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UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
ANNUAL REPORT

(30 April 1961 — 11 May 1962)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS : THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION
SUPPLEMENT No. 3

NEW YORK

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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/3584
E/ECE/464



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS
THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION

GENERAL
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18 June 1962
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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

**Annual report to the Economic and Social Council^{*}
the period from 30 April 1961 to 11 May 1962**

CORRIGENDA

1. Paragraph 116 - Delete "International Institute of Private Law" and insert "International Institute for the Unification of Private Law".
2. Paragraph 209 - Amend the first line to read : "In accordance with Commission Resolution 11 (XVI), the Executive Secretary -"
3. Paragraph 220 - The first sentence should be amended to read as follows : "The Director of the Energy Division participated in the 8th Session of the Sub-Committee on Electric Power of ECAFE, which was held in Bangkok from 18 - 22 December 1961"
4. Paragraph 385 - Reference to Resolution in the title should be 8(XV) and not 8(X.VI).

^{*}Supplement No 3 to the Official Records of the Economic and Social Council XXXIVth session.



ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Annual report to the Economic and Social Council covering
the period from 30 April 1961 to 11 May 1962

INTRODUCTION

1. The present annual report of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), which covers the period 30 April 1961 to 11 May 1962, inclusive, was adopted unanimously by the Commission at the 27th meeting of its seventeenth session on 11 May 1962. It is presented to the Economic and Social Council for consideration, at its thirty-fourth session, in accordance with paragraph 6 of the Commission's terms of reference, which states: "The Commission shall submit to the Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, once a year. . . ." ¹

¹ The previous activities of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies have been reported to the Economic and Social Council in the following documents: Report on the first and second sessions, 2-14 May 1947 and 5-16 July 1947 respectively (*Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifth Session, Supplement No. 3* (E/451)); Interim report covering the period 15 July - 31 December 1947 (*ibid., Sixth Session, supplement No. 10* (E/603 and Add.1)); Report on the third session covering the period 15 July 1947 - 8 May 1948 (*ibid., Seventh Session, Supplement No. 10* (E/791 and Add.1 and 2)); Interim report covering the period 8 May - 11 November 1948 (*ibid., Eighth Session, Supplement No. 2* (E/1074)); and in annual reports to the Economic and Social Council at its ninth, eleventh, thirteenth, fourteenth, sixteenth, eighteenth, twentieth, twenty-second, twenty-fourth, twenty-sixth, twenty-eighth and thirtieth sessions (*ibid., Ninth Session, Supplement No. 12* (E/1328); *ibid., Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 10* (E/1674); *ibid., Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. 6* (E/2002); *ibid., Fourteenth Session, Supplement No. 5* (E/2187); *ibid., Sixteenth Session, Supplement No. 9* (E/2382); *ibid., Eighteenth Session Supplement No. 3* (E/2556); *ibid., Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 3* (E/2706); *ibid., Twenty-second Session, Supplement No. 6* (E/2868); *ibid., Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6* (E/2989); *ibid., Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3* (E/3092); *ibid., Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3* (E/3227); *ibid., Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 3* (E/3349); *ibid., Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (E/3468)).

tion were discussed: (a) comparison of existing farms, (b) farm budgeting, (c) gross margin analysis, (d) farm models, (e) linear programming, and (f) production functions. The Committee approved the experts' request to hold a second session in 1962.

The Drafting of Standard Conditions of Sale for Certain Agricultural Products

17. The texts of two model contracts for the sale of cereals consigned by rail in complete wagon loads, Nos. 6 A and 6 B drawn up by the *ad hoc* Working Party on Standardization of Conditions of Sale for Cereals at its eighth session, were published in September 1961 (AGRI/179).

18. At its ninth session, the *ad hoc* Working Party on Standardization of Conditions of Sale for Cereals drew up two contracts for the sale of cereals, Nos. 7 A and 7 B, c.i.f. inland waterway, and two contracts for the sale of cereals Nos. 8 A and 8 B, f.o.b. inland waterway. These four new contracts are in the process of being published. At that session, the working party was of the opinion that for the time being no useful purpose would be achieved by its drawing up contracts for the sale of cereals carried by road in view of the fact that these transactions are normally settled by the parties concerned in particular contracts adjusted to the needs of each transaction.

19. With regard to the standardization of methods of sampling cereals, the working party, at its ninth session, asked the secretariat to reproduce information relating thereto as a result of the inquiry it had undertaken after the working party's eighth session. Subsequently, the Committee entrusted the secretariat with ascertaining the views of governments on the setting up of a working party to deal with this problem.

20. The secretariat was also asked to prepare a note as to the possible repercussions on the various maritime contracts drawn up under the auspices of the ECE of the conclusions arrived at in the course of the working party's discussions when drawing up the rail and inland waterway contracts, and to consider whether it would not be possible to draw up different forms of contract for the sale of cereals by rail and inland waterway, which could be used directly without the parties having to choose between a large number of alternatives as in the case at present with regard to the various contracts drawn up under the auspices of the ECE.

21. Furthermore, the secretariat was requested to ascertain the views of governments on the drawing up of standard contracts for the sale of oil seeds.

22. At its second session, the *ad hoc* Working Party on Standardization of General Conditions of Sale for Potatoes drew up, on second reading, a draft set of general conditions of sale for potatoes, which has been communicated to governments and to interested circles for their observations. Once these observations have been received, the secretariat will draw up a new draft set of general conditions of sale for potatoes to be considered by the *ad hoc* working party at its next session.

Films, Study Tours and Exchange of Information

23. A number of technical films were shown during the sessions of the Committee and the working parties. A new supplement to the catalogue of films, film strips and slides of general agricultural interest was distributed (AGRI/149/Add. 3).

24. The Committee took cognizance of the various study tours organized by the Committee's subsidiary bodies during 1961, and expressed its renewed interest in the organization of such future collective visits, and more particularly in study tours of a more general interest to follow immediately after the Committee's coming session. The secretariat has invited governments to indicate their views or proposals on this matter.

25. Information made available at the Conference of International Organizations concerned with Agricultural Problems, convened under FAO auspices in Paris in February 1962, will be distributed to participating countries.

26. Arrangements were made for the exchange of information on a number of specific questions among interested governments.

Studies in the Field of Agricultural Economics

27. The following reports were issued: (a) Towards a Capital Intensive Agriculture (ST/ECE/AGRI/5), (b) Prices of Agricultural Products and Fertilizers in Europe in 1960/61 (ST/ECE/AGRI/6), and (c) Review of the Agricultural Situation in Europe at the end of 1961 (ST/ECE/AGRI/7).

COAL COMMITTEE^{*}

Coal Committee (fifty-second session) 20 June 1961, (fifty-third session) 18-20 September 1961, (fifty-fourth session) 18 December 1961, (fifty-fifth session) 19-21 March 1962

Chairman: Mr. B. Krupinski (Poland);

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. R. Duflou (Belgium)

Mr. A. Schummer (Luxembourg)

Coal Trade Sub-Committee (fiftieth session) 19 June 1961, (fifty-first session) 18 September 1961, (fifty-second session) 18 December 1961, (fifty-third session) 19 March 1962

Chairman: Mr. H. Gummer (United Kingdom)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. J. Fabian (Czechoslovakia)

Mr. R. Migdalewicz (Austria)

Utilization Working Party (twenty-seventh session) 22 September 1961

Chairman: Mr. B. Roga (Poland)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Simonovitch (Belgium)

^{*} See paragraphs 301 to 307 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report of the Coal Committee.

Classification Working Party: No meeting held

Working Party on Coal Statistics: No meeting held

Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on the Exploitation of Coal at Great Depth, 14-16 March 1962

Chairman: Mr. G. Krasnikovski (USSR)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. H. King (United Kingdom)

Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Concentration of Workings and Mechanization of Mining Operations, 21-23 March 1962

Chairman: Mr. F. Rey (France)

Conference of Directors of National Mining Research Institutes, Warsaw, 29 January - 3 February 1962

Chairman: Mr. M. Borecki (Poland)

Joint Meeting of Group of Experts on statistics on investments together with rapporteurs on productivity, 7-9 February 1962

Chairman: Mr. R. George (United Kingdom)

ACTIVITIES

Long-term Problems facing Governments in the Development of the Coal Industry and Trade in Europe

28. It will be recalled that at its fifty-first session the Committee adopted a resolution, in which, *inter alia*, it agreed that "it would be useful to exchange information on measures which the coal industries and other appropriate organizations... are employing... in order to make the public more fully aware of the economic and social importance of coal in Europe", and invited the secretariat "to make a report to the Committee illustrating the factors in the economic and social importance of coal in Europe".

29. The first part of the resolution is being implemented on a bilateral or multilateral basis. In accordance with the second part of the resolution, a report entitled "Coal in Europe" (ST/ECE/COAL/7) was prepared and has been given a general release. The Committee is continuing to exchange information on new sales methods and techniques and has under consideration the organization of a seminar on this subject.

30. The Report on Productivity of Investments in Coal Mining and Comparisons of Costs of Production has been finalized and includes data from the end of the war up to 1960. Work is continuing with the assistance of a group of experts on a number of related subjects.

Production Problems

31. An *ad hoc* meeting of experts on exploitation of coal at great depths (and instantaneous coal and gas outbursts, rock pressure, ventilation, etc.) studied a number of reports and selected some major problems for more thorough study in the coming years by means of meetings of specialists and of study tours. A meeting of specialists is to be convened in 1963 to study the establishment of climatic conditions in order to improve

working conditions as well as a certain number of colliery projects taking particular account of the ventilation systems.

32. The third in the series of *ad hoc* meetings of experts on concentration of workings and mechanization of mining operations examined face output concentration. The documentation included reports on the most important developments in automation and higher mechanization in relation to concentration at the face. The experts have prepared indices of concentration in colliery workings for each country, and in view of the fact that this is the first time that such data have been collected and of their importance to the coal industry, the Committee recommended to the Commission that they be published. The report on Concentration of Colliery Workings in Selected European Countries (ST/ECE/COAL/6) was given a general release.

Productivity in Coal Mines

33. In accordance with Commission resolution 10 (XVI), at its fifty-third session, the Committee invited rapporteurs from five major producing countries to prepare a programme of work designed to increase productivity in the coal industry. The Committee examined and approved the programme at its fifty-fifth session and invited governments to submit the required information for the first part of the programme. A working party is to be convened to examine this information and to carry out the programme.

Exchange of Information and Experience

34. The Committee examined its regular annual report relating to specific problems on which countries feel that they could benefit from the experience of other countries: new basic research work of general interest initiated in national research institutes; coal production and preparation conferences as well as scientific meetings dealing with coal problems; forthcoming exhibitions of coal mining machinery and equipment; exchanges of visits that have taken place during the past year, and those scheduled to take place.

Conference of Directors of National Mining Research Institutes

35. At the invitation of the Polish Government, the first conference of directors of national mining and research institutes was held in Warsaw at the beginning of 1962. The conference, attended by directors from over 20 institutes, discussed the subject matters and research methods employed in the institutes and singled out a number of problems that could be resolved through international co-operation. At its fifty-fifth session, the Committee endorsed the recommendations of the conference that priority should be given to the development of equipment for full mechanization and automation at the coal face; the hydraulic transport of coal underground and on the surface; operational research and the application of mathematical processes to mining problems.

36. The latter subject is to be discussed at an *ad hoc* meeting to be held in Geneva, and the secretariat was requested to inquire whether any governments were interested in organizing symposiums in their countries on the other two subjects.

37. The Committee also accepted the recommendation of the conference that regular conferences of this nature were desirable, and that the next should be held in approximately three years' time.

Study Tours

38. Collective visits are arranged for the Committee and Utilization Working Party to mines and plants in the territory of participating countries. The last such visit took place in 1960 to the United Kingdom, and the Committee has been invited to visit the USSR in 1962 to study its coal industry.

Trade Problems

39. The Coal Trade Sub-committee has continued to meet each quarter to review the situation for the next quarter on the basis of information received from participating countries concerning production, demand and stock plans and import requirements and quantities available for export. The sub-committee continues to examine coal market reviews prepared by the secretariat at six-monthly intervals. The Coal Trade Sub-committee has thus been able to keep governments informed of the rapid changes that are taking place in the market.

40. The application of the General Conditions for the Import and Export of Solid Fuels has been reviewed, and the Committee has left itself free to revert to these questions when more ample experience becomes available.

Solid Fuel Utilization

41. The Utilization Working Party, assisted by groups of experts and rapporteurs, has continued working on carbonization problems, namely trends in coke oven construction, economic advantages of mechanization in the coking industry, enriching coal intended for coking, reactivity of cokes and semi-cokes, and also on the utilization of ash, especially fly ash. The following new subjects are also to be studied: smokeless solid fuels, waste products produced by the coal mining industry, and air pollution from coke oven plants.

42. In view of the satisfactory results obtained in studying the coke oven sector, the working party intends to develop the programme to cover other major sectors.

Classification of Solid Fuels

43. The Classification Working Party did not meet in 1961. The Committee has recommended to interested countries that work should continue on the study of an acceptable formula for an international classification system for coke for metallurgical purposes.

Coal Statistics

44. The *Quarterly Bulletin of Coal Statistics* for Europe and the *Monthly Summary of Coal Statistics* have been regularly issued. Continuing efforts are being made by the secretariat to expand the coverage of coal statistics and to improve the comparability of the data. A small group of experts is assisting the secretariat in examining the comparability of data on production, employment and productivity.

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS ⁴

Conference of European Statisticians (ninth session), 10-14 July 1961

Chairman: Professor B. Barberi * (Italy)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. A. Novak (Yugoslavia)
Mr. I. Ohlsson (Sweden)

Officers of the Conference for the period 1961-1963

Chairman: Professor B. Barberi (Italy)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. A. Novak (Yugoslavia)
Mr. I. Ohlsson (Sweden)
Mr. G. Péter (Hungary)

Working Group on Electronic Data-processing Machines (second session), 26 April-2 May 1961

Chairman: Mr. I. Ohlsson (Sweden)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. B. Kolpakov (USSR)

Joint Meeting with FAO on Food Consumption Surveys (first session), 9-13 October 1961

Chairman: Mr. T. Kirstein (Denmark)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. J. L. Dols (Netherlands)

Working Group on Statistics of Private Consumption Expenditure (second session), 20-24 November 1961

Chairman: Mr. R. E. Beales (United Kingdom)

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. A. Mod (Hungary)

Group of Rapporteurs on Comparisons between Systems of National Accounts in Use in Europe (third session), 19-23 February 1962

Chairman: Mr. J. Mayer (France)

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. A. Mod (Hungary)

Working Group on Family Budget Enquiries, 9-13 April (in co-operation with ILO)

Chairman: Mr. M. V. Monakhov (USSR)

ACTIVITIES

Electronic Data-processing Machines

45. At its second session, the Working Group on Electronic Data-processing Machines agreed that the introduction of electronic data-processing (EDP) was

* *Editorial note:* The Chairman of the Conference, Dr. F. Fajfr (Czechoslovakia), was unable to attend for reasons of health.

⁴ See paragraphs 308 to 313 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report of the Conference of European Statisticians.

an extremely valuable and important development for national statistical offices which affected their whole programme, organization and operating methods. It also agreed that offices using or planning to install EDP faced the same or similar problems and that there were substantial possibilities of mutual help in overcoming these problems. The group proposed a programme of collaboration among European statistical offices consisting of (a) exchange of information by means of written reports on experience of using EDP for statistical purposes; (b) further meetings of the working group to study specific questions in the field of EDP and, from time to time, to review general developments; (c) study tours for the discussion of operating experience on particular types of EDP; (d) the exchange of appropriate computer programmes; and (e) measures to facilitate bilateral co-operation on such matters as training programmes, furnishing advice, lending experts, testing programmes, using installations for experimental purposes and processing of actual data.

46. The Conference approved these proposals and made arrangements for their implementation. The national offices concerned have been requested to provide, by the end of April 1962, reports on the following questions: (a) description of EDP equipment; (b) general experience, developments, trends and plans in the field of EDP; (c) co-operation with other countries; (d) write-ups of computer programmes; and (e) automatic editing and correcting of data. The Conference agreed, subject to confirmation at the tenth plenary session, that the next meeting of the working group should be held in the autumn of 1962, to discuss problems of automatic editing and correcting. The Conference also requested the secretariat to explore the possibilities of setting up a reference centre of information concerning the use of EDP for statistical purposes.

Industrial Statistics

47. The Conference approved the 1963 European Programme of Basic Industrial Statistics which the Working Group on Industrial Statistics had drawn up as a regional variant of the corresponding world programme adopted by the Statistical Commission. The Conference recommended that countries should put the European programme into effect in compiling their basic industrial statistics for 1963. The Conference also agreed to reconvene the working group during 1961/62 to review the existing international standards relating to index numbers of industrial production and to prepare recommendations for the improvement and standardization of these index numbers, taking account, *inter alia*, of the needs of labour productivity measurements. This meeting will be held in May 1962.

Index Numbers of Agricultural Production

48. The Conference approved the recommendations made by the Group of Experts on Index Numbers of Agricultural Production which had been convened under the joint auspices of FAO and the Conference. The Conference noted that FAO intended to implement the

recommendations addressed to it by the group, and invited FAO to submit a report to its next session on the action taken by the FAO conference regarding the group's report and on the progress made in implementing its recommendations.

Food Consumption Surveys

49. A meeting on food consumption surveys was held in October 1961 under the joint auspices of FAO and the Conference. The meeting considered a draft programme for food consumption surveys prepared by FAO, and proposed a number of amendments. The meeting stressed the importance of developing regional programmes in this field, either as adaptations of a general world programme or in the form of a set of parallel regional recommendations.

Standardization of Current Agricultural Statistics

50. The second session of the Study Group on Problems of Methodology and Definitions in Agricultural Statistics was held in January 1962 under the joint auspices of FAO, the ECE Committee on Agricultural Problems and the Conference. The recommendations relating to production statistics and the proposed programme of work on which agreement was reached at this meeting are summarized in paragraph 14 above.

Statistics of Consumers' Expenditure

51. At its second session, the Working Group on Statistics of Private Consumption Expenditure reached agreement on a European programme for annual and more frequent statistics of consumers' expenditure. This programme consists of a set of recommendations concerning the data on consumers' expenditure to be compiled by national statistical offices, and the various classifications of these data, within the context of the national accounts. The programme applies both to countries using accounting systems based on, or similar to, the System of National Accounts of the United Nations and those using accounting systems based on the concept of material production, and takes account, *inter alia*, of the desirability of publishing data permitting the adjustment of statistics drawn up on either of these concepts to the other concept. It is also recommended that countries publish data on expenditure by the government and other sectors on goods and services accruing to households (e.g., expenditure on health and education services) in addition to data on expenditure by households themselves.

Comparisons of Systems of National Accounts

52. At its third session, the Group of Rapporteurs on Comparisons of Systems of National Accounts discussed comparisons of production concepts, and agreed on rules for adjusting data on domestic product and income (and their major components) compiled on the basis of the United Nations System of National Accounts or on the basis of the Method of Balances of the National Economy used in countries with centrally planned economies,

respectively, so as to match the corresponding concepts used in the other system. The group recommended that the ten countries participating in the work of the group should prepare tables giving national figures for these aggregates for the year 1960 and indicating the adjustments needed to match the corresponding concepts used in the other accounting system, and supply the tables to the secretariat for circulation and review at the group's next session. The group also discussed reports by two consultants (from Hungary and the United Kingdom) on parallel studies of statistics of consumers' expenditure in which the figures of each country had been adjusted so as to correspond with the concepts used in the other country in order to test the conclusions which the group had reached on this subject at its previous session. The studies showed that it was statistically feasible to make the adjustments with sufficient accuracy, and that the rules drawn up by the group for adjusting the aggregates relating to consumers' expenditure needed to be amended only in a few minor respects. The group continued its discussion of different possibilities of comparing the accounting systems as a whole. The group agreed that at least two more meetings would be needed to complete the task entrusted to it. One meeting would be needed to discuss comparisons of the remaining main aggregates in the two accounting systems — i.e., government expenditure, capital formation and imports and exports. A second meeting would be needed to carry out an overall review of the work on the individual aggregates, to reconsider the desirability and possibility of making comparisons of the systems of accounts as a whole in the light of this review, and to draw up a summary of conclusions.

Family Budget Inquiries

53. The Conference agreed to convene a joint meeting with ILO of a working group on family budget inquiries, to make recommendations for the improvement and standardization of these inquiries. The working group met in April 1962, and adopted a set of statistical standards for use in family budget inquiries taken in Europe, aimed at developing the usefulness of these inquiries and at promoting international comparability in the results.

Current Housing and Building Statistics

54. The Conference is working jointly with the Housing Committee to develop a European programme for current housing and building statistics. Preparatory work is being carried out by national rapporteurs. A joint meeting of a group of experts of the Conference and the Working Party on Housing and Building Statistics of the Housing Committee is scheduled to take place in November 1962.

Statistics of Financial Assets and Liabilities

55. The Conference took note of a memorandum by the International Monetary Fund and the Statistical Office of the United Nations on the problems involved in integrating income and financial accounts, and invited its members to submit written comments on the contents

of this paper and on the subject generally. The Conference agreed that further work at the European level on the problems of integrating income and financial accounts was necessary, and decided to maintain the subject of statistics of financial assets and liabilities and financial transactions in its programme of work.

Censuses of Population and Housing

56. The Conference agreed that an enquiry should be carried out in the first half of 1963 regarding the extent to which countries had implemented in their national censuses the European programmes which the Conference had drawn up, and that the Working Group on Censuses of Population and Housing should be reconvened in the second half of 1963 to examine the results of this enquiry and to exchange information and views on the national experiences gained. In the meantime, countries were invited to submit general reports on their censuses, with particular reference to those aspects which were of interest to other countries — e.g., the use of electronic data-processing machines for tabulating the census data.

Dissemination of Conference Documents

57. The Conference, taking account of the financial implications, recommended that important methodological documents of general interest should be issued in a separately published (photo-offset) series, and that the reports of its plenary sessions should be published in mimeographed form with covers. The Conference also agreed on various other steps to make the results of its work better known and more readily available.

List of Statistical Terms in Different Languages

58. The Conference was informed that the International Statistical Institute had completed the preparation of a provisional list in English and French of terms used in official statistics. Copies of this list were distributed to the members of the Conference, who were requested to submit their comments on it to the International Statistical Institute by the end of June 1962. The Conference invited the International Statistical Institute to submit a report at the next session on progress made in preparing a final edition of the list in English and French and on its plan for further work on this subject.

Reports on the Statistical Activities of ECE Committees

59. As in previous years, the Conference received and discussed reports on the statistical activities of ECE committees. The Conference expressed general satisfaction with the progress made in implementing its recommendations for improved co-ordination between these activities and its own work and requested the secretariat to pay continued attention to this matter. The Conference also made a number of specific suggestions regarding the statistical work under different committees, which have been brought to the attention of the bodies concerned.

Report by Other International Bodies

60. The Conference discussed reports by the secretariat of the Organization for European Economic Co-operation (now the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development), the Statistical Office of the European Communities and the Conference of Heads of National Statistical Offices of the Northern Countries on their statistical activities. The Conference was also informed about recent developments in statistical co-operation between the countries with centrally planned economies and in statistical co-operation between the Benelux countries. The Conference expressed its continuing interest in receiving such information, and renewed its request that information on regional statistical work in Europe be provided for consideration at its plenary sessions.

Regional Statistical Seminar

61. A third Regional Statistical Seminar, on household surveys, was held in Vienna in October 1961, sponsored jointly by the International Labour Office and the United Nations, in collaboration with the Government of Austria, and with the co-operation of the specialized agencies concerned. The seminar was attended by 62 participants from 26 countries and six international organizations.

62. The Conference expressed the hope that it would be possible to hold another regional statistical seminar in 1963. Concerning the subject, a number of participants expressed a preference for sampling surveys in current statistics.

COMMITTEE ON ELECTRIC POWER⁵

Committee on Electric Power (twentieth session), 4-6 October 1961

Chairman: Mr. R. Hochreutiner (Switzerland)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. T. Dryzek (Poland)

Working Party on Statistics (fifth session), 15-16 January 1962

Chairman: Mr. C. Forster (United Kingdom)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. G. Teoke (Hungary)

Working Party for the Study of Rural Electrification (ninth session), 2-4 October 1961

Chairman: Mr. N. Sazonov (USSR)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. C. A. Cameron-Brown (United Kingdom)

Group of Experts for the Study of Hydro-electric Resources in Europe (twelfth session), 4-5 October 1961

Chairman: Mr. D. Tonini (Italy)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Vercon (Yugoslavia)

Group of Experts for the Study of Legal Questions (fourteenth session) 5-7 February 1962

Chairman: Mr. M. Hugues (France)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. G. Padoan (Italy)

⁵ See paragraphs 314 to 318 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report of the Committee on Electric Power.

Drafting Committee for Inquiry into the Economic Aspects of the Influence of Mechanization on the Construction of Hydro Power Stations (fourth session), 23-24 May 1961

Chairman: Mr. T. Nilsson (Sweden)

Ad hoc Group of Experts to Study Certain Problems in the Design and Operation of Thermal Power Stations (second session), 22-23 January 1962

Chairman: Mr. A. Georgescu (Romania)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. D. Peattie (United Kingdom)

Ad hoc Group of Experts to Study the Covering of Peak Loads (second session), 16-18 January 1962

Chairman: Mr. Z. Pavlicek (Czechoslovakia)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Garrido (Spain)

Ad hoc Group of Experts to Study the Methods and Criteria used in solving Problems of Investment in the Construction and Operation of Electric Power Plants and in the Transmission of the Electric Power so produced (first session), 18-19 January 1962

Chairman: Mr. V. Ajvazyan (USSR)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. T. Özal (Turkey)

ACTIVITIES

Economic Analysis of the Electric Power Situation

63. The secretariat prepared for the Committee's consideration the annual report on the situation and future prospects of Europe's electric power supply industry, which contained an analysis of the situation in 1960/61 (ST/ECE/EP.11). Among special subjects dealt with, the report included an analysis of electric power consumption and of the influence thereon in Europe of changes in temperature conditions; and other particular analyses dealing with the role of rationalization in electric power supply and with the use of gas turbines for electric power production. It was decided that the next report should also contain a special section on Europe's general energy situation.

Statistics

64. The *Annual Bulletin of Electric Energy Statistics for Europe* was issued for 1960, and the *Quarterly Bulletin* was issued regularly. The Working Party on Electric Power Statistics considered methods and definitions used to determine and express the efficiency of thermal power stations and drew up proposals on this subject. It also drew up suggestions for submission to the International Union of Producers and Distributors of Electric Power (UNIPED) on the question of definitions for compilation of statistics concerning combined production of electric power and heat and operation of heating networks. Proposals were also prepared for certain modifications on points of detail in respect of future issues of the *Annual Bulletin of Electric Energy Statistics*.

65. The Working Party for the Study of Rural Electrification considered and recommended for circulation in final form a series of reports (listed in document EP/132) dealing with specific aspects of production, utilization and economic problems relating to the supply of electric power in rural areas. It also considered the state of progress of a further series of reports on particular problems of transmission and distribution, utilization and economic aspects of the rural supply of electricity. These reports are due to be prepared in completed form for the next session in 1962. New subjects for three further reports were also adopted. It was decided that the entire series of reports so far issued should be subjected to examination and possible co-ordination by a group of rapporteurs with a view to the preparation of analytical summaries of the main types of problem dealt with.

66. The working party adopted the texts of questionnaires which in future will serve for the preparation of concise annual and more detailed triennial reports on the state of rural electrification in Europe, and also certain definitions. The annual report covering 1960 was considered and arrangements were made for its completion. Provision was also made for the completion in final form of a report, intended for submission to the symposium referred to in paragraph 77, on the rationalization of electric power consumption in agriculture.

Legal Questions

67. The Group of Experts for the Study of Legal Questions undertook a detailed study of financial charges imposed on electric power production, transmission and supply undertakings. Having distinguished the main fields of such charges and of any offsetting financial advantages accorded, the group arranged for the gathering of the information required for a full comparative analysis. The study of clauses for revision of international power supply contracts was also pursued, the main criteria and conditions to be taken into account in the use of such clauses being defined as a first stage in formulating the elements of a model clause for discussion. The group, having previously gathered the necessary information for the preparation of a comprehensive study on rights and obligations of electric power production, transmission and supply undertakings vis-à-vis local authorities and private persons, the Committee arranged for such a study to be prepared for wide distribution.

68. The group of experts considered a number of proposed new items for inclusion in its work programme which had been referred to it by the Committee for examination. It was decided to take up the study of principles governing assessment of compensation payable for the crossing of agricultural land by electric power transmission and distribution lines, and also that of legal and practical questions relating to supply contracts. A series of further questions was adopted for inclusion in a long-term work programme.

69. Following the application by participating countries of a standard methodology adopted for the purpose by the Group of Experts for the Study of Hydro-electric Resources in Europe, definitive information in map form on the geographical distribution of gross surface hydro-electric potential throughout a large area of continental Europe was issued for general distribution (ST/ECE/EP/10). Arrangements were made for the preparation of a further document containing similar information in respect of certain areas not so far covered. The closely linked question of the relationship between gross and exploitable hydro potential was also considered by the group.

70. After considering the report of a group of rapporteurs on the feasibility of establishing information on a common basis in respect of the maximum hydro-electric storage and pumped storage potential available in European countries, the group of experts decided on the elements of the inquiry to be undertaken and adopted a questionnaire for the purpose.

71. The group also considered the question of inter-regional diversity in Europe in fluctuations of hydro-electric resources from year to year, on the basis of analyses prepared from information supplied by interested countries to common specifications. It was decided to complete a definitive report on this question to complement that on the distribution of gross surface hydro potential.

72. *The Half-yearly Bulletin on Conditions of Hydraulicity in Europe* was issued regularly. The group of experts was kept informed of relevant developments in the field of water resources, including those arising from Commission resolution 3 (XVI) and from specific fields of inter-secretariat co-operation with other regional economic commissions.

Thermal-power Stations

73. The *ad hoc* Group of Experts to study Certain Problems in the Design and Operation of Thermal-power Stations examined the state of progress of work on four reports on specific questions which had been entrusted to it for study, and arranged for the allocation among experts of interested countries of four new subjects referred to it by the Committee.

Covering of Peak Loads

74. The *ad hoc* Group of Experts to study the Covering of Peak Loads reviewed the content of various chapters of a general report being drawn up on the covering of peak loads and arranged for a complete version of the report to be prepared for consideration by the Committee at its next session. It also arranged for the completion of a comparative study that is being prepared for the Symposium on Rationalization of Electric Power Consumption referred to in paragraph 77 on characteristics of daily and annual load curves in European countries. The main lines of a possible organization of a symposium on the covering of peak loads were also considered.

Investment Methods and Criteria

75. An *ad hoc* Group of Experts to study Methods and Criteria used to solve Problems of Investment Choice in Construction and Operation of Electric Power Plants and in Transmission of the Power so produced was set up by the Committee, and met in January 1962. The group arranged for a report on methods employed to be prepared in revised form, with the assistance of rapporteurs, for submission to the Committee's next session and for a supplementary inquiry to be carried out on aspects of the same subject. It also arranged for the defining, in conjunction with the IAEA, of model electric power supply systems as a means of aiding the continuing study of the questions involved.

Mechanization of the Construction of Hydro-power Stations

76. The Committee on Electric Power approved the report of the drafting committee for inquiry into economic aspects of the influence of mechanization on the construction of hydro-power stations. This set out the main principles for an inquiry to bring together, in comparable form, information on the cost components of large-scale concrete work in hydro-power plant construction, as a basis for the preparation of a report on that subject. Arrangements were made for establishing contact on the question with the International Commission on Large Dams.

Rationalization of Electric Power Consumption

77. The Committee considered the programme of work for a symposium on the rationalization of electric power consumption to be held at the invitation of the Government of Poland in Warsaw in May 1962. One hundred reports on the subject have been prepared by rapporteurs from fourteen countries, by certain of the Committee's working groups (see below), and by the secretariat.

Exchanges of Information

78. The Committee arranged for the continuation and expansion of the exchange of existing monographs on European hydro-power stations.

79. Two documents were issued containing supplementary information respectively on the organization of electric-power supply services in Europe (ST/ECE/EP/5, Add.1) and on the characteristics of national electric-power networks which can be used for international interconnexion (ST/ECE/EP/4, Add.1). The Committee arranged to issue regularly a list of meetings concerned with electric-power questions organized by governmental and non-governmental organizations, with particulars of the agenda items. Arrangements were also made for the circulation among participating countries of bibliographical indexes issued by some of them with a bearing on technical advances in electric-power plants.

Relations with other Regional Economic Commissions

80. The Committee maintained and intensified its arrangements for being kept informed of the work of other regional economic commissions in the field of electric power (see E/ECE/448).

Relations with other International Organizations

81. Arrangements were made by the Committee to maintain contact with the International Conference on Large Electric Systems (CIGRE) and also with the International Union of Producers and Distributors of Electric Power (UNIPEDE) with a view to the preparation of a document containing comparative information on safety requirements for high voltage overhead cables. It was also arranged that an inquiry should be conducted among participating countries to ascertain their views on the possible scope of a report on the use of computer techniques to deal with problems involved in the development and operation of electric-power networks.

82. The Committee's work was followed by the IAEA, specialized agencies of the United Nations and other international governmental and non-governmental organizations. Inter-secretariat co-operation with the IAEA continued for the purpose of preparing a parallel study of the cost characteristics of conventional and nuclear-power plants respectively, and of a joint study on the economic integration of nuclear power in the existing power systems.

Study Tours

83. At the invitation of the Yugoslav Electricity Union and the Government of Yugoslavia, thirty experts from seventeen countries and secretariats of the other regional economic commissions participated in a study tour in Yugoslavia which took place immediately before the Committee's twentieth session. Experts from the Working Party for the Study of Rural Electrification made a study tour in the Federal Republic of Germany immediately preceding the working party's ninth session, in response to an invitation from the government concerned. This constituted the first stage of a two-year series covered by the invitation.

Long-term Programme of Work

84. In order to assist the optimum organization of the secretariat's work, the Committee requested participating countries to submit proposals for a five-year work programme for the Committee and its subsidiary bodies.

COMMITTEE ON GAS **

Committee on Gas (eighth session) 29 November to 1 December 1961

Chairman: Mr. P. Le Guellec (France)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. G. Koranyi (Hungary)

* *Editorial note:* Pursuant to Commission resolution 6 (XVI), the Working Party on Gas Problems was converted into a Committee on Gas.

** See paragraphs 319 to 321 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report of the Committee on Gas.

ACTIVITIES

Analysis of the Gas Situation in Europe in 1960

85. The Committee discussed the gas situation in Europe and its future prospects on the basis of a survey prepared by the secretariat covering the period 1959-1960 in accordance with the decision taken at the seventh session that a brief report be prepared annually starting from 1961 on the most recent developments in the gas industry. This report has been given a general release (ST/ECE/GAS.2).

Transport Economy of Natural Gas

86. Work has continued on the elaboration of a preliminary report on this question in which the various means of transporting natural gas are reviewed together with some indication as to immediate and future prospects. The role of underground gas storage in relation to transport has been the subject of a special chapter in the report, as well as progress achieved in the remote control of operation, and the operation of compressor stations.

87. Work will be continued on this important subject by holding seminars, the first one to be held in 1962 in Moscow at the invitation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The scope and direction of further work in this field will be examined by the Committee in the light of the results of the first seminar.

Natural Gas Markets in Europe

88. The preliminary report prepared on this question has been finalized and given a general release (ST/ECE/GAS.3). Because of the importance of the subject, the Committee has decided to review it at intervals. Meanwhile, the question of natural gas reserves is to be examined in order to improve the comparability of data in this respect.

Methods of forecasting Gas Demands

89. It will be recalled that in addition to the study of this question by the Committee, two seminars were held in France and the Federal Republic of Germany, following which a summary was presented to the eighth session of the Committee.

90. Of two possible approaches for developing this work further — i.e., the continued study of the methodological aspects or the application of the methods to specific cases — the Committee has retained the second approach, and decided to apply forecasting methods to the following branches of the industry: chemicals, ceramics, glass and iron and steel, with a view to ascertaining to what extent forecasting methods should be modified.

Preferential Uses of Gas

91. After considering the documentation assembled on this subject the Committee invited the rapporteurs to continue their work, and in particular, to study the preferential uses of gas in the following sectors: chemicals, ceramics, glass and iron and steel.

Economy of the Use of Propane, Butane and Refinery Gases as Supplementary Resources for Gas Production

92. After considering a report on this subject, the Committee asked the secretariat to complete the report and to give it a general release; and to undertake a study, with the assistance of governmental rapporteurs, on the use of light distillates and other petroleum products as raw material for the gas industry.

Legal Problems

93. This refers to the legal protection for international gas pipelines, which has two aspects: one more specifically legal, the other relating to safety regulations. A number of specific issues arise from the problems which call for international co-operation and these are now under study.

Statistics

94. The *Annual Bulletin of Gas Statistics for Europe* covering the year 1960 was published.

95. The Committee has decided that in future these statistics should also cover raw materials used by the gas industry and that a special issue of the *Bulletin* be prepared giving the main statistical indicators of developments in the gas industry from 1955 onwards.

96. Statistics on manpower and productivity in the gas industry are under examination by the Committee as a first step in implementing Commission resolution 10 (XVI). The Committee, in co-operation with the Electric Power Committee, intends to study methods used by the two industries in services concerned with meter reading, billing and payment of bills.

Exchange of Information and Experiences

97. The Committee agreed that governments should supply information concerning visits which had taken place between experts from participating countries over the past two years. Thereafter, similar information should be provided on a regular annual basis.

Other Matters

98. General appreciation was expressed of Commission resolution 6 (XVI) whereby the Working Party on Gas Problems had been converted into a Committee on Gas.

HOUSING COMMITTEE⁷

Housing Committee (twenty-first session), 12-14 June 1961; (twenty-second session), 18-19 December 1961

Chairman: Mr. P. Blokhine (USSR)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. R. Brauner (Austria)

⁷ See paragraphs 322 to 325 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report of the Housing Committee.

Symposium on Urban Renewal, 5-7 June 1961

Chairman: Mr. Howard J. Wharton (USA)

Vice-Chairman Mr. V. Chkvarikov (USSR)

General Rapporteur: Mr. G. Günthert (Federal Republic of Germany)

Seminar on Housing Surveys and Programmes, with Particular Reference to Countries in the Course of Industrialization; held in Zagreb (Yugoslavia), 1-10 October 1961

Chairman: Mr. M. Tepina (Yugoslavia)

Working Party on Housing and Building Statistics (twelfth session), 19-21 December 1961

Chairman: Mr. L. de Jonge (Netherlands)

Vice-Chairman: Miss Z. Petrovic (Yugoslavia)

ACTIVITIES

Economic Aspects of Housing Policy

99. The Committee debated European housing progress and policies, based on the provisional version of the secretariat's survey of those questions, and reviewed especially current trends in house-construction, principal changes in housing policies and future prospects. The provisional report was subsequently revised and completed by the secretariat and published (*European Housing Trends and Policies in 1960*, ST/ECE/HOU/2).

100. The new inquiry into the housing situation of European countries continued. The report will examine housing requirements, taking into account the extent of the housing shortages in different countries, the quantitative and qualitative aspects of the existing housing stock, the normal additional requirements and the structure and trend of housing demand. The study will extensively draw on data obtained from the recent housing censuses. The work at this stage consisted largely of an examination by a group of rapporteurs and also in the statistical working party of the methodological problems involved in launching the new inquiry.

101. In addition to keeping up-to-date questions of housing finance in the annual housing review, a group of rapporteurs completed a pilot inquiry on the private financing of housing. As a contribution in implementing certain aspects of General Assembly resolution 1508 (XV) (E/3468, para. 302), and in response to a request made by the Commission at its sixteenth session, this group of rapporteurs also prepared a statement on the possibility of international financing of low-cost housing programmes in less developed countries.

Housing and Building Statistics

102. Quarterly and annual bulletins of housing and building statistics continued to be published regularly. The Committee decided to discontinue the quarterly bulletin, except for a quarterly summary table giving current house-building activities, and as a counterpart to consider further improvements, in particular with

regard to coverage, in the annual bulletin. Formal terms of reference were established for the Working Party on Housing and Building Statistics. The Committee, through this working party, and in co-operation with the Conference of European Statisticians, has started preparing a new European programme for current housing and building statistics.

Technical Aspects of Housing Policy with Particular Reference to reducing the Cost of House Construction

103. Three inquiries examining different aspects of government policies and building costs continued with the help of *ad hoc* groups of rapporteurs. The first is an inquiry on the economical and technical aspects of the lifetime of a house, with particular reference to the analysis of factors affecting maintenance costs and to the relationship between initial and ultimate costs of building materials, components and completed dwellings. The second is an inquiry on the effect of repetition on the cost of production of selected building materials and components. The third is an inquiry into actual house-building costs.

104. In accordance with the decision to keep under review development in the field of standardization and dimensional co-ordination, the Committee heard reports on work in progress in this field in eastern and western Europe presented by rapporteurs.

