

STATISTICAL COMMISSION REPORT of the SIXTH SESSION

(7-18 MAY 1951)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTEENTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 5

NEW YORK

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UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS

THIRTEENTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 5

STATISTICAL COMMISSION

Report of the sixth session of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council.

Lake Success, New York, 7 - 18 May 1951

Introduction

MEMBERS ATTENDING THE SIXTH SESSION

- 1. The Statistical Commission met at Lake Success, New York, for its sixth session from 7 to 18 May 1951.
- 2. The following members and alternates attended the session:

Argentina: Mr. C. Bunge (alternate)

Canada: Mr. H. Marshall China: Mr. D. K. Lieu

Czechoslovakia: Mr. J. Stary (alternate)

Denmark: Mr. E. Cohn Egypt: Mr. M. Mashaly France: Mr. R. Rivet

India: Mr. P. C. Mahalanobis

Netherlands: Mr. Ph. J. Idenburg

Panama: Miss C. Miro

Philippines: Mr. J. D. Ingles, Mr. R. Cristobal (alternate)

Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic: Mr. V. A. Rabichko

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: Mr. T. V. Ryabushkin

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Mr. H. Campion, Mr. J. Stafford (alternate)

United States of America: Mr. S. A. Rice.

3. The member of the Commission for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, supported by the members for Czechoslovakia and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic proposed that the Commission should adopt a resolution to exclude the representative of the Kuomintang group from the Statistical Commission and inviting a representative of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China to take part in the work of the Commission as the member for China. The Chairman ruled the proposal out of order in view of General Assembly resolution 396 (V). The ruling of the Chairman was challenged, but was upheld

by the Commission by a vote of 10 in favour and 3 against, with one abstention. ¹

4. The following representatives of the specialized agencies were present:

International Labour Organisation: Mr. A. P. Dawson Food and Agriculture Organization: Mr. M. J. B. Ezekiel

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization: Mr. B. A. Liu, Mr. S. Arnaldo

International-Civil Aviation Organization: Mr. B. Kortekaas

World Health Organization: Mr. G. Hill International Monetary Fund: Mr. E. Hicks.

5. The following representatives of non-governmental organizations attended:

CATEGORY A

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions: Mr. L. Teper

International Chamber of Commerce: Mr. G. L. Ridgeway

CATEGORY B

International Statistical Institute: Mr. G. Goudswaard International Association of Penal Law: Mr. S. Manuila.

6. Secretariat:

Mr. W. R. Leonard, representing the Assistant Secretary-General, Mr. W. J. Bruce, Secretary to the Commission, Mr. P. J. Loftus, Mr. J. B. D. Derksen, Mr. F. E. Linder, Mr. P. K. Whelpton.

¹ The member of the Commission for the USSR was of the opinion that the decision taken was incorrect and illegal because the representative of the Kuomintang group could not legally represent China.

The representative of India stated that, although on this issue his delegation had pressed for consideration of the resolution, he had abstained from voting in view of the fact that the Chairman, in giving his ruling, indicated that the substantive proposal was in conflict with a decision of the General Assembly of which the Statistical Commission was a subordinate body.

OFFICERS OF THE SIXTH SESSION

7. The Commission elected its officers for the current year:

Chairman: Mr. H. Campion

Vice-Chairman: Miss C. Miro

Rapporteur: Mr. P. C. Mahalanobis.

AGENDA

- 8. The Commission adopted the following agenda for its sixth session:
 - (1) Election of officers.
 - (2) Adoption of the agenda.
- (3) Report on Standard International Trade Classification:
 - (a) Use of classification;
 - (b) Status of work on coding guides and manuals.
- (4) Proposed standards for international trade statistics.
- (5) Report on application of transport definitions.
- (6) Items referred from other Commissions:
 - (a) Accident statistics;
 - (b) Actions concerning statistics taken by the Transport and Communications Commission;
 - (c) Migration statistics;
 - (d) Progress Report on Population Censuses 1950/51;
 - (e) Criminal statistics;
 - (f) Population Commission actions taken concerning statistics.
- (7) Proposed standards for price index numbers.
- (8) Proposed standards for vital records and statistics.
- (9) Proposed standards for basic industrial statistics.
- (10) Report on International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities.
- (11) Report on classification of occupations.
- (12) Statistics on capital formation.
- (13) Report on censuses of distribution.
- (14) Report of the Sub-Commission on Statistical Sampling.
- (15) Report on status of technical assistance in statistics.
- (16) (a) Accuracy of statistics;
 - (b) Appraisal of quality of demographic statistics.
- (17) Matters arising in connexion with the International Convention relating to Economic Statistics.

- (18) Other business:
 - (a) Revision of the Trusteeship Questionnaire;
 - (b) Priorities of Commission programme.
- (19) Report of the sixth session of the Statistical Commission to the Economic and Social Council.

I. International trade statistics

STATUS AND USE OF THE STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION

- 9. The Commission considered the status and use of the Standard International Trade Classification. A memorandum prepared by the Secretariat (E/CN.3/120) showed that since the approval of the SITC by the Economic and Social Council in July 1950 a substantial number of countries had indicated their intention of either: (a) adopting the Classification for national as well as international purposes or (b) rearranging their statistical data in accordance with the Classification for purposes of international comparison. Some countries had already adopted the Classification. Other countries had stated that they were still considering the method by which they would make use of the SITC, and replies were still awaited from certain countries.
- 10. The Commission considered four aspects of the use of the SITC:
- (a) The method of reporting trade statistics for international comparison;
- (b) The expansion and contraction of the SITC to meet national needs or the needs of particular regions;
- (c) The Customs Nomenclature to which the SITC should be linked;
- (d) The provision of alphabetical indexes to assist countries in using the SITC.
- 11. The Commission noted the steps that had already been taken by the Secretariat to ensure the publication of internationally comparable data and the extent to which the Secretariat had succeeded in securing the collaboration of other agencies. Countries accounting for more than 50 per cent of world trade had undertaken to report their data in terms of the SITC.
- 12. Differences in the structure of certain countries' trade made it unnecessary for them to use certain detailed headings in the SITC under which their trade was unimportent and made it desirable for them to sub-divide headings in which substantial parts of their trade were concentrated. It was felt that some countries would require the assistance of the Secretariat in making the necessary expansions and contractions of the headings of the Classification even though some guidance was available in the introduction to the published edition of the SITC.
- 13. The Commission noted that the SITC had been published ² with reference numbers keying each item to (1) the League of Nations *Minimum List* and (2)

² Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 10: Standard International Trade Classification.

the Draft Customs Nomenclature of the League of Nations (DCN). The necessity of keying the SITC to a customs nomenclature arose from the fact that customs nomenclature has served, especially in European countries, as a guide to the contents of statistical classifications. The Commission noted also that the DCN was not widely used and that its use was diminishing. Since the publication of the SITC, collaboration between the Secretary-General and the European Customs Union Study Group had resulted in the establishment of easy convertibility between the SITC and the Tariff Nomenclature (TN) of the Study Group. The Commission was of the view that the lastmentioned nomenclature was likely to have wider application than the DCN. Moreover, the keying of the SITC to the Tariff Nomenclature of the Study Group would avoid the necessity for sub-dividing a large number of customs items. In addition, explanatory notes and an alphabetical index to the nomenclature were being prepared.

