an instrument for promoting effective international economic co-operation among countries with different economic and social systems. Several references were made to the benefits which small, highly trade-dependent countries might derive from the OEP in this respect. The delegation of Canada, however, expressed its concern about the projected scope and usefulness of such a global exercise considering that it would be more appropriate to concentrate resources on the preparation of studies of a sectoral nature, based on a selection of topics of central importance to ECE member countries.

223. Referring to the scope and purpose of the OEP, several delegations considered that the experience gained in the elaboration of the first OEP would be useful for the preparation of the new OEP. It was stressed by several delegations that one of the main objectives of the new OEP would be to identify a limited number of long-term key issues with which ECE Governments might be confronted in the next two decades. The focus of the analysis would be on the implications of these issues for policy decisions. Several delegations stressed that one of the main functions of the OEP would be to identify and evaluate the possibilities for strengthening economic co-operation between east and west.

224. The setting up of ad hoc working groups on a flexible and largely open-ended basis to prepare specific topics of the OEP was generally considered to be an effective way of speeding up the preparation of the OEP. These groups would

require the participation of the Senior Economic Advisers themselves or experts designated by them. The preparation of the new OEP would require the continuous support of other Principal Subsidiary Bodies; delegations welcomed closer co-operation with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned with the elaborations of long-term trends.

225. Reference was made to the note prepared by the secretariat on "International trade and structural changes in the market economies and centrally-planned economies of the ECE", which would provide a useful background for the future work of the Senior Economic Advisers in this field. Referring to the section of the study dealing with the possible impact of trade restricting arrangements in the new economic environment the delegation of the Netherlands 12/ recommended that when assessing future trade prospects due attention be paid to all forms of trade control existing in the ECE region.

226. All delegations participating in the discussion expressed their general support for a deeper analysis and exploration of investment trends in the ECE region. They considered that the document prepared by the secretariat on "Fixed investment, capital stock and capacity utilization in productive sectors" (EC.AD.(XX/R.5)) provided a basis for initiating a wide-ranging discussion of this topic and could be considered a good point of departure for the seminar scheduled to be held in 1985 on the interrelationships between structural changes and investment policies. The importance of this Seminar as a direct contribution to the preparation of the new OEP was emphasized. However, concern was expressed that the number of topics to be discussed during the Seminar might be too great. It was suggested that countries should narrow down the topic areas for discussion so that the main conclusions and recommendations of the Seminar could be incorporated in the new OEP. The delegation of the Ukrainian SSR stated that it would inform the secretariat as soon as possible whether its Government would offer to host the Seminar in Kiev in the spring of 1985.

227. Delegations noted the success of the Seminar on the Assessment of the Impact of Science and Technology on Long-Term Economic Prospects held in Rome (Italy) in May 1983, in co-operation with the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology. They stressed that this kind of co-operation should continue especially within the framework of the OEP. One delegation mentioned that due to the broad scope of the Seminar certain important aspects of the impact of science and technology, e.g. a key economic variable, such as international trade, had been neglected. The view was also expressed that a summary of the contributions to the Seminar should be prepared by the secretariat.

228. All delegations participating in the debate expressed their general support for the programme of work of the Senior Advisers for the period 1984-1988. With respect to the preparation of the OEP, the delegation of Finland took the view that a comprehensive work programme with a precise time schedule should be prepared as soon as possible, preferably by early 1985.

229. At its thirteenth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision B (XXXIX) on an Over-all Economic Perspective to the Year 2000 (for the text, see chapter IV).

12/ It should be noted that the delegation of the Netherlands expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

Steel Committee

230. For its consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the report of the fifty-first session of the Steel Committee (ECE/STEEL/44).

231. Delegations reaffirmed the importance of the Steel Committee as a forum for the exchange of information and experience between national steel industries and in searching for practical solutions to issues faced by the steel industry. Speakers underlined the fact that, while the previous six months had witnessed certain improvements, in the short term no positive change in steel consumption could be expected. Furthermore, the medium- and long-term problems of the steel industry were far from solved, and there was a need for continuing attention to modernization and rationalization of equipment and processes.

232. Most delegations reaffirmed their interest in the organization of seminars and study tours and considered them useful for developing contacts. The Seminar on Economic Problems related to the Creation of Steel Plants Using Direct Reduction (Noordwijkerhout, Netherlands 1983) and the study tour of the Romanian steel industry (September 1983) were considered successful. The delegation of Turkey reiterated that its Government was studying the possibility of hosting a seminar in 1986. The delegation of Romania stated that its Government was considering the possibility of hosting a seminar, at such time as the Committee's programme permitted. The following delegations confirmed the invitation of their Governments for study tours to be held in their countries: USSR, in 1985; Czechoslovakia in 1987; Bulgaria and Hungary, a joint study tour in 1989.

233. Delegations expressed interest in the Seminars on the Economic and Technological Aspects of the Protection of Steel against Corrosion (May 1984) and on Steel Tubes and their Raw-Material Quality Requirements (Helsinki, 1985).

234. Many delegations underlined the importance of the annual study of short-term trends and problems in the steel industry and the steel market. The publication of the study on Strategy for Energy Use in the Iron and Steel Industry (ECE/STEEL/41) was welcomed as were the valuable analysis and recommendations that it contained. Delegations commented favourably on the progress being made on the study on the evolution of the specific consumption of steel, which would be published in 1984. Countries were encouraged to provide the information needed for the study on structural changes in international steel trade and some delegations recalled the recommendation that all steel trade data should be communicated in terms of tonnage. Certain delegations considered that the value of studies could be increased by shortening the time taken for their preparation.

235. Some delegations welcomed that the Committee would consider at its fifty-second session the possible revival of the Working Party on Steel Statistics.

236. Delegations expressed satisfaction with the programme of work for 1984-1988 and commented favourably on the concrete aspects of most of the topics it contained. The following delegations expressed interest in specific projects in the Committee's programme of work:

Work area 13.1: Medium-term and long-term perspectives

13.1.1 Bulgaria, German Democratic Republic and USSR.

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

- 13.2.1 Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Italy, 13/ Romania, Turkey, Ukrainian SSR and USSR.
- 13.2.2 Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Italy, Romania, Sweden, Turkey, Ukrainian SSR and Yugoslavia.

Work area 13.3: Selected economic and technological problems

- 13.3.1 German Democratic Republic and USSR.
- 13.3.2 Bulgaria, German Democratic Republic and Romania.
- 13.3.2.1 Bulgaria, German Democratic Republic, Romania, Ukrainian SSR and USSR.
- 13.3.3 Bulgaria, German Democratic Republic, Italy, Sweden, Turkey and USSR.
- 13.3.4 Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Italy, Ukrainian SSR, USSR and Yugoslavia.
- 13.3.5 Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Ukrainian SSR and Yugoslavia.

Work area 13.4: Environmental and resource-saving problems

- 13.4.1 German Democratic Republic, Ukrainian SSR and USSR.

Work area 13.5: Industrial co-operation

- 13.5.1 Romania.

237. With regard to the future work of the Committee, the delegation of the USSR suggested that the Committee should develop activities related to:

- The decrease in the steel intensity of finished steel products;
- New processes for the viable utilization of wastes and by-products arising in the steel sector;
- The use of automation and robotization in modernizing the steel industry;
- The perfection of BOF technology by increasing the share of scrap in the charge and the use of ladle refining technology;
- Technologies and equipment required for the production of flat products with severe tolerances; and
- The global managerial approach to quality control in steel production.

13/ Whenever in this paragraph the delegation of Italy is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

Timber Committee

238. The discussion under this item was based on the report of the Timber Committee on its forty-first session (ECE/TIM/23).

239. Delegations expressed strong support for the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers and the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany ^{14/} considered that the important activities being carried out were of interest for both market and planned economy countries and were thus a good example of fruitful co-operation within ECE. It considered, nevertheless, that some improvements and shifts in priorities were possible in the programme of work. The delegation of Poland noted that at present secretariat resources were heavily concentrated on the preparation of the study of long-term timber trends and prospects in Europe and that the completion of this project in 1986 would provide the opportunity for a shift in emphasis in the programme of work, towards, for instance, increased regional co-operation on air pollution and other forms of damage to forests and on economic and technical problems of the wood-working industries.

240. Many delegations underlined the importance they attached to the Committee's work on the new long-term study, mentioned above. Valuable support has been given by countries to the secretariat by seconding experts and contributing to the trust fund created for this project. The delegation of Sweden urged countries to give further assistance in these ways to ensure the successful completion of the project.

241. Several delegations expressed satisfaction with the statistical bulletins and publications relating to the forest products markets and related matters prepared by the secretariat. The delegation of Sweden considered that the Committee's market review at its annual session was valuable in providing both government representatives and the business community with essential information about expected developments in the coming year. The delegation of Bulgaria noted the importance of the Committee's medium-term surveys of the structure and capacity of the wood-processing industries as well as of specific sectors of the forest products market.

242. Several delegations supported the work of collecting and disseminating forest and forest products statistics. The delegation of Switzerland stressed the need to simplify the questionnaires used to collect this information and the range of data requested, so that countries could comply as fully as possible. Efforts to develop and improve international comparability of statistics by the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics were of interest to Switzerland.

243. The delegations of Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States addressed the question of the damage being caused by a number of agents, notably air pollution, to the forests of the region, which had come to the forefront of public concern. The measures being taken by the Committee to assess the implications for wood supply and the forest products industries and markets were given support. The need was stressed for

^{14/} Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

close collaboration in this field between the Committee and other bodies, notably the FAO European Forestry Commission and the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution. The delegation of Sweden announced that its country had established an action group chaired by the Minister of Agriculture to counteract the negative effects of air pollution. The delegations of Canada and Switzerland supported the Committee's decision to establish a mechanism for alerting countries to incidents of sudden and severe damage to forests, which could help to increase awareness of possible market disturbances.

244. Several delegations commended the organization of seminars and study tours as being an effective way of promoting collaboration in economic and technical questions relating to forest working techniques and the woodworking industries. The seminars held under the auspices of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers in 1983 in Czechoslovakia on forest nursery techniques and in the German Democratic Republic on technical, economic and environmental aspects of thinning operations were mentioned as good examples of information exchange.

245. The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and the USSR considered that the Committee's programme should be strengthened in such economic and technical aspects of the woodworking industries as the use of automation in furniture and wood-based panels manufacture, the fuller use of forest biomass and the reduction of waste, and increased use of wood for energy and greater energy self-sufficiency in the woodworking industries. The delegation of the USSR repeated its proposal that the ad hoc Working Group on the Woodworking Industries be reactivated as a permanent body. The delegation of Switzerland felt that it was preferable to integrate energy problems into all aspects of the Committee's programme rather than to establish a specific project on the use of wood for energy. The delegation of Romania noted the usefulness of the Committee's study tours; it suggested that each tour should be given a more specific theme.

246. The delegation of the United States recognized that the standardization of grades for coniferous sawnwood could affect trade within the ECE region for this commodity and supported the Committee's work intended to reconcile European and North American systems of stress grading of coniferous sawnwood.

247. The following delegations expressed interest in specific projects in the Committee's programme of work:

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

14.1.1 Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Germany, Federal Republic of; Poland; Sweden; USSR; United States.

14.1.2) Bulgaria.
14.1.3)

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

14.2.1 Bulgaria; Sweden; Switzerland.

Work area 14.3: Selected economic, technological and managerial problems

The delegation of the USSR proposed the reactivation of the ad hoc Working Group on the Woodworking Industries as a permanent body.

14.3.1 Byelorussian SSR; Bulgaria; Czechoslovakia; German Democratic Republic; Turkey.

14.3.3 Bulgaria; Czechoslovakia.

Work area 14.4: Environmental and resource conservation problems

14.4.2 Byelorussian SSR; Switzerland; USSR. The delegation of Switzerland proposed that questions relating to the use of wood for energy be treated under all relevant parts of the work programme rather than under a single project.

14.4.3 Czechoslovakia; Germany, Federal Republic of; Poland; Sweden; Switzerland; United States.

14.4.4 Canada; Switzerland.

Work area 14.5: Collection, exchange and dissemination of information, including statistics

14.5.2.1 Byelorussian SSR; Czechoslovakia; Poland; Switzerland. The delegation of Switzerland suggested that questionnaires and the statistics asked for should be simplified.

14.5.5 The delegation of Romania suggested that the scope of each study tour should be limited to a specific theme.

Committee on Water Problems

248. For the discussion of this item, which was taken up together with item 8 (i) on monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution, the Commission had before it the report of the fifteenth session of the Committee on Water Problems (ECE/WATER/33), and a note by the Executive Secretary regarding Commission decision G (XXXVIII) (E/ECE/1080).

249. In their statements, delegations expressed their general satisfaction with the work accomplished by the Committee during the past year. It was noted that the programme of work had been adapted continuously to the changing priorities in the region and that the work areas adequately covered the major issues for international co-operation in the field of water management. It was felt that substantive progress had been achieved over the past year and that a number of activities in the programme of work would be of interest also to other regions. Delegations pointed out that the programme of the Committee had become more action-oriented in recent years.

250. Special reference was made to the draft ECE Declaration of Policy on the Rational Use of Water, prepared by the Committee. The Declaration was felt to be a valuable contribution to international co-operation. Its principles would serve as a useful guide for Governments in defining their national policies on water management. The delegation of the United States stated that it could associate itself with this draft Declaration to the extent that the Declaration was consistent with the national administrative and legal systems of the United States.

251. Delegations also attached importance to the contributions of the Commission to the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade. In this respect, several delegations welcomed the results of the Seminar on Groundwater Protection Strategies and Practice held in 1983 in Athens (Greece), as well as of the seminar held in Albufeira (Portugal). These two seminars were considered to be of importance also for other regions. The delegation of Finland considered that the topic of water supply and sanitation in sparsely populated areas, which had already been treated at the Albufeira seminar, merited further attention by the Committee.

252. Delegations welcomed the forthcoming Seminar on Co-operation in the Field of Transboundary Waters, to be held in Düsseldorf (Federal Republic of Germany). It was expected that this Seminar would provide better insight into the problems of water pollution in international river basins, many of which were already severely affected.

253. The delegation of Greece 15/ underlined the contribution made by the Committee to international co-operation through the application of the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE, the Mar del Plata Action Plan and the various Commission decisions. The delegation also underlined the importance it attached to water pollution control matters, including transboundary water pollution and indicated its willingness to support the setting up of a pilot project on monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution, in accordance with Commission decision C (XXXV) and resolution 1 (XXXVI). The delegation of Greece welcomed also the steps taken by the Committee to undertake joint activities with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies. Mention was made, in particular, of the co-operation with the Committee on Agricultural Problems, the Conference of European Statisticians and the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems.

254. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic stated that the proposal to establish monitoring stations on transboundary waters should be discussed at a later stage, when background information had been obtained following implementation of the projects at present in the programme of work. It also supported the view that co-operation at an early stage on a number of activities should be established with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies, as appropriate.

