



ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
ANNUAL REPORT

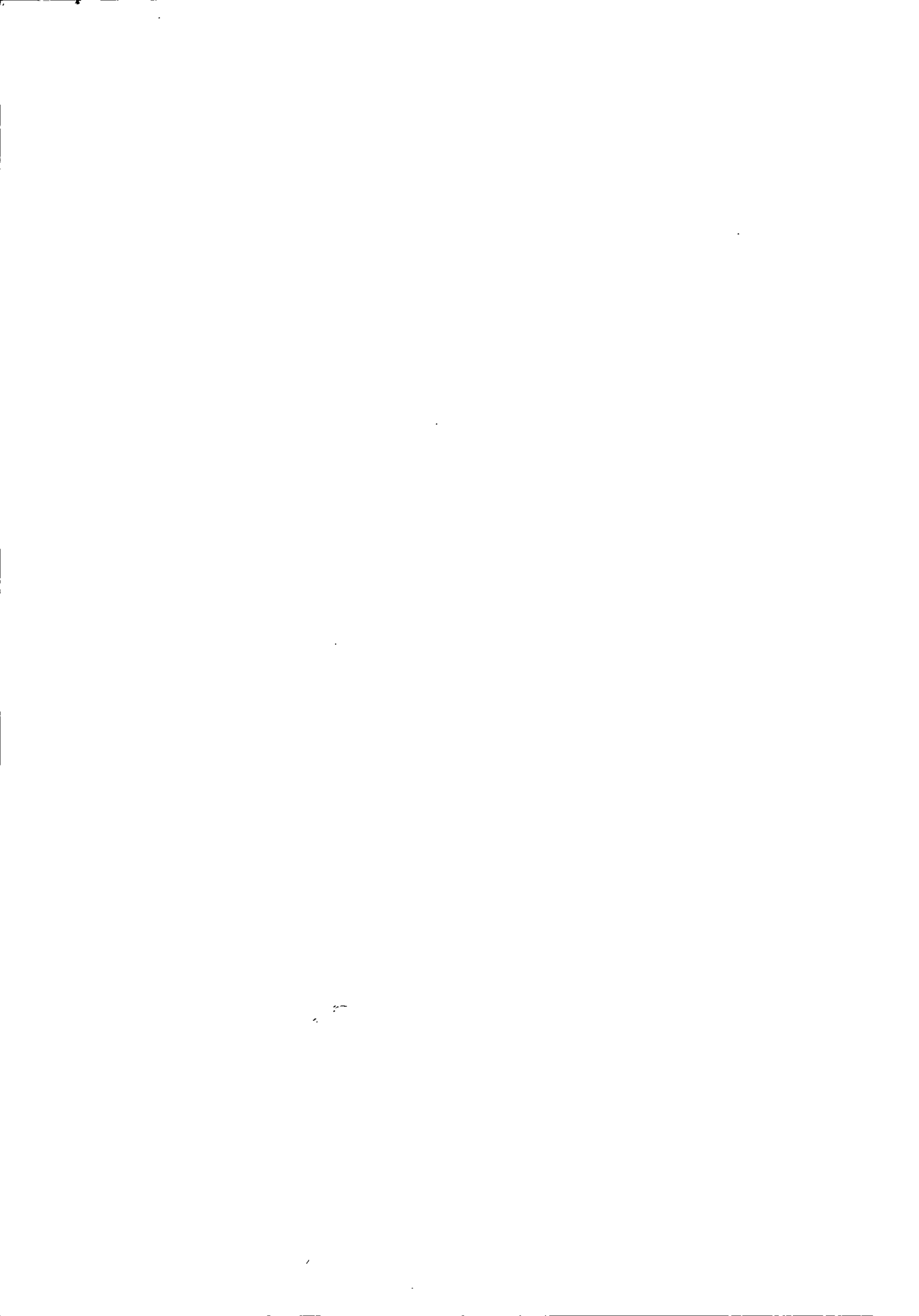
(1 May 1977 – 22 April 1978)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1978

SUPPLEMENT No. 7

VOLUME I

UNITED NATIONS





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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/1978/47
E/ECE/960

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Annual Report to the Economic and Social Council covering
the period from 1 May 1977 to 22 April 1978

INTRODUCTION

1. The present Annual Report of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), which covers the period 1 May 1977 to 22 April 1978 inclusive, was adopted unanimously by the Commission at the fourteenth meeting of its thirty-third session on 22 April 1978. It is presented to the Economic and Social Council for consideration at its sixty-fifth 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 ...".

CHAPTER I

ISSUES THAT REQUIRE ACTION BY, OR ARE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF, THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

2. At its fourteenth meeting held on 22 April 1978 the Commission approved the following draft decision for submission to the Economic and Social Council for action:

"The Economic and Social Council decided:

To take note of the report of the Economic Commission for Europe for the period 1 May 1977 to 22 April 1978, of the views expressed during the discussions in the Commission and of the resolutions and other decisions adopted by the Commission at its thirty-third session contained in Chapters III and IV of that report, and of the Commission's programme of work contained therein."

3. The attention of the Council is also drawn to Commission decision E (XXXIII) on the ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference, and in particular to operative paragraph 6 thereof (for the text see Chapter IV below).

CHAPTER II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE THIRTY-SECOND SESSION

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

4. The list of meetings of the Commission's subsidiary bodies held in 1977/78 can be found in Annex II of this Report. It contains the dates of the meetings, the names of the officers and the symbols of the reports adopted. These reports give a full account of discussions held and record the agreements reached and decisions taken. The reports of the Commission's Principal Subsidiary Bodies contain in addition the programmes of work adopted by these bodies; these programmes have been incorporated in the Commission's programme of work for 1978-1982 pursuant to operative paragraph 4 (b) of Commission resolution 5 (XXIV) (see Chapter V of this Report).

B. Other activities

5. Pursuant to the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Commission, the Executive Secretary has submitted to the thirty-third session a number of reports on the work done on projects included in category O1 of the Commission's programme of work, i.e. those carried out under the direct authority of the Commission itself. A list of these reports and their symbols can be found in Annex III.

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

C. Relations with specialized agencies and other organizations

7. In a Note submitted to the thirty-third session (E/ECE/933) the Executive Secretary described the co-operation of the Commission and its secretariat with United Nations specialized agencies and other international organizations as well as with their secretariats.

CHAPTER III

THIRTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

8. The thirty-third session of the Commission was held from 11 to 22 April 1978. At the opening of the session on 11 April 1978, the Commission heard statements by the outgoing Chairman, Mr. C. Sommaruga, by the newly elected Chairman, Mr. E. Kulaga, by the Director-General of the United Nations Office in Geneva, Mr. L. Cottafavi, who read a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Mr. J. Ripert, and the opening statement by the Executive Secretary of the Commission, Mr. J. Stanovnik.
9. The thirty-third session was attended by representatives from Albania; Austria; Belgium; Bulgaria; Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic; Canada; Cyprus; Czechoslovakia; Denmark; Finland; France; German Democratic Republic; Germany, Federal Republic of; Greece; Hungary; Iceland; Ireland; Italy; Luxembourg; Malta; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic; Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United States of America, and Yugoslavia.
10. Representatives of the Holy See and Liechtenstein participated under Article 8 of the Commission's terms of reference.
11. Representatives of Argentina, Australia, Israel and Tunisia participated under Article 11 of the Commission's terms of reference.
12. Representatives of the World Food Council (WFC), of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and of the following specialized and other intergovernmental organizations were in attendance: International Labour Organisation (ILO); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); World Health Organization (WHO); International Monetary Fund (IMF); Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO); International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT); Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA); European Economic Community (EEC); World Tourism Organization (WTO).
13. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: International Chamber of Commerce; International Organization for Standardization; International Council of Women; World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU); International Bar Association; International Council for Environmental Law; International Law Association; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; International Electrotechnical Commission; and Sierra Club.
14. Also present at the invitation of the secretariat were representatives of the secretariats of the Council of Europe and of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).

15. A complete list of participants can be found in document E/ECE/(XXXIII)/L.4, and Corr.1.

16. At its second meeting, the Commission unanimously elected Mr. Eugeniusz Kulaga (Poland) Chairman, and Mr. Fernando Benito (Spain) Vice-Chairman of the Commission.

17. The Commission unanimously elected Mr. Henri Douxchamps Segesser de Brunegg (Belgium) Chairman, and Mr. Vadim Ivanovitch Loukianovitch (Byelorussian SSR) Vice-Chairman of the Sessional Committee.

18. Mr. Daniel M. Loftin (United States of America) and Mr. Günter Schumann (German Democratic Republic) were appointed Rapporteurs.

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

- 4(e) - Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work
- 7(d) - Problems of land use and land-use planning in the ECE region
- 7(f) - The Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE region up to 1990
- 7(g) - General energy problems in the ECE region
- 7(h) - Standardization
- 7(i) - Automation
- 7(j) - Engineering industries
- 8 -- Programme of work for 1978-1982

20. The Sessional Committee met from 11 to 19 April 1978.

21. The account of the consideration by the Sessional Committee of item 4(f) can be found in paragraphs 116 to 278 below. The account of the discussion on those items which had been assigned to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration as referred to in paragraph 19 above, are contained in paragraphs 90-114; 310-321; 324-367; 376-388 below. For the recommendations of the Sessional Committee to the Plenary and the action taken by the Commission on these recommendations, see paragraphs 368 to 373 below.

B. Agenda

22. The Commission had before it the provisional agenda (E/ECE/929/Rev.1). At its second meeting, it adopted this agenda, which read as follows:

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Election of Officers
3. Review of the economic situation in Europe
4. Work of the Commission as a whole, including:
 - (a) The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1977 (Commission resolution 2 (XXV)) E/ECE/930
 - (b) Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly

E/ECE/931

- (c) Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries E/ECE/932
- (d) Co-operation with other international organizations E/ECE/933
- (e) Concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work (Commission decision D (XXXII)) E/ECE/934
- (f) Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission 1/
5. The work and future activities of the Commission (Commission resolution 1 (XXXII)) and the proposal in regard to the holding of all-European congresses or inter-State conferences on co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, and energy E/ECE/935
E/ECE/936 & Corr. 1
E/ECE/937
E/ECE/938
E/ECE/951
E/ECE/952
E/ECE/953
E/ECE/954
E/ECE/955
E/ECE/956
E/ECE/957
E/ECE/958
E/ECE/959
6. Development of trade and industrial co-operation ECE/TRADE/128
E/ECE/939

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

Committee on Agricultural Problems	ECE/AGRI/36
Chemical Industry Committee	ECE/CHEM/20
Coal Committee	ECE/COAL/34
Conference of European Statisticians	ECE/CES/10
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems	ECE/ENV/19
Committee on Electric Power	ECE/EP/27
Committee on Gas	ECE/GAS/38
Committee on Housing, Building and Planning	ECE/HBP/22
Inland Transport Committee	ECE/TRANS/28
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	ECE/SC.TECH/15
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	ECE/EC.AD/16
Steel Committee	ECE/STEEL/19
Timber Committee	ECE/TIM/11
Committee on Water Problems	ECE/WATER/19

7. Follow-up action on other relevant Commission decisions:
- (a) Contribution of the Commission to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (Commission decision A (XXXII)) E/ECE/940
 - (b) Economic Co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE (Commission decision B (XXXII)) E/ECE/941
 - (c) Selected topics for special attention (Commission decision C (XXXII)) E/ECE/942
 - (d) Problems of land use and land-use planning in the ECE region (Commission decision E (XXXII)) E/ECE/943
 - (e) Dissemination of information (Commission decision F (XXXII)) E/ECE/944
 - (f) The Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE Region up to 1990 (Commission decision G (XXXII)) E/ECE/945
 - (g) General energy problems in the ECE region (Commission decision H (XXXII)) E/ECE/946
 - (h) Standardization (Commission decision I (XXXII)) E/ECE/947
 - (i) Automation (Commission decision J (XXXII)) E/ECE/948 & Add.1
 - (j) Engineering industries (Commission decision K (XXXII)) E/ECE/949
8. Programme of work for 1978-1982 E/ECE/950
9. Other business
10. Annual Report of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council

C. Account of proceedings

Review of the economic situation in Europe
(agenda item 3)

23. For the discussion of this item the Commission had before it as background documents the pre-publication text of the Economic Survey of Europe in 1977 (ECE(XXXIII)/1 and Add.1) as well as Volume 29 of the Economic Bulletin for Europe (Sales No. 78.II.E.4). The discussion was introduced by the Director of the General Economic Analysis Division, who outlined the recent major developments in the European economy.

24. Many delegations circulated in writing information under this item as proposed in E/ECE/929. Some delegations confined their interventions to brief introductions to this information.

25. Countries of eastern Europe reported on their continued stable economic development in 1977. They referred to the fact that economic recession of western industrialized countries had a negative impact on the development of east-west co-operation. The socialist countries had endeavoured, in accordance with the provisions of the Final Act, constructively to develop their economic co-operation with industrialized market economy countries. They mentioned that measures introduced by the western countries to protect industries had negative repercussions on trade, led to a reduction of their chances for higher export earnings and had a negative impact on the export oriented branches of their economy. While prospects for increased trade with the west were rather dim, a stable market existed within the CMEA area. Structural changes of production had been introduced in some east European countries to meet their own and foreign demands.

26. Delegations of most east European countries expressed the view that the holding of high level meetings on the environment, energy and development of transport would also be a step towards increasing east-west economic co-operation. Growing co-operation within the CMEA area was described as "a reality of the European situation". They also emphasized high government expenditure to stabilize consumer prices and provide social and health services. One delegate suggested that a larger exchange of scientific and technological information could boost economic co-operation. Another said that east-west co-operation in the energy field would save costs of ECE member countries.

27. One delegate welcomed the fact that the availability of more data had enabled the secretariat to make the Survey more analytical. The chapter on the energy situation in eastern Europe was, in his view, particularly valuable. More should be done by way of analysis to find new fields suitable for east-west co-operation.

28. Another delegate wished that the Survey would give greater stress to "qualitative" instead of "quantitative" performance and to the importance of structural adaptations.

29. The Survey could also be improved if not only the increase rates for net material product, but also the volume of production would be analysed so as to show what a certain percentage increase meant in absolute terms. Greater attention could be paid to long term trends and to the fact that ECE countries were in different phases of industrialization and development. The Survey should include more "challenging" ideas so as to provoke new steps and measures and identify the most promising areas of concrete economic co-operation.

30. In the view of one delegation, the quality of the Survey could be further enhanced by introducing "more elements of a predictive character" and by paying more attention to the inter-dependence of the ECE area with other parts of the world. It suggested a Seminar to be arranged under the auspices of the Senior Economic Advisers on this subject, and a restructuring of the Survey which should lead to analysis of various countries' problems according to the stage of their economic development and not by geographical areas. It further proposed that the secretariat undertake a series of action-oriented studies of special interest to the ECE member countries which were developing from the economic point of view concerning sectoral problems, obstacles to exports and other issues of relevance to these countries.

31. Representatives of western industrialized countries referred to the overall sluggish development of the world economy, unemployment, inflation, and the difficult balance-of-payments situation for most countries. Some delegates gave a rather cautious description of the short-term prospects for their country's economy where GDP was expected to grow by no more than 1-2 per cent in 1978. One delegate remarked, however, that slow growth also had a positive side: it would reduce the destruction of the environment, save energy and other resources, and dampen inflation. One delegate pointed out that the views of his Government on high-level meetings and trade practices had been expressed in the discussion under items 5 and 6 of the agenda.
32. High energy prices, a low rate of private consumption, accompanied by an extremely high rate of savings, structural and regional problems were mentioned as reasons for this rather unsatisfactory development.
33. One delegate remarked that many measures were undertaken to overcome unemployment; State subsidies like those mentioned in the Survey could be useful short term remedies, but should be considered with care since they could have negative consequences for the liquidity of the budgets, and might distort internal and external competition. The proposals made in the Survey on energy conservation would increase "rentability" in an economic sense. Other measures to reduce productivity for the purpose of reducing unemployment could be considered. Protectionism should be avoided since it would prevent the necessary world wide structural alignments.
34. Some delegates stressed that recent international economic developments put a particularly heavy burden on smaller countries because of their high foreign trade dependency. Many of the problems could no longer be considered to be of a cyclical nature. Demand for certain goods seemed to have reached the point of saturation. Conventional policies might prove to be inefficient, in particular to overcome youth unemployment. In ECE deliberations, as well as in the Survey, structural changes should be taken more fully into account than hitherto.
35. One delegation explained that the over-all structure of the world economy had undergone fundamental changes during the last years, and that future adjustments should be based on the principle of reciprocity and equality. Industrialized countries should show more solidarity with the poorer countries.
36. Some delegates pleaded for concerted efforts of all industrialized countries to improve the economic situation. A "locomotive" effort of only a few countries would not be sufficient. The Survey showed that structural limits to growth became more and more apparent in all parts of the ECE region, also in "non-market" economies. "Artificial growth" was to be ruled out. Increased demand in the public sector alone would not be sufficient. An increase in industrial production was hampered by the continuous appreciation of the currencies of some countries. For countries with a favourable balance of payments, the question of balancing the State budget and monetary stability were a prerequisite of boosting investments and stimulating the economy to higher growth.
37. One delegate stated that his Government had successfully given priority to the overcoming of unemployment. However, production had gone down in spite of fiscal aid to enterprises. Measures introduced by a number of countries to protect their home industry had had negative repercussions for exports, as had the increase in raw material prices. Prospects for 1978 would not be too bad if stronger economies would take fiscal and other measures to boost their economies.

38. A number of delegates from southern Europe suggested that the ECE should embark on thorough studies of all economic consequences of migrant labour for member countries. Investments increased in some of the countries of the region, in particular from foreign sources, though they would have preferred higher export earnings to greater loans. However, serious structural imbalances still existed. The import of energy raw materials accounted for a high share of the increase in the 1977 deficit. Inflation had sharply increased in most of these countries.

39. One south European delegate pleaded for "continued" growth instead of "growth by all means" which would only boost inflation. High wages and social security obligations as well as high raw material prices were mainly responsible. Half of the unemployed were young people. Without a devaluation in two countries of this area, the balance of payments would have deteriorated dramatically in 1977, and the present current account deficit would have been much higher.

40. The representative of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) mentioned that environmental programmes had vast economic consequences which so far had not been fully studied. Enterprises often felt that they could not afford to make the necessary investments for environmental protection, and such short term considerations often overshadowed the long term beneficial effects of such investments. UNEP had started a study to estimate in monetary terms the benefits of such measures to the steel industry. In the United States, \$40 billion invested in 1977 in environmental protection had created 400,000 new jobs. UNEP would be prepared to join in such studies for the ECE region.

Work of the Commission as a whole 2/
(agenda item 4)

and

The work and future activities of the Commission and the
proposal in regard to the holding of all-European
congresses or inter-State conferences on
co-operation in the field of protection
of the environment, development of
transport, and energy
(agenda item 5)

41. The Commission agreed to consider items 4 and 5 together, so as to enable delegations to address themselves to either or both of these items.

42. The Commission had before it the following documentation:

- for agenda sub-item 4 (a): the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/930 on the Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1977, which was prepared pursuant to Commission resolution 2 (XXV) and contained a succinct account of the most important work accomplished or planned by the Commission and its subsidiary bodies since the thirty-second session;

2/ Agenda sub-items 4 (e) - concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work, and 4 (f) - Work of the Principal Subsidiary bodies of the Commission, were allocated to the Sessional Committee for consideration (see paras. 90-114 and 116-278 below).

- for agenda sub-item 4 (d): the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/931 on resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

- for agenda sub-item 4 (c): the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/932 on the Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries;

- for agenda sub-item 4 (d): the Executive Secretary's Note E/ECE/933 on co-operation with other international organizations;

- for agenda item 5: the Executive Secretary's reports E/ECE/935 on progress made on topics in the Final Act requiring multilateral implementation and referred to in the section entitled "Co-operation in the Field of Economics, of Science and Technology and of the Environment" which was prepared pursuant to operative paragraph 8 of Part I and operative paragraph 2 of Part II of Commission resolution 1 (XXXII); E/ECE/936 and Corr.1, containing a detailed analysis of topics which, in the light of the views of member Governments, may be appropriate for consideration at a high level meeting within the framework of the ECE on the protection of the environment; and E/ECE/937 on the modalities of organizing such a high-level meeting and on the procedural and organizational issues related thereto; document E/ECE/938, to which was attached the "Review of ECE Activities Pertaining to the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe" presented by the Executive Secretary to the Belgrade Meeting, and containing in an annex the text of the statement made by the Executive Secretary to the plenary session of the Belgrade Meeting; the communication received from the Government of the USSR requesting the inclusion in the agenda of the question of the holding of all-European congresses or inter-State conferences on co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, and energy (E/ECE/951), as well as a further communication related to this same matter which had been received from the Government of Czechoslovakia (E/ECE/952), supported by communications from the Governments of Poland (E/ECE/953), the USSR (E/ECE/954), Bulgaria (E/ECE/955), Hungary (E/ECE/956), the Byelorussian SSR (E/ECE/957), the Ukrainian SSR (E/ECE/958) and the German Democratic Republic (E/ECE/959).

43. Delegations noted that the Commission had received a major impulse from the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) and expressed satisfaction with the positive references to ECE at the Belgrade Meeting. They agreed that the work carried out by ECE since the thirty-second session had strengthened the authority and role of the Commission as a unique forum for co-operation in economic and related fields between countries with different economic and social systems. It was hoped that the thirty-third session would confirm the political will of member Governments to take full advantage of the potential of the ECE as an instrument for the development of multilateral co-operation in the economic, scientific, technological and environmental fields. Current economic difficulties affecting many countries of the region, among which those that were developing from an economic point of view, required closer co-operation within ECE.

44. A number of delegations referred to the extensive deliberations which had taken place at the Belgrade Meeting on economic and related matters. Reference was made to the proposal by the group of delegations representing the Neutral and the Non-aligned on 1 February 1978 which could have a favourable impact on

the development of economic co-operation in the region and on the work of the ECE. They referred also to the proposals made by the Nordic countries and by Yugoslavia which called for the strengthened role of the ECE. Other delegations had also underlined the fact that the economic proposals presented by other countries at the Belgrade Meeting could contribute to further develop the co-operation within the ECE region.

45. Some delegations expressed satisfaction with the results of the Belgrade Meeting, which, in their view, had confirmed the trend towards the further development of détente. It was also noted by some delegations as a positive sign that at the Belgrade Meeting the Final Act of the CSCE and its implementation were understood as a long-term programme of détente and mutually beneficial co-operation.

46. Some delegations expressed the view that the results of the Belgrade Meeting were unsatisfactory and could have implications for future co-operation. One delegation further expressed the view that this constituted a warning to the effect that considerably more political will should be applied to the development of co-operation in Europe.

47. Attention was drawn to the constructive proposals which various delegations had advanced at the Belgrade Meeting and which were aimed at the strengthening of co-operation among States. In particular, in the economic field, some delegations had urged the adoption of recommendations relating to the early convening of inter-State conferences to deal with the problems of environmental protection, transport, and energy.

48. Delegations made favourable comments on document E/ECE/938 containing information prepared by the Executive Secretary for the Belgrade Meeting on the subject of the progress made in the ECE on the implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE - hereafter referred to as the Final Act - as well as of the possibilities open to the Commission for contributing to its further implementation. They noted with satisfaction the substantial progress already made by the ECE with respect to implementation of pertinent provisions of the Final Act. They noted the significant steps taken in adapting the programmes of work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, in particular with respect to those provisions of the Final Act which contained direct reference to ECE. They welcomed the fact that the activities of the Commission were oriented towards a more dynamic policy, and that the work programme reflected increased attention to priority areas and a better concentration and integration of the activities of the Commission.

49. The east-west character of the ECE role was stressed by a number of delegations which pointed out that it would make ECE's work more complicated if it were entrusted with tasks which were alien to it, the more so since such tasks were already being dealt with by other organs in the United Nations system. Other delegations were of the opinion that in implementation of the Final Act the Commission should adopt new approaches which would take into account the special interest of the ECE member countries that were developing from an economic point of view and strengthen economic relations between the ECE region and the other regions of the world.

50. Many delegations referred to the proposal of the Government of the USSR on the holding of all-European congresses or inter-State conferences on co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, and energy.

51. A number of delegations stated that this proposal would directly influence present and future economic growth as well as technological progress. They felt that such conferences would promote favourable conditions for the further development of multilateral and bilateral co-operation in these spheres to the advantage of all member countries.

52. As regards the proposed high-level meeting on the environment, a number of delegations considered that the Executive Secretary had fulfilled the task assigned to him by Commission resolution 1 (XXXII) and that all criteria had already been met for the convening of this meeting. Concerning the topics to be discussed it was felt that the best solution would be to select such topics as were of crucial importance for the ECE region as a whole and which met the criteria defined in resolution 1 (XXXII). These topics might include, primarily, transboundary air pollution and application of low-waste and non-waste technologies, as well as the control of toxic substances and wastes, and possibly the issues of transboundary water pollution and protection of native flora and fauna.

53. Concerning procedural and organizational questions, it was suggested that a high-level meeting be convened before the end of 1978, that a precise mandate be prepared for an expert meeting which could be a session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems, with the task of elaborating draft documents for adoption at the subsequent high-level meeting early in 1979. At the same time, it was expressed that the preparation of the high-level meeting could not be an end in itself, and that a clear decision should be taken by the Commission, at its current session.

54. As regards possible topics for discussion at the proposed conferences on energy and transport problems, these delegations suggested that the Executive Secretary be asked to prepare, with the help of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned, an analytical survey of the considerations and proposals already submitted on these topics for submission to the Commission at its thirty-fourth session. As an example of the topics which a conference on energy could discuss, reference was made to long-range transmission of energy and the inter-linking of energy systems in Europe, establishment of a unified system of gas pipelines, rationalization and efficiency in the production, transport and utilization of fuels, including modern refining methods, and construction of fuel and energy-production complexes for the utilization of black coal, brown coal and lignites.

55. In the view of these delegations, it was necessary, in the interest of all-European co-operation, to devote appropriate attention to the solution of questions of transport in an all-European Congress on the Development of Transport. Governments should be consulted regarding the topics which could be dealt with at such a Conference. Co-ordinated projects to develop transport infrastructure, to enhance the speed and efficiency of international transport, to increase safety in international traffic and to unify norms and standards, were cited as subjects which would have a favourable effect on almost all aspects of all-European co-operation.

56. Other delegations, however, recognized the potential value of high-level meetings, but emphasized that such meetings had to hold promise of important decisions, and meet all the other criteria laid down in resolution 1 (XXXII). Only careful preparation could guarantee this. In the view of these delegations, the reports of the Executive Secretary E/ECE/936 and E/ECE/937 had made a valuable contribution to the consideration of a high-level meeting on the environment, but they had also revealed some unanswered questions. Without answers to these questions these delegations contended that it could not be decided whether the agreed criteria had been satisfied. It was suggested that the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems should undertake detailed work with a view to preparing a selection of themes suitable for a high-level meeting.

57. Among the three subjects on which high-level meetings could be envisaged, these delegations generally felt that priority should be given to the subject of environmental protection. They pointed out that the protection and improvement of the human environment and the rational utilization of natural resources were tasks of major importance and that many urgent environmental problems in the ECE region could be solved effectively only through close co-operation within the region. They expressed the wish that ECE should develop into a central focal point of European co-operation in the environmental field. They noted with satisfaction the action taken by the Executive Secretary in response to Commission resolution 1 (XXXII). This resolution, as well as the documentation prepared by the secretariat and the work already done by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems, provided the Commission with a solid basis for its discussions on this subject. These delegations were of the opinion that a high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE on the protection of the environment would strengthen the authority of the Commission.

58. The view was expressed that if the Commission decided to convene a high-level meeting on the environment, it should conform to the criteria for a high-level meeting included in Part II of Commission resolution 1 (XXXII) and should be devoted to one or two topics on which enough preliminary work had been achieved to permit concrete results. In the view of several delegations the problem of transboundary air pollution should be a central topic at a high-level meeting on the environment. Only the adoption of a framework convention would, in their opinion, satisfy the generally recognized need for international co-operative action in this field. They felt that the agenda of a high-level meeting should be limited to only two topics and suggested that the second topic meeting the criteria could be low- and non-waste technology.

59. Several of these delegations felt that the time was now ripe for the Commission to take a decision on the holding as soon as practicable of a high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE on the protection of the environment. The preparatory machinery should be set in motion by giving overall responsibility to the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems for the preparatory work and for presenting concrete proposals for decision at the high-level meeting. The Executive Secretary should be requested to convene at an early date a special session of the Senior Advisers who would be requested to submit a progress report to the thirty-fourth session of the Commission. The latter would decide on the date for holding the high-level meeting.

60. During the discussion, delegates also expressed views on the work which was being performed by the Commission and its subsidiary bodies in the main priority areas and suggestions were made regarding possible new tasks which could usefully be undertaken by the ECE.

61. As regards the promotion of trade, delegations noted that ECE had made a notable contribution to facilitating and promoting intra-regional, particularly east-west, trade and industrial co-operation. They paid tribute to such ECE activities as the work on the multilateral system of notification of laws and regulations concerning foreign trade (MUNOSYST); simplification of trade procedures and trade documents; and the Fourth Seminar on East-West Trade Promotion, Marketing and Business Contacts.

62. A number of delegations felt, however, that further efforts were needed in the trade policy field to maintain or speed up the rate of intra-regional trade exchanges to remove obstacles and discrimination in the field of trade and to limit existing fluctuations. This was also the case, in their opinion, of industrial co-operation and intra-branch specialization in manufacturing industry, the impact of which on east-west trade remained at a much lower level than could be expected.

63. Some other delegations were pleased to note the positive results of the marketing seminar held under the auspices of the Committee on the Development of Trade and welcomed the convening of a meeting of trade experts to consider the trade aspects of the Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE Region up to 1990. They stressed the need for improving the quantity and quality of economic and commercial information necessary for a more balanced expansion of trade between market and planned economy countries. A new impulse might be given if a meeting of experts were convened in the near future to consider basic economic and commercial information.

64. Some delegations maintained that the level of economic development of the member countries should always be taken into account and that, for example, in establishing standards for foodstuffs, climatic and soil conditions, especially in the Mediterranean Basin, be kept in mind. Reference was also made to the increasing importance of the question of migrant labour in the economic life of Europe and favourable comments were made on the study undertaken by the secretariat on the consequences for trade, investment and industrial co-operation of the intra-European temporary migration of labour. In this connexion, one delegation recalled that at the Belgrade Meeting its Government had presented along with other countries a proposal on migrant labour.