14. The Commission had before it a progress report on the construction of alphabetic indexes to facilitate the use of the SITC. It was felt that the completion of these indexes was urgently necessary both to economise the work involved in each country and to ensure uniformity of conversion of national classifications.

15. The Statistical Commission

Requests the Secretary-General:

- (a) To arrange for the publication of data on international trade classified according to the Standard International Trade Classification as soon as material is provided by Member countries;
- (b) To give assistance to countries in adopting or achieving convertability to the Standard International Trade Classification in the presentation of their trade data;
- (c) To expedite, with the resources available to him, the publication of indexes showing the location of each commodity in the Standard International Trade Classification.

DEFINITIONS FOR TRADE STATISTICS

- 16. The Commission considered a paper entitled "Definitions for international trade statistics" prepared by the Secretary-General (E/CN.3/126). This paper was intended as part of a technical manual to contain suggestions for the use of governments on the improvement of trade statistics. These suggestions differed from the provisions of the League of Nations International Convention relating to Economic Statistics by making specific recommendations on methods of valuation, determination of country of origin and destination, and coverage of trade data, all matters on which the International Convention admitted alternatives.
- 17. The Commission examined the paper in detail and made a number of technical suggestions for use when the paper was revised. The Commission was of the opinion that an effort should be made, after consultation with governments, to formulate recommendations to extend and, where necessary, to replace those contained in the International Convention.

18. The Statistical Commission

Takes note of the work of the Secretary-General directed towards the improvement of international trade statistics, as outlined in the memorandum on definitions for international trade statistics (E/CN.3/126);

Requests the Secretary-General to re-examine the main concepts, definitions and practices in use in the field of trade statistics having particular reference to the provisions of the International Convention in this matter, and, taking account of the views and practices of Member Governments, to take appropriate action for the preparation of a report to the Commission at its next session.

· Definitions of customs areas

- 19. The Commission considered the definitions of customs areas used in international trade statistics, as presented in the Secretariat memorandum (E/CN.3/127). The Commission noted that the "List of Countries" annexed to the International Convention was out of date and defined customs areas in a manner that did not secure universal acceptance.
- 20. The Commission agreed on the principle that the customs area of each country, as defined by the country itself, should constitute the basis upon which the trading partners of each country compile their statistics of trade-by-countries. In order to establish accurately the definition of each customs area it would be necessary to obtain from each country a definition of its customs area. These definitions would then have to be made known to all countries. There would be no conflict with this principle if the component parts of customs areas were distinguished by countries in their trade-by-country statistics.
- 21. The Statistical Commission recommends that the Economic and Social Council adopt the following resolution:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Recognizing that the "List of Countries (Territories to which the Statistics apply)" which is part II of annex I to the International Convention relating to Economic Statistics (1928) has been rendered obsolete by events,

"Invites the Secretary-General to compile, with the concurrence of each country concerned, and to issue a summary of the official definitions made by Governments themselves of their customs areas, and to keep the summary up to date by periodic revision;

"Requests each Member Government, in compiling trade-by-country statistics, so far as it is able, to use the definition of that territory for customs purposes provided by the government concerned as the definition of the territory with which it has traded."

22. The Commission considered the problems which arise in the presentation of trade-by-country statistics owing to differences in the methods of forming residual groups of countries of provenance and destination. It was noted that certain countries of provenance and destination may not qualify for separate enumeration in the trade-by-country statistics of a given country

owing to the low value of the trade. Nevertheless, a low value in the trade of a large trading nation may constitute a considerable figure in the trade of a smaller country. It was therefore desirable that uniform practices should be encouraged in the grouping of countries not specified in the trade-by-country statistics of each reporting country.

- 23. Document E/CN.3/127/Add.1 suggested that the comparability of trade-by-country statistics would be improved if governments would group those of their trading partners with which trade was unimportant into residual categories in accordance with the regional grouping used by the Statistical Office. The Commission took note of this suggestion but advised further consideration of the regional groupings.
- 24. The attention of the Commission was drawn to a document submitted for its information by the delegation of the United States on "Decrease of work on low-value shipments in the compiling of United States foreign trade statistics" (E/CN.3/128).

II. Transport statistics

Definitions of transport statistics

- 25. The questions before the Commission in the field of transport statistics had previously been considered by the Transport and Communications Commission at its fifth session.
- 26. The Secretariat presented a report on the progress being made in the examination by governments of *International Standard Definitions for Transport Statistics* ³, recommended by the fifth session of the Commission, and suggested that as yet not enough comments on the definitions had been received to justify undertaking a revision (E/CN.2/111-E/CN.3/115). The Commission expressed the view that the definitions suggested for transport and for external trade should be framed so as to bear a logical relation to one another.
- 27. The Commission examined the work of the Transport and Communications Commission, the Inland Transport Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe and the Sub-Commission on Statistical Sampling on the use of sampling to measure the goods traffic carried by road motor vehicles. The Commission, after commending the work of the Sub-Commission on Statistical Sampling, endorsed the objectives of the following resolution of the fifth session of the Transport and Communications Commission:

"The Transport and Communications Commission

"Recognizes the great importance of obtaining reliable figures for the transport of goods by road motor vehicle, particularly the series for the tonnage of goods loaded and for the net ton-kilometres performed by this type of transport;

"Recognizes, further, that in most countries a sampling technique is the best method of obtaining these figures;

"Commends the Working Party on Statistical Information of the ECE and the Sub-Commission on

³ Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 8.