Town and Country Planning

105. A comprehensive study into problems of rural housing, and in particular administrative, financial and technical measures which were being taken in various countries to improve the rural housing situation, was completed and published (*The Rural Housing Situation*, ST/ECE/HOU/3).

106. The Committee agreed to make a contribution to the United Nations seminar dealing with problems of urbanization, which is being organized jointly by the ECE secretariat and the Office of Social Affairs in response to Council resolution 792 (XXX) and will be held in September 1962 in Poland.

107. The pilot inquiry on the planning and cost of different types of layout for new residential areas continued with the help of rapporteurs.

108. A symposium on urban renewal policies and programmes, with special reference to conservation, rehabilitation and re-development, and in particular urban renewal policies in relation to city planning problems, was held in June 1961. A report on the symposium's proceedings was subsequently prepared and published (*Report of the Urban Renewal Symposium*, ST/ECE/HOU/4).

109. The Committee decided that further work along the lines recommended by the symposium should be carried out over the next few years. A working party on problems of urban renewal and the town planning aspects of housing was established in this connexion.

*Housing Problems of Countries
in the Course of Industrialization*

110. A seminar on housing surveys and programmes, with particular reference to countries in the course of industrialization, was held in Zagreb (Yugoslavia) in October 1961. A report on the seminar's proceedings was subsequently prepared and published (*Report on Seminar on Housing Surveys and Programmes, with Particular Reference to Problems in the Developing Countries, ST/ECE/HOU/5*). The Committee had under consideration the subject of the next seminar intended primarily for the benefit of the developing countries.

Co-operation with Other Parts of United Nations

111. The Committee agreed to make an effective contribution to the "long-range programme of concerted international action in the field of housing and related community facilities" carried out by the United Nations, geared largely to the need of the developing countries in other parts of the world. This contribution consisted largely in making available the results of the Committee's work and in helping to organize seminars and expert meetings on specific subjects.

Development of Contacts and Technical Co-operation

112. The Committee stressed the importance to its work of the effective contribution by international professional and technical organizations. As part of its long-term programme of group visits to different countries, a comprehensive visit to the Federal Republic of Germany of participants in the Committee took place in June 1961.

Programme of Work

113. In addition to adopting its current programme of work, the Committee established a long-term programme, including the phasing of the work, over the next three years from the middle of June 1962. The establishment of the long-term programme was considered a valuable contribution to the implementation of the Commission's resolution 5 (XVI) on the development and strengthening of the work of the ECE. The long-term programme contains, in addition to the continuing and some *ad hoc* projects featuring in the current programme which will remain in the future programme, the following principal new projects:

- (i) An inquiry into major problems of government housing policies, and in particular (a) an analysis of the changing aims of government housing policy and how these are being examined and established in different countries, and (b) a synthesis and critical analysis of the instruments of government housing policy;
- (ii) Follow-up work in the field of urban renewals along the lines recommended in the report on the symposium on urban renewal;
- (iii) A study of policies on the allocation of land and the control where appropriate of land prices for housing projects;

- (iv) An inquiry on problems of housing for the elderly;
- (v) A new inquiry on government policies in relation to the cost of building and industrialization of building.

The Committee also examined the financial implications of the work decided upon in the field of urban renewal and the town planning aspects of housing.

INDUSTRY AND MATERIALS COMMITTEE^a

Ad hoc Working Party on Contract Practices in Engineering (seventeenth session), 9-11 April 1962

Chairman: Mr. R. Papillon (France)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Kotlicki (Poland)

ACTIVITIES

*Standardization of Conditions of Sale
for Engineering Products*

114. At its sixteenth session, the *ad hoc* Working Party on Contract Practices in Engineering drew up general conditions of sale for the import and export of durable consumer goods and of other engineering stock articles. The general conditions (No. 730) were published in July 1961 (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.12). At its seventeenth session, the *ad hoc* Working Party on Contract Practices in Engineering adopted a commentary on the general conditions of sale for the import and export of durable consumer goods and of other engineering stock articles (No. 730), to be published by the secretariat in the same manner as the previous commentaries on the general conditions for the supply of plant and machinery for export (Nos. 188 and 574). Furthermore, the *ad hoc* working party decided to let the secretariat draw up and publish, in consultation with experts from interested countries, a set of optional conditions on the erection of plant and machinery abroad, and initiated work on drawing up general conditions for the supervision of the erection of plant and machinery abroad, and general conditions for civil engineering works required prior to the construction of large-scale industrial plants. On this last point, which is not within the purview of any of the existing Committees, a secretariat study will be presented to the eighteenth session of the Commission, which would then decide whether an *ad hoc* working party composed of experts competent to deal with the different aspects of the questions should be set up.⁹

Automation

115. Work on this subject has been carried forward as described by the Executive Secretary in his progress report on action taken pursuant to resolution 8 (XV) (see also paragraphs 199 and 200 below).

^a See paragraphs 326 to 327 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report on the Industry and Materials Committee.

⁹ See the report of the *ad hoc* working party on its seventeenth session (E/ECE/IN/WP.5/37).

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE¹⁰

Inland Transport Committee (twenty-first session), 15-19 January 1962

Chairman: Mr. S. Batkowski (Poland)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. W. Clarke (United Kingdom)

Sub-Committee on Road Transport (twenty-third session), 5-9 June 1961 (twenty-fourth session), 6-10 November 1961

Chairman: Mr. A. Buzzi-Quattrini (Austria)

(twenty-fifth session), 4-8 December 1961

Chairman: Mr. A. Buzzi-Quattrini (Austria)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Wojciechowski (Poland)

(twenty-sixth session), 12-16 February 1962

Chairman: Mr. C. Nordström (Sweden)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. S. Simonović (Yugoslavia)

Sub-Committee on Rail Transport (fifteenth session), 9-11 October 1961

Chairman: Mr. Z. Zólcziński (Poland)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Clémang (Luxembourg)

Sub-Committee on Inland Water Transport (fifth session), 15-17 November 1961

Chairman: Mr. L. Kolly (Switzerland)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Savinov (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)

Working Party of Experts on Statistical Information (seventeenth session), 30 August-1 September 1961

Chairman: Mr. P. Schmidt (Federal Republic of Germany)

Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs (seventeenth session), 11-15 September 1961; (eighteenth session), 13 and 14 November 1961

Chairman: Mr. P. Nicolas (Belgium)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. S. Omeljaniuk (Poland)

Working Party on Tariffs (thirteenth session), 11-13 October 1961

Chairman: Mr. S. Hlava (Czechoslovakia)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. F. Vaney (Switzerland)

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (twelfth session), 20-24 November 1961

Chairman: Mr. A. W. Clarke (United Kingdom)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. A. Buzzi-Quattrini (Austria)
Mr. H. Galante (Poland)

Group of Customs Experts (nineteenth session), 16-19 April 1962

Chairman: Mr. A. van Aken (Belgium)

Group of Experts on Track Costs (no meeting held)

Working Party on Transport Costs (no meeting held)

Working Party on Combined Transport Equipment (no meeting held)

Working Party on the Construction of Vehicles (eleventh session), 15-19 May 1961; (twelfth session), 16-20 October 1961; (thirteenth session), 12-16 March 1962

Chairman: Mr. G. Pocci (Italy)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. N. Ostrovsky (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)

Working Party on International Passenger Transport Services by Road (fifteenth session), 15 June 1961

Chairman: Mr. P. Jordanis (Switzerland)

Working Party on the International Road Transport Régime (no meeting held)

Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (thirteenth session), 25-29 September 1961; (fourteenth session), 26 February-2 March 1962

Chairman: Mme. R. Liger (France)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Wojciechowski (Poland)

Group of Experts to study Certain Technical Railway Questions (no meeting held)

Group of Experts on Problems involved in establishing a Unified System of Inland Waterways of International Concern in Europe (second session), 29 May-2 June 1961

Chairman: Mr. A. Buzzi-Quattrini (Austria)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. G. Willems (Belgium)
Mr. W. Magiera (Poland)

Working Party on River Law (ninth session), 23 October-3 November 1961; (tenth session), 5-9 March 1962

Chairman: Mr. R. Loewe (Austria)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. W. Kujawa (Poland)

Group of Experts to study the Standardization of Police Regulations and Signalling on Inland Waterways (fifteenth session), 3-7 July 1961; (sixteenth session), 27 November-1 December 1961

Chairman: Mr. J. Verhey (Netherlands)

ACTIVITIES

Road Transport

(a) Regulations for international road transport

116. A European agreement establishing regulations in respect to maximum driving periods and minimum rest periods and certain related questions was opened for signature on 19 January 1962. The Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road, which had been drawn up in co-operation with the International Institute of Private Law, entered into force during 1961.

¹⁰ See paragraphs 328 to 332 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report of the Inland Transport Committee.

(b) *Road traffic*

117. The work of classifying previous decisions of the Sub-Committee on Road Transport and recommendations made by its working parties concerning road traffic was continued. In this connexion, many decisions have been clarified or put into final form, and new questions have been settled or discussed. The work of classification has resulted in the submission of a large number of proposals for amendments to the 1949 convention and protocol and will also lead to the conclusion of a European agreement to replace the 1950 European agreement supplementing the 1949 convention and protocol, and to the adoption of a consolidated resolution embodying in a coherent text all the supplementary recommendations made to governments with regard to their legislation or national regulations concerning road traffic. Discussions are continuing on other questions, such as the restriction of noise and of air pollution caused by motor vehicles, regulations for reflex reflectors and signs indicating restricted parking zones. This work has the threefold aim of improving national regulations in the interests of safety, standardizing them in the interests of international road traffic and facilitating international trade in vehicles and their parts and accessories.

Inland Water Transport

118. The Sub-Committee on Inland Water Transport is continuing its work on a draft convention on the registration of inland navigation vessels and the two optional protocols annexed thereto relating respectively to rights *in rem* and to attachment. It has decided to give up the idea of any convention or recommendation on the right of inland navigation vessels to a flag and on the nationality of such vessels.

119. It has begun work on the revision of the 1925 convention regarding the measurement of vessels, prepared a report on new techniques in inland navigation and undertaken to draw up standard regulations governing liquefied gas installations on inland water craft.

120. The study of the characteristics to be specified for inland waterways and the standard dimensions of the vessels using them is continuing, and the procedure to be followed in the economic study of the important new links which are planned has been defined. A report on handling operations in river ports has been finalized. The draft European inland waterways code will be completed shortly.

Rail Transport

121. The Sub-Committee on Rail Transport noted with satisfaction the work which had been undertaken jointly by the International Union of Railways and the Organization for Co-operation between Railway Administrations with a view to gradually equipping all European rolling stock with automatic couplings. It discussed future trends in passenger traffic and methods of investigating future trends in goods traffic. It also decided to study methods used to estimate probable traffic density.

122. Work on the protection of ballast against pollution, the use of plastics in rolling stock and the standardization of signalling principles is continuing.

Transport of Dangerous Goods

123. The Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods began its discussion of a draft agreement concerning the international carriage of dangerous goods by inland waterway (ADN), which had been prepared by the secretariat with the assistance of experts.

Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs

124. A European agreement defining special equipment for the transport of perishable foodstuffs, affording protection against the misuse of similar designations and laying down conditions to be observed during the international transport of certain of these goods, was opened for signature on 14 January 1962. Bulgaria, France and Switzerland were the first signatories.

125. The working party also examined certain aspects of the standardization of wooden and cardboard packaging for fruit and vegetables.

Customs Questions

126. The group of customs experts took various decisions with a view to the uniform application of earlier conventions and resolutions. It adopted a new resolution on the reduction of waiting times at frontiers in goods transport by rail.

Statistics

127. Data on pipelines will in future be included in the annual statistical publications. Studies have been made concerning the possibility of taking a census of the transport industry and related activities, and on the desirability and possibility of keeping urban transport statistics. The determination of indices of productivity of railways will also be discussed.

Tariffs

128. The Working Party on Tariffs approved the unified international goods nomenclature for tariff purposes (NUM) drawn up jointly by experts from UIC and OSZhd; it decided to observe to what extent the nomenclature was applied in rail transport and asked countries in which tariffs for road or inland water transport existed whether it would be possible to apply it also for the purposes of those tariffs.

*General Conditions concerning
International Furniture Removal*

129. General conditions concerning international furniture removal prepared under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe were published (TRANS/263).

Economic Studies and Transport Co-ordination

130. The Committee expressed appreciation of the secretariat's report on transport co-ordination in planned

economy countries. It decided to suspend for the time being its studies and discussions of the general problem of transport co-ordination. It instructed the secretariat, however, to prepare a note comparing the trend of the volume of goods traffic by all means of transport in a number of countries during the last ten to fifteen years with the trend of the gross national or material product. It also decided to resume the studies of the apportionment of track costs when the conclusions drawn from the tests made in the United States of America by the Association of State Highway Officials were known.

Development of Contacts

131. The Group of Experts to study Handling Operations in River Ports made a study tour in the Netherlands at the beginning of 1961, while the Group of Experts to study the Standardization of Police Regulations and Signalling on Inland Waterways made a study tour on the Seine in July 1961. Many study tours took place under bilateral arrangements.

132. The Committee instructed its three sub-committees to draw up a programme of study tours for the next four or five years.

COMMITTEE ON MANPOWER ¹¹

133. The Committee remained inoperative between the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the Commission in view of the arrangement whereby the Committee's programme of work has been taken over by the International Labour Organisation. As part of the arrangement, ILO informs the Commission at each of its plenary sessions about manpower problems in Europe and the organization's activities in this field. Accordingly, a report on this subject (E/ECE/432) has as usual been prepared by ILO for the Commission's information.

STEEL COMMITTEE ¹²

Steel Committee (twenty-sixth session), 25 and 26 September 1961

Chairman: Mr. W. H. A. Waring (United Kingdom)
Vice-Chairman: Mr. F. Houdek (Czechoslovakia)

Steel Committee (twenty-seventh session), 26 to 28 March 1962

Chairman: Mr. A. Denis (France)
Vice-chairman: Mr. F. Houdek (Czechoslovakia)

Working Party on Steel Statistics (tenth session), 22 and 23 March 1962

Chairman: Mr. F. Godenberg (Poland)
Vice-Chairman: Mr. L. Dehem (Belgium)

¹¹ See paragraphs 333 to 334 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report on this matter.

¹² See paragraphs 335 to 336 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report of the Steel Committee.

Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Productivity in the Iron and Steel Industry, 20 and 21 March 1962

Chairman: Mr. N. Djakonov (USSR)

Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Automation in the Iron and Steel Industry, 21 and 22 March 1962

Chairman: Mr. A. Leckie (United Kingdom)

Ad hoc Working Party on General Conditions of Sale for Steel Products (no meeting held)

Chairman: Mr. G. Andrejevic (Yugoslavia)

ACTIVITIES

Annual Market Review

134. Following established practice, the Committee, after having held a general debate of the state of the steel market at its spring session in March 1961, discussed in more detail short and medium trends in the development of the European and the world steel market at its twenty-sixth session in September 1961. As a basis for discussion, the secretariat had prepared a provisional version of the annual market review, which was subsequently revised and published (*The European Steel Market in 1960, ST/ECE/STEEL/3*). At its twenty-seventh session, held in March 1962, the Committee again noted the general value of discussions on the development of the steel market and of the annual market review prepared by the secretariat. Representatives to the session reviewed recent developments in the steel market in the light of a note prepared by the secretariat on developments in 1961.

Comparison of Steel-making Processes

135. The inquiry into the economic and technical advantages of individual steel-making processes had already been discussed by the Committee the previous year in a provisional version. Chapter III of the study, analysing the qualities and mechanical properties of finished steel produced by individual processes, is perhaps the most important part of the study, and it has therefore already in its draft form attracted wide interest of steel technicians. A group of highly qualified expert rapporteurs has assisted the secretariat in the revision of the chapter during two consultations, one held in September 1961, and the other in April 1962. The study is ready for printing, and will be published shortly.

Use of Steel in Construction

136. The secretariat is preparing an inquiry into the use of steel in construction as part of a series of sector studies on consumption of steel. The construction sector is one of the most important outlets for finished steel products, absorbing between 20 and 30 per cent of all steel used in an economy. The report will consist of three parts: (a) an investigation of technological trends in the use of steel as a building material; (b) a series of country reports, assembling all available statistical information on steel deliveries to, and steel consumption in, the construction sector; (c) an attempt at international comparison of trends observed in individual countries, giving also an assessment of possible future developments.

137. A first provisional version, serving as an indication of what methods will be used for preparing a full inquiry, was examined by the Committee at its twenty-sixth session, in September 1961. The Committee decided to set up a group of rapporteurs with specialist knowledge in construction techniques to consult with the secretariat in November 1961. This group decided to carry out an inquiry, assembling, by means of special questionnaires, data on use of steel in recently completed buildings (flats, offices, factories, assembly halls) and civil engineering projects, from a number of countries. A full provisional version of this inquiry will be examined by the Committee at its twenty-eighth session, in September 1962.

Steel Statistics

138. The secretariat continued to publish quarterly bulletins on steel statistics. The scope of the *Bulletin* was expanded by inclusion of statistical data on consumption of energy in the iron and steel industry. Moreover, data on production of steel-making raw materials and finished steel, on consumption of raw materials in iron and steel-making and on trade in semi-finished and finished steel products for the United States, are now supplied on regular statistical questionnaires and will be published in the *Bulletin*.

139. Subsequent to publishing a volume, *Statistics of World Trade in Steel, 1913 to 1959*, giving data on exports of semi-finished and finished steel from 18 countries, by 11 products and more than 100 countries and regions of destination, an annual bulletin, *Statistics of World Trade in Steel, 1960*, was published (Sales No. 62.II.E.5). It is envisaged to continue this series.

140. The Working Party on Steel Statistics, in its endeavour to improve the quality and coverage of data published in the *Quarterly Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe*, discussed problems of presentation of statistics of flat steel products and of deliveries of steel to consuming groups.

141. The working party discussed in detail questions of statistics on stocks and actual consumption of steel referred to in Commission resolution 8 (XVI) (see also E/ECE/443), and noted the progress that had been made in certain countries. In order to obtain more satisfactory results, it was agreed that: (a) those countries which had not yet replied to the secretariat's request for information on this subject should again be invited to do so, paying particular attention to actual difficulties encountered in setting up statistics of this kind; (b) those countries with experience in the actual compilation of data on stocks and actual consumption of steel should transmit to the secretariat an up-to-date description of the methods used and measures taken; (c) subsequently, the secretariat should prepare a report, analysing the methodological and practical possibilities of applying the information received and indicating difficulties encountered in the compilation of such data in individual countries.

142. In view of the fact that statistics on stocks and actual consumption of steel are of importance to general economists as well as to the steel industry, the working

party suggested to the Steel Committee that, after more information had become available and had been analysed, the views of the Conference of European Statisticians should be sought regarding further possible measures to improve the data in this field.

Productivity in the Iron and Steel Industry

143. The Committee has already for some time devoted part of its activities to problems of labour productivity measurement in the iron and steel industry, and set up an *ad hoc* group of experts in this field. Following a decision of the Committee at its twenty-sixth session, in September 1961, the expert group met in March 1962 to review conversion coefficients to be applied to steel output data and to examine employment data given in a paper of the secretariat. The meeting decided to seek more information on both subjects from member countries; a new report on labour productivity measurement in the industry will be examined by the expert group early in 1963.

Automation in the Iron and Steel Industry

144. The Committee's work on automation during the year under review has resulted in a preliminary report on the state of automation in the iron and steel industry of individual countries, which was examined by an *ad hoc* meeting of experts in March 1962. Further information is being sought from governments, and the Committee will discuss a final version of this report at its twenty-eighth session in September 1962.

Ad hoc Working Party on General Conditions of Sale of Iron and Steel Products

145. After a first reading of the General Conditions of Sale had been completed last year, a revised version was circulated to governments for comments. A further and possibly final session of the working party is envisaged to be held later in 1962.

Technical Co-operation

146. The Committee continues to promote technical co-operation and all-European contacts.

Long-term Programme of Work

147. The Committee reviewed its long-term programme of work, as established at its twenty-fifth session, and agreed that two new special studies only should be included in the current programme, work on which is likely to start by the middle of 1962, and which would probably take up to three years to complete: (a) an inquiry into the economic aspects of iron ore preparation, to be followed by one into other measures to improve blast-furnace efficiency; (b) an inquiry into long-term trends in the competitive use of steel in comparison with other materials.

Timber Committee (nineteenth session), 2 to 6 October 1961

Chairman: Mr. J. Keller (Switzerland)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. J. O. Söderhjelm (Finland)
Mr. O. Mysik (Czechoslovakia)

Joint FAO/ECE Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers (in collaboration with the ILO) (4th session) 19 to 24 June 1961 (Prague) (study tour in Czechoslovakia 25 June to 1 July 1961)

Chairman: Mr. E. G. Richards (United Kingdom)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. J. Venet (France)
Mr. L. V. Roos (USSR)

Study Group on Methods and Organization of Forest Work (No meeting held)

Chairman: Mr. J. Jindra (Czechoslovakia)

Study Group on Manual and Mechanized Forest Operations (No meeting held)

Chairman: Mr. I. Samset (Norway)

Study Group on Forest Machinery Development (2nd session), 1 to 5 May 1961

Chairman: Mr. X. B. de Megille (France)

Study Group on Vocational Training and Prevention of Accidents in Forest Work (No meeting held)

Chairman: Mr. H. Frølund (Denmark)

Study Group on a Multilingual Glossary of Forest Work Science (2nd session), 6 to 10 November 1961

Chairman: Mr. U. Sundberg (Sweden)

Joint FAO/ECE *ad hoc* Working Party on Forest and Forest Products Statistics (No meeting held)

Chairman: Mr. J. Keller (Switzerland)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. F. C. Hummel (United Kingdom)
Mr. B. Perepechine (USSR)

Ad hoc Working Party on the Standardization of General Conditions of Sale for Timber (No meeting held)

Chairman: Mr. H. Blétry (France)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. N. Dumitrescu (Romania)

Group of Experts on the Planning of Forest Communication Networks (Roads and Cables), 26 to 28 March 1962

Chairman: Mr. I. Samset (Norway)

Group of Experts on the Economic Aspects of, and Productivity in, the Wood Processing Industries, 4 to 6 April 1962

Chairman: Mr. O. Mysik (Czechoslovakia)

Market Review

148. At its nineteenth session, the Timber Committee reviewed the course of the European market in sawn softwood, pulpwood, pitprops and hardwoods (including imports of tropical hardwoods) during 1961, and appraised the prospects for 1962. The results of the review are set out in the Timber Committee's report on its nineteenth session (E/ECE/TIM/69, paras. 7-43).

Discussions and Decisions of the Sixteenth Session of the Economic Commission for Europe relevant to the Work of the Timber Committee

149. The Committee considered Commission resolution 10 (XVI) (Productivity of labour) and specific suggestions concerning new work submitted by the representatives of Hungary, Poland, Romania and the USSR during the sixteenth session of the Commission, and agreed that a group of experts should be convened to draft a programme of work on the economic aspects of, and productivity in, the wood-processing industries for consideration by the Committee at its twentieth session. The above group met from 4 to 6 April 1962, and prepared such a draft for submission to the Committee at its twentieth session.

Statistical Matters

150. The Committee took note of the half-yearly hardwood price statistics presented in tabular form and recommended their inclusion in future in the ECE *Timber Bulletin for Europe*. Production and trade statistics of particle board were likewise recommended for future inclusion in the *Timber Bulletin*.

151. The Committee took note of the recommendations of the Conference of European Statisticians which were relevant to forest and forest products statistics.

Joint FAO/ECE Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers (in collaboration with the ILO)

152. The Committee took note of the work of the Joint Committee and expressed satisfaction with the co-operation with the ILO in the fields of training and prevention of accidents. The Committee strongly endorsed the Joint Committee's recommendation that it would be of great value to world forestry if ILO would devote a greater effort to accident prevention in forest work.

153. It expressed thanks to the Government of Czechoslovakia for the arrangements made for the fourth session and the study tour which followed it. It welcomed other study trips, to Hungary and Italy (in connexion with forest machinery development), and the international training course on vocational education in forestry held in Sweden. The ILO fellowship programme was commended and it was pointed out that more countries could avail themselves of these facilities for participation in international or national training courses.

¹³ See paragraphs 337 to 348 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report of the Timber Committee.

*Ad hoc Joint FAO/ECE Working Party
on Forest and Forest Products Statistics*

154. The Committee took note of the work in progress.

*Ad hoc Working Party on the Standardization
of General Conditions of Sale for Timber*

155. The Committee noted that the secretariat had established contact with the International Technical Tropical Timber Association, and would submit to the twentieth session a comparative study of the Association's contracts and the conditions of sale established under ECE auspices.

*Survey of the Production, Consumption and Trade
of Fibreboard and Particle Board in Europe*

156. The Committee received a secretariat report on trends in production capacity, trade and consumption of board products. In view of the rapid expansion of these industries, the Committee agreed that a meeting of experts, which should take the form of a colloquium, be held at the end of 1962 or early in 1963 to discuss selected topics related to the economics of production and utilization of fibreboard and particle board.

*Study of European Timber Trends
and Prospects, 1950-1975*

157. The Committee received an interim report on the Study of European Timber Trends and Prospects, 1950-1975.

Utilization of Wood and Its Products

158. The Committee took note of the final report of the study on the use of wood and its products for packaging in the United Kingdom.

159. A progress report of the study on the use of timber underground in mines was presented.

160. The Committee received the secretariat's report on the special meeting on the utilization of small-sized wood, noted with satisfaction that in several countries groups had been set up to study problems associated with the production and utilization of small-sized wood, and requested that it be kept informed of the findings of these groups.

Exchange of Scientific and Technical Experience

161. The Committee adopted in principle the proposed list of study tours in the fields of the timber trade and the wood-processing industries for the years 1964 to 1970, and agreed that the 1962 tour should be in the USSR and the one in 1963 in Italy.

COMMITTEE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE¹⁴

Committee on the Development of Trade (tenth session),
11 to 18 September 1961

Chairman: Mr. Paolo Savini (Italy)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Janos Nyerges (Hungary)

¹⁴ See paragraphs 349 to 356 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report of the Committee on the Development of Trade.

Ninth consultation on intra-European and especially east-west trade, 15 to 18 September 1961

Fourth annual meeting to review operations under the Multilateral Compensation Procedures, 13 and 15 September 1961

Chairman: Mr. Mirko Mermolja (Yugoslavia)

Meeting of trade experts to implement Commission resolution 6 (XV), 15 to 19 May 1961

Chairman: Mr. J. A. Kirbyshire (United Kingdom)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Janos Nyerges (Hungary)

Ad hoc Working Party on Insurance Problems (third session), 8 to 10 May 1961

Chairman: Mr. R. Sterner (Sweden)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. S. Pacina (Czechoslovakia)

Working Party on the Simplification and Standardization of Export Documents (first session), 21 to 24 August 1961

Chairman: Mr. H. Thomsen (Norway)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. W. Stazewski (Poland)

Sub-Group on Reinsurance Problems, 22 January 1962

Chairman: Mr. M. Grossmann (Switzerland)

ACTIVITIES

*Discussions and Decisions of the Sixteenth Session of the
Commission relevant to the Work of the Committee*

162. In the course of the discussion, delegates commented on a number of Commission resolutions particularly relevant to the work of the Committee. In addition to proposals made to implement Commission resolution 9 (XVI) on the Committee on the Development of Trade, delegations commented on the relevance for the work of the Committee of Commission resolutions 1 (XVI), 2 (XVI) and 5 (XVI) on development and strengthening of ECE's work.

163. Pursuant to resolution 9 (XVI) and in order to continue the work done under resolution 6 (XV), the Committee decided to request the secretariat to take all necessary steps to assist governments in the implementation of resolution 9 (XVI), and in particular to clarify and analyse all proposals hitherto made by ECE governments for removal of economic, administrative and trade policy obstacles, to obtain any further views of proposals governments may wish to put forward in this connexion, and in the light thereof to prepare a report for consideration by governments designed to facilitate the formulation of recommendations as envisaged in resolution 9 (XVI). In carrying out this task, the secretariat was asked to consult, as necessary, with experts from interested governments, and in particular those which have made proposals. The secretariat report was to be distributed to governments, if possible, by 31 March 1962. This report was issued on 26 March 1962 (ME/99/62) and transmitted to the governments by the Executive Secretary under cover of a letter dated 30 March (ME/99/62 (a)).

Development of Intra-European and especially East-West Trade: Review of Past Year and Prospects for 1961/1962

164. As background information for the discussions under this item, the Committee had before it a survey of recent developments in Europe's trade prepared by the secretariat in the *Economic Bulletin for Europe*, vol. 13, No. 1. The documentation was supplemented by oral statements made by the secretariat on the current market situation and prospects in Europe with respect to some of the fields covered by other ECE committees; namely, major agricultural products, coal, steel and timber.

165. Representatives reviewed the development of their countries' trade relations with others during the past year, reported on new trade agreements concluded in the period under review, referred to specific difficulties and problems they encountered, drew the Committee's attention to recent development in their countries' commercial policies, and appraised the prospects for intra-European trade, in particular as regards the immediate future. Satisfaction was expressed that European trade as a whole as well as intra-European and east-west trade in Europe had shown an increase in the past year, and there was a unanimous view that the Committee should pursue its efforts to find practical ways and means of promoting intra-European trade.

Questions of Periodic Consideration by the Committee of Long-term Trends and Perspectives

166. As a basis for its discussion of this item, the Committee had before it a note by the secretariat (TRADE/117) elaborating on the suggestion made by the Executive Secretary at the sixteenth session of the Commission that the possibility of an annual exchange of information and views among ECE governments on longer-term perspectives or plans for trade should be considered by the Committee.

167. In the course of the discussion, delegates expressed the view that the secretariat's suggestion offered interesting possibilities and might open up useful avenues in the Committee's efforts to increase intra-European trade. Opinions varied, however, as to the best way in which this project could be carried out. In conclusion, the Committee requested the Executive Secretary to invite governments to inform the secretariat in writing of their views and comments on the secretariat's proposal as contained in document TRADE/117, in the light of the discussion at the tenth session of the Committee. It was understood that those governments who might be in a position and wished to reply to the questions contained in paragraph 11 (a) of document TRADE/117 should transmit the relevant information to the secretariat. The secretariat is engaged in collating the replies received.

Implementation of Commission Resolution 6 (XV)

168. The Committee had before it the report of the meeting of trade experts to implement Commission resolution 6 (XV) (TRADE/115), and a note circulated at

the request of the government of Yugoslavia containing the text of a proposal made by the delegation of Yugoslavia at this meeting held in May 1961 (TRADE/127). The results of the discussion which took place under this item of the agenda are recorded in paragraph 162 above.

Improvement of Payments Arrangements: Enlargements of Scope for Multilateral Transferability and Greater Flexibility in Payments Arrangements

169. The Committee considered the documentation prepared by the secretariat in response to the decision taken by the ninth session of the Committee to review annually the progress made by ECE governments towards the achievement of effective transferability of their currencies or of automatic transferability for some part of the earnings under bilateral arrangements. This documentation included a note by the secretariat (TRADE/118) containing information transmitted to the secretariat by a number of governments regarding the progress made along the above lines and an analysis by the secretariat of the degree of multilateralism at present existing in intra-European payments relationships. A revised version of parts of document TRADE/106, and its addenda, considered at the ninth session of the Committee, was also before the Committee (TRADE/106/Add.1, Corr.2 and Corr.3). The Committee took note of the information contained in the above-mentioned documents.

Review of Procedures for Voluntary Compensation of Balances arising under Bilateral Agreements

170. The Committee had before it the Fourth Annual Report on the Operation of the Multilateral Compensation Procedures (E/ECE/TRADE/51), the confidential Quarterly Report of the Agent on Operations during the seventeenth quarter, and the Report of the Fourth Annual Meeting to review operations under the Multilateral Compensation Procedures, which took place under the Committee's session. The Committee adopted the report of the fourth annual meeting, and decided that the procedures be continued in the present form subject to review by the eleventh session of the Committee.

Consequences for Intra-European Trade of Efforts to achieve a Greater Degree of Economic Integration on a Sub-regional Basis in Europe

171. The secretariat referred to its analysis of the recent steps taken under sub-regional economic integration arrangements, contained in the *Economic Bulletin for Europe*, vol. 12, No. 2, and Vol. 13, No. 1.

172. During the discussion, a number of delegations expressed their growing concern about the repercussions of economic grouping in Europe on their trade. The representative of Yugoslavia stated that his country's apprehensions about the consequences of such groupings for Yugoslavia's trade had been intensified by the process of enlargement in the membership of the groupings and the introduction by them of further preferential measures with respect to commodities which were amongst the traditional exports of third countries, including his own,

to the markets of countries belonging to these groupings. His government, therefore, wished to reiterate the importance of Commission resolution 5 (XIV) on sub-regional economic groupings, which had been sponsored by Yugoslavia. The representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Romania considered that distinct economic groupings in western Europe were bound to have a prejudicial influence on the trade of third countries in general and on east-west trade in particular. Though these adverse consequences had not yet been fully reflected in trade statistics, they would become accentuated in the future. Ultimately, the effect would be to reduce imports by countries of eastern Europe from the countries of western Europe members of the groupings. While any state was entitled to enter into economic agreements, this did not absolve that state from its obligation to honour all economic agreements which it had previously concluded, including bilateral agreements providing for most-favoured-nation treatment. These delegations considered that it was imperative to find ways of overcoming the difficulties created as a result of the establishment of distinct economic groupings by a determined effort to improve the conditions of trade with countries which did not belong to these groupings.

173. The representative of Austria, speaking on behalf of countries members of the European Free Trade Association, stated that EFTA aimed at a breaking-down of trade barriers both inside and outside this organization. Current steps to move towards a wider European market free from trade restrictions constituted at the same time moves on the road toward the freeing of trade barriers of a world-wide scale. Trade figures showed that the formation of EFTA and EEC had in no way been detrimental to the expansion of trade between eastern and western Europe. The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany, speaking on behalf of countries members of the EEC, stated that the EEC had always been conscious of, and had shown solicitude for, the trade interests of all third countries and that it was favourable to a harmonious development of commercial exchanges between all countries. Both representatives considered that the most-favoured-nation clause in bilateral trade agreements could not be invoked as regards customs unions and free trade areas respectively. They signified the willingness of the members of the EEC and EFTA to examine together with third countries all concrete questions which might arise in their mutual trade relations. The representative of the United States reiterated its country's support for the aims and purposes of EEC and EFTA.

174. After discussion, the Committee agreed as follows :

“ Taking into account the creation of sub-regional economic groupings in Europe, the Committee, following resolution 9 (XVI) of the ECE, recommends that in case of any difficulties arising in trade between individual countries, participants and non-participants, the representatives of such countries will meet in the framework of procedures agreeable to both sides concerned as often as it is required with the aim of overcoming the difficulties and finding ways and means of assisting the development of trade between them.”

Interregional Trade

175. The Committee had before it a detailed report on the work of the other regional economic commissions in the field of trade and on the steps taken by the secretariat in this field to intensify its co-operation with other parts of the UN Secretariat pursuant to the Committee's decision taken at its ninth session (TRADE/119). The report on the trade work of ECLA, ECAFE and ECA contained in the annex to this document had been prepared especially for the Committee by the respective regional secretariats.

Arbitration

176. The Committee took note of the signature by sixteen European countries, on 21 April 1961, of the European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration (E/ECE/TRADE/48). The hope was expressed that the countries which had not yet signed the convention would consider the possibility of doing so before 31 December 1961, or of acceding to it subsequently, and that the countries which had signed it would ratify it as soon as possible. After that date, two further countries had signed the convention.

Simplification and Standardization of Export Documents

177. The Committee noted with satisfaction the concrete results obtained by the Working Party on the Simplification and Standardization of Export Documents at its first session. It expressed its gratitude to the Government of Sweden for having kindly undertaken to print the various annexes to the working party's report, containing, in particular, a model of a uniform document capable of being used for both maritime transport and inland transport.

Problems of Insurance

178. The Committee took note of the report by the *ad hoc* Working Party on Insurance Problems on its third session (TRADE/111) and the notes by the secretariat on the salvage of vessels and cargoes in territorial waters (TRADE/121 and Add.1 to 3) and on the settlement of loss and damage abroad (TRADE/122 and Add.1 and 2). Most delegations took the view that the *ad hoc* working party could usefully continue its work on the standardization of the general clauses of transport insurance policies (TRADE/111, paras. 10 to 12) and on reinsurance problems (TRADE/111, paras. 13 to 15). Some delegations felt that the problems of the salvage of vessels and cargoes in territorial waters and of the settlement of loss and damage abroad were of no practical interest and should be deleted from the programme of work of the *ad hoc* Working Party on Insurance Problems. Other delegations considered that the secretariat's inquiry on the salvage of vessels and cargoes in territorial waters should be completed and that governments which had not yet replied to the inquiry should be invited to do so.

179. A sub-group set up by the *ad hoc* working party, which met on 22 January 1962, drew up a draft recom-

mendation on the freedom of reinsurance (E/ECE/455, annex). The draft recommendation was intended to be submitted to a forthcoming meeting of the *ad hoc* Working Party on Insurance Problems scheduled to take place in April 1962. However, at the request of a number of governments, the Executive Secretary, by letter dated 22 February 1962, postponed that session. In view of the fact that the *ad hoc* working party will not meet before the next session of the Committee on the Development of Trade, the Executive Secretary suggested that the Commission may wish either itself to adopt this recommendation for transmission to governments or to refer the matter for action to the next session of the Committee (E/ECE/455).

Trade Fairs and Technical Shows

180. The Committee noted with satisfaction the results of the negotiations conducted by the secretariat with the Customs Co-operation Council concerning the participation of ECE countries which were not members of the Customs Co-operation Council in the drafting of the convention concerning customs facilities for the importation of goods for display or use at exhibitions, fairs, meetings or similar events; that convention was being prepared by the Customs Co-operation Council on the basis of recommendations by the Commission (TRADE/123 and Add.1).

Standardization of General Conditions of Sale

181. The Committee took cognizance of the note by the secretariat concerning the progress of work on the standardization of general conditions of sale for selected commodities (TRADE/124) and of the additional information furnished by the secretariat in reply to the questions submitted to it with regard to the practical application of the general conditions drawn up under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Europe.

Problems of Trade in Machinery and Equipment

182. The Committee was informed of the progress of the work on a study on production and exports of capital goods in the fields of mechanical and electrical engineering being carried out by the secretariat, with the assistance of expert rapporteurs, on the basis of Commission resolution 14 (XIV) (TRADE/125). It was noted that the study would be submitted to the next session of the Commission, and that the Committee could examine, if it so wished, the trade aspects of the study at its eleventh session.

Ninth Consultation of Experts on Intra-European and especially East-West Trade

183. The ninth consultation of experts on intra-European and especially east-west trade was held as a separate part of the tenth session of the Committee along established lines. A total of some sixty-one first-round talks were scheduled. At the final plenary meeting of the consultation, the Executive Secretary, on the basis of the

reports made to him by the experts regarding their bilateral talks, stated that the talks had been devoted mainly to a consideration of problems which have arisen under existing agreements or of difficulties existing in trade relations between the parties. The discussions had also included a general examination of opportunities for expansion of trade during the coming year and of improvement in financial arrangements. During some of the talks plans were made for future trade negotiations between the governments concerned. Several participants had indicated that some new opportunities for trade expansion have been found or explored. The talks had been conducted in a spirit of practical co-operation and showed a positive desire among all participants for further development of trade. The general consensus of the experts participating seemed to be that the bilateral talks had been useful and should be continued in 1962. On the basis of this appraisal, the Executive Secretary believed that it would be advisable to convene a tenth consultation in conjunction with the next session of the Committee.

B. Other activities

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF DISARMAMENT¹⁵

184. Pursuant to Commission resolution 1 (XVI) (Economic and social consequences of disarmament), the Executive Secretary informed the Secretary-General about this resolution, drawing his attention in particular to its first operative paragraph. Subsequently, at the request of the Secretary-General, the Executive Secretary consulted with the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs on the most appropriate way in which the ECE secretariat might assist in the preparation of the study called for in General Assembly resolution 1516 (XVI).

185. As a result of these consultations, arrangements were made for the ECE secretariat to help service the first session of the Consultative Group on the Economic and Social Consequences of Disarmament, appointed by the Secretary-General under General Assembly resolution 1516 (XVI), and held in Geneva from 7 to 18 August 1961. The memorandum by the Secretariat on the results of the first session of the consultative group stated that the secretariat for the meeting was provided by the United Nations headquarters and by the Economic Commission for Europe (ST/SG/AC.3/R.3, para. 1).

186. The group noted with satisfaction that "the ECE had already adopted a resolution on the subject of economic and social consequences of disarmament" and expressed the wish "that all other regional economic commissions and the specialized agencies would be in the position to make important contributions to the study on the subject and that the secretariats of the specialized agencies would be consulted" (ST/SG/AC.3/R.3, para 7).

¹⁵ See paragraphs 357 to 360 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report on this matter.

187. A senior member of the ECE secretariat worked with the Secretariat at United Nations headquarters in making preparations for the second session of the consultative group, which was held in New York from 23 January to 16 February 1962. A substantial contribution was made to the preliminary secretariat draft of the study prepared for the consideration of the expert consultants as well as to the substantive serving of the second session of the group.