65. A number of delegations referred to the review of the Commission's work programmes from the standpoint of concentration and integration of its activities in the field of trade, which was being considered under agenda item 4 (e). ^{3/} They expressed the hope that the basic purpose of this exercise would be achieved mainly by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies. They said that they expected good results from forthcoming reviews of the programmes of work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies in areas other than trade. The Executive Secretary's proposal for activities in the field of science and technology to be the area for review prior to the thirty-fourth session of the Commission was generally welcomed.

^{3/} For an account of this discussion, see paragraphs 90 to 114 below.

66. The work of ECE in the field of environmental protection, which was referred to at length during the general discussion in connexion with the proposed high-level meeting on the environment (see paragraphs 52-53 and 56-59 above), was the subject of favourable comment on the part of many delegations. Special reference was made to the establishment of a programme for monitoring and evaluation of the long-range transport of air pollutants in the ECE region, a programme which was designed to provide ECE member countries with the necessary information for their future co-operation in environmental problems.

67. The importance of scientific and technological co-operation in the ECE region was stressed. Favourable comments were made concerning the Commission's contribution to preparations for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD), particularly the regional meeting scheduled to be held in Bucharest in June 1978, in order to adopt recommendations at the national, regional and international levels for the programme of action of UNCSTD. It was noted that co-operation in this field among the ECE member countries should be regarded as a significant factor of the global technological effort. Some delegations expressed the view that the UNCSTD should help in bridging the gaps between developed and developing countries in the field of science and technology. In this connexion, a number of delegations stressed the need for greater scientific and technological co-operation and expressed interest in the progress of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology towards making practical arrangements for undertaking co-operative technological forecasts in selected subject areas and for the evaluation of the impact that future technology may have on the economic growth of the ECE region.

68. Several delegations noted with satisfaction the development of the work on macro-economic perspectives and projections and the fruitful dialogue initiated between the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments and most of the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies. They also welcomed the insertion of the Overall Economic Perspective of the ECE Region up to 1990 (OEP) into the global work undertaken by the United Nations on long-term trends pursuant to ECOSOC resolution 2090 (LXIII) and General Assembly resolutions 3508 (XXX) and 32/57. Some delegations expressed the view that the OEP would be more useful if further research in the ECE were linked more closely with the identification of potential areas of east-west economic and technological co-operation, thereby contributing also to the promotion of east-west trade. Other delegations stressed that the OEP should also take into account the special problems of the ECE member countries which were developing from the economic point of view.

69. The growing impact of energy problems on the economic development of the ECE region in recent years was stressed by several delegations. In the view of these delegations, the ECE should strengthen its consideration of general energy problems in the region and they considered favourably the idea of establishing a Principal Subsidiary Body of Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on General Energy Problems. In the light of the work of such a body, it could be considered how future co-operation in the energy field could best be carried forward. Several delegations, referring to the ever growing importance of the energy-related activities of the ECE, gave their support to the establishment of a Group of Experts on Energy Conservation. One delegation stressed the importance of completing the "New issues" study (ECE(XXXIII)/2 and Addenda) as a foundation for any additional work on energy within ECE.

70. Delegations referred with approval to the Trans-European North-South Motorway Project involving ten ECE member countries, as well as to the project on the interconnexion of the electric power transmission systems of the Balkan countries.

71. In the field of engineering, several delegations believed that ECE should continue to develop regional co-operation by creating a permanent body for this subject.

72. Some delegations stressed their interest in the possible role of ECE in relation to the World Plan of Action for the implementation of International Women's Year. While programmes and methods adopted in other parts of the world were not applicable in the ECE region, it was suggested that the experience accumulated by ECE countries in this area could be a useful contribution to global programmes.

73. Satisfaction was expressed by many speakers with the Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries, as reflected in the Executive Secretary's Note E/ECE/932. Reference was made to the special responsibility of member countries for a sound and equitable development of other regions and for the establishment of a new international economic order consistent with the main purpose of ECE as a forum for economic co-operation among countries of the region. Delegations noted with special appreciation the contribution of the ECE to the follow-up of the United Nations Water Conference and to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development. Some delegations were of the opinion that ECE should play a more active role in the process of international economic co-operation and in the establishment of a new international economic order. It was suggested that inter-secretariat co-operation with other regional commissions and other United Nations organizations, as well as the transmission of ECE documents of special interest to developing countries, should be intensified and the programmes of work of individual subsidiary bodies should be adjusted appropriately in the light of relevant resolutions of the United Nations.

74. The attention of the Commission was drawn by several delegations to the special problems faced by member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view. Satisfaction was expressed with the activities of a number of subsidiary bodies, in particular in the fields of the development of trade, agriculture and housing, building and planning. Valuable projects had been included in the programmes of work of many subsidiary bodies. Regret was expressed by some delegations that the action taken with regard to problems of special interest to these countries was not sufficiently action-oriented in character, and that there were less than ten projects of specific interest to these countries in the work programme. The suggestion was made that the Commission should consider the possibility of including in its agenda a separate item on the problems of the member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view.

75. A number of delegations referred in their statements to the question of economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE. They gave their support to all initiatives aimed at increased co-operation between members of the ECE and non-member Mediterranean countries.

They noted with satisfaction the work done by the Commission and its subsidiary bodies in this field, as recorded in the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/941. Special reference was made to co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the elaboration of a plan to safeguard the Mediterranean and its coastal areas, commonly known as the "Blue Plan". They expressed the hope that this trend would be further developed and generalized. Some delegations felt that co-operation between Mediterranean countries could be strengthened, particularly in matters concerning transport, tourism, trade and protection of the environment. They were of the opinion that ECE should also intensify its co-operation with the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Western Asia and other organs of the United Nations. It was suggested by many delegations that ECE should contribute to preparations for the CSCE follow-up meeting on Mediterranean questions which would be held in 1979 in Valletta (Malta), if invited to do so.

76. A number of delegations drew attention to the increasing workload of the Commission and the consequent need to improve the methods of work of the ECE by the strengthening of co-ordination and further streamlining of the programme of work. In this connexion support was given to the suggestion of giving special priority to the four topics selected on the basis of the Final Act and referred to in Commission decision D (XXXI) and of considering them individually in turn, one at each session. In this connexion satisfaction was expressed with the results of this procedure which had led to the establishment of a programme for the monitoring and evaluation of the long-range transmission of air pollutants in the ECE region, as referred to in the report E/ECE/942 which the Executive Secretary had submitted to the Commission pursuant to decision C (XXXII).

77. A number of delegations referred with satisfaction to the active co-operation maintained between the Commission and other international organizations as reflected in the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/933. Special mention was made of the close links established with UNEP especially concerning work in the Mediterranean. It was hoped that ECE would intensify its joint programmes and projects with UNEP, UNDP and FAO. This would lead to even more tangible results of particular interest to the member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view. Satisfaction was also expressed at the further progress achieved in co-operation between ECE and CMEA, which in the view of several delegations represented a significant feature of economic relations in Europe. The CMEA representative stated that the CMEA planned to actively participate in ECE preparations for any high-level meetings as proposed by the USSR which may be agreed upon by the Commission.

78. Some delegations referred to the usefulness of the booklet published on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Commission on the work of the ECE from 1947 to 1972 (E/ECE/831) and gave their full support to the preparation of a similar publication which would cover thirty years of existence of ECE.

79. In their statements the representatives of UNEP, ILO, UNESCO and the CMEA informed the Commission of their organizations' activities which were of relevance to ECE's programme of work, referred to specific subjects on which co-operation with ECE had taken place in the past year and pledged their support to furthering this co-operation in future.

80. A draft decision on the economic consequences of migrant labour in the ECE region, submitted by the delegations of Finland, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and Yugoslavia, was adopted by the Commission at its thirteenth meeting. (For the text see Chapter IV, decision A (XXXIII)).
81. A draft decision on the Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980, submitted by the delegations of Belgium; Canada; Finland; France; German Democratic Republic; Greece; Ireland; Luxembourg; the Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Spain; Sweden; the United Kingdom and the United States of America, was adopted by the Commission at its thirteenth meeting. (For the text see Chapter IV, decision B (XXXIII)).
82. A draft resolution on the work and future activities of the Commission and the proposal in regard to the holding of all-European congresses or inter-State conferences on co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, and energy, was adopted by the Commission at its fourteenth meeting. (For the text see Chapter IV, resolution 1 (XXXIII)).
83. After the adoption by consensus of the above resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Hungary and the USSR.
84. The delegate of Hungary made some comments on the work of the Commission on behalf of the delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR.
85. He said that the responsibility of the ECE to strengthen east-west co-operation in the region was generally recognized. He added that from the beginning it was well known to everyone that the main task of the thirty-third session was to pave the way for the realization of the Soviet proposal to organize three high-level meetings on the environment, energy and transport. The delegate of Hungary said that this proposal was in line with the objectives of the Final Act. He continued that the socialist countries, taking into consideration the work already done by the ECE, were ready for serious negotiations and for decisions to be taken. He said that they had submitted a draft on the issue of high-level meetings to stimulate further progress in the preparation and organization of these three conferences and had wanted to take a decision on the high-level meeting on the environment. He added that the western proposal aimed at the postponement of taking a decision, whereas the socialist countries undertook many constructive efforts to reach a positive decision.
86. He stated that the expectations of the socialist countries for substantial progress were not fully met by the resolution and their certainty that the efforts to solve the world-wide problems of protection of the human environment could only be temporarily slowed down, but never stopped.
87. The delegate of the Soviet Union said that the resolution adopted on the future activities of the Commission was a compromise. He said that it contained a number of useful points and gave guidance to problems of central significance but had, at the same time, a number of inherent shortcomings which seriously weakened and reduced its significance. He added that much, of course, concerning the practical implementation would depend on the presence or absence of political will of the ECE member countries.
88. The Soviet delegate expressed the views that, concerning the importance of the preparatory work for the three all-European conferences, one should not consider

this part of the decision as being final, nor should one prejudge the choice of future topics for the conference on the environment. He added that the Soviet delegation would like, under the conditions imposed on it, to keep a completely free hand concerning any particular topic. Therefore, the Soviet delegation reserved its position on any subject for discussion at the all-European conference on the environment.

89. The delegate of Norway, speaking on behalf of the western countries, said that it was his understanding that the resolution just adopted appropriately reflected the common understanding between those who had participated in this very important session, and that this resolution was now a basis of all work, notwithstanding the eloquent statements which had just been heard. On the western side, one was not going to repeat statements made in the general debate under agenda item 5. There was no need for repeating well-known positions. Nor was there any need to express regrets. One would look forward, not backward.

Concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work
(agenda item 4 (e))

90. This item was allocated by the Plenary to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration. The Commission had before it the report by the Executive Secretary on concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work (E/ECE/934).

91. In his introductory statement the Executive Secretary made it clear that his observations on the results achieved over the past year in this field were intended to give guidance to the Commission and help formulate its future efforts. He felt that his report E/ECE/934 had been an important instrument for the process of integration and concentration and a logical evolution from the procedure embodied in Commission resolution 2 (XXV) which invited the Executive Secretary to prepare reports on the Commission's activities.

92. The Principal Subsidiary Bodies represented a structure which started as a confederation of quasi-independent bodies with individual work programmes and was beginning to show the effects of better integration. Following the decision taken by the Commission at its thirty-second session to consider activities in the field of trade, the Principal Subsidiary Bodies had shown much more awareness, they were more widely informed and as a consequence, much better integrated, and a horizontal consideration of work programmes was supplementing the earlier vertical system.

93. Although the exercise had confirmed that there were no serious cases of duplication of effort, it had become apparent that there had been unequal attention paid to the different aspects of trade by the various Principal Subsidiary Bodies and there were gaps in the programmes of some of them. The Executive Secretary felt that two aspects were particularly important, notably industrial co-operation and trade information. The first had been considered mainly the prerogative of the Committee on the Development of Trade whereas the sectoral bodies, particularly those with an industrial bias such as steel, chemicals and engineering, could also make a practical contribution. As for commercial information, the periodic Market Reviews contained a wealth of information which, when well presented, could give positive secondary effects over and above their specific purpose.

94. The systematic examination of work programmes had broadened the perspective of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies but such a review had an operational function in itself. A new procedure of this type would provide an instrument for coping

with intersectoral and interdisciplinary issues which were in danger of being neglected. He felt that a permanent exercise of this nature was desirable and that science and technology could be the next area to be reviewed from the point of view of integration and concentration. In order to obviate an inevitable time delay from conception to action which would involve a three-year cycle, the Executive Secretary suggested an overlap - while the instructions of the Commission regarding trade were being carried out, an examination of science and technology could be started.

95. He pointed out that the Economic Commission for Europe functioned as a two-level structure where the decision-making role was reserved for the Commission itself. Co-ordination was only possible through integration and co-operation, but this would not involve a change in the role of the Commission which would remain the principal organ for co-ordination. By providing continuous, essential information, however, a too complex and confused network of interrelationships could be avoided.

96. Experience had shown that particularly in interdisciplinary areas where the subject-matter bore on more than one sector, the greatest success was achieved by holding jointly-sponsored meetings. Benefit was also derived from representation being drawn from different disciplines.

97. As a further initiative to promote co-operation, the Executive Secretary proposed the measure of holding periodic ad hoc meetings of, for example, chairmen of the various Principal Subsidiary Bodies, to consider problems of mutual interest.

98. The Chairman thanked the Executive Secretary for his statement and welcomed the suggestions it contained saying that anything that would enhance the efficiency of the Commission must be examined attentively.

99. In the ensuing discussion there was general satisfaction with the positive results of the past year's exercise on concentration and integration in the area of trade. The document TRADE/R.363 which had been before the twenty-sixth session of the Committee for Development of Trade and the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/934 were commended. There was satisfaction that duplication appeared to have been avoided and the flow of information improved.

100. The fact that gaps in coverage had also been revealed was generally accepted but opinions as to their importance were divided. The delegation of Denmark ^{4/} felt that such deficiencies were not necessarily relevant to subsidiary bodies of the ECE other than the Committee on the Development of Trade. Those subsidiary bodies might have good and substantive reasons for not pursuing certain topics; they should not be forced to do so, at the cost of expanding their work programmes. This sentiment was largely shared by the delegations of Sweden, Switzerland and Canada; the latter, however, did concede that trade gaps in the various programmes might at least be identified.

101. In the same context the delegate of Poland defined the role of the Committee on the Development of Trade as being broader whereas other subsidiary bodies should be more involved in specific trade and industrial co-operation oriented activities

^{4/} Here and in the following paragraphs the delegation of Denmark was speaking in its present capacity as President of the European Economic Community and expressed the views of the EEC countries.

in branches or products within their respective areas of responsibility. This opinion was also expressed by the delegate of the USSR, particularly as it concerned industrial co-operation. To illustrate this he cited the Symposium organized by the Chemical Industry Committee in Budapest in May 1977 on International Economic and Technical Co-operation in the Chemical Industry.

102. The delegation of Switzerland thought that, in view of its importance, all the subsidiary bodies ought to be associated with the Multilateral Notification System (MUNOSYST) newly introduced by the Committee for the Development of Trade. He repeated the suggestion to regroup all projects relative to economic and commercial information into a specific sector. However, doubts as to the value of such a suggestion were expressed by the delegate of the USSR.

103. Several delegations underlined the importance of statistics and the role of the Conference of European Statisticians.

104. There was general support for the principles proposed by the Executive Secretary in E/ECE/934, and in particular in paragraph 9, although the delegation of Denmark expressed certain reservations on sub-paragraphs 9 (b) (ii) and (iii) especially concerning the creation of joint working groups. Nevertheless the general feeling was that a new departure was not envisaged and that the proposals should be developed within, and not involve an enlargement of the present programmes of work of the Committees.

105. The examination of questions of concentration and integration was welcomed by the delegate of the USSR as a move towards increasing the effectiveness of the work of the Commission. In the field of trade, he underlined that the main efforts should be devoted to the subject of east-west co-operation; he added that collaboration of the Committee on the Development of Trade with the Senior Economic Advisers on the elaboration of the Overall Economic Perspective up to 1990 was of great importance.

106. The delegation of Hungary enumerated several topics of a multidisciplinary nature which could very well be the subject of co-operative efforts between various Principal Subsidiary Bodies. Among these were the production of equipment serving to protect the environment, within a framework of industrial co-operation; the international turnover of such products under more liberal trade conditions, etc. Besides, it was proposed that the various Principal Subsidiary Bodies pay more attention to the examination of obstacles to trade in the relevant products. It was also pointed out that in the field of industrial co-operation the joint actions of the various subsidiary bodies seemed to be desirable.

107. The Polish delegation, when emphasizing the importance of trade and industrial co-operation, added that the related problems should be dealt with by the relevant subsidiary bodies and that there should be a horizontal reinforcement and vertical deepening of the branch issues involved.

108. The delegation of Denmark emphasized the need to establish clear and acceptable priorities in programmes and added that the secretariat should indicate the budget requirements of individual projects and delegates should take full account of the availability, or not, of appropriate resources in the secretariat and national administrations when taking decisions on the initiation of projects.

In this context, a careful consideration was needed in every case as to the necessity of questionnaires and the availability of the relevant information in the secretariat. The delegation of Sweden added that a precise formulation of projects would also contribute to an increase in efficiency.

109. The Swedish delegation suggested that, in the light of the increased need for exchange of information between the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, where the secretariat had a vital role, it might be considered to have documents jointly issued for two or more Principal Subsidiary Bodies.

110. The suggestions of the Executive Secretary for future work were accepted in principle, particularly as they were embodied in paragraph 12 of E/ECE/934, though the delegation of Denmark felt a better clarification of principles might be desirable, and the delegation of Canada, while accepting the value of identifying interdisciplinary projects of importance that might lie in the "twilight zones", reserved his position on the question of a single co-ordinating body for such projects.

111. It was agreed that a continuing project on concentration and integration was desirable and support was given to the suggestion that science and technology should be the next area for examination. Its appropriateness in view of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development was underlined by several delegations. The Romanian delegation, while supporting the four priority areas of the Commission, wished to underline the importance of projects of special interest to member countries that were developing from an economic point of view. It expressed the hope that this area would enjoy a higher priority in the Commission's work. In order to help stimulate the activity of the Commission and of its main subsidiary bodies in this area, the Romanian delegation announced that it was going to circulate a working paper on "Actions required from the ECE and its subsidiary bodies to respond to the interests of the member countries of the ECE region which are developing from an economic point of view" (E/ECE(XXXIII)/L.3).

112. When the discussion on this item was resumed, the delegate of Switzerland expressed satisfaction that the debate had been constructive and had revealed a general accord that this was an important operation that should continue to be the subject of study, and that the next area for examination should be Science and Technology.

113. The Executive Secretary referred to a possible duplication of, if not conflict in, instructions to him: namely those contained in the procedures introduced by Commission resolution 2 (XXV) which requested a report on the Commission's activities, including a topic of special interest. He suggested that the Commission may wish to delete the requirement for the report on the special topic called for in resolution 2 (XXV) in favour of a report on a special area chosen under decision D (XXXII) on concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work. The Commission agreed with this proposal.

114. A draft decision on concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work, submitted by the delegations of Austria, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia, was adopted by the Commission at its thirteenth meeting. (For the text see Chapter IV, decision C (XXXIII)).

Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission
(agenda item 4(f))

115. The account of the preliminary consideration of sub-item 4(f) by the Sessional Committee is contained in paragraphs 116 to 278 below.

Committee on Agricultural Problems

116. The delegations participating in the discussion of the report of the twenty-ninth session of the Committee on Agricultural Problems (ECE/AGRI/36) expressed their general satisfaction with and appreciation of the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, which had succeeded in further strengthening their activities in the last year. The annual review of the agricultural situation and the study of specific and very important economic and technical problems of agriculture in the ECE region constituted a positive contribution to the further development of an important sector of the economy and of technical and scientific co-operation between countries with different socio-economic systems. The delegations of Bulgaria and the Byelorussian SSR pointed out that the Committee was thus contributing to the attainment of the objectives of the Final Act of the CSCE, and the delegation of Bulgaria expressed the wish that the Committee should work more actively also on those subjects recommended by the Final Act, which were not yet covered in its programme of work. In this connexion, the delegation of Bulgaria stated that the inclusion in the work programme of the project on methods of combating erosion, recultivating of land and improving soil quality was a positive step in this direction.

117. There was general support for the programme of work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, which reflected the need for co-operation between countries in the field of agriculture and contributed to this co-operation. Several delegations pointed out that it was a balanced programme, dealing with problems of great relevance relating to economic, technical and social aspects of agriculture, and taking into account the wishes and needs of all member countries. The delegation of Switzerland wondered whether the many very diversified and specialized activities by the Committee might not affect the efficiency of its work.

118. In view of the number of international organizations active in the field of agriculture, the closest possible co-ordination of their activities was of special importance and should be further developed in order to avoid duplication. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic referred in particular to the fact that the Committee on Agricultural Problems and the Timber Committee had much in common and that this was reflected also in the new organization of the secretariat. The delegation of Romania noted that the Committee had been promoting the co-operation between ECE, FAO and other international organizations in the economic, technical and scientific fields and proposed that this co-operation should be strengthened and extended on the regional and subregional level.

119. The review of current developments in agriculture in general, in major commodity markets and in agricultural trade was considered to be a valuable source of up-to-date economic and statistical information, which presented the situation and the problems of agriculture in the different countries. The measures taken to improve the methods of work in this field were therefore supported. The delegation of Finland hoped that the new procedure would lead to better results regarding the

review of changes in agricultural policies during the year preceding the session and would facilitate a fruitful exchange of views and information. The delegation of Switzerland also found the review of current developments very interesting, but regretted the lack of discussion in the Committee sessions. With reference to the material provided by delegations for the Committee sessions, the representative of the European Economic Community referred to the very detailed statistical information supplied by his delegation and expressed the hope for more substantive reciprocity in the exchange of such information. As far as the reviews of basic commodities were concerned, the secretariat should limit reports to a minimum and only to those products which were not handled in more appropriate organizations.

120. The delegation of Yugoslavia pointed to the interest of its country in the study of commodity problems which were of particular importance to the member countries which were developing from the economic point of view. The delegation of Romania expressed its appreciation of the attempt by the Committee to deal adequately with the problems of these countries; in its view the Commission and its subsidiary bodies should be more actively involved, through concrete actions, in the process of eliminating underdevelopment and should thus contribute to the establishment of a new international economic order. The delegation of Romania also proposed that ECE together with FAO should elaborate and implement a special programme for the agricultural development of the economically developing countries and of the less developed regions in Europe.

121. The elaboration of quality standards for perishable produce continued to be considered as an important and valuable contribution to the development and facilitation of international trade and to the co-ordination of national policies in this field. As pointed out by the delegation of Finland, this work was also important for domestic trade, because the standards elaborated could easily be utilized for the promotion of domestic trade. The delegations of Bulgaria and the USSR expressed their approval for the efforts of the Committee to further improve the methods of the standardization work. Regarding the work on international trade practices, the delegation of Turkey commended the experts for their work and the representative of the European Economic Community expressed his satisfaction that the difficult work on arbitration rules was successfully terminated. The delegate of Finland welcomed the decision that the secretariat services for the arbitral chamber would be assumed by the ECE secretariat and hoped that this decision would contribute to the development of trade in certain agricultural products.

122. Many delegations gave particular emphasis to the exchange of scientific and technical information and experience in agriculture, pointed to the successful development of these activities by the Committee in recent years and expressed their expectation that these activities would be continued as one of the main tasks of the Committee. International studies in this field, prepared according to the appropriate methodology and with the active participation of the majority of countries promoted the co-operation between countries with different socio-economic systems, facilitated national research work, brought benefits to the development of agriculture in each country, and were therefore in the interest of all countries. Technical reports prepared by government rapporteurs on the basis of material supplied by all countries interested in the subject and symposia were useful and important forms of international co-operation for the exchange of scientific and technical information and full use should be made of these methods of work in implementing the tasks facing the ECE. The expanded programme of technical reports and symposia during 1977/78 and in the years to come was therefore welcomed.

123. All delegations referring to the activities of the FAO/ECE Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture underlined the importance of this work and the high quality of the reports prepared by the experts. The delegation of the Ukrainian SSR felt that certain reports in the present programme of work were of particular interest and should be accelerated. The practical orientation of the approach taken by the Working Party was also commended. Several delegations referred to the programme of very interesting study tours in the field of agricultural mechanization and expressed their gratitude to the delegation of the United States of America for the highly successful tour organized in 1977.

124. Many delegations stated their interest also in the activities of the FAO/ECE Working Party on Agrarian Structure and Farm Rationalization. It was felt that the action-oriented approach taken by the Working Party would help to promote co-operation between countries for improving agricultural efficiency. The delegation of the United States, which had not attended the first meetings, was at present re-examining its position with regard to its participation in future meetings. As in the past, the delegation of Hungary was ready to participate actively also in the future by appointing rapporteurs for the projects pursued by the Working Party. The delegation of Finland hoped that the results of the meeting and of the symposium, both held in 1978, after discussion by the next FAO Regional Conference for Europe, would be utilized for the 1979 World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development and would thus be of benefit not only for the ECE region, but contribute also to the solving of agrarian problems in developing countries.

125. Great interest was also expressed in the activities of the Committee concerning environmental problems related to agriculture, and in the efforts to harmonize and improve food and agricultural statistics. With reference to statistical enquiries and the presentation of data, the delegation of Switzerland felt that there was still a need for closer co-ordination between international organizations and for a harmonization of statistical questionnaires.

126. In addition to the general assessment of the activities of the Committee on Agricultural Problems and its subsidiary bodies, the delegations participating in the discussion made the following detailed comments on projects included in the programme of work for 1978-1982:

Work area 02.1.: Long-term trends and perspectives

- 02.1.1. The delegations of Bulgaria and the USSR considered this project to be very important. The delegation of Austria was ready to supply the secretariat with its long-term studies, but had some doubts regarding the usefulness of long-term perspective studies and the value of their results.
- 02.1.1.1. The delegation of the United States was particularly interested in this project, would provide relevant information and was looking forward to a detailed discussion.
- 02.1.1.2. The delegation of the USSR considered these reports to be very important.

02.1.3. The delegation of Yugoslavia was in favour of the inclusion of this project in the work programme of the Working Party on Agrarian Structure and Farm Rationalization.

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

02.2.1. The delegation of Bulgaria stressed the importance of and its interest in this project. The delegation of Yugoslavia proposed the examination of the considerable problems and difficulties of trade in livestock and meat between ECE countries and of the possibilities to facilitate this trade.

As the time available at the annual sessions did not allow an in-depth discussion of the various items related to international trade in agricultural products, the delegation of Finland supported the idea of organizing, from time to time, a discussion on specific items; this could make an important contribution to a better understanding of the many complicated problems arising in international trade of agricultural products.

The delegation of Hungary would like the practice of special country chapters in the trade reports to be continued. More attention should also be given to all factors influencing trade, such as trade barriers and restrictive measures.

The delegation of Romania attached great importance to agricultural trade and was looking for further efforts towards its liberalization and towards the elimination or substantive reduction of tariff and non-tariff obstacles which impeded the normal development of trade between member countries, in particular with those developing from the economic point of view.

02.2.2. As far as products (such as grain, meat, milk products) were already being dealt with by other international organizations, whose terms of reference were more directly related to these products, ECE should limit its work to summary presentations of market developments without entering into discussions (European Economic Community).

The delegation of Switzerland was in favour of the annual studies, but they should be made less detailed and easier to read.

The delegation of Turkey pointed to the usefulness of the report on the grain market.

02.2.3. The delegations of Romania and Yugoslavia stressed the importance of and their interest in this project.

02.2.4.1.

The European Economic Community had no objection to the extension of the standardization work to other products, as far as they were not already covered by the work programmes of other international organizations.

The delegation of Spain was interested also in further work on such questions as storage and packaging.

The delegation of Turkey pointed to the particular climatic and soil conditions in the Mediterranean basin; importing countries should adopt a more flexible attitude towards the realities of exporting countries and act with the necessary understanding in elaborating new standards and revising existing ones in order to refrain from causing restrictive and harmful effects to the trade of exporters; such a positive effort would conform to the repeatedly confirmed wish of the Commission and of importing countries to co-operate with the countries developing from the economic point of view.

Work area 02.3.: Selected economic and technological problems

The agricultural tasks laid down in the Final Act of the CSCE should be reflected in the work programme of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies. Among the most important problems were research into new methods and technologies for increasing the productivity of crop production and animal husbandry; application of chemical products in agriculture; design, construction and utilization of agricultural machinery; technologies of irrigation and other land improvement works. A complex approach was necessary to realize the selected main topics; socio-economic aspects and questions of working and living conditions as well as problems of environmental protection should become integrated parts of specific technical issues (German Democratic Republic).

The delegation of Romania felt that the Committee should carry out and implement complex programmes aiming at (i) further developing bilateral and multilateral co-operation to improve and breed new varieties of highly productive seeds; (ii) developing a European scientific research framework of the type set up by FAO; (iii) achieving modern systems of irrigation; (iv) undertaking anti-erosion work and making better use of unproductive land; (v) proper use of fertilizers and other chemical substances; (vi) extended mechanization and automation of agricultural work.

02.3.1.

The delegation of Bulgaria expressed its special interest in this project.

The delegation of Yugoslavia suggested, for inclusion in the programme of work, an examination of the labour and employment problems in agriculture, particularly in rural areas.

- 02.3.1.2. All delegations referring to this symposium pointed to the importance of its subject, as the improvement of agrarian structures in the ECE region was gaining in importance. The representative of the European Economic Community (which had done considerable work in this field) and the delegations of Austria, Romania and Spain expressed their willingness to make an active contribution.
- The delegation of Romania hoped that the proposals which it had made to FAO's Tenth Regional Conference for Europe would be taken into account.
- 02.3.2. The delegation of Switzerland felt that the programme relating to agricultural mechanization contained too many subjects which made it difficult to arrive at an overall view of this work in its entirety.
- 02.3.2.2. The delegations of Austria, Finland and the German Democratic Republic underlined the importance of all activities relating to energy problems.
- 02.3.2.6. The delegations of the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR considered it very important to update the study on present and foreseeable trends in the mechanization of agriculture.
- 02.3.4.1. The delegations of Bulgaria and the USSR supported the idea of organizing another fertilizer symposium in 1979.
- 02.3.4.2. The delegations of the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR expressed their satisfaction that the Committee had agreed to their proposal to organize a sugar beet symposium.
- 02.3.4.3. This technical report was welcomed by the delegations of Bulgaria, Turkey and the Ukrainian SSR.
- 02.3.4.4. The delegations of Bulgaria, Hungary, Turkey and the Ukrainian SSR were very interested in the technical report on triticale.
- 02.3.4.5. The delegation of Yugoslavia confirmed its intention to organize a symposium on maize, and the delegations of Spain and the Ukrainian SSR found this topic of great interest.
- 02.3.5. The technical studies on large livestock farms were of great interest to the delegations of Bulgaria, Hungary, Turkey, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR.