Statistical Sampling of the Statistical Commission for their work on the subject; and

"Recommends that the series for tonnage of goods loaded and net ton-kilometres performed by road motor vehicle transport be added to the list of series whose compilation and publication were recommended by the Commission at its fourth session (E/1665, chapter VI)."

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENT STATISTICS

- 28. A review of the work previously undertaken by League of Nations and United Nations agencies relating to road traffic accident statistics and of resolution 5 of the Transport and Communications Commission, fifth session, was presented to the Statistical Commission (E/CN.2/113-E/CN.3/118).
- 29. It was pointed out that international road accident statistics should be based on the series whose collection was already required of many governments by the regulations on the reporting of injuries and deaths resulting from road traffic accidents promulgated by the World Health Organization. ⁵ If the subdivision of these series and the collection of supplementary figures on a regional basis was recommended by experts working through the Regional Economic Commissions, the Statistical Office could make sure that international comparability was obtained where practicable. It was suggested that the existence of the WHO recommendations be drawn to the attention of governments at present studying the compilation of road traffic accident statistics. During the discussion the following points were made: there are difficulties in attributing accidents to specific causes, and this may require elaborate analysis of data; it may eventually become desirable to compare accident rates by different forms of transport, but there are very considerable difficulties involved in making comparisons between different forms of transport and in assembling adequate national statistics on any one form of transport, and even more so for international comparisons; the collection of statistics is only the first step in solving the central problem: the reduction of accidents.

30. The Statistical Commission

Concurs with the following recommendation contained in resolution 5 of the Transport and Communications Commission; ⁶

Recommends that the Secretary-General be requested to co-ordinate the work on road accident statistics by United Nations bodies, bearing in mind:

(1) The existence of the mandatory provisions of the World Health Organization for compiling and

⁴ This recommendation was endorsed by the Statistical Commission (see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifth Year, Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 4, paragraph 54).

⁵ World Health Organization: Bulletin of the World Health Organization, Supplement 1: Manual of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries, and Causes of Death, Sixth Revision of the International Lists of Diseases and Causes of Death, adopted 1948, Volume I, Geneva, Switzerland, 1948.

6 See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council,

Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. 4.

publishing statistics of deaths and injuries resulting from road traffic accidents;

(2) In establishing minimum world-wide requirements, the varying extent to which countries in the different regions are likely to be able to provide detailed information.

III. Principles for a vital statistics system

- 31. At its fifth session, the Statistical Commission considered the preliminary results of a survey of the methodological procedures and practices for the registration of vital events and the compilation of vital statistics in the various countries of the world, and recommended that the Secretariat, in co-operation with other international agencies and with the advice of technical experts, prepare detailed draft recommendations for the improvement and standardization of vital statistics. 7 This resolution was endorsed by the Population Commission at its fifth session at which time it indicated its interest, from an analytical point of view, in improved quality of vital statistics data. 8 In response to this resolution, the Secretariat prepared a document "Proposed standards for vital records and statistics" (E/CN.3/123-E/CN.9/65 and Corr.1) which was before the Statistical Commission for consideration at its sixth session.
- 32. In considering this document, the Statistical Commission expressed its interest in this important field of statistics and its satisfaction with the work done in developing guiding principles for a vital statistics system applicable to countries which could adopt or modify the conventional system of vital registration. The Commission recognized that such recommendations must include consideration of norms for vital registration practice in so far as these practices affect the resulting statistics.
- 33. It was emphasized also that the principles constituted advice and information to countries, which may be used as desired in the development of their vital statistics systems, and are not mandatory regulations or a detailed programme to be followed. In their role as guiding principles, these recommendations, in the opinion of the Statistical Commission, would be useful and timely tools for appraising vital statistics systems, especially in view of the fact that the imminent availability of the results of the 1950-51 censuses of population will stimulate such review and evaluation in many countries of the world.
- 34. In the course of the discussion, the Commission indicated the advisability and urgency of broadening the project of developing principles in the field of vital statistics to include advice for countries which were not yet at the stage of development where they could contemplate the adoption of the conventional registration system and for which, therefore, alternative methods of collecting vital statistics must be considered. It was noted that work on these alternative methods might be undertaken as a second stage of the project.

- 35. The attention of the Commission was drawn to the importance of the continuous-register systems of population accounting which are maintained in various countries of the world. In view of the intimate relationship between the vital statistics system and the population register, the Commission indicated the advisability of making a detailed study of the population-accounting systems now in use, so that Governments desiring such information could receive advice on the purposes served by such registers, and the procedures for developing and maintaining them.
- 36. In connexion with the detailed discussion of the proposed standards, several members of the Commission noted the difficulties encountered in their countries in implementing the recommendations of the Third World Health Assembly with respect to the adoption of the new definitions of feetal death and live birth.
- 37. The Statistical Commission indicated its awareness of the need for the recommendations on classification schemes and tabulations programmes in the field of vital statistics, which are now in process of development, and drew attention to the need for correlation and parallel development between vital statistics, migration statistics and morbidity statistics with respect to coverage, definitions and classifications. The desirability of developing tabulation programmes which might meet national as well as international needs with respect to geographic and substantive detail should also be given consideration.
- 38. The Commission indicated the desirability of assigning priority ratings to:
- (a) The events upon which statistics should be developed in a modern vital statistics system; and
- (b) The characteristics of these events which should be available for study.

In this connexion it was noted that the difficulties which might be anticipated in developing a vital statistics system along the lines indicated should not be a controlling factor in the Commission's consideration of the principles and that the necessity of developing data on natality, mortality, fertility, nuptiality and other population data required for the study of basic demographic problems and the inter-relationship of demographic, economic and social factors, should not be overlooked.

39. The Statistical Commission, therefore,

Taking note of the advisability of providing governments with principles for their use in appraising and developing their vital statistics systems,

Recommends to the Secretary-General:

- (a) That the recommendations for a vital statistics system be revised in the light of the comments of the Population Commission, the Statistical Commission, and other appropriate international agencies;
- (b) That the draft recommendations be circulated to Governments for their official review and comment; and
- (c) That a revision, based on the results of these consultations, be submitted to the Statistical Commission at a later session.

⁷ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifth Year, Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 4, paragraph 88.

8 See E/1711 • E/CN.9/62, paragraph 46.

IV. Population and social statistics

Progress on population censuses

40. The Commission considered the memorandum prepared by the Secretary-General, and the comments of the Population Commission at its sixth session, upon progress of work in connexion with the 1950-1951 population censuses (E/CN.9/66) which dealt with the technical manual on the inter-relationship of standard classifications of occupation, industry and status and with an expansion of standard terminology for statistics relating to the economically active population, particularly in respect to definitions in the official languages of the four classes of the status classifications. These concerned employers, workers on own account, employees and unpaid family workers. The Commission noted progress made in the preparation of the technical manual and in the elaboration of the definitions of the status classification.

CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPATIONS

41. The Commission had before it a report by the International Labour Organisation on recent activities in developing the international standard classification of occupations and a report by the Inter-American Statistical Institute in reference to the elaboration of sub-groups of the ILO classification for the 1950 census of the Americas, both contained in E/CN.3/119. The Commission considered this memorandum and suggested that in further work on this subject greater emphasis might be given to the application of the classification to statistics other than those arising from population censuses, and that occupation descriptions from sources other than national censuses be given greater consideration. Such materials would be of considerable value in further work in this field, especially if they were circulated to governments. These would include, for example, statistics compiled in connexion with social security systems and other compilations of economic and social statistics. The Commission also expressed interest in being informed of developments at later stages in the elaboration and use of this classification.

MIGRATION STATISTICS

- 42. The Commission considered additional comments received from governments on the question of improving international migration statistics (E/CN.9/ 47/Add.2-E/CN.3/135) and the relevant sections of the report of the sixth session of the Population Commission. 9
- 43. The Commission noted the progress made towards the improvement of migration statistics and that the Population Commission had requested the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the International Labour Office, to complete the consultations with governments previously recommended, to prepare revised recommendations for the next session of the Population Commission and to consider the desirability of including questions on reasons for migration and on status in the proposed statistical questionnaires. The

Commission discussed certain aspects of the questionnaires. The Statistical Commission expressed a desire to consider, in detail, proposals on the statistical aspects of migration which may be placed for consideration by the Commission at a later session. Other aspects of migration statistics are discussed in paragraph 37 of the present report.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS

- 44. The Commission had before it a memorandum concerning the action taken by the Secretary-General and the Social Commission in the field of criminal statistics (E/CN.3/137), containing:
- (a) The recommendation on criminal statistics given by the International Group of Experts on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders;
- (b) The resolution on criminal statistics adopted by the Social Commission at its seventh session, requesting the assistance of the Statistical Commission in the development of standards for and the improvement of criminal statistics.
- 45. The Commission noted that the experts' recommendation, pursuing the points of view adopted as a basis for further studies by the International Statistical Institute, outlined a cautious approach to the subject which might result in reasonably comparable statistics concerning the incidence of certain specific crimes, at first only criminal homicide, aggravated assault and thefts with violence.
- 46. The Commission noted further, with interest, the experts' suggestions concerning the preparation of a standard classification of offences and agreed that this is primarily a task for criminologists and experts of penal law.
- 47. The Commission also wishes to stress the need for a manual on the collection, analysis and presentation of criminal statistics, not only as a means to obtaining greater uniformity but primarily for the purpose of assisting Member countries in their efforts to improve their criminal statistics.
 - 48. Consequently, the Statistical Commission 10

Endorses the resolution on criminal statistics adopted by the Social Commission at its seventh session, 11 and

Declares its willingness to assist the Social Commission in the discharge of the task it has undertaken in this field.

V. Price statistics

STATISTICS ON WHOLESALE PRICES

49. The Statistical Commission considered the subject of wholesale prices and wholesale price index numbers on the basis of a memorandum prepared by

falls outside the competence of the Statistical Commission.

11 Official Records of the Economic and Social Council.
Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. 12.

⁹ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. 11.

¹⁰ The representatives of the USSR, Ukrainian SSR and Czechoslovakia expressed their opposition to the discussion and to the decision on this item by the Commission, considering that the development of definitions for criminal statistics is a matter of the national competence of the governments themselves and

the Secretary-General (E/CN.3/125). At the request of the Statistical Commission at its last session, the Secretary-General had, with the assistance of two expert consultants, drawn up a technical report which, as requested by the Commission, had been circulated to members. The draft conclusions set out in the document, for the Commission, were based on the findings of the technical report.

- 50. The Commission was of the view that the technical report contained such comprehensive proposals that it would be desirable to have further study given to it in the light of views expressed at this session and of the comments which countries might wish to submit. The Commission felt that the report would greatly stimulate interest in this field. The Commission wished before adopting final recommendations to have the views of governments, specialized agencies and other interested organizations. The Commission drew particular attention to a number of points which would require further discussion in the light of countries' comments, namely:
- (a) The utility of the general wholesale price index if the principle of gross weighting is accepted;
- (b) The method of classification of commodities in the making of index numbers;
 - (c) The treatment of changes in quality;
- (d) The preparation and choice of appropriate index numbers for analysis of the price movements of industry groups;
- (e) The utility of special purpose index numbers for:
- (i) Total finished products,
- (ii) Domestic finished products,
- (iii) Home consumption.
 - 51. The Statistical Commission

Requests the Secretary-General:

- (a) To circulate the technical report to governments and to specialized agencies for their comments on the objectives, concepts and methods set out in the report;
- (b) To report on the views and comments of countries at a later session of the Statistical Commission with a view to the Commission's making recommendations for the development of standards in this field and for the improvement of international comparability of wholesale price index numbers;
- (c) To study the problems involved in establishing indexes for the special purpose of international comparisons of the price movements of sensitive commodities in different countries and to report thereon at a later session of the Commission.

VI. Basic industrial statistics

BASIC INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS

52. At its fifth session, the Statistical Commission requested the Secretary-General to continue the study of censuses of industrial production, and at the next

session "to submit draft recommendation... aimed at improving current practices and promoting international comparability". ¹²

- 53. The Commission had before it a paper on basic industrial statistics submitted by the Secretary-General (E/CN.3/124). Owing to the great variety of methods by which different countries collect such statistics, and the differences in their systems of basic industrial enquiries, the paper proposed that at this stage the Commission should not attempt to obtain agreement on recommendations relating to methods and systems of collection, but should explore the possibility of drawing up an agreed list of the data which countries might aim at providing. A suggested list of such data was appended, for the Commission's consideration. This paper was supplemented, at the Commission's request after a preliminary discussion, by a revised and simplified list of data and a re-drafted set of proposed recommendations (E/CN.3/124/Add.1).
- 54. In the course of discussion, it was pointed out that the proposed recommendations and the suggested list of data, though useful to countries as a framework for their basic industrial enquiries, represented only one part of the standards which it would be desirable to set up in this field of statistics. They would need to be supplemented by a set of precise definitions and by notes on different methods by which the data might be collected. There were both conceptual and operational difficulties in the field of handicrafts and hand-trades, especially in the under-developed countries. These points would be covered in the technical report which the Statistical Office was preparing, but it might be useful for the Statistical Office to compile brief explanatory notes on the points raised in the discussion, for transmission to countries at the same time as the Commission's recommendations.