255. Several delegations made a number of suggestions with regard to new projects beyond 1985 which could be initiated by the Committee. In particular, mention was made of the following activities: establishment and use of automated systems of water management; optimization of the management of small rivers; long-term water management planning; protection of water against pollution from agricultural practices; enhanced scientific co-operation; development of training and education programmes for water managers.

256. Delegations expressed their general satisfaction with the orientation of the programme of work for 1984-1988. Delegations which expressed particular interest in, or made comments on specific elements in the programme of work are listed below:

15/ Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of Greece is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

Work area 16.1: Over-all management and planning of water resources

- 16.1.1 Bulgaria and Finland.
- 16.1.2 Finland, Greece, Ukrainian SSR and USSR.
- 16.1.4 Bulgaria.
- 16.1.5 Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Hungary, Ukrainian SSR and USSR.
- 16.1.6 Byelorussian SSR, Greece, Ukrainian SSR and Yugoslavia.
- 16.1.7 Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and USSR.

Work area 16.2: Rational use of water resources

- 16.2.1 Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Greece, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Romania, Ukrainian SSR, USSR and Yugoslavia.
- 16.2.2 Czechoslovakia, Greece and USSR.
- 16.2.3 Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and USSR.
- 16.2.4 Bulgaria and Byelorussian SSR.
- 16.2.5 Byelorussian SSR, Greece and USSR.

Work area 16.3: Water pollution control, including transboundary pollution

The delegations of the German Democratic Republic, Greece, the Ukrainian SSR, the USSR and Yugoslavia expressed interest in the entire work area.

- 16.3.1 Finland, Greece and USSR.
- 16.3.2 Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Greece and USSR.
- 16.3.3 Czechoslovakia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Ukrainian SSR, USSR and Yugoslavia.
- 16.3.4 Byelorussian SSR.
- 16.3.5 Greece.

257. At its thirteenth meeting, acting on the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision C (XXXIX) - ECE Declaration of Policy on the Rational Use of Water (for the text, see chapter IV).

* * *

Development of trade and industrial co-operation
(agenda item 7)

258. For the consideration of this item the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's report (E/ECE/1071) and the report of the thirty-second session of the Committee on the Development of Trade (ECE/TRADE/147).

259. Introducing the item the Chairman of the Committee on the Development of Trade referred to the considerable interest shown by ECE Governments in the activities of the Committee and also to the concerns expressed by them with regard to problems existing in east-west trade. In his opinion the Committee's first task was to put this trade on a normal footing, to renew its momentum, to raise it to its potential value, and to make tangible progress towards reducing or removing all kinds of obstacles and distortions that affected it. The Committee should also undertake further effective measures in the field of trade promotion. It was the intention of the office bearers of the Committee to circulate to delegations before the thirty-third session of the Committee a short note summarizing the various suggestions put forward either at the thirty-second session of the Committee or in consultations between the office bearers for activating the work of the Committee on priority issues affecting the development of intraregional trade. In this way, it was hoped, delegations would have enough time to prepare the ground for constructive discussion of, and agreement on, a programme of meetings to implement some of the important tasks entrusted to the Committee by the Commission.

260. Delegations described their countries' trade with other countries in the ECE region and in particular with those having different economic and social systems. It was noted that east-west trade had recovered to some extent in 1983 and that western exports to and imports from the east had been more dynamic than exchanges with the rest of the world. There had also been a certain improvement in the external financial position of the east, although the terms of trade of western Europe and the USSR had recently deteriorated somewhat.

261. It was considered that trade and industrial co-operation should continue to be a priority area in the work of the Commission and that the Committee on the Development of Trade could continue to contribute usefully to efforts towards the creation of more favourable conditions for intraregional trade.

262. Many delegations recalled that the Final Act of the CSCE and the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting ascribed a special role to the ECE as a multilateral forum for implementing their provisions relating to trade and industrial co-operation.

263. The reduction or removal of obstacles of all kinds to the development of intraregional trade was considered by some delegations to be of particular importance in this context. Some progress in that direction had been made at the Special Experts' Meeting on the subject held in 1983 under the auspices of the Committee. In general it was considered that the approach pursued on that occasion had proved its value and should be continued and completed. Some delegations advocated a more active attempt to develop procedures aimed at finding ways and means for the reduction or progressive elimination of obstacles and to that end suggested that a group of experts should be set up within the Committee. Some delegations referred to the unfavourable trading environment confronting their countries' trade with western countries. They recalled the still existing discriminatory restrictions maintained by some western countries, the protectionist measures applied widely both in the agricultural and industrial sectors as well as the restrictions applied against their countries on non-economic grounds. These delegations urged the creation of a trading environment in east-west trade which would be free of artificial limitations and which could serve as leverage for the realization of national objectives such as maintenance of external equilibrium.

Other delegations emphasized that their trade arrangements which had been mentioned were fully consonant with the GATT as well as with other multilateral or bilateral undertakings which they had with the centrally planned countries of Europe. These views were opposed by other delegations. One delegation reported on the difficulties which firms continued to encounter in their dealings with east-European countries, for instance slowness of payments, practical difficulties in business operations in these countries, imposition of counter trade and difficulties in access to market assessment. Another delegation remarked that its suggestion to start bilateral negotiations on obstacles to trade had not been followed up. Consequently there did not seem to be any need to pursue the work at the same pace as previously.

264. Compensation trade was described by several delegations as having a major hampering effect on trade as it destabilized east-west trade practices. Compensation trade had been the subject of another Special Experts' Meeting held in 1983 under the auspices of the Committee. In general it was considered that the meeting had been held in an encouragingly business-like atmosphere and that the work on this subject should be continued. The participation of representatives of the private sector and of State enterprises with personal experience of compensation deals had been useful in helping to identify practical problems which occurred in such transactions. Some delegations regretted that it had not been possible to reach a consensus on a substantial report at that meeting. They pointed out the particular problems which counter-purchase demands created for small and medium-size enterprises which were not equipped for such transactions. These delegations suggested that the increasing frequency and incidence on trade of compensation transactions warranted a further meeting in whose report the identified problems encountered in compensation trade should be adequately recorded. They argued that compensation trade should feature as a separate project area in the programme of work of the Committee on the Development of Trade, as a consequence of the treatment given to this question and the mandate given to the ECE in the Madrid Concluding Document. Other delegations expressed their disagreement that compensation operations be qualified as obstacles to trade. At the same time, in accordance with the recommendations of the Madrid Meeting they were prepared to discuss in the ECE both the useful role which compensation transactions could play and problems which could arise in the course of their materialization. To ensure a constructive and business-like discussion they proposed that compensation operations, which were different by their nature and mechanism, be considered separately. They expressed their regret that their proposals has been rejected without any convincing arguments.

265. It was generally regretted that it had not proved possible to reach agreement during the thirty-second session of the Committee on the holding of new meetings on important issues affecting the development of intraregional trade. The office bearers of the Committee had since made laudable efforts to find ways to activate the work of the Committee. These efforts had not yet borne fruit. It was hoped that agreement could be reached at the thirty-third session of the Committee.

266. Industrial co-operation was referred to as contributing effectively to the expansion and diversification of intraregional trade. The commercial exchange of know-how to which such co-operation gave rise and its concentration on key industrial sectors were considered by a number of delegations to be of particular value. One delegation reported complaints from firms about inflexibility and bureaucracy on the eastern side encumbering industrial co-operation. Efforts made in some countries to encourage the establishment of joint ventures by new

legislation were welcomed. One delegation recalled that a number of interesting proposals for the future work of the ECE in this field had been put forward at the ad hoc Meeting on Industrial Co-operation held in Plovdiv (Bulgaria) in 1980. It suggested that these proposals should be studied more thoroughly.

267. The essential role of economic and commercial information in facilitating the development of trade and industrial co-operation was also referred to by a number of delegations. They expressed the hope that the Committee would in future pay greater attention to the improvement of the exchange of such information and in particular the results of the special meeting on economic and commercial information held in 1980 be given operational consideration. It was recalled in this context that the multilateral notification system for laws and regulations concerning foreign trade and changes therein (MUNOSYST) was the only specific item of the Committee's programme of work explicitly mentioned in the Final Act of the CSCE. One delegation considered that this project should not continue in its present form. Other delegations expressed the view that already available information related to trade should be used in a more effective way by the interested governmental and business circles. The establishment of new information systems, e.g. MUNOSYST, should depend on the business community expressing its real interest in such projects.

268. Some delegations noted with approval that preparations were being made to convene the Sixth Seminar on East-West Trade Promotion, Marketing and Business Contacts on the theme of "Marketing management in East-West trade" and indicated their willingness to participate in, and contribute to the documentation for, the Seminar.

269. Several delegations stressed the value which they attached to the technical aspects of the Committee's work such as the rationalization of trade procedures, trade aspects of international standardization, certification and testing, and international contract practices in industry.

270. The trade problems of the member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view were referred to by some delegations. They suggested that concrete measures should be taken to solve the specific trade problems facing these countries and thus contribute to accelerating their development in order to reduce the gaps which separated their level of development from those of other ECE countries. One delegation supported the idea of setting up a group of experts within the Committee to deal with the specific problems of intra-southern European trade. Such a group, should, inter alia, undertake studies and projects aimed at the promotion of trade among these countries.

271. The links between trade and financial problems were noted by many delegations. The serious financing problems recently encountered were not only an east-west phenomenon, but were of a global nature. The Committee had been established to deal with trade and industrial co-operation and should respond to its tasks in a manner commensurate with existing problems.

272. Some delegations referred to the proposal, made by Switzerland at the thirty-second session of the Committee, that the Committee should convene a Group to reflect on east-west trade issues, bringing together officials responsible for east-west commercial policy in the countries of the ECE region. They found that this proposal deserved careful consideration and expressed their readiness to participate in consultations regarding the possible role and establishment of such a "groupe de réflexion".

Follow-up action on other relevant Commission decisions

Air pollution

(agenda item 8 (a))

273. This item was allocated to the Sessional Committee which had before it a report by the Executive Secretary on action taken in implementation of Commission decision B (XXXVIII) (E/ECE/1072) which was introduced by the Executive Secretary.

274. Delegations expressed strong general support for the work undertaken to implement the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. Many delegations made reference to decision A (I) of the Executive Body for the Convention, and emphasized the need for further progress in reducing and preventing air pollution. At a ministerial meeting held in Ottawa (Canada) in March 1984, a number of ECE member countries, contracting parties of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, had committed themselves to reducing their sulphur emissions by 30 per cent over the coming 10-year period, and to reducing their NO_x emissions. In this connection, one delegation mentioned, as an alternative, the development of a legal document detailing reduction targets and corresponding time frames which would become binding on the Contracting Parties to the Convention upon their accession.

275. The Co-operative programme for monitoring and evaluation of the long-range transmission of air pollutants in Europe (EMEP) was considered to be of paramount importance for the implementation of the Convention. Special mention was made in this respect of the need to secure, by 1985, a long-term agreement on the financing of EMEP.

276. Many delegations stressed the need to strengthen secretariat staff resources made available for implementing the Convention.

277. Delegations noted with approval the priority given by the Working Party on Air Pollution Problems to tasks entrusted to it by the Executive Body for the Convention.

278. The delegation of the United States drew attention to scientific uncertainties regarding the acid precipitation problem. Several examples of achievements of air pollution reduction under the existing legislation were mentioned. Until scientific evidence was clearer and a corrective strategy could be effectively planned, the United States had made a policy decision not to expand its current control programme at this time.

279. The delegation of the USSR stressed the importance of concentrating further work for emission control of air pollution on the development of national programmes. In particular, the need for reducing sulphur emissions or their transboundary fluxes to economically feasible levels was emphasized.

280. At its 13th meeting, the Commission adopted its decision D (XXXIX) on air pollution (for the text, see chapter IV).

281. At the same meeting, it also adopted its decision E (XXXIX) on the Conference on the Causes and Prevention of Damage to Forests and Water Through Air Pollution in Europe (for the text, see chapter IV).

Energy

(agenda item 8 (b))

282. For its consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the report prepared by the Executive Secretary on Energy (E/ECE/1073), the report of the ad hoc Meeting on Energy Conservation (ECE/AC.10/2) and the report of the ad hoc Meeting on New and Renewable Sources of Energy (ECE/AC.11/2).

283. The Executive Secretary made a statement on the current energy situation, recent activities of interest to the Commission and possible areas for future work. He described the results of two ad hoc Meetings held under the auspices of the Commission on, respectively, New and Renewable Sources of Energy (ECE/AC.11/2) and Energy Conservation (ECE/AC.10/2). He referred to the conclusions and recommendations of the Symposium on the Rational Utilization of Secondary Forms of Energy in the Economy, particularly in Industry, held in Bucharest (Romania) in October 1983 (ENERGY/SEM.3/2). He also mentioned the first meeting of the Steering Committee for the Inter-country Project on International Co-operative Research on Low-Calorie Coal Technology, held in Sofia (Bulgaria) in March 1984. He also made suggestions for future activities including in particular, the convening of a Round Table on "Energy Transition in the ECE Region: Challenges and Opportunities"; an updating of the Energy Data Bank; and the convening of the fifth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy.

284. Delegations referred to the continuing importance of energy problems both for countries individually and collectively. Many delegations stated that work on general energy problems was an important element of the Commission's work programme and that this should continue. In this connection, several delegations referred to the provision of the Madrid Concluding Document on this subject.

285. Some delegations stressed that work on general energy problems was most effective when it was focused on clearly defined technical and economic issues where concrete results could be foreseen. They pointed out that the Senior Advisers on Energy had made a valuable contribution in this area and that a fifth session of the Senior Advisers should be convened to exchange information and experience, to review and update their programme of work, and to concentrate on technical solutions to energy problems. In this connection, the delegation of Belgium 16/ said that, in its opinion, a possible new meeting of the Senior Advisers on Energy might provide the occasion to exchange and update information. It might also provide an opportunity for initiating a discussion on a work programme to be examined, inter alia, in the light of the suggestions contained in document E/ECE/1073. In this way the Senior Advisers would concentrate their expertise on technical aspects. The delegation of Switzerland proposed that, should a fifth session be convened, there should be an exchange of information, a review of recent activities, and an examination of the proposals

16/ Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of Belgium is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

contained in document E/ECE/1073. This delegation expressed the view that although the mandate of the Senior Advisers on Energy could be modified only on the basis of a consensus, at this stage consideration of the third part of the mandate appeared to be premature.

286. The delegation of the United States reiterated its broad commitments to co-operation in the energy field as expressed in the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting. The United States had participated actively in the ad hoc Meetings on Energy Conservation and on New and Renewable Sources of Energy in 1983, which had produced a useful exchange of technical information and agreements to continue work in specific areas. This kind of activity was consistent with the Concluding Document. The delegation continued to believe that it was not appropriate to schedule meetings where there was no real prospect for a beneficial exchange and that progress must be made uniformly in fulfilling all the provisions of the Madrid Concluding Document.

287. A number of delegations stressed their view that the fifth session of the Senior Advisers on Energy should be held in 1984 within the framework of the Senior Advisers' current mandate. Much had been gained from international co-operation resulting from the first four sessions and the Senior Advisers should now meet to consolidate their work and to fulfil all parts of their mandate.