Work area 02.4.: Environmental problems relating to agriculture

Studies on the effect of the environment on agriculture were considered to be of great importance by the delegations of Austria and Bulgaria. The delegation of Austria referred in particular to mechanization and the use of chemical products in agriculture.

- 02.4.2. The delegations of Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR welcomed the organization of this symposium, and the delegation of Switzerland was satisfied with the co-ordination between the various international bodies concerned with the symposium.

Work area 02.5.: Statistics

- 02.5.1. It was regretted that the programme of work on the harmonization and improvement of food and agricultural statistics was not implemented at sufficient speed (Ukrainian SSR), and the efforts of the Committee to speed up the realization of this programme therefore deserved approval (USSR).

Chemical Industry Committee

127. For the consideration of this item the Sessional Committee had before it the report of the tenth session of the Chemical Industry Committee (ECE/CHEM/20). All delegations expressed their overall satisfaction with the work done by the Committee during the past year, and commended the results achieved.

128. Special thanks and appreciation were expressed to the Government of the USSR and the Organizing Committee for having hosted the tenth session of the Chemical Industry Committee in Moscow and for arranging an extremely interesting and useful study tour in the Soviet Union.

129. Delegations referred to the importance they attached to the Committee's statistical work and emphasized their willingness to give strong support in this field. Recognition was given to the Annual Bulletin on Trade in Chemical Products, the Annual Review of the Chemical Industry and the five-year survey on Market Trends for Chemical Products 1970-1975 and Prospects for 1980. The delegations of Switzerland and the United States voiced special satisfaction over the new joint OECD/ECE questionnaire for the Annual Review of the Chemical Industry which represented an important improvement and step forward in the direction of simplifying procedures for gathering statistical information and eliminating duplication.

130. In the analysis of the work programme, furthermore, special importance was attributed by all delegations to projects in the field of energy raw materials, environment and waste utilization, special recognition being given to the three major studies currently under way.

131. Appreciation was expressed to the Governments of the German Democratic Republic and Poland for hosting the seminars on Recycling of High Polymer Wastes (Dresden, 1978), on Forecasting, Planning and Programming in the Chemical Industry (Warsaw, 1979) and Air Pollution Problems from Specific Branches of the Organic Chemical Industry (Szczecin, 1978). Reference was made to the information notices and papers related to these seminars. Delegations thanked the Hungarian Government for arranging the most successful seminar on International Economic and Technical Co-operation in the Chemical Industry, in Budapest, in May 1977. The delegation of Turkey suggested that the project on international economic and technical co-operation in the chemical industry be continued.

132. There was general agreement with the programme of work for 1978-1982. The delegation of the United Kingdom ^{5/} stressed the importance of selecting and closely defining future projects so that countries may participate to maximum effect and avoid possible duplication. Satisfaction was expressed with the Committee's decision taken at the tenth session to carefully appraise all future projects; there were certain considerations to which the Committee should, in due course, give careful and balanced appraisal, taking into account both interest and the likely availability of source material. The delegation of Switzerland stressed the desirability of rationalizing the work programme of the Committee and making the best possible use of the resources of the secretariat. The delegation of Sweden said that it might be desirable to concentrate the work of the Committee on a smaller number of projects, and suggested giving more emphasis to policy oriented studies and projects dealing with long-term perspectives and structural changes.

133. The delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR and the USSR suggested that consideration should be given to working through permanent bodies such as working parties in specific fields of activities, such as the Annual Review, the Periodic Survey, market developments and statistics, on chemical technology, raw materials and energy resources as well as the environment, instead of through ad hoc meetings. The USSR delegation said that it would favour action on problems of electrochemistry, the chemistry of polymers, metals and alloys as well as development of improved chemical technology, problems which were specifically mentioned in the Final Act of the CSCE.

134. The delegation of Poland expressed satisfaction with the Committee's activities in the field of energy including its contribution to the secretariat's draft programme of work on General Energy Problems, reiterated its proposal for a study on the perspectives of carbo-chemistry in the ECE region, and also considered that the Chemical Industry Committee should contemplate a broadening of its activities in the field of trade by undertaking a study on the conditions and limitations affecting trade of the chemical industry within the ECE region.

135. The following detailed comments were made on the Chemical Industry Committee's programme of work for 1978-1982:

^{5/} Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of the United Kingdom is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

Work area 03.1.: Medium- and long-term perspectives

- 03.1.1. Special interest in this topic was voiced by Bulgaria, Spain, Turkey, the USSR and the EEC.
- 03.1.2. This project was considered to be an interesting one (USSR).
- 03.1.3. This was considered to be a significant project by the delegation of Turkey.

Work area 03.2.: Current developments and prospects including international trade

- 03.2.1. This was considered an important project (Turkey). This periodic review was considered to be sometimes too theoretical (Switzerland).

Work area 03.3.: Selected economic and technological problems

- 03.3.1. This was considered to be a valuable project (Turkey; USSR; EEC). The United Kingdom delegation considered that there should be a closer identification of the work to be done and that the Committee should not be afraid to modify the content or direction of its inquiries.
- 03.3.5. This subject was considered important by the delegation of Turkey while the delegation of the USSR expressed lesser interest.

Work area 03.4.: Selected environmental and resource-saving problems

- 03.4.1. This project was of particular interest (Bulgaria; USSR).
- 03.4.2. Project of special interest (Bulgaria; USSR).
- 03.4.4. This was considered to be an interesting topic by the delegation of Spain; the delegation of the USSR expressed lesser interest.

Work area 03.5.: Statistics and information

The United Kingdom delegation attached great importance to continued work in this area.

- 03.5.1. It was stated that some countries were not providing sufficient data (Switzerland).

Coal Committee

136. The discussion of the work of the Coal Committee took place on the basis of the report on its seventy-third session (ECE/COAL/54).

137. Delegations which took the floor emphasized the increasing importance their Governments attached to coal and to international co-operation in this field. They expressed satisfaction with the results of the Coal Committee's activities

during the period under review. They commented favourably on the methods of work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, placing special emphasis on the advantages to be derived from the holding of symposia on subjects of particular interest, and from study tours in various countries. Particular satisfaction was voiced over two symposia on subjects of great importance which were to be held in the near future, one on the utilization of heavy-duty equipment in open-cast mines at Cottbus (German Democratic Republic) from 16 to 19 October 1978, and the other on the gasification and liquefaction of coal at Katowice (Poland) from 23 to 27 April 1979. Representatives thanked the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany for inviting the members of the Coal Committee to a study tour which was to take place in that country in September 1978. They accepted with great satisfaction the invitations issued by the United Kingdom and the USSR to similar study tours which those countries proposed to organize in 1980 and 1981 respectively. Yugoslavia would soon inform the Committee whether it would be possible to organize a study tour in Yugoslavia in 1979. Delegations expressed great appreciation of the contributions made by other international organizations through their co-operation with the Coal Committee, particularly that of CIMEA.

158. The following activities of the Committee, responding to the needs of Governments in the present context of the energy and coal situations, received special recognition:

New uses for coal, especially coal gasification and liquefaction (Austria; Belgium; 6/ German Democratic Republic; Greece; Hungary; Poland; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; USSR; United States; Yugoslavia; CIMEA);

Labour productivity and management in underground mines (Bulgaria; Czechoslovakia; Poland; USSR; Yugoslavia);

Technical and economic problems of open-cast coal mining (Belgium; Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; Greece; Hungary; Poland; Turkey; CIMEA);

Health and safety problems in mines (Belgium; Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; Hungary; Poland; Ukrainian SSR; USSR);

Examination of possibilities of industrial co-operation (Belgium; Poland; Turkey; Yugoslavia);

Long-term perspectives of the coal industry (Belgium; Canada; Hungary; Poland; Spain; United States; Yugoslavia);

Automation and mechanization of mining operations (Bulgaria; USSR);

Utilization of coal in selected consuming sectors and trends on the coal market (Belgium; Sweden; Turkey);

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

Technical and economic problems connected with underground coal mining (Bulgaria; Hungary);

International co-operation on research and development projects (Yugoslavia);

Specific co-operation problems of interest to member countries of ECE which are developing from the economic point of view (Turkey; Yugoslavia);

Complete utilization of coal and waste produced during extraction and in processing (Czechoslovakia; CIMEA);

Cost and investment problems in the coal industry (Czechoslovakia);

Coal classification according to type (Belgium; Czechoslovakia);

Automation of coking plants (Belgium);

Statistics and information (Belgium);

Increased efficiency in coal extraction, conversion and use (Bulgaria);

Desulphurization of coal (Sweden; Turkey);

Environment problems (Bulgaria).

139. Delegations recognized the balanced and future-oriented character of the Committee's programme of work.

140. The delegation of Poland reiterated the gist of its previous suggestion concerning the creation of an international co-ordinating centre for the gasification and liquefaction of coal, and announced that the idea was supported by UNDP since the results of the centre's work could be made available to all interested countries.

141. The Polish initiative was strongly supported by the Austrian delegation, which expressed the view that the centre's activities could be very useful in reducing the time required for research and development projects as well as the costs and risks inherent in research. The centre should be placed under the auspices of ECE, so that it might benefit as much as possible from the Commission's experience. It should also be able to draw on the experience of the working group on coal of the International Energy Agency (IEA), and of non-governmental international organizations such as the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) at Laxenburg.

142. The delegation of the USSR expressed the view that the Coal Committee should devote more attention to international co-operation in research, and should make sure that the work of the Meeting of Directors of National Mining Research Institutes did not overlap with that of other bodies. The delegation of Czechoslovakia emphasized the importance of the work done by the Meeting of Directors of National Mining Research Institutes, whose fourth meeting had taken place from 20 to 25 March 1978 at Ostrava (Czechoslovakia). The success of the meeting was also stressed by the representative of the German Democratic Republic.

143. The delegation of the USSR proposed the addition of the following subjects to the Committee's programme of work:

Analysis of trends in the utilization of colliery and coal preparation waste;

Elaboration of a method of assessing the quality of coal preparation waste with a view to its utilization;

Organization of a symposium on the utilization of colliery and coal preparation waste.

It also proposed the following changes:

(a) The programme of future work should indicate the studies which might be conducted in co-operation with CMEA;

(b) The quarterly bulletins of coal statistics should be discontinued, and only the annual bulletins retained;

(c) The Group of Experts on the Utilization and Preparation of Solid Fuels should organize study tours to plants and institutes dealing with coal conversion.

144. The Belgian delegation expressed the view that the Committee's programme of work in certain fields was rather ambitious. Efforts should be made to achieve greater concentration of the programme by postponing the dates at present envisaged for the termination of certain activities such as, for example, work area 04.3 relating to selected economic and technical problems in underground and, especially, open-cast mining. Care should also be taken to co-ordinate and integrate the Coal Committee's programmes with those of the Committee on Electric Power, the Committee on Gas, the Chemical Industry Committee, the Senior Advisers on Environmental Problems and the Coal Mines Committee of the International Labour Organisation.

145. The representative of the CMEA secretariat expressed satisfaction at the recent intensification of co-operation between CMEA and ECE. He was of the opinion that the Coal Committee could make a valid contribution to the intergovernmental conference on energy problems the holding of which had been suggested to the ECE by the delegation of the USSR.

146. The representative of Czechoslovakia supported the view expressed by the representative of the CMEA secretariat, emphasizing the role which such a conference could play in solving Europe's energy problems.

147. The delegation of Greece suggested that the Committee's work should cover not only coal but also peat problems.

148. The delegation of the Ukrainian SSR proposed that the Committee should add the following subjects to its future work programme:

(a) Elaboration of economic and effective technologies for the use of coals with a low calorific value and high sulphur content, taking account of the need to protect the atmosphere;

(b) Restoration of surface areas impaired by coal mining.

149. The Spanish delegation proposed the addition of the following subjects to the future work programme:

(a) Analysis of radioactivity caused by large quantities of colliery waste;

(b) Comparison of the costs of electric energy produced from coal with those of electric energy obtained from other sources.

150. The following observations were presented concerning projects within the sphere of activity of the Coal Committee:

Work area 04.3.:

Selected economic and technological problems

04.3.2.3. (b), (c), (d), (e) The USSR delegation considered that the termination

04.3.2.4. (b), (c) year for these projects should be 1980.

and

04.3.2.7. (f), (g)

04.3.5.2. (a)

The delegation of Belgium remarked that care should be taken to avoid duplication between this project and project 04.6.3.1.

Work area 04.5.:

Industrial co-operation

04.5.2.

The delegation of Yugoslavia proposed that in studying this topic the Committee should obtain reports from member countries of ECE which were developing from the economic point of view; in these reports, the countries concerned could describe their problems and difficulties in connexion with production, technology and marketing. On the basis of these reports and reports of other ECE member countries, the secretariat could prepare a consolidated report containing proposals aimed at facilitating the transfer of technology from the more experienced countries to countries developing from the economic point of view.

Work area 04.6.:

Statistics and information

04.6.2.1.

In the USSR delegation's view, the title of this subject should be amended to read as follows: "Increases in the assets, production costs and investment costs expected in the European coal industries".

151. Representatives expressed their general agreement with the programme of work of the Coal Committee for 1977-1982 and with its report, ECE/COAL/34.

152. A draft decision on enhanced co-operation in the field of coal gasification and liquefaction, submitted by the delegations of Austria; Belgium; Czechoslovakia; Germany, Federal Republic of; Poland; Romania; Spain; Turkey; the Ukrainian SSR; and the United States was adopted by the Commission at its thirteenth meeting. (For the text see Chapter IV, decision D (XXXIII)).

Conference of European Statisticians

153. Discussion of this item was based on the report of the twenty-fifth session of the Conference of European Statisticians (ECE/CES/10) describing the Conference's activities during 1976/77 and setting out its programme of work.

154. Delegations participating in the discussion expressed their Governments' satisfaction with the high quality of the work of the Conference and the valuable contribution which it had made to the work of the Commission. The progress made by the Conference in adapting its programme of work in the light of the provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE was particularly stressed. The adaptations made by the Conference included a significant extension of its work on the development of conversion keys between corresponding United Nations and CMEA classifications, additional work on foreign trade statistics, extension and systematization of its work on international comparisons of national accounting aggregates, productivity, etc., and sponsorship of a co-operative research programme on the design and development of computerized statistical information systems.

155. The increased emphasis in the Conference's programme of work on subjects in the field of economic statistics was cited by many delegations as one of the ways in which the Conference had adapted its work to current requirements. Particular stress was laid on the importance of the Conference's work in the fields of the systems of national accounts and balances, including links between SNA and MPS, the promotion of international comparisons of complex aggregates, the harmonization of economic classifications, general energy statistics and statistics of science and technology. Strong support was expressed for the further work planned in these fields.

156. The importance of developing conversion keys between classifications used in countries with different economic systems as a means of achieving international comparability of statistics throughout the whole of the ECE region was stressed by many delegations. In this connexion it was noted that work had been completed on the preparation of a draft conversion key between the latest versions of the Standard International Trade Classification of the United Nations and the Standard Foreign Trade Classification of the CMEA, and the hope was expressed by several delegations that tests of this conversion key could be carried out as soon as possible. The growing co-operation between the secretariats of ECE and CMEA in work on this and other projects was welcomed by a number of delegations which expressed the hope that the good working relations between the two secretariats would be progressively strengthened. The delegation of the European Economic Community stressed its great interest in the activities of the Conference of European Statisticians aiming at the establishment of conversion keys for classifications of foreign trade, economic activities and goods and services.

157. In the area of social and demographic statistics particular stress was laid on the work of the Conference on the progressive development of a framework for the integration of social and demographic statistics, harmonization of statistical nomenclatures in this field and population and housing censuses. With regard to population and housing censuses, it was noted that work had been completed on the preparation of revised recommendations for the 1980 censuses in the ECE region, and the hope was expressed that these recommendations would be issued as soon as possible in all three official languages so as to enable countries to give effect to the recommendations when carrying out their census programmes.

158. Importance was also attached to the work on environmental statistics. It was felt that good progress had been made at the recent meeting held jointly with the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems in identifying the statistical requirements in this field and in developing concepts, definitions and classifications needed for statistics on pollution and related quality aspects of environmental media. Support was expressed by a number of delegations for the Conference's decisions to speed up work on the development of statistics needed for the study of environmental problems and to include a project on statistics of land use in its programme of work. Attention was drawn to the need for close co-operation with other international organizations working in this field. The view was expressed by several delegations that the Conference would have to make its own contribution to high level Conferences on environment, energy and transport (Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Czechoslovakia; German Democratic Republic; USSR).

159. Particular appreciation was expressed of the Conference's work on the use of computers for statistical purposes. The close co-operation with the Computing Research Centre (Bratislava) in carrying out the co-operative research programme on the design and implementation of computerized statistical information systems and other projects was welcomed by a number of delegations. They gave strong support to the plans for further work in this field, including the Conference's decision to include in its programme of work the ISIS seminars held at the Computing Research Centre. It was felt that the results of this work would be of assistance to countries in developing their national statistical systems with a view to meeting the rapidly increasing demand for statistics.

160. Many delegations stressed the usefulness of the Seminar on Statistical Services in Ten Years' Time held in Washington (United States) in March 1977. Support was expressed by several delegations for the follow-up work recommended by the Seminar which had provided a good starting point for a further exchange of views and the strengthening of international co-operation. The Conference's decision to discuss basic problems relating to the organization and operation of statistical services as separate items at its annual sessions was welcomed. It was also suggested that a further seminar similar to that held in Washington be convened on this subject. Support was also expressed for the Conference's decision to give greater emphasis to work on methods of improving operational techniques of producing official statistics; the recent meeting held to discuss problems relating to household surveys was cited as an example of the usefulness of exchanges of experience in this field.

161. Great importance was attached by a number of delegations to the role of the Conference in promoting improved co-ordination of work on statistical standards, statistical inquiries and other statistical activities of all intergovernmental organizations in the ECE region. Several delegations stressed the need for more official statistics to be made available in accordance with the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE; in particular, Governments should make greater efforts to publish full trade and other economic statistics on a regular basis, rather than in the form of indices or percentages, in order to enhance ECE's activities in the field of statistics.

162. General support was given to the programme of work drawn up by the Conference. The Conference's decision to concentrate its deliberations at its annual sessions in a limited number of carefully selected priority issues was welcomed.

163. The following detailed comments were made with regard to the programme of work of the Conference of European Statisticians:

Work area 12.1.: Regional statistical co-operation

Support was expressed for a review of the statistical bulletins published by ECE. The data published should primarily serve needs in the priority areas of the Commission's work programme. The continued need for publishing the Statistical Indicators of Short-Term Economic Changes in ECE Countries should be examined (German Democratic Republic).

- 12.1.1. Priority should be given to work on the regular review of statistical work in the ECE region (Austria).
- 12.1.2. Support was expressed for the co-ordination of statistical data from international organizations (EEC).
- 12.1.3. It was suggested that analytical studies relating to various components of the Overall Economic Perspective be carried out in co-operation with the Conference (Sweden).
- 12.1.4. Priority should be given to activities undertaken to support the work of the United Nations Statistical Commission (Austria).
- 12.1.5. The importance of work on statistical problems of special interest to the member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view was stressed (Greece).

Work area 12.2.: Organization and operation of statistical services

- 12.2.1. Support was expressed for regular annual meetings of the Working Party on Electronic Data Processing (Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; EEC).

Work area 12.3.: Development and harmonization of economic statistics

Support was expressed for the Conference's decision to delete the project relating to statistics of chemicals (EEC).

- 12.3.1. Interest was expressed in this project (Bulgaria).
- 12.3.2.2. The delegations of Austria, Poland and USSR welcomed the Conference's decision to undertake comparisons of national accounting aggregates for the European region within the framework of the International Comparison Project, and expressed the hope that preparatory work on the methodology of these comparisons would be started as soon as possible.
- 12.3.3. The delegation of the European Economic Community proposed that increased priority be given to this project and recalled the active participation of the Community in the joint UN/EEC Group of Experts which had met in November 1977 in Brussels.
- 12.3.3.2. The delegations of Greece and the European Economic Community drew attention to the work being undertaken by the United Nations Statistical Office in co-operation with the European Economic Community on the revision of the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC). The delegation of the EEC expressed the hope that the CMEA would participate actively in the further work planned on this revision which would contribute to the development of a conversion key between the ISIC and the CMEA classification of economic activities.
- 12.3.5.2. Support was expressed by the delegations of Austria, Greece, Yugoslavia and the European Economic Community for the work planned on statistics of consumer prices. It was pointed out that this work could make a contribution to international comparisons of purchasing power and to the International Comparison Project.
- 12.3.5.3. The delegations of Greece and Yugoslavia supported the work planned on price and quantity measures in services.
- 12.3.7. The delegate from Yugoslavia proposed that a broad approach be adopted to work on transport statistics and that the Conference should participate actively in this work.
- 12.3.7.1. The delegation of the European Economic Community proposed that work be undertaken on the harmonization of the terminology used in agricultural statistics, and that account should be taken of the work done by the European Economic Community in this field.

- 12.3.7.2. The delegations of the United States and Yugoslavia proposed that the work on general energy statistics should include consideration of consumption and efficiency and the use of an input-output approach.
- 12.3.7.4. The delegations of Hungary, Sweden and the USSR expressed support to work on statistics of science and technology. The delegation of the European Economic Community suggested, however, that lower priority should be given to work in this field.
- 12.3.7.5. Different views were expressed regarding the importance to be attached to work on statistics of tourism. The delegation of Austria supported the work planned on this topic. However, the delegation of the USSR was in favour of giving it lower priority.
- 12.3.7.6. and
12.3.7.7. The delegation of the European Economic Community suggested that lower priority be given to work on enterprise statistics and statistics on fixed capital formation and stocks and related aspects of statistics of profits.

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

Support was expressed for the Conference's decision to delete the project relating to fertility surveys (Byelorussian SSR).

- 12.4.1. The delegation of the United States supported the Conference's decision to focus its work on the more modest and realistic goal of developing a framework for the integration of social and demographic statistics rather than a system of social and demographic statistics. The delegation of Austria supported the work planned on social indicators. However, the delegation of Yugoslavia drew attention to the difficulties involved in achieving international comparability in this field.
- 12.4.2. The delegations of Czechoslovakia, the USSR and the EEC emphasized the importance of the work planned on the harmonization of statistical nomenclatures in the field of social and demographic statistics.
- 12.4.3. The representative of the EEC emphasized the importance of the work on population census and housing statistics.
- 12.4.4.1. The delegation of the EEC suggested that lower priority be given to work on manpower statistics. The delegation of Greece pointed out that the Conference had postponed the meeting planned on this subject so that account could be taken of the results of a meeting planned by the OECD; however, the OECD meeting had not been held.

- 12.4.4.3. The delegation of Austria suggested that lower priority be given to work on statistics of education.
- 12.4.4.4. The delegation of the EEC suggested that lower priority be given to work on cultural statistics.
- 12.4.4.5. The delegation of Greece supported the work planned on housing statistics.
- 12.4.4.6. The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, German Democratic Republic, USSR and the EEC suggested that lower priority be given to work on statistics of crime and justice.
- 12.4.5.1. Different views were expressed regarding the importance to be attached to work on migration statistics. The delegation of the EEC supported the work planned on this topic. However, the delegation of the German Democratic Republic was in favour of giving it lower priority.

Work area 12.5.: Development and harmonization of environmental and related statistics

The delegation of Bulgaria expressed its strong interest in this work area and suggested closer co-operation between the CMEA and the Conference of European Statisticians in this field.

- 12.5.3. Different views were expressed regarding the importance to be attached to work on regional statistics. The delegations of Austria and Greece supported the work planned on this topic. However, the delegation of the USSR was in favour of giving it lower priority.
- 12.5.4. The delegation of Greece suggested that the work planned on statistics of land use be combined with the work on environmental statistics.

Committee on Electric Power

164. Delegations participated in the discussions on the activities of the Committee on Electric Power in the light of the Committee's report on its thirty-sixth session (ECE/EP/27). They considered that the orientation of its work enabled it to cope effectively with the problems currently of most concern to ECE countries and with the recommendations formulated in that respect at the Commission's thirty-second session. The Committee's programme of work for 1977-1982 was approved.

165. Suggestions were made during the discussion concerning the work areas and projects to which high priority should be given. The importance of the provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE was also mentioned. Some delegations also alluded to the salient features of the position of the electric power industry in their countries.

166. The following activities of the Committee were singled out as being of special interest and use:

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

Medium- and long-term prospects for the electric power industry in the ECE region (German Democratic Republic; Italy; 7/
Spain)

Criteria for co-ordinating the design and planning of large power systems in the light of interconnexion requirements (Bulgaria)

Comparative analysis of methods used in forecasting the demand for supply capacity and electric power in rural areas (Yugoslavia)

Optimum future structure of the European transmission system (Bulgaria; Turkey)

Co-operation with the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments on the Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE region up to 1990 (Spain)

Investment policies in the electric power industry (Turkey).

Work area 06.2.: Current developments

Review of the electric power situation in the ECE region (Bulgaria; Yugoslavia)

Examination of opportunities for industrial co-operation in electric power production (Yugoslavia)

Selected statistical problems (Italy)

Preparation of a terminology suited to the needs of the Committee on Electric Power (Bulgaria; Spain; CMEA).

Work area 06.3.: Selected technological and economic problems

Problems relating to nuclear power stations, including breeder reactors (USSR)

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

Selected problems of thermal power stations (German Democratic Republic)

Experience gained in the operation of units having a rated capacity of 200 MW or above at thermal power stations (Czechoslovakia; German Democratic Republic)

Experience gained in the operation of units having a rated capacity of 200 MW or above at nuclear power stations (Czechoslovakia; German Democratic Republic)

Problems concerning the design, production and operation of high-capacity thermal power units which use different types of fuel, are highly manoeuvrable and can be used to cover the half-peak of the load curve (Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Czechoslovakia; German Democratic Republic)

Recommended methods for improving the availability of large units at thermal power stations (Czechoslovakia; German Democratic Republic)

Problems concerning the design, equipment and operation of installations for the extraction and removal of ash on a dry basis at thermal power stations using solid fuel (Czechoslovakia; German Democratic Republic)

Prospects for the use of hydroelectric schemes in the light of the new energy conditions and the problems arising therefrom (Czechoslovakia; Turkey)

Economic problems involved in integrating large-capacity power stations, in particular nuclear power stations, into electric power systems (Byelorussian SSR; Czechoslovakia)

Selected problems of distribution of electric power in rural areas (Italy; Turkey; Yugoslavia)

Electric power supplies for island regions and for areas that are isolated or far from the national power system of the country in question (Greece; Spain; Yugoslavia).

Work area 06.4.: Interconnexion of electric power transmission systems

Economic criteria and methods for determining the choice of solutions to interconnexion problems (Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic)

Questionnaire for the preparation of interconnexion surveys and organization of work (CMEA)

Economic and technical problems involved in the interconnexion of the electric power transmission systems of the Balkan countries (Bulgaria; German Democratic Republic; Greece; Romania; Turkey; Yugoslavia)

Consideration of possibilities for the development of transfers of electric power in Central Europe (German Democratic Republic; Romania)

Economic and technical problems involved in the interconnexion of the electric power transmission systems of the countries of Eastern and Western Europe by means of very long high-voltage transmission lines (Czechoslovakia; German Democratic Republic; Romania)

Preparation of a map of high-voltage electric power networks (Yugoslavia).

Work area 06.5.: Problems of improving efficiency

Rationalization of electricity use by consumers (Bulgaria; Romania)

Economic conditions and technological procedures for measures designed to save fuel in electric power and heat production; future prospects (Bulgaria; Czechoslovakia; Sweden)

Evaluation of the hydroelectric potential in Europe (Spain; Turkey; USSR)

Utilization of geothermal energy for the production of electric power and space heating (Spain; Turkey).

Work area 06.6.: Environmental problems

International comparison of standards concerned with methods of calculating pollution levels, and with measuring and monitoring pollution caused by electric power stations (Sweden)

Integration of electricity production, transmission and distribution installations into the environment (Bulgaria; Czechoslovakia; German Democratic Republic)

Integration of nuclear power stations into the environment (Spain).

167. Outside the areas of the established work programme, the following topics were suggested by delegations:

Use of low calorie fuels for electric power production (Turkey)

Analysis of the consumption of electric power in relation to economic growth (Italy)

Methods of evaluating losses in the production, transmission and distribution of electric power (German Democratic Republic)

Comparative costs of the different methods of producing electric power (Spain)

Characteristics to be considered in feedwater for plant producing steam at pressures exceeding 170 atm. in electric power stations (USSR)

The chemical treatment of water and condensates in steam-producing plant in electric power stations (USSR)

Monitoring systems for pollution by electric power stations using fossil and nuclear fuels (USSR)

Problems connected with the management of the operating régimes of energy systems (Byelorussian SSR; USSR).

168. The delegation of Italy commented on the work of the Committee on Electric Power mentioned in the report on its thirty-sixth session. It considered that the programme of work approved as a whole by that Committee could be approved by the Commission with the comments made by some delegations about certain projects which were difficult to deal with at the multilateral level and would raise problems. The delegation then drew attention to the advantages which the following activities would have for the countries of the Community:

Work more particularly concerned with an overall view of the electric power production and consumption situation in order to enable the possibilities for industrial co-operation in that field to be considered;

Work, particularly statistical, which would enable the data used for evaluating general energy-economy problems to be made uniform;

The study of the relationship between "general growth" and "energy consumption" in the context of the medium-term and long-term prospects of the electric power industry;

The development of international co-operation in the field of research, electric power stations, electric power distribution, rural electrification, the use of nuclear power stations and environmental problems.

169. The Turkish delegation suggested that a project on the utilization of solar energy for the production of electric power be included in the programme of work of the Committee.

170. The delegation of the USSR drew attention to the usefulness of a regular meeting of directors of institutes and organizations involved in research in the field of electric power.