55. The Statistical Commission

- (a) Requests the Secretary-General to invite countries:
- (i) To consider collecting (by means of an exhaustive or a sample enquiry, or a combination of enquiries, or the adaptation of data already collected for other purposes, or by a combination of methods) and publishing statistics or reliable estimates for the items listed and at the intervals specified in annex III of E/CN.3/124/Add.1 as revised by the Commission;
- (ii) To consider adopting, as the field covered by the data, the activities of mining, manufacturing, construction, electricity and gas, that is, the activities included in major groups 11 to 51 inclusive of the International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities; and classifying the data according to that classification, or one which can be converted into that classification:
- (iii) To consider distinguishing, under each item listed in annex III of E/CN.3/124/Add.1, industries

¹² See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifth Year, Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 4, paragraph 67.

- at the group (three-digit) level of the classification, unless production in a group is negligible; and within this framework distinguishing further industrial subdivisions according to national requirements;
- (iv) To consider adopting the principle that the scope of the data compiled at intervals of not less than ten years should extend over the whole industrial field — that is, should include all forms of production within the categories of (ii) above, though the methods of collection may vary for different forms of production, different industries and different countries;
- (v) To consider collecting (by one or a combination of the methods mentioned in recommendation
 (i) and publishing data recommended for intervals of not less than ten years, in respect of the year 1952 or approximate year;
- (b) Requests the Secretary-General to draw the attention of governments which are embarking on the collection of basic industrial statistics to the value of collecting comprehensive statistics, even on a limited basis such as that given by the items starred in annex III of E/CN.3/124/Add.1, namely, number of establishments, numbers engaged, total wages and salaries paid and value of sales;
- (c) Requests the Secretary-General to continue the study of existing practices and concepts in the field of basic industrial statistics in consultation with national statistical offices, and to report thereon to the Commission at its next session.

JNTERNATIONAL CONVENTION RELATING TO ECONOMIC STATISTICS

- 56. The Commission had before it a memorandum prepared by the Secretary-General referring to the fact that a Protocol amending the International Convention relating to Economic Statistics had been signed and that therefore the Convention was now in effect under the new Protocol (E/CN.3/121). The Convention sets
- the agreements of the signatory Powers to collect certain classes of statistics and annexes to the Convention which contain detailed proposals applying to these classes of statistics. The memorandum by the Secretary-General took the position that the annexes were essentially explanatory and illustrative in nature, and that therefore suggestions of the Economic and Social Council, under article 8 of the amended Protocol, would not contravene provisions of the Convention dealing with the same subject.
- 57. Some members of the Commission felt that a different interpretation might be applied by the legal authorities of their countries. It was agreed, however, that no general decision need be taken by the Commission at this time, it being considered that when the Commission was prepared to make recommendations upon a subject which is covered in an annex, the matter of the legal effect on the Convention could be considered at that time in the light of specific circumstances.

IRON AND STEEL STATISTICS

58. The Commission discussed the subject of iron and steel statistics on the basis of a memorandum

- (E/CN.3/133) submitted by the Secretary-General. The memorandum noted widespread interest in the development of international comparability in such statistics, as evidenced by the activities of two regional commissions in the field, and proposed the development of world standards in order to supply a framework for the regional studies and to provide guidance for interested countries in other regions. The memorandum set out, for the Commission's consideration, a draft minimum programme for the collection of iron and steel statistics.
- 59. The Commission agreed that the regional activities in this field should be co-ordinated, but in view of the late circulation of this memorandum, and the technical nature of the subject, the Commission considered it desirable that further study be given to the subject by the Secretariat and Member Governments with a view to developing general standards in this field.

VII. Other economic statistics

STATISTICS OF CAPITAL FORMATION

- 60. At its fifth session, the Statistical Commission requested the Secretariat to prepare a report on the methods for measuring capital formation. It also recommended that this study include a survey and analysis of the methods used in various countries which prepare estimates of capital formation on the basis of questionnaires ¹⁸.
- 61. On the basis of information collected by the Statistical Office from Member Governments engaged in the study and measurement of capital formation, a memorandum including a technical appendix on the definition and measurement of capital formation was submitted to the Commission for preliminary consideration (E/CN.3/129). Since this document was completed only shortly before the beginning of the session, it was not possible to discuss it fully.
- 62. In the course of the general discussion, it became clear that even in countries with highly developed national income statistics, work on capital formation is still in an exploratory stage. The Commission was of the opinion that the classification of standard concepts, definitions and classifications would require further study and consultation with governments interested in this matter. The Commission desired that such study and consultations should include the collection of detailed information on recent experiences in compiling statistics of capital formation.

63. The Statistical Commission, therefore,

Requests the Secretary-General:

- (a) To draw the attention of Member Governments to the importance of preparing periodic estimates of the volume and structure of capital formation;
- (b) To suggest that Member Governments at present preparing or planning to prepare statistics of capital formation should review possibilities of improv-

¹³ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifth Year, Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 4, paragraph 72.

ing the comparability of such estimates with those of other countries;

(c) To continue the technical studies and consultations with Member Governments for the development of standard concepts, definitions and classifications relating to capital formation and to report on the subject at the next session of the Statistical Commission.

CENSUSES OF DISTRIBUTION

64. The Statistical Commission had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General on censuses of distribution, E/CN.3/130. The International Chamber of Commerce had completed a preliminary report on the subject. Il had not been possible, in the time available, to have the report translated into all the official languages, but copies in English and French were made available to the Commission. The Commission was informed that the International Chamber of Commerce proposed to undertake further work in this field, in collaboration with the Statistical Office, and would be grateful for suggestions as to the form such further work might take. The Commission also noted that the Statistical Office had collected material on censuses of distribution from a number of countries which, however, had not yet been studied exhaustively. As not all members had had an opportunity to read the report of the Chamber, the Commission was unable to make any comments thereon. At its previous session, however, the Commission had emphasized the need of developing statistics relating to distribution and desired in every way to encourage further work on this subject.