188. The consultative group agreed unanimously to use the secretariat's draft as a working paper for their deliberations. After a thorough discussion, the group unanimously approved their study on the economic and social consequences of disarmament, and transmitted it to the Secretary-General. This report was issued as Council document E/3593, together with a preface by the Secretary-General which, *inter alia*, refers to the assistance given to the group by "members of the secretariat from . . . the Economic Commission for Europe, collaborating in accordance with that Commission's resolution 1 (XVI)" (see also E/ECE/433).

DECENTRALIZATION OF UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND STRENGTHENING OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS IN THE FIELD OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE¹⁶

189. Pursuant to Commission resolution 4 (XVI), the Executive Secretary participated in the meeting of the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs with the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions held in Geneva during the thirty-second session of the Economic and Social Council. In the course of this meeting, the various aspects and requirements of further decentralization were reviewed and agreed upon in the light of the relevant decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the regional economic commissions, including Commission resolution 4 (XVI). An outline of the approach to these questions, developed in the course of this meeting, was included in the report "Decentralization of the United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the regional economic commissions" (A/4911), submitted by the Secretary-General to the sixteenth session of the General Assembly.

190. Co-operation with the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations and its Technical Assistance Office in Geneva has considerably increased during the period under review. Substantive support by the secretariat to a number of technical assistance projects in Europe will continue to develop on an expanded scale. The Executive Secretary has also explored various possibilities of increasing ECE's contribution to technical assistance programmes in Europe in the course of his contacts and discussions with TAB resident representatives in Europe and during his visit to ECE governments receiving receiving technical assistance under the Expanded Programme. In addition to the growing contribution the secretariat expects to be able to make to the technical assistance

¹⁶ See paragraphs 361 to 366 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report on this matter.

programme in Europe, it is intended to put greater emphasis in some of the future research projects of the secretariat on topics designed to support the United Nations-wide technical assistance work.

191. In view of the specific reference in the first operative paragraph of Commission resolution 4 (XVI) to "the role which the ECE and its subsidiary bodies can play in locating and suggesting experts from ECE countries", the Executive Secretary paid special attention to the development of a closer association with the activities of the United Nations Technical Assistance Recruitment Service (TARS).

192. The secretariat is now receiving systematically all job descriptions from TARS for (a) comment as to their adequacy with the view to facilitating recruitment in Europe; and (b) suggestions of names of potential candidates for technical assistance assignments. The secretariat comments and suggestions are transmitted to the European office of TARS for an appropriate follow-up with the technical assistance national committees concerned.

193. In order to achieve a closer association of the Commission's subsidiary bodies with the recruitment process, as is also stipulated by resolution 4 (XVI), the European office of TARS suggested to the technical assistance national committees in the ECE countries to include in their organizational structure, whenever appropriate, the heads of delegations to the ECE committees and their subsidiary bodies and to arrange for them to receive systematically all job descriptions issued in the fields of concern to them. The European office of TARS has received a positive response to these suggestions from the national committees of many ECE countries.

194. In his discussions with all TAB officials resident in the countries of the ECE region, the Executive Secretary reviewed the present and future technical assistance programmes in these countries with particular reference to projects to the execution of which the ECE could contribute. A number of such projects were identified and consultations are proceeding with the BTAO and the TAB resident officials concerned on how to carry them out.

195. The Executive Chairman of the TAB has informed the Executive Secretary that he intends to arrange a meeting of TAB resident representatives of the ECE countries during which they would consult with the Executive Secretary on technical assistance activities in the ECE region in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Council.

DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF THE WORK OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE¹⁷

196. Pursuant to Commission resolution 5 (XVI), the Executive Secretary prepared a report in which he explored a number of appropriate possibilities for the development and strengthening of the activities of the ECE. These are set out in document E/ECE/435.

¹⁷ See paragraphs 367 to 370 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report on this matter.

PRODUCTIVITY OF LABOUR ¹⁸

197. Pursuant to Commission resolution 10 (XVI), the Executive Secretary drew the attention of the Commission's subsidiary bodies to this resolution. A number of projects included in their programme of work deal with matters of productivity (see E/ECE/437, annex I). The Conference of European Statisticians examined how far the available national statistics could be utilized for assessing productivity and agreed to continue its study of the statistical aspects of productivity measurements. Furthermore, the Executive Secretary invited governments to send him studies and other relevant material bearing on a number of problems in the field of productivity considered as deserving further examination (for list of documents and studies transmitted to the secretariat in response to this request, see E/ECE/437, annex II).

STUDY OF PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF CAPITAL GOODS IN THE FIELDS OF MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING ¹⁹

198. During the period under review, the Executive Secretary completed the study which was requested of him in Commission resolution 14 (XIV) (E/ECE/439). This study was prepared with the advice and assistance from rapporteurs nominated by the governments of Czechoslovakia, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

AUTOMATION ²⁰

199. During the period under review, a certain amount of additional material was received by the secretariat containing data and information based on actual experience of countries on the economic aspects of automation problems.

200. Pursuant to Commission resolution 8 (XV), the ECE subsidiary bodies concerned have given increasing attention to the economic aspects of automation within their respective spheres of activity (see E/ECE/440, paragraph 4).

CO-OPERATION WITH UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ²¹

201. During the period under review, the secretariat intensified its operation with the secretariats of the other regional commissions. At the request of the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, the secretariat made a substantial contribution to a study, "Recent developments in western European groupings as far as they concern African countries" (E/CN.14/139), which was issued by the ECA secretariat for its fourth

¹⁸ See paragraphs 375 to 378 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report on this matter.

¹⁹ See paragraphs 379 to 384 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report on this matter.

²⁰ See paragraphs 385 to 387 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report on this matter.

²¹ See paragraphs 388 to 390 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report on this matter.

session, and collaborated on the study dealing with "African trade with centrally planned economies" (to be published shortly). Furthermore, the study on production and export of capital goods in the fields of mechanical and electrical engineering includes an analysis of trade in engineering goods with developing countries in the other regions. The secretariat has also drawn to the attention of the other regional economic commissions certain aspects of the work of the Committee for the Development of Trade which might be useful to the work of the other regional economic commissions in the field of trade. More particularly, the Executive Secretary drew to the attention of the other executive secretaries chapter V of the *Economic Survey of Europe in 1960*, "Europe and the trade needs of the less developed countries", for possible consideration by the trade committees of the other regional economic commissions. Regarding the future work in this field, the Executive Secretary has been consulting with the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs and the executive secretaries of the other regional economic commissions on the lines along which the studies of the development of trade relations between Europe and the less developed countries could best be pursued.

202. The Executive Secretary drew resolution 2 (XVI) to the attention of the participants in the meeting of the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs with the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions held in Geneva in conjunction with the thirty-second session of the Economic and Social Council in July 1961. The Executive Secretary suggested at that meeting that while, in a broader sense, most of the work done in ECE is in one way or another of interest and relevance to the work of the other regional economic commissions, it would be most helpful if the executive secretaries of the other commissions would indicate in as specific terms as possible the projects and the type of work which is of particular interest to them. He pointed out that more use could be made of the ECE work already carried out or at present under consideration and that in some appropriate cases additional work, geared to the needs of the other commissions, could be undertaken by the ECE secretariat, often only with marginal deployment of resources.

203. Subsequently, the Executive Secretary followed up this discussion by communications to the executive secretaries of ECAFE, ECLA and ECA drawing their attention to a number of concrete possibilities, as he saw them, for closer co-operation on specific subjects in the fields of trade, energy and industry. More particularly, he suggested to the executive secretaries to consider the possibility of including in the provisional agendas of the plenary sessions of their respective commissions an item on their co-operation with other regional economic commissions. He also drew their attention to the suggestion made to him earlier by the Executive Secretary of ECAFE to the effect that this co-operation should be developed gradually, that more important projects should be taken up on a priority basis and that, in due course, the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions should arrive at a comprehensive and detailed long-range plan regarding their joint efforts.

204. A brief description of specific projects on which the secretariat co-operated with the secretariats of the other economic commissions in 1961/62 is contained in the Executive Secretary's note on co-operation with the other regional economic commissions on matters of common concern (E/ECE/448).

205. The Executive Secretary drew the attention of all ECE committees to the wish expressed in the second part of operative paragraph 4 of resolution 2 (XVI) that the subsidiary organs of the Commission should consider, "when establishing their programmes of work, the possibility of including projects the implementation of which would be of interest not only to member countries in the ECE but also to countries of other regions" (for a selected list of such projects see E/ECE/441, annex I).

THE ROLE OF THE COMMISSION IN THE FIELD OF THE RATIONAL UTILIZATION OF WATER RESOURCES IN EUROPE ²²

206. Pursuant to Commission resolution 3 (XVI), the Executive Secretary communicated with the executive heads of FAO, UNESCO, WHO, WMO and IAEA, as well as with the head of the Water Resources Development Centre at United Nations headquarters, on the subject of the above mentioned resolution, and has been assured by them of their readiness to co-operate in its implementation.

207. In his letter addressed to the ECE governments, dated 10 October 1961, the Executive Secretary requested them to furnish the secretariat with (a) a statement on the development of water resources in their respective countries and on the various problems encountered in meeting existing needs and planning for future requirements; and with (b) a statement on the way in which the water resources and the water economy are administered. A brief note, prepared by the secretariat and attached to the letter under reference, indicated the nature and scope of the problems of the rational utilization of existing water resources, as seen by the secretariat, and contained an outline as to the form in which the information might best be presented to the secretariat in order to facilitate its subsequent work.

208. The secretariat is preparing an analytical summary of the information received from the governments in response to this request and will use that summary as a basis for consultations with governmental experts and representatives of the international organizations concerned on the drafting of the report requested of the Executive Secretary in Commission resolution 3 (XVI).

FUTURE MEETINGS OF SENIOR ECONOMIC ADVISERS ²³

209. In accordance with this resolution, the Executive Secretary consulted with ECE governments regarding the

²² See paragraphs 391 to 394 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report on this matter.

²³ See paragraphs 400 to 402 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report on this matter.

subject to be selected by him for the next meeting of senior economic advisers. He intends to convene the second meeting, to be held in Geneva from 5-9 November 1962, for discussion on "Criteria of investment policies".

ENERGY PROBLEMS IN EUROPE ²⁴ (Draft 01.2.2)

210. Two consultations, the first on problems of methodology and the second on the future role of the various forms of energy, were held from 2-6 April 1962. As background documentation for these consultations, the secretariat prepared documents on the five topics mentioned at the Commission's sixteenth session (E/ECE/405), namely: (a) methodology of the analysis of energy economics; (b) comparison of methods of projecting future energy requirements; (c) comparison of costs of transporting and storing the different forms of energy in Europe; (d) methods of calculating the cost of electric power produced by thermal power stations; and (e) future role of the various forms of energy in Europe.

211. The experts participating in the first consultation considered that the first two documents could, after revision, be given general release. Moreover, they considered that the secretariat could undertake a study on harmonization of energy statistics on the basis of already existing national and international statistics. As to the third document, the experts were of the opinion that the secretariat should amplify the comparative study of the costs of transporting and storing the various forms of energy which, for a given use, are interchangeable. Certain experts considered that another consultation could with advantage be organized not later than the end of 1962 to discuss the revised texts of these three documents. With regard to the fourth document, the experts expressed the view that after revision it should be transmitted to the Committee on Electric Power.

212. The experts participating in the second consultation considered that the outline of the study on the future role of the various forms of energy in Europe was perhaps too ambitious, and that the secretariat was likely to be faced with difficulties in the supply of the necessary basic information. In view of this, the secretariat intends to proceed in stages, and in the first instance to prepare a new detailed outline of the study which would take into account already available information and such national studies or plans as may be supplied by participating countries. The text of this new outline might usefully be examined in the course of a further consultation.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PROBLEMS IN EUROPE ²⁵ (project 01.2.3)

213. During the period under review the secretariat has, within the limits of available staff resources, con-

²⁴ See paragraphs 403 to 405 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report on this matter.

²⁵ See paragraphs 406 to 410 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report on this matter.

tinued to work on this project especially with respect to (a) exchange of documentation and preparation of a new compendium of information on water pollution control problems; (b) interchange of advisory services by experts; (c) visits of specialists and direct contact between organizations; and (d) expert meetings.

214. In implementing this project, the secretariat continued to co-operate closely with the secretariats of FAO, WHO, WMO and UNESCO and with the secretariats of other international organizations, as necessary. Contact was also maintained with the Water Resources Development Centre at United Nations headquarters. An inter-secretariat meeting to exchange information on, and concert, relevant programmes and activities was held in Geneva in November 1961. It was attended by staff members of UNESCO, WHO, WMO, IAEA and staff members of OECD. Similar meetings are envisaged for the future.

CO-OPERATION WITH THE OTHER REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS ON MATTERS OF COMMON CONCERN²⁶

215. Co-operation between the ECE and ECAFE, ECLA, and ECA has continued and developed further in practically all fields within the Commission's mandate.

216. A number of governments from the other regions participated, in a consultative capacity, in accordance with paragraph 11 of the Commission's terms of reference, in the work of some of the Commission's subsidiary bodies which met during the period under review.

217. Pursuant to resolution 10 (XV), which dealt with information about the work of the other regional economic commissions, and taking into account the existence of corresponding subsidiary bodies and activities in ECAFE, ECLA and ECA, information on their relevant work was presented by the secretariat to the corresponding subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

218. Consultation between the Commission secretariats took place by correspondence, by exchange of documentation and by contacts between the officials concerned, in particular between the executive secretaries of the four regional economic commissions on the occasion of their meetings with the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs in July 1961. A number of ECE staff members have been seconded for temporary service to the secretariats of ECA and ECLA.

Coal

219. In accordance with a decision of the ECE Coal Committee, subsequently endorsed by the Commission at its sixteenth session (E/3468, para. 322), that its regular annual report concerning the promotion of the exchange of scientific technical and economic information and experience should be forwarded to the secretariats of the other regional economic commissions, the relevant docu-

mentation has been transmitted by the Executive Secretary to the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions.

Electric Power

220. The Director of the Energy Division participated in the eighth session of the Special Committee on Electric Energy of ECAFE, which was held in Bangkok from 18-22 December 1961. He used this occasion to discuss a number of points in the field of energy on which the two secretariats intend to co-operate more closely in the future.

221. The representatives of the secretariats of the ECAFE, ECLA and ECA participated in a study tour organized under the auspices of the ECE Electric Committee to Yugoslavia in September 1961. The officials of the secretariat of ECAFE and ECLA participated in the work of the twentieth session of the ECE Electric Power Committee held subsequently in Geneva in October 1961.

Energy

222. The Director of the Energy Division participated in the seminar on electric energy problems held under the auspices of ECLA in Mexico City in August 1961 and in ECAFE's regional seminar on energy resources and electrical power development held in Bangkok in December 1961. The secretariat prepared for these two seminars a number of papers dealing in particular with the following subjects: European experience in the integration and co-ordinated management of national systems of electric power transmission; the cost of electric power and the financing of electricity undertakings; methods for the evaluation of hydro-electric potential; methods of forecasting future requirements for electric power; electric power statistics; and rural electrification.

Housing

223. In the field of housing an increasing contribution is being made by the ECE Housing Committee and by the secretariat to the "Concerted programme of international action in the field of housing and related community facilities" approved by the Economic and Social Council and geared primarily for the benefit of the developing countries in other parts of the world. The secretariat has been taking substantive responsibility for certain parts of this programme, and is contributing by providing material and documentation emerging from the ECE Housing Committee's work, helping to organize seminars and expert meetings and assisting in the selection of lectures.

224. A seminar on the use of housing statistics for the benefit of Latin American countries will be held in Copenhagen in September 1962. Much of the experience and documentation resulting from a similar seminar held in 1961 for European countries under the auspices of the ECE Housing Committee will be made available to the participants in this seminar. The secretariat will provide some of the documentation, help service the meeting and give some lectures. A number of governmental experts who participate in the work of the ECE Housing Committee will also deliver lectures at this seminar.

²⁶ See paragraph 411 for the consideration by the Commission at its seventeenth session of the report on this matter.

Research

225. Regular contacts between the research staff of the ECE and the other commissions have been maintained, and members of the secretariat have continued on secondment to the secretariats of ECA and ECLA. More particularly, the secretariat contributed to a study by ECA on "Recent developments in western European economic groupings as far as they concern African countries", and to an ECA study on "African trade with centrally planned economies", the latter to be issued shortly.

Statistics

226. The secretariat continued to maintain close contacts with the secretariats of other regional economic commissions, particularly in connexion with the activities of the regional conferences of statisticians. Arrangements were made for certain documents issued under the programme of the Conference of European Statisticians, which were of interest to African countries to be circulated to the members of the African Conference of Statisticians. The Conference of European Statisticians was kept informed of the work of the other regional conferences of statisticians, and of similar work carried out by the Inter-American Statistical Institute.

Steel and Engineering

227. A study tour of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania, Sweden and the USSR is being organized by the BTAO in co-operation with the secretariat for iron and steel experts from Africa, Asia and the Far East, the Middle East and Latin America. Its main purpose is to study small-scale processes for the manufacture of iron and steel, particularly those which do not require high-grade coking coals, or those which can utilize lower-grade ores. Moreover, preparations are being made for the secretariat's contribution to a seminar on iron and steel-making in the ECAFE region, to be held in 1963 under the auspices of the BTAO. Its main concern is technological developments in iron- and steel-making and their application to the ECAFE region, with particular reference to the less developed countries therein.

228. The secretariat is working in the field of engineering in close co-operation with the secretariats of other regional commissions, by exchanging information and making full use of studies carried out by the secretariats of ECA, ECAFE and ECLA.

Timber

229. The Director of the FAO/ECE Division visited a number of countries of the ECAFE region in January 1962. He used this opportunity to discuss with the Executive Secretary of ECAFE and his colleagues questions of common interest related to the work of the ECE Timber Committee.

Trade

230. The ECE Committee on the Development of Trade regularly reviews trade with the countries of other regions on the basis, in particular, of reports by

the secretariat on current trade trends and the work done by other regional economic commissions. At its tenth session, the Committee considered a detailed report on the work of the other regional economic commissions in the field of trade and on the steps taken by the secretariat in this field to intensify its co-operation with other parts of the United Nations secretariat pursuant to the Committee's decision taken at its ninth session. The reports on the trade work of ECAFE, ECLA and ECA were prepared specially for the Committee by the respective regional secretariats.

231. The Trade Committees of ECLA and ECAFE have been kept informed through the secretariat of the work of the ECE Committee on the Development of Trade. More particularly, a detailed note on this matter was prepared for submission to the ECAFE Trade Committee. At the request of the ECAFE secretariat, particular attention was paid in this note to the ECE work on arbitration, and a special note was prepared on the ECE general conditions of sale and standard forms of contract with particular reference to international trade. Copies of the European Convention on Arbitration and of the ECE general conditions for the supply and erection of plant and machinery for import and export were distributed by the ECAFE secretariat at the fifth session of the ECAFE Trade Committee.

232. Countries of the ECLA and ECA regions have participated in ECE's multilateral compensation procedures in accordance with paragraph 11 of the Commission's terms of reference.

Transport

233. Documentation was despatched to the secretariat of ECAFE, at their request, and advice given to them on the following questions: use of concrete sleepers in certain European and African countries; uniform system of accountancy and statistical procedures; statistics on the movement of goods; road traffic problems; pros and cons of various systems of traction; and electrification and dieselization. Documentation was supplied to the secretariat of ECLA, at their request, on problems relating to the standardization of rolling stock, on standards for rail equipment, on transport co-ordination, track costs and transport statistics.

ACTIVITIES BEARING UPON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

234. During the period under review, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and its Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations, through its Technical Assistance Office in Geneva, continued to consult and co-operate with the secretariat on a number of projects of an economic character included in the programmes of technical assistance in ECE countries.

235. Co-operation with the Technical Assistance Office in Geneva was intensified, particularly in the light of the relevant resolutions adopted recently by the Council and the General Assembly with respect to technical assistance, in order to utilize more fully, whenever appropriate, the expertise of the ECE secre-

tariat. The arrangements for briefing by the ECE secretariat of UNTAO experts and fellows passing through Geneva whose tasks relate to projects included in the work programme of the ECE, were improved and expanded; from March 1961 to February 1962, 46 TA experts and 26 TA fellows were briefed on matters in which the ECE has expert knowledge and experience.

236. The secretariat also co-operated with the European office of TARS in locating and suggesting experts from ECE countries for technical assistance assignments in accordance with Commission resolution 4 (XVI).

237. The ECE acted as joint sponsor with ILO of a regional statistical seminar on household surveys held in Vienna in October 1961 in co-operation with the Government of Austria as well as the BTAO, the United Nations Statistical Office, and the specialized agencies concerned. The secretariat contributed to the organization of the seminar and prepared documents for discussion.

238. The ECE is acting as joint sponsor with the ECLA, the United Nations Statistical Office and the Housing, Building and Planning Branch (United Nations headquarters) of a Latin American seminar on housing statistics and programmes, which will be organized in Copenhagen in September 1962 in collaboration with the Government of Denmark and the BTAO. The secretariat will make available lecturers and discussion leaders, prepare documents and assist with the necessary arrangements.

239. The BTAO financed the participation of the Director of the ECE Energy Division in the seminar on electric energy problems held in Mexico City in August 1961, and in the regional seminar on energy resources in Bangkok in December 1961.

240. A study tour to Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania, Sweden and USSR is being organized in 1962 by the BTAO in co-operation with the secretariat (see paragraph 225 above).

241. Following the assignment of a member of the secretariat in 1960 to the United Nations Economic Survey Mission to Cyprus, organized under the auspices of BTAO, another staff member was detailed in 1961 to Cyprus as a UNTA expert to act as assistant economic planning officer to the Government.

242. Two UNTA experts in Turkey are being provided with substantive advice and support by the secretariat. One of them, on assignment since December 1961, is an economic planning adviser to the Turkish Government, the other, on assignment since January 1962, acts as an industrial economist and member of a team of experts engaged in a United Nations Special Fund's pre-investment survey of the Antalya region in Turkey.

243. At the request of the Turkish Government, the Chief of the Statistical Section of the Research and Planning Division paid a brief visit to Ankara to advise the competent authorities and the TAB resident representative on the establishment of a training institute for statisticians and other questions in the field of statistics which the Government of Turkey may wish to include in their future TA programme. The BTAO financed the cost of this mission.

244. The Government of Cyprus requested the Executive Secretary to assist them in reviewing the situation in road transport in Cyprus. The Director of the Transport Division will go to Cyprus for a brief mission to advise the competent authorities and the TAB correspondent in Nicosia on the projects the Government of Cyprus may wish to include in their future TA programme in this field.

245. The ECE In-service Training Programme, which offers training facilities with the secretariat to suitably qualified young economists and statisticians from a number of European countries, continued in 1961/62 as a regional project included in the BTAO programme for Europe. Fellowships were granted to economists and statisticians from Bulgaria, Poland, Romania and Spain (for the 1961/62 period) and from Greece, Hungary, Turkey and Yugoslavia (for the 1962/63 period). Fellows are given opportunities for practical in-service training for twelve months and participate in the work on projects included in the current work programme of the Research and Planning Division and, where appropriate, also of the other divisions of the secretariat.

246. In accordance with an offer of training facilities made by the Executive Secretary to the Executive Secretary of ECA pursuant to ECA's resolution 16 (II), a fellow from Sudan is participating in the 1961/62 programme. The Executive Secretary offered to the Executive Secretary of ECA two to four fellowships and to the Executive Secretary of ECAFE two fellowships in the 1962/63 programme.

247. A contribution was made to the headquarters training programme for African economists who paid a visit to ECE in February 1962 and were briefed on and discussed ECE's work, in particular those aspects of interest to countries of the ECA region.

248. A number of projects in the Commission's work programme involve the international exchange of experience and information, the results of which are often of value also to the countries of other regions and therefore partake of the character of technical assistance in the broad sense of the term. The secretariat has regularly brought this work and the results thereof to the attention of the secretariats of the other regional economic commissions.

WORK OF THE SECRETARIAT

249. The secretariat of the Commission maintained close and regular liaison with headquarters, and co-operated with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, as well as with other units of the United Nations Secretariat, on a number of specific projects. In addition to the activities summarized in part I of this report, the secretariat has taken action, as necessary, to implement other decisions of the Commission's sixteenth session. It had serviced the Commission, and its committees and their 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 the fields of coal, electric power, gas, housing and building, steel, timber

and transport, as well as the issuance of monthly statistical indicators of short-term economic changes in ECE countries, was continued. In its work, the secretariat continued to be aided by the services rendered by government experts, who carried out a number of investigations. This assistance enabled the secretariat to assume responsibility for a greater workload than would otherwise have been possible. A description of the work being carried out by the secretariat on behalf and on the authority of the Commission is contained in the Commission's Programme of Work and Priorities for 1962/63 (see part V of this report).

C. Relations with specialized agencies and other organizations

250. Co-operation with the specialized agencies of the United Nations, the International Atomic Energy Agency and a number of intergovernmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations remained an important element in the work of the Commission and its secretariat during the period under review.

Specialized Agencies

(i) *International Labour Organisation*

251. A report on manpower problems in Europe and ILO's activities in this field was prepared by ILO for transmittal to the seventeenth session of the Commission (E/ECE/432).

252. Contact was maintained between the secretariat of ILO on work relevant to the implementation of Commission resolution 10 (XVI) on productivity of labour.

253. In the field of timber, co-operation on matters concerning the training of forest workers was further developed through the work of the joint FAO/ECE Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers. An international training course on vocational education in forestry, held in Sweden, was attended by twenty-five trainees from fourteen countries. Forty-four instructors from sixteen ECE countries received training grants under the ILO Fellowship Scheme during 1961.

254. The secretariat kept in touch with ILO on the preparation of the study on the production and export of capital goods in the fields of mechanical and electrical engineering, and on the implementation of Commission resolution 8 (XV) — Automation.

255. In the field of inland transport the ILO participated in the elaboration of the European agreement on the work of crews of motor vehicles in international road transport which has been finalized under the auspices of the Inland Transport Committee.

256. The ILO and the Conference of European Statisticians jointly sponsored a regional statistical seminar on family living studies, held in Vienna in October 1961. Furthermore, the Conference has convened, jointly with ILO, a working group on family budget enquiries, which will meet in April 1962. The ILO is preparing, at the request of the Conference, a study of the statistics needed

for labour productivity measurements, in order to assist the Conference in its further work on statistics for productivity measurements.

257. The secretariats have kept each other informed of the activities of their respective organizations in coal, housing and steel, and attended each other's meetings in these fields.

(ii) *Food and Agriculture Organization*

258. Systematic and close co-operation with FAO is continuing in agriculture and timber through the joint FAO/ECE Agriculture and Timber Divisions servicing ECE's Committee on Agricultural Problems and the Timber Committee, along the lines described in earlier notes by the Executive Secretary on the subject.²⁷ During the period under review the meeting of the Study Group on Problems of Methodology and Definitions in Agricultural Statistics in European countries and the Consultation of Experts on Problems of Methodology of Agricultural Production Projections were held in co-operation with FAO. In the field of timber, work on the second joint FAO/ECE enquiry into timber trends (1960-1975) was continued. The secretariat has maintained its close co-operation with the FAO on water pollution control problems in Europe and has consulted FAO on the implementation of Commission resolution 3 (XVI) on the role of the Commission in the field of the rational utilization of water resources.

259. FAO has co-operated with the Conference of European Statisticians on joint meetings of index numbers of agricultural production and on food consumption surveys. The study group on problems of methodology and definitions in agricultural statistics held its second meeting under the joint auspices of FAO, the ECE Committee on Agricultural Problems and the Conference of European Statisticians. The meeting of the Conference's Working Group on Electronic Data Processing Machines was held at FAO headquarters in Rome in collaboration with the FAO secretariat.

(iii) *United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization*

260. The secretariat followed UNESCO's work in the promotion of international relations and exchanges in the fields of education, science and culture. Co-operation with UNESCO on questions of water pollution control problems and the rational utilization of water resources in Europe was initiated during the period under review. The secretariat collaborated with UNESCO regarding the forthcoming London Colloquium of the International Association of Legal Science on the new sources of the law of international trade, scheduled to be held in September 1962.

(iv) *World Health Organization*

261. Close and systematic co-operation with WHO and more particularly with the WHO Regional Office for Europe on water pollution control problems in Europe

²⁷ See, for example, E/ECE/315, paras. 29 and 30; and E/ECE/343, para. 28.

continued. In the field of housing, the secretariat followed the work of WHO's Expert Committee on the Public Health Aspects of Housing. WHO's Regional Office for Europe continued to contribute to the Housing Committee's work on rural housing, urban renewal and urbanization. The secretariat was represented at the eleventh session of WHO's Regional Committee for Europe in Luxembourg, held in September 1961.

(v) *International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and International Monetary Fund*

262. Contact on research questions was maintained. The Fund, jointly with the Statistical Office of the United Nations, submitted a memorandum on problems involved in integrating income and financial accounts to the Conference of European Statisticians. The Conference invited its members to submit written comments on this paper, and on the subject generally.

(vi) *World Meteorological Organization*

263. WMO co-operated with the secretariat on questions of water pollution control and the rational utilization of water resources in Europe.

International Atomic Energy Agency

264. In its work bearing on electric power and on general questions of energy, the secretariat has maintained close contact with the staff of the Agency, which was represented at the principal ECE meetings in these two fields. The ECE secretariat participated in a meeting of consultants convened by the Agency to consider the basis of a joint study on methodological aspects of the problem of integration of nuclear power stations in national electric power systems.

Intergovernmental Organizations

265. Informal relations on a working level have been maintained by the secretariat with the secretariats or staffs of the Council of Europe (Strasbourg); Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (Moscow); Danube Commission (Budapest); European Conference of Ministers of Transport (Paris); European Economic Community (Brussels); High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community (Luxembourg); European Free Trade Association (Geneva); Organization for the Co-operation of Railway Administrations (Warsaw); Organization for European Economic Co-operation, including the European Productivity Agency (Paris).²⁸

266. These relations and contacts have been continued along the lines described in previous Notes by the Executive Secretary on the subject.²⁹ Particular mention

should be made of the following developments during the period under review:

- (a) Members of the secretariat of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance attended the sessions of the Coal Committee, the Electric Power Committee and the Committee on Agricultural Problems. On the invitation of the CMEA secretariat, the ECE secretariat participated in the Scientific Technical Conference on Coal, held under CMEA's auspices in Ostrava (Czechoslovakia);
- (b) As regards the secretariat's relations with the secretariat of OECD, the Executive Secretary received from the Secretary-General of the OECD a letter, dated 9 June 1961, conveying to him the view of the OECD's Preparatory Committee that "subject to any necessary adjustments . . . the relations between your organization and the OECD should retain the same form as those between your organization and the OEEC" and inquiring if he had "any objection to maintaining the existing arrangements as at present proposed". The Executive Secretary replied on 16 June 1961 that he had "no objection to maintaining the existing arrangements for co-operation between the secretariat of the OEEC and the ECE secretariat in accordance with the agreement between the two secretariats . . . for close, though informal contacts." By a letter dated 20 December 1961, the Executive Secretary was informed by the Secretary-General of OECD that, at its tenth session, held on 19 December 1961, the OECD Council adopted a resolution defining the relations between the OECD and the Economic Commission for Europe. This resolution provides that the OECD "shall maintain relations with the Economic Commission for Europe on the basis of a mutual exchange of information and documents . . ." By a letter dated 22 January 1962, the Executive Secretary, in acknowledging this notification, expressed the belief that "the relations between [the two] secretariats in the past have proved efficient and valuable" and his confidence that "these relations will continue to develop to our mutual satisfaction".

267. The Commission and its subsidiary bodies have continued their co-operative relations with such other intergovernmental organizations as the Central Commission on the Navigation of the Rhine, the Central Office for International Railway Transport, the Customs Co-operation Council, the International Institute of Refrigeration and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law. Co-operation between the ECE and GATT secretariats on matters of research and commercial policy was continued.

Non-governmental Organizations

268. Many of these organizations of all categories have continued to contribute to the work of the Commission's subsidiary bodies in various fields, frequently through work on questions on which such organizations possess special expertise. Their co-operation has proved to be of considerable value.

²⁸ Subsequent to the signature, by the eighteen member governments of OEEC, as well as by the governments of the United States of America and Canada, of a convention establishing the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), that organization replaced, as of 30 September 1961, the OEEC. The European Productivity Agency ceased to exist as such, but various activities of the Agency were integrated into OECD.

²⁹ See, for example, E/ECE/343, para. 37.

PART II

SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

269. The seventeenth session of the Commission was held from 24 April to 11 May 1962. It was attended by representatives from the following countries: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, 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. Canada, Cuba, India, Israel, Japan and Venezuela were represented under the provisions of paragraph 11 of the Commission's terms of reference. The following international agencies sent representatives; the International Labour Office, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Monetary Fund, and the International Atomic Energy Agency. The Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization and contracting parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade followed the Commission's proceedings. Representatives from the following non-governmental organizations attended the session; International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Federation of Christian Trade Unions, World Federation of Trade Unions, World Veterans Federation, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, International Bar Association, International Organization for Standardization, International Road Transport Union, International Union of Official Travel Organizations, Pax Romana, and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Representatives of the secretariats of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, European Coal and Steel Community, the European Economic Community, the European Free Trade Association and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development attended the session at the invitation of the secretariat. A full list of representatives is attached as annex 1 to this report.

270. Prior to the adoption of the agenda, the representative of Czechoslovakia stated that the Commission should enable the German Democratic Republic to participate with full rights in the work of the ECE and adduced reasons for this participation. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics supported the representative of Czechoslovakia. The representative of the United Kingdom stated that his government continued to be opposed to any modification of the status in the Commission of eastern Germany and gave reasons for this position. His statement was supported by the repre-

sentative of the United States of America. A summary of the declarations made by the representatives of Czechoslovakia, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States of America is contained in the summary record on the session's first meeting (ECE (XVII)/SR.1) which, as far as this paragraph of the report is concerned, should be considered as an integral part thereof.

B. Agenda

271. At its first meeting the Commission adopted the following agenda (E/ECE/429 and Add.1):

1. Adoption of the agenda (E/ECE/429 and Add.1).
2. Election of officers.
3. Work of the Commission as a whole.
4. Work of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission.
Reports of the committees and other subsidiary bodies of the Commission on their activities since the closing of the sixteenth session and an additional note thereto by the Executive Secretary.
Agricultural Problems (E/ECE/AGRI/50).
Coal (E/ECE/COAL/158, 161, 164, 166 and Add.1).
Conference of European Statisticians (Conf. Eur. Stats/152).
Electric power (E/ECE/EP/216 and Add.1).
Gas problems (E/ECE/GAS/26 and Add.1).
Housing (E/ECE/HOU/95 and 100).
Industry and materials (E/ECE/430 Rev.1).
Inland transport (E/ECE/TRANS/525).
Manpower (E/ECE/431 and 432).
Steel (E/ECE/STEEL/141 and 144).
Timber (E/ECE/TIM/69).
Development of trade (E/ECE/TRADE/54 and E/ECE/455).
5. Resolutions of the Commission adopted at its sixteenth session requiring the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its seventeenth session. Reports by the Executive Secretary on:
 - (a) Economic and social consequences of disarmament (resolution 1 (XVI)) (E/ECE/433).
 - (b) Decentralization of United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the regional economic commissions in the field of technical assistance (resolution 4 (XVI)) (E/ECE/434).
 - (c) Development and strengthening of the work of the Economic Commission for Europe (resolution 5 (XVI)) (E/ECE/435 Rev.1).

- (d) Renewal of the activities of the *ad hoc* Working Group on Agricultural Machinery of the Industry and Materials Committee (resolution 7 (XVI)) (E/ECE/436 and Add.1 and 2).
 - (e) Productivity of labour (resolution 10 (XVI)) (E/ECE/437).
6. Other resolutions and decisions of the Commission adopted at its fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth sessions requesting the subsidiary bodies and the Executive Secretary to take specific action. Progress reports by the Executive Secretary on:
- (a) Study of production and export of capital goods in the fields of mechanical and electrical engineering (resolution 14 (XVI)) (E/ECE/438, 439 and Add.1 and Add.1 Corr.1).
 - (b) Automation (resolution 8 (XV)) (E/ECE/440).
 - (c) Co-operation with under-developed countries (resolution 2 (XVI)) (E/ECE/441).
 - (d) The role of the Commission in the field of the rational utilization of water resources (resolution 3 (XVI)) (E/ECE/442).
 - (e) Statistics on actual consumption and stocks of steel (resolution 8 (XVI)) (E/ECE/443).
 - (f) Committee on the Development of Trade (resolution 9 (XVI)) (E/ECE/444).
 - (g) Future meetings of senior economic advisers (resolution 11 (XVI)) (E/ECE/445).
 - (h) Energy problems in Europe — Progress report by the Executive Secretary on the implementation of project 01.2.2 of the Commission's programme of work for 1961/1962 (E/ECE/446 and Add.1).
 - (i) Water pollution control problems in Europe — Progress report by the Executive Secretary on the implementation of project 01.2.3 of the Commission's programme of work for 1961/1962 (E/ECE/447).
7. Other activities of the Commission and its secretariat. Notes by the Executive Secretary on:
- (a) Co-operation with the other regional economic commissions on matters of common concern (E/ECE/448).
 - (b) Activities bearing upon technical assistance (E/ECE/449 and 454).
 - (c) Relations with specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (E/ECE/450 and Corr.2 and Add.1).
8. Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission, adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-first and thirty-second sessions and by the General Assembly at its sixteenth regular session. Note by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/451 and Add.1).
9. Review of the economic situation in Europe.
10. Programme of work and priorities for 1962/1963 (E/ECE/453 and Add.1).

- 11. Annual report of the Commission to the thirty-fourth session of the Economic and Social Council.
- 12. Any other business.

C. Account of proceedings

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

272. The Commission re-elected by acclamation, at its first meeting, Mr. Gheorghe Radulesco (Romania) Chairman, and Mr. Ange Vlachos (Greece) Vice-Chairman of the Commission.

273. The Commission heard opening statements by the Chairman (E/ECE/460) and the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/458). At its eighteenth meeting the Commission heard addresses by the Acting Secretary-General (E/ECE/461), the Director-General of FAO (E/ECE/462) and the Director-General of IAEA (E/ECE/463).

274. A succinct and factual summary account of the session's proceedings follows hereunder.⁸⁰

WORK OF THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE

275. Delegations appraised the past and current work of the Commission taken as a whole, and indicated how they visualized the evolution of ECE's activities in the future. References were made to a number of recent decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly designed to strengthen the work of the regional economic commissions of the United Nations, and to the Executive Secretary's progress report on the development and strengthening of the work of the Commission (E/ECE/435), which were considered under other items of the agenda. Special mention was made of the fifteenth anniversary of ECE's establishment in the spring of 1947, and a number of delegations availed themselves of this occasion to stress the significance of ECE's contribution to the revival of development of Europe's economic life after the war and, more generally, to intergovernmental economic co-operation during the period which had elapsed since the Commission came into existence.

276. Delegations reaffirmed their support for the Commission and reiterated their view that it was a useful and unique instrument of region-wide economic co-operation among governments, especially of countries with different economic systems. In this connexion, some delegations stressed the importance for the practical work of the Commission that it should become fully universal.⁸¹ It was considered that, during the period since its last session, the Commission had continued to do useful work in promoting economic, trade, scientific and technical co-operation and contacts amongst its participants. Gratification was expressed with the agreements

⁸⁰ This account refers, under each item and sub-item of the agenda, to the relevant summary records, which contain full résumés of the views expressed during the discussions at the session.

⁸¹ In this context, reference is made to the exchange of views recorded in paragraph 270 above.

and intra-European standards and regulations negotiated or elaborated during the past year in a number of fields. The Commission's subsidiary bodies, it was noted, had strengthened their activities in various directions, as for instance with respect to productivity in different sectors, and had utilized with success such forums for the exchange of views and dissemination of information and experience, as seminars, symposia and meetings of specialized institutes, as well as study tours.

277. It was generally felt that there was scope for further useful work by the Commission, and that in particular ECE could and should move forward in its activities intended to intensify economic and technological co-operation amongst its participating governments. Different views were expressed as to the direction and extent to which ECE could develop in the future. A number of delegations emphasized that the Commission had not yet covered a number of important sectors on Europe's economy. These delegations urged in particular that the scope of ECE's co-operation in the technological field be widened so as to reflect changes in the structure of Europe's industrial production, the emergence of new industries and technological processes. In order to enable the Commission to undertake new tasks and in the light of General Assembly resolution 1709 (XVI), it was felt that consideration should be given to the strengthening of the budget and staff resources of the ECE secretariat by transfer of personnel and of budgetary means from headquarters, coupled with a more effective deployment of ECE's staff for urgent and important work through internal regrouping, as necessary. Other delegations believed that the best way for the Commission to strengthen its work in the future was to continue developing its existing activities. These delegations laid special stress on the value to their governments of the practical work and the technical exchanges and personal contacts which ECE promoted together with the economic research which it carried out. The Commission should also persevere with its efforts towards achieving a rapprochement of thinking and policy on economic matters. These delegations considered that it was by concentrating on its functional down-to-earth tasks that the Commission could, in present circumstances, best continue to do work of genuine merit. As for new work, one of the suggestions made referred to studies which might be undertaken by the secretariat on the consumers' position in the over-all economy, including facilities for unbiased testing of consumers' goods, and on the factors involved in the location of industrial and other plants.