171. The representative of the CMEA secretariat emphasized the topical nature of work area 06.2.4 and drew attention to the recommendation, mentioned in paragraph 36 of document ECE/EP/27, that the possibility of adding German, Italian and Spanish should be considered in the course of the work on the preparation of a terminology suited to the needs of the Committee. The representative of Spain also suggested that other languages used in the region, especially Spanish, should be considered for inclusion, and said he was willing to collaborate on the Spanish part of the work.

172. Many delegations recommended that the Committee should develop activities in the field of nuclear energy, solar energy, geothermal energy and other new energy sources, as sources for the production of electric power. It was also recommended that the respective groups of experts should be asked for a more detailed formulation of the work to be done.

173. The Committee's work area on problems of improving efficiency was the subject of favourable comment.

174. Some delegations mentioned the importance they attached to the seminars scheduled in the Committee's work programme on the combined production of electric power and heat to be held at Hamburg (Federal Republic of Germany) in November 1978, on prospects for the use of hydroelectric schemes in the light of the new energy conditions and the problems resulting therefrom in 1979 (Greece), and on the extraction, removal and use of ash from coal-fired thermal power stations in 1979 (Poland).

175. The value and success of the Symposium held in Rome in October 1977 on Load-Curve Coverage in Future Electric Power Generating Systems was stressed on several occasions; gratitude was expressed to the Government of Italy for organizing this meeting.

176. The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, the USSR and CMEA expressed the view that the organization of all-European conferences on co-operation in the fields of environmental protection, the development of transport, and energy would make an important contribution to the development of international co-operation in the ECE region and would be in conformity with the provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE. They considered that such a conference would be particularly useful for the Committee on Electric Power.

177. Delegations expressed their satisfaction with the co-operation between the Committee on Electric Power and the IAEA in the field of electric power of nuclear origin, and between the Committee on Electric Power and CMEA on terminology, and with the questionnaires for the preparation of interconnexion studies.

Committee on Gas

178. The discussion of the work of the Committee on Gas took place on the basis of the report of the twenty-fourth session of the Committee on Gas (ECE/GAS/33).

179. During the debates on the work of the Committee, delegations drew attention to the important contribution of gas in meeting energy requirements in the ECE region. Exchanges of information and experience in the fields of the exploration, extraction and preparation of natural gas, as well as on the questions relating to its transportation, distribution and uses in various sectors of consumption, were appreciated. Favourable comments were also made on the statistical work carried out, the work on investments in the gas industry, and the work relating to the evolution of the gas industry. In general, the work of the Committee was considered interesting, useful, thorough and constructive. The delegations supported the work and activities of the Committee on Gas. The delegation of the Netherlands §/ stated that the work of the Committee covered a wide variety of problems in relation to gas. In connexion with the exchange of information, he added that some of the information in the field of technology was in the hands of those who developed it, i.e. mostly private enterprises. The representative of the United States recognized the potential contribution of gas to meet future energy requirements in his country and in the ECE region. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic added that the work of the Committee on Gas, and contacts established through that Committee, helped to promote bilateral and multilateral co-operation in the field of the gas industry. The delegations approved the programme of work of the Committee for 1978-1982.

180. The delegation of Bulgaria stressed the positive implications, which the convening of a high-level meeting on energy problems, as proposed by the USSR, may have on the future development of regional co-operation in the gas industry as well.

181. The following specific comments were made on the Committee's programme of work.

Work area 07.1.: Medium and long-term prospects

07.1.2.

The delegation of Czechoslovakia recalled the important work achieved regarding the natural gas project from Orenburg in the USSR to the western border of the USSR, through Czechoslovakia, towards east and west European importer countries. The delegation of the Netherlands said that large-scale import/export projects often involved private enterprises, which rendered the exchange of information more difficult. The United States representative said that increased world trade in pipeline natural gas and LNG could reduce pressure on scarce world oil resources, and expand the use of a relatively under-developed and under-utilized premium energy resource. The delegation of Romania expressed interest in this project and the delegation of Turkey expressed interest in the transport of gas from Middle-eastern sources to Europe.

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

07.1.3. The delegations of the Netherlands and the USSR commented favourably upon the continued co-operation between the two Principal Subsidiary Bodies in connexion with this project.

Work area 07.2.: Current developments and prospects, including trade

07.2.1. The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR and Yugoslavia praised the work done under this continuing project.

07.2.2. The delegations of Romania and Yugoslavia expressed interest in this project.

Work area 07.3.: Selected economic and technological problems

In connexion with this work area, the delegation of the Netherlands said that a number of interesting projects provided useful information for all Governments. Other projects, however, seemed to have a more limited usefulness as they did not take the position of private industries into account.

07.3.1. The delegations of Bulgaria, Romania and the USSR expressed interest in this project. The delegation of Hungary drew attention to LPG surplus availabilities in the future, which might necessitate finding premium markets so as to make the best use of them. The representative of Turkey stressed the importance of LPG for his country as well as for many other countries, especially those without a natural gas industry. He suggested that the use of LPG, together with other non-conventional energy forms, such as solar energy and bio-gas, might be given due consideration. In connexion with the study on the use of gas for electricity generation in thermal power plants, the representative of Sweden suggested the inclusion in that study of such use in thermal power plants for the combined generation of electricity and heat which had high thermo efficiencies. The delegation of Hungary stressed the importance of the study undertaken.

07.3.2. The delegation of the United States referred to the Seminar and Study Tour on LNG Peak Shaving, due to be held from 5 to 9 March 1979 in Washington D.C. (United States). He added that the newly-created United States Department of Energy looked forward to providing a positive contribution to the work of the Committee on Gas.

07.3.3. The delegate of Hungary confirmed his Government's agreement to carry out the work involved in revising the Map of European Gas Transmission Networks.

07.3.4. The delegation of the Netherlands thought that this project did not seem to be of interest to all countries of the region. and, therefore, he questioned whether it should have priority.

- 07.3.5. The delegations of Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic and Romania expressed their interest in the work being done under this project.
- 07.3.7. The delegation of the USSR considered this project very interesting.
- 07.3.9. The delegation of the Netherlands observed that some of the projects mentioned in the "Method of Work" seemed to duplicate the work undertaken in connexion with other projects. The delegation of Czechoslovakia welcomed the second Meeting of Directors of Research Institutes or Centres of the Gas Industry.
- 07.3.9.1. The delegation of the USSR expressed interest in this project.
- 07.3.9.3. The delegations of Bulgaria and the Netherlands considered this project of great interest.
- 07.3.10. The delegations of the German Democratic Republic, Romania, Sweden and Yugoslavia expressed interest in this project and suggested a closer co-operation with the Coal Committee.
- 07.3.11. The delegation of the Netherlands said that there was uncertainty about this project and its outcome required clarification.
- 07.3.12. The delegations of Bulgaria and the German Democratic Republic drew attention to the usefulness of the work carried out, and appreciated the co-operation of the International Gas Union.

Work area 07.4.: Environmental problems

The delegation of the Netherlands was pleased with the conclusions of the Symposium on the Gas Industry and Environment held in Minsk. However, he added that he had some doubts about the availability of expertise on the further elaboration of certain points taken up at the Symposium. This was due to the fact that some of the relevant research work was carried out by private enterprise.

Work area 07.5.: Efficiency and conservation

- 07.5.1. The delegation of the Netherlands thought that the work in connexion with this project was of the greatest importance for the future of the ECE region, as long as substantial subjects were selected for study. He suggested that great care be taken in this respect. The delegation of the USSR expressed interest in this project.
- 07.5.2. The delegations of Bulgaria and the USSR expressed interest in this project. The delegation of the Netherlands said that many of the subjects to be studied involved private industries and would thus render difficult the exchange of information.

Work area 07.6.: Statistics and information

07.6.1.)
07.6.2.) The delegation of the USSR expressed interest in these projects.

07.6.3. The representative of Sweden thought it very useful to exchange information on the investments in the gas industry and their financing possibilities. In connexion with the "Method of Work", the representatives of the Byelorussian SSR and of the USSR suggested that further work be done in this connexion by the Group of Experts on Gas Statistics and Forecasting Problems.

132. Delegations expressed their appreciation of the Symposium on the Gas Industry and Environment, held in Minsk (Byelorussian SSR) and the Study Tour on Natural Gas Transmission Pipelines held in Finland in June 1977. The delegations thanked the Government of France for the Symposium about the Gas Situation in the ECE Region around the year 1990, to be held in October 1978 in Evian.

133. The delegation of Poland informed the Committee of its proposal to set up an "International Co-ordination Centre on Coal Gasification and Liquefaction". The Committee on Gas was expected to play an appropriate role in this connexion. The International Gas Union should also be called upon to co-operate in this undertaking.

134. The delegations of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and the Byelorussian SSR thought that the work of the Committee on Gas as a whole, and especially the outcome of the Symposium on the Gas Industry and Environment, which was to be followed up by an ad hoc meeting, would constitute a contribution to all-European congresses on the question of co-operation in the field of the protection of the environment, development of transport and energy, as proposed by the USSR.

135. Regarding new forms of co-operation or new project proposals, the delegation of Romania suggested the exchange of scientists and technicians and multinational agreements to finance natural gas exploration, which could be considered as consistent with the Final Act of the CSCE.

136. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic suggested that due attention be paid to the problems of the optimization of transit lines for long-distance gas transport.

137. The delegation of the USSR suggested that study tours be held immediately following Committee plenary sessions, and that such study tours be planned by the Committee for several years ahead.

138. The delegation of Hungary stated that, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth session of the Committee, his Government, to mark the Jubilee Year of the Committee, would prepare a report reflecting the achievements of the Hungarian gas industry during the past twenty-five years and also the usefulness of international co-operation and the role played by the Committee in this respect.

189. The delegation of Yugoslavia pointed out that the programme of the Committee did not reflect, in an adequate manner, the special interest of the member countries of the ECE which were developing from an economic point of view and, referring to paragraph 10 of document E/ECE/932, expressed the wish that the secretariat should continue to be entrusted with contacting these member countries with a view to identifying the problems concerning their gas industries relevant to the Committee's work. The delegation of Turkey suggested that the Committee should include in the programme of work studies on biogas.

Committee on Housing, Building and Planning

190. Delegations taking part in the discussion expressed general satisfaction with the activities carried out by the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning, as reflected in the report of its thirty-eighth session (ECE/HBP/22). They also welcomed the decisions and recommendations adopted by the General Assembly (resolution 32/162) concerning institutional arrangements for international collaboration in the field of human settlements. The measures already taken by the ECE Committee on Housing, Building and Planning to streamline its structure, programme and methods of work to be better adapted both to serve the interests and concerns of ECE member countries and at the same time contribute effectively to global United Nations efforts in the field of human settlements were commended and endorsed.

191. It was also felt that the outcome of the first session of the Commission on Human Settlements (New York, 3-7 April 1978), as reported on by its Chairman, Ambassador G. Svenson (Sweden), was satisfactory and should be followed up by the ECE, in particular with regard to the recommendations on "regional arrangements". It was noted that the Committee intended to put forward recommendations to the thirty-fourth session of the ECE on action which might be needed by the ECE to fully respond to the recommendations adopted at the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held in Vancouver (Canada) in 1976, taking into account, inter alia, the relevant decisions of the General Assembly and of the ECE.

192. Delegations endorsed the Committee's programme of work as well as the methods applied in its implementation. In particular, delegations stressed the usefulness of carefully prepared issue-oriented seminars, studies jointly prepared by rapporteurs from countries with different socio-economic systems and study tours held in conjunction with the Committee's annual sessions. The decisions taken by the Committee at its thirty-eighth session with a view to reinforcing the authority of the Committee, to aligning the periodicity of the sessions of the Committee's Working Parties with that of the Committee and to applying a stricter discipline in the initiation and approval of new projects were welcomed. It was generally felt that, as agreed by the Committee, the programme of work should not be further expanded and that the number of intergovernmental meetings held under the Committee's auspices should not exceed 15 per year. Some delegations advocated a pruning of the programme so as to achieve further improvement in the quality of the end products. Switzerland reiterated its invitation to all the member countries to a study tour which would take place in Switzerland in conjunction with the thirty-ninth session of the Committee in September 1978. The study tour would cover aspects of building technology, new housing developments and rehabilitation. It would also demonstrate integrated settlements planning, land-use and housing policies.

193. Delegations strongly endorsed the increased attention being paid by the Committee to comprehensive and integrated policies and strategies in the field of human settlements. The Seminar on the Impact of Energy Considerations on the Planning and Development of Human Settlements, held in Ottawa (Canada) in October 1977, was referred to as a good example of how the Committee could successfully assist countries in providing concrete guidance for the development of policies in an area of key concern to ECE Governments. The recommendations of the Seminar should be followed up within the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, so that relevant questions could be studied in more depth. Several delegations stated that the recommendations adopted at the Ottawa seminar had already been used as a basis for national legislation.

194. Favourable comments were also made on the progress made in the preparation for the Seminar on Land-Use Policies, to be held in Stockholm (Sweden) in June 1978.

195. As to the Committee's activities related to socio-economic aspects of housing, delegations expressed their great satisfaction with the Seminar on Housing Policies, held in Turku (Finland) in July 1977. The progress made by the Working Party on Housing in further studying the methodology of forecasting housing needs and of programming housing construction was also commended.

196. Delegations expressed their support of the extensive programme on the harmonization of the technical content of building regulations and the promotion of international standardization in the building field pursued by the Working Party on the Building Industry. The excellent and productive work relationships established with the ISO and with a large number of other non-governmental international organizations in the field of building regulations, research and standardization were welcomed. Delegations also commented favourably on the outcome of the Seminar on Building Research Policies, held at Gävle (Sweden), in May 1977 and stated that they looked forward to the Seminar on Mechanization in the Building Industry, to be held in Warsaw (Poland) in 1979.

197. The emphasis laid by the Working Party on Urban and Regional Planning and Development on quality of life aspects of urban renewal, on the role of transportation in urban planning, development and environment, and on integrated physical, socio-economic and environmental planning was fully endorsed. It was noted with satisfaction that Norway would be hosting a seminar in June 1979 on integrated physical, economic and social planning under the joint sponsorship of the Committee and the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems.

198. Delegations expressed their deep appreciation and gratitude to the Governments of Canada, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Sweden and Yugoslavia which had hosted seminars, expert meetings and study tours in the period under review. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany announced that its Government would be pleased to organize a study tour in conjunction with the Committee's forty-first session, in 1980. The delegation of Yugoslavia announced that consultations were now in the final phase regarding the possibility of hosting a seminar on citizen participation in settlement management to be held in Yugoslavia in 1980.

199. The delegation of Turkey reiterated its statement made at the thirty-second session of the Commission that the Committee should make appropriate adjustments in its future programme of work in order to give a more balanced emphasis to the problems and interest of the member countries of ECE which were developing from the economic point of view.

200. The following comments were made by delegations with regard to the various projects contained in the Committee's programme of work (ECE/HBP/22, annex I):

Work area C3.1.: Long-term perspectives and policies in human settlements

The delegation of France ^{9/} expressed its support for all projects in this work area.

- C3.1.1. The delegations of Bulgaria, the Byelorussian SSR, Finland, France, the German Democratic Republic, Norway, the USSR, and the United States expressed their special interest in this project.
- C3.1.2. The delegation of France stressed the importance of implementing this project along the lines of Commission decision G (XXXII).
- C3.1.4. The delegations of Finland, France, Hungary, Turkey, the United States and Yugoslavia supported this project.
- C3.1.5. The delegation of Portugal expressed interest in this project.
- C3.1.6. The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, Canada, Finland, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, the USSR and the United States supported continued work on this project by the Committee, as well as its subsidiary bodies.

Work area C3.2.: Integrated human settlements planning and development

The delegation of France expressed its support for all projects in this work area.

- C3.2.2. The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR and the USSR expressed support for this project. The delegation of Turkey indicated its particular interest in sub-project C3.2.1.1., while the delegations of Bulgaria, France and the German Democratic Republic emphasized the priority of sub-project C3.2.2.2.

^{9/} Whenever in the following paragraphs the delegation of France is mentioned, it should be noted that it expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

- 08.2.3. The delegations of France, the German Democratic Republic and the United States expressed special interest in sub-project 08.2.3.1.; the delegations of Finland, the German Democratic Republic, Norway, Portugal, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States, expressed their support for sub-project 08.2.3.2.
- 08.2.4. The delegations of France, Turkey and the Ukrainian SSR, expressed their support for sub-project 08.2.4.1.
- 08.2.5. The delegations of Turkey and Yugoslavia stressed the importance of continued work on this project. The delegations of Bulgaria and the USSR proposed that the name of the project should be changed to indicate that it would deal with human settlements problems in areas with mild climate.
- 08.2.6. The delegations of Canada, Finland, France, Hungary, Norway, Turkey and the United States expressed their support for this project, the delegation of France with the reservation that the preliminary report on this project should be revised with regard to the references made to the Final Act of the CSCE and the report of the HABITAT Conference. The same delegation also expressed the view that the provisions of this report related to the importance of urban factors and international co-operation in the field of habitat should be covered in more detail.
- 08.2.7. The delegations of Finland, France, Norway, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR supported this project, the delegation of France with the reservation that measures should be taken to avoid overlap with project 08.2.8.
- 08.2.8. The delegation of Yugoslavia supported this project.
- 08.2.9. The delegation of the United States supported this project.

Work area 08.3.: Socio-economic problems and policies in housing

- The delegation of Switzerland expressed its support for all projects in this work area.
- 08.3.2. The delegation of Portugal expressed its interest in this project.
- 08.3.3. The delegations of Portugal and the USSR expressed their interest in this project.
- 08.3.4. The delegation of Portugal supported this project.
- 08.3.5. The delegations of the German Democratic Republic, Norway, Portugal, the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR, supported this project.

Work area 08.4.: Problems and policies in building materials and construction

The delegations of the Ukrainian SSR and the USSR expressed their support to all projects in this work area.

- 08.4.2. The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR suggested this project be expanded to include harmful effects of construction on the environment and also a study of energy used in the production of building materials.
- 08.4.3. The delegations of Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, the Byelorussian SSR and the USSR, supported this project.
- 08.4.4. The delegations of Finland, the German Democratic Republic, Portugal and Switzerland, supported this project.
- 08.4.5. The delegation of Switzerland supported this project.

Work area 08.5.: Promotion of international trade in building products and know-how

The delegations of Bulgaria, Finland, France, Hungary and the USSR expressed their support for all projects in this work area. The delegation of Hungary proposed to concentrate on questions relating to structural safety, fire protection and approval of building products.

- 08.5.2. The delegation of Switzerland stressed the importance of this project.
- 08.5.3. The delegation of the USSR expressed its support for this project.
- 08.5.4. The delegations of the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Portugal, Switzerland and the USSR stressed the importance of this project.
- 08.5.5. The delegations of France and the USSR stressed the importance of this project.
- 08.5.6. The delegations of France, Hungary and Switzerland stressed the importance of this project.

Work area 08.6.: Statistics and information

The delegations of the German Democratic Republic and Switzerland expressed their full support of both projects in this work area.

Inland Transport Committee

201. The Sessional Committee had before it for consideration of this agenda item the report of the Inland Transport Committee on its thirty-seventh session (ECE/TRANS/28). During the discussion of the report and the activities of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies during the past year, delegations expressed their general satisfaction and appreciation for the work which had been accomplished, and endorsed the programme of work, which reflected the extensive international co-operation within the ECE region in the field of transport, of which the importance had been recognized in the Final Act of the CSCE. It was noted that the broad competence of the regional commissions in the field of transport had been acknowledged by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2098 (LXVIII) which provided for a strengthening of their inland transport programmes through a decentralization of activities to the regional level.

202. The delegation of the United Kingdom 10/ expressed satisfaction with the improved layout of the programme of work, and hoped that actual progress might eventually be measured against the work completion estimates contained therein. Several delegations referred to the large number of international agreements and resolutions which had been elaborated under the Committee's auspices, and described recent developments within their countries with respect to ratification and acceptance of certain such instruments. Other delegations commented on general transport developments in their countries.

203. Delegations stressed the value of exchanges of information on general trends with regard to transport development and transport policy, and expressed satisfaction with the results of the ad hoc meeting to review such trends and with the Committee's decisions with respect to further work in the areas of modal split and infrastructure investment criteria. Noting that there was a practical as well as a theoretical side to work being undertaken in the field of infrastructure, many delegations stressed the importance which their Governments placed on the various concrete infrastructure projects contained in the programme of work such as the Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM), the study of the Danube-Oder (Elbe) waterway link as well as the Danube-Aegean Sea connexion, the study of the development of an international road network in South-Eastern Europe and the study of the infrastructural requirements of long distance rail transport to the Middle East. Concerning the TEM project, the delegation of Turkey, recalling the importance of the continental link between Europe and the Middle East via Turkey, mentioned the positive effects to be expected from this project on the road infrastructures of the concerned regions. The delegation of Austria stressed the need to study the creation of an all-European inland waterway concept under which traffic rights on the inland waterways would be granted by a network of bilateral agreements all of them based on the principle of reciprocal advantages and the sharing of benefits. Support was expressed for the secretariat study on east-west European goods traffic flows which was intended to investigate the adequacy of the transport infrastructure to accommodate future east-west goods traffic flows. The delegation of Romania suggested that this study be enlarged to include all major traffic flows between European countries.

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

204. With respect to urban transport, several delegations endorsed the view of the Committee affirming its competence in the field and calling for close collaboration with the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning on aspects of joint interest, but with the leading role in respect of transport matters remaining with the Inland Transport Committee. The delegation of the United Kingdom suggested that the Committee, before deciding upon further work in this field, be guided by replies to the questionnaire on transport developments, which would contain additional items on urban transport.

205. The delegations of Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland and Romania supported the proposal of the USSR to hold an all-European congress on questions of co-operation in the field of the development of transport, expressing the hope that an appropriate high level meeting might soon be convened. The delegation of Yugoslavia expressed support for any initiative designed to promote and develop co-operation in the field of transport.

206. The delegation of the United Kingdom hoped that the Committee would be able to approve at its special session in July the draft protocols providing for new units of account to replace the gold franc in ECE liability conventions and stressed the urgency of taking action in 1978.

207. Many delegations referred to the growing importance of combined transport in the ECE region, and noted in particular the Committee's suggestion to change the name of the Group dealing with this subject to reflect its broad responsibilities which included, in addition to containers, piggyback and other forms of combined transport. Continued co-operation with UNCTAD in this field was stressed by the delegation of the USSR.

208. Delegations also referred to the importance of work being undertaken on the simplification and harmonization of administrative formalities and Customs procedures, noting that this was an area in which special efforts were required as progress was difficult in view of the complexities of the problems and the wide range of interests involved. Several delegations welcomed the study underway regarding the possibilities of extending the territorial application of the TIR system, and this was viewed by some delegations as an area for effective interregional co-operation. Interest was also expressed in work involving aspects of traffic between Europe and the Middle East which also offered possibilities for such interregional co-operation.

209. Concern over problems related to transit traffic was expressed by many delegations, who welcomed the Committee's decision to entrust to a task force the study of the use of road infrastructure for international transport, including the question of the optimization of the use of infrastructure for transit traffic, inter alia through the use of authorized routes and the levying of taxes and dues. The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany stated that his country would participate in the work of the task force.

210. The delegations of Greece, Romania and Turkey referred to problems of special interest to member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view. They regretted that the Committee had not included more specific proposals in this area of its programme of work. In this respect the delegation of Turkey suggested that a study should be formally undertaken on the measures to promote an efficient system of transport and satisfactory infrastructure. The delegation of Romania referred in this connexion to, for example, the creation of more favourable conditions for import/export transport; the granting of concessions

regarding transport authorizations; the granting of special exemptions from taxes and tariffs; and the possibility of granting technical assistance for the development of transport systems. The delegation of the Netherlands favoured giving more concrete substance to this project at the next session of the Committee.

211. The delegation of Greece noted with satisfaction the Committee's decision to study the co-ordination of activities among international organizations in the field of transport.

212. The following comments on specific projects of the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee were made:

Work area 09.1.: Medium- and long-term perspectives

09.1.1. Several delegations (Austria; Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Greece; Hungary; Romania; Spain; Switzerland; Turkey; United Kingdom; United States; USSR) expressed themselves in favour of the continuation of the consideration of questions in the field of general transport development trends and transport policy. The representatives of Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, Spain, Switzerland and Yugoslavia emphasized their interest in questions of the modal split. The representative of Austria suggested that the question of price policies and the problems of participation in transport on the basis of equal reciprocal advantages should be studied as well. The delegations of Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom expressed their support for the studies to be undertaken on infrastructure investment criteria.

09.1.1.(f) The delegations of Greece, Italy, Romania, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom stressed the importance of considering the question of the use of infrastructure for international transit traffic. The delegation of Greece suggested the inclusion in this project of the financing of infrastructure projects of interest to international traffic. The importance of taking into account contributions which the railways and combined transport could make in finding acceptable solutions for road traffic was noted in this context.

09.1.2. The delegation of the USSR stressed the importance of co-operation with the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments in the Overall Perspective for the ECE Region up to 1990, as the results would be basic in order to determine the role of transport in the frame of the overall economic development in the region.

Work area 09.2.: Transport infrastructure and operations

The United Kingdom delegation supported the work being undertaken in the field of infrastructure in connexion with European motorways, railways and inland waterways.

09.2.1. The delegations of Austria, Bulgaria and the USSR expressed their interest in this project.

09.2.1.(b)(c) Particular interest was expressed by the delegation of Austria for these project components.

- 09.2.1.(d) The delegations of Greece and Yugoslavia noted with satisfaction that the study with regard to the Danube-Morava/Axios connexion has been included in the programme of work.
- 09.2.3. A number of delegations (Byelorussian SSR; Italy; Switzerland; USSR; United Kingdom; United States) welcomed the views of the Inland Transport Committee with regard to close co-operation with the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning in connexion with questions of urban transport in the context of urban planning.
- 09.2.5.(a) Support was expressed by the delegations of Austria, Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Turkey and Yugoslavia for the implementation of the Trans-European North-South Motorway project.
- 09.2.5.(b) The importance of developing interregional road links was stressed by the delegations of Greece, Netherlands, Turkey and Yugoslavia. The delegation of Turkey stressed the importance of strengthening the transport facilities between Europe and the Middle East and mentioned the necessity of horizontal co-operation between regions concerned with the development of road infrastructure. The delegation of Yugoslavia pointed out that work in this field should not be limited to road transport but should take into account the possibilities of other modes of transport.
- 09.2.6. The delegations of the German Democratic Republic, Romania and Yugoslavia attached special importance to the introduction of automatic coupling in rail transport and, as a preparatory step, the conclusion of an agreement on the subject between Governments. The delegations of France, Netherlands and the United Kingdom expressed the view that the introduction of automatic coupling had to be deferred, because resources were not available and would not be in the near future. The United Kingdom stated that there was therefore no need for prolonged intergovernmental discussions on the subject.

Work area 09.3.: Facilitation of international transport

The delegation of Greece expressed its particular interest in this project and reaffirmed its position in favour of the liberalization of international road transport of passengers and goods.

- 09.3.1. The delegations of Austria, the USSR and Yugoslavia stressed the importance of the ongoing work in the field of the transport of dangerous goods. The delegations of Switzerland and the United Kingdom expressed their interest in the harmonization of rules concerning the carriage of dangerous goods by inland waterways.
- 09.3.2. The delegations of Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Turkey, United Kingdom and Yugoslavia supported the initiatives being taken in the matter of simplification of frontier crossing formalities.

- 09.3.3. The delegation of Austria expressed its interest in the implementation by all member States of the 1968 Conventions on Road Signs and Signals. The delegations of Greece, Netherlands, Turkey and the United Kingdom expressed their interest in the study of the possible extension of the TIR Convention to other regions. The delegation of the United Kingdom stressed the urgency of approving the draft protocols to the CMR, CVR, CLN and CVN Conventions providing for new units of account to replace the gold franc.
- 09.3.4. The delegations of Greece, the USSR and Yugoslavia expressed their particular interest and supported the work carried out with a view to promoting combined transport and the study of requirements for multimodal transport equipment. The delegation of the United States pointed out that it considered an international convention on container standards neither necessary nor practicable and that the work on container standards should be carried forward by ISO.
- 09.3.5. The delegations of Bulgaria and the USSR attached great importance to consideration of this project.
- 09.3.6.(a) The delegations of the Federal Republic of Germany and the United Kingdom supported the ongoing work with regard to the technical requirements for inland waterway vessels. The delegation of the USSR expressed special interest in this question. The delegation of Hungary expressed its view that work on the subject should be continued despite certain problems which had arisen with regard to the application of the recommendations annexed to resolution No. 17.
- 09.3.8. The delegations of Hungary, the United Kingdom and the United States supported the continuing work on the development of standards for motor vehicle equipment and parts. The delegations of Austria and the Federal Republic of Germany favoured intensification of the work on the limitation of noise and with regard to the emission of gaseous pollutants by the engine.
- 09.3.9. The delegations of Greece, Netherlands, Romania and Turkey expressed their concern with regard to the consideration of problems of special interest to member countries of ECE which were developing from the economic point of view, and felt that in this respect more concrete action should be included in the Committee's programme of work.

Work area 09.4.: Transport safety

- 09.4.2. The delegation of the USSR attached great importance to this project and in particular to the revision of CEVNI to which priority should be given. The delegation of the United Kingdom supported work on the harmonization of navigation rules in inland waterways.
- 09.4.4. The delegations of Austria, Hungary and the USSR supported work on this project.

09.4.7. The delegation of the Netherlands attached particular importance to intensified co-operation with other regions.

Work area 09.5.: Environmental and resource saving aspects

09.5.1. The delegation of Austria fully supported this project.

09.5.3. The delegation of Greece expressed particular interest in and support for the activities aimed at increased economy and efficiency in energy consumption in transport.

Work area 09.6.: Statistics and information

09.6.1. The delegation of Greece expressed its opinion that statistics on origin and destination of transport flows between countries should be included in the statistical data to be collected.

09.6.4. The delegation of Austria supported the publication of maps of inland waterways used in international traffic.

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems

213. For the consideration of this item, the Sessional Committee had before it the report of the sixth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems (ECE/ENV/19). Delegations generally felt that, after five years of sustained work, the Senior Advisers had become a well established body with a balanced programme reflecting the main environmental concerns of ECE Governments. It was noted, however, that effective international co-operation for the protection of the environment did not as yet meet the challenge. In the interventions, reference was frequently made to the Consultative Meeting of the Senior Advisers, which had been held in September 1977, on the invitation of the Executive Secretary, to examine a set of topics which might be appropriate for consideration at a high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE on the protection of the environment. The related report to the Commission in document E/ECE/936 was described as a thorough and useful analysis of priority areas.