65. The Statistical Commission,

Taking note of the work done by the International Chamber of Commerce in the field of censuses of distribution,

Requests the Secretary-General:

- (a) To arrange for the recording of experience in the field of distribution statistics, and for the continued study of methods for the improvement of current practices, and for the development of standards relating to statistics on distribution, in consultation with Member Governments, the International Chamber of Commerce and other interested agencies and organizations; and
- (b) To report on the subject at a later session of the Statistical Commission.
- Matters relating to the International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities
- 66. The Commission considered the means by which countries might be assisted in using the International Standard Industrial Classification. It was emphasized that there was a great need for means by which correspondence could be achieved between national classifications and the International Classification. The Commission noted that a number of countries had, already, themselves prepared convertibility lists which enabled the items of the national classifications to be re-assembled in terms of the International Classification (E/CN.3/122). It was felt that by means of these lists a composite document could be prepared.

67. The Statistical Commission

Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, on the basis of the work already done by a number of countries and in consultation with these countries, an index of economic activities, showing for each its location in the International Classification.

VIII. Report of the Sub-Commission on Statistical Sampling on its fourth session

- 68. The Statistical Commission received the report of the Sub-Commission on Statistical Sampling on its fourth session (E/CN.3/114 E/CN.3/Sub.1/30/Rev.1).
- 69. At its fourth session the Sub-Commission on Statistical Sampling considered several problems relating to the application of statistical sampling in different subject fields. Its report discussed methods that may be used to obtain early census results by advance processing of a sample. Appended to the report was an example of an actual sample plan for a census of population. The report also contained recommendations for the use of sampling to measure goods traffic by road. The technical problems and detailed recommendations were summarized in an annex to the report. Other subjects considered by the Sub-Commission included the use of sampling methods for estimating distribution by size of individual and family income and the possibilities of using sampling methods to obtain migration statistics. The Sub-Commission examined the progress of work on the sample surveys of current interest prepared by the Secretariat. Plans for a study of the inter-relationship of demographic, economic and social factors in India initiated by the Population Commission were presented to the Sub-Commission, which made certain technical suggestions.
- 70. At its third session the Sub-Commission drafted syllabuses for courses in sampling and requested the Statistical Office to circulate them to appropriate organizations and persons for their comment. At its fourth session the Sub-Commission took note of the comments received, and requested the Secretary-General to transmit the suggested syllabuses and the comments to the International Statistical Institute, expressing the hope that the Institute would give further attention to this subject.
- 71. The Sub-Commission had a general discussion on the subject of operational research. It did not consider it appropriate at the present time to concern itself with the general field, but decided that consideration should be given to methods appropriate to such problems when the need arises.
- 72. The Statistical Commission expressed its appreciation of the work done by the Sub-Commission. Sampling theory and methods constitute a particularly difficult field of statistical procedure, and the active help of leading experts is needed to give effective advice and assistance to all governments and international organizations interested in this field. The use of sampling methods is of special importance in under-

developed countries. Taking into consideration the fact that the Economic and Social Council at its next session will review the work of the functional commissions and sub-commissions, the Statistical Commission took no action on specific proposals relating to the composition and terms of reference of the Sub-Commission on Statistical Sampling. It wished nevertheless to stress the importance it attaches to continuing, in appropriate form commensurate with the Commission's objectives, suitable provision for the critical review of sampling methods with the help of experts. The Commission emphasized the necessity of obtaining, in the work on statistical sampling, the co-operation of experts in the subjects for which sampling methods are considered ¹⁴.

73. The Commission also noted that, following consultation by the Secretary-General with individual members of the Commission on the question of the time and place of the fifth session of the Sub-Commission on Statistical Sampling, the Economic and Social Council had decided that the fifth session of the Sub-Commission should be held in India in December 1951. The Commission, assuming that this decision would be effective regardless of any later action by the Economic and Social Council relating to the tenure of the Sub-Commission, suggested that the Secretary-General include in the agenda for the fifth session subjects of particular interest to countries in the region in which the session is to be held.

IX. Improvement of national statistics

IMPROVEMENT AT NATIONAL STATISTICS

74. The Commission considered the memorandum prepared by the Secretary-General on the improvement of national statistics (E/CN.3/131) which outlined technical assistance activities and other steps taken with a view to promoting the improvement of national statistics. The Commission took note of the increasing scope of this programme and considered that it represented, to a substantial degree, the fruition of the wishes of the Commission as expressed in various previous recommendations.

75. The Commission noted in particular the extent to which various parts of the United Nations Organization were collaborating in projects of mutual interest and stressed that such co-operation was particularly important in statistical projects because of the interrelated interests of the various specialized agencies and other organizations, and because of the general shortage of competent statistical personnel. The Commission felt that the Secretary-General should encourage and assist the specialized agencies to develop further their own facilities, at the same time recognizing his own continuing responsibility for the co-ordination of all United Nations statistical activities.

76. With reference to expert consultants provided to countries, the Commission emphasized the desirability of using methods already found practicable and of

value in the various regions, and recommended that the Statistical Office should explore the extent to which specific methods successfully developed in one country can be used in other countries of the region. The Commission also emphasized that expert statistical consultants provided to the countries be thoroughly briefed on the various aspects of the work of the Statistical Commission and the Statistical Office of the United Nations, and be informed particularly about definitions, standards, classifications and methods which have been recommended for international use.

77. The Commission called attention to the close relationship between its work in developing statistical standards and the use of such standards in promoting improvement of national statistics and increasing international comparability. In general, the Commission should seek to develop standards or goals at a level which could be useful in improving international comparability even if these standards would not be immediately applicable to less well developed countries, or to countries with no statistical system.

78. Accordingly, it was recommended that the Secretary-General give increased emphasis to the adaptation of standards and methods suitable for the less well developed countries. Such adaptations of standards or methods for the use of these countries could include a priority rating of data considered most essential from a national or international viewpoint, and should utilize tried methods of collection and compilation. They should moreover take practical account of the limited statistical resources of these countries.

79. In previous reports it had been pointed out that a solution to the problem of improving national statistics depends upon an attack in many countries on an important problem confronting their national statistical services: namely, the insufficiency in numbers, education and training of national statistical personnel. The Commission wishes to reiterate this view, and call the attention of the Secretary-General to the importance which the Commission gives to training activities in statistics and to the granting of fellowships permitting national technicians to supplement their prior training by the study of statistical procedures in use in other countries. In the planning of activities for the training of national technicians no sharp line should be drawn between educational activities concerned primarily with the theoretical aspects of statistics and training activities more closely associated with practical operational problems. These two types of training are closely related and both are essential aspects of the technical experience of national officials responsible for conducting the statistical services of a country.