278. The promotion of intra-European trade, especially among countries of eastern and western Europe, was recognized as one of the major themes in the Commission's work. A number of delegations called for an intensification in the Commission's work in trade with a view to working out basic principles for east-west trade, and to creating favourable conditions for its development. Other delegations considered that in present circumstances it was difficult to agree on trade principles and policy, so that efforts should be focused on the removal of specific obstacles.

279. Several delegations referred to the recommendation adopted by the Committee on the Development of Trade calling governments to meet as often as required to examine any difficulties arising in trade between individual countries participating in sub-regional economic groupings and non-participating countries, with the aim of overcoming such difficulties and finding ways and means of developing trade among them. An exchange of views took place on the effect of sub-regional economic groupings on trade. A number of delegations considered that the creation of closed economic groupings in western Europe was leading to new difficulties in intra-European and world trade, and that the Commission should therefore devote increasing attention to the study of the effects of sub-regional economic groupings on intra-European and world trade. Other delegations stated that the measures adopted by certain western European countries toward economic and trade integration were in fact leading to an increase of trade both within western Europe and with other countries. Details of the discussion of this point are contained in E/ECE (XVII)/SR.4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.

280. The representative of the Soviet Union, supported by a number of delegations, proposed, firstly, that an agreement be concluded within the ECE on a mutual reduction of customs tariffs of countries participating in the Commission and, secondly, that the Commission should support the convening of a world economic conference referred to in General Assembly resolution 1707 (XVI), on international trade as a primary instrument for economic development. The representative of France, supported by a number of other representatives, proposed that the role of tariffs in countries with different economic systems be studied. In his view, such a study was a prerequisite for eventual future action in this field. The representative of Poland, supported by a number of delegations, observed that insufficient attention was given to difficulties in European trade in agricultural products and suggested that a special body be established within ECE to deal with the problems of the expansion of intra-European trade in those products.

281. The exchange of scientific and technical information and experience was singled out as another major function of the Commission. The representative of the USSR, supported by a number of delegations, proposed that the ECE should organize meetings of specialists for the exchange of experience and the development of such branches of industry as chemistry, machine building, production of new types of synthetic raw materials, fibre and plastics, as well as the application of automation to industrial production. In this connexion, a number of other delegations pointed out that proposals involving submission of data of certain industries and processes were frequently not feasible for countries whose governments did not own or control such information. In reply to this argument it was pointed out that such all-European co-operation had been found possible in a number of fields already covered by ECE.

282. A number of delegations considered that the Commission should undertake further studies on the subject of the economic and social consequences of

disarmament in conjunction with the preparation by the secretariat of the Commission's current economic research. Other delegations considered that this subject was now in the hands of the Economic and Social Council and of the General Assembly, and that the secretariat had authority to undertake further work in this field if asked to do so. There was an exchange of views on the resumption of nuclear tests, as reflected in the summary records. There was general agreement on the economic benefits that would result from disarmament and on the urgent need to end the armament race, particularly in the nuclear field.

283. It was generally recognized that the Commission should continue to develop activities which would advance the development of the less-developed countries and the solution of problems facing other regions. The initial steps taken to augment the Commission's contribution to technical assistance and to strengthen co-operation with the less-developed countries was generally welcomed. It was felt that the relations with the other regional economic commissions, their subsidiary bodies and their secretariats should be strengthened in all suitable ways. More particularly, consideration should be given to the exchange of experts and to research jointly undertaken by the regional secretariats in questions of common concern. Reference was also made in this context to the contribution which ECE could make to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1710 (XVI) on the United Nation Development Decade, and to the desirability of the Commission developing its work on the study of planning and planning techniques pursuant to General Assembly resolution 1708 (XVI) on planning and economic development. Furthermore, it was suggested that ECE's In-service Training Programme should be expanded to include a substantial number of fellows from other regions in accordance with the request of the General Assembly; that consideration might be given to the provision where appropriate of opportunities for study tours within the ECE region for experts from other regions; and to the transfer or temporary assignment of qualified members of the ECE secretariat to the secretariats of other regions.

284. Some of the above-mentioned proposals regarding the future work of the Commission were subsequently embodied in draft resolutions. In addition, a number of other draft resolutions were tabled under this item.

285. At the concluding meeting of the session, after agreement had been reached between delegations about generally acceptable resolutions, several of the draft resolutions originally tabled were withdrawn. Statements were made by delegations which had submitted draft resolutions, on their own behalf and on behalf of the co-sponsoring delegations, to explain the reasons which had prompted them to withdraw those drafts, as well as certain draft resolutions tabled under other items of the agenda.

286. The representative of the USSR stated that his delegation had decided to withdraw draft resolutions ECE (XVII)/L.7 (on the elaboration within the framework of the ECE of an agreement concerning the reciprocal reduction of customs tariffs of countries participating

in the work of the Commission); ECE (XVII)/L.8 (on the convening of an international trade conference); ECE (XVII)/L.11 (on a report on the effect of sub-regional economic groupings on world trade); and ECE (XVII)/L.29 (on further measures to be undertaken with a view to the preparation of recommendations on the removal of obstacles to trade in implementation of resolution 9 (XVI)), in view of the negative attitude of the representatives of the western countries who were evidently not prepared at this stage to agree on an intensification of all-European economic co-operation, which, in its turn, could have contributed to an improvement of the political atmosphere. He stressed the hope that the western representatives in ECE's subsidiary bodies would take into account the contents and purposes of the Soviet proposals, and was confident that ECE would ultimately succeed in establishing normal economic relations in Europe. The representative of the United Kingdom, speaking also on behalf of the co-sponsors, stated that the delegations concerned had decided to withdraw resolutions ECE (XVII)/L.24 (on a study of the part played by customs tariffs in the trade of countries members of the Commission); ECE (XVII)/L.26 (on commercial contacts); ECE (XVII)/L.27 (on patents); ECE (XVII)/L.28 (on commercial representation); ECE (XVII)/L.30 (on copyrights); ECE (XVII)/L.32 (on the location of industrial plants); and ECE (XVII)/L.34 (on the work of ECE in the field of programming and planning). This decision did not in any way imply that no importance was attached to these resolutions, nor that they might not be put before the Commission again on some future occasion. If adopted, these resolutions could contribute to the further improvement of economic relations among member countries. It was decided not to press them now in view of the general wish to avoid controversy and also of the fact that the Commission's resolutions, to be effective, required the active co-operation of all member governments. The representative of Romania, also on behalf of the delegation of the USSR, stated that they had decided to withdraw draft resolution ECE (XVII)/L.9 (on the holding of a meeting of specialists and other measures for the development of co-operation in the sphere of the chemical industry) since it had proved impossible to persuade their western colleagues to remedy the failure of the Commission to deal with that increasingly important and dynamic sector of the European economy. The Czechoslovak representative, speaking also on behalf of the delegation of the Ukrainian SSR, explained the reasons for the withdrawal of draft resolution ECE (XVII)/L.25 (on economic development and planning), which was intended to use the many facilities of the Commission for the promotion of the aims and purposes of General Assembly resolution 1708 (XVI) on planning and economic development. He regretted that it had not been possible to reach agreement at this session on how to give effect to the aims of General Assembly resolution 1708 (XVI) to render assistance to the developing countries in planning and programming. He expressed his confidence that nevertheless the aims of that resolution would ultimately find response in the Commission. He added that in the absence of general agreement the delegations of Czechoslovakia and USSR had likewise been

obliged to withdraw draft resolution ECE (XVII)/L.23 (on the holding of meetings of specialists in the field of automation of production). These delegations would continue to press for work in this field to be actively pursued by the Commission. The representative of Poland explained his delegation's decision to withdraw draft resolutions ECE (XVII)/L.12 (on the improvement and expansion of intra-European trade in agricultural products); ECE (XVII)/L.20 (on the development and strengthening of the Economic Commission for Europe); and ECE (XVII)/L.31 (on a meeting of representatives of business and trade circles) for the same reasons which had been adduced by the delegation of the USSR. He expressed the hope that at the next session of the Commission circumstances would be more propitious for the accomplishment of the aims of those draft resolutions.

287. A draft resolution submitted by the delegations of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Romania, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United States of America on fifteen years of ECE activity was introduced by the delegation of Romania and adopted by 28 votes for, none against and no abstention (for the text, see part III, page 55, resolution 1 (XVII)).

288. A draft resolution submitted by the delegations of the Federal Republic of Germany, Austria, France, Italy, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria on the preparation of a study on the role played by the consumer and the efficiency of distribution mechanisms in the economies of member countries was adopted by 28 votes for, none against and no abstention (for the text see part III, page 55, resolution 2 (XVII)).

289. A draft resolution submitted by the delegations of Poland, France, Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Byelorussian SSR and Hungary on the exchange of scientific abstracts of documents relating to applied economics was adopted by 28 votes for, none against and no abstention (for the text see part III, page 55, resolution 3 (XVII)).

290. A draft resolution submitted by the delegations of Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Sweden and the United States of America on standardization was adopted by 28 votes for, none against and no abstention (for the text see part III, page 56, resolution 4 (XVII)).

291. A draft resolution submitted by the delegations of Belgium, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Hungary, Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom and United States on the organization of the sessions of the Economic Commission for Europe was adopted by 28 votes for, none against and no abstention (for the text see part III, page 56, resolution 5 (XVII)).

WORK OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE COMMISSION

292. The consideration of this item of the agenda was based on the reports of the Commission's subsidiary bodies on their sessions held during the period under review. These reports were introduced and brought up to

date by the officers of the subsidiary bodies or by the secretariat. The additional note by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/431) was also examined under this item.

*Committee on Agricultural Problems*³²

293. Delegations expressed the view that the Committee on Agricultural Problems had done successful work and had helped to increase the understanding of problems of importance to western and eastern European countries. The exchange of information on agricultural policy matters was bringing to light new trends for detailed examination, and afforded all European countries an opportunity which was offered by no other international body.

294. Appreciation was expressed of the documents prepared by the secretariat. Particular attention was drawn to the report on medium-term trends in agricultural production and to the report on output and expenses entitled "Towards a Capital-intensive Agriculture".

295. It was felt that the co-operation shown between ECE and FAO had set a good example, and that the establishment of an FAO European office in Geneva would increase still further the scope and efficiency of their co-operation.

296. The participation of members of the secretariat of various sub-regional organizations in the sessions of the Committee was thought to be valuable.

297. Delegations considered that the Committee's subsidiary bodies had rendered great service and provided substantial practical help to member governments. The increased activity of the Committee's Working Party on the Standardization of Perishable Foodstuffs was viewed with satisfaction.

298. The study tours organized by the Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture were commended, and the Bulgarian delegation invited the working party for a ten-day study tour in its country in 1963.

299. In the course of the discussion, the following observations and suggestions were made:

Studies already under way should be completed before the Committee took up new subjects. Too great an expansion of programmes might compromise work already in progress;

It was unfortunate that such vital documents as the study on output and expenses of agriculture did not cover the whole of European agriculture and it was to be hoped that the secretariat, with the help of all countries of the Commission, would continue those studies;

The Committee should elaborate a long-term programme of work which should also embrace study tours;

The work of the subsidiary bodies could be improved if all participating countries delegated fully qualified experts to them;

Particular importance was attached to the preparation of model sales contracts;

The use of leguminous crops deserved more careful consideration;

³² See E/ECE (XVII) /SR.5 and 6.

The Committee should promote contacts between agricultural scientific research institutes ;

Arrange for exchange of information between countries and international organizations active in agricultural matters ;

Arrange for the exchange of information on plant protection measures ;

Arrange for exchange of selected seeds ;

Study regional land utilization methods and crop rotation systems ;

The Working Party on Mechanization should take up again some of its earlier reports and consider them in the light of new technical progress made in this field ;

It should also give greater attention to problems of irrigation, drainage and land reclamation ;

During the working party's study tours, short seminars might be arranged in the host countries. The relative merits of various types of agricultural machinery could be studied. More emphasis might be given to studies on integrated mechanization in the production of crops such as maize, sugar beet and fruit ;

The Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Foodstuffs might consider standards for canned products ;

It might also study country papers on preservation, packing and transport of fruits and vegetables.

300. The Polish delegation felt that steps should be taken to intensify studies and activities relating to trade in agricultural products and proposed the setting up of a sub-committee on trade in agricultural commodities under the Committee on Agricultural Problems.³³ A sub-committee of that kind was needed in order to keep exporters and importers informed of the supply and demand situation, changes in government decisions affecting foreign trade, tariffs and import regulations, activities relating to standardization and veterinary, health and other regulations, and price changes. Several delegations supported this proposal. Other delegations felt that such a sub-committee would tend to duplicate the work of the Committee on the Development of Trade and that of the Committee itself dealt essentially with problems of trade. Moreover, no decision should be taken until the secretariat's report on problems of trade in agricultural products to be presented to the Committee became available.

*Coal Committee*³⁴

301. Delegations expressed the appreciation of their governments for the work of the Coal Committee and its subsidiary bodies. It was noted that the Committee had continued to direct its work towards strengthening the coal industry's competitive position, and had enlarged its scope of activities especially as regards the practical application and widespread dissemination of new mining and utilization techniques.

302. The programme of work designed to study ways and means of increasing productivity in the coal industry drawn up by the Committee in accordance with Com-

mission resolution 10 (XVI) was particularly welcomed. It was pointed out that this problem was closely linked with automation and mechanization, and the designing and introduction of mobile mining equipment. The decision of the Committee to discuss its long-term programme of work and organizational structure at its autumn 1962 session was welcomed.

303. The results of the first conference of Directors of National Mining and Research Institutes were commended, and a number of delegations emphasized the advantages of more intensive co-operation among the institutes by such means as studying subjects of common interest in seminars and working groups. The work of the *ad hoc* Meeting of Experts on the Exploitation of Coal at Great Depth, and of the *ad hoc* Meeting of Experts on Concentration of Workings and Mechanization of Mining Operations were also welcomed, and the view was expressed that their work would lead to the elaboration of important conclusions on the governmental plane.

304. Some delegations hoped that care would be taken not to tax unduly governmental possibilities of providing experts, and that any proposals for further enlarging the work programme should be carefully examined.

305. The work done with the assistance of groups of experts on statistics of investments, costs of production and improving the comparability of coal statistics was considered to be of particular interest. Documents prepared by the Coal Trade Sub-Committee were thought to reflect accurately the coal market situation and to assist governments and the coal industry and trade in drawing up their short-term plans.

306. Work done by the Utilization Working Party with the assistance of a number of groups of experts and rapporteurs was favourably commented upon by a number of delegations. Work on automation of coke oven operation, coal enrichment, reactivity of coke and utilization of fly ash was likewise considered to be of great practical importance.

307. In the course of the discussion the following specific suggestions and observations were made :

The Committee should ensure that its documentation was made available also to interested non-European countries ;

Attention was drawn to the need for carrying out assessments of the long-term prospects for coal in the light of the development of other forms of energy, especially oil and natural gas ;

The widespread use of transferable hydraulic apparatus would add to the security of mining operations and would make a major contribution to increasing productivity ; this subject should therefore be studied by the Committee ;

The Committee should study the development and improvement of methods to combat various types of pressure, gas, dust and high temperature in mines ;

There should be more intense co-operation between the Coal, Gas and Electric Power Committees, and provision for study within the Commission of all-European energy problems ;

³³ See also paragraph 280 above.

³⁴ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.10.

A sub-committee should be set up to deal with carboc-chemical and low-temperature coking problems to consider, *inter alia*, the study of the economic efficiency of coal enrichment;

Every effort should be made to establish a classification for coke; a coal production sub-committee should be set up;

Greater attention might be given to relevant technical studies carried out by some other international organizations;

The question of mobile and mechanized supports should be studied;

The Committee might act as a centre for co-ordinating studies and drafting recommendations, as, for example, in respect of methods of preparing coal beds and working seams at great depth;

The outline of the study on the European coal situation should cover import prospects for various types of coal;

The question of exports of coal indirectly in the form of electric power should be deleted from the Committee's work programme.

*Conference of European Statisticians*³⁵

308. All delegations which took part in the discussions stressed the importance of the work of the Conference in promoting all-European co-operation in the field of statistics. The exchange of views on theoretical questions and practical experience had assisted countries in solving their statistical problems in various fields, and a notable contribution had been made towards the development of European statistical methodology and the improvement of the comparability of statistics between countries.

309. It was noted that the Conference's collaboration with ECE committees, specialized agencies and other regional organizations on statistical matters had been extended to a number of new subjects. Several delegations emphasized the value of such contacts, and expressed the hope that there would be possibilities for further strengthening them. Reference was made in particular to the need for developing such contacts in order to assist in the solution of general methodological problems such as indices of production, cost, and labour productivity.

310. The representative of Hungary stated that his country would be glad to act as host to the next regional statistical seminar.

311. It was stressed by several delegations that the work of the Conference should be made as useful as possible to countries in other regions, in particular Africa and Asia. It was hoped that the request made to members of the Conference at its ninth session that they should co-operate with the United Nations Secretariat in providing training facilities and expert assistance to these countries would receive favourable consideration. In this connexion, the view was expressed that the timing of international statistical programmes, in particular the census programmes in different fields, should allow for the calls made on statistical offices for the provision of experts to other countries, so as to avoid manpower problems.

³⁵ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.4 and 5.

312. With regard to specific subjects in the Conference's work programme, the following observations and suggestions were made:

The Conference had made a valuable contribution to the comparison of data between countries using different accounting systems by developing methods for the adjustment of data based on the concepts of one system so as to correspond with those used in the other system;

The Conference's programme of work on electronic data processing was of great importance and should be continued; attention was drawn to the value of study tours to countries which had acquired considerable experience in this new method of data processing;

The intention of the Conference to draw up a long-term programme of work covering a period of five years was to be commended;

There should be proper co-ordination of the programme with that of the Statistical Commission of the United Nations;

Provision should be made for meetings on methods of making statistical calculations and analysis concerning the social and economic consequences of disarmament and ways and means of assisting the less developed countries in statistical organization;

Methods of providing assistance in statistical matters to other regions should be studied;

Favourable comments were made on the Conference's work on household surveys and family budget inquiries. It was suggested that the statistical measurement of other aspects of the level of living of the population (e.g., health conditions, employment and education) might be taken up;

The Conference should study the possibility of participating in the Economic Projections and Programming Centre to be set up under the United Nations General Assembly resolution 1708 (XVI);

The positive attitude of the Conference and the measures it had suggested in the matter of productivity of labour were satisfactory;

The study of the production and export of capital goods should be submitted to the Conference as suggested in the secretariat memorandum accompanying this study;

Questions such as the use of electronic machines, the comparability of statistical indices, industrial and agricultural statistics, the methodology of specific surveys which are of common interest to all countries should be given preference in the Conference's work programme over questions of more limited interest such as seasonal adjustments to economic time series;

The difficulty of carrying out a satisfactory world industrial census in the absence of data from such an important industrial country as the German Democratic Republic was mentioned (Czechoslovakia);

Satisfaction was expressed with the 1963 Programme of Basic Industrial Statistics.

313. At its ninth plenary session, the Conference had recommended that in order to make the results of the work better known and more readily available certain of

its more important methodological documents of general interest be published in a separate series in the three working languages.

*Committee on Electric Power*³⁶

314. Delegations participating in the discussion were unanimous in their appreciation of the importance and high quality of the Committee's work. In particular, they emphasized the value of the annual report on the electric power situation and prospects in Europe, and expressed satisfaction at the work being carried out on the covering of peak loads; on the study of methods and criteria for solving problems of electric power investment; on the study of certain questions in the design and operation of thermal power stations; and on the organization of a symposium on rationalization of electric power consumption to be held in May 1962 in Warsaw. Study trips undertaken in 1961 in the Federal Republic of Germany and Yugoslavia, exchanges of information in various fields and the regular bulletins of statistical data were all the subject of very favourable comment.

315. Various activities of working groups dealing with rural electrification, study of hydro-electric resources, legal questions and statistics were generally commended. The setting-up of a five-year programme of work for the main continuing fields of activity was particularly approved, both as a means for the clarifying of priorities and in view of the concern of some delegations at the magnitude of the work being undertaken.

316. During the discussion, a number of suggestions and observations were made, as follows:

The practice of inviting non-governmental technical organizations concerned with subjects relevant to electric power supply to collaborate in preparing reports on special scientific and technical questions should be extended, both for its own sake and to avoid any possibility of duplication of effort;

In view of the demonstrated value of study trips, notably in the field of rural electrification, such visits should be developed and extended to other specifically defined subjects;

To the fullest possible extent the expertise of the Committee should continue to be made available to other regional economic commissions;

The *ad hoc* group of experts to study certain problems in the design and operation of thermal power stations should be transformed into a permanent working party;

Regular three-yearly reports should be prepared on new trends in the design, construction and operation of thermal power stations;

The group of experts for the study of hydro-electric resources should study certain economic aspects of hydro plants and their management and operation, including the operation of integrated series of plants along the same watercourse;

The work of the Working Party on Statistics could be broadened and production statistics methodology and the study of computer techniques taken up;

Study of the forecasting of electric energy consumption should be continued and even intensified;

The study of financial charges imposed on undertakings engaged in production, transmission and distribution of electric power might be extended to cover taxes and similar charges imposed on the final consumer;

The scope of the proposed study on the evaluation of efficiency resulting from the introduction of automation in electric power plants should be defined more clearly before deciding on work in that sphere.

317. Contrasting opinions were put forward on certain of the activities reviewed. While some speakers felt that work on rural electrification might be broadened, it was also stated that such work ought to be somewhat restricted. The work on economic aspects of the influence of mechanization on the construction of hydro-power stations was regarded by some representatives as interesting and useful, but the view was also expressed that the results to be expected from comparative studies in this field were largely vitiated by the unique character of each hydro-electric installation. Some delegations emphasized the need to study various new questions presenting both technical and economic aspects, such as the problems of revolutionary methods of electric power production at present the subject of research; use of the steam-gas cycle, gas turbines and other specific problems concerned with fuel-using power-plants; the question of electronic devices to aid automation; and problems of long-distance transmission. Other delegations expressed concern at the danger of overburdening the Committee's work programme and the services of governments, particularly with predominantly technical questions. Some speakers considered that efforts should be concentrated on economic and administrative aspects of power supply.

318. With regard to the respective merits of various new subjects proposed for study, the view was expressed by a number of delegations that these could most profitably be considered by the Committee in the context of its long-term work programme when that came to be decided on in detail.

*Committee on Gas*³⁷

319. Delegations expressed their appreciation of the quality of the work carried out, and stated that the action taken by the Commission in 1961 to raise the status of the working party on gas problems to that of a committee on gas had proved to be justified. In particular, the review of developments in the gas industry, issued last year, was found to be of great value to governments and to the gas industry, and the decision to make such a review an annual feature was generally welcomed. Since the rapidly growing gas industry would necessitate an adequate transport network, the Committee's decision to devote increasing attention to work on long-distance

³⁶ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.11 and 12.

³⁷ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.10 and 11.

transport of natural gas was noted with approval. Mention was also made of the Committee's necessary task in keeping markets for natural gas in various parts of Europe under continuing review and of the related work undertaken by the Committee to make estimates of reserves of natural gas as comparable as possible. The programme of work of the Committee on Gas as a whole was found to be acceptable.

320. Observations and suggestions on some particular points were made as follows :

The Committee should organize more seminars, which might be associated with study tours, and also a systematic exchange of scientific and technical information, notably in the form of films ;

Meetings of the Committee and its subsidiary groups should be combined with study tours ;

Co-operation between the Committee and the International Gas Union should be extended, particularly as concerned the supply to interested countries of information on technical questions with which the Committee did not deal ;

A long-term programme of work covering 3 to 5 years should be drawn up as soon as possible ;

The scope of co-operation with other committees, such as the Committee on Electric Power, should be widened ;

New methods of transport should receive more attention and the treatment of different methods of transport should be better balanced ;

The use of gas for the chemical industry should be studied ;

Work on the use of liquefied petroleum gases was considered useful, and some delegations welcomed the decision to continue the study by including light distillates and black petroleum products in the examination. It was proposed that more attention might be given to methods of storage and the uses of such gases ;

In view of the importance of examining the problems of how to find the ultimate optimum use of gas, the pioneer work done in this field by the Committee was favourably commented on, as was its decision to make at the outset a more profound study of five particular sectors. It was felt that this study might be confined to the use of gas.

321. On certain of the activities under review, contrasting views were put forward. The question of information on the legal status of international gas pipelines was considered of interest by some speakers, but the view was also expressed that it was of little immediate interest. While some delegations expressed the wish that the Committee should add to its activities the study of the various interrelated economic and technical aspects of natural gas extraction, production, transport and utilization, other delegations were of the opinion that studies currently under way should be terminated before embarking on new studies. Some delegations were in favour of making certain structural changes in the Committee by adding a number of subsidiary bodies — for example, to deal with extraction, production and transport, on the one hand, and distribution and utilization on the other — in order to strengthen its work, while others expressed a preference

for the present arrangements, considering that the use of *ad hoc* groups of experts and rapporteurs created greater flexibility. It was understood that this particular question is due to be dealt with at the meeting of heads of delegations to the Committee in the course of June 1962.

Housing Committee ³⁸

322. Delegations commended the work carried out by the Committee on a wide range of subjects. It was pointed out that the Committee provided a unique forum for a useful exchange of ideas and information and for the sharing of experience which constituted a tangible contribution to international co-operation in housing, building and town planning. Satisfaction was expressed with the Committee's working methods involving an effective use of a large number of rapporteurs and *ad hoc* groups of experts. Importance was attached to the Committee's efforts to promote and accelerate the general trend towards industrialization of house-building, with a view to reducing costs, increasing productivity and raising quality standards and the three inquiries in progress on house-building costs in selected countries, the effect of repetition on production costs of building materials and components, and technical and economic aspects of the lifetime of a house and maintenance costs. The usefulness of the long-term programme of study tours was stressed as providing opportunities for sharing of experience and observing recent achievements on the spot ; appreciation was expressed to the Federal Republic of Germany, which acted as host for a study tour in June 1961, and to the governments of Ireland and the United Kingdom, which had extended invitations for a study tour to be held in June 1962. The delegation of the United States of America stated that its government was exploring with the secretariat the possibility of holding a committee session, followed by a study tour in the United States, in June 1963.

323. The Committee was commended in particular for adopting a long-term programme of work which it was expected would enable a better planning and utilization of resources both by the secretariat and the governments which furnish information and provide rapporteurs for helping to carry out the work. The importance was stressed of ensuring that the programme as a whole represented a satisfactory balance between the diverse interests of different countries and also between various types of activity. It was felt that the Committee should continue to pay attention to the financing of housing, including government financing. A number of delegations suggested that the Committee should concentrate on broad economic and social policy questions facing governments and place less stress on technical questions which might overload its programme, and which might better be carried out by other international and technical organizations. Other delegations emphasized the importance of the Committee's efforts to promote further exchanges of information and experience in the technical sphere.

³⁸ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.3 and 4.

324. Regarding the future work of the Committee, the following observations and suggestions were made :

That the programme should provide for future work on problems of rural housing ;

That more research on building costs was required nationally before further work could usefully be undertaken internationally ;

That work on building costs could profitably be widened by studies of new building materials, including plastics, and of the effectiveness of industrialization of prefabricated house building, including problems of weight production in building ;

That the Committee should not go too far or into purely technical questions regarding urban renewal and town planning ;

That rural renewal problems should also be examined ; and consideration given to constructing a model pilot village ;

That a special working party should be set up to deal with housing construction in the less-developed countries ;

325. Many delegates stressed the importance of the Committee's increasingly effective contribution to the long-range programme of concerted international action in the field of housing and related community facilities designed to benefit the developing countries approved by the Economic and Social Council and carried out by the United Nations family. It was suggested in this connexion that co-operation with the other regional commissions should be intensified. The Seminar on Housing Surveys and Programmes, which was held in Zagreb in October 1961, received favourable comments.

*Industry and Materials Committee*³⁹

326. Delegations drew attention first of all to the valuable work carried out by the *ad hoc* Working Party on Contract Practices in Engineering. It was noted that the general conditions of sale for the import and export of durable consumer goods and of other engineering stock articles had been drawn up and published, that work had started on the drawing up of general conditions for the supervision of erection of plant and machinery abroad, and that the possibility of drawing up general conditions for civil engineering works required for the construction of large plants is under consideration. Some delegations welcomed the fact that the working party envisaged the consideration of conditions for so-called "turnkey" contracts, particularly important in trade with under-developed countries.

327. Some delegations again expressed disappointment at the failure to convene the Industry and Materials Committee during the past year and urged that co-operation and exchange of experience be initiated within the framework of the Commission in a number of major sectors of the European economy, in particular the chemical industry, plastics and artificial fibres, chemicals, petroleum and electronics. In this connexion it was pointed out that work had continued under the aegis of

³⁹ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.14.

the Committee, or within the field covered by its terms of reference on, for example, the engineering industry and the economic aspects of automation, and that these questions would be considered under other items of the agenda.

*Inland Transport Committee*⁴⁰

328. Satisfaction was expressed with the Committee's work, in particular as regards the standardization of European transport regulations by way of international conventions or of resolutions calling for the unification of national legislations. The opening to signature at the beginning of 1962 of two agreements relating respectively to the work of crews of vehicles engaged in international road transport and to the transport of perishable food-stuffs was noted with particular interest.

329. In the course of the discussion, the following observations and suggestions were made regarding the Committee's work :

Studies in respect of the following should be undertaken or expanded :

- (a) The co-ordinated development of, and the apportionment of traffic between, the main means of inland transport ;
- (b) Traffic volume projections ;
- (c) Technical questions with major economic implications ;
- (d) The establishment of a unified network of inland waterways of international concern, account being taken of the broad economic and technical implications of such a network ;
- (e) The most economic types of craft to be used in inland waterway transport ;
- (f) The effect on the remunerativeness of rail transport of introducing railhead distribution centres and of rationalizing loading and unloading operations through mechanization ;
- (g) Savings resulting from electrification and dieselization in rail transport ;
- (h) The effect on the economics of railway electrification of the availability of nuclear power for the production of electricity ;
- (i) The unification of electrification methods on European railways ;
- (j) The use for transport development projects of manpower and equipment that might be released as a result of disarmament.

The more rational organization of international road transport and, in particular, the general application of the freedom of transit for the international transport of goods by road ;

In view of the usefulness of the exchanges of experience arranged under the auspices of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, the practice of study tours should be developed and the promotion of other forms of contacts pursued ;

⁴⁰ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.2, 3 and 4.

Greater attention should be paid to international transport tariff problems and, in particular, to the simplification and co-ordination of tariff structures and to the removal of tariff discriminations ;

More importance should be given to the work concerning combined transport equipment ;

Co-operation with specialized international organizations should be intensified ;

The activities of international organizations dealing with road safety problems should be co-ordinated by the Committee ;

The Committee should consider what assistance it could give to less developed countries ;

Some subsidiary bodies of the Committee devoted too much time to problems of secondary importance or of interest only to a limited number of countries ; better results would be achieved if subsidiary bodies met less often but for longer periods ;

A reasonable order of priority should be established for the study of the various transport problems ;

The group of experts set up to study certain technical railway questions should become a working party ;

A meeting of ministers of transport should be convened to discuss major transport problems.

330. Several delegations proposed that the Committee should deal with the technical and economic aspects of transport by pipelines ; other representatives pointed out that in their country the economics and techniques of pipeline transport were entirely in the hands of private enterprises and therefore could not be usefully examined by the Committee. Certain delegations insisted on the usefulness of the Working Party on Costs ; others thought that this working party had completed most of its work, and should now be replaced by a working party dealing with general economic problems, such as traffic volume projections referred to above.

331. The representatives of Poland, Hungary, Romania, Ukrainian SSR and the USSR stated that the German Democratic Republic was prevented from becoming a party to the conventions prepared under the Committee's auspices, and proposed that the final clauses of future conventions should make it possible for all European countries to become parties to these conventions on equal terms. The representatives of France, the Federal Republic of Germany and the United Kingdom stated that the contents of conventions adopted by the Committee could be put into force in eastern Germany by means of internal regulations.

332. A draft resolution submitted by the delegation of Austria concerning studies on a unified system of inland waterways in Europe was adopted by 28 votes for, none against and one abstention (for the text, see part III, page 56, resolution 6 (XVII)).

*Committee on Manpower*⁴¹

333. The consideration of this matter was based on the Executive Secretary's additional note (E/ECE/431), and

⁴¹ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.3 and 4.

on the Report on Manpower Problems in Europe describing the activities of the International Labour Organisation in this field in 1961 transmitted by the International Labour Office (E/ECE/432). The representative of the ILO, referring to ILO's report, stated that the drain on manpower reserves had been even more pronounced in 1961 than in 1960 ; that a number of countries had sought to overcome their growing manpower shortages by employing more foreign workers ; and that vocational training was a vital factor in the economic development of countries of Europe. During 1961, the ILO had continued to provide assistance to several European countries in the fields of training, manpower organization, and the vocational rehabilitation of the disabled.

334. The representative of the Soviet Union, commenting on ILO's report, considered that the question of professional training was assuming an increasing importance in Europe and welcomed ILO's concern in this respect. On the other hand, ILO's report did not deal adequately with the problem of unemployment in a number of European countries and with the detrimental social effects of migration. Future reports of the ILO on the question of manpower should contain recommendations designed to safeguard full employment.

*Steel Committee*⁴²

335. Delegations expressed satisfaction with the Committee's work and the results achieved. It was noted with approval that, in particular, the work done and publications issued in steel statistics, as well as the annual review of the steel market, were of practical use to the steel industries throughout the world and to economists and government authorities ; and that the Committee had adopted a new procedure for its work on the annual market review, according to which the spring meetings would be devoted to a discussion of developments in the international steel market during the foregoing year, while autumn meetings would be mainly concerned with a debate of short and medium trends observed. Several delegations expressed their satisfaction with the continuing efforts of the Committee to collect — in accordance with Commission resolution 8 (XVI) — statistical data on stocks and actual consumption of steel, but it was also noted that efforts should be further intensified ; appreciation was also expressed of the continuing growth in scientific and technical exchanges between countries taking place under the auspices of the Committee, and of the study on the economic and technical advantages of different steel-making processes, and the inquiry on the use of steel in construction, which were considered to be extremely useful for industrial as well as developing regions ; and of the progress made by the Committee in the fields of productivity and automation of the iron and steel industry.

336. The Committee's action in adopting a long-term programme of work was commended, and the view was expressed that this programme should also include study tours. It was noted that work would shortly be started on

⁴² See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.6 and 7.

two new major inquiries : a study of the economic aspects of iron ore preparation and a study of long-term trends in the competitive use of steel in comparison with other materials such as aluminium, plastics and concrete. It was suggested that an inquiry should be made on the world availability of iron and manganese ores, with special regard to the quality of ores available and to the demand for certain qualities exerted by the iron and steel industry. Some delegations considered that account should be taken also of those non-ferrous metals used in making certain kinds of steel—for instance, chromium and nickel—and of the appropriate non-ferrous ores. It was pointed out that a study of this kind would be of great interest for both industrial and developing regions. It was also suggested that an inquiry be made on the economic aspects of continuous casting of steel; that a closer co-operation with other ECE committees dealing with related branches of industry be established. It was noted that the Committee would examine at its next session proposals for new inquiries to be included in its long-term programme of work which were received in writing in time for circulation in advance.

*Timber Committee*⁴³

337. Delegates expressed their governments' appreciation of the activities of this body, in particular, as regards the annual review and market appraisal for sawn softwood, hardboard (including tropical hardwoods), pitprops and pulpwood. It was suggested that the market appraisal should be supplemented by a constant review of the production and trade in plywood, particleboard and fibreboard.

338. While the inclusion of tropical timbers, especially the African varieties, was commended, some delegations questioned whether an extension of the Committee's activities to cover these species was necessary.

339. The secretariat's survey of the production, consumption and trade of fibreboard and particleboard was welcomed. It was noted with satisfaction that this study had been followed up by a meeting of experts to prepare a colloquium on the economics of production and utilization of these commodities, to be held at the end of 1962 or early in 1963.

340. A number of delegations suggested that the following aspects of this subject be considered:

The relative importance of fibreboard and particleboard in relation to timber products in general;

Production techniques and raw material used;

The various types of such board produced in relation to their purpose, their use in furniture making and prospects of increasing production and consumption of such board in the period 1960-1975;

Prospects of extending the use of particleboard and fibreboard in industry and construction;

The enlargement of the markets for these products in relatively undeveloped countries and the possibility of satisfying the requirements in view of the climatic conditions in those countries;

The variation and structure of the demand for the raw materials needed for the development of the particleboard and fibreboard industry;

Standardization of the present methods of determining the physical and mechanical properties of particleboard and fibreboard;

The economic efficiency of modern processes for the production of fibreboard from dry and semi-dry wood.

341. The importance of paying greater attention to the economic aspects of, and productivity in, the wood-processing industries was stressed. It was noted that a group of experts had prepared a draft programme of work in which priority was given to sawmilling and its integration, and it was considered that one subject at a time should be selected for future study.

342. A closer co-operation among the numerous organizations concerned with timber was advocated. The view was expressed that without neglecting economic aspects, greater attention should be paid to technical problems. It was suggested in this connexion if the terms of reference of the Committee constituted an obstacle to deal fully with technical aspects within the Committee, they should be changed so as to cover subjects related to the wood-processing industry. Some delegates favoured the inclusion of pulp and paper in the programme of work. Other delegates opposed this. The Committee's chairman pointed out that the production and consumption of pulp and paper fell mainly within the competence of FAO, and that FAO was envisaging the establishment of an all-European contact in this field, in conjunction with ECE.

343. There was general appreciation of the work of the Joint FAO/ECE Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers (in collaboration with the ILO). Thanks were expressed to the several governments who had offered their hospitality for study trips, international training courses and for the organization of the fourth session of the Joint Committee. Co-operation with the ILO was welcomed and the ILO scholarship programme commended. It was felt that means of increasing efficiency in forest operations should be more widely discussed and that increased attention should be devoted to the prevention of accidents.

344. The long-term programme of study tours was regarded as an excellent means for exchanging information. It was suggested that the programme should also include visits to countries where fibreboard and particleboard were produced in large quantities and widely used in furniture-making and construction. The delegate of Romania expressed the wish that the study tour to his country be held in 1965 instead of 1968 as planned.

345. While the difficulties of obtaining end-use statistics were noted, the value of the Study of European Timber Trends and Prospects (1950-1975) for the long-term planning of production and trade was stressed.

346. Special interest was attached to the general conditions of sale for timber from the temperate and tropical zones.

⁴³ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.8 and 9.

347. It was recommended that a meeting of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Products Statistics should be convened as early as possible to study the problem of conversion factors.

348. In the course of the discussion, the following observations and suggestions regarding the work of the Committee were made :

The Committee, in co-operation with the Committee on the Development of Trade, should assist member states in organizing production and trade in accordance with the most modern methods of timber utilization ;

Regret was expressed regarding the undue delays in the printing and publication of documents, which greatly impaired their value ;

Overcrowding of the programme of work should be avoided ;

A single system to ensure the comparability of data relating to productivity in the wood-processing industry should be prepared ;

A study of the economic effectiveness of mechanization and automation in sawmills should be undertaken ;

Means of increasing productivity in the plywood industry should be examined ;

Certain technical and economic aspects of the problem of productivity in the furniture industry should be investigated ;

A study should be carried out, in co-operation with the Housing Committee, of certain problems connected with the raising of productivity in furniture manufacture (such as standardization of dimensions and the development of built-in furniture production) ;

A study of the effect of mechanized and automated assembly lines and of the use of new materials on the traditional timber products should be made ;

Separate studies of the utilization of hardwoods in the cellulose and paper industry should be made, as the utilization of hardwood in the cellulose and paper industry seemed to offer the only solution to meet the growing demand for paper and board in Europe.

More attention should be devoted to questions connected with the increasing demand for, and utilization of tropical species, especially African, in Europe.

Committee on the Development of Trade ⁴⁴

349. In the course of the discussions on the work of the Committee on the Development of Trade, delegates referred to the progress made in their countries' commercial exchanges during the past year and commented on the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies.

350. Delegates expressed the view that the work of the Committee was of great importance for the Commission as a whole, and that the Committee had played a positive role in promoting the increase of intra-European, particularly east-west, trade ; it was considered that its activities could, in the future, be of even greater value to ECE governments. Delegates referred with appreciation to the

recommendations adopted at the tenth session of the Committee regarding sub-regional economic groups and the holding of discussions between participants and non-participants if trade difficulties arose. They also commended the Committee's achievements in matters of arbitration, the simplification and standardization of export documents, insurance, and trade fairs and exhibitions.

351. While recognizing that increased trade among countries with different economic systems could bring economic benefits to the participants and to the world as a whole, delegates also cited particular difficulties or obstacles in the way of an extension of this trade. The importance of resolution 9 (XVI) and efforts to remove trade obstacles in accordance with this resolution was emphasized (see paragraphs 396 to 399 below for discussion of implementation of this resolution).