214. While recognizing that any decision on the topics, date and venue of the proposed high-level meeting would be considered by the plenary, a great number of delegations expressed the hope that a positive step towards the convening of such a meeting would be taken at the thirty-third session. In this context it was underlined that, in Commission resolution 1 (XXXII), ECE Governments had committed themselves to consider the problem in a constructive spirit at the thirty-third session. Specific comments on organizational matters were made by a few delegations: it was recommended that a high-level meeting should take place in three stages; the delegation of Romania held that, whatever topic was selected, there would be a need to set up related regional and sub-regional research centres. In general, representatives considered that preparations for a high-level meeting would give impetus to the work of the Senior Advisers and a new dimension to intergovernmental co-operation within the ECE. Some delegations suggested that the criteria of the Senior Advisers for project selection had been too broad; the preparations for a high-level meeting could bring about a concentration of activities on priority areas; actual projects in the programme of work, linking priority areas and priority objectives would directly serve the implementation of the decisions of the meeting. The time would seem to have come for ECE Governments to engage in a negotiating process to reach agreement on a programme for the reduction of emissions leading to transboundary air pollution and this programme

should be embodied in a convention. The delegation of Turkey suggested that the Senior Advisers should begin now to consider how to adapt their programme of work in connexion with preparations for a possible high-level meeting on the environment.

215. When discussing the current activities of the Senior Advisers, delegations often referred to the topics put forward in document E/ECE/936 for possible consideration by the Commission in deciding on a high-level meeting. In this context, the achievements of the Working Party on Air Pollution Problems were appreciated, in particular the progress made under the co-operative programme for the monitoring and evaluation of the long-range transport of air pollutants; this programme would no doubt become an important component of any future agreement on intergovernmental measures to control air pollution in the ECE region.

216. The work of the Senior Advisers in the area of low- and non-waste technology was also considered significant and the operative character of the current project was commended. Several delegations pointed out that, in the long-term the development of environmentally sound technologies would not only assist protection policies but also promote the rational use of resources.

217. With regard to the control of toxic substances and toxic wastes, the policy debate at the sixth session was considered to have revealed the general concern of ECE Governments over the proliferation of hazardous substances and their effects on human health and the environment. Approval was expressed for the decision to call an ad hoc meeting to examine the scope for extending co-operation in this important area. The delegation of Bulgaria was strongly in favour of intergovernmental co-operation on research into the problems of substitutes for toxic substances.

218. Many delegations referred to the need for greater attention to problems of water pollution and recommended that closer links should be established with the Committee on Water Problems and UNEP. In pointing out that water was becoming a limiting factor in development, the delegation of Yugoslavia particularly requested the inclusion of water pollution problems on the agenda of a high-level meeting. Concerning the protection of flora and fauna, the observation was made that this was the only topic proposed where ECE had not engaged in directly related activities.

219. A number of delegations expressed their satisfaction with the activities of the Senior Advisers in the work areas of policy, planning and management, which had been gradually expanded, and considered that it might be opportune to include a subject related to integration of environmental considerations in long-term development planning among the topics for a high-level meeting. Special mention was made of the contribution to the Over-all Economic Perspective by the ad hoc task force of government-appointed experts which had met at Bilthoven (Netherlands) in autumn 1977, to discuss critical environmental issues. It was generally felt that the biennial exchange of national information on environmental policies and strategies served a useful purpose and should be encouraged. Many delegations commended the preparations for the two seminars on integrated physical, socio-economic and environmental planning and on environmental impact assessment scheduled for mid-1979. General approval was given to the decision of the Senior Advisers to convene the UNEP/ECE regional seminar on "Alternative patterns of development and life-styles" in 1979, which would contribute to a wider United Nations effort for the Third Development Decade. Many delegations noted that the new programme of work of the Senior Advisers reflected the general desire of member Governments to concentrate their activities on selected priority areas; it also seemed sufficiently flexible to accommodate preparations for a possible high-level meeting.

220. A recurrent theme in the discussion was the need for the Senior Advisers to establish more effective co-operation with other ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies and other international organizations. Because of the comprehensive character of environmental problems, most of the important activities of the Senior Advisers had to be co-operative ventures. Special mention was made of the opportunities, in many interdisciplinary areas, for creating closer relationships with the competent Principal Subsidiary Bodies. With respect to the Senior Economic Advisers, a wider consideration of the social and economic aspects related to protection of the environment was suggested, more direct co-operation was recommended and the question was raised whether some form of institutionalized co-operation might be conceivable. It was also held that by closer contacts with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies, the Senior Advisers could contribute to the overall concentration and integration of activities within ECE. Low- and non-waste technology was mentioned as an area where further co-operation between various Principal Subsidiary Bodies would be desirable; the same was true for several projects being carried out by the Working Party on Air Pollution Problems. In general, delegations approved of the collaboration that had been established between ECE and UNEP in a number of important project areas. This relationship was considered particularly important, as many environmental problems went beyond the regional level. The strengthening of links with the CMEA was also welcomed.

221. Representatives of several intergovernmental organizations addressed the Sessional Committee and expressed their interest in close co-operation with the ECE on problems of environmental protection. A report was presented on various measures taken by the European Economic Community to implement its current environment programme, particularly in areas of specific concern to the Senior Advisers on Environmental Problems. Reference was made to instructions issued by the Executive Committee of the CMEA to its secretariat, that active support should be given to any preparatory work within the framework of ECE for a high-level meeting on the protection of the environment. Several proposals for collaboration on projects in the current programme of work of the Senior Advisers were made on behalf of the World Tourism Organization. Assurance was also given that the UNEP would provide continued and extended support to regional activities for the protection of the environment within ECE which, owing to its structure and membership, had experience of value to share with the rest of the world.

222. The delegation of Austria pointed out that in industrial production emphasis should be placed on the production of longer-lasting consumer goods to help preserve the environment and natural resources. This delegation added that the secretariat might consider studying this idea.

223. The following detailed comments were made on the programme of work of the Senior Advisers for 1978-1982:

Work area 05.1.: Prospective trends and problems

The importance of this area for encouraging inclusion of environmental consideration in development planning from the very beginning was noted (Romania).

- 05.1.1. Strong support was given to the Seminar on integrated physical socio-economic and environmental planning, to be held in Norway in June 1979 (Portugal; Spain; Turkey).
- 05.1.2. The content of the report of the ad hoc task force meeting at Bilthoven should form part of the Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE Region (Hungary; Netherlands; EEC). Activities under this project could assist member Governments in development planning; the Bilthoven meeting was a positive contribution (Portugal; Turkey; United States). An offer was made to provide hospitality for further ad hoc meetings on the subject (Netherlands).
- 05.1.3. Satisfaction was expressed that the Senior Advisers had decided to participate in the global UNEP effort by organizing a regional seminar on Alternative Patterns of Development and Life-Styles (Netherlands; USSR; EEC); the theme should be more clearly defined so as to be relevant in the context of the countries of the ECE region (EEC).

Work area 05.2.: Current development and prospects in environmental policies

- 05.2.1. The exchange of information and views on environmental policies and strategies in countries with different social and economic systems was considered very important (Byelorussian SSR; German Democratic Republic; Hungary; Switzerland; EEC); the same view was expressed with regard to countries with different levels of economic development (Greece; Malta; Portugal; Romania; Spain; Turkey; Yugoslavia). Governments were encouraged to give all information necessary to facilitate the identification of priority subjects (EEC).

Work area 05.3.: Environmental policy and management issues

- 05.3.1. Support should be given to the activities connected with the Seminar on Environmental Impact Assessment (Canada; Bulgaria; Hungary; Switzerland; United States; USSR; EEC); satisfaction was expressed over the merging of three projects in a seminar likely to identify future activities which ought to focus on transboundary problems (EEC).
- 05.3.2.1. Attention should be given to selected environmental problems of tourism (Switzerland) and their land use aspects (Bulgaria; Spain; Turkey); in particular the impact of tourism not only on coastal areas but also on mountainous regions (Austria); close co-operation should be maintained with the World Tourism Organization (Spain).
- 05.3.2.3. Co-operation with UNEP within the framework of the "Blue Plan" was recommended (Austria; Portugal).

Work area 05.4.: Resources and waste problems

- 05.4.1.1. The activities of the intergovernmental task force on recycling, re-use and recovery of solid wastes should be encouraged (Canada; Hungary; Romania; EEC); the full participation of interested Governments was considered essential (EEC).
- 05.4.1.2. The importance of the project activities on low- and non-waste technologies in co-operation with UNEP was emphasized (Austria; Bulgaria; Czechoslovakia; Finland; German Democratic Republic; Greece; Hungary; Poland; Turkey; USSR); particular attention should be given to the importance of co-operation with industry in market economies (EEC); the long-term aspects of low- and non-waste technology for sustained protection of the environment and rational use of natural resources were stressed (German Democratic Republic).
- 05.4.1.3. The project on control of toxic substances and toxic wastes seemed to present possibilities for extended multilateral co-operation; priority should be given to the sector of toxic wastes; to engage in activities concerning the broad subject of toxic substances might be premature, but the recommendations of the ad hoc group to be convened in autumn 1978 would be considered (EEC).
- 05.4.2. General approval was given to the decision of making energy and environment the main subject of the policy debate at the seventh session in order to examine the need for a utility of further activities in this area.

Work area 05.5.1.: Selected problems of air pollution

It was suggested that the Senior Advisers should study how the work on priority problems in this area could be concentrated (EEC).

- 05.5.1.1. The necessity for wide government support of the activities under the co-operative programme for the monitoring and evaluation of the long-range transport of air pollutants was emphasized (Canada; Finland; Netherlands; Norway; Switzerland; Turkey; United States; Yugoslavia; EEC); the programme represented an important component of any future agreement on intergovernmental measures to control air pollution and achieve a reduction in emissions in the ECE region, and its success would depend on full participation by member Governments (Finland; Norway); the present phase of the programme should be well established before considering enlargement (EEC).

Work area 05.6.: Statistics, information and norms

Full support was given to activities in this area, which should lead to a basis for international harmonization of environmental statistics (Bulgaria; Hungary; EEC).

- 05.6.1.2. The importance of this project was stressed (Bulgaria).

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology

224. For its consideration of this item of the agenda, the Sessional Committee had before it the report of the sixth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology (ECE/SC.TECH./15).

225. The delegations of the German Democratic Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stressed the importance of such co-operation, not only for the social and economic development of the countries in the region but also for its contribution to creating an atmosphere of mutual understanding. In the view of those delegations science and technology were bound to play an increasingly important role in the activities of the ECE; it was to be hoped that the work of the Senior Advisers would provide an intellectual stimulus to the relevant work of all the Principal Subsidiary Bodies.

226. A number of delegations referred to the role of the Senior Advisers in linking the activities of the Commission's Principal Subsidiary Bodies in the field of science and technology, and some considered that a co-ordinating function properly belonged to the Senior Advisers. This could be achieved, in the view of these delegations, by promoting joint programmes, by undertaking studies of an inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary nature, and by co-sponsoring co-operative activities in selected subject areas with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies.

227. Commenting on the work programme, many delegations expressed general support for the progress achieved and for the effort made to incorporate and carry out the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE. The initiative of the Senior Advisers in sponsoring the participation of younger scientists and eminent specialists in the forthcoming Seminar on Technological Forecasting was noted with approval. The delegation of the United States expressed the hope that additional programmes honouring the spirit as well as the letter of the Final Act would be implemented.

228. Delegations expressed appreciation of the work undertaken by the Senior Advisers and the secretariat in making regional preparations for the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development and considered that the special session of the Senior Advisers which had taken place in December 1977 to consider the preparations for the regional meeting in Bucharest had been most useful. 11/

229. The following detailed comments were made on the programme of work of the Senior Advisers:

Work area 10.1.: Long-term trends and perspectives

The delegations of Greece, Turkey and the German Democratic Republic placed particular stress on the work of the Senior Advisers in this area. The delegation of Poland welcomed the fact that the Senior Advisers would identify and examine economic sectors in which major technological changes were likely to occur or to be required up to the year 1990.

11/ See also paras. 294 to 302 below.

10.1.3. 12/

The delegations of Poland, Turkey, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, the Federal Republic of Germany, 13/ the Byelorussian SSR and Spain expressed particular support for this work. Several delegations referred to the useful results of the recent ad hoc Meeting on Technological Forecasting. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany, however, pointed to the considerable amount of resources involved when carrying out such projects, and to the need for careful examination of which studies had already been made within existing fora and which kind of project would be topical. The United States delegation considered the field of technological forecasting as having much potential but expressed disappointment in progress to date in this area. The delegation of Bulgaria drew attention to the work of the CMEA which he considered could make a useful contribution to ECE's work in this area. The delegations of Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic and Spain attached particular importance to the convening of the Seminar on Technological Forecasting (10.1.1.1.). The delegation of Spain, as an expression of the Spanish Government's considerable interest in the subject, extended a formal invitation to the ECE to hold the Seminar in Spain early in 1979.

10.1.3.1.

The delegations of Turkey and Finland supported this project. The delegation of Greece expressed its interest in this project.

10.1.3.2.

The delegation of Turkey supported this project. The delegation of Greece expressed its interest in this project.

10.1.4.

The delegations of Finland and Turkey supported this project. The delegation of Greece expressed its interest in this project.

Work area 10.2.: Current developments in science and technology policies

The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, the Federal Republic of Germany and Greece considered the work in this area to be of particular importance. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany also attached particular importance to improving the flow of information through effective implementation of projects 10.2.1. and 10.2.2.

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

The delegation of Greece considered that work in this area should be accelerated, especially with the support of projects 10.3.1. and 10.3.2.

10.3.1.1.

The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany stated that this project merited special attention. The delegation of Bulgaria expressed great interest in this, especially in view of its relationship to the proposed high-level meeting on energy.

12/ Also of relevance in the context of work area 10.1.1.1.

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

10.3.1.1.1. and 10.3.1.1.2. The delegations of Bulgaria, Finland, the German Democratic Republic and Turkey singled out these projects as being of particular importance.

10.3.2.1. The delegations of Finland and the German Democratic Republic singled out this project as being important.

Work area 10.4.: Transfer of technology

The delegation of Turkey expressed particular interest in this work area and was satisfied that a separate work area was devoted to this question. In this context it reaffirmed the usefulness of a study to be undertaken by the secretariat on the difficulties of member countries on the interregional transfer of technology. The delegation of Yugoslavia indicated that, in common with several other member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view, Yugoslavia encountered considerable problems in technology transfer. The Senior Advisers should therefore take a lead in initiating and co-ordinating the activities of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies in the field of technology transfer. The delegation of Bulgaria stated that the work of the ECE in this area should not duplicate the activities of UNCTAD.

10.4.1. and 10.4.2. The delegations of Turkey and Yugoslavia supported these projects. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic believed that the Senior Advisers should concentrate more on substantive questions in science and technology. It expressed the view that the preparation of case-studies on the transfer of technology should not be given priority. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany felt that, among others, case-studies were a useful means for making projects in the field of transfer of technology meaningful.

10.4.2.2. The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR, the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary and the United States considered this project was most useful. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany considered that work being undertaken in co-operation with the Committee on the Development of Trade on the Manual on licensing procedures and related aspects of technology transfer was valuable.

Work area 10.5.: Other co-operative activities

The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany considered that all three projects contained in this work area were of particular interest to the delegations of the European Economic Community.

10.5.3. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany noted with satisfaction that a first step in the realization of the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE had been achieved in this project and that the Senior Advisers were planning to sponsor participation of younger scientists in the forthcoming Seminar on Technological Forecasting.

Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments

230. In the discussion of this item, which was considered together with agenda item 7(f) - Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE Region up to 1990, the Sessional Committee had before it the report of the fifteenth session of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments (ECE/EC.AD./16), as well as the Executive Secretary's report on the Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE Region up to 1990 (E/ECE/945) submitted pursuant to operative paragraph 7 of decision G(XXXII).

231. In evaluating the activities of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments during the past year, all delegations taking part in the debate voiced their satisfaction on the progress made on the preparation of the Overall Economic Perspective. The comprehensive and informative character of the version submitted in document ECE/EC.AD./17 was stressed by all delegations. Favourable comments were made, in particular on Part I "Factors and Conditions of Long-term Growth". Part II on "Considerations on Long-term Perspectives of International Co-operation" was considered as a first approach to problems of international co-operation. Some delegations felt that closer links should be developed between the growth analysis contained in Part I and the perspective for international co-operation in Part II. Divided opinions were expressed on the desirability of publishing this version of the Perspective, but there was a consensus that it should be submitted in 1978/79 to the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission.

232. With reference to decision G(XXXII), all delegations stressed the importance of long-term perspectives prepared by Principal Subsidiary Bodies in their respective field of competence. The delegation of France 14/ noted with satisfaction the pertinent insertion of the OEP as a contribution of ECE in the resolutions adopted recently by ECOSOC and the General Assembly as underlined in document E/ECE/931. Satisfaction was expressed with the contributions to the Overall Economic Perspective being prepared or envisaged by a number of Principal Subsidiary Bodies, as reported in document E/ECE/945. In this context, some delegations pointed out the need for developing new ways to stimulate the dialogue between the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission on long-term studies. The suggestion made by the Executive Secretary for informal contacts between the Chairmen or Vice-Chairmen of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned was found useful, pending arrangements for joint sponsorship of meetings if this proved desirable in the future.

233. The delegation of Poland stated that a very important factor which determined the usefulness of the whole ECE work in the priority area of long-term planning and prospects was the need for a closer interlinking of the OEP with crucial sectoral and intersectoral problems of further development and east-west co-operation, which followed from projects of Principal Subsidiary Bodies up to 1990.

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

234. As to the future work on the OEP, in line with Commission decision G(XXXII), general agreement was expressed on the need to consider the preparation of long-term perspectives as a permanent activity of the Senior Economic Advisers. Many delegations stressed the advantages of developing the work towards a higher degree of disaggregation by sector and a more concrete identification of areas for international co-operation. While this was generally agreed, some delegations stressed the difficulty of assembling and analysing sectoral information owing to the lack of statistical comparability, to the time lag in the publication of past series (e.g. input/output tables) and more generally to the scarcity of published information on national projections in this field. Many delegations also expressed interest in diversifying the geographical classification used in the OEP, in particular by enlarging the data on North America and giving more information on individual countries. Problems specific to member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view should in the view of several delegations receive more attention. The present quantitative macro-economic analysis should be improved. Trade flows should be taken into account and price variations should be represented in a more satisfactory manner, rather than extending the macro-economic analysis into new fields.

235. As to the time horizon of the next perspective, some delegations felt it premature to make a decision in this field until more disaggregated data would be made available by the secretariat and by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies. Other delegations pointed out that it would take several years to obtain contributions from the various sources so that there would be advantages in extending the time horizon beyond 1990. It was proposed that in the project of the Committee on the Development of Trade on the perspectives of trade up to 1990, the evaluation of the sectoral perspectives prepared by other Principal Subsidiary Bodies should be taken into account, as well as the alternative of full trade liberalization, which should have a very positive influence on the development of trade and industrial co-operation between east and west.

236. A number of delegations pointed out the importance they were attaching to the exchange of information and views on the preparation and implementation of plans, programmes and prospects in the course of the sessions of the Senior Economic Advisers. The hope was expressed that this discussion would not be over-shadowed in the future by the work on the OEP (Czechoslovakia, Finland, German Democratic Republic).

237. Delegations expressed their satisfaction with the results of the Seminar organized by the Senior Economic Advisers in September 1977 in Saint-Maximin (France) on Employment, Income Distribution and Consumption: Long-term Objectives and Structural Changes, and thanked the French Government for its generous hospitality. It was stressed that seminars were beneficial for the work of the Senior Economic Advisers and that future seminars should be connected with the Overall Economic Perspective.

238. As to future seminars, the subject of the 1979 seminar on "Forms and Orientations of International Co-operation in Relation to Long-Term Growth Pattern" was generally agreed. The delegation of Poland expressed its readiness to act as host country for the Seminar. Interest was also expressed in seminars on development and use of models and model systems and in this context the proposal to hold a seminar in this field in 1980 was welcomed.

239. Specific comments on the work programme of the Senior Economic Advisers were made as follows:

Work area 11.1.: Medium- and long-term plans, programmes and perspectives

11.1.3. More thorough sectoral analysis should be made in the OEP as regards economic development and international co-operation (Bulgaria; Hungary; USSR).

New intersectoral and interdisciplinary projects in co-operation with the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies should be initiated (Poland).

Analyses of prices and financial relationships should be included in economic perspectives (Sweden).

The impact of technological changes on the development and structures of the economies should also be taken into account (Bulgaria; Poland).

Closer links should be established between short- or medium-term forecasts and long-term perspectives, through selection of appropriate benchmark years (Sweden; USSR).

Technical studies prepared by the secretariat for the present version of the OEP should be published under the authority of the secretariat (France; Sweden).

The interim version of the OEP endorsed in 1977 should be updated with the title "Abridged version of the OEP" (Romania).

240. In summarizing the discussions, the Vice-Chairman of the Senior Economic Advisers formulated the following conclusions:

(i) Note was taken of the long-term studies carried out or envisaged by different Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission as reported by the Executive Secretary in his report E/ECE/945 pursuant to Commission decision G(XXXII).

(ii) The activities on the Overall Economic Perspective, carried out under the auspices of the Senior Economic Advisers, were found to be in line with the Commission decision G(XXXII).

(iii) The Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE Region up to 1990, as in document ECE/EC.AD./17, should be forwarded to the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission for their guidance and comments.

(iv) The Senior Economic Advisers were authorized to pursue their work on long-term economic perspectives in line with the recommendations made in the report of their fifteenth session.

Steel Committee

241. The discussion on this item was based on the report of the Steel Committee's forty-fifth session (ECE/STEEL/19), describing the Steel Committee's activities in 1977 and setting out its programme of work.

242. A number of delegations expressed their satisfaction that the programme of work of the Steel Committee reflected the decisions and recommendations contained in the Final Act of the CSCE. They expressed satisfaction with the work carried out by the Steel Committee, stressing in particular the importance of seminars, symposia and study tours. The delegation of Sweden thought that the programme of work was somewhat extensive and that, in order to avoid dispersion of the existing resources, projects which had already been initiated should be finished before new ones were begun.

243. Delegations stressed the importance of the annual review of the steel market and the regular publication of steel statistics and of topics treating techno-economic problems and environmental problems. Commenting on individual projects several delegations (Bulgaria; Czechoslovakia; Romania; Sweden; USSR; United States; EEC) reminded the meeting that in the course of 1978 three studies were scheduled to be completed (structural changes in the iron and steel industry, the use of scrap in the iron and steel industry and the increasing use of continuous processes in the iron and steel industry). In this connexion the delegation of Bulgaria drew attention to the fact that the programme of work of the Committee did not envisage activities on new projects in 1978, which might affect the quality of the Committee's work. The delegation of Czechoslovakia referred in particular to the organization of the seminar to be held in Ostrava in June 1978 on the application of computer techniques in iron and steelmaking. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic emphasized the importance of study tours to metallurgical plants of different countries and informed the Sessional Committee of the preparations for the study tour in the German Democratic Republic scheduled for September 1978. The delegate of the United States stressed the need to minimize the number of meetings and suggested deletion of the informal session (1 day) on the steel market situation scheduled for February each year since the same results could be accomplished by a written submission from each country.

244. The delegation of the USSR suggested the inclusion of two new topics, namely on development of steel products with higher corrosion resistance and on techno-economic problems related to the production and use of large diameter steel tubes in pipelines. The same delegation would also welcome more techno-economic projects to be included in the programme of work as well as an annex to "The Steel Market" containing information on licences for sale in the field of iron and steel technology and equipment. The delegation of the USSR urged closer co-operation with the CMEA. Increased international co-operation in the iron and steel sector was desired by Czechoslovakia, Spain and Yugoslavia, the latter asking for closer working contacts between ECE and UNIDO. The delegation of Sweden reiterated its invitation for a study tour in 1980 confirming a visit to the Kiruna mines at the same time.

245. The delegation of Romania suggested an examination of secondary energy resources arising in the iron and steel industry.

246. The representative of the European Economic Community, recalling the present difficulties of the world steel market, stressed the positive results arising from arrangements that the Community had set up with many of its partners in order to facilitate trade.

247. Delegations made the following detailed comments on the Committee's programme of work for 1978-1982:

Work area 13.1.: Medium and Long-term Perspectives

13.1.1. The importance of this topic was stressed by Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic and Sweden

Work area 13.2.: Current Developments and Prospects, including International Trade

This should be regarded as one of the fundamental areas (Czechoslovakia)

13.2.1. The importance of this topic was stressed by Sweden, Yugoslavia and the United States

Work area 13.3.: Selected Economic and Technological Problems

This should be regarded as one of the fundamental areas (Czechoslovakia)

More attention should be paid to work in this sector (USSR)

13.3.1. This study should be completed in 1978 (Romania)

13.3.1. Great interest was stressed (German Democratic Republic)

13.3.2. Interest was stressed (Bulgaria)

13.3.4. Interest was stressed (German Democratic Republic)

13.3.4.1. Attracts great interest in Romania and Sweden, the former country expressing the wish that this study be completed in 1978

13.3.4.2. Interest was stressed (Bulgaria)

13.3.4.3. Interest was stressed (Bulgaria)

13.3.5. Interest was stressed (Bulgaria)

13.3.6. Wide participation in this seminar was regarded as important (Spain; USSR)

Work area 13.4.: Environmental and Resource-Saving Problems

Co-operation with CMEA in this work area was suggested. (USSR)

13.4.1. Great interest was stressed by Bulgaria and the German Democratic Republic

13.4.1. Work on this topic was lagging behind. (Yugoslavia)

Work area 13.5.: Industrial co-operation

13.5.1. Regular publication of certain information in this area was regarded as useful (USSR)

Work area 13.6.: Statistics and Information

13.6.1. The importance of the publication of steel statistics was stressed (United States; EEC)

Timber Committee

248. During the discussion on the report of the Timber Committee on its thirty-fifth session (ECE/TIM/11), delegations considered the work done under the Committee's auspices during the past year and presented their Governments' views on particular projects included in the Committee's programme of work. Suggestions were also made on further activities which should be undertaken.

249. Delegations welcomed the fact that the Committee was to keep under continuous review the forecasts and analyses contained in the study European Timber Trends and Prospects, 1950 to 2000. This study was considered a most important tool for the development of forestry policies and the forest industries and a useful source of data. The continuing monitoring by the Committee of developments in relation to the outlook depicted in the study would make it possible to identify changes in long-term trends, enabling countries to modify their own policies if necessary.

250. Delegations also welcomed the Committee's decision to undertake work on the specific problems of the forest and forest industries sector in southern Europe such as the production and utilization of cork and resin, as well as on improving knowledge of the forest resource and analysis of wood supply potential in the region. This work is to be carried out in collaboration with FAO.

251. Delegations considered that energy questions were of increasing importance in the Committee's area of interest and expressed their appreciation of the Committee's decision to hold a symposium on energy aspects of the forest industries in November 1978.

252. Many delegations also referred with approval to the continuing work of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics in improving the comparability of statistics as well as the mechanisms for their collection and dissemination. Particular mention was made of the recent modifications to the twice-yearly Timber Bulletin for Europe.

253. The delegation of Bulgaria informed the meeting of the preparations undertaken by the Bulgarian authorities for the organization of the twelfth session of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers, which at the invitation of the Bulgarian Government would be held in Sofia in June 1978. It drew the attention of the meeting to the Symposium on Techniques and Mechanization of Reforestation of Mountainous Regions and the study tour which would precede the session and extended an invitation to all countries to participate in them.

254. Delegations noted with pleasure that the process of re-organizing the methods of work of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee would be completed at its twelfth session. They hoped that this re-organization would enable the Joint Committee to continue to promote international co-operation in its field within a more precise, flexible and action-oriented organizational structure. Activities had continued, however, during the period of re-organization notably with the Seminar on Reforestation of Forests Destroyed by Storm and Fire, held in the Federal Republic of Germany and the Netherlands in May 1977 and the Seminar on Man/Machine Productivity in Sweden in April 1978.

255. Several delegations drew attention to the continuing importance of the Committee's review of short-term developments in forest products markets. These reviews, notably the discussion at the Committee's annual session, made important information available and thus helped the orderly development of the markets. The Committee's periodic reviews of the structure and capacity of different sectors and of trends in the markets for particular product groups were also very useful to Governments and to the forest products sector as a whole. The Committee's review and analysis of the markets for tropical hardwoods represented a most useful part to the Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries.

256. Delegations also welcomed the preparation and publication by the Committee of the ECE recommended standards on stress grading and finger-jointing of coniferous sawn timber, considering that they would facilitate international trade in structural coniferous sawn timber and encourage its more rational and economic use. The delegation of the United States, while expressing support in principle for the standardization effort, repeated the reservations expressed by its delegation to the Timber Committee, which considered the two standards not appropriate in their present form for use in North America.

257. Many delegations expressed their satisfaction with the orientation of the Committee's work on environmental problems. In particular, they welcomed the preparatory meeting in November 1977 for the Symposium on the Effects of Pollution on Vegetation, scheduled for 1979, in Poland. The Symposium would be held under the joint auspices of the Timber Committee and the Committee on Agricultural Problems. Mention was also made of the work of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics on quantification and evaluation of the environmental benefits of the forest.

258. Delegations also expressed appreciation of the Committee's programme for the exchange of information on selected economic and technical problems. During the

period in question, a preparatory meeting had been held in Poland for the Symposium on Economic and Technical Developments in the Furniture Industry, and further seminars and symposia were planned for later years.

259. The delegations of the Byelorussian SSR and of the USSR considered that in the light of the provisions of the Final Act, the Timber Committee could, on the basis of work carried out or in hand, make a contribution to the preparations for the proposed high-level meeting on the environment, bearing in mind the growing interrelationship between forest economy, timber industry and the environmental situation. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany, 15/ however, considered that the acute and urgent problems in the timber field were most successfully dealt with at the level of the Timber Committee and of its subsidiary bodies. It did not feel that, for the time being, any change in this respect would add very much of substance to the activities in hand.

260. Delegations stressed the importance of full co-ordination with other international bodies in the field, to avoid any unnecessary duplication of work. They welcomed the continuing very close co-operation with FAO notably the European Forestry Commission, and with other ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies, such as the Committees on Agricultural Problems, and on Housing, Building and Planning. The delegation of the European Economic Community welcomed the close collaboration between the Timber Committee and its own organization, notably on certain aspects of forest and forest products economics and statistics, including forest taxation.