80. With reference to the granting of fellowships and the training of the fellows by host countries, a number of problems were mentioned and suggestions for improvement made by various members of the Commission. These included suggestions of means by which the selection, placement and training of statistical fellows may be improved. The Commission expressed the hope that consideration might be given to an increase, within the limits of funds available for this purpose, in the number of fellowship grants made available for statistical study. In addition, in making such awards, the Statis-

¹⁴ In the course of the examination of this subject, the representative of the USSR supported by the representatives of the Ukrainian SSR and Czechoslovakia expressed the view that it was no longer useful to continue the existence of the Sub-Commission but that its work should be carried on by the Statistical Office of the United Nations.

tical Commission expressed the hope that the United Nations and the specialized agencies would give primary consideration to the requests of countries which stand most in need of assistance.

- 81. The Commission took note of a statement by the representative of the International Association of Penal Law and International Bureau for the Unification of Penal Law, which emphasized the importance of detailed technical advice in several aspects of statistical work, and referred to advice available from various professional and technical international associations.
- 82. The Commission had before it document E/CN.3/NGO/2 which outlined the programme of the International Statistical Institute in international statistical education. In consideration of this programme,

The Statistical Commission,

Noting the progress made by the International Statistical Institute since its report to the fifth session with regard to its international statistical education programme that is conducted under the auspices of, and with financial support from, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNES-CO),

Reaffirms its interest on the programme and its hope that UNESCO and the International Statistical Institute will continue their important work of furthering the improvement on an international scale of education in statistics, in collaboration, to the extent possible, with training schemes which may be developed under the technical assistance programme.

83. The responsibilities of the Statistical Commission with regard to the technical assistance programmes is not limited to the consideration of technical assistance for the improvement of national statistics. The statistical prerequisites for projects requiring technical assistance should also be considered in connexion with such projects.

84. The Statistical Commission, therefore,

Recommends that the Secretary-General encourage the utilization of the services of the Statistical Office of the United Nations and the statistical services of the various specialized agencies for advising on the statistical aspects and needs of technical assistance projects for economic development.

85. In considering the whole programme of the Statistical Office for the improvement of national statistics, the Commission noted that these activities are closely inter-related with many other aspects of the work programme of the Statistical Office and of the statistical units of the specialized agencies. Because of the broad scope of the work and its bearing on the consideration of other agenda, items, the Commission requested the Secretary-General to present, at the beginning of each session, a summary general survey of work in progress and the status of statistical activities in international agencies and in the princpial subject matter fields. While covering a broad range of topics in summary form, a report to the Commission could include such items as new developments and activities in the technical assistance programmes, standards being developed by the Statistical Office and other agencies, their application to technical assistance activities, a résumé of the status of national population censuses in the 1950-51 period, evaluation of the needs of countries for technical advice and assistance as expressed through requests for expert advice, etc. Such a report would serve the purpose of putting individual agenda items in proper perspective and against a background of general needs and facilities, and would be of value to the Commission in its deliberations.

THE ACCURACY OF STATISTICS

- 86. At its fifth session the Statistical Commission had received a resolution adopted by the International Statistical Institute calling attention to the importance of the accuracy of demographic, economic and social statistics. As requested by the Commission, the Secretary-General had prepared for its consideration a memorandum (E/CN.3/132) outlining the general aspects of the problem.
- 87. The Commission, in considering the points of view developed in the memorandum pointed out that current statistics referring to short periods, for example, months, often are considerably distorted, especially because, among other reasons, there are inevitable time lags in the recording of certain activities like export and import trade. The Commission recognized the efforts of the Secretary-General to establish a basis for the evaluation of the accuracy of series as illustrated in the Supplement to the Monthly Bulletin of Statistics. The Commission recommended further studies to this end.
- 88. It was suggested that the national statistical agencies assist in these efforts to improve accuracy by furnishing lists of important qualifications which affect various types of data. Attention was also called to the efforts made by certain scientific institutions in order to arrive at a quantitative evaluation of the influence of errors, and to the desirability of developing tests of the internal consistency of statistical data.

89. The Statistical Commission,

Considering the widespread and growing use of official statistics as a basis for demographic, economic and social research, and for determining and appraisal of public and private policies,

Considering also the difficulties met with in estimating the pertinence, scope and reliability of such statistics,

Recommends that the Secretary-General continue to study the substantive and technical aspects of the problem of the accuracy of official statistics, with a view to developing standards which might be recommended to national agencies for the publication of reasonably detailed statements containing the information essential to a competent technical appraisal of the accuracy of the data.

APPRAISAL OF QUALITY OF DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

90. The Statistical Commission had before it a report prepared by the Secretariat on appraisal of the quality of demographic statistics (E/CN.3/134-E/CN.9/64)

and extracts from the report of the sixth session of the Population Commission. The Commission noted with interest the steps taken by the Secretariat to give adequate indication of the reliability of the statistics published in this field and in general concurred with the procedures adopted for the purpose of improving the usefulness of the data.

- 91. The Commission noted that, because of improvements in classification, the comparability of time series was affected by the fact that recent statistics were the more accurate and the more detailed.
- 92. The Commission expressed its general concurrence with the views of the Population Commission on the subject of classification of population counts as given in the report of its sixth session, and requested that further thought be given to the differentiation of such terms as "censuses", "estimates" and the like as applied to population statistics.

X. Other business

REVISION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP QUESTIONNAIRE

- 93. The Commission had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General (E/CN.3/138) on the subject of the Trusteeship Questionnaire. The Trusteeship Council had set up a committee to revise the Questionnaire, taking into account all comments and suggestions made by the Economic and Social Council and its commissions, specialized agencies, members of the Council and members of the Assembly. The Trusteeship Council had also asked the Secretariat for its suggestions and the Statistical Office had accordingly offered advice on the form of the questions asked though not on the choice of items of enquiry.
- 94. In discussion of this matter it was agreed that the Statistical Commission would in the future investigate more thoroughly the statistical aspects of the Trusteeship Questionnaire in the light of the replies received from Administering Authorities.
 - 95. The Statistical Commission
- (1) Took note of the information contained in E/CN.3/138;
- (2) Requested the Secretary-General to report on revisions to the Trusteeship Questionnaire, and on the replies received to the revised Questionnaire, at a future session.