288. The delegation of the USSR stated that general energy problems and co-operation in the energy field should be considered at the sessions of the Senior Advisers, who should meet regularly in order to work more effectively on concrete technical projects. The fifth session should be held in 1984. The usefulness of the secretariat study entitled Energy Transition in the ECE Region (E/ECE/1063) was mentioned. The recommendations and proposals which this study suggested should be considered by a round table and the matters related to the updating of the ECE Data Bank should be discussed by the fifth session of the Senior Advisers on Energy as these questions fully corresponded to the mandate given to this organ.

289. Delegations commented favourably on the two ad hoc Meetings which had been held. Some delegations considered that further useful work would be carried out in the proposed Symposia on the Long-Term Impact of Energy Efficiency Improvements and on the Status and Prospects of New and Renewable Sources of Energy in the ECE Region.

290. Delegations expressed their appreciation for the Symposium on the Rational Utilization of Secondary Forms of Energy in the Economy, especially in Industry, held in Bucharest (Romania) in October 1983, and supported its recommendations.

291. Several delegations favoured close co-operation between the Senior Advisers on Energy and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies - in particular, the Committees on Coal, Gas and Electric Power. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic stated that at their fifth session the Senior Advisers should have a co-ordinating role for work on energy carried out by the Commission and undertake conceptual work for long-term co-operation in the entire area of energy, with a view to implementing their mandate in all its parts. Commenting on the structure of ECE energy activities, the delegation of Austria expressed satisfaction at the results so far achieved, but suggested that there was room for improvement with regard to existing structures.

292. The delegation of Finland stated that energy conservation was a particularly important work area and that the many projects recommended by the ad hoc Meeting on Energy Conservation should be implemented as far as possible within the limits of current resources, and by the appropriate Principal Subsidiary Bodies.

293. The representative of the CMEA secretariat commended the ECE on the results it had achieved in the field of energy and expressed its hope that further progress could be attained in co-operation between the Council and ECE in that area.

Introduction and harmonization of summertime in Europe

(agenda item 8 (c))

294. The Commission referred this item to the Sessional Committee, which examined it in conjunction with the report of the Inland Transport Committee under agenda item 4 (f) (see paragraphs 166 to 195 above).

295. At its 13th meeting, acting on the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision F (XXXIX) on the introduction and harmonization of summertime in Europe (for the text, see chapter IV).

The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the
World Conference on Population in 1984

(agenda item 8 (d))

296. This item was allocated by the Plenary to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration. The Committee had before it as a basis for discussion the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1075) prepared pursuant to operative paragraph 2 of Commission decision C (XXXVIII), the report of the ECE Meeting on Population (ECE/AC.9/2) held in Sofia (Bulgaria) in October 1983 and the report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population, 1984 (E/1984/28).

297. The Deputy Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population informed the Committee of the meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference held in New York in January 1984 and in particular of the decisions taken at its resumed session in March. He mentioned that the Preparatory Committee had taken into account the recommendations of the ECE Meeting on Population. The Preparatory Committee had reached a consensus on the draft recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action. These recommendations and the Secretary-General's Report on the Review and Appraisal of the Progress made in the Implementation of the World Population Plan of Action would form part of the documentation for consideration by the Conference. The Conference would also have before it a document containing the recommendations for further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action at the regional level adopted by the regional commissions.

298. Several delegations referred to the demographic trends under way in the region, including low or stagnating growth rates of population, declining fertility, increasing life expectancy and population aging. This was followed by a brief description of policies that had been implemented to increase or stabilize fertility in some countries. Among some of the other issues raised were the importance of solving population problems within the context of

socio-economic development, the necessity of an effective population policy, taking into account individual country differences and the need for conditions of peace, security and international co-operation as a prerequisite for solving demographic problems. Reference was also made to the need to devote greater attention to population development, on the one hand, and the depletion of natural resources and the consequences of aging, on the other, and the existence of different rates of fertility and mortality in the region.

299. Appreciation was expressed to the Government of Bulgaria for hosting the regional Meeting on Population. Delegations also expressed their appreciation of the co-operation of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) in preparing the Meeting. Several delegations noted the usefulness of the Meeting both as a forum for the exchange of views on national and regional population problems and as one of the preparatory activities for the International Conference on Population.

300. At its 13th meeting, acting upon the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision G (XXXIX) on the Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the International Conference on Population (for the text, see chapter IV).

Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean
in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

(agenda item 8 (e))

301. For the consideration of this item the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1076.

302. The delegations which made statements on this item stressed the continuing importance they attached to the strengthening of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean basin in the light of the Helsinki Final Act and to ECE's major contribution towards achieving this goal. They welcomed ECE's projects in this field as described in E/ECE/1076. Some delegations considered that this co-operation could be intensified, notably by the incorporation of more operational projects in the Commission's programme of work.

303. Particular mention was made of projects in the field of transport, notably the Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM). In this connection, one delegation expressed regret that UNDP could not continue its financial assistance to the project beyond the third phase, i.e. December 1986, since it was felt that this might create serious problems regarding the successful completion of the TEM project.

304. These delegations also welcomed the Seminar on the Transport Situation in the Mediterranean Region, held in Barcelona (Spain) in June 1983 and the intergovernmental conference which would take place in Thessaloniki (Greece) in October 1984 to examine the proposals of the Barcelona Seminar and decide on projects to be undertaken.

305. The delegation of Greece also informed the Commission that its authorities were studying the possibility of establishing in Greece a technical office to

deal with transport questions of the eastern Mediterranean. Fruitful co-operation was foreseen between this office and a similar one to be established in Barcelona (Spain).

306. The Commission's attention was also drawn to the Seminar on Economic, Scientific and Cultural Co-operation in the Mediterranean to be held in Venice (Italy) in October 1984 within the framework of the follow-up to the CSCE Valletta Meeting of Experts. One delegation suggested that the Commission request the Executive Secretary to participate in this seminar.

307. Some delegations also considered that ECE, in co-operation with ECA and the countries concerned, devote particular attention to the study of a Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar.

308. Interest was also expressed in the project proposal, initiated by the International Trade Centre (ITC), in consultation with the ECE secretariat, for the promotion of trade between selected developing countries in the extended Mediterranean basin.

309. Some delegations stressed the importance of close co-operation with Mediterranean countries not members of ECE and with ECA and ECWA.

310. At its 13th meeting, the Commission adopted its decision H (XXXIX) on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (for the text, see chapter IV).

Standardization

(agenda item 8 (f))

311. This item was allocated by the Plenary to the Sessional Committee which had before it a report by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1077) as well as the reports of the eighth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies (ECE/STAND/26) and of the eleventh session of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies (STAND/GE.1/23).

312. Delegations commented favourably on the work carried out in the field of standardization since the thirty-eighth session. The adoption of a revised recommendation on the implementation of the principle of reference to standards and of a new version of the ECE Standardization List were cited as particularly noteworthy results of the eighth Meeting of Government Officials. Reference was also made to the ideas for further consideration which had emerged from the Seminar on Testing held in Prague (Czechoslovakia) in November 1983 under the joint sponsorship of the Government Officials and of the Committee on the Development of Trade.

313. It was generally agreed that the work of the Government Officials and the Group of Experts contributed efficiently to economic co-operation both within and outside the ECE region. Some delegations suggested that these activities should be intensified in line with the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE and of the Concluding Document of Madrid. One delegation suggested that the periodicity of meetings should be revised so that no more than one took place in any given calendar year.

314. It was stated that, although the Meetings of Government Officials and the Group of Experts had not yet been formally requested to co-ordinate standardization work at the international level, co-ordination activities had nevertheless been an intrinsic part of the work of these bodies in the past and should be continued. Several delegations referred in particular to the International Laboratory Accreditation Conference (ILAC) and suggested that ways and means of strengthening co-operation between the ECE and that Conference should be sought.

315. Further work on harmonization of standards, certification and testing was considered by many delegations as a means of reducing or removing technical barriers to trade. The ECE was the only intergovernmental forum engaged in harmonization of policies in these fields and there was therefore no risk of duplication of work.

316. At its 13th meeting, acting on the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision I (XXXIX) on standardization (for the text, see chapter IV).

The Commission's contribution to the preparatory
work for the 1985 World Conference to Review and
Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations
Decade for Women

(agenda item 8 (g).)

317. This item was allocated by the Plenary to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration. The Committee had before it as a basis for discussion the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1078) prepared pursuant to operative paragraph 3 of Commission decision D (XXXVIII).

318. Delegations thanked the Austrian Government for its invitation to host the Seminar on the Economic Role of Women in the ECE Region in Vienna from 15-19 October 1984 and stressed the importance of this meeting in providing a valuable input to the 1985 World Conference. Several delegations expressed their satisfaction with the preparations under way for the Seminar, and the revision of the study on "The Economic Role of Women in the ECE Region" which were to form the basis for ECE's contribution to the 1985 World Conference. It was suggested by some delegations that the study focus on forward looking strategies and the future economic role of women rather than on past and current developments. One delegation pointed out that the purpose of the ECE seminar should be above all to analyse problems relating to the changes affecting the economic role of women in the region, and to focus attention on two of the sub-themes of the Conference, namely education and employment.

319. Other delegations suggested that the three objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women, equality, development and peace as contained in the full title of the Conference, should be taken into account and reflected in the preparation of materials for the Seminar.

320. At its 13th meeting, acting on the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision J (XXXIX) on the Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (for the text, see chapter IV).

Engineering industries and automation

(agenda item 8 (h))

321. For its consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the report of the fourth session of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (ECE/ENG.AUT/14) and a note by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1079).

322. Delegations participating in the discussion expressed satisfaction with the results of the work of the Working Party since the thirty-eighth session of the Commission, and its continuing contribution to east-west co-operation in the field of engineering industries and automation. The Working Party's search for new areas and forms of work as well as its multidisciplinary approach were welcomed.

323. Particular support was expressed for the Annual Reviews of Engineering Industries and Automation for 1981 and 1982, and the techno-economic studies issued in 1983 or nearing completion in 1984 on production and use of industrial robots; techno-economic aspects of the international division of labour in the automotive industry; measures for improving engineering equipment with a view to more effective energy use; and the production and use of engineering equipment and automation means for preventing water pollution. It was felt that the studies should be given wider circulation as publications. Favourable comments were made on the work carried out on the methodology for assessing the techno-economic trends of automation.

324. Delegations noted the success of the Seminar on Innovation in Biomedical Equipment held in May 1983 in Budapest (Hungary) as well as its follow-up in the form of a study on this subject.

325. Delegations noted with satisfaction that preparations were under way for three seminars, i.e. on flexible manufacturing systems - design and applications, to be held in Bulgaria in September 1984; on the development and use of powder metallurgy in engineering industries, to be held in the Byelorussian SSR in March 1985; and on recent developments in robotics, to be held in Czechoslovakia in February 1986. The Government of the Netherlands was hosting a study tour or a seminar on selected aspects of micro-electronics.

326. The usefulness of the annual Bulletin of Statistics on World Trade in Engineering Products was underlined as was the methodological work undertaken concerning statistics on production and international trade of engineering products, which had been considered by the fifth Ad Hoc Meeting on Questions of Statistics concerning Engineering Industries and Automation and the first joint meeting with the Conference of European Statisticians (June 1983).

327. Delegations expressed their general satisfaction with the programme of work of the Working Party for 1984-1988. They considered that it was well balanced and properly reflected the major issues and technological developments affecting engineering industries and automation. Concerning the proposed projects relating to telematics and non-industrial application of information technology, some delegations noted the need for the Working Party to take into account the work being carried out by OECD. Attention was drawn to the need for continuing co-operation with international governmental and non-governmental organizations with a view to avoiding duplication of activities.

328. The following comments were made on the programme of work for 1984-1988. Czechoslovakia, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR expressed interest in all topics of the programme. Delegations which expressed interest in certain projects in the programme of work are indicated below.

Work area 01(a).1: Medium-term and long-term perspectives

01(a).1.1. Hungary;

01(a).1.2.1. German Democratic Republic.

Work area 01(a).2: Current developments and prospects

01(a).2.1. Byelorussian SSR, Italy 17/ (the delegation of Italy suggested that the publication should report the statistical data of the previous year).

Work area 01(a).3: Selected economic and technological problems

01(a).3.1. Hungary;

01(a).3.1.1. Bulgaria, Hungary, United States;

01(a).3.1.2. Byelorussian SSR;

01(a).3.2. Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Hungary;

01(a).3.3. Byelorussian SSR, German Democratic Republic, Hungary;

01(a).3.5.1. Byelorussian SSR, German Democratic Republic, Italy;

01(a).3.5.2. Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, German Democratic Republic;

01(a).3.5.2.1. Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, France.

Work area 01(a).4: Environmental and resource-saving problems

01(a).4.1. Byelorussian SSR, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Italy;

01(a).4.2. Hungary;

01(a).4.3. Byelorussian SSR, German Democratic Republic.

Work area 01(a).5: Statistics and information

01(a).5.1.) Byelorussian SSR, Italy (the delegation of Italy suggested that
01(a).5.2.) the work on the studies comparing trade data with production
data be intensified)

329. Delegations made the following suggestions for subjects which the Working Party could take up at a later date: precision measuring instruments (German Democratic Republic); division of labour in the automotive industry (Byelorussian SSR); forge and pressing equipment (German Democratic Republic); marine industries (Bulgaria).

^{17/} Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of Italy is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

330. A broad exchange of views took place on a possible change in the status of the Working Party to that of a Principal Subsidiary Body. There was no opposition, in principle, to upgrading the status of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation. Several delegations considered that the Commission should take a decision on upgrading the status of the Working Party, referring, inter alia, to the consensus position reiterated by the Working Party at its fourth session. These delegations suggested that such a decision should be taken already at the thirty-ninth session of the Commission. Other delegations took a similar position to that which they had taken at the thirty-eighth session of the Commission, namely, that a change in the status of the Working Party should be considered in the context of the deliberations on decision E (XXXVIII) on concentration and integration of the programme of work of the Commission and that no decision should be taken on this matter at the thirty-ninth session - such a decision might prejudice the outcome of those deliberations. Since no consensus had been reached concerning the timing of the upgrading of the status of the Working Party, delegations, taking into account the note by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1079), considered that this matter should be referred to the Commission for further deliberation.

331. At its 13th meeting, the Commission adopted its decision K (XXXIX) on engineering industries and automation (for the text, see chapter IV).

Monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution

(agenda item 8(i))

332. This item was allocated by the Plenary to the Sessional Committee and was considered together with the report of the Committee on Water Problems under item 4(f) of the agenda (see paragraphs 248 to 257 above).

333. At its 13th meeting, the Commission adopted its decision L (XXXIX) on monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution (for the text, see chapter IV).

Co-operation in the field of protection and
improvement of the environment

(agenda item 8(j))

334. This item was allocated by the Plenary to the Sessional Committee and was considered together with the report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems under item 4(f) of the agenda (see paragraphs 196 to 207 above).