261. Delegations approved the Timber Committee's programme of work, considering that it satisfied countries' needs and was in accordance with the priority areas of ECE. The following observations were made concerning the orientation and organization of the Committee's work.

262. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany felt that the programme of work was somewhat extensive. A better concentration on the main issues and, where necessary, a certain restructuring of the programme would be advisable. Due regard should be paid to the work load for the secretariat and for national administrations or other institutions concerned with the Committee's activities. A more precise indication of the timing of projects with at least a rough indication of the resources required would help delegates to judge better whether a particular project fitted into the programme. The Committee should examine whether the organization of its work allowed for a review of activities which was sufficiently clear for appropriate evaluation of the aims of projects and their usefulness in the context of the Committee's programme. The Committee should also take into account when embarking on new projects the information readily available within ECE or other international organizations. It should ensure that projects which were not directly related to timber problems but rather to neighbouring branches were taken up only to the extent necessary. This could help to avoid duplication of work. The delegation considered that the Committee's programme covered adequately the four priority areas of the Commission, as well

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

as other fields of interest and importance for co-operation among ECE member countries. The Committee thus contributed to an effective implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Act and of Commission decision D(XXXI), (notably by projects 14.3.1.4, 14.5.1, 14.5.3, 14.2.3-7, 14.5.1, 14.5.2.1-8. Despite the desirability of considering a certain concentration of activities, this delegation considered that the flow of information should be improved in some specific fields, such as end-uses. In addition, efforts should be continued to enable countries which had a specific geographic situation or state of economic development to profit adequately from the Committee's activities.

263. The delegation of Italy, while supporting the statement of the Federal Republic of Germany, stressed the desirability of further intensifying the activities of the Timber Committee in the field of economic co-operation, studies on the utilization of forest products in industry, the classification and standardization of coniferous sawnwood, and on the technical and economic aspects of the trade of the wood-working industry. It also emphasized that the activities of the Committee should be made more efficient.

264. The delegation of Sweden considered that the Committee's activities should be expanded to include the pulp and paper industries, which were an important and integral part of the timber sector. Furthermore, while the Committee's analyses were appreciated, they could be further improved. As both of these modifications would require extra resources, this delegation suggested that member countries themselves undertake additional work. The delegation also suggested that, as a basis for long-term planning of the forest resources, a system be set up for the exchange of forest inventory data, possibly through the secretariat. The delegation of Turkey said that the conservation of forests as well as the improvement of their quality deserved a closer examination.

265. The delegation of the USSR considered that in the work programme of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics, more attention should be paid to economic rather than statistical questions. The delegation suggested that work on environmental questions could be considered to include such subjects as the study of the purification of effluents from the wood-processing industries, notably for wood-based panels, rational and integrated use of resources, including wood-working conditions, questions of production technology, of energy, etc. The delegation also suggested that the Committee attempt to find ways to continue publishing the proceedings of seminars held under its auspices, in order to allow as wide a dissemination as possible of useful technical and economic information.

266. Finland expressed satisfaction that the environmental and resource conservation problems in the forestry sector had found their place in the Timber Committee's regular programme of work. Finland attached particular value to the projections in the Timber Trend Study that covered perspectives until the year 2000. This study had already had an important impact on the forest and forest industry policies of many countries. Finland considered that these studies should be kept under continued review in order that the projections would give early signals when there were changes in the trends.

267. In the course of the discussion, the following suggestions were made for new work:

- chemical processing of wood residues for the production of protein forage, under the joint auspices of the Committee on Agricultural Problems, the Chemical Industry Committee and the Timber Committee (Hungary)
- the development of the door and window industry (Romania)
- use of solar energy for sawnwood drying (Romania)
- use of wood for musical instruments, boats, pencils and matches, on a scale of production which could ensure the effectiveness of these investments (Romania)
- modern wood harvesting methods and their efficiency as compared with traditional methods (Romania)
- methods of organizing and carrying out wood transport by modern large-capacity methods (Romania).

268. In addition, the following points relating to specific projects in the programme of work were made:

Work area 14.1.: Medium- and long-term trends and perspectives

The delegation of Bulgaria attached importance to this work area.

The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany stated that the Timber Committee was rightly very active in this work area. The study European Timber Trends and Prospects, 1950 to 2000 and the activities envisaged as a follow-up to it, should be particularly commended in this context.

The delegation of Spain expressed great interest in this work area, especially project 14.1.6.

14.1.1. The delegations of Switzerland, Turkey and the USSR attached great importance to this project.

14.1.2. The delegations of Switzerland and Turkey expressed interest in this project.

14.1.6. The delegation of Turkey attached great importance to this project.

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

14.2.1. The delegations of the Federal Republic of Germany and Turkey considered this project of particular importance. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany considered that the activities under this project were of high value to Governments, as well as the producers and consumers of forest products.

14.2.3.3. The delegation of the USSR expressed great interest in this project.

Work area 14.3.: Selected economic, technological and managerial problems

The delegation of Bulgaria expressed interest in this work area.

The delegation of Switzerland considered that there may exist duplication of effort with work undertaken in some professional associations.

14.3.1. The delegations of Bulgaria and the USSR attached importance to this project.

14.3.3. The delegation of Bulgaria expressed interest in this project.

14.3.5. The delegation of Romania attached importance to this project.

14.3.6. The delegation of Romania attached importance to this project.

Work area 14.4.: Environmental and resource conservation problems

The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany stated that it was satisfied that co-operation with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies was ensured in this work area. Efforts in this respect should be continued and possibly increased.

14.4.2. The delegation of Romania attached importance to this project.

14.4.3. The delegations of Bulgaria and Romania attached importance to this project.

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

The delegation of Spain expressed interest in this work area, especially in analysis of the causes of forest fires, and of methods to prevent and fight them.

14.5.1. The delegation of Switzerland expressed appreciation of the presentation and accuracy of the Timber Bulletin for Europe, but queried the necessity of always presenting data for the previous ten years.

14.5.2.7. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany supported the attempt of the Timber Committee to obtain comprehensive information on end-uses.

Committee on the Development of Trade

269. The report of the Committee on the Development of Trade on its twenty-sixth session was considered in the Plenary under item 6 of the agenda (see paras. 279 to 293 below).

Committee on Water Problems

270. For the consideration of this item the Sessional Committee had before it the report of the ninth session of the Committee on Water Problems (ECE/WATER/19) and a draft decision on the "ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference", prepared by the Committee on Water Problems for adoption by the Commission (ECE/WATER/19, annex I). Delegates expressed their Governments' general satisfaction with the work done by the Committee and presented their views and suggestions on its present and future activities.

271. In their statements delegations stressed the growing importance and necessity for co-operation in the field of water problems, and the new impetus given to international co-operation in this sector as a consequence of the United Nations Water Conference. It was generally agreed that water quality and quantity problems were closely linked and in this respect the present integrated approach of the Committee was highly appreciated. In the view of some delegations the Committee's activity should be focused on matters relating to the rational use and the protection of water resources to ensure proper economic and social development. Several delegations referred in particular to the promising activities of the Committee in promoting co-operation on shared water resources within the region as a follow-up to the CSCIE and the United Nations Water Conference. In the course of the discussion several delegations also referred to the proposed high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE on the protection of the environment. In this respect they considered that the experience and the resources of the Committee should be fully utilized in the preparation of such a meeting.

272. Delegations taking part in the discussion expressed their Governments' support for the Committee's activity and confirmed their intention to continue to contribute actively to the Committee's work. In this respect the delegation from Canada pointed out the intention of its Government to take a more active part in the work of the Committee in the future. The delegation from Greece expressed the view that the Committee's activity should be more action-oriented, referring in particular to the catalytic role which could and should be played by the Committee in promoting co-operation in shared water resources within the ECE region.

273. Delegations noted with satisfaction steps taken by the Committee at its ninth session on the regional follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference; they favoured the draft decision prepared by the Committee. In particular, any steps which might be taken to intensify co-operation with the other regional commissions in the light of the Mar del Plata Action Plan were welcome. In the view of several delegations, the wide experience and know-how available in the ECE region should be passed on to other regional commissions. In doing this, it was stressed by the delegation of Sweden that it was necessary to analyse the hydrological characteristics of different parts of the ECE region, so as to avoid any climatic or geographical bias in the sharing of experiences. Another delegation stated that these studies should remain flexible since the questions under study were constantly evolving. Satisfaction was also expressed with the steps taken by the Committee to adapt further its programme of work in the light of the results of the United Nations Water Conference. One delegation stressed its concern that the numerous activities of the Committee might affect its efficiency.

274. The delegation from Malta expressed its Government's gratitude for the decision to hold the Seminar on Selected Water Problems in Islands and Coastal Areas with special regard to Desalination and Groundwater in Malta later in 1978.

Some delegations stressed the interest of the seminar to ECE member countries which were developing from the economic point of view. It was also pointed out that the seminar could be considered a first step in implementation of Commission decision B (XXXII).

275. Delegations welcomed the organization of a seminar on rational utilization of water and stressed its importance. During the debate, the delegation from the German Democratic Republic confirmed the offer of its Government to be host to the seminar, which was agreed to be held in that country in 1979. The delegation from the Netherlands stated that its Government had offered to be host to the seminar on economic instruments for rational utilization of water resources, to be held in 1980. The Spanish delegation stated that though Spain had been the first country to offer to host the Seminar on rational utilization of water, it had decided to withdraw its offer, given the interest shown by the competent authorities of the German Democratic Republic. This compromise should be interpreted as a sign of its spirit of co-operation within the ECE and of the good relations between Spain and the German Democratic Republic. The delegation of Spain also gave its support to the offer of the Netherlands to host a seminar in 1980.

276. The delegation from the German Democratic Republic suggested that preparatory meetings for forthcoming seminars might, for several reasons, appropriately be held in conjunction with the annual session of the Group of Experts on Aspects of Water Quality and Quantity. It was agreed that this suggestion would be brought to the attention of the Committee.

277. In their statements delegations endorsed the Committee's programme of work. The following specific comments were made:

Work area 16.1.: Long-term prospects and planning of the water economy

16.1.1. The project was of interest (Bulgaria).

16.1.2. The delegations from Byelorussian SSR, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Netherlands, ^{16/}Switzerland and Yugoslavia expressed particular interest. The questionnaire, however, relating to this matter contains some duplication (Switzerland). The delegation of Sweden suggested that in the report to be made countries should be listed according to basic hydrological conditions.

16.1.3. As different measures were used for drinking water supply and effluent disposal the delegation from the Netherlands suggested splitting up the project; the delegation from the Byelorussian SSR suggested inclusion of an analysis of perspectives for the development of community water supply and effluent disposal.

16.1.4. This should be considered a relevant project (Sweden).

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

Work area 16.2.: Economic problems of water management

- 16.2.1. Several delegations showed particular interest (Malta; Spain; Yugoslavia).
- 16.2.3. The project was considered of particular importance (German Democratic Republic).
- 16.2.4. This should be considered an important project, but the experience of other international organizations in the field should be taken into account (Switzerland).
- 16.2.5. The delegation from Switzerland declared its readiness to share available experience in this field.

Work area 16.3.: Environmental problems of water management

- 16.3.1. In this field the Committee should take into account work done by other international organizations (Switzerland). Co-operation on shared water resources was considered particularly important by the delegations from Bulgaria, Greece, Portugal and Yugoslavia.
- 16.3.1.2. Several delegations showed particular interest (Portugal; Spain; Turkey).
- 16.3.2. The great importance of this project was emphasized (Portugal; Spain; Turkey; Yugoslavia).
- 16.3.3. This project was of particular interest (Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Finland; Hungary; Portugal; Spain; Turkey).
- 16.3.7. This should be considered an important project (Byelorussian SSR; German Democratic Republic; Netherlands).
- 16.3.8. Great importance was attached to this project (Netherlands; Romania).

Work area 16.4.: Research and development

- 16.4.1. This should be considered an important project (Byelorussian SSR). Particular interest was expressed in the work resulting from this project (Switzerland).
- 16.4.2. The great importance and relevance of this project was emphasized (Byelorussian SSR, Finland; German Democratic Republic; Netherlands; Romania; Spain; Switzerland).
- 16.4.3. This should be considered an important project (Romania). The work done by other international organizations should be taken into account (Switzerland).
- 16.4.4. This should be considered a relevant project (Bulgaria; Romania).

278. At its twelfth meeting, acting upon the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision on the ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision E(XXXIII)).

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Development of trade and industrial co-operation
(agenda item 6)

279. For the consideration of this item of the agenda which took place in the Plenary the Commission had before it the report of the Committee on the Development of Trade on its twenty-sixth session (ECE/TRADE/123) and a note by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/939) supplementing, with particular reference to the development of industrial co-operation, the information contained in the Committee's report and in his note on concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work with particular attention to trade-related activities (E/ECE/934).

280. Almost all delegations took part in the ensuing debate on the development of trade and industrial co-operation. Many delegations described recent and prospective developments in their trade, with particular reference to their exchanges with countries having different economic and social systems. It was generally agreed that the work of the Commission and its Principal Subsidiary Bodies, notably the Committee on the Development of Trade, was practical and constructive; and many delegations stressed that the principal concern of this work should be to promote the development of east-west trade and to identify and remove obstacles thereto. Some delegations maintained that more attention should be devoted to trade policy issues, particularly at a time when protectionist tendencies and a slowing down in the process of liberalization were observable, with a view to creating more favourable conditions for the development of trade and industrial co-operation. These delegations stressed the importance of the elimination of all discriminatory measures and in this context one delegation urged the full implementation of the existing contractual obligations to this effect. The representative of the European Economic Community reiterated the basic Community concept of not resorting to the above-mentioned protectionist tendencies in spite of some difficulties, and expressed the intention of the Community to maintain and further develop traditional relations with its trade partners. The representative of the CMEA Secretariat emphasized, in the context of the implementation of the provisions of the Final Act, the steady development of equitable and mutually advantageous co-operation between CMEA and Finland, and referred to the continued initiative of CMEA and of CMEA member countries with regard to EEC and EEC member countries aimed at the conclusion of an agreement on basic principles of mutual relations.

281. Referring to longer-term perspectives, a number of delegations commented on the need for further study, and research by the secretariat, regarding the adjustment of productive and export structures necessary to achieve an optimal pattern of specialization and co-operation in intra-regional trade. Many delegations welcomed the decision by the Committee on the Development of Trade to convene a meeting of trade experts to prepare a contribution on the trade dimensions of the Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE Region up to 1990.

282. Many delegations referred to the conclusion of new long-term agreements and programmes on trade and economic co-operation, stressed the stabilizing effects of such agreements, and commented on the favourable results of the work of Joint Commissions set up under their auspices. Interest was expressed in the outcome of

the extended experimental run to assess whether a multilateral system of notifications of laws and regulations concerning foreign trade and changes therein (MUNOSYST) would be practicable and desirable. The need to work closely with other international organizations active in this field, to obtain the advice of experts on information transmission and retrieval, and to ascertain the views of users of such information was stressed.

283. The identification, in the Inventory drawn up by the Committee, of all kinds of obstacles to the development of trade among ECE member countries, especially those affecting the balance of advantages in east-west trade, and an agreement on measures to reduce or progressively eliminate them was considered by many delegations to be a task of the utmost importance. Some delegations stressed that the work of the ad hoc Meeting on the inventory of all kinds of obstacles to trade must first of all concentrate its attention on working out practical measures leading to the elimination of the obstacles of discriminatory character. The representative of the EEC said that the elimination of obstacles to trade should be a pragmatic, progressive and parallel process. The hope was widely expressed that the ad hoc Meeting on the inventory of all kinds of obstacles to trade, to be held in September 1978, would result in practical measures leading to the reduction or elimination of such obstacles.

284. The development of market information, marketing techniques and improved business contacts was considered by many delegations to be an important task. It was noted that the Fourth Seminar on East-West Trade Promotion, Marketing and Business Contacts had been a useful contribution to this aim; it was further suggested that topics chosen for future Seminars - beginning with the Fifth Seminar, to be held early in 1979 - should be narrower in scope so as to allow for a more concentrated exchange of views on market problems of general concern, including those of particular interest to ECE member countries which were developing from the economic point of view. Other delegations pointed out that the result of the future seminar depended upon a topic which must be of interest to all ECE member countries. As regards the kinds of basic economic and commercial information necessary to improve conditions for the development of trade, it was suggested by some delegations that a study of information requirements could be a promising approach. The delegation of Switzerland, recalling its proposition made in this regard during the twenty-sixth session of the Committee, underlined the desirability of treating the question of development of the exchange of information in the future in a more dynamic and systematic fashion, in order to enhance the promotion of trade and industrial co-operation. The representative of the EEC supported the position expressed by Switzerland. Some delegations made reference to the need to harmonize and align statistical nomenclatures. The delegations of Austria, Italy and Norway suggested that attention should be paid to specific measures intended to facilitate business contacts, in particular for small- and medium-sized enterprises. The delegation of Poland stated that it would present at a later date specific proposals for strengthening co-operation between business organizations and the ECE.

285. The positive role of industrial co-operation in the development of trade between countries of the region was stressed by many delegations. Several delegations pointed out that industrial co-operation, by providing for long-term and more stable relationships between co-operating parties, had made it possible

in recent years to lessen the negative impact on the development of east-west trade of the low level of economic activity in many ECE countries. Some delegations drew attention to the emergence and development of new forms of industrial co-operation, such as tripartite co-operation on third markets, especially in developing countries. Several delegations pointed out that the principal task of the ECE was the promotion of the development of trade and industrial co-operation between east and west and stressed that large scale projects on a compensatory basis for the exploitation of natural resources in member countries of the ECE was regarded as indicating a positive trend towards more intensive and more far-reaching forms of co-operation. Several other delegations, however, although advocating the promotion of east-west trade and industrial co-operation, stated that they were not satisfied with the results to date of compensatory projects nor so encouraged about future prospects of such projects. One delegation noted with satisfaction that the majority of industrial co-operation contracts that had been concluded by the enterprises of its country had been in such relatively dynamic sectors as chemistry, mechanical and electrical engineering. The delegation of Bulgaria informed the Commission of some measures of a legal character undertaken by its Government to create more favourable financial, credit and tariff conditions for the expansion of industrial co-operation with western partners.

286. The evolution of industrial co-operation was not, however, in the view of a number of delegations, proceeding as fast as the economic complementarities between member countries of the region made possible. For that reason, it was suggested that the Committee along with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies should pay greater attention to specific measures aiming at creating favourable conditions for the further development of industrial co-operation, including the possible conclusion of agreements in that field. Some delegations pointed out that the Final Act of the CSCE contained a number of specific provisions whose implementation would encourage the development of industrial co-operation in the ECE region.

287. Commenting on specific activities aimed at promoting industrial co-operation, several delegations expressed their support for the work already carried out by the ECE. They also noted that there was a need to improve dissemination and exchange of information regarding industrial co-operation at both the bilateral and the multilateral levels. Some delegations spoke in favour of a proposal concerning the setting up under the auspices of the ECE of a "European Industrial Co-operation Centre". The delegation of Romania suggested, in this connexion, that the Executive Secretary should bring up to date the feasibility study on the establishment of an industrial co-operation centre and convene an ad hoc meeting to consider the revised feasibility study. Other delegations, while sharing the view that there was a need for a wider exchange of information in this field, stated that it would be preferable to make fuller use of existing institutions.

288. Reviewing prospects for the further development of industrial co-operation, several delegations pointed out that further progress was dependent on creating appropriate conditions of financing and payments. A number of delegations noted that transactions based on compensation agreements had increased in recent years and that this type of business relationship played a positive role in the

development of east-west industrial co-operation. Other delegations, while noting that trade on a compensatory basis could, under certain conditions, be of benefit to all parties involved, referred to the difficulties created by this type of settlement - particularly for small- and medium-sized enterprises - and expressed concern at the increasing number of countertrade arrangements.

289. The need to undertake further research on the most suitable financial conditions for the development of common projects and industrial co-operation in a long-term perspective was stressed by a number of delegations, which commented on the suggestions put forward by the secretariat in the note entitled "Some means of improving the financing of east-west industrial co-operation" (TRADE/R.355). These delegations endorsed the decision of the Committee on the Development of Trade at its twenty-sixth session by which the Committee invited the secretariat to prepare, where necessary, studies identifying all kinds of obstacles to the development of common projects and industrial co-operation, including those obstacles which might arise in the financial field and the appropriate means of overcoming them.

290. Other delegations noted that the Final Act provided quite a number of specific replies to the question of how more favourable conditions for industrial co-operation could be established. The relevant provisions should be put into practice first, and existing institutions and instruments should be developed and utilized more efficiently before new promotion schemes were initiated in a multilateral framework.

291. Many delegations expressed their support for the activities of the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures and its Groups of Experts. It was noted that the technical and legal problems posed by the increasing use of electronic and other means of automatic data processing by national Customs authorities required that national experts participate fully in the development of ECE-recommended standards in this field. One delegation stressed that more publicity should be given to ECE work on the facilitation of international trade procedures.

292. Several delegations stated that the preparation of the Manual on licensing procedures and related aspects of technology transfer was expected to be a useful contribution to the further development of trade and industrial co-operation by systematizing knowledge of the most appropriate procedures used nationally and internationally. A number of delegations reported that their national chapters forming part of the Manual were under active preparation.

293. Some delegations expressed the view that ECE activities, including those of the Committee, should be more oriented towards the trade problems specific to the member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view and commented favourably on the studies under way on the economic consequences of temporary labour migration in the ECE region. Other delegations said that stress should continue to be placed on trade problems which were of concern to all ECE countries, and that the main task of the Commission should be problems of co-operation between east and west.

Follow-up action to the relevant Commission decisions

Contribution of the Commission to the preparations for
the United Nations Conference on Science and
Technology for Development
(agenda item 7 (a))

294. This item was allocated by the Plenary for preliminary consideration in the Sessional Committee. It was considered together with the report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology (ECE/SC.TECH/15). The Sessional Committee also had before it for the consideration of this item the report by the Executive Secretary on the implementation of Commission decision A (XXXII) (E/ECE/940 and Add.1) and the report of the special session of the Senior Advisers to prepare regional activities in connexion with the UNCSTD (SC.TECH/AC.10/2).

295. Delegations expressed unanimous support for the Conference and considered that it could play a major role in identifying specific measures which could be taken aimed at the more effective application of science and technology for development. They also considered that the Conference would be of value to both the region as a whole in helping to strengthen intra-regional co-operation and to developing countries in bringing to bear the collective experience of the countries of the ECE region to the universal problems of development.

296. Delegations considered the regional meeting, to take place in Bucharest (Romania) from 26 to 30 June 1978, as being a very important stage in the preparations for the Conference. In this regard, several delegations expressed their appreciation of the work of the Government of Romania to ensure the success of the regional meeting.

297. The delegation of Romania emphasized that the regional meeting, although taking place under the aegis of the ECE, should not be considered as a regular ECE meeting but rather as an important stage in the ascending preparatory process in the elaboration of specific recommendations at the national, regional and international levels to be included in the programme of action of the Conference. Recalling the fact that particular problems were faced by the member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view, the Romanian delegation expressed the hope that the regional meeting, by focusing attention on recommendations for action relevant to science and technology issues of concern to member countries, such as access to modern science achievements and the implementation of a broad transfer of technology, would make a substantial contribution to the Conference. The delegation of Yugoslavia supported the above statement of the Romanian delegation. In view of the critical importance of the regional meeting in Bucharest, the delegation of Romania stressed the need to ensure participation at ministerial or other high policy-making level, in conformity with the relevant provision of resolution 2 (II) of the UNCSTD Preparatory Committee.

298. The delegation of Austria expressed satisfaction with preparations for the regional meeting in Bucharest and also for the Conference to be held in Vienna in 1979.

299. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany, speaking on behalf of the European Economic Community, stressed the importance of the results achieved at the two meetings of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology and in particular of the guidelines for the preparation of the ECE contribution to the Conference. It agreed, in principle, that the forthcoming regional meeting in Bucharest should whenever possible aim at the elaboration of recommendations for a programme of action at the national, regional and international levels without losing sight of the needs of the ECE region. In the view of the European Economic Community, representation at the respective meetings should be at a decision-making level. The Canadian delegation considered that the main objective of the regional meeting would be to produce an agreed regional paper for the Conference, a paper which would contain certain proposals for the action plan to follow the Conference. Accordingly, the Canadian delegation viewed the regional meeting as a working meeting and considered, as stated by the representative of the EEC, that the level of representation should be at the appropriate level for this purpose rather than at the ministerial level.

300. Referring to the regional paper to be submitted by the secretariat in draft form to the regional meeting, the delegations of Bulgaria and Hungary stressed the need for the paper to reflect the special characteristics of the region and, in particular, the present situation in east-west scientific and technological co-operation in the region and the elimination of obstacles in this field as envisaged by the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE. The United States delegation stressed the need for the secretariat to ensure that the draft regional paper be circulated to capitals not later than the 15 May 1978 target date.

301. Commenting on the preparation of recommendations for action at the national, regional and international levels which may be expected to result from the regional meeting, and more particularly to the informal consultations on that subject which the secretariat proposed to hold in May 1978, the delegation of Italy stressed the responsibility of Governments themselves in formulating recommendations both in their national papers and at the Bucharest meeting.

302. A draft decision on the contribution of the Commission to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD), submitted by the delegations of Austria, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia, was adopted by the Commission at its thirteenth meeting. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision F (XXXIII)).

Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean
in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE
(agenda item 7 (b))

303. For the consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/941 which was prepared pursuant to operative paragraph 6 of Commission decision B (XXXII) and contained an account of action taken in the implementation of this decision.

304. Many delegations commented on this subject during the general discussion under items 4 and 5. An account of their comments may be found in paragraph 75 above.

305. Delegations speaking on this subject under agenda item 7 (b) commended the Executive Secretary for the steps he had taken to implement Commission decision B (XXXII) as reported in document E/ECE/941. They noted with approval the assessment made by the Executive Secretary and the lines of action he suggested. They made reference to the Seminar on Selected Water Problems to be held in Malta in June 1978 and commented favourably on the activities of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning, on action pursued in the field of tourism and environment; on co-operation between the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems and UNEP as a follow-up to the Barcelona Convention; and on the work of the Committee on the Development of Trade, in particular the economic problems of temporary migration.

306. They considered that the ECE should give a new impulse to this co-operation and support all initiatives and projects in which countries of the Mediterranean area participated. They stressed the role which the Commission could play in contributing to the meeting to be held in Valetta (Malta) in 1979 as decided in Belgrade. It was suggested in this connexion, that the ECE secretariat should identify measures aimed at promoting concrete initiatives of mutually advantageous co-operation.

307. A draft decision on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, submitted by the delegations of Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Turkey and Yugoslavia, was adopted by the Commission at its thirteenth meeting. (For the text see Chapter IV, decision G (XXXIII)).

Selected topics for special attention
(agenda item 7 (c))

308. For the consideration of this item the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/942 prepared pursuant to operative paragraph 2 of Commission decision C (XXXII), paragraph 2 of which describes the action taken for the implementation of that decision.

309. An account of comments made by delegations during the general discussion under items 4 and 5 on this subject may be found in paragraph 76 above.

Problems of land use and land-use planning
in the ECE region
(agenda item 7 (d))

310. In considering this item which was allocated by the Plenary for discussion in the Sessional Committee, delegations had before them the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/943 on implementation of Commission decision E (XXXII) and the report (ECE/AC.6/2) of the ad hoc consultative meeting of governmental experts on land use and land-use planning, convened in March 1978 in accordance with the provisions of the decision.

311. Most delegations agreed that land-use planning was an essential element of economic, social, demographic and environmental policies. Critical problems arose due to the intrinsically limited nature of the land resource and the increasing

conflicts between types of demand, such as between rural uses (e.g. agriculture and forestry) and essentially urban uses (e.g. expansion of cities, transport and communication systems and recreation). The complexity of land-use problems necessitated an integrated and multi-disciplinary approach. All countries could benefit from an international exchange of information and experience in dealing with these problems.

312. Delegations welcomed the results of the ad hoc consultative meeting and endorsed its recommendations. They stressed the importance of the work on particular land-use problems which was already in hand under the auspices of ECE, notably on land-use policies, with particular reference to housing and related services (Committee on Housing, Building and Planning), on integrated physical, socio-economic and environmental planning (Committee on Housing, Building and Planning, Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems) and on regional and land-use statistics (Conference of European Statisticians). Delegations agreed that reliable, comprehensive and comparable statistics on land-use patterns in the region would greatly facilitate international co-operation on land-use problems.

313. In view of the complex and inter-disciplinary nature of land-use problems and the fact that work was already in progress within ECE, many delegations supported the proposal of the ad hoc consultative meeting that the Executive Secretary review and analyse activities within ECE which were closely related to land use and land-use planning, with a view to suggesting, if necessary, modifications to the ECE programme of work. Delegations also stressed that all work undertaken, including the proposed study of the implications for land use of the demographic and socio-economic developments forecast in the Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE region, should be approached in a multi-disciplinary manner.

314. The delegation of Denmark ^{17/} considered that the responsibility for identifying the possibility of improved co-ordination on land-use matters within ECE should be left to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, and that there was as yet no need to suggest any institutional change within the machinery or structure of ECE; the holding of the ad hoc meeting and the discussion of its recommendations by the Sessional Committee would be sufficient to alert the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to the need to give appropriate attention to land-use aspects in drawing up their work programmes.

315. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic suggested that consideration also be given to problems of reclaiming of former mining areas for agricultural, forestry and recreation purposes.

^{17/} It should be noted that the delegation of Denmark expressed the views of the European Economic Community.

316. The delegations of Portugal, Spain, Turkey and Romania drew attention to the need to take into account the specific land-use patterns of particular areas. They suggested that certain land-use problems of south European countries which were developing from an economic point of view should be given due consideration within the programme of work to enable those countries too to benefit from the work undertaken.

317. The delegation of Romania, supported by the delegations of Portugal and Spain, while endorsing the suggestions of the ad hoc meeting, considered that the draft decision contained in E/ECE/943 was a minimum and should be expanded to refer to soil conservation aspects; a more general appeal should be included, which would draw the attention of member Governments to the need to adopt adequate land management and soil conservation measures; in addition, the Commission should recommend to member Governments to intensify co-operation, through their competent institutions and research centres as well as through specialists; the Commission might also recommend that member Governments consider the possibility of establishing regional and sub-regional centres or programmes for the exchange of technical information and co-operation, with particular reference to the conditions in southern Europe. The delegation stressed that the proposals, if accepted, would not place any further burden on the resources available to the secretariat. The delegation of Portugal attached special importance to the development of programmes of exchange of information and technical co-operation.