PRIORITIES OF THE COMMISSION PROGRAMME

- 96. The Commission reviewed its work programme, having regard to the request of the Economic and Social Council expressed in its resolution 362 B XII on "Concentration of effort and resources".
- 97. The Commission considered it important that continued attention be given to the promotion and application of standards which it had previously recommended for general use. This included activities relating to:
- (a) The International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities;
- 15 Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. 11.

- (b) The Standard International Trade Classification;
- (c) Population census methods:
- (d) Methods of computing industrial production index numbers;
- (e) Concepts and definitions for national income estimation;
 - (f) Definitions for transport statistics.
- 98. The Commission felt that-the following subjects, which had been considered by the Commission at previous sessions, were still in the stage of development and should receive very high priority:
- (a) Definitions for international trade statistics, including those for customs areas;
- (b) Scope and definitions for basic industrial statistics;
- (c) Scope and definitions for vital records and statistics;
- (d) Study of the adequacy of social statistics and proposals for improvement;
- (e) Methods for the construction of wholesale price index numbers;
- (f) Methods for making estimates of capital formation;
- (g) Preparation of coding guides and convertibility arrangements for the International Standard Industrial Classification;
- (h) Preparation of guides and indexes for the application of the Standard International Trade Classification.

Within these subject fields the Commission wished to give priority also to statistics of construction, particularly residential ((b) above), and statistics of housing ((d) above). In considering methods for the construction of wholesale price index numbers (e), the Commission expressed the view that an examination should be made of national practices in this field and in the field of retail prices and related index numbers (including "cost-of-living" index numbers), in collaboration with the International Labour Organisation. If possible, this investigation should be extended to cover also methods of measuring minimum living standards. The Commission wished also to have at its next session a report on the progress made in statistics of balance of payments.

- 99. The Commission considered that the following subjects should have a less high priority:
- (a) A classication of commodities for general economic analysis;
- (b) Comparability in the field of government revenues, expenditures and public debt;
 - (c) Methods of improving accuracy of statistics;
 - (d) Censures of distribution;
 - (e) Migration statistics;
 - (f) Road accident statistics;

(g) Steel statistics.

Within this group the Commission singled out, for ealiest attention, steel statistics (g), censuses of distribution (d), and migration statistics (e).

100. In connexion with its review of its work programme, the Commission was cognizant of the desirability of organizing its work on a systematic basis in general conformity with the criteria for priorities recommended by the Economic and Social Council. It therefore suggested that, as part of the report requested in paragraph 85 above, the Secretary-General should include a statement showing the action

undertaken by the Secretariat to carry out the programme previously recommended by the Commission and the priorities proposed by the Secretariat for future work on different parts of this programme.

International Statistical Institute, 27th session

101. The Statistical Commission took note of a statement by the representative of India concerning the meetings of the International Statistical Institute, scheduled to take place in New Delhi and Calcutta in December 1951. It was noted that delegations from different countries would participate in these meetings and the proceedings would be of considerable interest to the Statistical Commission.

ANNEX

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED FOR THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Α

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the report of the sixth session of the Statistical Commission.

E

Definitions of customs areas (see paragraph 21)

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing that the "List of Countries (Territories to which the Statistics apply)" which is part II of annex I to the International Convention relating to Economic Statistics (1928) has been rendered obsolete by events,

Invites the Secretary-General to compile, with the concurrence of each country concerned, and to issue a summary of the official definitions made by

Governments themselves of their customs areas, and to keep the summary up to date by periodic revision;

Requests each Member Government, in compiling trade-by-country statistics, so far as it is able to use the definition of that territory for customs purposes provided by the Government concerned as the definition of the territory with which it has traded.

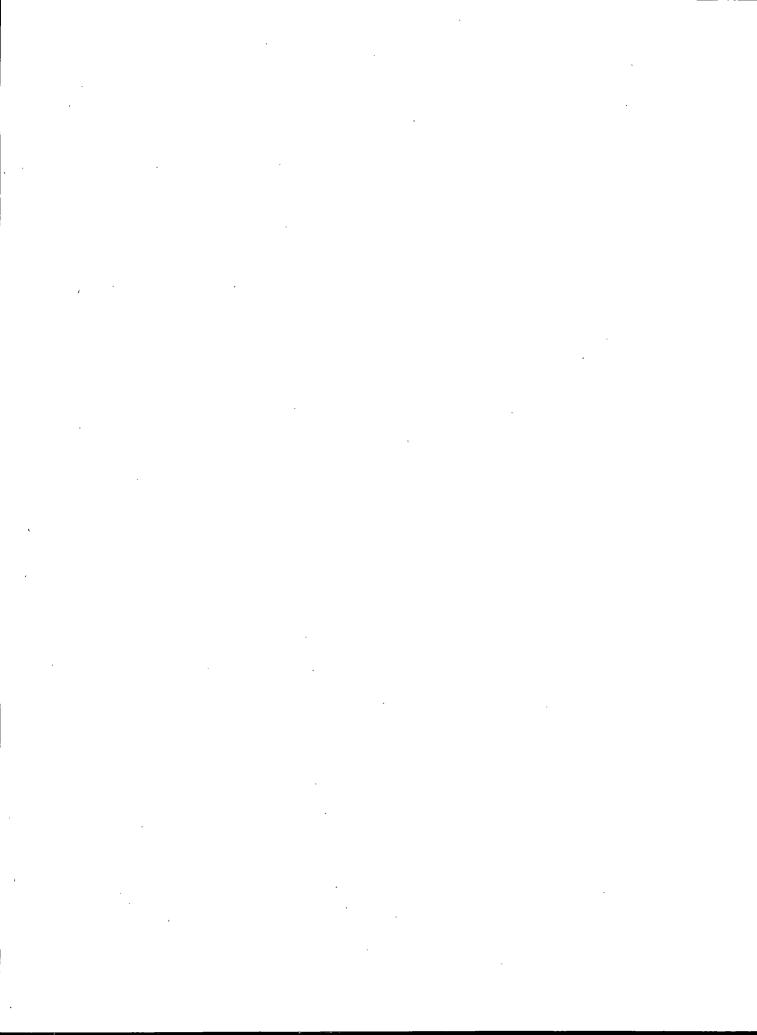
C

Criminal statistics (see paragraph 48)

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note that the Statistical Commission endorsed the resolution on criminal statistics adopted by the Social Commission at its seventh session ^a and declared its willingness to assist the Social Commission in the discharge of the task it has undertaken in this field.

^a See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. 12.



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