335. At its 13th meeting, the Commission adopted its decision M (XXXIX) on co-operation in the field of protection and improvement of the environment (for the text, see chapter IV).

Recommendations of the Sessional Committee
and action taken thereon by the Plenary

336. At its 12th meeting the Commission heard a statement by the Chairman of the Sessional Committee on the outcome of the deliberations of that Committee on the reports of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and on other items assigned to it by the Plenary for preliminary consideration.

337. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee informed the Commission that the discussions in the Committee had been thorough and constructive, and that the introductory statements presented by or on behalf of the Chairman of each body, or by the Executive Secretary had proved very useful in guiding the discussion on the main features of the problems under consideration. Delegates had presented interesting and comprehensive views on the various agenda items and provided additional information on national developments. Valuable suggestions for the work of the Commission had been made. He also considered that the fruitful discussions held in the Sessional Committee demonstrated the continuing interest of ECE Governments in the work of the Commission and their determination to continue east-west co-operation through ECE and to strive to make better use of the potential of the Commission.

338. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee then submitted to the Plenary the Committee's recommendations that the Commission adopt decisions on the following:

- (i) Standardization (agenda item 8(f));
- (ii) Introduction and harmonization of summertime in Europe (agenda item 8(c));
- (iii) Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference on Population in 1984 (agenda item 8(d)); and on
- (iv) the "ECE Declaration of Policy on the Rational Use of Water" (agenda item 4(f)).

339. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee also informed the Commission that the Sessional Committee had recommended that the Plenary adopt the Commission's programme of work under agenda item 9.

340. He informed the Commission that at the end of the Sessional Committee's deliberations the following items were still subject to consultations: concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work; engineering industries and automation; energy, and the Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women.

341. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee concluded his statement by thanking the Vice-Chairman of the Sessional Committee and all who had participated in and contributed to the work of the Committee.

342. The Chairman of the Commission expressed his thanks to the Chairman of the Sessional Committee and commended the Committee for the successful completion of its work. He drew the attention of delegations to the texts of the four draft decisions referred to by the Chairman of the Sessional Committee in his statement which were now before the Plenary. He also explained that agreement had been reached on two other draft decisions as a result of discussions between delegations, namely, on engineering industries and automation (agenda item 8(h)), and on the Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (agenda item 8(g)).

343. The Plenary accepted the Chairman's proposal to take up these six draft decisions at its closing session along with any other draft resolutions and decisions to be submitted to the Plenary for adoption.

Programme of work for 1984-1988

(agenda item 9)

344. For the consideration of this item, which was allocated by the Plenary to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration, the Commission had before it document E/ECE/1082. Acting on the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Plenary approved the Commission's programme of work.

Other business

(agenda item 10)

Date, place and agenda for the fortieth session

345. The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the tentative date for the holding of the fortieth session of the Commission in Geneva was 16 to 27 April 1985. The Commission decided to leave to the Executive Secretary the responsibility for determining, in consultation with the Officers of the Commission and in the light of the relevant arrangements of the ECOSOC and General Assembly, the precise dates of the fortieth session, and requested the Executive Secretary to inform the Governments thereon.

346. Pursuant to Council resolution 1894 (LVII) the Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the provisional agenda for the fortieth session, which would be prepared in consultation with the Officers of the Commission, would have very much the same basic framework as for the thirty-ninth session, but suggested that, in line with established practice, there be a fuller discussion of the provisional agenda for the fortieth session of the Commission at the meeting of the Bureau in December 1984.

Annual report of the Commission

(agenda item 11)

347. At its 13th meeting, on 14 April 1984, the Commission adopted its Report covering the period from 24 April 1983 to 14 April 1984.

CHAPTER IV

RESOLUTION AND OTHER DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE THIRTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

I. RESOLUTION

1 (XXXIX). THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE AND ITS FUTURE ACTIVITIES

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its previous resolutions, in particular resolution 1 (XXXVIII) and conscious of the important role of the ECE as an instrument for the implementation of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level, in particular with regard to the development of co-operation among countries of the region in the fields of trade, industry, science and technology, the environment and other areas of economic activity,

Bearing in mind the conclusion of the Madrid Meeting of Representatives of the Participating States of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and reaffirming that full respect for all the provisions of the Madrid Concluding Document and of the Helsinki Final Act can contribute towards the building of an atmosphere of confidence in international relations, including economic relations,

Conscious of the role of the ECE in the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and of the Madrid Concluding Document; noting in this regard the progress made in the implementation of the Commission's work programme, pursuant to resolution 1 (XXXVIII); and recognizing that the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting of Representatives of the Participating States of the CSCE contains recommendations directed towards the future work of the Commission,

Believing that active work and joint efforts in developing further the co-operation within the framework of the ECE serves the interests of all member countries, irrespective of their systems, including those which are developing from an economic point of view,

Reiterating the determination of each of the member countries of the ECE to promote stable and equitable international economic relations in the mutual interest of all States and in this spirit to participate equitably in promoting and strengthening economic co-operation with the developing countries, in particular the least developed among them,

Bearing in mind the contribution that the Commission and its member States could make in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 35/56 on the International Development Strategy as adopted, thereby contributing towards establishing a new international economic order on a just and equitable basis, as well as the importance of the launching, as soon as possible, of mutually beneficial and adequately prepared global negotiations in accordance with General Assembly resolution 34/138, relating to international economic co-operation for development,

Noting with satisfaction the Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries, as well as its successful co-operation with other international organizations,

Considering the need further to strengthen the effectiveness of the concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work and thus to increase efficiency in the use of ECE resources,

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes and reports of the Executive Secretary, in particular his report E/ECE/1066 on the Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1983, and the long-term programme of work for 1984-1988, and noting that during the thirty-ninth session delegations have made a number of comments and suggestions concerning the Commission's programme of work,

1. Calls upon the member Governments taking into account previously adopted resolutions and decisions to continue to take full advantage of the potential of the Economic Commission for Europe as an instrument for dialogue and for strengthening economic relations and multilateral co-operation in the region;

2. Considers in this connection that full respect for the principles guiding relations among States set out in the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, as well as the implementation of all the provisions of that Final Act and those contained in the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting, are an essential basis for the development of economic co-operation among them; reaffirms at the same time that such co-operation contributes to the reinforcement of peace and security in Europe and in the world as a whole; requests its subsidiary bodies to continue to take into account, for their work, the pertinent provisions of the above-mentioned documents which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the ECE; and asks the Executive Secretary to make appropriate arrangements to this end;

3. Recalls that the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting contains provisions which carry implications for the future activities of the Commission;

4. Notes the report on the work and future activities of the Commission (E/ECE/1066) prepared by the Executive Secretary;

5. Calls upon its subsidiary bodies to take duly into account, when reviewing and carrying out their programmes of work, the interests of member countries which are developing from an economic point of view; to this effect the Executive Secretary will take the appropriate measures;

6. Notes the Executive Secretary's reports E/ECE/1068 and E/ECE/1069 and requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their activities the possible contributions of the ECE to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries and the necessity of effective co-operation with other international organizations;

7. Underlines the usefulness of co-operation with other regional economic commissions on issues of mutual concern and requests the Executive Secretary to continue for these purposes his contacts with the Executive Secretaries of the other commissions;

8. Calls upon the ECE member countries to continue to contribute fully to the work of other economic organs and organizations of the United Nations system which is aimed at stimulating economic development of developing countries, such as UNIDO IV, the development of international trade in all its flows, and the recovery process of the world economy;

9. Takes note of the report of the Committee on the Development of Trade on its thirty-second session (ECE/TRADE/147) and requests the Committee to pursue its activities aimed at the development of trade and industrial co-operation and invites the Executive Secretary to convene the Sixth Seminar on East-West Trade Promotion, Marketing and Business Contacts before the end of 1984;

10. Takes note of the report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology adopted at their eleventh session (ECE/SC.TECH/25); reaffirms the importance of co-operation in the field of science and technology as one of the priority areas in ECE activities; and welcomes the efforts of the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology in this direction;

11. Recognizes the importance of the development of transport for the economies of the ECE member countries, notes with satisfaction the results of the forty-fifth session of the Inland Transport Committee, invites the Committee to continue to pay attention to the problems of future development of transport in the ECE region and in this connection stresses the practical value of the preparation by the Committee of the project on "Methodological approach to forecasting of international traffic and its utilization for development of transport";

12. Recognizes the importance of the co-operation in the field of energy in the ECE region, takes note of the Executive Secretary's report (E/ECE/1073) and invites him to pay due attention to the activity of the ECE in this direction;

13. Approves its programme of work for 1984/85 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its fortieth session, its long-term programme of work for 1984-1988;

14. Requests its subsidiary bodies, as well as the Executive Secretary, to take into account in their work and when reviewing their respective programmes this resolution, the decisions of the Commission and the points raised by delegations and reported in the relevant passages of the report of this session in as much as they are addressed therein; and

15. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution as well as other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned for their guidance.

13th meeting
14 April 1984
(see para. 66 above)

II. OTHER DECISIONS

A (XXXIX). CONCENTRATION AND INTEGRATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMISSION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling decision E (XXXVIII) on concentration and integration of the programme of work of the Commission,

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the concentration and integration of the programme of work of the Commission (E/ECE/1070);

2. Requests the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned to examine at their regular meetings, when considering their programme of work, the proposals of the Executive Secretary relevant to their programmes of work contained in the first part of the report E/ECE/1070 and its annexes and to submit their recommendations and opinions thereon;

3. Invites member Governments to submit proposals to improve the efficiency of the work of the Sessional Committee, within its existing mandate, with a view to, inter alia, improving the co-ordination of cross-sectoral questions and the concentration and integration of the programme of work and requests the Executive Secretary to report thereon together with his views on the subject;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to convene an ad hoc group, at an appropriate moment before the fortieth session, in order to examine:

a) The report of the Executive Secretary on the proposals of member Governments concerning the improvement of the efficiency of the Sessional Committee, and his views on the subject;

b) The recommendations and opinions of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies on the adaptation of their programmes of work and the proposals of the Executive Secretary contained in the first part of his report E/ECE/1070 and its annexes;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to undertake an evaluation of the impact and usefulness of ECE publications to Governments and to submit a report to the Commission at its fortieth session; and

6. Decides to revert at its fortieth session to the question of the concentration and integration of the activities of the Commission taking into account, inter alia, the report of the ad hoc Group.

13th meeting
14 April 1984
(see para. 100 above)

B (XXXIX). AN OVERALL ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE TO THE YEAR 2000

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling paragraph 12 of its resolution 1 (XXXVIII) as well as its earlier decisions relating to the work of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments on studies of long-term economic developments in the ECE region,

1. Takes note of the decisions adopted by the twentieth session of the Senior Economic Advisers and, in particular, the decision to prepare an Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000;

2. Invites ECE Governments to give all necessary assistance to this work and, in particular, to the elaboration of the work plan for the Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000;

3. Invites the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned to co-operate when appropriate with the Senior Economic Advisers in the preparation of an Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000;

4. Looks forward to the timely preparation of the Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000 which should include, inter alia, main economic variables;

5. Expresses its hope that further improvement can be achieved by the Senior Economic Advisers in the exchange of information and joint consideration of economic trends and prospects in the ECE region; and

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fortieth session on the implementation of this decision.

13th meeting
14 April 1984
(see para. 229 above)

C (XXXIX). ECE DECLARATION OF POLICY ON THE RATIONAL
USE OF WATER

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Mindful of the importance and urgency of combating wasteful use of water, both in terms of quantity and quality, and of promoting all measures which stimulate rational, economic and efficient water use to enable economic development to take place in a manner compatible with maintaining or improving the quality of life for present and future generations,

Bearing in mind the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe by which participating States affirmed that "the protection of nature and the rational utilization of its resources in the interest of present and future generations is one of the tasks of major importance to the well-being of people and the economic development of all countries" and by which they expressed in particular their wish to enhance co-operation with a view to improving fresh water utilization "by developing methods of production which are less polluting and lead to less consumption of fresh water",

Bearing further in mind the relevant provisions of the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting of Representatives of the Participating States of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe,

Taking note of the Mar del Plata Action Plan which calls upon countries to intensify national and international efforts "to maximize the economic and social efficiency of all water inputs, including measures to heighten awareness, change attitudes and provide the technological means and incentives to conserve and protect available water",

Recalling General Assembly resolution 35/18 of 17 November 1980 on the Proclamation of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade,

Conscious of the useful role played by the Commission over more than 20 years in assisting countries to share their experience regarding the use of natural resources, including both surface water and ground water, and in promoting the rational use of water through the preparation of guidelines and recommendations,

Bearing in mind the Declaration on Low- and Non-waste Technology and Re-utilization and Recycling of Wastes, by which States participating in the High-level Meeting within the Framework of the ECE on the Protection of the Environment declared, inter alia, their intent to use resources rationally,

Underlining the importance of the ECE Declaration of Policy on Prevention and Control of Water Pollution, including Transboundary Pollution which, inter alia, stipulates that the rational utilization of water resources, both surface and underground, should be considered "a basic element in the framework of long-term water management and be viewed as an effective support to the policy of prevention and control of water pollution, taking into account the special features of each drainage basin",

Commending the efforts already undertaken by the Committee on Water Problems in paying increased attention to questions related to future-oriented water policies and strategies, to water demand management and to measures and instruments which influence user behaviour, thus bringing about economies in water use,

Noting, in this regard, the results of two seminars, namely Rational Utilization of Water (1979, Leipzig, German Democratic Republic) and Economic Instruments for Rational Utilization of Water Resources (1980, Veldhoven, Netherlands) as well as the reports on long-term perspectives for water use and supply in the ECE region (1981) and on policies and strategies for rational use of water in the ECE region (1983),

Recognizing the vital need for further developing and enhancing international co-operation and for improving co-ordination of efforts in ECE countries to formulate and apply strategies of water demand management for coping with limited water supply and to promote the concept of rational water use in the light of experience acquired during past years,

1. Decides to adopt the Principles of Rational Use of Water set forth in the appendix to this Declaration;
2. Recommends to ECE Governments that they apply these Principles in formulating, reviewing and implementing their water policies on a national and international level, taking into account their specific administrative structures;
3. Invites the member Governments to keep the Commission informed at appropriate intervals, through the Committee on Water Problems, of action taken by them in this regard;
4. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit this decision to the member Governments as a Declaration of Policy on the Rational Use of Water; and
5. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit this decision to international organizations concerned, with a view to extending co-operation in this field.

PRINCIPLES

1. It is recognized that:

(a) with increasing urban concentration, industrial expansion, intensified agricultural exploitation, rising living standards and the accelerated development of touristic and recreational activities, water, being an irreplaceable natural resource, is becoming an important issue in many countries or parts of them and, in some, even a limited factor for socio-economic development;

(b) development and further management of water resources is becoming technically difficult, expensive and may conflict with some economic sectors as well as with environmental concerns; and that

(c) water is being used sometimes irrationally, beyond an economically and socially sensible level and used as an undue recipient of harmful pollution loads.