318. The delegation of Turkey supported the idea of carrying out a multi-disciplinary, multi-sectoral study of the problems, which should in particular examine the implications for land use of the demographic and socio-economic developments forecast in the Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE region.

319. The delegation of the United States considered that the objectives of the multi-disciplinary seminar discussed at the meeting had been too vague. Although aware of the importance of an inter-disciplinary approach to land-use problems, it preferred more focused approaches to the subject.

320. The delegation of Finland stated that a truly multi-disciplinary approach to land-use planning had become both necessary and urgent. This delegation felt that the conclusions and suggestions formulated by the ad hoc consultative meeting were realistic and represented a minimum line of action.

321. A draft decision on problems of land use and land-use planning in the ECE region, submitted by the delegations of Greece, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and Yugoslavia, was adopted by the Commission at its thirteenth meeting. (For the text see Chapter IV, decision H (XXXIII)).

Dissemination of information
(agenda item 7 (e))

322. For the consideration of this item the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/944 on the action taken by the Commission's Subsidiary Bodies pursuant to Commission decision F (XXXII).

323. The Commission took note of document E/ECE/944.

The Overall Economic Perspective
for the ECE Region up to 1990
(agenda item 7 (f))

324. This item was considered together with item 4 (f) of the agenda (see paragraphs 230-240 above).

General energy problems in the ECE region
(agenda item 7 (g))

325. This item was allocated by the Plenary to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration. The Committee had before it document E/ECE/946 - General Energy Problems in the ECE region -, prepared by the Executive Secretary pursuant to decision H (XXXII), the report of the Ad hoc Meeting on New Issues affecting the Energy Economy of the ECE Region in the Medium and Long Term and on Problems of Energy Economy and Efficiency (ECE/AC.5/2), and the preliminary version of the study prepared by the Executive Secretary on "New Issues affecting the Energy Economy of the ECE Region in the Medium and Long Term" (ECE(XXXIII)/2 and Addenda).

326. In his introductory statement, the Executive Secretary said that energy questions had become one of the most important areas of concern for ECE Governments. In his view, this critical importance called for more permanent and systematic arrangements for dealing with general energy problems in the framework of ECE, and for an adaptation of its work programme. The study on "New Issues" had identified various areas of co-operation within ECE, with potentially far-reaching implications for future energy demand and supply, which had been translated into the draft programme of work on general energy problems (E/ECE/946, Annex I). He drew particular attention to the activities on energy conservation, the preparation of a comprehensive ECE energy balance model for future years, the ECE Energy Central File and the proposed Seminar on the Comparative Merits of Centralized and Decentralized Energy Supply Strategies. In the area of industrial co-operation, the secretariat was undertaking a survey with a view to identifying projects suitable for enhanced east-west trade and international co-operation. The Executive Secretary felt the need for the Commission to assume a more active role also with respect to co-operative research and to unconventional forms of energy. Whilst this programme might appear ambitious in some respects, it should be realized that it would be implemented with the assistance of virtually all sectoral bodies of the Commission, and that it could be managed with existing staff resources. He expressed the hope that the Commission would give clear and affirmative guidance to this important activity, designed to contribute to the solution of problems of critical importance to the region.

327. The delegations which took part in the discussion concurred in considering energy as one of the most critical factors for the economic and social development of the region and of the world. Delegations said that the urgency and grave implications of the newly emerging problems had attracted priority attention in national policies and international fora. The view was expressed that the time had come to intensify intergovernmental co-operation within ECE in this field.

Delegations considered it desirable to explore new approaches to the formulation and implementation of such co-operation including a further concentration and integration of the activities of the Commission with regard to the various sectors of the energy economy. It was with these considerations in mind that all delegations welcomed the suggestions of the Executive Secretary as highly stimulating, constructive and realistic.

328. In the ensuing discussion, delegations addressed the implementation of Commission decision H (XXXII) particularly the study on "New Issues" the draft programme of work, calendar of meetings and work methods.

329. Delegations took note with appreciation of the implementation of Commission decision H (XXXII). The reports of the ad hoc meetings on the "Preparation of the Study on New Issues affecting the Energy Economy of the ECE Region in the Medium and Long Term" (ECE/AC.4/2), and on "New Issues affecting the Energy Economy of the ECE Region in the Medium and Long Term and on Problems of Energy Economy and Efficiency" (ECE/AC.5/2) respectively, met with approval.

330. Particular appreciation was expressed with regard to the study on "New Issues". The Romanian delegation which reported on the commitment of its Government to international co-operation projects in the energy field, felt that the study had been prepared at the right moment. The Hungarian delegation said that in view of the importance of the study, it was being translated into Hungarian. The delegation of the United States characterized the study as a valuable initial effort and suggested that its completion precede and provide the foundation for any additional work by the Commission in the general energy field. This delegation, as well as the delegation of Belgium 18/ appealed to countries who had not yet replied to the related questionnaire to do so before the completion of the study.

331. The delegation of the USSR regretted the late availability of the study in Russian, and reserved its country's position as to the final evaluation of the study. The delegation of the United States regretted that the draft study had reported little on the effects of the energy crisis on eastern countries. The Spanish delegation felt that the time horizon of the study (1990 to 2000) precluded an appropriate appraisal of the role which unconventional forms of energy would have to play in the long term; this delegation which reported also on the present reformulation of the energy policy in Spain, felt that the availability of uranium might prove a lesser constraint than anticipated in the study, particularly taking into account new deposits and technologies. The Polish delegation was looking forward to the early publication of the study in full.

332. With regard to the future activities of the Commission in the general energy field, delegations indicated their continued willingness to share views and experience and to explore possibilities for further intergovernmental co-operation. The delegation of Yugoslavia declared its general approval with the draft

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

programme of work as contained in document E/ECE/946; this delegation felt that the draft programme did not overlap with the activities of other Principal Subsidiary Bodies and stressed that energy was a pressing world problem and that due account should be taken of this fact in planning future co-operation within the framework of the ECE. The USSR delegation found the draft programme constructive and could agree to it as long as it was implemented under the direct control of the Commission; it would require reconsideration if a permanent body on general energy questions was created so as to safeguard the Commission's co-ordinating function. The delegations of the United States, Sweden, Hungary and the USSR felt that the draft programme tended to be ambitious and suggested that the secretariat establish priorities. The delegation of Belgium also felt that the work programme was too ambitious and suggested that if a new subsidiary body for general energy questions was created, it would be useful for such a body to discuss the work programme further. The following specific comments on the draft programme of work were made:

Work area 1: Medium and long-term trends and perspectives:

In the view of the delegation of Belgium, the projects listed were important and appeared appropriate for consideration by the Commission; the projects entitled "Perspectives of the demand for energy for non-energy purposes" and "Appraisal of demand in the transport and chemical industry sectors and alternative sources for meeting this demand" appeared to fall primarily under the purview of the Chemical Industry Committee and of the Inland Transport Committee, respectively. Among the projects listed, the following were mentioned as being of particular interest:

- energy demand and supply in the medium and long term (Turkey)
- medium and long-term policies and programmes (Austria)
- development of a comprehensive ECE energy balance model for future years (Austria; United States; Yugoslavia)
- comparative merits of centralized and decentralized energy supply strategies (Austria; Hungary; Spain)

Work area 2: Current developments and prospects including international trade

In the view of the delegation of Belgium, the implementation of this work area would require adequate contributions from Governments. The delegations of Hungary and Turkey qualified this work area as of particular relevance.

Work area 3: Energy conservation

Delegations accorded this work area high priority, particularly the projects:

- exchanges of information and views on measures adopted or envisaged to achieve greater energy economy and efficiency and on the results of energy conservation policies (Turkey)

- combined production of electric power and heat (United States)
- conservation aspects of the development and application of new techniques for the transformation of primary energy, such as coal gasification and liquefaction (Austria; Turkey)
- modelling studies and their conclusions on energy conservation.

The following topics were suggested for inclusion in this work area:

- rational use of solid wastes (Spain)
- relevant recommendations of the ECE Seminar on "The Impact of Energy considerations on the Planning and Development of Human Settlements" (Ottawa, Canada, October 1977) (Canada)

Work area 4: Selected economic, technological and environmental problems

In view of the important role played by private industry in the market economy countries of the ECE region, the Belgian delegation felt that it would be very difficult for the Commission to play a useful role with regard to section 1 "Industrial co-operation in the energy field", project 2a "Comparative review of national energy research and development programmes and identification of selected areas of co-operation" and project 2b "Transport and transmission problems arising from long distances"; the latter project might be pursued by the sectoral committees concerned. Section 3 entitled "Unconventional forms of energy" might require an excessive use of the limited staff resources of the Commission. The suggested activities under section 4 entitled "Environmental issues" should be handled in a way to avoid duplication of work with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies. High priority was accorded to the following projects:

- industrial co-operation (Hungary)
- joint development, interconnexion and operation of energy supply networks (Turkey; Austria; Poland)
- co-operation on selected research areas (Turkey)
- unconventional forms of energy (Hungary; Spain; Turkey)
- land use and energy policies (Turkey)

The Polish delegation suggested that attention be devoted to the realization of important joint investment projects.

Work area 5: Methodology, statistics and information

The suggested activities met with general approval. The Spanish delegation suggested the extension of the ECE Energy Central File into unconventional forms of energy, and the inclusion of the topic "Public opinion and energy policies, particularly with regard to the nuclear component".

333. The delegation of Austria suggested that the discussions held at the Belgrade Meeting, with regard to energy, should not be entirely lost in the formulation of the ECE work programme in the general energy field. This delegation suggested the following topics for consideration:

- establishment of an energy balance;
- investigation of the opportunities for a joint exploitation of the energy resources available in the region on the basis of international arrangements;
- the effects of intensified co-operation in the field of energy on the expansion of intraregional trade;
- development of projects for industrial collaboration on projects of common interest in the sphere of the prospection and exploitation of conventional energy sources;
- co-operation in the development, improvement and planning of international transmission and transport systems for oil, gas, coal and electricity, in particular, the establishment of a European network for the supply of gas;
- provisions for alternatives against the possibility of the exhaustion of existing sources of energy imports (e.g. oil and change-over in good time to new technologies).
- systems-analysis evaluation of further technical and economic prospects of alternative energy sources for energy supplies;
- exchange of ideas on the future development of nuclear energy, European prospects for the establishment of nuclear power parks; pertinent land use problems, particularly in border areas; recovery installations and waste disposal facilities; alternatives to nuclear fission;
- discussion of the possibilities for agreement on provisions guaranteeing fair and equal commercial competition, concerning uniform levels of efficiency for equipment and installations using energy, concerning the maximum permissible energy consumption for specific purposes, concerning the maximum permissible emissions of pollutants by energy-producing and consuming equipment, etc.

334. Concerning the provisional calendar of meetings and seminars in the general energy field during 1978-1979 (E/ECE/946, Annex II) full approval was expressed by most delegations.

335. Concerning work methods, the Yugoslav delegation felt that there was an urgent need to reconsider the means of co-operation between ECE member States in the

general energy field; it referred to the proposal of the USSR for holding an all-European Congress on Energy; it did not consider it necessary for the time being to institutionalize activities in the general energy field. The Austrian delegation considered it indispensable for intensified co-operation to be examined by a special body dealing exclusively with general energy matters. The Romanian delegation said that the enhanced role of ECE in this field required a permanent and systematic basis; the time was ripe to discuss energy problems in the framework of a high-level meeting on energy as proposed by the USSR. The Turkish delegation welcomed the idea of establishing a permanent body within ECE dealing systematically with general energy questions. In the view of the Polish delegation, the time for decisions on new multilateral approaches had come which might be taken at a higher, intergovernmental level as proposed by the USSR; the establishment of a new Principal Subsidiary Body might prove advisable, but both substantial and institutional questions would have to be clarified. The Spanish delegation was examining with interest the creation of a permanent body dealing with energy questions on the understanding that it would not produce financial implications nor duplication of work. The Belgian delegation could agree to a proposal for setting up such a body which might exchange information, views and experience and define the tasks which ECE might usefully undertake or pursue in this field. The Swedish delegation was prepared to support a body on general energy questions on the understanding that it would lead to a more rational and efficient handling of energy matters within ECE, that it would have a co-ordinating role and, in consultation with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies, further elaborate the work programme in this field.

336. The Hungarian delegation which associated itself with the USSR proposals for the holding of an all-European Congress on Energy, was in principle not opposed to the creation of a permanent body if it would contribute to the preparation of such a Congress. The USSR delegation viewed the proposal for setting up a permanent body in the light of the considerations which were at the basis of its own initiative to convene an all-European high-level Congress on energy. The delegation of the United States said that there should be no link between the proposals for setting up a permanent body and for convening a high-level meeting on general energy questions; each proposal should be evaluated on its own merit.

Standardization
(agenda item 7 (h))

337. This item was allocated by the Plenary for preliminary consideration in the Sessional Committee. The Committee had before it a note by the Executive Secretary on the subject (E/ECE/947), as well as the report of the Fourth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies (ECE/STAND/16).

338. The representative of the European Economic Community recalled the opinion that the creation or promotion of certification arrangements which were not based on harmonized standards and technical regulations was not likely to be useful. Therefore the logical sequence of work in the Group of Experts would be to consider harmonization before certification. Only as regards sectors in which standards and technical regulations had been harmonized should the creation of certification arrangements and systems be considered.

339. Some delegations described steps which had already been taken by their Governments to implement ECE recommendations on standardization policies and stressed certain aspects of the work - for example, the review of the ECE

Standardization List - which were of particular importance to their respective Governments. It was suggested that the secretariat provide a summary of the results of ECE standardization efforts in the various member countries. It was also suggested that ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies should continue to pay special attention to standardization problems.

340. The importance of closer co-operation between the ECE and other international standardizing organizations, notably the IEC and ISO, was stressed by many delegations. Representatives of the IEC and ISO welcomed the increasing interest and concern of the ECE and its member Governments regarding matters of standardization. Some delegations suggested that it might be desirable to formalize relations between the ECE and ISO in this context. The representative of ISO stated that his organization would explore with the Executive Secretary the possibility of concluding a co-operation agreement.

341. At its twelfth meeting, acting upon the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision on standardization. (For the text, see Chapter IV, decision I (XXXIII)).

Automation
(agenda item 7 (i))

342. This item was allocated by the Plenary for preliminary consideration to the Sessional Committee which had before it the report of the Executive Secretary on automation (E/ECE/948 and Add.1) and the report of the sixth session of the Working Party on Automation (ECE/AUTOMAT/8), including the proposed future programme of work as recommended by the Working Party.

343. All delegations participating in the discussion of this item underlined the usefulness of the work done so far and noted with satisfaction that the proposed programme of work was generally in line with the decisions and recommendations of the thirty-second session of the Commission and the Final Act of the CSCE. The Government of Denmark was thanked for the efficient organization of the Seminar on Industrial Robots and Programmable Logical Controllers, held in Copenhagen in 1977 under the auspices of the Working Party.

344. The delegation of France 19/ referred to the terms of reference of the Working Party on Automation and recalled that its objectives were primarily the analysis of economic development and of socio-economic questions resulting from automation technology. The delegations of the USSR and Yugoslavia recommended that, in view of the interdisciplinary character of automation activities, closer co-operation with other international governmental as well as non-governmental organizations should be strengthened by the secretariat. Yugoslavia particularly stressed the need for co-ordination with UNIDO.

345. The delegation of Hungary also considered a strengthening of the activities of the Working Party to be desirable and welcomed, in particular, its closer co-operation with the ad hoc Meetings of Experts on Engineering Industries. The

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

delegation of the Byelorussian SSR also considered that a development of the activities of the Working Party would foster the implementation of relevant decisions as defined in the Final Act of the CSCE.

346. As regards the current programme of work and the methods for its implementation, delegations participating in the discussion gave general support, as defined in the report of the sixth session of the Working Party (ECE/AUTOMAT/8, Annex). The delegation of France pointed out that the working party should take into account in the implementation of its programme of work the resources available to the secretariat. The same delegation insisted in particular on the importance of annual statistics to be made available by all countries participating in the work of the Working Party on Automation and on the need to analyse the effects of technological developments on the relation of costs to production factors. Currently available statistics should be evaluated and closer co-operation with the Conference of European Statisticians should be sought. In this respect, eventual joint meetings could be envisaged.

347. The current periodicity and length of meetings were deemed appropriate by the French delegation. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic felt that some formulation of priorities within the current work programme should be made.

348. The delegation of the United Kingdom referred to the wide impact of advanced data processing technology in numerous fields, but that the Working Party should restrict the scope of such projects to areas of specific interest to ECE.

349. The delegation of Czechoslovakia also stressed the usefulness of study tours to be initiated by the Working Party on Automation, as well as the establishment of an information exchange system.

350. The delegation of the USSR referred to the decision of the Working Party that all projects proposed and included in the programme of work would be the subject of a detailed note prepared by individual countries in consultation with the secretariat. It also reiterated its willingness to host, at a later stage, a seminar on complex automation in relation with an international exhibition.

351. Special interest was expressed by the following delegations in the specific items of the Working Party's programme of work for 1978-1982:

Work area Ol(E).1: Medium- and Long-term Perspectives

Ol(E).1.1. France and the USSR

Ol(E).1.2. USSR

Work area Ol(E).2: Current Developments and Prospects, including International Trade

Ol(E).2.1. France, provided statistical data were made available

Ol(E).2.2. United Kingdom and Hungary

Work area Ol(E).3: Selected Economic and Technological Problems

Ol(E).3.2. Yugoslavia

Ol(E).3.3. France

Ol(E).3.4. Hungary and the USSR; France supported this project but thought it should be more precisely defined

Ol(E).3.5. The Byelorussian SSR, France, Hungary and the USSR

Work area Ol(E).5: Statistics and Information

Ol(E).5.1. France and Hungary, in co-operation with the Conference of European Statisticians

Ol(E).5.2. Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, in co-operation with UNIDO.

Reservations were expressed by the delegation of France as to the desirability of the following topic:

Ol(E).4.1.

352. At its twelfth meeting, acting upon the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision on automation. (For the text see Chapter IV, decision J (XXXIII)).

Engineering industries
(agenda item 7 (j))

353. In considering this item allocated by the Plenary for discussion in the Sessional Committee, the participants had before them the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/949) on the implementation of Commission decision K (XXXII) and the report of the Sixth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries (ECE/ENG-IN/11).

354. Delegations taking part in the discussion referred to the significance of the engineering industries for the economies of all countries of the region and considered that during the period since the thirty-second session significant progress had been made in furthering co-operation between ECE member Governments in this field. Reviewing the progress made, delegations stressed the concrete way in which the review of techno-economic aspects of engineering industries were being approached and which were reflected in the proposed programme of work, especially in promoting east-west business contacts in the field of engineering.

355. The studies being undertaken were favourably commented upon and delegations underlined the interest they raised in the economic, technical and governmental circles of the ECE. Special reference was made to the studies recently issued, namely Market Trends and Prospects for Engineering Products Used in the Energy Sector and for Telecommunications Equipment (ECE/ENG-IN/8); Production of Engineering Equipment for Preventing Pollution and the Techno-economic Efficiency of such Equipment (ECE/ENG-IN/9) as well as to the statistical part of the study "Role and Place of Engineering Industries in National and World Economies, Up-dating to 1970-1975 of the Main Statistical Tables" (ECE/ENG-IN/12, Vol.II); the preparation of the analytical part of the latter study was also favourably commented upon.

356. The delegations considered that the work undertaken in the field of engineering statistics was of great importance and should be continued. They stressed that the elaboration of methodologies as well as the collection of information, in

co-operation with the Conference of European Statisticians, was advisable. The extension of the coverage of the Bulletin of Statistics on World Trade in Engineering Products was welcomed.

357. It was generally agreed that seminars and study tours constituted a very effective method of work in the field of engineering industries.

358. Delegations particularly singled out the way in which the Seminar on Engineering Equipment for Foundries and Advanced Methods for Producing such Equipment (Geneva, November-December 1977) had been organized, especially its inter-disciplinary approach in tackling problems related to the application of latest technologies and their connexion with those of the environment as well as energy and transport problems. It was also underlined that countries from other regions showed their interest through their participation in this Seminar (Report ENGIN/SEM.3/2).

359. The programme of the Seminar to be held in Poland in September 1978 on the Techno-economic Trends in Airborne Equipment for Agriculture and other Selected Areas of the National Economy was favourably commented upon as well as the Seminar to be held in Bulgaria in 1979 on Development and Use of Industrial Handling Equipment.

360. The invitation of the competent authorities of Italy to hold a Seminar in 1980 on Techno-economic Aspects of Innovation in Fabrication Processes and Products of Engineering Industries and that of the German Democratic Republic to organize a Seminar in the field of engineering industries in 1981 were acknowledged.

361. A general discussion was held on the programme of work for 1978/79, as agreed by the Sixth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries. Delegations were of the opinion that this programme of work, which appeared in the annex to document ECE/ENGIN/11, was well balanced.

362. Detailed comments were made on various topics and the following delegations stressed their interest in paying special attention to industrial co-operation and standardization aspects: Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Poland; USSR.

363. Further detailed comments were made by delegations on proposed topics.

Work area 01(B).1: Medium- and Long-term Perspectives

01(B).1.1. Particular interest was expressed by Bulgaria.

Hungary and Poland stressed that more attention should be paid to east-west trade in engineering industries, including structural changes.

Work area 01(B).2: Current Development and Prospects

Particular interest was expressed by Italy, 20/ Poland and the USSR.

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

Work area 01(B).3: Selected Economic and Technological Problems

- 01(B).3.2. Bulgaria and Hungary favoured this topic.
- 01(B).3.4. Bulgaria proposed the following change of title in accordance with the recommendation of the Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on this topic: "Development and Use of Industrial Handling Equipment" to be held in Bulgaria from 3-8 September 1979.

Work area 01(B).4: Environmental and Resource-Saving Problems

- 01(B).4.2. The Byelorussian SSR and Bulgaria stressed the importance to link this topic with energy and standardization aspects.

364. Concerning the List of Projects of Special Interest for Possible Action at a Date to be Decided (ECE/ENG-IV/11, Annex, Part II):

The list, as it appeared, met with general agreement:

- Topic (d) was particularly favoured by Yugoslavia
Topics (e), (f) and (g) were favoured by Bulgaria.

The following new topics were suggested to be added to the list by the delegation of the USSR:

- (i) Problems of mechanization and automation of hard manual work in engineering industries (labour-intensive, monotonous, harmful to health, etc.);
- (ii) Effective use of engineering equipment, in particular machine-tools;
- (iii) Techno-economic aspects of creating centralized repair shops in selected branches of engineering industries.

365. In view of the progress achieved, the following delegations considered that ECE activities in the field of engineering industries deserved recognition by being put on a permanent basis; Bulgaria; Byelorussian SSR; Czechoslovakia; German Democratic Republic; Hungary; Poland; USSR; Yugoslavia.

366. The delegation of Italy, while proposing to approve the 1978/79 programme of work and to take note of the list of projects that could be executed at a later date, stated that present arrangements were proving satisfactory for carrying out successfully the programme of work and that it did not consider it necessary to put it on a permanent basis; stressing the necessity of keeping in mind the availability of resources in the secretariat and the importance of avoiding duplication of efforts with other bodies as well as in selecting topics of genuine interest to all participants in the work of ECE in this field.

367. At its twelfth meeting, acting upon the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision on engineering industries. (For the text see Chapter IV, decision K (XXXIII)).

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

368. At its twelfth meeting in Plenary the Commission heard a statement by the Chairman of the Sessional Committee, Mr. Segesser, on the outcome of the deliberations of the Sessional Committee on the reports of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and on other items allocated to it by the Plenary for preliminary consideration.

369. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee informed the Commission that the discussions in the Committee had been very thorough and constructive, and that the introductory statements presented by, or on behalf of, the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of each body or, in the case of some agenda items, by the Executive Secretary, had proved particularly useful in focusing the discussion on the main features of the problems under consideration. He expressed the view that the discussions in the Sessional Committee had clearly demonstrated the continuing high interest of ECE Governments in the work of the Commission.

370. He mentioned that during the discussions in the Sessional Committee particular attention had been paid to the Executive Secretary's reports on concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work (E/ECE/934); on general energy problems in the ECE region (E/ECE/946); on the contribution of the Commission to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (E/ECE/940); and on the Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE Region up to 1990 (E/ECE/945).

371. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee then submitted to the Plenary the Committee's recommendations that approval be given to the reports of the fourteen Principal Subsidiary Bodies and to the programme of work for 1978-1982 which had been examined by the Committee, and that the Commission adopt decisions on the following items:

- (i) Engineering industries (agenda item 7 (j))
- (ii) Automation (agenda item 7 (i))
- (iii) Standardization (agenda item 7 (h))
- (iv) The ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference.

372. The Chairman of the Commission expressed to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Sessional Committee, and through them to all delegates who took part in the Sessional Committee's deliberations, the Commission's appreciation and thanks for their diligence and conscientious work.

373. At the same meeting the Commission, acting upon the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, adopted the decisions referred to in paragraph 371 above.

Programme of work for 1978-1982^{21/}
(agenda item 8)

374. For the consideration of this item the Commission had before it the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/950.

375. Following the request made by the Plenary, the Sessional Committee gave preliminary consideration to this item.

376. By way of introduction the Executive Secretary explained that the programme, if approved by the Commission, would become an integral part of the United Nations' work programme as a whole for a number of years to come. This was because the system of medium-term planning, introduced by the General Assembly in 1973, now constituted the Organization's principal policy directive. Its aim was to harmonize procedures and to institute stricter control of approved programmes.

377. The submissions to the overall medium-term plan, which were made by the secretariat of ECE on the basis of the work programme approved by the Commission, were forwarded to New York where the secretariat at Headquarters prepared an integrated document for consideration by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination. This Committee, after undertaking a detailed review of the plan, made its recommendations to the General Assembly. The ECE secretariat participated in this review process.

378. The Executive Secretary pointed out that, despite some difficulties caused by the fact that the main orientation of the medium-term plan was towards programmes of major concern to the developing countries while ECE's programme of work was principally oriented towards activities of interest to countries in the European region having different economic and social systems, the procedure as a whole had developed rather smoothly. He noted, however, that because of the need for harmonizing these different requirements in the medium-term plan, ECE's programme of work appeared in a scattered form in the plan document and was not to be found in any one chapter or section.

379. A relatively modest increase had been approved in the previous year's budget. This amounted to two additional professional posts. A request for three General Service posts had not been approved. A similar request for two reclassifications of professional posts had also not been granted.

380. The Executive Secretary reminded the Sessional Committee of General Assembly resolution 3534 (XXX), which stressed the responsibility of the Secretary-General to draw to the attention of the competent intergovernmental bodies activities that were obsolete, of marginal usefulness or ineffective, indicating the resources which could thereby be released and exhorting the bodies concerned to take the necessary action. He believed that ECE had complied fully with this resolution, since its work programmes were reviewed thoroughly each year both in the secretariat and by the subsidiary bodies and the Commission itself. This annual review and approval by the Commission ensured that the programme was fully responsive to the current needs of member countries.

^{21/} See also paragraph 82 above concerning the adoption of resolution 3534 (XXX) (General Assembly resolution 1 (XXXIII)) and Chapter IV for the text of that resolution.

381. Referring to paragraph 4 of document E/ECE/950 the Executive Secretary suggested that the Commission might wish to consider a minor modification in the coding used to distinguish the different sub-categories of the programme for which the Commission itself had direct responsibility. The purpose of this change would be to reflect more accurately the relatively more important status of the present programme sub-category 01(A) - Policy and Co-ordination.

382. If the Commission agreed with this modification, he would arrange for the necessary adjustment to be made in the text of the consolidated programme of work of the Commission, which would appear later in Chapter V of its Annual Report to ECOSOC. While Policy and Co-ordination was a permanent feature, the status of the other sub-categories could vary according to circumstances or to any new demands of the programme as these might arise, and the means for codifying them should therefore remain more flexible.

383. With regard to the expansion and intensification of the Commission's programme since the CSCE, this was reflected in the increasing number annually of ECE meetings which were held under the Commission's auspices. There was a record number of such meetings held in Geneva in 1977, namely 852 expressed in half days serviced. In addition to these 426 full days of meetings held in Geneva, there were 100 days of meetings held outside Geneva, at the invitation of 18 member countries.

384. The Executive Secretary referred to the amount of documentation issued, which likewise had been greater than ever before. It totalled 39,635 pages (government and secretariat combined), despite every effort to limit this in response to General Assembly resolutions. The total had exceeded the ECE secretariat quota (including that imposed on the Conference of European Statisticians to which reference had been made in the discussion). The ECE was currently using about one third of the total documentation resources available to all the United Nations services at Geneva.

385. The Executive Secretary stressed the urgency of limiting this very large output of documentation.

386. When the discussion on this item was resumed, the delegate of Romania referred to the many positive reactions to the tentative proposals on action required from the ECE and its subsidiary bodies to respond to the interests of the member countries of the ECE region that were developing from an economic point of view, which had been circulated to delegations in document E/ECE(XXXIII)/L.3. He stressed that it had been intended to promote constructive discussion and a fruitful exchange of views, and that, in the interest of these countries, he hoped that the proposals might be used as a basis for future work of the Commission.

387. The opinion was however expressed by the delegate of Poland that, although the Romanian proposals were interesting, no decision had been taken or formulated upon them, and therefore they could not be considered as a basis for the future programme of work. This opinion was supported by the delegates of the USSR and the Byelorussian SSR.

388. The Executive Secretary, speaking on financial implications, informed the Commission that since the inception of the Budget Programme, budgetary requirements were considered and approved on a biennial basis. At its last session, the General Assembly approved the ECE budget for the biennium 1978-1979. The Executive Secretary explained that a very modest increase had been authorized for ECE for the present biennium and that, unless the present session were to recommend substantial changes, there would be no additional financial implications in the work programme as it now stood. The Executive Secretary explained also that he intended to submit to the General Assembly at its next session a request, not for additional professional posts, but simply for the reclassification of two professional posts in the fields of Industry and Transport. The financial implications of these two reclassifications were very small.

Other business
(agenda item 9)

(a) Request from non-governmental organizations for presentation of views

389. A request was received and accepted from the World Federation of Trade Unions to present the views of this organization to the Commission on the review of the economic situation in Europe (agenda item 3).