352. Some delegations supported a draft resolution presented by the USSR delegation proposing that a draft agreement on a mutual reduction of tariffs between ECE countries should be drawn up. Other delegations proposed that a study should be made of the role of tariffs in countries with different economic systems as a prerequisite for any future action in this field.

353. An exchange of views took place on sub-regional economic groups and their present and prospective effects on trade as well as on their relationship to undertakings regarding most-favoured-nation treatment and the principles of non-discrimination and reciprocity. The views expressed on this point are contained in E/ECE (XVII)SR. 12, 13 and 14.

354. In the course of the discussion on the work of the Committee, the following observations and suggestions were made. On some of the suggestions, draft resolutions were presented as follows :

ECE governments should, in a multilateral framework, exchange views on long-term perspectives and plans for foreign trade ;

ECE governments should, during 1962/63, conduct bilateral discussions regarding the long-term perspectives and plans for foreign trade and, in the light of these discussions, subsequently hold a multilateral consultation for a confrontation of views on this subject ;

Consultations should be organized regarding measures for the " organization of markets for agricultural products " whereby all ECE countries whose interests would be affected by such measures would have an opportunity to express their views, and countries envisaging such measures could have an opportunity to take such views into account ;

Facilities for trade fairs and exhibitions should be further improved ;

Facilities for commercial representation and commercial contacts should be improved ;

Governments should be encouraged to accede to international conventions for the protection of patents and copyright ;

The level of representation at meetings of the Committee should be raised ;

⁴⁴ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.12, 13 and 14.

A conference of ministers for trade should be convened ;

Continuous attention should be paid to steps taken by governments pursuant to the recommendation reached at the tenth session of the committee on sub-regional economic groups.

A draft agreement on a mutual reduction of tariffs should be drawn up by experts with the co-operation of the secretariat ;

A study should be made on the role of tariffs in countries with different economic systems ;

The secretariat should be asked to prepare for presentation to the eighteenth session of the Commission a study on the influence of sub-regional economic groups on trade, including trade with under-developed countries ;

The secretariat should prepare studies on the trade of European countries with countries in other regions ;

Efforts should be made by the Committee to facilitate the removal of various obstacles to trade — in particular, discriminatory treatment in tariffs and quantitative restrictions.

355. Regarding the question of re-insurance, the Commission decided to refer the recommendations drawn up by the expert group, and contained in document E/ECE/455, to the eleventh session of the Committee on the Development of Trade.

356. A draft resolution submitted by the delegations of Czechoslovakia, Austria, Bulgaria, United Kingdom and Romania on international trade fairs and exhibitions was adopted by 28 votes for, none against and no abstention (for the text see part III, page 56, resolution 7 (XVII)).

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF DISARMAMENT ⁴⁵ (Resolution 1 (XVI))

357. Representatives who spoke on the report submitted by the Executive Secretary on the work undertaken pursuant to resolution 1 (XVI) on the economic and social consequences of disarmament (E/ECE/433) congratulated the group of expert consultants on the quality of the report prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1516 (XV) (E/3593). Delegates stressed the importance of the authors' findings, and drew encouragement from the fact that these were unanimous. Several delegations laid particular emphasis on the unanimous conclusion of the experts that " all the problems and difficulties of transition connected with disarmament could be met by appropriate national and international measures ". The contribution made by the ECE secretariat to the preparation of the report was welcomed.

358. Some delegations regretted that this contribution had not been greater and that the role of the ECE secretariat had not been more active. They observed that the work so far accomplished should be regarded as only

the first stage. In their view the ECE secretariat should begin forthwith to prepare thorough studies of the regional social and economic consequences of disarmament as they affected ECE countries. Topics suggested for study were an evaluation of the possible effects on intra-European trade, as well as the utilization of released investment and manpower resources in Europe which would follow from international agreement on disarmament.

359. Some other speakers took the view that the Economic and Social Council and General Assembly were more appropriate forums for the consideration of the Acting Secretary-General's report, and considered that the Executive Secretary already had all the authority needed to continue to assist in work in this field, if called upon to do so.

360. A draft resolution submitted by the delegations of Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Romania, United States of America, Austria, Sweden and France on the economic and social consequences of disarmament was adopted by 28 votes for, none against and no abstention (for the text see part III, page 57, resolution 8 (XVII)).

DECENTRALIZATION OF UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND STRENGTHENING OF THE RE- GIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS IN THE FIELD OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ⁴⁶

(Resolution 4 (XVI))

361. The Commission decided to consider agenda item 5 (b) in conjunction with agenda item 7 (b). Consequently, it had before it document E/ECE/434, in which the Executive Secretary reported on the implementation of resolution 4 (XVI), document E/ECE/449 containing a note by the Executive Secretary on ECE activities bearing upon technical assistance in 1961/62, and document E/ECE/454 prepared by the TAB secretariat on technical assistance provided in 1962 to European countries and territories under the expanded programme of technical assistance.

362. The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that by a decision of the Secretary-General dated 23 April 1962, the Technical Assistance Office in Geneva had been transferred to the ECE secretariat and incorporated in it as the Technical Assistance Unit. He believed that as a result of this organizational change the secretariat was in a better position to carry out the wishes expressed by the Commission in its resolution 4 (XVI), and any other relevant decisions on this subject the Commission may reach at this or subsequent sessions.

363. The European representative of the Technical Assistance Board introduced document E/ECE/454, and completed the information contained therein.

364. The delegations which took part in this discussion commented favourably on the usefulness of the secretariat's activities in technical assistance as described

⁴⁵ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.14 and 15.

⁴⁶ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.15 and 16.

in document E/ECE/449, and on the action taken by the Executive Secretary in response to resolution 4 (XVI) as reported in document E/ECE/434. They felt that the secretariat had an increasingly important role to play particularly in assisting in the location of experts from ECE countries for technical assistance missions, and in making available to developing countries training facilities in Europe. Commenting on the recent decisions of the General Assembly on decentralization and strengthening of the regional economic commissions, the speakers were of the opinion that decentralization measures would enable the commission to strengthen its effectiveness and to increase its contribution in the technical assistance field. Their views varied, however, as to the implementation and scope of the steps to be taken by the ECE in this regard.

365. Some delegations believed that the existing centralized direction of technical assistance matters neither fully satisfied the needs of developing countries, nor utilized to the full all the resources of the ECE countries ready to give assistance. They felt that the Commission and its secretariat should be given direct responsibility for technical assistance activities in Europe, and in co-operation with other United Nations organs should assist the other regions in carrying out technical assistance activities, especially with respect to the recruitment of experts. They urged that the secretariat be strengthened so as to be able to fulfil these new tasks without disrupting its work on ECE's basic work programmes. This strengthening should be done by a transfer of adequate staff and resources from United Nations headquarters. Also, the European office of TARS should be transferred to Geneva from Paris as soon as possible. These delegations felt that in spite of their countries' willingness to make qualified experts available for technical assistance missions and to accept fellows from developing countries for training, little use was made of these facilities and there seemed to be in the United Nations Technical Assistance organs a prejudice against experts from certain countries.

366. Other delegations, some of whom spoke on these matters under other items of the agenda, felt that ECE's contribution to technical assistance programmes should be effectively integrated in the global activities in this field in co-operation with and through central bodies responsible for technical assistance operations. As regards recruitment of experts, they considered that ECE could usefully suggest suitable names but that their submission to requesting countries must be left to a central body which possessed an over-all view of requirements and availabilities. The services of the Commission and its secretariat should be made available only on specific request of the governments concerned. The results of ECE's own experience and research should be shared with the developing countries, but it was up to the other regional commissions to select what they considered helpful and to adjust ECE's findings to their own needs. These delegations considered that decentralization must not result in disintegration of the organization, and pointed out that the United Nations headquarters had not sufficient resources for all its tasks; the strengthening of the regional

economic commissions should not result in weakening of headquarters.

DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF THE WORK
OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE ⁴⁷
(Resolution 5 (XVI))

367. Consideration under this item was based on the Executive Secretary's progress report (E/ECE/435) in which in response to the Commission's request he had sought to explore all appropriate possibilities for the development and strengthening of the activities of the Economic Commission for Europe. The discussion was also closely linked with the consideration by the Commission of its work as a whole.⁴⁸ Delegations considered that the discussion on the implementation of resolution 5 (XVI) which was regarded by a number of them as one of the Commission's most important decisions, afforded a valuable opportunity to go more thoroughly and more systematically into the future orientation of ECE's activities. Varying approaches to this question emerged, as indeed had been the case when the Commission discussed its activities as a whole. A number of delegations believed that when considering how to strengthen the Commission, priority should be given to activities which might be expected to yield useful and practical results within a reasonable time; that resources employed must be in reasonable proportion to the practical value of the expected results; that ECE should avoid duplicating work being done in other international organizations; and that proposals for individual studies or work projects should be realistic and take due account of the basic differences between the economic and social systems of eastern and western European countries. Other delegations considered that the development of Europe's economy and trade and the rapid progress in science and technology demanded an increase of international economic co-operation between all countries in the region, including problems of major significance, that therefore the range of the Commission's activities should be widened along the lines indicated by the delegations concerned in the course of the Commission's over-all consideration of its activities; and that the differences in economic and social systems, far from limiting co-operation, on the contrary made it more necessary and timely to intensify efforts to solve common problems in the mutual interest.

368. The Executive Secretary's progress report on the implementation of resolution 5 (XVI) was considered to be an interesting and thoughtful document containing a range of possibilities worthy of attention, and was noted with appreciation.* There was a wide measure of agree-

⁴⁷ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.14, 15, 16, 17 and 18.

⁴⁸ See paragraphs 275 to 291 above.

* *Editorial note:* In this connexion, at the formal request of the Bulgarian delegation, a document was circulated to delegates of the session containing "a copy of the letter sent to the Chairman of the Economic Commission for Europe by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic, Ambassador Stibi" (ECE (XVII)/Misc.1). A letter referring to this document was also circulated by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany (ECE (XVII)/Misc.2).

ment with regard to the Executive Secretary's suggestion that all ECE committees might with advantage make it a practice to adopt longer-term programmes covering, say, three to five years. Some delegations from different parts of Europe endorsed the Executive Secretary's suggestion that the machinery of ECE might be used to exchange information and views on long-term trade perspectives and potentialities. A number of delegations considered the Executive Secretary's progress report presented under this item as a document of major significance and as a sound basis for the further strengthening of the Commission's activities in the years to come. Some delegations commented in detail on the various possibilities for further strengthening of the efforts of ECE outlined by the Executive Secretary. Other delegations considered that many of the suggestions were too far-reaching in present circumstances and that it would be better to concentrate on existing work along more immediately promising lines. Details of this discussion are contained in E/ECE (XVII)/SR.14, 16, 17 and 18.

369. It was felt that the Executive Secretary's progress report on the implementation of resolution 5 (XVI) should be further studied in more detail. Some delegations suggested that a group of representatives should be convened to study the possibilities of concrete measures aimed at development and strengthening of the work of the ECE on the basis of the above-mentioned report (E/ECE/435), and suggestions made by delegations in the course of discussions on items 3 and 5 (c). Another suggestion was that some of the points made by the Executive Secretary in his progress report should be further examined by the appropriate committees.

370. A resolution adopted by the Commission under item 4 of the agenda on studies of a unified system of inland waterways in Europe was relevant to the Executive Secretary's reference in this progress report that "the Danube links western and eastern Europe and its further development could open up new possibilities for transport... which could be of wider benefit."⁴⁹

RENEWAL OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE *ad hoc* WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY OF THE INDUSTRY AND MATERIALS COMMITTEE⁵⁰

(Resolution 7 (XVI))

371. The consideration of this item was based on the report by the Executive Secretary submitted pursuant to resolution 7 (XVI) (E/ECE/436). The annex to this report contained suggestions of governments on specific problems which might be studied. In the course of the discussion, the representative of Bulgaria intimated that in the view of his government the working group should deal principally with the following questions: (1) co-ordination of the work of the various international bodies dealing with the market for agricultural machinery; (3) the operation of tractors and agricultural machinery

on sloping ground; (4) trends in the development of agricultural machinery, tractors and other machines.

372. It was noted that a considerable number of specific proposals had been made for further work by this *ad hoc* working group. A number of delegations expressed the view that the *ad hoc* working group should be reconvened as soon as possible and should start work on the problems suggested for consideration on the basis of phased programme of work. Other delegations were doubtful as to the usefulness of reconvening the working group and felt that the points suggested for consideration could be more effectively examined by the Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture of the Committee on Agricultural Problems, the FAO, the ISO and other existing international non-governmental research bodies or on the basis of bilateral or multilateral exchanges.

373. It was noted that the Executive Secretary had suggested that the new problems proposed by governments might be referred experimentally to the Working Party on the Mechanization of Agriculture, which might be reinforced by representatives of producing interests. Some delegations gave reasons why they did not favour this proposal. A further suggestion by the Executive Secretary was also noted, that consideration should be given to the setting up of a new international organization grouping international institutes and centres in the field of research in agricultural machinery. Some delegations expressed themselves as willing to consider this suggestion; others were doubtful whether such a new international association was necessary.

374. After discussion, it was agreed that:

(i) The Executive Secretary should be invited to review the proposals made by governments for work in various fields relating to agricultural machinery and to prepare a paper suggesting which topics might be examined by the Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture; which might be studied by the FAO, the ISO and other international non-governmental research bodies, or on the basis of bilateral or multilateral exchanges; and thus try to establish what remained which could not apparently be dealt with effectively in one or other of these ways;

(ii) The Executive Secretary's proposals should be referred in the first instance to the next meeting of the Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture of the Committee on Agricultural Problems for their views;

(iii) In the light of the Executive Secretary's paper and the views of the Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture, the matter as a whole should be referred for further consideration by the eighteenth session of the Commission.

PRODUCTIVITY OF LABOUR⁵¹

(Resolution 10 (XVI))

375. Appreciation was expressed of the work on productivity which had been done during the preceding year by a number of committees, including the Conference of European Statisticians, whose active response to

⁴⁹ See paragraph 322 above.

⁵⁰ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.16.

⁵¹ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.16.

resolution 10 (XVI) was welcomed. Some delegations, however, felt that the pace of this work in the committees was too slow.

376. The considerable amount of bibliographical material concerning studies of other documentation on productivity which had been provided by governments was noted. Several delegations referred to suggestions for work in this field which they had previously submitted. Attention was drawn to the fact that a number of countries had not yet provided material, some of whom stated that they would do so within a short time. In this connexion, it was suggested that it might be useful for any future meeting of productivity experts to examine the approach to the collection of bibliographical material relating to productivity.

377. A number of delegations were not in favour of the suggestion that a further meeting on methodological problems of productivity be postponed until more progress had been made in specific fields by ECE subsidiary bodies, on the ground that further methodological guidance might be useful to these bodies. Other delegations felt that a further meeting on methodological problems should not be held in the near future, and particularly until the work in hand by the Conference of European Statisticians and the ILO was further advanced. Some delegations welcomed the suggestion that it might be useful to convene at an early stage a meeting of directors of national productivity centres, or the equivalent, to exchange information on their programmes and compare notes on how to increase productivity, since they felt that it would help in giving a more practical impetus to the Commission's work in promoting a steady increase in productivity. Other delegations were doubtful whether such a meeting would be an appropriate means of achieving this end and thought that it might also tend to duplicate the work of other organizations.

378. After discussion, it was agreed that :

(i) The Commission's subsidiary bodies should be invited to continue to press forward their work on productivity in their respective fields ;

(ii) Governments which had not yet done so should be invited to provide documentary or bibliographical material on productivity, in accordance with the request made by the Executive Secretary in his letter of 28 July 1961 ;

(iii) The Executive Secretary should convene a further meeting of experts on productivity as soon as possible, which would concentrate primarily on the methodological aspects of the problem, but which might range over a somewhat wider field than the first meeting, subject to consideration of the content and scope of the agenda in consultation with governments.

STUDY OF PRODUCTION AND EXPORT
OF CAPITAL GOODS IN THE FIELD OF MECHANICAL
AND ELECTRIC ENGINEERING ⁵²
(Resolution 14 (XIV))

379. The Commission examined a progress report by the Executive Secretariat submitted pursuant to resolu-

⁵² See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.18.

tion 14 (XIV) (document E/ECE/438) and also a study on production and exports of capital goods in the fields of mechanical and electrical engineering prepared by the secretariat with the aid of rapporteurs (E/ECE/439 and Add.1). Satisfaction was expressed with the efforts made by the secretariat and the rapporteurs, who had prepared a valuable study in a wide and complex field, despite many gaps in the statistical and other information available and the lack of comparability between national statistics in this field. Some delegations felt that the study presented an inadequate picture of the role of mechanical and electric engineering in their countries. Other delegations pointed out that this appeared to be due to the difficulties in interpreting and comparing national statistics and the need for further help by governments in this process. They felt that there was need for further work in improving the availability and comparability of statistics on production and trade in capital goods produced by the mechanical and electrical engineering industries, and that in this connexion the Conference of European Statisticians could play a valuable part.

380. Delegations endorsed one of the conclusions of the study, that governments should be invited to examine the study in detail and provide written comments and additional material as soon as possible.

381. Some delegations considered that a working party should be established to examine the study, its conclusions and further comments and suggestions from governments and to continue work in this major field of the European economy. Others felt that such a step was premature and that it might be preferable to invite the Executive Secretary to convene, in accordance with one of the conclusions of the study, an *ad hoc* working party of government experts, who might be requested to examine the study and comments furnished by governments thereon and to recommend to the next session of the Commission what further action might usefully be taken in this matter. There was also considerable support for another conclusion of the study, that the parts of it dealing with trade problems should be referred for examination to the next meeting of the Committee on the Development of Trade.

382. Some doubt was expressed as to whether one of the suggestions made in the study — i.e., that relating to a study of the relationship between the requirements of capital goods produced by the mechanical and electrical engineering industries in developing countries overseas and the development process — should be carried out by the ECE, on the ground that such work might more appropriately be done by the proposed Industrial Development Centre at United Nations headquarters. Attention was drawn, however, to the growing co-ordination of the efforts of the whole United Nations family, including the regional commissions, in the work on industrialization.

383. Some delegations felt that more attention should be paid to scientific and technical problems, and to the exchange of production experience in engineering.

384. A draft resolution submitted by the delegations of Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Hungary and USSR on mechanical and electrical

engineering was adopted by 28 votes for, none against and no abstention (for the text, see part III, page 57, resolution 9 (XVII)).

AUTOMATION ⁵³ (Resolution 8 (XVI))

385. Delegations who took part in the discussion were unanimous as to the usefulness of the work being undertaken in this field, since automation was of growing significance in the European economy. The relevant work being done in the Commission's subsidiary bodies was also noted with satisfaction. Whilst it was widely recognized that there were difficulties in obtaining data illustrating in quantitative terms the real economic significance of automation, some delegations drew attention to the slow progress of the work. It was noted that comparatively few case studies of the kind requested from governments in resolution 8 (XV) had so far been made available to the secretariat. Some delegations indicated that despite the great difficulties in preparing these case studies, they hoped that their governments would be able to submit examples in the near future, and the importance of a sufficient number of studies of this kind for further analytical work on the economic aspects of automation was stressed.

386. Some countries felt that the time was now ripe for a further general meeting on the economic aspects of automation; others felt that it would be preferable to wait for more case study material before convening such a meeting.

387. Several delegations referred to suggestions for work in this field which they had previously submitted. Some delegates suggested that in addition to work on the economic aspects of automation it would be useful to convene a meeting on the scientific and technical aspects of automation. It was also suggested in this connexion that it would be useful to collect relevant bibliographical material. In addition, it was suggested that on the occasion of a further meeting on automation it would be useful to show films on the subject. Other delegations felt that the Commission should confine itself primarily to studying the economic aspects of automation, since the scientific and technical aspects of the subject were complex and information thereon could be exchanged more effectively in other ways.

CO-OPERATION WITH UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ⁵⁴

388. The Commission decided to consider agenda item 6 (c) in conjunction with agenda item 7 (a). It had before it the Executive Secretary's progress report pursuant to resolution 2 (XVI) on co-operation with under-developed countries (E/ECE/441), and the note by the Executive Secretary on co-operation with the other regional economic commissions on matters of common concern (E/ECE/448).

⁵³ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.18.

⁵⁴ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.18 and 19.

389. Under these items of the agenda, some delegations emphasized that assistance to developing countries was one of the fundamental questions of the present day. While they expressed satisfaction with the way in which the Executive Secretary had implemented resolution 2 (XVI), these delegations considered that more could be done in order to assist and accelerate the process of economic development throughout the world. The decisions of the General Assembly on decentralization laid special responsibilities on the regional economic commissions and the ECE with its membership of highly developed industrialized countries should, in their opinion, play a greater role in this field. They felt that a comprehensive and detailed long-term plan should be prepared by the four executive secretaries regarding co-operation among regional economic commissions, their subsidiary bodies as appropriate and in the secretariats of the regional economic commissions. Ways should be found, they considered, enabling representatives of the other secretariats and countries members of the other commissions to participate in a regular and systematic manner in ECE activities, including study tours organized under the auspices of various committees.

390. The following suggestions were made in the course of this discussion:

Priority in assistance should be accorded to problems such as industrialization and the development of trade, particularly in primary commodities;

The two joint studies undertaken some ten years ago by the ECE secretariat in co-operation with the secretariats of FAO, ECLA and ECAFE respectively on trade between Europe and the two regions should be brought up to date to take into account recent changes.

THE ROLE OF THE COMMISSION IN THE FIELD OF THE RATIONAL UTILIZATION OF WATER RESOURCES ⁵⁵ (Resolution 3 (XVI))

391. The Executive Secretary introduced the secretariat's progress report on this question, document E/ECE/442. The representative of Poland, expressing his satisfaction of the steps taken by the secretariat pursuant to the study of this problem, stressed the importance of the subject, and referred in this respect to various problems outlined in the memorandum on this question prepared by his government, and which was circulated to all governments (ME/443/61 (a)).

392. A number of delegations supported the views of the Polish representative, by drawing attention to the rapidly growing demand of water for domestic and industrial purposes. In several countries special services had already been created, to study all aspects of the countries' water economy and to prepare the appropriate administrative measures in order to ensure the rational utilization of existing resources. Taking into account the fact that Europe's principal drainage areas were international in the sense that they covered more than one country, it was felt by these delegations that consideration

⁵⁵ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.19.

should now be given to the possibility of establishing machinery at an international level to further co-operation in the field of the rational utilization of water resources.

393. Some other delegations, while recognizing that the subject warranted attention, were of the opinion that the utilization of water resources constituted primarily a problem to be taken care of by each government, and that its international aspects were only of a secondary character. For this reason they were not in favour of establishing special international machinery and stated that ECE should limit its work in this field mainly to a co-ordination of relevant activities by maintaining contact with all international organizations dealing with one or more aspects of the problem and circulating to the governments all relevant information that might become available.

394. The Commission felt it would be premature to make any decision at this stage as to the role that might be played by ECE in the field of the rational utilization of water resources before the report requested of the secretariat had been prepared and the governments given an opportunity for comments thereon.

STATISTICS ON ACTUAL CONSUMPTION AND STOCKS OF STEEL ⁵⁶ (Resolution 8 (XVI))

395. In introducing a note prepared by the Executive Secretary, pursuant to resolution 8 (XVI) on statistics on actual consumption and stocks of steel, the secretariat recalled the origin of the resolution, adopted on the recommendation of the Steel Committee and after consultation with the Conference of European Statisticians, and the need for action by the Commission owing to difficulties in obtaining these essential statistics. The secretariat also referred to discussions in the Working Party on Steel Statistics and in the Steel Committee subsequent to the preparation of the Executive Secretary's report, and to the Commission's discussion of the annual report of the Steel Committee. The difficulties in obtaining these statistics and also the need for continuing efforts by all appropriate means were recognized.

COMMITTEE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE ⁵⁷ (Resolution 9 (XVI))

396. The Commission had before it in document E/ECE/444 a progress report submitted by the Executive Secretary on action taken under resolution 9 (XVI). In introducing this report, the Executive Secretary informed the Commission that he had sent to all ECE governments, under date of 26 March 1962, the report (ME/99/62) envisaged in the decision of the tenth session of the Committee on the Development of Trade and referred to in paragraph 6 (c) of document E/ECE/444.

397. In the course of the discussion on this subject, the importance of the work undertaken pursuant to the resolu-

tion was generally emphasized, and the report of the Executive Secretary of 26 March 1962 was welcomed as a useful instrument for the future work to be done in drafting recommendations for the removal of trade obstacles.

398. Various obstacles to trade were mentioned in the discussion, in particular those in the field of visas for business representatives, customs tariffs, quantitative restrictions. Differing views were expressed concerning the contents of recommendations to be drawn up and the steps to be taken prior to the eleventh session of the Committee.

399. Certain delegations suggested that the secretariat should draw up draft recommendations, if necessary with the help of experts, for submission to the Committee on the Development of Trade. Other delegations expressed their disagreement with this suggestion and considered that the Committee should discuss at its next session the further action to be taken, though governments might wish prior to that session to transmit to the secretariat for distribution their further views on the obstacles which should be considered for priority treatment.

FUTURE MEETINGS OF SENIOR ECONOMIC ADVISERS ⁵⁸ (Resolution II (XVI))

400. The Commission had before it a progress report by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/445) on the action taken by him under resolution 11 (XVI), and informing the Commission of his intention to convene a second meeting of senior economic advisers from 5-9 November 1962 for discussions on the subject "Criteria for investment policies". The Executive Secretary also announced that he had sent to all ECE governments, under date of 19 April 1962, the plan for this meeting (ME/122/62 (a)).

401. Delegations that participated in this discussion indicated that they looked forward to a useful exchange of views at the scheduled meeting. Several delegations made suggestions regarding particular aspects of the subject which should be given emphasis and regarding the way the discussions at the meeting should be organized. Certain delegations stated that in their view it would also be desirable to discuss the international division of labour and the development of co-operation between European countries, and to seek to reach agreement on recommendations which should be adopted for this purpose. Certain delegations emphasized the importance of concentrating the discussions and making them more intensive than at the first meeting.

402. In the light of questions raised in the discussion, the Secretariat gave further explanations of the plans for the meeting.

ENERGY PROBLEMS IN EUROPE ⁵⁹ (Resolution 9 (XV))

403. The Commission had before it a progress report by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/446). This report gave

⁵⁶ See ECE (XVII)/SR.19.

⁵⁷ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.19 and 20.

⁵⁸ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.20.

⁵⁹ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.20 and 21.

details on four methodological documents and a study outline which the secretariat had prepared on the five distinct subjects referred to at the Commission's sixteenth session (E/3468, paragraph 436), of two consultations with experts to which these documents had been submitted. These consultations — the first on methodological studies and the second on an outline for a study on the future role of various forms of energy in Europe — had been held between 2-6 April 1962, and a separate report on them had therefore been circulated directly to governments.

404. Delegations participating in the discussion — who underlined the importance of the subjects treated and emphasized the great value in particular of those reports already submitted which were at an advanced stage — commented on the various subjects discussed as follows:

Methodology of analysis of the energy economy and comparison of methods of projecting future energy requirements

There was general agreement that the two reports prepared respectively on these two subjects, for which a large number of countries had supplied material, after being revised on the basis of comments and information supplied during the first consultation or forwarded to the secretariat by 1 June 1962, should be given general distribution. On the basis of expert opinion on the provisional versions, it was also agreed that these two studies were of great value in throwing light on problems of method encountered in studying the national energy situation and in analysing future needs for energy. As to whether the two studies could be issued in final form before any new consultations, which some experts had felt it might be useful to convene not later than the end of 1962, it was recognized that the question remained open for decision by the Executive Secretary in the light of the data supplied by interested countries.

Regarding a secretarial proposal that the standardization of statistics in the field of energy should also be studied, on the basis of existing national statistics and information regularly supplied for use by relevant ECE committees, the expert view that this would have certain advantages provided the secretariat contacted national energy and statistical services and other international organizations, was generally accepted and an opinion was expressed that such work was needed.

Comparison of costs of transporting and storing the different forms of energy in Europe

The advantages and also the extreme complexity of a complete study were emphasized. It was recognized that study of the costs involved in transporting and storing single forms of energy already falls within the purview of ECE committees concerned with coal, gas and electric power. Although there were variations of opinion on matters of detail there was a general consensus, as also during the first consultation with experts, that the secretariat should amplify the study and make its purpose more precise, concentrating on the analysis of the main characteristics of different forms of energy transport and storage

and on comparative methods of study employed in different countries, using for the purpose information in its possession or currently available. A new text of the document would be submitted to governments by the Executive Secretary in order to ascertain their views before making any decision on the convening of a further consultation.

Methods of calculating the cost of electric power produced by thermal power stations

It was generally agreed that, after revision in the light of comments made during the first consultation and of those received by 1 June 1962, the document on this subject should be referred to the Committee on Electric Power, at its session to be held in September 1962, for whatever action it may deem necessary.

The future role of different forms of energy in Europe (second consultation)

With reference to the outline and draft questionnaire for a study on this subject which had been placed before the second consultation with experts, and while recognizing in principle the potential value of such an investigation if it could be realized, there was a general measure of agreement that the present outline was somewhat too broad and not sufficiently precise, in view of the difficulties in obtaining data, the interdependence between the energy situation and other sectors of the economy, and the continuing non-stable nature of the structure of energy supply and demand. The secretariat thought that it was preferable to approach the problems involved by stages. It was recognized that a new outline would be prepared based on information already in the possession of the secretariat from the documentation of other international organizations or from studies or national plans which participating countries may make and were already making available. This outline would be submitted to governments by the Executive Secretary before deciding on the convening of a new consultation.

405. In addition to the consensus of opinion summarized above on the continuing study of specific questions, some contrasting views on the general approach to problems of energy were expressed during the discussion. Some delegations considered, in view of the importance of the subject, that the time had come to convene a new meeting of government experts on energy questions as already referred to during the Commission's sixteenth session. Other delegations thought that such a proposal was premature and even expressed doubts on the usefulness of undertaking a study on the future role of different forms of energy. The view was expressed that the Executive Secretary should report on the implementation of resolution 9 (XV) to the Commission's eighteenth session.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PROBLEMS
IN EUROPE⁶⁰

406. The Executive Secretary introduced the progress report prepared by the secretariat (E/ECE/447), and gave

⁶⁰ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.21.

some supplementary details concerning the work on the compilation of a directory of research laboratories in Europe and the preparations for a travelling seminar on the Rhine, intended to study at first hand water pollution control problems of that river, envisaged for October 1962 and to which the riparian countries involved had given their approval.

407. In commenting on this report, the delegation of Poland and a number of other delegations expressed the continuing interest of their governments in the work undertaken in this field by the secretariat, which was closely connected with problems related to the rational utilization of water resources in Europe.⁶¹ It was felt that whenever possible, European countries should collaborate with a view to abating and preventing water pollution.

408. In the opinion of these delegations the ECE should pay particular attention to furthering all possibilities for the exchange of information. In accordance with the work programme adopted by ECE at its sixteenth session, the organization of groups of experts and, where appropriate, seminars for the discussion of various problems in the field of water pollution control should be envisaged. As in the past, this work should be continued in close co-operation with other United Nations agencies dealing with water pollution problems. These delegations assured the secretariat of the full co-operation of their governments and welcomed the initiative to organize a travelling seminar on the Rhine.

409. The delegation of the Netherlands stated that its government, while prepared to co-operate in studies concerning water pollution control, felt that ECE activities within the framework of ECE should, in principle, be focused on problems related to an efficient exchange of information; and that the secretariat should not embark upon studies and the organization of meetings on particular water pollution problems unless governments had expressly requested them to do so. His government had some doubts as to the results of meetings concerned with the establishment of water quality criteria for industrial uses and the drafting of basic legal rules. In general, each international drainage area in Europe had its own specific problems and it was up to the countries of each particular area to try and solve these problems amongst themselves. This point of view was shared by the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany which observed that meetings should be held only if the topics to be discussed were of common interest to all European countries, and in this connexion referred to the list of subjects that might usefully be studied as suggested by its country's experts during ECE's Water Pollution Conference held in 1961. It would seem appropriate to deal with these subjects before starting new work.

410. The delegation of Denmark stated that its government was interested in the work on water pollution control, and suggested that in addition to inland waterways consideration should also be given to the pollution of coastal areas.

⁶¹ See paragraph 392 above.

OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION AND ITS SECRETARIAT

*Co-operation with the Other Regional Economic Commissions on Matters of Common Concern*⁶²

411. This item was considered in conjunction with item 6 (c) of the agenda.

Activities bearing upon Technical Assistance

412. This item was considered in conjunction with item 5 (b) of the agenda.⁶³

RELATIONS WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS⁶⁴

413. The Executive Secretary, in introducing his note on this matter, stated that the contacts and co-operative arrangements with these organizations were yielding useful results for the work of the Commission. He informed the session that officials of a number of inter-governmental organizations with whose secretariats the ECE maintained informal working relations were following the proceedings of the session on the invitation of the ECE secretariat—namely, members of the secretariats of the European Economic Community (Brussels), the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (Moscow), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris), and the European Free Trade Association (Geneva). He added that he had been asked by the Deputy Secretary of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, who was present with two of his collaborators, to convey on behalf of the secretary of this organization their greetings and best wishes for a fruitful outcome of this session. He had also been furnished with a brief factual statement on the activities of CMEA, especially prepared for the information of the current session of the Commission, which he had arranged to be circulated.⁶⁵ The Executive Secretary expressed his hope that in future agreed procedures may be devised whereby the present arrangements for contacts between ECE and all inter-governmental economic organizations working in Europe may be clarified.

414. A draft resolution submitted by the delegations of Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America on the relationship with the ECE of organizations for intergovernmental economic co-operation in Europe outside the United Nations structure was adopted by 28 votes for, none against and no abstention (for the text see part III, page 57, resolution 10 (XVII)). In this connexion, the following statements were

⁶² See paragraphs 388 to 390 above.

⁶³ See paragraphs 361 to 366 above.

⁶⁴ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.21.

⁶⁵ ECE (XVII)/Misc.3.

made by way of explanation of the vote. The representative of France, speaking on behalf of the sponsors of this resolution, explained that they had voted for it on the understanding that the study requested of the Executive Secretary on the relations of the Commission with the various intergovernmental organizations in Europe active in the field of economic co-operation should encompass the OECD, the EEC, the EFTA and the CMEA, though this did not imply the approval in advance of contacts between these organizations and the Commission. The representative of the USSR, speaking on behalf of Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Ukrainian SSR, stated that these delegations voted for this resolution on the understanding that it concerns the contacts of ECE with the OECD and the CMEA. The attitude of these delegations with regard to the closed economic groupings in western Europe had been expressed under item 3 and under other items of the session's agenda. The representative of Albania explained that his affirmative vote did not signify any change of his government's attitude towards the closed economic groupings in western Europe.

RESOLUTIONS BEARING ON THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION, ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AT ITS THIRTY-FIRST AND THIRTY-SECOND SESSIONS, AND BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS SIXTEENTH REGULAR SESSION ⁶⁶

415. The Commission had before it documents E/ECE/451 and Add.1, in which the Executive Secretary brought to its attention a number of resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission, which were adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly since the closure of the Commission's sixteenth session.

416. The Chairman drew the attention of the Commission in particular to the proposal made by the Executive Secretary for an expansion of the ECE In-service Training Programme, in response to General Assembly resolution 1708 (XVI), contained in paragraph 23 of document E/ECE/451, as well as to the financial implications of this proposal contained in paragraph 25 of the same document. The Commission approved the Executive Secretary's proposal without discussion.

417. The delegates of Czechoslovakia and the Ukrainian SSR introduced a draft resolution on economic development and planning which they co-sponsored.⁶⁷ Referring to General Assembly resolution 1708 (XVI), these delegations considered that the Commission should be used more effectively for theoretical and practical training of officials from developing countries who were responsible for questions of economic development. The experience gained by countries of the ECE region in questions of planning and programming for economic development should be put at the disposal of the developing countries of the other regions through appropriate measures envisaged in the above-mentioned General Assembly resolution in particular by means of the setting up of a

⁶⁶ See E/ECE/SR.21.

⁶⁷ See paragraph 286 above.

sub-centre within ECE for economic planning and of a participation on the part of the ECE secretariat in the United Nations study summarizing the experience gained in the planning of economic development by different countries. The Netherlands delegation observed that the question of the creation of a sub-centre was a matter for decision by the Secretary-General, and not by the Commission.

REVIEW OF THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN EUROPE

418. In its review of the economic situation in Europe, the Commission had as a background document for its discussion the *Economic Survey of Europe in 1961* (E/ECE/452), issued by the secretariat of the Commission on its own responsibility.

419. In the course of the discussion, a number of delegations made suggestions concerning the future work of the Research and Planning Division and the subjects which might suitably be studied in subsequent annual economic surveys.

420. The summary records of the discussion under this item are contained in ECE (XVII)/SR. 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26.

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES FOR 1962/63 ⁶⁸

421. In considering this item of the agenda, the Commission had before it the draft of the Commission's programme of work for 1962/63 (E/ECE/453 and Add.1). In addition, the Chairman drew the attention of the Commission to documents E/ECE/STEEL/144, paragraphs 9 and 10; E/ECE/HOU/100, appendix 1; and ECE (XVII)/L.1, /L.2 and /L.6, which contain information on financial implications of certain projects included in the work programme.

422. In the course of the discussion, the representative of the USSR drew the attention of the Commission to a number of concrete proposals for Commission's work made by his delegation during the present session, as well as to the proposals made by the representatives of the USSR at meetings of the ECE committees and their subsidiary bodies during the past year.

423. The delegate of the Ukrainian SSR supported the idea that ECE committees should adopt longer-term programmes of work allowing a better programming of the various priority tasks assigned to the committees by the participating governments. He also drew attention to a number of concrete proposals presented by his delegation in the course of the present session.

424. Having considered and approved this programme of work for 1962/63,* and having taken note of the financial implications of certain projects included in the

⁶⁸ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.24 and 27.

* *Editorial note:* This programme of work was, as usual, adopted on the understanding that the secretariat would be authorized to make the necessary adjustments in the programme's final text in the light of the relevant decisions of the Commission.

programme of work, the Commission considered a draft resolution submitted by the Chairman concerning the Commission's programme of work.

[This draft resolution was adopted by 28 votes for, none against and no abstention (for the text, see part III, page 58, resolution 11 (XVII).]

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) *Requests for hearings from non-governmental organizations*

425. Requests were received and accepted from the International Standardization Organization to present the views of that organization to the Commission on the work of the committees (item 4);⁶⁹ the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions to present the views of that organization to the Commission on the work of the Transport Committee (item 4);⁷⁰ the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom to present the views of that organization to the Commission on the economic and social consequences of disarmament

⁶⁹ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.5.

⁷⁰ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.2.

(item 5 (a));⁷¹ the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions⁷² and the World Federation of Trade Unions⁷³ to present the views of their organizations to the Commission on the economic situation in Europe (item 9).

(b) *Date and place of meeting of next session*

426. The Commission decided to leave to the Executive Secretary the responsibility for determining in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and in the light of the arrangements of the Economic and Social Council, the proposed date and place of the eighteenth session of the Commission, and to advise governments thereon.⁷⁴

(c) *Organization of future sessions*

427. A number of delegations stressed the importance of improving the organization of future sessions, and made suggestions to that end.⁷⁴

⁷¹ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.15.

⁷² See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.24.

⁷³ See E/ECE (XVII)/SR.25.

⁷⁴ See paragraph 291 above.

PART III

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS SEVENTEENTH SESSION

1 (XVII). "Fifteen years of ECE activity"

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Taking into account the resolutions adopted at the last two sessions of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council concerning the activities and role of the regional economic commissions,

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the Commission itself during this period and particularly those adopted at its fifteenth and sixteenth sessions,

Noting with satisfaction that 1962 is the year of its fifteenth anniversary,

Recognizing that these years have shown that the Commission provides ample opportunities for strengthening and extending economic, scientific and technical co-operation between European countries belonging to different economic and social systems and for examining the many and complex problems arising during the continuous process of economic development in the countries of Europe,

Recalling the study published by the secretariat in 1957, entitled *ECE: the first ten years*,

Emphasizing the need for better knowledge and utilization of the positive experience acquired since the Commission's establishment,

Invites the Executive Secretary of the Commission:

- (a) To prepare an analysis entitled "Fifteen years of ECE activity" describing the positive results achieved during the fifteen years of the Commission's existence to the benefit of economic, technical and scientific co-operation between the member countries of the Commission; and
- (b) To submit this analysis to the Commission at its eighteenth session.

27th meeting
11 May 1962

2 (XVII). The preparation of a study on the role played by the consumer and the efficiency of distribution mechanisms in the economies of member countries

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Considering as desirable a collection of information on methods to study consumers' wishes and on techniques of distribution of consumer goods from producer to consumer,

Invites the Executive Secretary to prepare, if necessary with the assistance of rapporteurs within the framework of his normal research activities, a survey on existing practice in these fields in various countries participating in the ECE. This study should be submitted to the Commission in due course.