2. Governments are therefore being called upon to formulate and adopt policies at all appropriate levels which foster measures striving for the efficient utilization of water resources from both supply and disposal aspects, in order to secure that, as far as possible, the wastage of water is prevented together with that of energy and raw materials required for its abstraction, transportation, storage, proper use and treatment of water and for waste water purification, so that rational use of water contributes to the fullest extent to national welfare. Water use should be considered in the context of efficient utilization of common resources and should therefore be of concern to the entire population.

3. In formulating and adopting a future-oriented national water policy it should be taken into account that water, a common resource, must be used economically in the interest of the public at large. Therefore, special emphasis should be given to:

(a) a unified strategy for water withdrawal, distribution, treatment, use and discharge;

(b) integrated water use, attaching priority to drinking water requirements and to environmental protection;

(c) water demand management and preventive measures so as to avoid water shortages and water pollution; management options should be matched to actual supply; usable supplies should be explored and safeguarded;

(d) non-structural measures, which aim at increasing operation efficiency of existing water schemes; they should be designed to fit into a comprehensive approach to the management of water quantity and quality;

(e) co-ordinated utilization of both surface water and ground water, taking into account their close interrelation; public drinking water supply should be given priority in ground water use; and

(f) measures to combat harmful effects of water: flooding, soil erosion, etc.

4. In the over-all planning process of a country, thorough consideration should be given to the concept of rational use of national water resources and to alternative and multi-purpose uses of water and their impact on other natural resources as well as on the economy as a whole. The methods of systems analysis and mathematical modelling may be applied. In these planning procedures, perspectives and forecasts of future water demand, use, consumption and discharge should not only be an extrapolation of past trends but should also take into account the anticipated effect of applied or foreseen control measures, economic incentives and other stimuli on future water-use practices. Due attention should be paid to long-term planning as one of the most important tools for a comprehensive water policy; planning should in particular:

(a) ensure optimal socio-economic and ecological benefits from rational water use;

(b) facilitate proper decision making at all appropriate levels and within economic sectors;

(c) allow for close co-operation and co-ordination with other economic sectors as well as with regional and local administrative authorities;

(d) permit a sufficient period for the formulation and adjustment of a system of regulatory measures and economic instruments; and

(e) provide guidance for a rational allocation of long-term investments to promote sustainable development of water management.

5. Within the framework of the general principles set forth in this declaration of policy, specific attention should be accorded in national water policies and planning to the protection of ground water from the possibility of pollution and overuse.

6. Priority should be accorded to the co-ordination of land-use planning and water management. This could be restrictions on the use of certain areas, already subject to serious water shortages and/or heavy environmental stress, as well as the separation of areas of water use from those of water abstraction. However, the general principle should be maintained, where possible, that the establishment of new industrial complexes, power plants, intensive livestock farming, the development of new settlements and the expansion of urban areas should be compatible with the availability of water of sufficient quality and quantity at reasonable distances. River basin oriented management, including flow transfer within and between basins and the siting of future reservoirs, should be given appropriate attention in land-use planning and water management planning to achieve a long-term integrated and rational approach to an efficient and sustainable use of water. In planning water management systems, consideration should be given to the creation of integrated water supply and disposal systems which could take advantage of diversities in demand patterns over wider areas - thus providing easier response to peak demands - and of economies that may result from the construction and operation of centralized water supply and sewage systems. Attention should also be given to the efficient operation of drinking water and waste water treatment plants.

7. In conformity with the administrative structure and existing regulations, adequate involvement of water users and those involved in decision-making processes should be encouraged, as they can make significant contributions both to the identification of targets and to the development, adoption and effective implementation of water saving programmes. Education and training should be regarded as an important tool in the implementation of national and regional water policies. It should, therefore, be pursued vigorously so that the public understands and respects the importance of using water rationally and appreciates the socio-economic and ecological advantages that can be achieved by improving water conservation practices; measures taken, however, should not go beyond what is in the public interest. To this end, the Governments are called upon to intensify national efforts with a view to enhancing or, if necessary, creating, as appropriate, frameworks for youth education and training in this field, in the interest of present and future generations.

8. Regulations and ordinances under certain conditions together with economic and financial instruments are considered an important regulatory tool for promoting water policy and for determining the rights and obligations of water users and their mutual relationships. Such regulative instruments may take the form of standards, criteria, rules, norms, limitations, permits or licences, control or stop orders and should be applied to setting strict targets for the use, consumption and discharge of water, especially in the industrial and agricultural sector. Administrative instruments should allow for direct regulatory control through such practices as permits and licences and should oblige prospective water users, including public water supply and pollution control organizations, to obtain authorization for the withdrawal, use, consumption and discharge of water of a certain quality and for a specific time period. Regulation of contaminants and product standards should be enforced on substances which risk impairing the aquatic environment in order to allow for safe and economic use and recirculation of water.

9. Governments should increase their efforts to develop or improve methods for the regular collection, the proper analysis and the timely dissemination of directly comparable data on water abstraction, use, consumption and discharge, both in terms of quantity and quality, in the various economic sectors. These statistics on water use and water quality should be considered along with existing data of available water resources to help to identify water-deficient areas, and those vulnerable and sensitive to future water shortages as well as to foresee possible conflicts between water users. These statistics should also be used in the evaluation of effects of administrative and economic components of long-term strategies. In this respect, relevant experience and information gained in the implementation of water-management measures should be considered an important input in water management planning.

10. In developing an advanced water policy at all appropriate levels, priority should be given to the elaboration of an effective system of economic instruments, stimulating rational water use, deriving socio-economic benefits from the saving of water both in terms of quantity and quality. In the formulation and application of such economic instruments, attention should be paid in particular to:

- (a) their optimum combination with the existing patterns of legal, administrative and technical instruments;
- (b) their consistency with prevailing economic principles; and
- (c) anticipated changes of water-use practices due to measures applied.

11. This well-balanced system should at all stages provide water users with increasing incentives to reduce both wastage and pollution of water. For water fees, a differentiated tariff system may be adopted with a consumption-oriented rate encouraging the rational use of water. Effluent charges, when made, should be based both on the amount of waste water discharged and its pollution load. Appropriate sanctions should be applied if established limits, standards or norms are exceeded.

12. The general principle should be that, as far as possible, the direct or indirect costs attributable to pollution should be borne by the polluter and that water users should pay the costs of abstraction, treatment and distribution. However, under certain conditions, governmental aid in the form of subsidies may be considered as a possible economic instrument to reduce both wastage and pollution of water. Such circumstances include the granting of aid for the development of cleaner technologies; some degree of compensation for the heavy costs which some polluters would be obliged to meet in order to achieve a degree of cleanliness higher than the required standards; contribution to public bodies for the construction and operation of an installation for the protection of the aquatic environment which could not be wholly covered in the short-term from the charges paid by the polluters using it (the polluters would however be required to meet its running costs). In addition grants may be paid where the immediate application of very stringent standards is likely to lead to serious disturbances in the economy.

13. Policies at all appropriate levels should be geared towards promoting the rapid development and sound application of relevant technologies and their optimum operation for more efficient use of water and preventing wastage of water; both in terms of quantity and quality in all sectors. To this end, strong emphasis should be placed on those economic and administrative instruments that stimulate the application of the best available technology, taking into account economic reasonableness and feasibility. In further supporting this water strategy,

Governments should encourage the establishment of research and development centres, sponsorship and cost-sharing arrangements for pilot application of technical innovations and dissemination of information on available and new technologies aiding their capability to meet the requirements set forth by the concept of rational water use. In this respect, the effects of new technologies should be comprehensively evaluated, in particular for their effects on socio-economic and environmental conditions. Such technologies could, inter alia, ensure:

- (a) the reduction of total costs, in particular for water and other factors in the production process, as well as the reduction of water losses and of discharge of polluting effluents;
- (b) the utilization of usable substances contained in waste water and sewage sludge;
- (c) the application of water recycling systems within the production process, as well as the reuse of successive and concurrent uses of water within the same industry, other industrial complexes or in agriculture;
- (d) the reduction or substitution of hazardous substances, in particular with regard to toxicity, bio-degradability and bio-accumulation and the reduction of eutrophication; this also in view of their risk of detrimental effects on actual or potential water supplies; and
- (e) the use of automatic control and regulation systems for in-process water use and consumption.

14. Efforts should be directed to the application of effective measures to obtain water savings in the domestic and municipal sector, and in particular to achieve reduction of losses in water distribution systems. To this effect, increased attention should be paid to the detection and repair of leakage in water distribution networks.

15. In all cases where drinking water quality is not required, users should be encouraged to use water of a quality no higher than necessary. Where communal treatment of waste water is not appropriate, strong emphasis should be given to the application of pollution control measures as close to the source of pollution as possible. Since the major part of water used by industry, including thermal power plants, serves as cooling water, increased attention should be paid to cooling-water management and, in this respect, to the development and application of industrial processes which allow the reuse of cooling water as process and transport water, the recycling of cooling water with a minimum of evaporative losses and the utilization of waste heat in the industrial, domestic and agricultural sector.

16. Due to the fact that in some countries high consumption of water is frequently for irrigation in agriculture, priority should be given there to the adoption of various technical and organizational measures to combat waste of water; steps should be taken to minimize water losses during its delivery to the place of use, taking into account all aspects related to climate, soil, crops and the use of irrigation systems. Attention should be given to provide water according to the actual water demand of crops in both quantitative and qualitative terms over the growing season. Priority should be given to efficient irrigation techniques in conjunction with advanced agricultural methods in particular those with low-energy consumption. Provided that appropriate precautions are taken and where sufficient experience exists, purified waste water or brackish water may also be used for irrigation, and sewage sludge for land application. If purified waste water and sewage sludge are used, particular attention must be given to hygienic aspects. In

addition, the purified waste water, sewage sludge and the soil must be monitored continually to prevent any detrimental effects due to heavy metals or other pollutants. If brackish water is used, possible adverse impacts due to salination must be considered.

17. The concept of rational water use requires that, in the process of the integrated management of river basins, there should be an attempt to meet the water requirements not only of those types of water use which involve withdrawal of part of the flow, but also of those not involving such withdrawal, namely the fish industry, hydropower plants, water transport and recreation, and to maintain the normal state of health of watercourses.

18. Special consideration should be given to the intensification of those research programmes aimed at developing background knowledge for effective implementation of the principles of this Declaration, and in particular to:

(a) the need for enhanced international scientific co-operation;

(b) the development and improvement of programmes for training managers, maintenance personnel, technological advisers and others in industry and agriculture, with a view to developing, along the lines of relevant national or regional policies and strategies, a more creative approach in the search for practical ways to rationalize water use within their sphere of competence; and

(c) research programmes relating to the use of non-conventional water resources and to an improved control of losses through evaporation.

13th meeting
14 April 1984
(see para. 257 above)

D (XXXIX). AIR POLLUTION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Noting that the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution has entered into force on 16 March 1983,

Considering that the Executive Body of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution has adopted a working programme at its first session on 7 to 10 June 1983,

Taking note that 30 signatories of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution have ratified it to this day,

Convinced that it is urgent, because of the harmful impact resulting from air pollution, to adopt effective and practicable methods to reduce air pollution and that the ECE Convention and its Executive Body represent an appropriate framework for strengthening co-operation in this field with the objective of attaining better protection against air pollutants,

Recalling the decision A (I) by the Executive Body of the Convention at its first session, which is a first step towards air pollution reduction,

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Body of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on the work of its first meeting (ECE/EB.AIR/1);
2. Appeals to the ECE Governments to implement fully the principles and provisions of the Convention and to take into account the decisions and recommendations of the first meeting of the Executive Body;
3. Asks the member Governments to assure financing of EMEP for the year of 1984 on a voluntary basis and recommends that efforts be intensified to elaborate an agreement for long-term financing of EMEP;
4. Asks its relevant Principal Subsidiary Bodies to co-operate whenever it is appropriate within their respective mandate with the Executive Body of the Convention;
5. Stresses the urgency of intensifying efforts to arrive at co-ordinated national strategies and policies in the ECE region to decrease effectively sulphur emissions at national levels, with possible extension to other pollutants; and
6. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fortieth session about the activities of the Executive Body on the implementation of the Convention, bearing in mind this decision.

13th meeting
14 April 1984
(see para. 280 above)

E (XXXIX). THE CONFERENCE ON THE CAUSES AND PREVENTION
OF DAMAGE TO FORESTS AND WATER THROUGH AIR
POLLUTION IN EUROPE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Taking note of the invitations extended by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany to the signatories of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution adopted in the framework of the ECE to the Conference on the Causes and Prevention of Damage to Forests and Water through Air Pollution in Europe, to be held in Munich in June 1984,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary to participate and to co-operate as appropriate with the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany in the organization, preparation and the proceedings of the Conference and its Preparatory Meeting; and
2. Invites the Executive Body of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution to consider the report of this Conference at its second session, and requests the Executive Secretary to inform the fortieth session of the Commission on the results of this Conference.

13th meeting
14 April 1984
(see para. 281 above)

F (XXXIX). INTRODUCTION AND HARMONIZATION OF SUMMERTIME
IN EUROPE

The Commission decided :

1. to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1074, the recommendations of the Inland Transport Committee and document TRANS/R.201;
2. to recommend that all Governments continue to pursue their efforts to standardize over a medium-term period the application of summertime in European member countries of the ECE;
3. to recommend also that efforts be undertaken by Governments with a view to standardizing the hour of transition at the beginning and end of summertime; and
4. to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fortieth session on the implementation of this decision.

13th meeting
14 April 1984
(see para. 295 above)

G (XXXIX). THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE PREPARATORY WORK
FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION

The Commission decided,

1. to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1075, the report of the regional Meeting on Population (ECE/AC.9/2) and the report of the Preparatory Committee of the International Conference on Population;
2. to transmit the suggestions and recommendations for further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action at the regional level, as contained in the Annex to document ECE/AC.9/2, to the International Conference on Population to be held in Mexico from 6 to 13 August 1984 for its consideration; and
3. to request the Executive Secretary to examine the suggestions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 23, 59, 62, 64 and 67 of the Annex to the report of the Meeting on Population and to submit proposals to the Commission at its fortieth session on work which could be undertaken by ECE within existing resources, taking into account also the results of the International Conference on Population.

13th meeting
14 April 1984
(see para. 300 above)

H (XXXIX). ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN IN
THE LIGHT OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CONFERENCE
ON SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision I(XXXVIII) and the other resolutions and decisions quoted therein,

Conscious that the ECE plays a useful role with respect to further development of economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE,

Bearing in mind that several Commission member States in the Mediterranean are developing from an economic point of view,

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1076 on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, and the response from Mediterranean countries as well as from the Economic Commissions for Africa and Western Asia;
2. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Western Asia and the Economic Commission for Africa and other relevant United Nations bodies and to pursue his contacts with all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary, within the mandate of the Commission, to participate and co-operate in the preparation and the proceedings of the Seminar on Economic, Scientific and Cultural Co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of the results of the CSCE Valetta Meeting of Experts, which will take place in Venice from 16 to 26 October 1984 in accordance with the provisions of the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting;
4. Takes note of recent developments and respective international meetings in the field of transport in the Mediterranean region, including the Barcelona Seminar held in June 1983, hosted by the Government of Spain;
5. Requests the Executive Secretary, in co-operation with the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Western Asia, to convene in Thessaloniki, from 2 to 4 October 1984, at the invitation of the Government of Greece, a meeting on transport development in the region of the Mediterranean;
6. Recommends to its subsidiary bodies to continue their efforts in identifying areas of interest for economic co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of over-all ECE activities and its programme of work; and
7. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the fortieth session a report on the implementation of this decision.

13th meeting
14 April 1984
(see para. 310 above)

I (XXXIX). STANDARDIZATION

The Commission decided :

1. to take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization (E/ECE/1077) and the reports of the eleventh session of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies (STAND/GE.1/23), of the Seminar on Testing (STAND/SEM.1/1:TRADE/SEM.6/1) and of the Eighth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies (ECE/STAND/26);
2. to convene two further sessions of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies to consider those matters referred to it by the Eighth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies or by the Commission;
3. to agree to consider at its fortieth session the convening of a Ninth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies, which could be held late in 1985; and
4. to request the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the fortieth session.

13th meeting
14 April 1984
(see para. 316 above)

J (XXXIX). THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE PREPARATORY WORK
FOR THE 1985 WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND APPRAISE
THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN

The Commission decided,

1. to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1078;
2. to request the Executive Secretary to continue the preparations for the Seminar on the Economic Role of Women in the ECE Region to be held in Vienna (Austria) in October 1984 and the revision of the study on "The Economic Role of Women in the ECE Region", taking into account the Commission's comments and suggestions in this connection;
3. to request the Executive Secretary, pursuant to paragraph 7 of Council resolution 1982/26, to make available to the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the Conference at its meeting early in 1985 the report of the Seminar on the Economic Role of Women in the ECE Region;
4. to consider at its fortieth session the report of the Seminar and the revised study mentioned in paragraph 2 above;
5. to decide at its fortieth session on any further action which might be taken by the Commission to contribute to the preparations for the World Conference; and
6. to request the Executive Secretary to report to the fortieth session on the implementation of this decision.

13th meeting
14 April 1984

K (XXXIX). ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND AUTOMATION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Takes note of the report of the fourth session of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (ECE/ENG.AUT/14) and the note by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1079);
2. Approves the programme of work for 1984-1988 and the calendar of meetings for 1984 and 1985 of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (ECE/ENG.AUT/14, annexes I and II); and
3. Decides to consider at its fortieth session a possible change in the status of the Working Party in the light of the results of the evaluation of ECE activities (provided for in decision A (XXXIX)).

13th meeting
14 April 1984
(see para. 331 above)

L (XXXIX). MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF TRANSBOUNDARY
WATER POLLUTION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Bearing in mind the Declaration of Policy on Prevention and Control of Water Pollution, including Transboundary Pollution,

Taking note of its decision C (XXXV), resolution 1 (XXXVI) and decisions E (XXXVII) and G (XXXVIII), as well as the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/1080 on Monitoring and Evaluation of Transboundary Water Pollution,

1. Takes note of the work accomplished so far in the field of monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution;
2. Recognizes the significance of the development and strengthening of co-operation of the ECE member countries and co-ordination of their activities in water pollution control matters, including transboundary water pollution;
3. Takes note of the invitation of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, to host, in the autumn of 1984, an ECE seminar on co-operation in the field of transboundary waters; and
4. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fortieth session on the development in this field.

13th meeting
14 April 1984
(see para. 333 above)

M (XXXIX). CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF PROTECTION AND
IMPROVEMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision F (XXXVIII),

Taking note of the relevant recommendations of the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting of Representatives of the Participating States of the CSCE, to continue efforts to strengthen co-operation within the ECE framework in the field of the environment,

1. Welcomes the activities of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems with regard to elaborating a strategy for environmental protection and rational use of natural resources in the ECE member countries for the period up to the year 2000 and beyond, taking into account the activities of UNEP in regard to the elaboration of a global strategy;

2. Invites the Senior Advisers to pursue their efforts in implementing the recommendations contained in the Declaration on Low- and Non-waste Technology and Re-utilization and Recycling of Wastes, including the recommendation to draw up a compendium on non-waste technology;

3. Calls upon the Senior Advisers to intensify their activities as regards air pollution matters not covered by the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and as regards the work of the Group of Experts on Environmental Impact Assessment;

4. Recommends to the Senior Advisers to elaborate concrete proposals for their programme of work in the field of protection of flora and fauna and their habitats in the ECE region taking into account the activities of other international organizations in this respect;

5. Requests the Senior Advisers to pay special attention to co-ordination of their activities with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission on environmental protection, taking into account relevant decisions on concentration and integration of the Commission's work programme; and

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the Commission at its fortieth session.

13th meeting
14 April 1984
(see para. 335 above)

ANNEX I

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
OF ACTIONS AND PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION

(TO BE ABSORBED WITHIN THE EXISTING BUDGETARY PROVISIONS)

	DOCUMENT IN WHICH THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS IS CONTAINED	ESTIMATED COST
<hr/>		
<u>Publications</u>		
Series of country profiles: east-west trade of selected ECE member countries in the 1970s	ECE/TRADE/147, para. 35	\$ 44,100
Report on the relationship between housing and the national economy	ECE/HBP/47, para. 87	\$ 16,000
Survey of the human settlements situation in the ECE region	ditto	\$ 26,000
ECE compendium of model provisions for building regulations	ditto	\$ 19,000
Municipal and industrial waste water treatment practices in the ECE region	ECE/WATER/33, para. 65	\$ 13,060
ECE Declaration of policy on prevention and control of water pollution, including transboundary pollution) ditto)))	\$ 4,000
Decision on international co-operation on shared water resources)))	
ECE Declaration of policy on the rational use of water))	
Airborne sulphur pollution: effects and control	ECE/EB.AIR/1, para. 36(c)	\$ 1,600
Monitoring of air pollution in Europe	EB.AIR/GE.1/2, para. 20(d)	\$ 14,500
Production and use of engineering equipment and automation means for preventing water pollution	ECE/ENG.AUT/14, para. 27	\$ 16,000
Measures for improving engineering equipment with a view to more effective energy use	ditto, para. 24	\$ 28,480
Evolution of the specific consumption of steel	ECE/STEEL/44, para. 20	\$ 27,925

ANNEX II

LIST OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION'S SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD IN 1983/84

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>THE COMMISSION</u>		
<u>Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution</u>		
Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution	First session 7-10 June 1983	ECE/EB.AIR/1
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V.G. Sokolovsky (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. J. Bruce (Canada) Mr. I. Dukovski (Bulgaria) Mr. W. Kakebeeke (Netherlands)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on Financing of EMEP</u>	7-9 November 1983	EB.AIR/AC.1/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Schneider (Netherlands)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Bretschneider (Czechoslovakia)		
Working Group of Effects	Third session 5-8 March 1984	EB.AIR/WG.1/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Yakovlev (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. K. Meijer (Netherlands)		
Steering Body to the Co-operative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP)	Seventh session 10-11 November 1983	EB.AIR/GE.1/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Schneider (Netherlands)		
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. A. Estlander (Finland) Mr. A. Pressman (USSR) Mr. D.J. Szepesi (Hungary) Mr. R. Wilson (United Kingdom)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>Energy</u>		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on Energy Conservation</u>	1-4 November 1983	ECE/AC.10/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Bobak (Czechoslovakia)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Köffler (Austria)		
Second <u>ad hoc Meeting on New and Renewable Sources of Energy</u>	7-10 November 1983	ECE/AC.11/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.P. Campen (Netherlands)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Vajda (Hungary)		
Meeting of Rapporteurs on Common Methodological Guidelines to Assess the Comparable Merits and Prospects of Various New and Renewable Sources of Energy	First meeting 12-13 October 1983	ECE/AC.12/2
	Second meeting 27-29 February 1984	ECE/AC.13/2
Chaired by the secretariat		
Symposium on Rational Utilization of Secondary Forms of Energy in the Economy, particularly in Industry	17-21 October 1983 Bucharest (Romania)	ENERGY/SEM.3/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Florescu (Romania)		
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. R. Wolf (France)		
	Mr. E.V. Ametistov (USSR)	
Third Consultation of General Rapporteurs for the Symposium on Rational Utilization of Secondary Forms of Energy in the Economy, particularly in Industry	11-12 July 1983	ENERGY/SEM.3/AC.4/2
<u>Engineering industries and automation</u>		
Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation	Fourth session 7-9 March 1984	ECE/ENG.AUT/14
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Petrichenko (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. de Roy (Netherlands)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Joint <u>ad hoc</u> Meeting on Questions of Statistics concerning Engineering Industries and Automation	Fifth meeting 30 May - 1 June 1983	ENG.AUT/AC.1/6 CES/AC.57/14
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Hewer (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Kurilla (Czechoslovakia)		
<u>Ad hoc</u> Meeting on Methodology for Assessing the Techno-economic Trends of Automation	16-18 November 1983	ENG.AUT/AC.3/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Hewer (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Bandorowicz (Poland)		
<u>Ad hoc</u> Meeting for the Study on Measures for Improving Engineering Equipment with a View to More Effective Energy Use	2-3 June 1983	ENG.AUT/AC.4/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. O. Ladanyi (Austria)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Kubik (Czechoslovakia)		
<u>Ad hoc</u> Meeting for the Study on Production and Use of Industrial Robots	17-18 November 1983	ENG.AUT/AC.5/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Kozyrev (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Gallogly (United States)		
Second <u>ad hoc</u> Meeting for the Study on Production and Use of Engineering Equipment and Automation Means for Preventing Water Pollution	5-6 March 1984	ENG.AUT/AC.6/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Hagen (German Democratic Republic)		
Seminar on Innovation in Biomedical Equipment	2-6 May 1983 Budapest (Hungary)	ENG.AUT/SEM.2/3
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Martos (Hungary)		
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. R. Kadefors (Sweden)		
Mr. O. Ladanyi (Austria)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Flexible Manufacturing Systems: Design and Applications <u>Chairman:</u> Mrs. S. Grozdanova (Bulgaria)	14-15 November 1983	ENG.AUT/SEM.3/AC/2
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Development and Use of Powder Metallurgy in Engineering Industries <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Medvedev (Byelorussian SSR)	6-9 March 1984	ENG.AUT/SEM.4/AC/2
<u>Population</u>		
Meeting on Population <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Kalaidjiev (Bulgaria) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Massot (France)	6-12 October 1983 Sofia (Bulgaria)	ECE/AC.9/2
<u>Standardization</u>		
Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Williams (United Kingdom) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Olajos (Hungary)	Eighth meeting 20-24 February 1984	ECE/STAND/26
Group of Experts on Standardization Policies <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Williams (United Kingdom) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Földesi (Hungary)	Eleventh session 31 May - 2 June 1983 Helsinki (Finland) Stockholm (Sweden)	STAND/GE.1/23
Seminar on Testing <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Williams (United Kingdom) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Földesi (Hungary)	3 November 1983 Prague (Czechoslovakia)	STAND/SEM.1/1 TRADE/SEM.6/1

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS</u>		
Committee on Agricultural Problems	Thirty-fifth session 12-16 March 1984	ECE/AGRI/73
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W.A.F. Grabisch (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Rosa (Czechoslovakia)		
Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce	Thirty-ninth session 18-21 October 1983	AGRI/WP.1/34
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Ansermet (Switzerland)		
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. F. Distler (Federal Republic of Germany) Mr. F. Morawski (Poland)		
Group of Experts on Co-ordination of Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables	Twenty-ninth (special) session 17 October 1983	AGRI/WP.1/GE.1/22
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Ruineau (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Karacsony (Hungary)		
Group of Experts on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce (Fruit)	Twenty-ninth session 24-27 May 1983	AGRI/WP.1/GE.2/29
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Ayfer (Turkey)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Augeai (France)		
Group of Experts on Standardization of Egg Products	Fifth session 30 May - 1 June 1983	AGRI/WP.1/GE.8/19
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Keijzer (Netherlands)		
Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture	Twenty-ninth session 19-22 September 1983	FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/59
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Lehoczky (Hungary)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Hilmersen (Norway)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Agrarian Structure and Farm Rationalization	Sixth session 6-10 February 1984	FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.3/15
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Alfons (Austria)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Pič (Czechoslovakia)		
<u>CHEMICAL INDUSTRY COMMITTEE</u>		
Chemical Industry Committee	Sixteenth session 4-7 October 1983	ECE/CHEM/47
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Grzywa (Poland)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mrs. R. Nuortila (Finland)		
<u>Ad hoc</u> Meeting for the Study on Low- and Non-waste Technologies in the Production of Organics	19-20 March 1984	CHEM/AC.12/5
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Boutry (France)		
<u>Ad hoc</u> Meeting for the Study on Trends in Feedstocks for Organics	22-23 November 1983	CHEM/AC.13/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Lindemann (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Ad hoc</u> Meeting for the Study on the Role and Place of the Chemical Industry in the Economies of ECE Member Countries	24-25 November 1983	CHEM/AC.14/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. van den Brink (Netherlands)		
Seminar on Chemicals from Synthesis Gas	27-29 June 1983	CHEM/SEM.12/3
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Juengten (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. J. Kopytowski (Poland)		
Mr. M. Herlitz (Sweden)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on New Developments in Polymer Production and Processing	23-24 June 1983	CHEM/SEM.13/AC/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Kopytowski (Poland)		
<u>COAL COMMITTEE</u>		
Coal Committee	Seventy-ninth session	ECE/COAL/77
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Ciszak (Poland)	26-29 September 1983	
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Lauffs (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Group of Experts on Productivity and Management Problems in the Coal Industry	Fourteenth session 15-17 June 1983	COAL/GE.1/22
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Heising (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. K. Čádan (Czechoslovakia)		
Group of Experts on Coal Statistics	Twentieth session 20-22 June 1983	COAL/GE.2/22
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W.H. Oakland (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Sukhov (USSR)		
Group of Experts on the Utilization and Preparation of Solid Fuels	Fourteenth session 13-15 June 1983	COAL/GE.3/22
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Ruban (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Mignon (Belgium)		
Group of Experts on Opencast Mines	Fourth session 9-11 May 1983 Ankara (Turkey)	COAL/GE.5/8
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G.F. Lindlay (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Gridnev (USSR)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Working Party on Coal Trade <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Ferchaux (France) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Cernovsky (Czechoslovakia)	Twenty-fourth session 22-24 June 1983	COAL/WP.1/50
Symposium on the Utilization of Waste from Coal Mining and Preparation <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Kulcsar (Hungary) <u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. D. Turnbull (United Kingdom) Mr. I.K. Nekhoroshy (USSR)	17-21 October 1983 Tatabánya (Hungary)	COAL/SEM.8/2
<u>CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS</u>		
Conference of European Statisticians <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Salapa (Romania) <u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. A. Donda (German Democratic Republic) Mr. J. Boreham (United Kingdom)	Thirty-first session 13-17 June 1983	ECE/CES/22
Joint FAO/ECE Study Group on Food and Agricultural Statistics in Europe <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Niphuis (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Fazekas (Hungary)	Fourteenth session 2-5 May 1983	FAO/ECE/CES:ESS(83)-6
Meeting on Statistical Methodology <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. S.J.M. de Ree (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Markovic (Yugoslavia)	21-24 November 1983	CES/AC.48/52
Joint ECE/ILO Meeting on Manpower Statistics <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H.-L. Mayer (Federal Republic of Germany) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Berkman (Netherlands)	Second meeting 16-19 May 1983	CES/AC.51/27