27th meeting
11 May 1962

3 (XVII). The exchange of scientific abstracts of documents relating to applied economics

The Economic Commission for Europe,

(a) *Referring* to Economic and Social Council resolution 804 (XXX) of 3 August 1960,

(b) *Taking into account* the recommendations relating to scientific documentation approved on various occasions by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, UNESCO, and the Economic Commission for Europe itself,

(c) *Realizing* that the exchange of such documentation is of great importance to economic development and international co-operation on the economic plane,

(d) *Drawing attention* to the disadvantages arising from the absence of an international centre dealing specifically with the exchange, between all the countries of Europe, of scientific abstracts of documents relating to applied economics, and to the utility of establishing such a centre,

(e) *Observing* at the same time that the preparation of such abstracts at the national level results both in omissions and in duplication,

(f) *Realizing* the wastage of resources caused by this state of affairs,

1. *Recommends* the Executive Secretary to consider carefully in consultation with the appropriate specialized agencies of the United Nations, particularly UNESCO, and if necessary with other organizations, the possibility of organizing, with the Commission's participation, an exchange between all the member countries of ECE of abstracts of documents relating to applied economics which are not at present covered by similar exchange arrangements through other United Nations agencies; and

2. *Recommends* the Executive Secretary to prepare, in collaboration with UNESCO, a draft report on the methods which could be applied and the procedure which could be followed in organizing such an exchange, and to submit this report to the Commission at its eighteenth session.

27th meeting
11 May 1962

4 (XVII). Standardization

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Being aware that the development of standardization on national and international scale promotes the expansion of international trade,

Considering that the work of its committees and other subordinate bodies can and should contribute to the development of national and international standards and to the wider adoption of such standards,

Noting with satisfaction the establishment of systematic business-like contacts between its subordinate bodies and those of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) with a view to promoting further development of standardization, which is one of the important means of expanding international exchanges of goods and services,

1. *Requests* its subordinate bodies, when formulating their long-term work programme, to take into account the necessity of their participation in the work which would facilitate the development of standardization at a national and international level;

2. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Commission to continue his close co-operation with the ISO, in the hope that similar co-operation is established also between ISO and the other regional commissions;

3. *Recommends* to its member governments to promote further development of standardization in their countries, through their national standardization institutions and in any other way which seems to be appropriate.

27th meeting
11 May 1962

5 (XVII). The organization of the sessions of the Economic Commission for Europe

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recognizing the desirability of improving the organization and the functioning of the annual sessions of the Economic Commission for Europe,

Noting the suggestions made by various delegations to the seventeenth session of the Commission on this point,

Requests the Executive Secretary to consult with member governments on an improved organization of the annual sessions of the Commission; to bear in mind the results of these consultations in drawing up the provisional agenda for the eighteenth session as per rule of procedure No. 5; and to submit to the eighteenth session a report on the results of these consultations (including an account of any proposals which may be made in the course of them), together with his suggestions regarding improvements in the organization of the Commission's sessions.

27th meeting
11 May 1962

6 (XVII). Studies on a unified system of inland waterways in Europe

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Considering the importance of a rational utilization of inland water transport for the development of the European economy and particularly east-west trade,

Noting the preparatory work which is being carried out in this field by its subordinate bodies, especially the group of experts on problems involved in establishing a unified system of inland waterways of international concern in Europe,

Reaffirming the importance it attaches to the work of this group of experts,

Anticipating that the group of experts, when presenting the report on its next session, will submit a summary of its activities and an outline of its work programme to the Sub-Committee on Water Transport, which would in turn inform the Inland Transport Committee,

Requests the Executive Secretary:

- (a) To prepare, in agreement with the group of experts and in keeping with its work programme, a study of the broad technical problems and economic implications of a unified system of inland waterways in Europe, taking account of the preliminary findings of the group of experts;
- (b) To circulate this study to all member governments for comment, and
- (c) To transmit to the group of experts a final report embodying any comments received from member governments for its further consideration.

19th meeting
5 May 1962

7 (XVII). International trade fairs and exhibitions

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolution I/IX on the basis of which the Committee on the Development of Trade is devoting attention to the study and the working out of proposals concerning the possibilities of expanding intra-European trade, especially between the countries of eastern Europe and those of western Europe, and in particular to the facilitation of contacts between representatives of business circles, including questions of trade fairs and exhibitions,

Recalling further the work done so far by the Committee on the Development of Trade in co-operation with the Union of International Fairs with the view to facilitate the organization of trade fairs and exhibitions,

Noting with satisfaction the development of fairs and exhibitions and their contribution to better understanding and development of commercial co-operation,

Invites governments of countries participating in the work of ECE to continue supporting the activities in the field of trade fairs and exhibitions as an important instrument of trade co-operation in Europe ;

Invites the Committee for the Development of Trade to consider whether it should undertake further work in this field.

*27th meeting
11 May 1962*

8 (XVII). The economic and social consequences of disarmament

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling resolution 1516 (XV) of the United Nations General Assembly and resolution 1 (XVI) of the Economic Commission for Europe,

Noting the report by the Executive Secretary on the implementation of ECE resolution 1 (XVI) and the direct participation of the ECE secretariat in the preparation of the report of the Consultative Group on the Economic and Social Consequences of Disarmament (document E/3593),

Anticipating that the secretariat of the ECE, in its normal work of economic research, will bear in mind the above-mentioned report and the results of its forthcoming consideration by the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations General Assembly,

Invites the Executive Secretary to continue to give to the competent bodies of the United Nations, in the spirit of resolution 1 (XVI), any assistance which these bodies might ask of the Commission in any further work on this subject.

*27th meeting
11 May 1962*

9 (XVII). Mechanical and electrical engineering

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Taking note with satisfaction that the secretariat, with advice and assistance from rapporteurs nominated by the Government of Czechoslovakia, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the USSR, has prepared the study on production and export of capital goods in the field of mechanical and electrical engineering (doc. E/ECE/439), envisaged in the Commission's resolution 14 (XIV),

Bearing in mind the growing importance of production and trade of machinery and equipment for economic development, as well as the rapidly changing patterns of production and demand of capital goods both in Europe

and in the less developed regions of the world resulting from the continuous progress of industrialization and the steady improvement of engineering works and equipment,

Recognizing that the development of mechanical and electrical engineering and its role both in the framework of industrial economies and in the process of economic development deserves full consideration by experts of all interested countries participating in the work of the Commission for which the study prepared by the secretariat constitutes adequate basis,

Recognizing further that the study might contribute to a wider research programme undertaken by other United Nations bodies in the field of industrialization and might be valuable not only to European countries but also to developing countries overseas,

Urges the governments of the countries participating in the work of the Commission to strengthen their mutually advantageous co-operation in the field of engineering;

Invites the governments of the countries participating in the work of the Commission to send to the Executive Secretary their comments on the above-mentioned study (doc. E/ECE/439) together, where appropriate, with additional material ;

Requests the Executive Secretary, after having received the comments of the governments, to convene as soon as possible, with invitations to all countries participating in the work of the Commission, a meeting of experts in engineering to consider the study of production and export of capital goods in the field of mechanical and electrical engineering, together with any suggestions made by the governments.

*27th meeting
11 May 1962*

10 (XVII). The relationship with the ECE of organizations for intergovernmental economic co-operation in Europe outside the United Nations structure

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Considering the interest expressed by members of the Commission in clarifying the relationship with the ECE of various organizations for intergovernmental economic co-operation in Europe, which are outside the United Nations structure,

Requests the Executive Secretary, after consultation with member governments, to prepare for consideration at the next session of the Commission, a document setting forward the views of member governments on the subject in question and, if appropriate, suggestions as to the procedures which might be applied for the purpose of establishing appropriate contacts.

*19th meeting
5 May 1962*

**11 (XVII). The programme of work
of the Commission for 1962/63**

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Having considered the reports of the committees on their activities, the notes by the Executive Secretary on certain questions, and the programme of work of the Commission for 1962/63,

Noting that during the seventeenth session various de-

legations have raised a number of points concerning the Commission's programme of work,

Draws the attention of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission to the points reported in the relevant passages of the summary records of the seventeenth session ;

Requests its subsidiary bodies to take those points into consideration when reviewing their respective programmes of work.

*27th meeting
11 May 1962*

PART IV

DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

At its twenty-seventh meeting, held on 11 May 1962, the Commission adopted the following draft resolution for submission to the Economic and Social Council.

The Economic and Social Council

1. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Economic Commission for Europe for the period 30 April 1961 to 11 May 1962, of the views expressed during the discussion, and the resolutions adopted, during the seventeenth session of the Commission ;

2. *Endorses* the programme of work and priorities contained in the report.

PART V

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES

Introduction *

The Commission's programme of work and priorities for 1962/63 as considered and approved at the seventeenth session of the Commission ⁷⁵ is incorporated as part V of the Commission's present report to the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-fourth session.

The work programme of the Commission is divided into the following broad subjects:

- 01 — General
- 02 — Agriculture
- 03 — Coal
- 04 — Electric power
- 05 — Engineering and industrial materials
- 06 — Gas
- 07 — Housing and building
- 08 — Inland transport
- 09 — Steel
- 10 — Timber
- 11 — Trade

It is not practicable or realistic to attempt a differentiation of priority as between these broad subjects. Within these subjects, however, projects or functions have been divided into the groups established by the Economic and Social Council.

Group 1 — Continuing projects and activities of high priority

Group 2 — *Ad hoc* projects of high priority

Group 3 — Other projects

01. — GENERAL PROJECTS

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission; relevant resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission.

01.1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

01.1.1. *Continuing review and analysis of European economic developments and problems*

Description: This function is performed by the preparation and publication of the annual economic surveys and the economic bulletins. The survey is published

* *Editorial note:* The Executive Secretary has made certain adjustments in the final text of the Commission's programme of work for 1962-1963 in the light of the relevant decisions of the Commission. This applies to projects 01.1.4, 01.2.2, 01.2.4, 01.2.5, 01.2.7, 01.2.8, 01.2.9, 01.2.10, 01.2.11, 01.2.12, 05.1.1, 05.2.2, 08.2.3, and 11.2.10.

⁷⁵ See paragraphs 421 to 424 above.

before the annual session of the Commission, and is used as a background document for the review by the Commission of the general economic situation in Europe.

01.1.2. *Collection and dissemination of statistics*

Description: The collection, appraisal and dissemination of statistical data which constitute the foundation of much of the other work of the ECE, including that described in project 01.1.1, also represent a separate function. The work covers substantially the full range of general economic statistics, as well as the specialized statistics required in the technical work of the Commission. The statistics are disseminated in studies, statistical bulletins and other publications of the secretariat, including the monthly résumé of "Statistical Indicators of Short-term Economic Changes in ECE Countries".

01.1.3. *Improvement and standardization of national statistics and promotion of international statistical co-operation*

Description: The work of improving national statistics, increasing their international comparability and furthering co-operation on international statistical activities in Europe is carried out through the activities of the Conference of European Statisticians. The Conference, whose members are the heads of the central statistical offices of governments participating in the work of the Commission, operates under the joint auspices of the Statistical Commission and the ECE. The work programme of the Conference for 1961/62 (adopted at its ninth plenary session (Conf.Eur.Stats/152, para. 112)) consists of the following items:

(a) *Programme of Meetings*

(i) A second session of the Working Group on Statistics of Private Consumption Expenditure to review the recommendations made at its first session in the light of the Conference's discussion of these questions and to complete the statistical programme in this field.

(ii) A third session of the Group of Rapporteurs on Comparisons of Systems of National Accounts in use in Europe, to continue its study of the problems of comparing the United Nation's System of National Accounts with the material production system used in countries with centrally planned economies, and of adjusting the main aggregates used in each system to match the corresponding concepts of the other system.

(iii) A third session of the Working Group on Industrial Statistics to review the existing international standards on indices of industrial production and to make recommendations for the improvement and standardization of such

indices. *Inter alia*, the group will examine existing national indices, their comparability and the extent to which they are drawn up in accordance with international recommendations. The group will also consider the concept of production which it is the object of index numbers to measure, with special reference to the need of labour productivity measurements.

(iv) A joint meeting with ILO of a working group on family budget inquiries, to make recommendations for the improvement and standardization of these inquiries. The working group will primarily consider the items of data sought and the tabulations of these items, including classifications. On the latter question, the group will take account of the conclusions of the Working Group on Statistics of Private Consumption Expenditure. The group will consider questions of collection methods only to the extent that this is necessary for proper consideration of items of data and tabulations.

(v) A joint meeting with FAO on food consumption surveys.

(vi) A joint meeting with FAO on current agricultural statistics.

(b) *Other Work*

(i) Preparations for a later meeting of the Working Group on Censuses of Population and Housing.

(ii) Preparations for a later meeting of the Working Group on Electronic Data Processing.

(iii) The collection and dissemination of information from national statistical offices, in standard form, concerning their experience of using electronic data processing for statistical purposes.

(iv) Exploration of the possibilities of setting up a reference centre on the use of EDP for statistical purposes.

(v) Preparations (and possibly a meeting) on current housing and building statistics, jointly with the ECE Housing Committee.

(vi) Preparations for the regional seminar on household surveys, and for another regional statistical seminar to be held in 1963.

(vii) Preparation of a report on "statistical indicators".

(viii) Preparation of a consolidated list of conference documents, and of a general report on the work of the Conference.

(ix) Preparation, by the Bureau, in consultation with the secretariat, of a paper on methods of selecting the work programmes of the Conference.

01.1.4. *Co-operation in United Nations Technical Assistance Operations*

Description: The Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations of the United Nations consults the ECE secretariat on relevant projects of an economic character included in the UNTAC's programme of work. As from 1 April 1962, the Technical Assistance Office in Geneva was incorporated in the ECE secretariat as the Technical Assistance Unit. Arrangements are made, as appropriate, for experts and fellows whose tasks relate to projects included in the programme of work of the Commission's

subsidiary bodies, to be substantively briefed by the secretariat before assuming their technical assistance assignments. Pursuant to resolution 4 (XVI), the ECE secretariat co-operates with the technical co-operation agencies of the United Nations and, more particularly, with the European Office of the Technical Assistance Recruitment Services (TARS) in locating experts from countries of the ECE region for technical assistance assignments. It also co-operates with the other parts of the United Nations Secretariat in the arrangement of study tours, seminars and training facilities in ECE countries. The ECE In-service Training Programme, financed by the UNTAO, offers training facilities with the ECE secretariat to suitably qualified young economists and statisticians from certain European countries. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 1708 (XVI), the Commission, at its seventeenth session, agreed to include in the Programme a number of fellowships for candidates from countries of the ECA, ECAFE and ECLA regions.

01.1.5. *Co-operation in exchanging economic, technical and scientific experience and information*

Description: In accordance with its terms of reference and a number of its resolutions (more particularly its resolution 1 (XV)), the Commission, recalling General Assembly resolution 1429 (XIV) on development of scientific and technical co-operation and exchange of experience, considered that the successful fulfilment of the secretariat's task to assist the Commission and governments in the promotion of contacts and the exchange of economic, technical and scientific experience and information could be promoted by intensifying the activity of its subsidiary bodies as regards the exchange of scientific and technical information: by organizing seminars of experts from ECE countries to discuss, within the scope of its programme of work, the latest scientific and technical advances; by the preparation in its committees of long-term programmes of study tours for specialists on a reciprocal basis; and by collecting and distributing advance information on international exhibitions in ECE countries devoted to the latest scientific and technical advances. Consequently, the Commission requested its subsidiary organs to continue their effort for the development of scientific and technical co-operation between ECE governments on matters of economic, technological, and statistical importance and to prepare appropriate measures in accordance with resolution 1 (XV).

01.1.6. *Assistance in the joint planning and carrying out of industrial projects by European countries*

Description: In its resolution 2 (XV), the Commission, recognizing the need to strengthen economic co-operation on an all-European basis especially between countries with different economic systems, noted that joint efforts by European countries towards the further development of their production capacity and the more rational utilization of their resources can be of great significance, and requested the Executive Secretary, when asked by all governments engaged in the particular undertaking of this kind or by one on behalf of the others, to study the economic aspects of joint industrial projects and to advise the governments

on these questions, consulting — whenever necessary — the appropriate subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

01.2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

01.2.1. *Co-operation with under-developed countries*

Description: The Commission, in resolution 2 (XVI), suggested to the Executive Secretary that, in line with General Assembly resolution 1579 (XV) — Strengthening and development of the world market and improvement of the trade conditions of the economically less developed countries — he continue to study the development of trade relations between Europe and the less developed countries with a view to promoting these relations. The Commission further invited the Executive Secretary to maintain, subject to the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, the closest co-operation with the secretariats of other regional commissions and, along with the subsidiary organs of the Commission, to consider, when establishing their programme of work, the possibility of including projects the implementation of which would be of interest not only to member countries of the ECE, but also to countries of other regions. Furthermore, in accordance with resolution 7 (XI), special attention is paid to problems of development of the countries of southern Europe.

01.2.2. *Energy problems in Europe*

Description: The Commission, in its resolution 9 (XV), recognizing the potential usefulness of periodic special meetings on energy problems to analyse the over-all energy situation in Europe, requested the Executive Secretary to continue, within available resources, to give proper attention to energy problems in Europe, so that any future meetings of experts could be adequately prepared; and requested the Executive Secretary to complete the necessary preparatory work as soon as possible. In his report to the seventeenth session of the Commission (E/ECE/446), the Executive Secretary informed the Commission of the progress achieved in the various energy studies under way concerned with questions of methodology and with prospective trends in the energy situation in Europe. In the light of the consultations held by the secretariat with experts in April 1962, the studies concerning the methodology of analysis of the energy economy and the comparison of methods of projecting future energy requirements will be revised on the basis of comments and information supplied during the consultation, or forwarded to the secretariat in writing, and will receive general distribution; a new text of the study dealing with the comparison of costs of transporting and storing the different forms of energy will be submitted to governments before any decision is made on the convening of a further consultation; the study on the methods of calculating the cost of electric power produced by thermal-power stations will be referred to the Committee on Electric Power; and a new outline of the study on the future role of different forms of energy in Europe will be submitted to the governments before deciding on the convening of a new consultation.

01.2.3. *Water pollution control problems in Europe*

Description: At its sixteenth session, the Commission agreed (E/3468, para. 471) to accept in general terms the conclusions of the Conference of Governmental Experts on Water Pollution Problems in Europe. The experts considered that the ECE has a useful and necessary role to play in the regional implementation of world-wide principles and activities under Council resolution 675 (XXV) in furthering exchanges of information and experience in matters of water pollution control in Europe. This work is being carried out on a continuing basis through: (a) exchanges of appropriate documentation; (b) the interchange of advisory services by experts; (c) visits of specialists and direct contact between organizations working in this field; and (d) meetings. In so doing, the Commission concentrates on the economic, technical and administrative aspects of water pollution control and conducts these activities in co-ordination with the FAO, WHO and the IAEA and with other international organizations, in particular with UNESCO, as necessary, and in such a way as to avoid duplication of effort.

01.2.4. *Productivity of labour*

Description: The Commission, in resolution 10 (XVI), requested the Executive Secretary to give all necessary assistance to subsidiary bodies of the Commission in any consideration of productivity questions which may arise within their fields of reference; and, through such subsidiary bodies, to provide such assistance as may be requested by member countries in studies of productivity with the co-operation of the industrial organizations concerned, and of international agencies. It invited the Conference of European Statisticians to consider, in addition to the questions put in paragraph 36 of the report of the meeting on labour productivity problems (Prod./Conf.11), how far the available national statistics could, with a view to comparison, be utilized for assessing productivity at the levels respectively of the industry and the economy as a whole; and to take into account the needs of productivity measurement in any recommendations it may make about the collection of further statistics, keeping in mind specific suggestions put forward at the meeting on labour productivity problems. Having considered the Executive Secretary's report on progress made in this field (E/ECE/437), the Commission, at its seventeenth session, agreed that (i) the Commission's subsidiary bodies should be invited to continue to press forward their work on productivity in their respective fields; (ii) governments who had not yet done so should be invited to provide documentary or bibliographical material on productivity, in accordance with the request made by the Executive Secretary in his letter of 28 July 1961; and that (iii) the Executive Secretary should convene a further meeting of experts on productivity as soon as possible, which would concentrate primarily on the methodological aspects of the problem, but which might range over a somewhat wider field than the first meeting, subject to consideration of the content and scope of the agenda in consultation with governments.

01.2.5. *Economic and social consequences of disarmament*

Description: The Commission, in its resolution 8 (XVII), invited the Executive Secretary to continue to give to the competent bodies of the United Nations, in the spirit of its resolution 1 (XVI), any assistance which these bodies might ask of the Commission in any further work in the field of economic and social consequences of disarmament.

01.2.6. *The role of the Commission in the field of the rational utilization of water resources*

Description: The Commission, in resolution 3 (XVI), recommended to the Executive Secretary (a) to prepare, in collaboration with the existing organs of the United Nations and specialized agencies, and with experts representing the governments concerned, a report dealing with the part which ECE might play in the field of the rational utilization of water resources in Europe in all its aspects, from the point of view of the collaboration of the countries of Europe in this respect within the framework of ECE; (b) to circulate this report to the governments of the countries concerned for their comments; and (c) to present, not later than the eighteenth session of the Commission, a final report on this subject, together with adequate proposals.

01.2.7. *Fifteen years of ECE's activity*

Description: In its resolution 1 (XVII), the Commission invited the Executive Secretary to prepare an analysis entitled "Fifteen years of ECE's activity", describing the positive results achieved during the fifteen years of the Commission's existence in economic, technical and scientific co-operation between the member countries of the Commission; and to submit this analysis to the Commission at its eighteenth session.

01.2.8. *Relationship with organizations for intergovernmental economic co-operation in Europe outside the United Nations structure*

Description: In its resolution 10 (XVII), the Commission, considering the interest expressed by its members in clarifying the relationships of the ECE with the various organizations for intergovernmental economic co-operation in Europe which are outside the United Nations structure, requested the Executive Secretary, after consultation with member governments, to prepare for consideration at the eighteenth session a document setting forth the views of governments on the subject in question and, as appropriate, suggestions as to the procedures which might be applied for the purpose of establishing appropriate contacts.

01.2.9. *Role played by the consumer and the efficiency of distribution mechanisms in the economies of ECE countries*

Description: In its resolution 2 (XVII), the Commission invited the Executive Secretary to prepare, if necessary with the assistance of rapporteurs, within the framework of his normal research activities, a survey on existing

practice in regard to methods of studying consumer's wishes and in regard to techniques of distribution of common goods from producer to consumer in the countries participating in the ECE; and to submit this study to the Commission in due course.

01.2.10. *Exchange of scientific abstracts of documents relating to applied economics*

Description: In its resolution 3 (XVII), the Commission recommended the Executive Secretary to consider carefully, in consultation with the appropriate specialized agencies of the United Nations, particularly UNESCO and, if necessary, with other organizations, the possibility of organizing, with the Commission's participation, an exchange between all the member countries of ECE of abstracts of documents relating to applied economics which are not, at present, covered by similar exchange arrangements through other United Nations agencies. The Commission recommended the Executive Secretary to prepare, in collaboration with UNESCO, a draft report on the methods which could be applied and the procedure which could be followed in organizing such an exchange and to submit this report to the eighteenth session of the Commission.

01.2.11. *Standardization*

Description: In its resolution 4 (XVII), the Commission requested its subsidiary organs, when formulating their long-term work programme, to take into account the necessity of their participation in the work which would facilitate the development of standardization at a national and international level. It furthermore invited the Executive Secretary to continue his close co-operation with the International Standardization Organization, in the hope that similar co-operation is established between ISO and the other regional commissions; and recommended member governments to promote further development of standardization in their countries through their national standardization institutes and in any other way which seems to be appropriate.

01.2.12. *Organization of the Commission's session*

Description: In its resolution 5 (XVII), the Commission requested the Executive Secretary to consult with member governments on an improved organization of the annual sessions of the Commission; to bear in mind the results of these consultations in drawing up the provisional agenda for the eighteenth session, in accordance with article 5 of the rules of procedure; and to submit to the eighteenth session a report on the results of these consultations (including an account of any proposals which may be made in the course of them), together with his suggestions regarding improvements in the organization of the Commission's sessions.

02. — AGRICULTURE

(NOTE: The work programme of the ECE in the field of agriculture is developed and carried out jointly with FAO, the latter organization providing the majority of the professional staff engaged in the work. Close contact

is maintained between the ECE/FAO Agriculture Division and FAO headquarters, to ensure full co-ordination of activities).

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Agricultural Problems for 1962/1963, approved by the Committee at its thirteenth session (E/ECE/AGRI/50, para. 73).

02.1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

02.1.1. *Review of the present situation of agriculture and the outlook for production and trade*

Description: This project is carried on in pursuance of point (i) of the programme laid down for the Committee on Agricultural Problems in Commission resolution 6 (IX). The project, in all the aspects indicated below, is directed towards a better mutual understanding between countries of their respective agricultural policies and ultimately towards better reconciliation and co-ordination of those policies so as to ensure a more rational employment of resources and more advanced and more stable levels of living for the agricultural population.

(a) The Committee on Agricultural Problems reviews at each session the current agricultural situation in Europe, with special reference to the relation between supply and demand of food and agricultural products in the various countries and the implications for trade, farm prices and farm incomes. The review is based mainly on statements delivered by governments. Further background information is provided by a series of annual papers on the development of agricultural prices and relationship between prices paid and received by farmers. The secretariat also assembles and publishes data on the relation between, and the composition of, receipts and expenses in the agricultural economy.

(b) The Committee examines at each session the situation and *short-term* prospects for the production and consumption of and trade in selected agricultural products. The secretariat prepares a report on each of the products studied. For cereals, governments also supply trade forecasts at the appropriate time of the year.

(c) Lastly, the Committee investigates from time to time the *medium-term* outlook for agricultural production and food consumption.

The Committee examined a comprehensive study prepared by the Secretariat, with the assistance of numerous national experts, dealing with foreseeable trends in production and consumption of the main agricultural products for the period around 1965 and the probable effects of those trends on trade, price-levels, etc. It has charged the secretariat to keep those trends under constant review.

The Committee has started work on methodology of agricultural production projections through consultations of experts. This concern is in conformity with Economic and Social Council resolution 741 (XXVIII), adopted in July 1959, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to undertake, in consultation with the appropriate specialized agencies and other

competent organizations, an evaluation of the techniques of long-term economic projections.

02.1.2. *Studies and measures to facilitate the import and export of agricultural commodities by European countries*

Description: In pursuance of point (ii) of the programme laid down for the Committee on Agricultural Problems in Commission resolution 6 (IX), the Committee studies certain concrete questions whose solution it considers would facilitate intra-European trade in agricultural commodities.

A working party carries out studies and prepares recommendations aiming at the acceptance of common international standards for the quality, size, packaging, etc. of perishable foodstuffs.

Certain general provisions and minimum quality requirements for fruit and vegetables moving in European international trade are contained in a protocol which has been accepted by many governments. The working party continues to pay attention to the extent to which these provisions are in fact being applied. In 1961 it gave definite approval to European standards for seven types of fruit and vegetables, and asked that these texts, which had thus passed beyond the provisional stage, should be sent to governments for formal acceptance. It is anticipated that these standards, together with those (for three other products) which became European standards in 1960, will be applied throughout most of Europe as from 1962; furthermore, the working party will probably agree upon several more European standards in 1962.

In 1962, the working party will consider draft recommendations for several products which had not previously been standardized at the international level.

The working party's group of experts on quality control is concerned with the study and harmonization of the methods and instruments used for assessing the quality of fruit and vegetables. It has decided to work out special common quality control rules, where necessary, for each type of fruit and vegetable standardized; the first set of common rules (that for apples and pears) is in course of preparation.

(NOTE: This work on international quality standards has been classified with "continuing projects and activities of high priority" because it is recognized that the various standards, even if already accepted by many countries, may need to be improved from time to time in the light of changes in production, consumption and trade. Moreover, their application will give rise to problems calling for further study. Thus, the whole project, while being of a continuing nature, should be envisaged as being undertaken in successive phases).

The Committee, following the recommendation of the Committee on the Development of Trade, has set up *ad hoc* working parties to draw up general conditions of sale for selected commodities. The commodities already taken up for consideration are cereals, citrus fruit and potatoes. The Working Party for Cereals, having drawn up model maritime contracts and model contracts for the carriage of cereals by rail, is continuing its work on contracts for

the carriage of cereals by inland waterway and by road and on standardization of sampling methods and of methods of technical analysis. The Working Party for the Standardization of General Conditions of Sale for Potatoes will continue, at its next session, the drawing up of general conditions of sale for potatoes.

02.1.3. — Exchange of technical information and experience

Description: In pursuance of point (iii) of the programme laid down for the Committee on Agricultural Problems in Commission resolution 6 (IX), and in pursuance of Commission resolution 1 (XV), the Committee takes steps to promote in a number of different ways the exchange of technical information and experience concerning agriculture.

(a) An *ad hoc* working party of experts of interested governments prepares reports on the manifold aspects of mechanization of agriculture. Many reports on various technical subjects have already been approved for distribution, and work will continue on a number of other topics not adequately dealt with by other bodies.

(b) The Committee organizes an exchange of information between countries on various technical problems relating to agricultural production. This exchange will continue in 1962 and may, if necessary, be extended to other problems. An *ad hoc* study group has been set up to discuss methods of analysing efficiency and productivity (rationalization) of farming.

(c) The Committee will continue to study various problems relating to the marketing and distribution of agricultural products. Visits of experts will be arranged and steps taken for the exchange of documentation with a view to the dissemination of the experience gained by certain countries in the marketing of foodstuffs.

(d) Steps will be taken to facilitate the exchange of films. The list of films, filmstrips and slides available in the countries participating in the work of ECE, and of general agricultural interest or of particular interest to specialists in the mechanization of agriculture, will be kept up to date. Films of technical or general agricultural interest are shown during sessions of the Committee and its working parties.

(e) Collective visits to the territory of one or other of the participating countries will be arranged for the Committee and/or some of its working parties.

(f) The secretariat will continue to distribute to participants in sessions of the Committee or its working parties any bibliographical material or other documentation which countries may provide, such distribution being confined to the language or languages in which the material is received.

03. — COAL

Authority: Programme of work of the Coal Committee for 1962/1963 drawn up in accordance with the decisions taken by the Committee at its fifty-third session (E/ECE/COAL/161, para. 27).

03.1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

03.1.1. Long-term problems facing governments in regard to the development of the coal industry and trade in Europe

Description: The Committee examines long-term trends and the future outlook for coal production, consumption and trade, with particular attention to problems capable of solution through international co-operation.

The regular annual reviews analysing changes in the current coal situation in the region and their repercussions on the coal industries will continue to be considered by the Committee.

A report on the economic and social importance of coal in Europe has been prepared.

The measures being taken in participating countries to develop and promote sales of coal are under examination by the Committee. The possibility of organizing a seminar on this subject is under consideration.

The work on investments and costs of production achieved so far is to be pursued in view of its importance with regard to the future development of the industry. Attention is being given to a number of particular aspects of investment problems.

Problems of concentration of workings and mechanization of mining operations will continue to be examined (see also point 03.1.2).

Possibilities of increasing exports of coal either directly, or indirectly in the form of electric power, are also taken into account in connexion with this and other relevant projects.

03.1.2. Production problems

Description: The Committee has drawn up a procedure for the exchange of reports on both hard and brown coal production methods including the dissemination of bibliographical references and visits to mines on a reciprocal basis to study particular problems on the spot. *Ad hoc* meetings of experts to consider specific problems are convened when necessary.

An *ad hoc* meeting of experts to examine face output concentration is to be held in 1962. The documentation for this meeting will include reports on the most important developments in automation and higher mechanization in relation to concentration at the face.

An *ad hoc* meeting of experts on the exploitation of coal at great depths is to be held at the beginning of 1962. This work is being undertaken in order to examine the major problems encountered in exploitation at great depth (and instantaneous coal and gas outbursts, rock pressure, ventilation, etc.).

In accordance with resolution 10 (XVI), the Committee has embarked on a project designed to increase productivity in the coal industry.

03.1.3. Exchanges of information and experience

Description: In pursuance of Commission resolutions 2 (XII), 2 and 3 (XIII), 4 and 8 (XIV), and 1 (XV), the

Committee takes steps to promote the exchange of scientific, technical and economic information and experience on questions coming within its terms of reference. A regular annual report is examined by the Committee relating to:

Specific problems on which countries feel that they could benefit from the experience obtained in other countries;

Forthcoming exhibitions of coal-mining machinery and equipment;

National mining institutes dealing with research in coal problems;

New basic research work of general interest initiated in national research institutes;

Forthcoming coal production and preparation conferences as well as scientific meetings dealing with coal problems;

Exchanges of visits that have taken place over the past year and those scheduled to take place.

The documentation pertaining to these questions is being placed at the disposal of the secretariats of the other United Nations regional economic commissions, who have been asked to invite countries participating in their work to inform the secretariat of any problems relating to these matters on which they would like to have the advice of countries participating in the work of the Committee.

A conference of directors of national mining research institutes for the purpose of promoting contacts among them and facilitating exchanges of information was held at the beginning of 1962 in Warsaw at the invitation of the Government of Poland.

Collective visits to mines and plants in the territories of participating countries are arranged, as appropriate, for the Committee and the Utilization Working Party. These are planned as far ahead as possible.

03.1.4. Trade problems

(i) Review of the coal market

Description: The European market in solid fuels is kept under continuous consideration on the basis of a coal market review prepared by the secretariat twice a year. Attention is given to the current situation and special problems affecting the market, such as production, consumption, stocks, international trade and prices.

(ii) Distribution of export availabilities

Description: The Coal Trade Sub-Committee reviews the market situation on the basis of quarterly information supplied by governments as to requirements and availabilities of solid fuels, and endeavours to find solutions to the various problems facing governments with regard to supply and demand.

03.1.5. Solid fuel utilization

Description: The following studies are being undertaken by the Utilization Working Party, and also with the assistance of groups of experts and rapporteurs:

- (i) Trends in coke oven construction;
- (ii) Economic advantages of mechanization in the coking industry;

- (iii) Enriching coal intended for coking;
- (iv) Air pollution in coke oven plants;
- (v) The utilization of ash, especially fly ash;
- (vi) The reactivity of cokes and semi-cokes;
- (vii) The efficient utilization of low-grade fuels;
- (viii) Smokeless solid fuels;
- (ix) Waste products produced by the coal industry.

03.1.6. Statistics

Description: A *Quarterly Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe* and a *Monthly Coal Statistical Summary* are issued. Continuous work is also under way designed to improve European coal statistics by rendering them more comparable and complete.

03.2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

03.2.1. Coal classification

Description: Since the group of rapporteurs nominated by the Classification Working Party expressed the view that knowledge of coke properties is insufficient at present to envisage the possibility of establishing a coke classification, the Committee recommended that interested countries should continue to examine this question and that should there be any prospects of arriving at a classification of coke, the matter would be reverted to.

03.2.2. General conditions for the import and export of solid fuels

Description: The obstacles which the use of the general conditions for the import and export of solid fuels published in 1958 have met with in practice and the reasons which could justify their adoption in international trade are to be examined in 1962.

04. — ELECTRIC POWER

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Electric Power for 1962/1963, drawn up in accordance with the decisions taken by the Committee at its twentieth session (E/ECE/EP/216, para. 26)

04.1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

04.1.1. Analysis of the electric power situation in Europe

Description: Publication of quarterly bulletins and of an annual bulletin of electric power statistics relating to the countries participating in the Committee's work.

Publication of a half-yearly bulletin on conditions of hydraulicity in Europe.

On the basis of the annual economic study prepared by the secretariat, consideration of the electric power situation during the previous years and of future prospects.

Periodic examination of the trends of the various factors affecting the future development of the electric power situation in Europe, including the development of nuclear

energy and other sources of energy. Some factors are the subject of systematic studies:⁷⁶

- (a) The influence of annual and seasonal mean temperatures on the consumption of electric energy;
- (b) The economic aspects of the use of gas turbines for the production of electric energy;
- (c) Evaluation of the future consumption of electric energy.

04.1.2. *Development of transfers of electric power across frontiers*

Description: (a) Consideration by the Committee of the legal or administrative difficulties which tend to hamper transfers of electric power across frontiers, and drafting of recommendations to governments;

(b) Economic analysis of the possibilities of transfers of electric power between European countries; possible consultations and negotiations to facilitate the conclusion of agreements on such transfers between governments requesting this assistance.

04.1.3. *The hydro-electric development of waterways of common interest*

Description: (a) Consideration by the Committee of the legal or administrative difficulties which tend to hamper the hydro-electric development of contiguous or successive waterways; determination of the general principles by which negotiations may be guided in specific cases and drafting of recommendations to governments.

(b) The secretariat has been instructed to place its services at the disposal of governments, at their request, to assist them in negotiating agreements on the development of such waterways.

(c) Study of the technical and economic characteristics of plans for the development of such waterways.

04.1.4. *Rural electrification*

Description: (a) Examination of the problems connected with the production, transmission, distribution and utilization of electric power in rural areas and study of economic, administrative and financial questions. Under the present programme, nine reports are to be prepared by rapporteurs designated by the various countries. Final drafts of six are being prepared for adoption at the working party's next session and the remaining three are being prepared in provisional form.

(b) Consideration of the concise annual economic study and of the more detailed triennial economic study prepared by the secretariat on the state of rural electrification in Europe.

04.1.5. *Technical co-operation and development of all-European contacts*

Description: The Committee promotes, directly or indirectly, technical co-operation and contacts on an all-European basis:

⁷⁶ The study of the other factors is referred to the *ad hoc* groups of experts mentioned under 04.2.

- (a) By study tours;
- (b) By close co-operation with the international trade associations specializing in the various aspects of the problem of electric power;
- (c) By encouraging specialists' exchange visits on a bilateral basis;
- (d) By collecting information on specific problems at the request of particular countries.

04.2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

04.2.1. *Covering of peak loads*

Description: An *ad hoc* group of experts has been set up to prepare a study of this subject which will be submitted to the Committee.

04.2.2. *Rationalization of electric-power consumption*

Description: The Committee has accepted Poland's invitation to organize a symposium on this question in May 1962. It has also approved the symposium's programme of work. The reports submitted to the symposium will be prepared by the secretariat, by rapporteurs from the countries concerned, by the Working Party for the Study of Rural Electrification and by the *ad hoc* meeting of experts to study the covering of peak loads.

04.2.3. *Problems encountered in the construction and operation of thermal power stations*

Description: An *ad hoc* group of experts has been set up to submit to the Committee reports on four problems which it specified at its nineteenth session. At its twentieth session, the Committee requested this *ad hoc* group of experts to study four additional problems.

04.2.4. *Europe's hydro-electric potential*

Description: Determination of the gross mean annual output potential of the various European countries on a common basis and preparation of the corresponding map in addition to that already published in respect of certain countries.

Evaluation of the maximum potential for storing hydro-electric energy and pumping energy in Europe.

Analysis of the practical characteristics of the inter-regional diversity of hydro-electric resources in Europe and their application.

04.2.5. *Legal problems*

Description: (a) Powers with respect to local authorities and private persons enjoyed by undertakings engaged in the production, transmission and distribution of electricity for the purpose of carrying out developments. Comparison of the relevant laws and regulations of the countries participating in the Commission's work.

(b) Drafting of a model clause for the revision of electric power supply contracts.

(c) Study of the financial charges imposed on undertakings engaged in the production, transmission and distribution of electricity.

(d) Criteria for assessing the compensation payable for the crossing of agricultural land by electric transmission and distribution lines.

(e) Legal and practical questions relating to supply contracts.

(f) Preparation of a compendium in which the participating countries would set forth the legal basis governing the electric power system in their countries.

(g) Intensification of studies undertaken on contracts for purchase, sale or exchange of electric power.

04.2.6. Rural electrification

Description: The object is to harmonize and bring up to date the reports published earlier and, in the light of a synopsis of these reports, to draft proposals for a future programme of work. This task has been entrusted to four rapporteurs who will submit their proposals to the tenth session of the working party.

04.2.7. Methods and criteria used to solve problems of investment in the construction and operation of electric power plants and the transmission of the electric power so produced

Description: An *ad hoc* group of experts has been set up to prepare a study on this subject for submission to the Committee.

04.2.8. Statistical problems

Description: The Working Party on Electric Power Statistics has been requested to examine:

The results of a survey concerning methods used for determining the efficiency of thermal stations;

The definitions prepared by UNIPEDE and UNICHAL of the terms which are used in the statistics and which relate to combined power and heat production and to the operation of heating networks;

The publication of quarterly and annual statistical bulletins.

04.2.9. Preparation of a five-year programme of work

Description: The Committee on Electric Power considered that a programme of work covering a period of five years should be drawn up for itself and for the standing working parties or groups of experts.

04.3. OTHER PROJECTS

04.3.1. Prospects of reducing the building costs of hydro-power stations and the effect of mechanization in that connexion

Description: Drawing up of proposals, with the assistance of the International Commission on Large Dams, for a study of large-scale concrete work. These proposals will be submitted to the Committee.

04.3.2. Use of computer techniques to solve problems involved in the development and operation of electric power networks

Description: Survey to be conducted among the participating countries in order to learn their views on the

possible scope of such a study and on ways in which it should be carried out.

04.3.3. Documentation on national electric-power supply networks

Description: Revision of earlier documents relating to this question.

04.3.4. Organization of electric-power services

Description: Revision of the documents published earlier concerning this question.