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Joint <u>ad hoc</u> Meeting on Questions of Statistics concerning Engineering Industries and Automation	Fifth meeting 30 May - 1 June 1983	CES/AC.57/14 ENG.AUT/AC.1/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Hewer (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Kurilla (Czechoslovakia)		
Meeting on Environmental Indicators	19-22 March 1984	CES/AC.58/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Naumann (German Democratic Republic)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. K. Medin (Sweden)		
Meeting on Economic Classifications	20-24 February 1984	CES/AC.59/7
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Beekman (Netherlands)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Ms. S. Tuu (Hungary)		
Working Party on the Framework for the Integration of Social and Demographic Statistics (FSDS)	Eighth session 30 January - 3 February 1984	CES/WP.34/56
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Fastbom (Sweden)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Kordos (Poland)		
<u>COMMITTEE ON ELECTRIC POWER</u>		
Committee on Electric Power	Forty-second session 16-20 January 1984	ECE/EP/59
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Goubet (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Terstyanszky (Hungary)		
Group of Experts on Problems of Planning and Operating Large Power Systems	Fifteenth session 25-27 May 1983	EP/GE.2/22
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. K. Hoenigmann (Austria)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. K.-H. Schramm (German Democratic Republic)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Experts on Electric Power Stations <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Kieffer (France) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Ageev (USSR)	Fourteenth session 17-19 October 1983	EP/GE.3/22
Group of Experts on the Relationship between Electricity and the Environment <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Carreira (Spain) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A.V. Orlov (USSR)	Twelfth session 28-30 November 1983	EP/GE.4/22
<u>COMMITTEE ON GAS</u>		
Committee on Gas <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Zhabrev (USSR) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Gläser (Federal Republic of Germany)	Thirtieth session 23-26 January 1984	ECE/GAS/70
Group of Experts on Gas Statistics and Forecasting Problems <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W.F. Beems (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Urevitch (Byelorussian SSR)	Twentieth session 24-25 November 1983	GAS/GE.1/18
Group of Experts on the Use and Distribution of Gas <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Schmitter (German Democratic Republic) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Bakker (Netherlands)	Fourteenth session 6-8 June 1983	GAS/GE.2/22
Group of Experts on the Transport and Storage of Gas <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Jones (United Kingdom) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Sponer (Czechoslovakia)	Fourteenth session 8-10 June 1983	GAS/GE.3/22

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Experts on Natural Gas Resources	Eighth session 16-18 May 1983	GAS/GE.4/16
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Schott (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Zhabrev (USSR)		
<u>COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING</u>		
Committee on Housing, Building and Planning	Forty-fourth session 5-9 September 1983 Ottawa (Canada)	ECE/HBP/47
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. U. Lammert (German Democratic Republic)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. K. Baumgartner (Switzerland)		
Group of Experts on Human Settlements Problems in Southern Europe	Twelfth session 6-11 November 1983 Crete, Athens (Greece)	HBP/GE.2/17
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Romanos (Greece)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Janic (Yugoslavia)		
Working Party on Housing	Twelfth session 28 February - 2 March 1984	HBP/WP.1/18
<u>Chairman:</u> Mrs. E. Lerova (Czechoslovakia)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Lujanen (Finland)		
Working Party on Building	Fifteenth session 24-27 January 1984	HBP/WP.2/22
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A.W. Gerretsen (Netherlands)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. S. Wierzbicki (Poland)		
Working Party on Urban and Regional Planning	Fifteenth session 27-29 April 1983	HBP/WP.3/18
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Vladimirov (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Ms. S. Hautojärvi (Finland)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Experts on Urban and Regional Research <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Sumka (United States) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Piskovskiy (Ukrainian SSR)	Fourteenth session 25-27 April 1983	HBP/WP.3/GE.1/23
Seminar on Integrated Planning <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. O. Syrjänen (Finland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mrs. Z. Nenova (Bulgaria)	6-10 June 1983 Rovaniemi, Lapland (Finland)	HBP/SEM.31/2
Seminar on Research on Long-term Perspectives for Human Settlements Development <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Lackó (Hungary) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Hazelhoff (Netherlands)	17-21 October 1983 Budapest (Hungary)	HBP/SEM.32/2
<u>INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE</u>		
Inland Transport Committee <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Jordanis (Switzerland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Turbut (Romania)	Forty-fifth session 30 January - 3 February 1984	ECE/TRANS/57
Group of Experts on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Feilberg (Denmark)	Thirty-eighth session 3-7 October 1983	TRANS/GE.11/23
Group of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Grainger (United Kingdom)	Thirty-fifth session 16-20 May 1983 Thirty-sixth session 24-28 October 1983	TRANS/GE.15/23 TRANS/GE.15/25

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the ECE Group of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	26 September - 7 October 1983	TRANS/GE.15/AC.1/16
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Kirschsieper (Switzerland)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Marrec (France)		
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Visser (Netherlands)	2-13 April 1984 Berne (Switzerland)	TRANS/GE.15/AC.1/18
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Lohrmann (German Democratic Republic)		
Group of Experts on Combined Transport	Fifth session 27-30 June 1983	TRANS/GE.24/10
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. van Zijst (Netherlands)		
Group of Experts on Customs Questions affecting Transport	Forty-ninth session 24-28 October 1983	TRANS/GE.30/35
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Hohrmann (Federal Republic of Germany)	Fiftieth session 12-16 March 1984	TRANS/GE.30/37
Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention 1975	Sixth session 27-28 October 1983	TRANS/GE.30/AC.2/12
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P.-P. de Vaucher (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Petrick (USSR)		
Group of Rapporteurs on Customs Questions concerning Containers (GRCC)	Twenty-eighth session 4-7 July 1983	TRANS/GE.30/GRCC/11
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Hohrmann (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Group of Experts on Transport Trends and Policy	Third session 4-6 July 1983	TRANS/GE.36/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Kozine (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Wiberg (Sweden)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Experts on Transport Economics	Third session 10-12 October 1983	TRANS/GE.37/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.-P. Baumgartner (Switzerland)		
Working Party on Road Transport	Seventy-second (special) session 27 June - 1 July 1983	TRANS/SC1/313
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Chappuis (Switzerland)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Krausz (Hungary)		
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Chappuis (Switzerland)	Seventy-third session	TRANS/SC1/316
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Tarwid (Poland)	14-18 November 1983	
Ad hoc Meeting on Implementation of the Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR)	19-20 May 1983	TRANS/SC1/AC.5/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Hondermarcq (Belgium)		
Group of Experts on Road Traffic Safety	Forty-fifth session 6-10 June 1983	TRANS/SC1/GE.20/41
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Astashov (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Plomteux (Belgium)	Forty-sixth session 26-30 September 1983	TRANS/SC1/GE.20/43
Group of Experts on the Construction of Vehicles	Seventieth session 20-24 June 1983	TRANS/SC1/WP29/106
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Pocci (Italy)		
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Pocci (Italy)	Seventy-first session 31 October - 4 November 1983	TRANS/SC1/WP29/110
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Kutenjev (USSR)		
	Seventy-second session 5-9 March 1984	TRANS/SC.1/WP29/118
Ad hoc Meeting on Co-ordination of Work of the Group of Experts on the Construction of Vehicles	16 June 1983 27 October 1983 1 March 1984	TRANS/SC1/WP29/AC.2/21 TRANS/SC1/WP29/AC.2/22 TRANS/SC1/WP29/AC.2/23
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Pocci (Italy)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Rapporteurs on Noise (GRB) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Tippmann (Federal Republic of Germany)	Twelfth session 10-12 April 1984 Brighton (United Kingdom)	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRB/10
Group of Rapporteurs on Crashworthiness (GRCS) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Pocci (Italy)	Thirteenth session 23-25 August 1983 Fourteenth session 24-26 January 1984	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRCS/13 TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRCS/14
Group of Rapporteurs on Lighting and Light-signalling (GRE) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Kuiperbak (Netherlands)	Eleventh session 17-20 January 1984	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRE/11
Group of Rapporteurs on Pollution and Energy (GRPE) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Gauvin (France)	Eighth session 30 August - 2 September 1983 Ninth session 7-10 February 1984	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRPE/8 TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRPE/9
Group of Rapporteurs on Brakes and Running Gear (GRRF) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Tippmann (Federal Republic of Germany)	Fourteenth session 6-9 December 1983	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRRF/14
Group of Rapporteurs on Safety Provisions on Motor Coaches and Buses (GRSA) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Furness (United Kingdom)	Twenty-eighth session 15-18 November 1983 Edinburgh (United Kingdom)	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSA/19
Group of Rapporteurs on General Safety Provisions (GRSG) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Furness (United Kingdom)	Forty-second session 11-14 July 1983 Forty-third session 8-11 November 1983 Frankfurt (Federal Republic of Germany)	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSG/21 TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSG/22
Working Party on Rail Transport <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Thiers (Federal Republic of Germany) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Várkonyi (Hungary)	Thirty-seventy session 2-4 November 1983	TRANS/SC2/158

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Rapporteurs on the Development of a European Railway Network (GREN)	Second session 5-7 September 1983	TRANS/SC2/GREN/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.-P. Baumgartner (Switzerland)	Third session 27-29 February 1984	TRANS/SC2/GREN/6
Working Party on Inland Water Transport	Twenty-seventh session 7-10 November 1983	TRANS/SC3/110
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H.O. Heeger (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Rak (Czechoslovakia)		
Group of Experts on the Standardization of Technical Requirements for Vessels and of Ships' Papers	Twenty-second session 29 August - 2 September 1983	TRANS/SC3/GE.1/42
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Ö. Vass (Hungary)	Twenty-third session 13-17 February 1984	TRANS/SC3/GE.1/44
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Dijkstra (Netherlands)		
Group of Experts on the Standardization of Rules of the Road and Signs and Signals in Inland Navigation	Twenty-second session 25-29 April 1983) TRANS/SC3/GE.2/42)))
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. van Doorn (Netherlands)	Twenty-third session 30 May - 3 June 1983	
	Twenty-fourth session 12-16 September 1983	
Seminar on Financial Aspects in the Context of International Transport Infrastructure Investments	26-30 March 1984 Budapest (Hungary)	TRANS/SEM.2/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Timár (Hungary)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Aarvala (Finland)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
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SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems	Twelfth session 7-10 February 1984	ECE/ENV/43
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Chairman: Mr. V.G. Sokolovsky
(USSR)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Lauridsen
(Denmark)

National Focal Points for the Compilation of a Compendium on Low- and Non-waste Technology	Sixth meeting 17-18 October 1983	ENV/AC.7/12
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Chairman: Mr. G. van Grootveld
(Netherlands)

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. N. Boutyguina
(USSR)

Group of Experts on Environmental Impact Assessment	Second session 30 November - 2 December 1983	ENV/GE.1/4
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Chairman: Mr. R. Connelly
(Canada)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. I. Tchirgadze
(USSR)

Working Party on Air Pollution Problems	Thirteenth session 9-11 January 1984	ENV/WP.1/20
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Chairman: Mrs. W. Wojciechowska-
Dindorf (Poland)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. L. Lindau
(Sweden)

Working Party on Low- and Non-waste Technology and Re-utilization and Recycling of Wastes	Fourth session 19-21 October 1983	ENV/WP.2/9
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Chairman: Mr. P.R. Philip
(France)

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. N. Boutyguina
(USSR)

SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	Eleventh session 19-23 September 1983	ECE/SC.TECH./25
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Chairman: Mr. L. Putz
(Austria)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. L. Papp
(Hungary)

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Seminar on the Assessment of the Impact of Science and Technology on Long-term Economic Prospects <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A.A. Boscolo (Italy) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Kossov (USSR)	16-20 May 1983 Rome (Italy)	SC.TECH./SEM.10/2 EC.AD./SEM.8/2
Seminar on Integrated Utilization of Low-Calorific- Value-Fuels <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. F.V. Sapozhnikov (USSR) <u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. A. Jahkola (Finland) Mr. S. Odehnal (Czechoslovakia)	24-28 October 1983 Moscow (USSR)	SC.TECH./SEM.11/2
Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium on the Importance of Biotechnology for Future Economic Development <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Holló (Hungary) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. McSweeney (Ireland)	26-27 March 1984	SC.TECH./SEM.12/AC/

SENIOR ECONOMIC ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS

Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Lohse (Denmark) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. N. Naydenov (Bulgaria)	Twentieth session 20-24 February 1984	EC/EC.AD./23
Seminar on the Assessment of the Impact of Science and Technology on Long-term Economic Prospects <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A.A. Boscolo (Italy) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Kossov (USSR)	16-20 May 1983 Rome (Italy)	EC.AD./SEM.8/2 SC.TECH./SEM.10/2

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>STEEL COMMITTEE</u>		
Steel Committee	Fifty-first session	ECE/STEEL/44
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. R. de Brouwer (Netherlands)	26-28 October 1983	
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Vashchenko (USSR)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Evolution of the Specific Consumption of Steel</u>	24-25 October 1983	STEEL/AC.6/8
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. F.A.M. Vlemmings (Netherlands)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A.A. Dello (USSR)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Strategy for Energy Use in the Iron and Steel Industry</u>	Third meeting 20-21 June 1983	STEEL/AC.7/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Miksa (Czechoslovakia)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Funck (Belgium)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting for the Study on Structural Changes in International Steel Trade</u>	15-16 February 1984	STEEL/AC.8/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Signora (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Navara (Czechoslovakia)		
Working Party on the Steel Market	Twenty-second session	STEEL/WP.1/22
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Fumagalli (Italy)	23-24 June 1983	
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Szabo (Hungary)		
Seminar on the Economic Problems related to the Creation of Steel Plants using Direct Reduction	16-20 May 1983 Noordwijkerhout (Netherlands)	STEEL/SEM.9/3
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.M. van Langen (Netherlands)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Müller (German Democratic Republic)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on the Economic and Technological Aspects of the Protection of Steel against Corrosion	22-24 June 1983	STEEL/SEM.10/AC/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Eberling (German Democratic Republic)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Ottolander (Netherlands)		
<u>TIMBER COMMITTEE</u>		
Timber Committee	Forty-first session 10-14 October 1983	ECE/TIM/23
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Froncillo (Italy)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Nowicki (Poland)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Impact of Energy Developments on the Forestry and Forest Products Sector</u>	2-4 May 1983	TIM/EFC/AC.2/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Frühwald (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Koperin (USSR)		
Steering Committee of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers	Sixth session 9-10 May 1983	TIM/EFC/WP.1/AC.1/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A.P. Livanov (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Sutton (United Kingdom)		
Seminar on Machines and Techniques for Forest Plant Production	20-24 June 1983 Tatranská Lomnica, High Tatras (Czechoslovakia)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/SEM.16/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Shedic (Czechoslovakia)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. S.-E. Appelroth (Finland)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Seminar on Silvicultural, Technological, Economic and other Problems connected with the Mechanization of Thinning Operations <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Flöhr (German Democratic Republic) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Akre (Norway)	12-16 September 1983 Eberswalde (German Democratic Republic)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/SEM.17/2
Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Clicheroux (Belgium) <u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. I. Predescu (Romania) Mr. K. Janz (Sweden)	Fourteenth session 13-17 June 1983	TIM/EFC/WP.2/12
<u>COMMITTEE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE</u>		
Committee on the Development of Trade <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Z. Jung (Czechoslovakia) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J.I. Metcalfe (United Kingdom)	Thirty-second session 5-9 December 1983	ECE/TRADE/147
Special Experts' Meeting on Compensation Trade <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Major (Hungary) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Köffler (Austria)	18-20 July 1983	TRADE/AC.19/2
Special Experts' Meeting on Obstacles to Trade <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Hall (Sweden) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. Z. Krzysztofowicz (Poland)	5-7 September 1983	TRADE/AC.20/2

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Experts on International Contract Practices in Industry	Twenty-second session 11-13 July 1983	TRADE/GE.1/57
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Winter (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Willma (German Democratic Republic)	Twenty-third session 12-16 December 1983	TRADE/GE.1/59
Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures	Eighteenth session 28-30 September 1983	TRADE/WP.4/145
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. David (Czechoslovakia)		
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. David (Czechoslovakia)	Nineteenth session 21-23 March 1984	TRADE/WP.4/147
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. N.B. Leuf (Sweden)		
Group of Experts No. 1: Data Elements and Automatic Data Interchange	Twenty-eighth session 27-28 September 1983	TRADE/WP.4/GE.1/53
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Miller (German Democratic Republic)		
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Dreyfous (France)	Twenty-ninth session	TRADE/WP.4/GE.1/55
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Miller (German Democratic Republic)	19-20 March 1984	
Group of Experts No. 2: Procedures and Documentation	Twenty-eighth session 26 September 1983	TRADE/WP.4/GE.2/53
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Dale (United Kingdom)		
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Dale (United Kingdom)	Twenty-ninth session	TRADE/WP.4/GE.2/55
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Dima (Romania)	20-21 March 1984	
Seminar on Testing	3 November 1983 Prague (Czechoslovakia)	TRADE/SEM.6/1 STAND/SEM.1/1
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Williams (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Foldesi (Hungary)		

Body and officers

Session

Document symbol
of report

COMMITTEE ON WATER PROBLEMS

Committee on Water Problems	Fifteenth session 14-18 November 1983	ECE/WATER/33
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Karakatsoulis (Greece)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Plechac (Czechoslovakia)		
Group of Experts on Aspects of Water Quality and Quantity	Eleventh session 3-6 May 1983	WATER/GE.1/22
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Roussak (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. O. Malek (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Seminar on Groundwater Protection Strategies and Practices	10-14 October 1983 Athens (Greece)	WATER/SEM.10/3
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Karakatsoulis (Greece)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Alföldi (Hungary)		

ECE/UNDP Operational Projects

Steering Committee (Trans-European North-South Motorway Project (TEM))	Tenth session 6-7 December 1983	TEM/14
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Vasarhelvi (Hungary)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Boicu (Romania)		
Steering Committee of the Statistical Computing Project (SCP)	Fifth meeting 23-25 November 1983 Belgrade (Yugoslavia)	ECE/UNDP/SCP/30
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Walczak (Poland)		
Steering Committee for the Inter- Country Project on International Co-operative Research on Low- Calorie Coal Technology	First meeting 15-16 March 1984 Sofia (Bulgaria)	ECE/UNDP/LCT/1
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Christov (Bulgaria)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Mylonakis (Greece)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Co-ordinating Committee for the Development of the Interconnection of the Electric Power Transmission Systems of the Balkan Countries	Twelfth meeting 12-15 October 1983 Athens (Greece)	-
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Stelakatos (Greece)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Dobre (Romania)		

ANNEX III

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. LIST OF MAJOR ECE STUDIES AND PUBLICATIONS, 1983/84

NOTE: The language versions issued are indicated by the following abbreviations: E, English; F, French; R, Russian; E/F, bilingual (English/French); E/F/R, trilingual (English/French/Russian); *, published for the United Nations by external publishers, as indicated.

GENERAL

- Annual report of the ECE to the ECOSOC, 3 April 1982 -
23 April 1983, Vol. I and II (E/1983/22-E/ECE/1062 and Add.1) E F R
- Economic Survey of Europe in 1982 (Sales No. 83.II.E.1) E F R
- Economic Bulletin for Europe, Vol. 35 (TRADE(XXXII/1)) E F R
- Economic Bulletin for Europe, Vol. 35 (Pergamon Press)
- No. 2: European Agriculture towards the End of the
20th Century E *
- No. 3: Aspects of Labour Market and Population Development
in Western Europe and North America E *
- No. 4: Recent Developments in East-West Trade E *
- Economic Bulletin for Europe, Vol. 36 (Pergamon Press)
- No. 1: Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation in Rural Areas E *

AGRICULTURE

- Prices of Agricultural Products and Selected Inputs in Europe
and North America, 1981/82 - Annual FAO/ECE Price Review No. 32
(ECE/AGRI/69) (Sales No. 83.II.E.7) E F R
- Agricultural Trade Review No. 20: Agricultural Trade in Europe -
Recent Developments (prepared in 1982) (ECE/AGRI/70)
(Sales No. 83.II.E.17) E F R
- Agricultural Market Review No. 25: Review of the Agricultural
Situation in Europe at the End of 1982; Vol. I: General review,
grain, livestock and meat; Vol. II: Dairy products and eggs
(ECE/AGRI/71) (Sales No. 83.II.E.15) E F R
- Technical Study on Triticale (ECE/AGRI/74) E F R

UN-ECE Standards for Dry Fruit (Nuts) (AGRI/WP.1/35)	E F R
Trilingual Glossary of Terms and Definitions of Soil Preparations: AGRI/MECH Report No. 99 (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/56)	E/F/R
The Use of Electronics and Microprocessors for Monitoring and Control of Agricultural Machinery and Equipment: AGRI/MECH Report No. 100 (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/58)	E F R
Present Conditions of Farm Tourism in Europe: AGRI/Agrarian Structures and Farm Rationalization, Report No. 2 (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.3/12)	E F R
Economic and Social Aspects of the Rational Use of Natural Resources in Agriculture: AGRI/Agrarian Structures and Farm Rationalization, Report No. 3 (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.3/14)	E F R
Efficient Use of Fertilizers in Agriculture - Developments in Plant and Soil Sciences, Vol. 10, Martinus Nijhoff, The Hague (Netherlands)	E *

CHEMICALS

Annual Review of the Chemical Industry, 1981 (ECE/CHEM/45) (Sales No. 83.II.E.6)	E F R
Annual Review of the Chemical Industry, 1982 (ECE/CHEM/50) (Sales No. 84.II.E.2)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products, 1981, Vol. VIII (Sales No. 83.II.E.5)	E/F/R
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ENERGY

Energy Transition in the ECE Region (E/ECE/1063) (Sales No. 83.II.E.21)	E F R
The Coal Situation in the ECE Region in 1982 and its Prospects (ECE/COAL/79)	E F R
The Gas Situation in the ECE Region in 1981 and its Prospects (ECE/GAS/71)	E F R
Investments in the Gas Industry in the ECE Region in 1981 and their Financing Possibilities (ECE/GAS/72)	E F R
Impact of the Use of Natural Gas on the Reduction of Specific Energy Consumption in Different Sectors of the Economy (ECE/GAS/74)	E F R
Improved Techniques for the Extraction of Primary Forms of Energy, Graham and Trotman Ltd, London (United Kingdom)	E *

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of General Energy Statistics for Europe, 1981, Vol. XIV (Sales No. 83.II.E.9)	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe, 1982 Vol. XVII (Sales No. 83.II.E.16)	E/F/R
Quarterly Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe, 1982, Vol. XXXI, No. 4	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Electric Energy Statistics for Europe, 1982, Vol. XXVIII (Sales No. 83.II.E.29)	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Gas Statistics for Europe, 1982, Vol. XXVIII (Sales No. 83.II.E.26)	E/F/R

ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND AUTOMATION

Annual Review of Engineering Industries and Automation, 1981 (ECE/ENG.AUT/10) (Sales No. 83.II.E.20)	E F R
Techno-economic Aspects of the International Division of Labour in the Automotive Industry (ECE/ENG.AUT/11) (Sales No. 83.II.E.14)	E F R
Production and Use of Industrial Robots - Part I - Trends in the Manufacture and Use of Industrial Robots (ECE/ENG.AUT/12)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Bulletin of Statistics on World Trade in Engineering Products, 1981 (Sales No. 83.II.E.8)	E/F/R
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ENVIRONMENT

Compendium on Low- and Non-waste Technology, Vol. V: Summaries of Monographs 81-108 (ECE/ENV/36)	E F R
Environmental Series No. 1: National Programmes for Environmental Pollution Control (ECE/ENV/41)	E F R

HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING

International Bibliography of Multilingual Building Vocabularies (ECE/HBP/36)	E F R
Guide of National Building Regulations - Agreed format and example guide (ECE/HBP/39) (Sales No. 83.II.E.23)	E F R

Catalogue of Building Systems and Components approved at the National Level and aimed at International Trade - Agreed format and example catalogue (ECE/HBP/40)
(Sales No. 83.II.E.19)

E F R

List of International Standards and Similar Documents relating to the Building Industry (ECE/HBP/48)

E F R

List of International Documents of a Pre-regulatory and Pre-standardization Nature relating to Building Activity (ECE/HBP/49)

E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics for Europe, 1982, Vol. XXVI (Sales No. 83.II.E.18)

E/F/R

STATISTICS

Statistical Standards and Studies No. 35: European Handbook of Economic Accounts for Agriculture (Sales No. 83.II.E.12)

E F R

Statistical Indicators of Short-term Economic Changes in ECE Countries, 1983, Vol. XXV, No. 4-12

E only

Statistical Indicators of Short-term Economic Changes in ECE Countries, 1984, Vol. XXVI, No. 1-3

E only

Periodic Bulletins

Statistical Journal, Vol. 1, No. 4 and Vol. 2, No. 1 (North Holland Publishing Co.)

E *

STEEL

Iron and Steel Scrap: Its Significance and Influence on further Developments in the Iron and Steel Industries (ECE/STEEL/24/Rev.1)

E F R

The Steel Market in 1982 (ECE/STEEL/42) (Sales No. 83.II.E.13)

E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Statistics of World Trade in Steel, 1982 (Sales No. 83.II.E.24)

E/F/R

Annual Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe, 1982, Vol. X (Sales No. 83.II.E.11)

E/F/R

Quarterly Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe, 1982, Vol. XXXIII, No. 4

E/F/R

Quarterly Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe, 1983, Vol. XXXIV, No. 1, 2 and 3

E/F/R

TIMBER

Supplements to the Timber Bulletin for Europe

Volume XXXV

Supplement No.

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 7 Forest and Forest Products: Country Profile - Hungary | E F R |
| 8 Monthly Prices for Forest Products, No. 18 | E/F |

Volume XXXVI

Supplement No.

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1 Annual Forest Products Market Review | E F R |
| 2 Monthly Prices for Forest Products, No. 19 | E/F |
| 3 Forest Products Market Trends in 1983 and Prospects for 1984 | E/F |
| 4 Monthly Prices for Forest Products, No. 20 | E/F |
| 6 Monthly Prices for Forest Products, No. 21 | E/F |
| 7 Forest Fire Statistics | E F R |

Periodic Bulletins

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|---|-----|
| Timber Bulletin for Europe, Vol. XXXV, No. 2 | E/F |
| Timber Bulletin for Europe, Vol. XXXVI, No. 1 | E/F |

TRADE

- | | |
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| Guide for Drawing up International Contracts on Consulting Engineering, including some related Aspects of Technical Assistance (ECE/TRADE/145) (Sales No. 83.II.E.3) | E F R |
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- | | |
|--|-------|
| Aligned Invoice Layout Key for International Trade: Recommendation No. 6, second edition (ECE/TRADE/148) | E F R |
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TRANSPORTS

Periodic Bulletins

- | | |
|---|-------|
| Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe, 1982, Vol. XXXIV (Sales No. 83.II.E.28) | E/F/R |
| Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe, 1982 Vol. XXIX (Sales No. 83.II.E.30) | E/F/R |

WATER PROBLEMS

- | | |
|---|-------|
| Policies and Strategies for Rational Use of Water in the ECE Region (ECE/WATER/31) (Sales No. 83.II.E.10) | E F R |
|---|-------|

B. LIST OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION AT ITS THIRTY-NINTH SESSION

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The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1983 (Commission resolution 2 (XXV))	/1066
Resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly	/1067
Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries	/1068
Co-operation with other international organizations	/1069
Concentration and integration of the programme of work of the Commission (Commission decision E (XXXVIII))	/1070
Development of trade and industrial co-operation	/1071
Air pollution (Commission decision B (XXXVIII))	/1072
Energy (Commission decision A (XXXVIII))	/1073
Introduction and harmonization of summertime in Europe (Commission decision H (XXXVIII))	/1074
The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference on Population in 1984 (Commission decision C (XXXVIII))	/1075
Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE (Commission decision I (XXXVIII))	/1076
Standardization (Commission decision J (XXXVIII))	/1077
The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (Commission decision D (XXXVIII))	/1078
Engineering industries and automation (Commission decision K (XXXVIII))	/1079
Monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution (Commission decision G (XXXVIII))	/1080
Co-operation in the field of protection and improvement of the environment (Commission decision F (XXXVIII))	/1081
Programme of work for 1984-1988	/1082

REPORTS OF THE PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE COMMISSION

Committee on Agricultural Problems	ECE/AGRI/73
Chemical Industry Committee	ECE/CHEM/47
Coal Committee	ECE/COAL/77
Conference of European Statisticians	ECE/CES/22
Committee on Electric Power	ECE/EP/59

Committee on Gas	ECE/GAS/70
Committee on Housing, Building and Planning	ECE/HBP/47
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Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems	ECE/ENV/43
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	ECE/SC.TECH./25
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	ECE/EC.AD./23
Steel Committee	ECE/STEEL/44
Timber Committee	ECE/TIM/23
Committee on the Development of Trade	ECE/TRADE/147
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REPORTS OF OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation	ECE/ENG.AUT./14
Eighth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies	ECE/STAND/26

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