04.3.5. Monographs on European hydro-electric power stations

Description: Exchange of monographs on European hydro-electric power stations through the secretariat.

04.3.6. List of meetings to discuss electric power questions organized by governmental and non-governmental bodies

Description: Publication, by the secretariat, of a list of these meetings.

04.3.7. Distribution of bibliographic indexes published by certain countries

Description: Circulation, through the secretariat, of bibliographical indexes published by some countries giving particulars of the documentary material describing technical advances in electric power stations.

04.3.8. Automation

Description: Consideration of ways and means of evaluating the economic efficiency resulting from the introduction of automation in electric power plants.

05. — ENGINEERING AND INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS

Authority: E/ECE/IM/43; E/ECE/IM/55, paras. 13 and 14; E/ECE/TRADE/33, para. 2; E/ECE/334/G, annex I; and E/2868, para. 260; Commission resolutions 7 (XIV), 14 (XIV).

05.1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

05.1.1. Review of trends of production, demand and trade in engineering products

Description: Selected sectors of the industry and the general state of supply and demand for engineering products are kept under review within the framework of some of the reports prepared by the Steel Committee. Pursuant to resolution 14 (XIV), the Executive Secretary, assisted by rapporteurs made available by a number of countries, prepared a study of production and export of capital goods in the field of mechanical and electrical engineering (E/ECE/439, and Add.1). Having considered

the Executive Secretary's progress report on this subject (E/ECE/438) at its seventeenth session, the Commission adopted resolution 9 (XVII), in which it urged the governments participating in the work of the Commission to strengthen their mutually advantageous co-operation in the field of engineering and invited them to send to the Executive Secretary their comments on this study, together, where appropriate, with additional material. The Commission furthermore requested the Executive Secretary, after having received the comments of the governments, to convene, as soon as possible, with invitations to all countries participating in the work of the Commission, a meeting of experts in engineering to consider the study together with any suggestions made by the governments.

05.1.2. *The standardization of contract practices in engineering*

Description: This project is designed to facilitate international trade in engineering products through standardizing contract practices. Two sets of general conditions for the supply of plant and machinery for export have been drawn up by the *ad hoc* working party, the first in 1953, and the second in 1955. In 1957 two comparable sets of general conditions for the supply and erection of plant and machinery for import and export were drawn up by the *ad hoc* working party, and in 1961 the *ad hoc* working party drew up a set of general conditions of sale for the import and export of durable consumer goods. All these general conditions are being used on an increasing scale in commercial practice. At its next session the *ad hoc* working party will examine the possibility of drawing up general conditions of sale for the erection of plant and machinery abroad as well as the proposals made by the Government of Czechoslovakia relating to the drawing up of general conditions for the supervision of plant and machinery abroad, and general conditions for civil engineering projects required prior to the construction of large scale industrial plants. At one of its future sessions, the *ad hoc* working party will also examine the possibility of drawing up a model form of contract for the sale of engineering knowledge.

05.2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

05.2.1. *Automation*

Description: Pursuant to resolution 7 (XIV), the secretariat is to examine and analyse, together with rapporteurs from interested countries, case studies prepared by governments and submitted to the secretariat on the basis of a model outline (IM/Working Paper No. 31) as agreed by the Special Meeting of Experts on the Economic Aspects of Automation held in September 1959 (E/ECE/IM/60). Certain broader aspects of the economics of automation are to be examined at a later stage, in the light of progress made by the secretariat and rapporteurs from interested countries in analysing additional material obtained. In addition, the Commission's subsidiary bodies concerned continue to give attention to the economic aspects of automation within their respective spheres of activity.

05.2.2. *Agricultural machinery*

Description: In accordance with Commission resolution 7 (XIV) on the renewal of activities of the *ad hoc* Working Group of Agricultural Machinery of the Industry and Materials Committee, the Executive Secretary presented to the Commission, at its seventeenth session, a report (E/ECE/436) containing, among others, suggestions by governments on specific problems which might be studied. At that session, the Commission agreed that: (i) the Executive Secretary should be invited to review the proposals made by governments for work in various fields relating to agricultural machinery and to prepare a paper suggesting which topics might be examined by the Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture; which might be studied by the FAO, the ISO and other international non-governmental research bodies, or on the basis of bilateral or multilateral exchanges; and thus try to establish what remained which could not apparently be dealt with effectively in one or other of these ways; (ii) the Executive Secretary's proposals should be referred in the first instance to the next meeting of the Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture of the Committee on Agricultural Problems for their views; (iii) in the light of the Executive Secretary's paper and the views of the Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture, the matter as a whole should be referred for further consideration by the eighteenth session of the Commission.

06. — GAS

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Gas for 1962/1963 drawn up in accordance with the decisions taken by the Committee on Gas at its eighth session (E/ECE/GAS/26, para. 28).

06.1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

06.1.1. *Analysis of the gas situation in Europe*

Description: The Committee having considered a review of the developments in the gas industry in Europe covering the period 1955-1959, which has been given general release, has decided:

- (a) To prepare annual reviews based on available statistics and specially requested information;
- (b) To continue the examination of the spheres in which the use of gas seems more particularly desirable from the point of view both of the satisfaction of the consumers' needs and of the requisites of the gas industry;
- (c) To examine the economy in the use of oil products as raw materials for gas production;
- (d) To continue the study of the transport economy of natural gas by holding a seminar on these problems. The first meeting will be held in 1962 in Moscow at the invitation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

06.1.2. *Natural gas*

Description: The rapid development in the production and use of natural gas warrants a continuous examination

by the Committee. The Committee has so far dealt particularly with markets for natural gas, both indigenous and imported, and will continue to do so. The development of natural gas reserves likely to contribute to Europe's gas supply will be the subject of regular exchange of information and, at the same time, an endeavour will be made to improve the comparability of data on this field.

06.1.3. *Exchange of technical information and experience*

Description: By means of direct consultation between experts, the Committee arranges for the exchange of technical information and experience. A report will be prepared for the next session of the Committee giving an account of what has taken place during the last two years. As in the past, the Committee will continue to request the International Gas Union to study the technical aspects of the problems brought before it. The Committee would like to take this opportunity to record its excellent relations with the International Gas Union and the high standard of the studies carried out by that body on behalf of the Committee.

06.1.4. *Statistics*

Description: An annual bulletin of gas statistics for Europe will henceforth be published regularly, bearing upon statistical information related to production, consumption and available supplies. Continued improvements are being made in the scope and comparability of the statistical data; close co-operation is maintained with the International Gas Union statistical commission.

As a first step in implementing resolution 10 (XVI) on productivity of labour, relevant information will be collected on manpower in the gas industry.

06.2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

06.2.1. *Legal protection for international gas pipelines*

Description: The study of this question is closely linked with the development of natural gas, which is particularly suitable for long-distance transportation and for international trade. One aspect of the subject is more specifically legal, while another relates to safety regulations. These problems raise a number of specific issues calling for international co-operation, which are now under study. With regard to safety regulations, the Committee will once again take advantage of the willingness and competence of the International Gas Union to assist it with this study.

06.2.2. *Future gas demand*

Description: The Committee, having taken account of the findings of the seminars held in France in 1958 and in the Federal Republic of Germany in 1960, and having completed a preliminary review of the methodology generally used in different countries, intends to carry out complementary detailed studies on this subject. As an experiment, it has been decided to study the application of these methods to the following sectors: chemicals, ceramics, glass and iron and steel.

06.2.3. *Productivity of labour*

Description: The Committee in conjunction with the Electric Power Committee will study methods used by the two industries in services concerned with meter reading, billing, and payment of bills (see also project 06.1.4).

07. — HOUSING AND BUILDING

Authority: Programme of work of the Housing Committee for 1962, drawn up in accordance with the decisions taken by the Committee at its twenty-second session (E/ECE/HOU/100, para. 13). This programme also takes into account the Secretary-General's report, "Concerted International Action in the Field of Housing and Related Community Facilities" (E/3383).

07.1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

07.1.1. *Survey of housing progress and policies*

Description: The Committee discusses housing trends and policies every year. Every other year the secretariat prepares a report describing and analysing major changes in housing policy. The next report will be prepared in 1963.

07.1.2. *Housing problems in European countries in the course of industrialization*

Description: Seminars for the benefit of countries in the course of industrialization are organized from time to time. Work in this field takes fully into account the technical assistance activities of the United Nations and other international organizations.

07.1.3. *Technical policies affecting the cost of building and the industrialization of house construction*

Description: Following the results of a pilot methodological inquiry into actual house-building costs, a wider inquiry is being carried out with the purpose of ascertaining the factors affecting the cost of house construction. Parallel with this inquiry and arising out of the conclusions of the comprehensive report on government policies and the cost of building, published in 1959, specialized studies have been started on particular aspects of technical policies having a bearing on cost reduction and rationalized methods of construction. These studies cover in particular the following questions: the cost of maintenance of dwellings and its relationship to the lifetime of the dwelling stock and its rate of obsolescence; the effect of repetition on the reduction of the production cost of building materials and components; and actual building costs. The Committee also follows developments in, and in particular the application of, standardization and modular co-ordination in the building industry.

07.1.4. *Collection and publication of housing and building statistics*

Description: The Committee, through its working party of statistical experts, (a) advises the Secretariat on the preparation of the *Annual Bulletin of Housing and Building*

Statistics for Europe; (b) examines statistical aspects of calculating housing needs and shortages and the need for other statistics relating to housing and building; (c) exchanges information on problems of collecting current housing and building statistics. Work in this field takes into account that of both the Conference of European Statisticians and the United Nations Statistical Commission.

07.1.5. *Technical co-operation and contacts*

Description: The Committee promotes, directly or indirectly, close co-operation and contacts by (a) the maintenance of close working co-operation with international professional and technical organizations concerned with various aspects of housing and building; (b) the encouragement of group study tours by participants in the Committee to different countries on the basis of a long-term programme, which is revised from time to time; (c) the encouragement of visits by specialists from different countries, arranged on a bilateral basis.

0.7.1.6. *Co-operation with other regional commissions*

Description: Within the framework of the "concerted programme of international action in the field of housing and related community facilities" approved by the United Nations Economic and Social Council and carried out by the United Nations family, the Committee co-operates with other regional commissions, amongst other things, by making available the results of its work and by helping to organize seminars and expert meetings on specific subjects for the benefit of developing countries. Thus, a seminar on the use of statistics in the elaboration and implementation of housing programmes for the benefit of Latin American countries will be held in Copenhagen in the summer of 1962.

07.1.7. *Urban renewal and the town-planning aspects of housing*

Description: The Committee, through its Working Party on Urban Renewal and the Town Planning Aspects of Housing, is carrying out the following activities:

- (a) A pilot inquiry undertaken by rapporteurs on the planning and cost of a new residential area;
- (b) An inquiry on the allocation of land for housing and control of land prices for housing;
- (c) Follow-up work on urban renewal in accordance with the recommendations of a symposium held in 1961;
- (d) A contribution to a United Nations European seminar on problems of urbanization which is being organized pursuant to resolution 830 (XXXII) B by the Economic and Social Council, and which will be held in the autumn of 1962 in Poland.

07.2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

07.2.1. *The European housing situation*

Description: The secretariat, with the help of rapporteurs, is preparing a comprehensive report which is

examining housing requirements, taking into account the extent of the housing shortages in different countries, the quantitative and qualitative aspects of the existing housing stock, the normal additional requirements and the structure and trend of housing demand. This study is drawing extensively on data obtained from the recent housing censuses.

07.2.2. *Major problems of government housing policies*

Description: An inquiry will be started on major problems of government policies, with particular reference to the changing aims of housing policy and the instruments of government housing policy.

08. — INLAND TRANSPORT

Authority: Programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 1962/1963 approved by the Committee at its twenty-first session (E/ECE/TRANS/525, para. 103).

08.1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

08.1.1. *Improvement of customs facilities for the crossing of frontiers by transport equipment, passengers and goods*

Description: The group of experts is endeavouring to facilitate international transport and travel. Its work will relate, in particular to the implementation of the various Customs conventions concluded under the auspices of the Committee, more especially the TIR convention, and to seeking agreement on a definition of the term "normal residence".

08.1.2. *International motor traffic and international road transport*

Description: The Sub-Committee on Road Transport and its subsidiary bodies will continue the formulation of a resolution giving effect to the essential provisions of some of the clauses of the 1954 General Agreement on Economic Regulations for International Road Transport and of the annexes thereto other than those incorporated in the agreement on conditions of employment of staff in international road transport; the simplification of requirements concerning the documents to be carried by motorists travelling abroad and the checking of such documents (registration certificates, driving licences, insurance certificates).

08.1.3. *Regulation of road traffic and improvement of road safety*

Description: The Sub-Committee on Road Transport and its subsidiary bodies will continue in 1962 to work for the unification of national regulations concerning road safety with the twofold aim of increasing traffic safety and facilitating trade in motor vehicles and their accessories. To that end, they will:

- (a) Draw up a European agreement supplementing the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic and the 1949 Protocol on Road Signs and Signals;

- (b) Embody in a consolidated resolution, after revision where necessary, all the provisions supplementing that convention or protocol which are considered desirable, but are not yet included in the European agreement;
- (c) Study numerous specific questions (safety belts, vehicle lights, signal lights or devices, audible warning devices, emergency exits from motor coaches, measurement and regulation of the level of noise produced by motor vehicles, etc.);
- (d) Discuss new road signs.

Even more systematically than in previous years, they will review national laws and regulations concerning traffic rules, road signs and signals and vehicle equipment with a view to their unification; they will also seek to secure reciprocal recognition of approval certificates and markings for vehicle equipment.

08.1.4. *Collection, improvement, standardization and distribution of statistics on transport and its place in the economy*

Description: In 1962, the Working Party of Experts on Statistical Information will continue its work on the development of statistics including those relating to oil pipelines which have not previously been collected and their inadequacy, statistics relating to road transport and motor vehicle traffic.

08.2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

08.2.1. *Studies on transport economics*

Description: In 1962, the Committee or its subsidiary bodies will study a report comparing for past years the trend of the volume of goods transport by all modes of inland transport and the trend of economic indicators, as well as the prospective future trend of the volume of railway passenger traffic and methods of estimating the future density and volume of railway goods traffic. They will also study certain problems relating to the cost of transport.

08.2.2. *Studies of productivity in the transport industry*

Description: The Committee or its subsidiary bodies will continue to study and promote the development of methods of avoiding the transloading of packages individually where goods are transferred from one mode of transport to another (combined transport equipment) and the development of methods and equipment for mechanizing loading and unloading operations. They will also continue to study the rationalization of railway operation through increased productivity, particularly as a result of dieselization and electrification.

08.2.3. *Development of the European inland waterways system*

Description: The Sub-Committee on Inland Water Transport will complete the classification of inland waterways of international concern (technical charac-

teristics, traffic density) and formulate recommendations concerning standard dimensions for these waterways, for bridges and other structures on them and for vessels using them. It will undertake the economic study of certain waterway construction or improvement projects. At its seventeenth session, the Commission adopted resolution 6 (XVII) on studies on a unified system of inland waterways in Europe. It requested the Executive Secretary to prepare, in agreement with the group of experts on problems involved in establishing a unified system of inland waterways of international concern in Europe, a study of broad technical problems and economic implications of a unified system of inland waterways in Europe, taking account of the preliminary findings of the group of experts. The Commission further requested the Executive Secretary to circulate this study to all member governments for comment, and to transmit to the group of experts a final report embodying any comments received from member governments for its consideration.

08.2.4. *Technical questions*

Description: Rail transport: The Sub-Committee on Rail Transport or its subsidiary body will continue, in co-operation with the UIC and OSZhD, to study problems of standardization and utilization of rolling stock and the introduction of automatic coupling, and to have certain specific technical problems of rail transport studied by a group.

Road transport: The Sub-Committee on Road Transport will work for standardization of the laboratory methods used to check compliance with the standards laid down for motor vehicles and their equipment.

Inland water transport: The Sub-Committee on Inland Water Transport will endeavour to prepare international regulations on the sound intensity of acoustic signals given by vessels and on the liquefied-gas equipment used on vessels.

All modes of transport: The Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs will seek to improve methods of testing wooden packaging and cardboard packaging used for perishable foodstuffs.

08.2.5. *Standardization of signs and signals and police regulations on inland waterways*

Description: The Sub-Committee on Inland Water Transport and its subsidiary bodies will continue their studies on the standardization of signs and signals used on vessels and the standardization of police regulations and signs and signals.

08.2.6. *Unification of river law*

Description: The Working Party on River Law will continue in 1962 the drafting of a convention on the registration of inland water craft, rights *in rem* in such craft, and attachment and forced sale.

08.2.7. *Transport of dangerous goods*

Description: The Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods will continue the drafting of a Euro-

pean Agreement, with annexes, concerning the international carriage of dangerous goods by inland waterway. It will continue its endeavours to settle the problems raised by the filling abroad of compressed-gas receptacles stamped in their country of origin, and to bring up to date, in the light of developments in the chemical and nuclear industries, the text of the European agreement concerning the international carriage of dangerous goods by road.

08.3. OTHER PROJECTS

08.3.1. *Tariffs and nomenclatures*

Description: The Committee will continue to work for the development of international railway tariffs and the unification of goods nomenclatures.

08.3.2. *Transport of perishable foodstuffs*

Description: The Committee will continue its work on the standardization of wooden and cardboard packaging for perishable foodstuffs.

09. — STEEL

Authority: Programme of work of the Steel Committee for 1961/62, drawn up in accordance with the decision taken by the Committee at its twenty-seventh session (E/ECE/STEEL/144, para. 17).

09.1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

09.1.1. *Short-term trends and problems in the European steel industry*

Description: At the beginning of each year, the Committee holds a debate on the current steel market situation on the basis of a short discussion note prepared by the secretariat, and delegations review trends observed in national steel markets. The secretariat then prepares a provisional version of the annual market review, which examines major trends in production, consumption and trade in steel and steel-making raw materials and includes a more detailed treatment of whatever key questions arise during the course of the year, as a basis for discussion by the Committee on the trend of development and short and medium-term prospects. The annual market review is prepared within a standard framework adopted by the Committee to facilitate comparisons from year to year, taking into account the Committee's discussions and information supplied by governments. After consideration by the Committee at its autumn session, the review is revised by the secretariat for publication.

09.1.2. *Technical co-operation and all-European contacts*

Description: The Committee endeavours to promote all-European co-operation on technical problems relating to steel through encouragement of contacts among steel technical and scientific institutes and of participation by experts from ECE countries in congresses and meetings held on specific technical problems. Efforts are also made to encourage visits to each other's countries by specialists interested in specific questions.

09.1.3. *Statistics*

Description: The Committee, through its Working Party on Steel Statistics, (a) advises the secretariat on the preparation and issue of a quarterly bulletin providing detailed European statistics on a comparable basis and on the preparation and issue of annual statistics of world trade in steel, (b) promotes the collection and improvement of steel statistics, paying particular attention to the improvement of statistics on stocks and consumption of steel.

09.2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

09.2.1. *Long-term development in the European steel industry*

Description: The Committee is undertaking three inquiries under this heading: (a) the use of steel in the building and civil engineering industries; (b) the economic aspects of iron-ore preparation; (c) long-term trends in the competitive use of steel in comparison with other materials.

09.2.2. *Standardization of general conditions of sale of steel products*

Description: The Committee is considering the possibility of standardizing general conditions for the export and import of steel products.

09.2.3. *Productivity in the iron and steel industry*

Description: The Committee is studying possibilities and methods of assessing productivity in the iron and steel industry, and the factors affecting it. Special attention is at present devoted to weighting systems and employment data for the calculation of co-efficients on labour productivity.

09.2.4. *Automation in the iron and steel industry*

Description: The Committee, through its *ad hoc* working party on this subject, has undertaken an analysis of the general state of automation in the iron and steel industries of different countries.

10. — TIMBER

(NOTE: The work programme of the ECE in the field of timber is developed and carried out jointly with the FAO, the latter organization providing the professional staff engaged in the work. Below are listed the projects, primarily the responsibility of the ECE Timber Committee, to be undertaken during the period 1961/62. In addition to the annual session of the Timber Committee, Joint FAO/ECE bodies will deal with the projects where appropriate. The joint projects for which FAO is primarily responsible do not figure in this list.)

Authority: Programme of work of the Timber Committee for 1962 approved by the Committee at its nineteenth session (E/ECE/TIM/69, para. 76).

10.1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

10.1.1. *Review of timber market for Europe, including timber statistics*

Description: The Timber Committee reviews periodically the situation for sawn softwood, sawn hardwood and hardwood logs, pulpwood and pitprops. In addition, the secretariat publishes quarterly market reviews covering sawn softwood, hardwoods, pulpwood and pitprops, together with statistics relating to production and trade in the main forest products in Europe and North America, and price series supplemented by graphs, comparisons of timber prices and those of alternative materials, and relevant economic indicators. This service will be extended by the publication of half-yearly hardwood price statistics and production and trade statistics of particle board. Market reports are also compiled and published periodically for many of the principal importing and exporting countries of Europe; these reports are based on information collected from official and other sources and publications, which is analysed by the ECE secretariat.

10.1.2. *Technical co-operation and contacts*

Description: The Committee promotes study tours and visits by specialists to the forest products industries of member countries within the framework of a long-term programme. Personal contacts and participation in technical meetings are encouraged as means toward solution of technical problems in the forest and forest products industries.

10.1.3. *Increased efficiency in forestry operations*

Description: This project aims at increasing efficiency in forestry operations by improving methods of work, by mechanization and by better training of forest workers and prevention of accidents. This project is dealt with by the Joint FAO/ECE Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers, in co-operation with the ILO, by means of study groups and with the collaboration of experts.

10.1.4. *Studies on productivity problems in the wood-processing industries*

Description: The Committee is to establish a group of experts to draw up a programme of work for studying productivity problems in the wood-processing industries falling within the terms of reference of the Committee. The group of experts will submit the programme of work to the 20th session of the Committee. The programme will include detailed proposals for work on one or more selected problems.

10.2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

10.2.1. *Minimum programme for European forest and forest products statistics*

Description: This project aims at setting up a minimum programme for forestry and timber statistics

covering the whole field. This programme is being examined by the *ad hoc* Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest and Forest Products Statistics, which meets from time to time as the need arises. In addition, the working party also considers special statistical problems referred to it by the parent bodies.

10.2.2. *Study on trends in the utilization of wood and its products*

Description: The sector study on mining timber will be completed and published after additional information has been received and incorporated.

10.2.3. *Reappraisal of European timber trends and prospects*

Description: Work will continue on the study of European timber trends and prospects, 1950-1975.

10.2.4. *Economic trends in the fibreboard and particle board industries*

Description: The secretariat will make preparations for a meeting of experts to be in a form of a colloquium on selected topics related to the economics of production and utilization of fibreboard and particle board, to be held at the end of 1962 or early in 1963. The secretariat will finalize its report on the survey of production, consumption and trade of fibreboard and particle board.

10.3.3 OTHER PROJECTS

10.3.1 *General conditions of sale for timber, including timber grading*

Description: A set of optional general conditions of sale for temperate-zone hardwoods have been published. The secretariat is preparing in co-operation with FAO and the International Tropical Timber Association (ITTITA), a study on standard conditions of sale for tropical wood. With respect to the standardization of grading of sawnwood, the secretariat follows the work of the International Standardization Organization.

11. — TRADE

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on the Development of Trade for 1962 approved by the Committee at its tenth session (E/ECE/TRADE/54, para. 47).

11.1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

11.1.1. *Review of developments in intra-European, especially east-west, trade*

Description: At its annual session, the Committee reviews developments in the field of intra-European, especially east-west, trade. This review includes, *inter alia*, such questions as obstacles of an economic, administrative or trade policy character, possibilities of further trade expansion, and the work done in other ECE committees relevant to trade problems.

11.1.2. *Preparation of recommendations for the removal of the economic, administrative and trade-policy obstacles to the development of trade between member countries of ECE*

Description: In its resolution 9 (XVI) — Committee on the Development of Trade — the Commission suggested that the Committee should give particular attention in its work to the preparation of recommendations that would help towards removing the economic, administrative and trade-policy obstacles to the development of trade among ECE countries. The Committee, taking into account the creation of sub-regional economic groupings in Europe, decided at its tenth session to recommend that in case of any difficulties arising in trade between individual countries, participants and non-participants, the representatives of such countries will meet in the framework of procedures agreeable to both sides as often as it is required with the aim of overcoming the difficulties and finding ways and means of assisting the development of trade between them. The Committee also decided, pursuant to resolution 9 (XVI), and in order to continue the work done under resolution 6 (XV), to request the secretariat to take all necessary steps to assist governments in the implementation of resolution 9 (XVI), and in particular to clarify and analyse all proposals hitherto made by ECE governments for removal of economic, administrative and trade policy obstacles, to obtain any further views or proposals governments may wish to put forward in this connexion, and in the light thereof to prepare a report for consideration by governments designed to facilitate the formulation of recommendations as envisaged in resolution 9 (XVI). In carrying out this task the secretariat was asked to consult, as necessary, with experts from interested governments, and in particular those which have made proposals. The secretariat's report is to be distributed to governments, if possible, by 31 March 1962.

11.1.3. *Consultations of experts in intra-European, especially east-west, trade*

Description: The tenth annual consultation of experts on east-west trade, in the form approved by the committee, is scheduled to take place as part of the eleventh session of the Committee.

11.1.4. *Interregional trade*

Description: The Committee continues to examine the possibilities for expansion of interregional trade, including possible interregional trade consultations, in the light of ECOSOC resolution 579 (XX) B. In accordance with General Assembly resolutions 1322 (XIII) and 1421 (XIV), and Commission resolutions 9 (XIII), 12 (XIV), 4 (XV) and 10 (XV), the Committee co-operates with the other regional commissions and other organs and takes into account work done in the field of trade by these commissions. The secretariat maintains close contact with the secretariats of the other regional economic commissions on interregional trade questions, continuously studies problems arising in European countries' trade with countries of other regions and regularly sub-

mits to the Committee information and analyses pertinent to the development of trade with countries in other regions.

11.2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

11.2.1. *Improvement of techniques of foreign trade*

Description: On the basis of Commission resolution 6 (XV), the Committee will continue to examine and analyse the problems and possibilities of introducing improvements in the methods used in trade and payments relations among ECE countries.

11.2.2. *Improvement of payments arrangements*

Description: The Committee explores means of improving payments relations, in particular through enlargement of the scope for multilateral transferability and greater flexibility in payments arrangements. It reviews annually the progress made by ECE governments towards the achievement of effective multilateral transferability of their currencies or of automatic transferability for some part of the earnings under bilateral arrangements. Each year it also reviews and makes recommendations concerning the multilateral compensation procedures which have continued each quarter since 1957, and for which the secretariat acts as agent.

11.2.3. *Arbitration*

Description: A European convention on international commercial arbitration has been signed by eighteen European countries. The secretariat has prepared a new draft set of arbitration rules for international trade, taking into account the European convention and comments it has already received from governments.

11.2.4. *Standardization of general conditions of sale for selected commodities*

Description: The Committee keeps under review the work going on in this field under the auspices of other ECE committees (agriculture, timber, coal, industry and materials, steel and inland transport).

11.2.5. *Foreign trade problems of southern European countries*

Description: Pursuant to Commission resolution 7 (XI), the Committee has expressed the wish that the governments concerned will seek solutions to such trading problems through direct contacts while providing at its annual session a possible forum for consideration of the initiatives taken and the progress made on this problem.

11.2.6. *Problems of insurance*

Description: The *ad hoc* working party set up to deal with a number of problems in the field of international insurance is continuing its studies on the freedom of choice of the insurer, general clauses of transport insurance policies and re-insurance problems. Secretariat reports on the salvage of vessels and cargoes in territorial

waters and on the settlement of loss and damage abroad have been presented to the Committee, which has not made any decision as to the subsequent action to be taken.

11.2.7. *Consequences for intra-European trade of efforts to achieve a greater degree of economic integration on a sub-regional basis in Europe*

Description: The secretariat includes in its regular publications analyses of the economic consequences for intra-European trade of all efforts being made on a sub-regional basis in Europe to achieve a higher degree of economic integration (see also 11.1.2).

11.2.8. *Problems of trade in machinery and equipment*

Description: Pursuant to Commission resolution 14 (XIV), the secretariat is to prepare a study on the nature and scope of production and exports of capital goods in the fields of mechanical and electrical engineering. The secretariat keeps the Committee informed of the developments related to this study.

11.2.9. *Simplification and standardization of export documents*

Description: The working party set up by the Committee is engaged in concrete action on the standardization

and simplification of certain documents required for external trade, and possibly on reducing their number.

11.2.10. *International trade fairs and exhibitions*

Description: In its resolution 7 (XVII), the Commission invited governments of countries participating in the work of ECE to continue to support the activities in the field of trade fairs and exhibitions as an important instrument of trade co-operation in Europe, and invited the Committee for the Development of Trade to consider whether it should undertake further work in this field.

11.3. OTHER PROJECTS

11.3.1. *Trade in consumers' goods*

Description: At its eighth session, the Committee decided that it would consider from time to time, on the basis of information available, the achievements attained in organizing co-operation on a commercial basis directly between industries producing consumers' goods and would inquire of governments what specific problems they face in regard to mutual exchanges of technical experience between consumers' goods industries on a non-commercial basis in order that the Committee might consider possibilities for the solution of these problems.

ANNEXES

ANNEX I

List of representatives at the seventeenth session of the Commission

Albania

Mr. Dhimiter Lamani, Ambassador; Head of the Delegation
Mr. Khavit Nasufaga, Commercial Attaché

Austria

Mr. Ludwig Steiner, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; Head of the Delegation
Mr. Emanuel Treu, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Austria to the European Office of the United Nations; Deputy Head of the Delegation
Mr. Erich M. Schmid, Secretary of Legation, Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Harald Vavrik, Deputy Permanent Representative
Dr. Albert Buzzi-Quattrini, Ministry of Trade and Reconstruction
Mr. Anton Zembsch, Secretary, Federal Ministry of Trade and Reconstruction
Mr. Kurt Knoll, Senior Secretary, Federal Chancellery, Nationalized Enterprises
Mr. Heinrich Stadler, Federal Economic Chamber
Mr. Eduard Marz, Chamber of Labour
Mr. Ferdinand Hain, Austrian National Bank

Belgium

Mr. Emile P. H. Lotz, Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Belgium to the European Office of the United Nations; Head of Delegation
Mrs. J. Poelmans, Counsellor, Head of the International Organizations Service, Foreign Trade Department, Ministry of Foreign Trade; Alternate
Mr. A. Meersseman, Deputy Counsellor in charge of the United Nations Section, Foreign Trade Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Roger J. Raucy, Inspector, International Conferences and Agreements Division

Bulgaria

Mr. Evgeni Kamenov, Academician; Head of the Delegation
Mr. Vela Lukanova, Permanent Representative to the European Office of the United Nations at Geneva; Deputy Head of the Delegation
Mr. Avakoum Branichev, Trade Counsellor, Bulgarian Legation, Berne
Mr. Georgi Gotzev, Chief of the International Organizations Department, Ministry of Foreign Trade
Mr. Bogomil Todorov, Secretary of Legation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Ivan Petrov, Second Secretary of Legation, Permanent Mission, Geneva
Mr. Geri Gavrilov, Third Secretary of Legation, Permanent Mission, Geneva

Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic

Mr. Anatoli E. Gurinovich, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs; Head of Delegation
Mr. Oleg N. Pachkevich, Head of Department, Institute of Economics, Academy of Sciences; Member of the Delegation
Mr. Anatoli N. Sheldov, First Secretary, Permanent Delegation to the European Office of the United Nations; Member of the Delegation
Mr. Eduard M. Skobelev, Third Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Adviser

Cyprus

Mr. Ahmed Zaim, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary accredited to Bonn; Head of the Delegation
Dr. Andreas Frangos, Counsellor of the Embassy in Bonn; Alternate

Czechoslovakia

Mr. Karel Kurka, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs; Head of the Delegation
Mr. Robert Schmelz, Director of the Institute for Economic Research, Ministry of Foreign Trade; Deputy Head of the Delegation
Dr. Milan Klusák, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative to the European Office of the United Nations; Deputy Head of the Delegation
Dr. Pribyslav Pavlik, Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Adolf Suk, State Planning Commission
Dr. Karel Svec, Ministry of Foreign Trade
Mr. Ladislav Cerny, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Dr. Jan Vintera, State Planning Commission
Mr. Jan Muzik, Assistant Permanent Delegate

Denmark

Mr. V. Hoelgaard, Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Head of the Delegation
Mrs. Karen Hollesen, Head of Department, Ministry of Commerce
Mr. O. Bus Henriksen, Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Economic Secretariat
Mr. Per Green, Secretary of Embassy, Permanent Mission of Denmark to the European Office of the United Nations

Federal Republic of Germany

Prof. A. Müller-Armack, Secretary of State, Ministry of Economic Affairs; Head of the Delegation (27 April-3 May)
Dr. Baetzgen, Deputy Director, Ministry of Economic Affairs; Head of the Delegation (3-10 May)
Dr. Granow, Ambassador, Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Deputy Head of the Delegation
Dr. Schwarz, First Secretary, Federal Ministry of Economics

Advisers :

Dr. Steidle, Counsellor, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs
Mr. Felsch, Counsellor, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs
Dr. Scheibe, First Secretary, Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Dr. Dieterich, Second Secretary, Federal Ministry of Health
Dr. Picart, Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry
Miss Burre, Interpreter

Permanent Delegation :

Count Carl von Hardenberg, Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate
Dr. Emmel, Counsellor, Deputy Permanent Delegate
Mr. Göller, Transport Attaché

Finland

Mr. Olli Kaila, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Finland to the International Organizations in Geneva; Head of the Delegation
Mr. B. O. Alholm, Chief of Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Deputy Head of the Delegation
Mr. T. Horn, First Secretary, Permanent Delegation of Finland
Mr. J. U. Paunio, Bank of Finland
Mr. E. Mäentakanen, Attaché, Permanent Delegation of Finland

France

Mr. Johannès Dupraz, Former Minister; Representative of France to the Economic and Social Council; Head of the Delegation
Mr. Georges Cattand, Permanent Representative; Alternate
Mr. de Lacharrière, Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Alternate

Advisers :

Mr. Bochet, Secretary for Foreign Affairs
Mr. Bonnome, Inspector-General, Ministry of Construction
Mr. Chassepot, Civil Administrative Officer, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
Mr. Clément, Deputy Permanent Representative
Mr. Deciry, Counsellor for Foreign Affairs
Mr. Denis, Director, Iron and Steel, Ministry of Industry
Mr. Le Guellec, Chairman, *Gaz de France*
Mr. Schwob, Inspector-General, Ministry of Industry
Mr. Toussaint, Counsellor for Foreign Affairs
Mr. Toutay, Civil Administrative Officer, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
Mr. Wallon, Chief of International Relations Department, Ministry of Agriculture

Secretariat :

Mrs. Mirlemann
Miss Garito

Greece

Mr. A. Vlachos, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary; Permanent Representative; Head of the Delegation
Mr. A. Xydis, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Deputy Head of the Delegation
Mrs. A. Pangalos, Director, Ministry of Co-ordination
Mr. A. Petropoulos, Member of the Permanent Delegation of Greece at Geneva

Hungary

Mr. Karoly Szarka, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs; Head of the Delegation
Mr. Istvan Bartos, Permanent Hungarian Mission at Geneva; Deputy Head of the Delegation
Mrs. Julia Zala, Director, Central Statistical Office
Mr. Janos Nyerges, Director, Ministry of Foreign Trade; Deputy
Mr. Ernoe Hars, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Deputy
Mr. Jozsef Varga Perke, Counsellor to the Permanent Mission
Mr. Péter Kárász, Attaché
Mr. Istvan Halasz, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Secretary to the Delegation

Ireland

Dr. Louis Cullen, Secretary, Irish Embassy, Paris

Italy

H.E. Mr. Francesco Paolo Vanni d'Archirafi, Ambassador, Permanent Representative to the European Office of the United Nations; Head of the Delegation
Mr. Paolo Savini, Deputy Permanent Representative; Deputy Head of the Delegation
Mr. Emilio Bettini, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Francesco Accardo, Cabinet Office
Mr. Roberto Gualtieri, Ministry of Industry and Trade
Mr. Antonio Baglio, Ministry of Industry and Trade
Mr. Pietro Riposati, Ministry of Industry and Trade
Mr. Franco Ponti, Ministry of Industry and Trade
Mr. Ernesto Cafarelli, Ministry of Foreign Trade
Mr. Romano Sbardella, Ministry of Foreign Trade
Mr. Sergio Ristuccia, Ministry of Foreign Trade
Mr. Giuseppe Santoni Rugiu, Ministry of Transport
Mr. Aldo Morganti, Ministry of Transport
Mr. Antonio Ferone, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
Mr. Raffaello Galano, Ministry of Finance
Mr. Reginaldo V. Munafo, Permanent Mission of Italy
Mr. Ruggero R. Sciaretta, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg

Mr. Ignace Bessling, Permanent Representative to the United Nations
Mr. Paul Peters, Legation Attaché; Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Netherlands

Mr. F. C. Herinckx, Director, Foreign Economic Relations; Head of the Delegation

Mr. J. Kaufmann, Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the European Office of the United Nations and other International Organizations; Alternate

Mr. F. H. Gerritzen, Deputy Chief of Section, General Directorate of Foreign Economic Relations; Alternate

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Mr. F. van Dam, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. J. van Diest, General Directorate of Foreign Economic Relations

Miss M. H. Toorenvliet, Ministry of Economic Affairs; Secretary

Norway

Mr. S. Chr. Sommerfelt, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Norway to the European Office of the United Nations; Head of the Delegation

Mr. Olav Lydvo, Deputy Permanent Representative of Norway to the European Office of the United Nations

Mr. Nic. A. Fougner, Head of Section, Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Poland

Mr. Franciszek Modrzewski, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade; Head of the Delegation

Mr. Adam Meller-Conrad, Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Polish People's Republic to the European Office of the United Nations

Mr. Jakub Kon, Secretary, Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation with other Countries

Mr. Bronislaw Lisowski, Deputy Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Eugeniusz Kulaga, Adviser; Deputy Permanent Representative of the Polish People's Republic to the European Office of the United Nations

Mr. Mieczyslaw Cielecki, Acting Chief of Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Wladyslaw Gondzik, Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Bohdan Laczkowski, Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Trade

Mr. Czeslaw Prawdzic, Counsellor, Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation with other Countries

Mr. Zdzislaw Rurarz, Head of International Organizations Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mrs. Helena Swiechowska, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Portugal

Mr. Humberto Alves Morgado, Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Head of Delegation

Mr. Fernando de Alcambar Pereira, Permanent Representative to the Economic Commission for Europe

Mr. Hélio Paulino Pereira, Ministry of Economic Affairs

Mr. Ruy de Brito e Cunha, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Romania

Mr. Gheorghe Radulescu, Minister of Foreign Trade; Head of the Delegation

Mr. Iacob Ionascu, Permanent Representative of the Romanian People's Republic to the European Office of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations

Mr. Grigore Bargoanu, Director, Ministry of Foreign Trade

Mr. Ion Datcu, Second Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Mircea Petrescu, Director, Minister of Foreign Trade

Mrs. Maria Sanda Ionescu, Secretary to the Delegation

Spain

Mr. José Manuel Aniel-Quiroga, Minister Plenipotentiary; Permanent Representative of Spain to the International Organizations at Geneva; Head of the Delegation

Mr. Eduardo Junco, Director, Ministry of Trade

Mr. José Colmeiro, Deputy Permanent Representative for questions of trade in the Economic Commission for Europe

Mr. Pedro Tembours, Embassy Secretary, Member of the Permanent Delegation

Mr. Eduardo Moya, Commercial Adviser; Member of the Permanent Delegation

Sweden

Mr. G. Ryding, Deputy Head of the Commercial Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Head of the Delegation

Mr. B. Alander, Counsellor, Swedish Embassy, Warsaw

Mr. L. Klackenbergh, First Secretary, Ministry of Finance

Mr. L. E. Larsson, First Secretary, Ministry of Commerce

Mr. C. Huldttgren, First Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. G. Zetterqvist, Third Secretary, Permanent Swedish Mission

Switzerland

Mr. Albert Weitnauer, Minister Plenipotentiary, in charge of Trade Agreements; Head of the Delegation

Mr. Umberto Andina, Principal Chief of Section, Trade Division, Federal Department of Economic Affairs; Deputy Head of the Delegation

Mr. Georges Bonnant, Principal Assistant, Federal Political Department; representative

Mr. Joseph von Ah, Engineer-Agronomist, Agriculture Division, Federal Department of Economic Affairs; representative

Mr. Paul E. Miescher, Qualified engineer of the firm of Georg Fischer S.A., Schaffhausen; representative

Mr. W. Jucker, Secretary, Union of Swiss Trade Unions; representative

Turkey

Mr. Nihat Dinc, Deputy Director-General, Department of Economic and Commercial Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Head of the Delegation

Mr. Necdet Tezel, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the European Office of the United Nations; Deputy Head of the Delegation

Mr. Halit Guvener, Department of Economic and Commercial Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Fikret Suer, Director, Energy Department, Ministry of Industry

Mr. Dogan Kalfaoglu, Rapporteur, Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Trade

Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic

Mr. Anatoli A. Boiko, Head, International Economic Organizations Department; Member of the Board, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Head of the Delegation

Mr. Gennadi I. Udovenko, First Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Member of the Delegation

Mr. Yuri M. Khilchevski, First Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Member of the Delegation

Mr. Yuri N. Kotchubei, Second Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Adviser

Mr. Anatoli A. Chukhno, Assistant Professor of the Keiv State University, Adviser

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Mr. Nikolai P. Firubin, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of the USSR, Head of the Delegation

Members of the Delegation :

Mr. Anatoli S. Chistyakov, Permanent Delegate of the USSR to the European Office of the United Nations

Mr. Mikhail V. Lavrichenko, Deputy Head, International Economic Organizations Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Valentin N. Polezhaev, Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Trade

Mr. Alexei I. Roslov, Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Advisers :

Mr. Evgeni V. Novikov, Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR

Mr. Alexander G. Drozdov, Head of Department, Business Trends Institute of the Ministry of Foreign Trade of the USSR

Mr. Vladimir S. Platonov, Head of Section, State Economic Council of the USSR

Mr. Vladimir N. Timofeev, Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of the USSR to the European Office of the United Nations

Mr. Alexander S. Korolenko, Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of the USSR to the European Office of the United Nations

Mr. Sergei I. Gavrichev, Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of the USSR to the European Office of the United Nations

Experts :

Mr. Nikolai I. Ponomarev, Deputy Chief of Department, State Committee of the USSR Council of Ministers on co-ordination of scientific research

Mr. Georgi Y. Zverev, First Secretary, Permanent Delegation of the USSR to the European Office of the United Nations

Mrs. A. A. Sentuleva, First Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Yuri I. Busikin, Second Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Lev. L. Yatsina, Third Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Secretary of the Delegation

Mr. Genrikh N. Bazhenov, Attaché, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR

Mr. Gleb A. Smirnov, Attaché, Permanent Delegation of the USSR to the European Office of the United Nations

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Mr. Peter Thomas, M.P., Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Head of Delegation

Mr. P. L. Carter, Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the European Office of the United Nations, Geneva; First Alternate

Mr. J. H. Lewen, Foreign Office, Second Alternate

Mr. R. Q. Braithwaite, Foreign Office, Third Alternate

Advisers :

Mr. A. L. Burgess, Board of Trade

Mr. M. H. M. Reid, Board of Trade

Mr. W. H. Twells, O.B.E., Ministry of Power

Mr. J. L. Carr, Treasury

Mr. H. B. Walker, Foreign Office, Private Secretary to the Head of the Delegation

Miss M. E. MacGlashan, Foreign Office, Secretary to the Delegation

United States of America

Mr. Walter Kotschnig, Director, Office of Economic and Social Affairs, Department of State; Head of the Delegation

Mr. George A. Tesoro, United States Mission; Deputy Head of the Delegation

Advisers :

Mr. Ernest F. Chase, United States Mission, Geneva

Mr. Robert N. Crowell, United States Mission, Geneva

Mr. William J. Stibravy, United States Mission to NATO and European Regional Organizations

Mr. Parker D. Wyman, Commercial Policies and Treaties Division, Department of State

Yugoslavia

Dr. Stane Pavlic, Ambassador, Office of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; Head of the Delegation

Mr. Stanislav Kopčok, Ambassador; Permanent Representative of the Federal People's Republic to the European Office of the United Nations and to the International Organizations at Geneva; Alternate

Mr. Bora Jevtić, Counsellor, Office of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; Alternate

Members of the Delegation :

Mr. Milan Ristic, Counsellor, Permanent Mission at Geneva

Mr. Stevan Šoć, Counsellor, Permanent Mission at Geneva

Mr. Djordjo Stojkovic, First Secretary, Office of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

Mrs. Desa Vujanovic, Second Secretary, Office of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

COUNTRIES ATTENDING UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH 11 OF THE COMMISSION'S TERMS OF REFERENCE

Canada

Mr. R. V. N. Gordon, Commercial Counsellor, Canadian Embassy, Moscow

Mr. R. Campbell Smith, Permanent Mission, Geneva

Miss L. Gauthier, Permanent Mission, Geneva

Cuba

H.E. Dr. Enrique Camejo-Argudín, Ambassador, Head of the Permanent Mission to the European Office of the United Nations and International Organizations at Geneva

Dr. Pedro González-Pinciro, Secretary of the Permanent Mission

India

Mr. Mangharam Bhavandas, First Secretary, Indian Embassy, Berne

Israel

Mr. Ya'acov Yannay, First Secretary, Permanent Delegation of Israel

Mr. Moshé Itan, First Secretary, Permanent Delegation of Israel

Japan

Mr. Shunzo Kawai, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan in Switzerland; Head of the Delegation

Mr. Koremoto Takahashi, Second Secretary, Permanent Delegation of Japan to the International Organizations at Geneva

Venezuela

Mr. D. Sidjanski, Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of Venezuela

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

International Labour Organisation

Dr. R. A. Metall, Chief, International Organizations Division

Mr. R. M. Lyman, Chief, Manpower Division; Alternate

Advisers :

Mr. B. Fortin, Manpower Division

Mr. M. Paranhos da Silva, International Organizations Division

Food and Agriculture Organization

Mr. Paul Lamartine-Yates, European Regional Representative

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Mr. René Maheu, Acting Director General

Mr. P. I. Erchov, Assistant Director General

Mr. P. Coeytaux, Chief, Division of Relations with International Organizations

World Health Organization

Dr. L. Kaprio, Public Health Administrator, Regional Office for Europe

International Monetary Fund

Mr. Aldo Guetta, European Office of the IMF

Mr. Jean-Paul Sallé, Acting Director of the European Office of the IMF

International Atomic Energy Agency

Mr. Rurik Krymm, Observer

Contracting Parties to GATT—Interim Commission for an International Trade Organization

Mr. J. Etienne, Director, Trade Policy Division

Mr. F. K. Liebich, Counsellor; Alternate

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Category A

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

Mr. Walter Schevenels, General Secretary, European Regional Organization

Mr. Albert Heyer, Representative in Geneva

Mr. Borek Zofka, Liaison Officer, International Trade Secretariat

International Federation of Christian Trade Unions

Mr. Georges Eggermann, Permanent Representative in Geneva

World Federation of Trade Unions

Mr. Robert Hernic, Secretary, World Federation of Trade Unions

Mr. Brian Barton, Member of the Economic and Social Service

Mr. Giuseppe Boglietti, Permanent Representative to the European Office of the United Nations

World Veterans' Federation

Mr. Antonio Ronconi, Director, United Nations Affairs

Category B

Commission of the Churches on International Affairs

Mr. Elfan Rees, Representative in Europe

Mr. Nicolaas Slotemaker de Bruine, Observer

International Bar Association

Mr. Michel Brandon, Representative to the European Office of the United Nations

International Organization for Standardization

Mr. A. Viatkine, President

Mr. Henry St. Léger, Secretary-General

Mr. R. Maréchal, Administrative Secretary

International Road Transport Union

Mr. Pieter Groenendijdt, Secretary-General

International Union of Official Travel Organizations

Mr. Robert C. Lonati, Secretary-General

Mr. Ashoke Nair, Assistant Secretary-General

Pax Romana

Mr. Tadeusz Szmitkowski, Secretary, Information Centre of the International Catholic Organizations; Representative to the International Organizations in Geneva

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Miss Gertrude Baer, Permanent Representative

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Representatives of the secretariats of the following intergovernmental organizations attended at the invitation of the secretariat.

Council for Mutual Economic Assistance

Mr. I. P. Ruzička, Assistant Secretary
Mr. A. M. Popov, Counsellor
Mr. K. N. Manoliu, Expert

European Coal and Steel Community

Mr. H. A. Mendell, Resident Representative in Geneva

European Economic Community

Mr. D. F. Gianfranchi, Division Chief, Directorate-General of External Relations

Mr. M. Bolasco, Division Chief, Directorate-General of External Relations

European Free Trade Association

Mr. B. Bastrup Birk
Mr. G. Giannelia

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

Mr. T. Monnier, Head, External Relations Division
Mrs. Martinet, Officer, External Relations Division
Mr. Meyer, Officer, Technical Directorate

ANNEX II

Statement by the Executive Secretary at the opening of the seventeenth session

Mr. Chairman, Delegates:

I wish to welcome to this seventeenth plenary session of the Economic Commission for Europe the representatives of ECE governments and of Members of the United Nations outside the region who are attending this gathering in a consultative capacity. I also greet our colleagues from the specialized agencies of the United Nations family and from other international organizations. You are assembled here to review the co-operation in the economic and technical fields being undertaken within the framework of ECE and, against the background of an appraisal of present-day economic and political realities, to decide on your work during the coming year.

The Commission has now traversed the first fifteen years of its life. I believe that it is entitled to look back with some pride and satisfaction on the results of its labours during this period. ECE is rendering a solid and practical service to the participating governments. The Commission's subsidiary bodies are making a tangible contribution to international economic co-operation in their particular sectors — a contribution which, I feel, is increasingly appreciated. A great amount of statistical and technical information has been collected, analysed and exchanged under the auspices of this organization over the years, in connexion with the Commission's research and operational activities; in the field of international transport, many practical agreements have been concluded. The Commission has helped in making possible a greater insight into the nature of the dynamic changes which Europe's economy is undergoing, and has assisted governments in the formulation of their economic policies. Firmly rooted habits of fruitful co-operation, ranging over a wide field, have grown up between countries with different economic and social systems. It is true that these countries are bound together by shared traditions as well as by a common, though frequently turbulent, history. But modern economic, technological and social developments call for an ever closer international co-operation in almost every branch of human activity. It seems to me that the merit of ECE's experience consists in having demonstrated that economic co-operation can grow, if patient and persistent efforts are made to find areas of common interest. Thanks to the existence of ECE, a system of links, contacts, co-operative arrangements, and facilities for consultation and agreement between the participating governments on specific issues of common concern to them has gradually emerged in this region, leading to concerted intergovernmental action on a continuing basis.

These are, I submit, no mean accomplishments, which must be cherished and preserved.

* * *

As the documents before you at this session show, much useful activity has been carried forward during the past year. ECE's subsidiary bodies have started work on new subjects, and made plans for future co-operation, in some cases covering a time-span of more than one year. They responded to the Commission's request to devote more attention to such major themes as co-operation with under-developed countries and the promotion of productivity. New forms for the exchange of experience between governmental experts, such as seminars and symposia, were utilized with success. In all this work, the committees continued to be increasingly aided by rapporteurs placed at the disposal of the Commission by governments and also by international organizations.

But one cannot rest content with what has been achieved. The Commission must at all times be forward-looking, constantly strive towards widening the scope and evolving the most appropriate forms of intergovernmental economic co-operation in this region. There is no other organization which is equipped to perform this task. It was, I believe, this realization that prompted the Commission, at its last session, to adopt a resolution on the development and strengthening of its work. My progress report on its implementation, contained in document E/ECE/435, has been in the hands of governments for quite some time for their examination. In it I have tried, as I was expressly asked to do, to explore and to draw to your attention a number of possibilities for developing and strengthening ECE's activities. In endeavouring to meet the request directed to me by the governments, I sought to relate the various possibilities which I saw for the development and strengthening of ECE's activities to the general task of the Commission "as a useful and unique instrument of region-wide economic co-operation between governments, especially of countries with different economic systems", as you put it in your last annual report to the Economic and Social Council.

I realize, of course, that these points may not all commend themselves to the governments as being capable of immediate or full implementation. But whatever might be your attitude to the various possibilities indicated by me for the further strengthening of your joint efforts in this organization, it is my earnest hope that my progress report will assist you in your deliberations at this

session regarding the implementation of resolution 5 (XVI) so as to strengthen, in the words of the resolution, "the part played by the Commission in United Nations' economic and social activities in the European region".

* * *

An important part of your proceedings this year will be the consideration of steps to be taken by you in response to a number of resolutions of major significance adopted recently by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. I refer in particular to the decisions calling for a decentralization of the economic work of the United Nations and for the strengthening of the activities of its regional economic commissions, as well as for intensified efforts in economic development during the present decade.

Already at your last session you adopted certain decisions looking toward intensified efforts along the lines indicated in these more recent resolutions. As regards your decision adopted last year to strengthen the role of this Commission in technical assistance, I have reported to you in detail on a number of initial steps taken in this field. The resolution on co-operation with under-developed countries, adopted at the Commission's last session, also belongs to the series of measures and policies designed to render ECE more effective not only to its participants, but to the countries in other regions as well. Some valuable work has been going forward during the past year in this regard, mainly through co-operation with the other regional economic commissions in different fields, including the dissemination of pertinent information accumulated in the Commission, to the developing countries.

The ECE region is an important source of supply and an important market for the developing countries of the other parts of the world. The information and analyses of the current and prospective economic situation in Europe in general, and in the various sectors covered by the ECE committees in particular, represent a necessary service which this highly industrialized area can offer to the countries in the process of economic development. The annual surveys of the economic situation in Europe, the market reviews carried out by your committees, the study of long-term trends and problems of the European steel industry, the timber trends study and the studies in the field of energy, are only a few among the numerous examples of work which is, and will be increasingly in future, useful for the formulation of economic policy by the developing countries of the other regions.

ECE's contribution toward the new programme in the field of industrialization under examination in the Council should, I feel, receive particular attention. Similarly, the ECE has its role to play in the establishment of economic development institutes, as envisaged by the General Assembly resolution on planning for economic development. Planning, projections and programming are increasingly becoming essential ingredients of the process of economic development in the under-developed countries. Indeed, the secretariat intends to devote a major part of its research effort during the coming year to studies of the different planning techniques employed in ECE countries. We think this would be an important contribution not only to further promotion of economic co-operation in this region but also to the objectives to be attained during the present Development Decade, as set forth by the General Assembly for the United Nations as a whole.

* * *

Let me now turn to the question of trade relations, and more particularly of intra-European trade, which is one of the principal

single preoccupations of the Commission. Over many years, you have been concerned with the problem of the removal of various kinds of obstacles to such trade. At your last session, you adopted a resolution suggesting to the Committee on the Development of Trade that it should give particular attention to this problem. Work toward this objective is continuing. Already, a recommendation on one aspect of this problem, which, I think, deserves particular attention, was adopted by the Committee at its last session. In it, the Committee called upon governments to meet as often as required to examine any difficulties arising in trade between individual countries participating in sub-regional economic groupings and non-participating countries, with the aim of overcoming such difficulties and finding ways and means of developing trade between them. As a background to your consideration of these and other trade questions, a reference to the latest statistics on east-west trade may be useful. In 1961, as compared with the previous year, imports by western European countries from countries in eastern Europe increased by only 3.7 per cent, as compared with 16.9 per cent in 1960 over the previous year, and 11.1 per cent in 1959. During 1961, trade between west European countries increased by somewhat more than 12 per cent as compared with 1960.

* * *

Mr. Chairman, Delegates:

The first five years of the life of this Commission were mainly years of recovery from the disruption and damage to the European economy caused by the second world war. The next ten years witnessed, in most countries, a faster economic expansion than had been achieved in any comparable decade between the wars, generally high and rising levels of employment — despite occasional recessions — and reductions of many of the barriers to international trade that had earlier been raised. International co-operation through this Commission and other organizations has been, in my view, an essential condition of this progress.

Today, most of the governments here represented are deeply concerned to develop domestic policies which will ensure an optimum rate and pattern of growth of their economies in the future, and most of them are parties to sub-regional schemes of economic co-operation and integration which also have this among their aims. Europe is already the richest major area in the world — in terms of per capita income — after North America, and its income per head of the population has grown faster than that of North America during the last ten years. Its obligation to assist the poorer economically less developed areas — including those within Europe — becomes increasingly clear; and national or sub-regional development and trading policies will clearly have to be framed with this obligation in mind. This Commission, now entering the sixteenth year of its existence, has, I feel, an important role to play today as in the past. International economic co-operation within the region-wide framework which the ECE provides can help to supplement national efforts to raise the levels of economic and technical efficiency in the region. It can also help to ensure that policies to promote rapid and harmonious growth within the various sub-regional groupings in our area are combined with efforts to strengthen the present trading and other links between all European countries and to safeguard — and indeed promote — the interests of the less developed areas of the world.

* * *

The resources of this secretariat are at your entire disposal to help you in your tasks. I wish you success in your work at this seventeenth session.

**Statement by U Thant, acting Secretary-General of the United Nations
to the seventeenth annual session of the Economic Commission for Europe**

I am happy that my first visit to Geneva and to the European Office of the United Nations in my capacity as the acting Secretary-General coincides with the fifteenth anniversary of the creation of the Economic Commission for Europe. I am therefore particularly pleased to have this opportunity of saying a few words to you at the opening phase of your annual plenary session.

It is here in Europe that one of the most significant events of modern human history, the industrial revolution, took place. From it, profound transformations spread to the rest of the world, although not at a uniformly satisfactory speed, and more recently it has been followed by the expectation that all mankind would be enabled to share its benefits. While technological and economic progress continues at an accelerated pace in the main industrial centres of Europe and elsewhere, our organization has been enlisted in a conscious effort of the community of nations to accelerate the world-wide diffusion of the knowledge, skills and material resources so vital to the betterment of human conditions.

Leaving aside a past of colonialism, which in any event is being rapidly liquidated, the world owes much to Europe, to its creative capabilities, to the vision of its peoples and also to their efforts to improve man's physical environment. Because we in the rest of the world owe so much to Europe, we continue to expect so much from it in the struggle for economic development to which our organization is committed.

When, in 1947, the Economic and Social Council established this commission, it did so as an experiment. Soon, however, the necessity of having a permanent organization to promote economic co-operation among all European countries was recognized. Consequently, the Council decided in 1951 to continue the ECE indefinitely, as also ECAFE and ECLA. The wisdom of the Council's decision has been borne out by your commission's achievements, particularly in carrying out the important tasks given to it, including those to "initiate and participate in measures . . . for raising the level of European economic activity, and for maintaining and strengthening the economic relations of the European countries both among themselves and with other countries of the world."

After the early period during which governments worked in the Commission mainly to overcome some of the urgent post-war problems in Europe, the Commission began to be utilized increasingly to meet the needs for region-wide co-operation in key sectors of the economy. It is most significant, and gratifying, that ECE has maintained its efforts to strengthen and promote economic co-operation among all European countries. It is this feature, that your Commission embraces all the countries of Europe within the world-wide international framework of our Organization, that lends it both practical and symbolic significance. It is its integration within the global system that makes it possible for ECE to make its contribution to the organization's effort to extend to the less fortunate countries of the world the knowledge and the skills which have flourished, and continue to flourish, so markedly in your continent.

* * *

Europe, and thus ECE, is faced with a wide array of problems, the practical solution of which requires the extensive co-operation of all member countries. Among these problems the Commission has, I think quite rightly, focused much attention on trade, both intra-European trade and trade between Europe and other regions. In recent years world-wide concern has been devoted to the problem of

harmonizing the promotion of world trade with the creation of regional and sub-regional trade blocs. While certain aspects of this problem require co-operation on the broadest international level, member governments and in particular the Economic and Social Council have recognized that the regional economic commissions have a key role to play.

Your contributions in this field, both by the studies you have undertaken directly and by the co-operation you have extended to your sister commissions, have been highly valuable.

You have also sought to promote and facilitate trade relations between countries with different economic systems and this is a field in which, as the General Assembly has explicitly recognized, ECE is particularly equipped to play a role. The field is not one in which speedy or spectacular success can be expected, but I am confident that it is one which has to be mastered if we are to achieve an integrated world economy.

Your traditional method of undertaking thorough and scrupulously objective studies and research which pave the way for practical steps in the promotion of international trade has been recognized as being sound and deserving the fullest support.

* * *

Since its establishment, ECE has witnessed the emergence of economic and military groupings which reflect the political split which has come to permeate so many aspects of international life. This reality obviously impedes the efforts of ECE to further all European economic solidarity.

But it also confronts ECE with a challenge. Being the only regional forum that embraces all countries in Europe, ECE must continue to try, in its own way, to counteract or mitigate the divisive trends among the European countries, and to work towards economic co-operation.

It is a measure of its success that ECE has grown in scope and effectiveness despite so many difficulties. The mutual interest which binds the countries of the region, and prompts them to work together in a large number of practical fields, has proved strong enough to overcome the obstacles and to establish ECE firmly as a thoroughly useful instrument, available to all governments in the region for economic and technological co-operation.

The United Nations system of regional economic commissions has shown its flexibility and its usefulness. Over the last fifteen years, it has grown in scope and in strength. New impetus was recently given to it by the General Assembly, when it decided that the work of the United Nations in the economic and social fields should be increasingly decentralized and the regional economic commissions should develop closer co-operation among themselves, a co-operation which has in the past, although on a limited scale, made a significant contribution to the economic work of the organization.

I feel I should particularly stress the co-operation and assistance you have lent, not only to the more recently established Economic Commission for Africa, but also to the older established commissions. Nor would I wish to overlook the benefits Headquarters has derived from your co-operation, the most recent example of which I have had occasion to acknowledge in presenting the report of the Consultative Group on the Economic and Social Consequences of Disarmament.

* * *

As I see it, all governments participating in the work of this commission, by agreeing on practical measures of economic and technological co-operation, can thereby make an indirect, but nevertheless tangible, contribution to the success of the broader initiatives which are now proceeding in the political field. Conversely, a lessening of political tension, towards which we in the United Nations are working, should open for ECE new vistas for fruitful and beneficent activity.

The achievement of these objectives is a great challenge, and I believe that ECE has responded to it and has thereby contributed

to peace and the implementation of the ideals laid down by the Charter.

May I express the hope that this jubilee session of ECE will be an important landmark in your endeavours to strengthen this Commission and enlarge the area of practical co-operation between its participating governments. May I also express the wish that, in the years to come, you may maintain the same courage and perseverance in keeping alive and advancing an all-European co-operation, so essential in our struggle for a harmonious world community which — sooner or later — is bound to become a reality.

ANNEX IV

Terms of reference of the Commission

1. The Economic Commission for Europe, acting within the framework of the policies of the United Nations and subject to the general supervision of the Council shall, provided that the Commission takes no action in respect to any country without the agreement of the government of that country:

(a) Initiate and participate in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic reconstruction of Europe, for raising the level of European economic activity, and for maintaining and strengthening the economic relations of the European countries both among themselves and with other countries of the world ;

(b) Make or sponsor such investigations and studies of economic and technological problems of and developments within member countries of the Commission and within Europe generally as the Commission deems appropriate;

(c) Undertake or sponsor the collection, evaluation and dissemination of such economic, technological and statistical information as the Commission deems appropriate.

2. The Commission shall give prior consideration, during its initial stages, to measures to facilitate the economic reconstruction of devastated countries of Europe which are Members of the United Nations.

3. Immediately upon its establishment, the Commission shall consult with the member governments of the Emergency Economic Committee for Europe, the European Coal Organization and the European Central Inland Transport Organization with a view to the prompt termination of the first, and the absorption or termination of the activities of the second and third, while ensuring that the essential work performed by each of the three is fully maintained.

4. The Commission is empowered to make recommendations on any matter within its competence directly to its member governments, governments admitted in a consultative capacity under paragraph 8 below, and the specialized agencies concerned. The Commission shall submit for the Council's prior consideration any of its proposals for activities that would have important effects on the economy of the world as a whole.

5. The Commission may, after discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same general field and with the approval of the Council, establish such subsidiary bodies as it deems appropriate for facilitating the carrying out of its responsibilities.

6. The Commission shall submit to the Council a full report on

its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, once a year, and shall make interim reports at each regular session of the Council.¹

7. The members of the Commission are the European Members of the United Nations and the United States of America.²

8. The Commission may admit in a consultative capacity European nations not members of the United Nations, and shall determine the conditions in which they may participate in its work, including the question of voting rights in the subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

9. The Commission shall invite representatives of the Free Territory of Trieste (when it is established) to participate in a consultative capacity in the consideration by the Commission of any matter of particular concern to the Free Territory.

10. The Commission may consult with the representatives of the respective Allied control authorities of the occupied territories, and be consulted by them for the purpose of mutual information and advice on matters concerning the economies of these territories in relation to the rest of the European economy.

11. The Commission shall invite any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that non-member.

12. The Commission shall invite representatives of specialized agencies and may invite representatives of any intergovernmental organizations to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that agency or organization, following the practices of the Economic and Social Council.

13. The Commission shall make arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations which have been granted consultative status by the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with the principles approved by the Council for this purpose and contained in Council resolution 288 (X), parts I and II.

¹ The Council decided, in resolution 232 (IX), that "it does not, for the present, require the Commission to submit interim reports to each session, in accordance with point 6 of its terms of reference".

² Pursuant to resolution 594 (XX), the Federal Republic of Germany became a member of the Commission on 21 February 1956.

14. The Commission shall take measures to ensure that the necessary liaison is maintained with other organs of the United Nations and with the specialized agencies.

15. The Commission shall adopt its own rules of procedure, including the method of selecting its Chairman.

16. The administrative budget of the Commission shall be financed from the funds of the United Nations.

17. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall appoint the staff of the Commission, which shall form part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

18. The headquarters of the Commission shall be located at the seat of the European Office of the United Nations.

19. The first session of the Commission shall be called by the Secretary-General of the United Nations as soon as practicable after the Commission has been created by the Economic and Social Council.

20. The Council shall, from time to time, make special reviews of the work of the Commission.

ANNEX V

Rules of procedure of the Commission

Chapter I

SESSIONS

Rule 1

Sessions of the Commission shall be held:

(a) On dates fixed by the Commission, after consultation with the Executive Secretary, at previous meetings;

(b) Within thirty days of the communication of a request to that effect by the Economic and Social Council;

(c) At the request of the majority of the members of the Commission, after consultation with the Executive Secretary;

(d) On such other occasions as the Chairman, in consultation with the Vice-Chairman and the Executive Secretary, deems necessary.

Rule 2

Sessions shall ordinarily be held at the European Office of the United Nations. The Commission may, with the concurrence of the Secretary-General, decide to hold a particular session elsewhere.

Rule 3

The Executive Secretary shall, at least forty-two days before the commencement of a session of the Commission, distribute a notice of the opening date of the session, together with a copy of the provisional agenda. The basic documents relating to each item appearing on the provisional agenda of a session shall be transmitted not less than forty-two days before the opening of the session, provided that in exceptional cases the Executive Secretary may, for reasons to be stated in writing, transmit such documents not less than twenty-one days before the opening of the session.

Rule 4

The Commission shall invite any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that Member.

Chapter II

AGENDA

Rule 5

The provisional agenda for each session shall be drawn up by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chairman.

Rule 6

The provisional agenda for any session shall include:

(a) Items arising from previous sessions of the Commission;

(b) Items proposed by the Economic and Social Council;

(c) Items proposed by any member of the Commission;

(d) Items proposed by a specialized agency in accordance with the agreements of relationship concluded between the United Nations and such agencies; and

(e) Any other items which the Chairman or the Executive Secretary sees fit to include.

Rule 7

The first item upon the provisional agenda for each session shall be the adoption of the agenda.

Rule 8

The Commission may amend the agenda at any time.

Chapter III

REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Rule 9

Each member shall be represented on the Commission by an accredited representative.

Rule 10

A representative may be accompanied to the sessions of the Commission by alternate representatives and advisers and, when absent, he may be replaced by an alternate representative.

Rule 11

The credentials of each representative appointed to the Commission, together with a designation of alternate representatives, shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary without delay.

Rule 12

The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman shall examine the credentials and report upon them to the Commission.

Chapter IV

OFFICERS

Rule 13

The Commission shall, at its first meeting of each year, elect from among its representatives a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman, who shall hold office until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election.

Rule 14

If the Chairman is absent from a meeting, or any part thereof, the Vice-Chairman shall preside.

Rule 15

If the Chairman ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the Vice-Chairman shall become Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term. In that case, or if the Vice-Chairman ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the Commission shall elect another Vice-Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term.

Rule 16

The Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairman.

Rule 17

The Chairman or the Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman shall participate in the meetings of the Commission as such and not as the representative of the member by whom he was accredited. The Commission shall admit an alternate representative to represent that member in the meetings of the Commission and to exercise its right to vote.

Chapter V

SECRETARIAT

Rule 18

The Executive Secretary shall act in that capacity at all meetings of the Commission and of its sub-commissions, other subsidiary bodies and committees. He may appoint another member of the staff to take his place at any meeting.

Rule 19

The Executive Secretary or his representative may at any meeting make either oral or written statements concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 20

The Executive Secretary shall direct the staff provided by the Secretary-General and required by the Commission, its sub-commissions, any other subsidiary bodies and committees.

Rule 21

The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for the necessary arrangements being made for meetings.

Rule 22

The Executive Secretary in carrying out his functions shall act on behalf of the Secretary-General.

Chapter VI

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 23

A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

Rule 24

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him elsewhere by these rules, the Chairman shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Commission, shall direct the discussion, ensure the observance of these rules, and shall accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote, and announce decisions. The Chairman may also call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Rule 25

During the discussion of any matter a representative may raise a point of order. In this case the Chairman shall immediately state his ruling. If it is challenged, the Chairman shall forthwith submit his ruling to the Commission for decision and it shall stand unless overruled.

Rule 26

During the discussion of any matter a representative may move the adjournment of the debate. Any such motion shall have priority. In addition to the proposer of the motion, one representative shall be allowed to speak in favour of, and one representative against, the motion.

Rule 27

A representative may at any time move the closure of the debate whether or not any other representative has signified his wish to speak. Not more than two representatives may be granted permission to speak against the closure.

Rule 28

The Chairman shall take the sense of the Commission on a motion for closure. If the Commission is in favour of the closure, the Chairman shall declare the debate closed.

Rule 29

The Commission may limit the time allowed to each speaker.

Rule 30

Principal motions and resolutions shall be put to the vote in the order of their submission unless the Commission decides otherwise.

Rule 31

When an amendment revises, adds to or deletes from a proposal, the amendment shall be put to the vote first, and if it is adopted, the amended proposal shall then be put to the vote.

Rule 32

If two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Commission shall vote first on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal, then, if necessary, on the amendment next furthest removed and so on, until all the amendments have been put to the vote.

Rule 33

The Commission may, at the request of a representative, decide to put a motion or resolution to the vote in parts. If this is done, the text resulting from the series of votes shall be put to the vote as a whole.

Chapter VII

VOTING

Rule 34

Each member of the Commission shall have one vote.

Rule 35

Decisions of the Commission shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.

Rule 36

The Commission shall take no action in respect of any country without the agreement of the government of that country.

Rule 37

The Commission shall normally vote by show of hands. If any representative requests a roll call, a roll call shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members.

Rule 38

All elections shall be decided by secret ballot.

Rule 39

If a vote is equally divided upon matters other than elections, a second vote shall be taken at the next meeting. If this vote also results in equality, the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

Chapter VIII

LANGUAGES

Rule 40

English, French and Russian shall be the working languages of the Commission.

Rule 41

Speeches made in any of the working languages shall be interpreted into the other working languages.

Chapter IX

RECORDS

Rule 42

Summary records of the meetings of the Commission shall be kept by the secretariat. They shall be sent as soon as possible to the representative of members and to the representatives of any other government, agency or organization which participated in the meeting concerned. Such representatives shall inform the secretariat, not later than forty-eight hours after the circulation of any summary record, of any changes they wish to have made.

Rule 43

The corrected version of the summary records of public meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible in accordance with the usual practice of the United Nations. This shall include distribution on appropriate occasions to consultative members.

Rule 44

The corrected version of the summary records of private meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible to the members of the Commission, to any consultative member participating in the meeting concerned and to the specialized agencies. They shall be distributed to all the Members of the United Nations if and when the Commission so decides.

Rule 45

As soon as possible the text of all reports, resolutions, recommendations and other formal decisions made by the Commission, its sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and its committees shall be communicated to the members of the Commission, to the consultative members concerned, to all other Members of the United Nations and to the specialized agencies.

Chapter X

PUBLICITY OF MEETINGS

Rule 46

The meetings of the Commission shall ordinarily be held in public. The Commission may decide that a particular meeting or meetings shall be held in private.

Chapter XI

RELATIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rule 47

Non-governmental organizations in categories A and B and on the Register may designate authorized representatives to sit

as observers at public meetings of the Commission. Non-governmental organizations in category A may circulate to the members of the Commission written statements and suggestions on matters within their competence. Non-governmental organizations in category B and on the Register may submit such statements and suggestions to the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary will prepare and distribute at each session of the Commission a list of such communications received, briefly indicating the substance of each of them. On the request of any member of the Commission the Executive Secretary will reproduce in full and distribute any such communication.

Rule 48

The Commission at its discretion may consult with non-governmental organizations in categories A and B and on the Register on matters in which the Commission regards these organizations as having special competence or knowledge. Such consultations may be arranged on the invitation of the Commission or on the request of the organization. In the case of non-governmental organizations in category A, consultations should normally be held with the Commission itself. In the case of non-governmental organizations in category B and on the Register consultations might be effected either directly or through ad hoc committees.

Chapter XII

SUB-COMMISSIONS, OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES
AND COMMITTEES

Rule 49

After discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same general field, and with the approval of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission may establish such continually acting sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions and shall define the powers and composition of each of them. Such autonomy as may be necessary for the effective discharge of the technical responsibilities laid upon them may be delegated to them.

Rule 50

The Commission may establish such committees and sub-committees as it deems necessary to assist it in carrying out its tasks.

Rule 51

Sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and committees and sub-committees shall adopt their own rules of procedure unless otherwise decided by the Commission.

Rule 52

Committees, sub-committees and working parties should, as in rules 47 and 48, consult non-governmental organizations in category A, which because of their importance as regards their activity and the number of their members in Europe, play a part in the economic life of Europe, on questions within the competence of the Commission and deemed of interest to such organizations. These organizations could in appropriate cases be invited to be represented at meetings of committees, sub-committees and working parties.^a

^a This rule cannot be considered as implying, between the non-governmental organizations in category A, any discrimination contrary to the decision and rules of the Assembly or the Economic and Social Council.

REPORTS

Rule 53

The Commission shall submit to the Economic and Social Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, once a year, and shall make interim reports at each regular session of the Council.⁴

⁴The Council decided, in resolution 232 (IX), that "it does not, for the present, require the Commission to submit interim

AMENDMENTS AND SUSPENSIONS

Rule 54

Any of these rules of procedure may be amended or suspended by the Commission provided that the proposed amendments or suspensions do not attempt to set aside the terms of reference laid down by the Economic and Social Council.

reports to each session, in accordance with point 6 of its terms of reference".

ANNEX VI

List of ECE publications for sale, 1961

General

- Economic survey of Europe in 1960 (E/ECE/419) (Sales No. 61.II.E.1) *EFR*
- Annual report of the ECE to the Economic and Social Council, 8 May 1960 - 29 April 1961. Supplement No. 3 to the 32nd session of the ECOSOC (E/ECE/421, E/3468) *EFRS*
- Economic bulletin for Europe, Volume 13, No. 1 (Sales No. 61.II.E.2) *EFR*
- Economic bulletin for Europe, Volume 13, No. 2 (Sales No. 61.II.E.4) *EFR*
- Conference of European statisticians. Report of the ninth plenary session, 10 - 14 July 1961 (CONF.EUR.STATS/152) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.23) *EFR*
- Conference on water pollution problems in Europe, Geneva, 22 February - 3 March 1961. Documents submitted to the Conference (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.24) *EFR*
- Economic survey of Europe in 1961. Part I: The European economy in 1961 (E/ECE/452) (Sales No. 62.II.E.1) ... *EFR*

Agriculture

- Prices of agricultural products and fertilizers in Europe, 1959/60 (ST/ECE/AGRI/2) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.1) *EFR*
- Review of the agricultural situation in Europe at the end of 1960 (ST/ECE/AGRI/3) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.2) *EFR*
- European agriculture in 1965 (ST/ECE/AGRI/4) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.4) *EF*
- Agricultural mechanization. Modern methods of cultivation and harvesting of the main vegetables in field production (AGRI/MECH/17) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.6) *EFR*
- Agricultural mechanization. Mechanical equipment for field drainage and ditching (AGRI/MECH/18) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.9) *EFR*
- Agricultural mechanization. Modern methods of cultivation and harvesting of the main vegetables under glass (AGRI/MECH/19) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.10) *EFR*

NOTE. — The language versions published are indicated by the following abbreviations:

<i>E</i>	English	<i>R</i>	Russian
<i>F</i>	French	<i>S</i>	Spanish
<i>E/F</i>	Bilingual (English/French)		
<i>E/F/R</i>	Trilingual (English/French/Russian)		

- Towards a capital intensive agriculture. Fourth report on output, expenses and income of agriculture in European countries (ST/ECE/AGRI/5) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.13)..... *EFR*
- Standardization of perishable foodstuffs. No. 1 — apples and pears (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.1) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.16) *EFR*
- Standardization of perishable foodstuffs. No. 2 — tomatoes (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.2) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.17) *EFR*
- Standardization of perishable foodstuffs. No. 3 — cauliflowers (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.3) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.18) *EFR*
- Standardization of perishable foodstuffs. No. 4 — onions (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.4) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.19) *EFR*
- Standardization of perishable foodstuffs. No. 5 — lettuces, curled-leaved endives and broad-leaved (Batavian) endives (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.5) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.21) *EFR*
- Standardization of perishable foodstuffs. No. 6 — peaches, apricots and plums (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.6) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.22) *EFR*
- Prices of agricultural products and fertilizers in Europe in 1960/1961 (ST/ECE/AGRI/6) (Sales No. 62.II.E/Mim.2) *EFR*
- Standardization of perishable foodstuffs. No. 7 — early potatoes (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.7) (Sales No. 62.II.E/Mim.5) *EFR*
- Standardization of perishable foodstuffs. No. 8 — Geneva Protocol on standardization of fruit and vegetables (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.8) (Sales No. 62.II.E/Mim.6) *EFR*
- Review of the agricultural situation in Europe at the end of 1961 (ST/ECE/AGRI/7) (Sales No. 62.II.E/Mim.7) *EFR*
- Agricultural mechanization. Tractor needs for large-scale farming — technical and economic considerations (AGRI/MECH/20) (Sales No. 62.II.E/Mim.12) *EFR*
- Standardization of perishable foodstuffs. No. 9 — artichokes (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.9) (Sales No. 62.II.E/Mim.13) *EFR*
- Standardization of perishable foodstuffs. No. 10 — cherries (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.10) (Sales No. 62.II.E/Mim.14) *EFR*

Energy

- Organization of electric power services in Europe. Addendum to second edition (ST/ECE/EP/5.Add.1) (Sales No. 60.II.E/Mim.13/Add.1) *EFR*

Annual bulletin of electric energy statistics for Europe, vol. VI, 1960 (Sales No. 61.II.E.3) E/F

The situation and prospects of Europe's electric power supply industry in 1959/60 (ST/ECE/EP/9) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.3) E F R

The coal situation in Europe in 1959/60 and future prospects (ST/ECE/COAL/5) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.5) E F R

Rural electrification, Vol. V (E/ECE/260, E/ECE/EP/178, Vol. V) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.7) E F R

The state of rural electrification in Europe in 1959 (ST/ECE/EP/8) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.8) E F R

The geographical distribution of gross surface hydro-electric potential in Europe (ST/ECE/EP/10) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.15) E F R

Annual bulletin of gas statistics for Europe, Vol. VI, 1960 (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.25) E/F

Concentration of colliery workings in selected European countries (ST/ECE/COAL/6) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.26) E F R

Periodic bulletins

Quarterly bulletin of coal statistics for Europe, Vol. X, 1961 E/F

Quarterly bulletin of electric energy statistics for Europe, Vol. VI, 1961 E/F/R

Housing

Annual bulletin of housing and building statistics for Europe, 1960 (Sales No. 61.II.E.5) E/F R

European housing trends and policies in 1960 (ST/ECE/HOU/2) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.20) E F R

Report of the urban renewal symposium held in Geneva in June 1961 (ST/ECE/HOU/4) (Sales No. 62.II.E/Mim.3) E F R

Periodic bulletins

Quarterly bulletin of housing and building statistics for Europe, Vol. IX, 1961 E/F/R

Steel and engineering

Statistics of world trade in steel, 1913 - 1959 (Sales No. 61. XVII.5) E

General conditions of sale for the import and export of durable consumer goods and of other engineering stock articles (No. 730) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.12) E F R

The European steel market in 1960 (ST/ECE/STEEL/3) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.27) E F R

General conditions for the export and import of hardwood logs and sawn hardwood from the temperate zone (No. 420) (Sales No. 62.II.E/Mim.1) E F R

Statistics of world trade in steel, 1960 (Sales No. 62.II.E.5) .. E

Periodic bulletins

Quarterly bulletin of steel statistics for Europe, Vol. XII, 1961 E/F/R

Timber

Logging-by-helicopter trials in the USSR (FAO/ECE/LOG/96) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.14) E/F/R

Periodic bulletins

Timber bulletin for Europe, Vol. XIV, 1961 E/F

Transport

Statistics of road traffic accidents in Europe, 1959 (E/ECE/425, E/ECE/TRANS/522) (Sales No. 61.II.E/Mim.11) E F R

Annual bulletin of transport statistics for Europe, 1960 (Sales No. 62.II.E.3) E/F

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