(b) Date, place and agenda of the next session

390. The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the tentative date for the holding of the thirty-fourth session of the Commission in Geneva was from 27 March to 7 April 1979. The Commission decided to leave to the Executive Secretary the responsibility for determining, in consultation with the Officers of the Commission and in the light of the relevant arrangements of the ECOSOC and the General Assembly, the precise dates of the thirty-fourth session, and requested the Executive Secretary to inform the Governments thereon.

391. Pursuant to Council resolution 1894(LVII) the Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the provisional agenda for the thirty-fourth session, which would be prepared in consultation with the Officers of the Commission, would consist of the following main points:

- (a) review of the economic situation in Europe;
- (b) general debate on the work of the Commission as a whole, with special reference to the action taken in the light of the resolutions and decisions adopted at the thirty-third session of the Commission;
- (c) concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work;
- (d) consideration of the reports of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission.

Adoption of the Annual Report of the Commission to the
Economic and Social Council
(agenda item 10)

392. Before the draft report was submitted for approval to the Commission, the representative of Albania stated, in connexion with references to the CSCE and to recommendations adopted at Helsinki and Belgrade made by delegations during the session or contained in documents submitted to the session, that efforts made by many delegations to invoke such recommendations and other decisions adopted in Helsinki and Belgrade were without foundation. He recalled in this respect the well known position of the Government of Albania under which it refused to take part in this Conference and declared that it would not recognize any of its decisions. He further stated that for this reason the Government of Albania would not be bound by any of the documents, decisions or resolutions of the thirty-third session which contained references to the CSCE.

393. At its fourteenth meeting, on 2nd April 1978, the Commission adopted its Report to the Economic and Social Council covering the period from 1 May 1977 to 2nd April 1978.

CHAPTER IV

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

I. RESOLUTION

1 (XXXIII) - THE WORK AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION
AND THE PROPOSAL IN REGARD TO THE HOLDING OF
ALL-EUROPEAN CONGRESSES OR INTER-STATE CONFERENCES
ON CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF PROTECTION OF THE
ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT, AND ENERGY

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolutions 1 (XXXI) and 1 (XXXII),

Reaffirming the determination of its member countries to continue to intensify efforts to promote economic relations and co-operation,

Convinced of the significance of the activities of the ECE for strengthening such relations and co-operation, and of being a useful instrument for the implementation of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level,

Conscious of the role of the ECE in the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe while recalling the wish of the participating States to "take advantage of the possibilities offered by relevant international organizations, in particular by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, for giving effect to the provisions of the final documents of the Conference",

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

Recognizing that the strengthening of regional co-operation contributes to solving the pressing problems of world development and promoting economic growth within the region as well as in countries outside the region, and hence peace and security in the world,

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

Agreeing that the activities of the ECE should continue to concentrate on the priority areas of the development of trade, science and technology, environment, and economic projections, and that due regard should be paid to other pertinent areas of co-operation,

Mindful that the organization and methods of work of the ECE have been developed in accordance with the wishes of member Governments and in the light of experience gained since the establishment of the Commission but, while noting the valuable report E/ECE/934 by the Executive Secretary, that continued efforts should be made for better concentration, integration and co-ordination of the ECE activities,

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes and reports by the Executive Secretary, the programme of work of the Commission for 1978-1979 as well as the long-term programme of work for 1978-1982, and noting that during the thirty-third session delegations have raised a number of points concerning the Commission's programme of work,

Welcoming the progress made pursuant to operative paragraph 8 of part I of Commission resolution 1 (XXXII), on topics in the Final Act of the CSCE requiring multilateral implementation and referred to in the section of that Act entitled "Co-operation in the Fields of Economics, of Science and Technology and of the Environment", as well as the implementation of the new work programme which has been adapted to meet changing conditions within the region, including the incorporation of projects suitable for realization through ECE which have resulted from the pertinent provisions of the above-mentioned section of the Final Act of the CSCE,

Recalling the view expressed by the Executive Secretary in his report E/ECE/911 to the thirty-second session of the Commission that the authority of the ECE could be reinforced, and its work in the relevant area given an additional impetus, by high-level meetings properly prepared and held within the ECE at an appropriate moment,

Agreeing that any such high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE would require a precise and carefully prepared agenda; that the subject-matter should require a high level of representation; that such a meeting should hold promise of important decisions; that the topics for consideration should be of concern to the region as a whole, and not lead to unnecessary duplication of the work of other international organizations,

Having considered the Executive Secretary's reports E/ECE/936 containing a detailed analysis of topics which, in the light of the views of member Governments, may be appropriate for consideration at a high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE on the protection of the environment, and E/ECE/937 on the modalities of organizing such a high-level meeting and on the procedural and organizational issues related thereto,

Having further considered the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/946 on General Energy Problems in the ECE Region,

Noting with interest the idea of creating a new Principal Subsidiary Body entitled "Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy",

I.

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

2. Reiterates its earlier decisions to continue to intensify co-operation among member countries in the framework of the work programme of the ECE, and reaffirms the determination of member Governments to work towards an effective multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE within the framework of the ECE, bearing in mind the importance of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level;

3. Commends the Executive Secretary's reports as contained in document E/ECE/938 he presented to the recent meeting which took place in Belgrade in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE, and asks him to participate, if invited to do so, in activities resulting from the concluding document of that meeting, and to make the necessary arrangements to that effect;

4. Reiterates its previous call to its subsidiary bodies to take duly into account when reviewing and carrying out their programmes of work the interests of member countries which are developing from an economic point of view;

5. Requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their activities the possible contributions of the ECE to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries, and the necessity of effective co-operation with other international organizations;

6. Requests further its subsidiary bodies to be aware of the need for further improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the activities of the ECE and particularly to take account of the relevant decisions and deliberations at the thirty-third session in connexion with better concentration, integration and co-ordination of those activities;

7. Reaffirms its wish that the subsidiary bodies should continue to pay special attention to topics in the Final Act of the CSCE as provided for in Commission decision D (XXXI) and to take into account for their work other pertinent provisions of the Final Act which call for multilateral implementation.

II.

1. Welcomes the work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems and the Executive Secretary's reports E/ECE/936 and E/ECE/937, in response to part II of resolution 1 (XXXII), concerning a high-level meeting on the protection of the environment within the framework of the ECE;

2. Expresses confidence that satisfactory preparatory work by the Senior Advisers on the topics as referred to in paragraph 5 below and in particular on the subjects of long-range transboundary air pollution and low- and non-waste technology and reutilization and recycling of wastes would, taking into account the criteria set out earlier in this resolution, permit the prompt convening of a high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE;

3. Agrees that further and detailed work by the Senior Advisers is needed to prepare important decisions, including the possible forms of appropriate agreements which would be adopted at a high-level meeting;

4. Expresses its determination to make every effort to bring the preparatory work to a successful conclusion so that such a meeting could be held in 1979;

5. Decides to request the Senior Advisers - taking into account the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/936 and the views expressed at the thirty-third session of the Commission - to prepare on the topics listed below, and on any of the other topics enumerated in paragraph 4 of the above report on which the Senior Advisers may agree, recommendations and concrete proposals for important decisions to be submitted to a high-level meeting:

A. Long-range transboundary air pollution, including:

- (i) Development of policies and strategies as a means of combating the discharge of atmospheric pollutants, including the harmonization of emission control policies relevant to the reduction of long-range transboundary air pollution, starting with sulphur dioxide, and taking account of all relevant factors including damage caused by the pollutants, cost estimates, and the cost of reducing discharges, and of local remedies;
- (ii) Intergovernmental co-operation in research and development on methods to reduce sulphur dioxide discharges and to study their effects on health and the environment;
- (iii) Exchange of information concerning new and existing sources of pollution;
- (iv) Implementation and further development of the Co-operative Programme for the Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe;
- (v) Development of procedures aimed at avoiding disputes concerning damage caused to the environment by atmospheric pollution;
- (vi) Possible form of an agreement on the above points.

B. Low- and non-waste technology and reutilization and recycling of wastes, including:

- (i) Support for research/development into low- and non-waste techniques, including the reutilization and recycling of waste; application of such techniques in certain branches of industry which have considerable repercussions on the environment;
- (ii) Encouragement for industrial co-operation and trade in licences and technical knowledge about products and processes based on "low- and non-waste techniques, including the reutilization and recycling of waste";

- (iii) Arrangements for the purpose of carrying out intergovernmental studies to illustrate the principal stages of introducing "low- and non-waste techniques, including the reutilization and recycling of waste";
- (iv) Support for the rapid implementation of study projects by the ECE/UN;
- (v) Stimulation of the exchange of information among member Governments on the type and magnitude of incentives utilized to encourage non-waste technology and on the methods used in reaching decisions whether (or not) to proceed with the development of non-waste technology for various types of industries;
- (vi) Possible form of an agreement of the above points.

6. Further decides to review constructively at its thirty-fourth session the preparatory work of the Senior Advisers, with a view to taking decisions on a high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE on the protection of the environment;

7. Requests the Senior Advisers to meet in Special Sessions to carry out these responsibilities and asks the Executive Secretary to convene a first such Special Session as soon as possible, preferably in June 1978. The Senior Advisers may create special groups as deemed appropriate;

8. Draws to the attention of member Governments the discussion at the thirty-third session of the Commission on the Soviet Government's proposal for the holding of all-European congresses in the fields of transport and energy, and recalls the suggestion in decision B (XXXI) that member Governments should study the proposal thoroughly in the light of discussion in the Commission and the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE.

9. Asks the Executive Secretary to circulate such views in regard to the proposal as member Governments may wish to communicate to him;

10. Endorses the ongoing activities in the framework of the Commission's programme of work on General Energy Problems in the ECE Region;

11. Acknowledges the important role of an extensive exchange of information and views between member Governments on energy resources and governmental objectives and policies in this area, thus providing a basis for closer international co-operation on energy matters;

12. Expresses its wish to consider constructively at its thirty-fourth session the establishment of a new Principal Subsidiary Body entitled "Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy", and its possible mandate for further co-operation on energy within the framework of the ECE.

III.

1. Approves its programme of work for 1978-1979 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its thirty-fourth session, its long-term programme of work for 1978-1982;

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

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

14th meeting
22 April 1978
(see para. 82 above)

II. OTHER DECISIONS

A (XXXIII) - THE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF MIGRANT LABOUR IN THE ECE REGION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Referring to the provisions of the relevant section of the Final Act of the CSCE on migrant labour,

Recognizing that migrant labour, because of its various repercussions, is an important factor in the long-term trends of the European economy,

Considering that a large number of member countries of ECE are bearing the economic consequences of migrant labour,

Taking note with satisfaction of the study carried out by the Committee on the Development of Trade on the consequences of intra-European temporary migration of labour for trade, investment and industrial co-operation,

Taking due account of the activities of the competent international organizations in this sphere,

1. Invites the secretariat to continue the above-mentioned study and thereby to examine in greater detail the various aspects and problems of migrant labour in Europe; and

2. Recommends that host countries and countries of origin should intensify their bilateral contacts in order to find joint solutions to the most urgent problems in the sphere of migrant labour.

13th meeting
22 April 1978
(see para. 80 above)

B (XXXIII) - THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE PREPARATORY
WORK FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS
DECADE FOR WOMEN, 1980

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 32/140 on the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Noting in particular paragraph 4 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2062 (LXII) by which the Council invites the regional commissions to consider, at the earliest opportunity, ways and means of contributing effectively to the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980, including the possibility of holding before 1980 regional seminars or meetings on the themes of the Conference,

1. Decides to request the Executive Secretary to convene a seminar on "The participation of women in the economic evolution of the ECE region", to be held in 1979; and
2. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fourth session on the implementation of this decision.

13th meeting
22 April 1978
(see para. 81 above)

C (XXXIII) - CONCENTRATION AND INTEGRATION OF
THE COMMISSION'S PROGRAMME OF WORK

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its previous resolution on this subject and, particularly, resolutions 1 (XXVIII), 2 (XXIX), 1 (XXX) and 1 (XXXI),

Recalling further its decision D (XXXII),

Aware of the importance of a continuous process of concentration and integration of its programmes of work and increasing efficiency of its activities,

Agreeing to consider in depth, at each of its sessions, a major topic of its activity from the point of view of concentration, integration and co-ordination,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the Executive Secretary's report on concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work (E/ECE/934);
2. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present decision, together with document E/ECE/934, and the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments at the thirty-third Commission session, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies for their consideration;

3. Invites the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to consider:

(a) the possibility of appropriate modifications in their programmes of work with a view to removing possible gaps, overlapping and inconsistencies, if any, in their activities related to trade and industrial co-operation;

(b) ways and means of improving the flow of information on their interrelated trade activities and, particularly, the exchange of information between the Committee on the Development of Trade and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies;

4. Reminds its Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the possibility of jointly sponsoring specific interrelated trade projects and of convening joint ad hoc meetings or seminars;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to present to the thirty-fourth Commission session a report on the implementation of this decision; and

6. Decides to choose activities in the field of science and technology as the next major topic to be considered in depth from the point of view of concentration, integration and co-ordination and, consequently, requests the Executive Secretary to submit to the member Governments, well in advance of the thirty-fourth session, a report on the subject to be further discussed at that session, taking into account the comments made by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology.

13th meeting
22 April 1978
(see para. 114 above)

D (XXXIII) - ENHANCED CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF
COAL GASIFICATION AND LIQUEFACTION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2118 (LXIII) on the study, development and use of coal resources,

Aware of the need to ensure long-term supplies of energy for the region, and of the consequent responsibility to intensify international co-operation to this end,

Conscious of the forthcoming transformation of the structure of energy sources to cover the demand of the region for energy in the years to come,

Emphasizing the new prospects for coal whose abundant reserves are situated within the region not only as a solid fuel but more and more as a raw material both for producing liquid and gaseous fuels and for chemical industry while taking into full account the environmental effects of different uses of coal,

Considers it necessary to strengthen the activities of its Coal Committee in the context of envisaged importance of coal in the regional energy supplies,

Notes with interest the report and conclusions of the ad hoc Meeting of Experts to Consider Details of Intensified Co-operation on Selected Research and Development Projects in the field of Coal Gasification, Liquefaction and Treatment in particular a concept of the creation of an international co-ordinating centre on coal gasification and liquefaction under the auspices of the Commission as contained therein,

1. Requests the Coal Committee in close consultation with the Committee on Chemical Industry and Gas Committee, to explore in-depth and constructively the concept of the creation of such a centre;

2. Invites its Coal Committee to consider initiating a new study on the future role of coal in supplying the ECE region with energy and raw materials in the light of new technologies of its conversion and utilization in the framework of its project "Long-term Prospects of Coal beyond 1985"; and

3. Requests its Committee on Chemical Industry, Committee on Gas, Electric Power Committee, as well as the Senior Economic Advisers and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned to closely co-operate with the Coal Committee in this endeavour.

13th meeting
22 April 1978
(see para. 152 above)

E (XXXIII) - THE ECE FOLLOW-UP TO THE UNITED NATIONS
WATER CONFERENCE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Bearing in mind the recommendations and resolutions adopted by the United Nations Water Conference and in particular Conference Resolutions VII and VIII,

Noting with satisfaction that the United Nations Water Conference asked the regional commissions to assume a central role in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan within their respective regions,

Recalling Commission decision B (XXXII),

1. Takes note of resolutions 2121 (LXIII) and 2115 (LXIII) of the Economic and Social Council regarding the follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference;

2. Decides to intensify its efforts in the water sector by inter alia strengthening the activities and responsibilities of the Committee on Water Problems;

3. Further decides to offer to share its experience on water-related problems with the other United Nations regional commissions, when appropriate, and

(i) requests the Executive Secretary to transmit ECE documentation on water-related problems directly to interested countries not members of the Commission;

(ii) agrees that States, not members of ECE, shall be invited to selected ECE meetings on water-related problems designated by the Committee on Water Problems, in accordance with Article 11 of the Commission's terms of reference;

4. Takes note of resolution VII of the United Nations Water Conference and in order to facilitate this resolution offers to convene under the auspices of the Committee on Water Problems a meeting of representatives of existing international river commissions within the ECE region in response to that resolution, with appropriate provisions for the participation of individual countries;

5. Requests the Committee on Water Problems, in the light of the Mar del Plata Action Plan, to assist the Commission in assuming its central role by reviewing, at each annual session, the relevant work done and planned under various United Nations water programmes and by other international organizations operating in the ECE region;

6. Recommends the Economic and Social Council to give a positive response to proposals for inter-agency co-ordination presented to the United Nations Water Conference in the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and the Environmental Co-ordination Board; a/

7. Takes note of the programme of work for 1978-1982 adopted by the Committee at its ninth session recognizing that it is a first step in the reorientation of its work programme in the light of the results of the United Nations Water Conference; in this respect the Committee should take into account the possible interest of different projects to the other United Nations regional commissions;

8. Agrees to submit to the Special Session of the Committee on Natural Resources in 1978 those parts of the report of the ninth session of the Committee on Water Problems relating to the regional follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference, together with this decision.

12th meeting
19 April 1978
(see para. 278 above)

F (XXXIII) - THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE COMMISSION TO
THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS
CONFERENCE ON THE APPLICATION OF SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (UNCSTD)

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling the United Nations General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI), which contain the Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, the Charter of the Economic Rights and Duties of States and the tasks resulting from these documents for the United Nations bodies among which the regional economic commissions,

a/ Present and future activities of the United Nations system in water resources development (CONF.70/CBP/4).

Considering the contribution the Commission should bring to the examination of the problems concerning the access to the achievements of science and technology as well as the dissemination of technological and scientific information with a view to enlarging the regional and international co-operation in this field,

Recognizing the important role science and technology play in the accelerated development of all countries and first of all of the developing ones.

Recalling its decision A (XXXII) by which there have been adopted a series of measures for the preparation and the organization of the ECE Regional Meeting to elaborate the regional documents to be presented to the UNCSTD to take place in Vienna in 1979,

Taking note with satisfaction of the measures already undertaken by the Executive Secretary in order to ensure a substantive contribution by the ECE to the preparations for the Conference,

Taking into account the decisions of the second session of the UNCSTD Preparatory Committee,

1. Takes note of the report by the Executive Secretary submitted in accordance with decision A (XXXII), in document E/ECE/940 and Add.1;
2. Endorses the resolution "Preparation of the United Nations Conference for the Application of Science and Technology to Development", adopted by the second session of the UNCSTD Preparatory Committee;
3. Reaffirms its intention to co-operate fully and actively in this preparation, so that it contributes to the success of the Conference;
4. Invites the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology to take into account fully, in co-operation with the other interested main subsidiary bodies and international organizations, the high priority given to regional preparations for the Conference by the UNCSTD Preparatory Committee and of the importance bestowed upon regional co-operation in the fields of science and technology in the Final Act of the CSCE;
5. Takes note of the recommendation adopted by the second session of the UNCSTD Preparatory Committee that the Regional Meeting under the aegis of ECE to be held in Bucharest, between 26-30 June 1978, should take place at ministerial or other high policy-making level;
6. Requests the Governments of Member-States to present the first version of their national documents and summaries containing recommendations for action by 1 May 1978 so that they can be discussed at the aforementioned Regional Meeting;
7. Resolves that the documents to be adopted by the Regional Meeting contain recommendations for actions at national, regional and international levels, formulated in such a way that they represent a constructive contribution to the formulation of the UNCSTD Programme of Action;

8. Decides that the report and the recommendations of the Bucharest Regional Meeting shall be transmitted to the third session of the UNCSTD Preparatory Committee and to the seventh annual meeting of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology; and

9. Requests the Executive Secretary to present to the thirty-fourth session a report on the implementation of this decision.

13th meeting
22 April 1978
(see para. 302 above)

G (XXXIII) - ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN
IN THE LIGHT OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CSCE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions A (XXXI), B (XXXII) and resolution 1 (XXXII) as well as resolutions 1952 (LIX) and 2043 (LXI) adopted by the Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the declared intention of the States signatory to the Final Act to encourage with the non-participating Mediterranean States the development of mutually beneficial co-operation in the various fields of economic activity and to contribute to a diversified development of their economies,

Bearing in mind that a great number of those member countries of the ECE which are developing from the economic point of view are geographically situated in the Mediterranean,

Noting that some of the subsidiary bodies have included in their programmes of work projects of special interest to the Mediterranean countries of the ECE region and actively started to implement some of them,

Having in mind that a meeting of experts on the Mediterranean will be convened in Valletta, Malta, in 1979 to consider, within the Mediterranean Chapter of the Final Act, the possibilities and means of promoting concrete initiatives for mutually beneficial co-operation concerning various economic, scientific and cultural fields,

Desiring to contribute to the promotion of economic co-operation in the Mediterranean,

1. Notes with satisfaction the report of the Executive Secretary, pursuant to Commission decision B (XXXII) on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE;

2. Requests its subsidiary bodies to continue to pay particular attention in their work to projects and activities of interest to the Mediterranean countries of the ECE region;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to transmit ECE documentation of interest and relevance directly to all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission and agrees that their attention is drawn to relevant ECE meetings to which they will be invited in accordance with paragraph 11 of the Commission's terms of reference;

4. Further requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Western Asia on projects within the competence of the ECE which may be of common interest to all the Mediterranean countries;

5. Draws attention to the Seminar on Selected Water Problems in Island and Coastal Areas with Special Regard to Desalination and Groundwater, to be held in Malta in June 1978, which is of particular interest to Mediterranean countries;

6. Decides to intensify co-operation with other relevant international bodies on subjects of common interest to the Mediterranean countries and in particular to give increased attention to the practical applications of non-conventional sources of energy such as, sun, wind, biogas and geothermal power;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to contribute fully to the preparations of the meeting of experts and, if invited to do so, to participate in that meeting which will be convened within the framework of the Mediterranean chapter of the Final Act, upon the invitation of the Government of Malta, in Valletta, in February 1979;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the thirty-fourth session a report on the implementation of this decision.

13th meeting
22 April 1978
(see para. 307 above)

H (XXXIII) - PROBLEMS OF LAND USE AND LAND-USE
PLANNING IN THE ECE REGION

The Commission decided:

- (a) to invite its Principal Subsidiary Bodies to give appropriate attention to land-use and land-use planning aspects in drawing up their programmes of work;
- (b) to invite the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to draw the Commission's attention to land-use problems, for which a co-ordinated approach between Principal Subsidiary Bodies might be useful or necessary;
- (c) to request the Executive Secretary to further review, analyse and report to the Commission's thirty-fourth session on the activities within ECE which are closely related to land use and land-use planning, with a view to suggesting, if necessary, modifications to the ECE programme of work taking into account the problem areas identified at the ad hoc consultative meeting, the contributions of Principal Subsidiary Bodies under (a) and (b) above and the most important work undertaken in other, notably international, bodies;

- (d) to request the Executive Secretary, in the light of the review and analysis in (c) above, to investigate whether it is possible and necessary to carry out a study of the implications for land use of the demographic and socio-economic developments forecast in the Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE region, and advise the Commission accordingly;
- (e) to attach great importance to substantial progress being achieved in the work being undertaken on regional and land-use statistics, under the auspices of the Conference of European Statisticians;
- (f) to draw the attention of member Governments to work being undertaken on the following projects:
- land-use policies, with particular reference to housing and related services, under the auspices of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning; and
 - integrated physical, socio-economic and environmental planning, under the auspices of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning and the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems;
- (g) to draw the attention of member Governments to the need of adopting adequate land-management and soil conservation measures, with a view to optimize land utilization and secure land, for vital non-urban usages, for the future;
- (h) to recommend to member Governments to continue their efforts with a view to exchanging technical information in the above fields, especially with regard to problems of member countries which are developing from an economic point of view; and
- (i) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fourth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision.

13th meeting
22 April 1978
(see para. 321 above)

I (XXXIII) - STANDARDIZATION

The Commission decided:

- (a) to take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization (E/ECE/947);
- (b) to convene a Group of Experts on Standardization Policies, to be held late in 1978 or early in 1979, to consider, in the light of the views expressed and decisions taken at the thirty-third session, such matters as may be referred to it by the Fifth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies;

- (c) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fourth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision.

12th meeting
19 April 1978
(see para. 341 above)

J (XXXIII) - AUTOMATION

The Commission decided:

- (a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/948 and Add.1 on the activities of the Working Party on Automation during 1977/78;
- (b) to approve the Working Party's programme of work as contained in Annex I to ECE/AUTOMAT/8; and
- (c) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fourth session on the implementation of this decision.

12th meeting
19 April 1978
(see para. 352 above)

K (XXXIII) - ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

The Commission decided:

- (a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/949;
- (b) to adopt the programme of work for 1978-1979 as proposed by the Sixth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries (ECE/ENGIN/11, Annex);
- (c) to convene prior to the thirty-fourth session of the Commission the Seventh ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries to review in the light of the views expressed and the decisions taken by the Commission at its thirty-third session the programme of work in the field of engineering industries;
- (d) to hold the Seminar on Techno-Economic Trends in Airborne Equipment for Agriculture and other Selected Areas of the National Economy, in Poland, in September 1978;
- (e) to hold an ad hoc Meeting for the study on measures for saving raw materials (especially application of metal and non-metal materials, etc.) in engineering industries prior to the thirty-fourth session of the Commission;

- (f) to convene in the spring of 1979 a preparatory meeting for the Seminar on techno-economic aspects of innovation in fabrication processes and products of engineering industries to be held in Italy;
- (g) to hold the Seminar on Development and Use of Industrial Handling Equipment in Bulgaria, in September 1979; and
- (h) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-fourth session on the implementation of this decision.

12th meeting
19 April 1978
(see para. 367 above)



ANNEX I

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF ACTIONS
AND PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION

SUBJECT	DOCUMENT IN WHICH THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS IS CONTAINED	ESTIMATED COST \$
- Publication in offset form of Studies related to the Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE Region up to 1990, Vols. I and II	ECE/EC.AD./16 paragraph 29 and Note 1	7,900
- Publication in offset form of Features of Environmental Policy in the ECE Region	ECE/ENV/19 paragraph 54	1,727
- Publication in letterpress form of Three Decades of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe	E/1978/47 paragraph 78	46,420
- Printing of 1,600 sets of Road Traffic Volume maps reflecting the 1980 Road Traffic Census	ECE/TRANS/28 paragraph 67	15,000



ANNEX II

LIST OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION'S SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD IN 1977/78

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>THE COMMISSION</u>		
<u>Automation</u>		
Working Party on Automation	Sixth session 1-3 March 1978	ECE/AUTOMAT/8
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. S. Haggmann-Petersen (Denmark) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Vasiliev (Byelorussian SSR)		
Seminar on Industrial Robots and Programmable Logical Controllers	5-10 September 1977 Copenhagen (Denmark)	AUTOMAT/SEM.5/3
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. S. Haggmann-Petersen (Denmark) <u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. H. Hunter (United Kingdom) Mr. J. Kozirev (USSR)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Computer Aided Design Systems as an Integrated Part of Industrial Production	22-23 September 1977	AUTOMAT/SEM.6/AC/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Z. Kozar (Czechoslovakia) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Gott (United Kingdom)		
<u>Energy</u>		
Ad hoc Meeting on the Preparation of the Study on New Issues affecting the Energy Economy of the ECE Region in the Medium and Long Term	16-17 June 1977	ECE/AC.4/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Treat (United States) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Gaube (Romania)		
Ad hoc Meeting on New Issues affecting the Energy Economy of the ECE Region in the Medium and Long Term and on Problems of Energy Economy and Efficiency	20-23 February 1978	ECE/AC.5/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Bartoszek (Poland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Treat (United States)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on the Combined Production of Electric Power and Heat <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Korytnikov (USSR) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Schepens (Belgium)	13-15 September 1977	ECE/SEM.2/AC/2
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on the Use of Econometric, Input-output and Cost-benefit Models in Assessing the Potential for Energy Conservation and for Optimizing Conservation Programmes <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. F.W. Hutber (United Kingdom) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Kotchetkov (USSR)	30 January - 1 February 1978	ECE/SEM.3/AC/2
<u>Engineering</u>		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries</u> <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Terek (Czechoslovakia) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Luhan (France)	9-11 November 1977	ECE/ENGIN/11
Seminar on Engineering Equipment for Foundries and Advanced Methods for Producing such Equipment <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Morrogh (United Kingdom) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Bieber (Czechoslovakia)	28 November - 2 December 1977	ENGIN/SEM.3/2
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Techno-economic Trends in Airborne Equipment for Agriculture and other Selected Areas of the National Economy <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Grzegorzewski (Poland)	7-8 November 1977	ENGIN/SEM.4/AC/2
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Present Situation and Future Trends in the Use of Electro-Mechanical Handling Equipment in Engineering Industries <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Nossov (USSR)	27-28 February 1978	ENGIN/SEM.5/AC/2

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>Land Use</u>		
<u>Ad hoc Consultative Meeting of Governmental Experts on Land Use and Land-use Planning</u>	15-17 March 1978	ECE/AC.6/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A.B. Ynzenga (Spain) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Filip (Romania)		
<u>Standardization</u>		
Group of Experts on Standardization Policies	Fourth session 23-26 May 1977	STAND/GE.1/9/Rev.1
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Simakov (USSR) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Strecker (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Riapolov (USSR) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Strecker (Federal Republic of Germany)	Fifth session 3-7 April 1978	STAND/GE.1/11
<u>COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS</u>		
Committee on Agricultural Problems	Twenty-ninth session 6-10 March 1978	ECE/AGRI/36
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Hammer (Hungary) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Halimi (France)		
Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce	Thirty-third session 5-8 July 1977	AGRI/WP.1/19
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Verlinden (Belgium) <u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. E. Jahoda (Hungary) Mr. F. Ansermet (Switzerland)		
Group of Experts on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce (Vegetables)	Third session 4 July 1977	AGRI/WP.1/19 Annex II
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Verlinden (Belgium) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Mazur (Poland)		
Consultation of Experts on Standardization of Poultry Meat	19 January 1978	AGRI/WP.1/AC.2/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Rybicki (Poland)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Experts on Technical Co-ordination <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Jahoda (Hungary)	Twenty-third session 19-22 April 1977 Ankara (Turkey)	AGRI/WP.1/GE.1/10
Group of Experts on Standardization of Dry and Dried Fruits <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Orlowski (Poland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Lopez Puertas (Spain)	Twenty-fifth session 6-9 February 1978	AGRI/WP.1/GE.2/20
Group of Experts on Standardization of Egg Products <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Rybicki (Poland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Thöni (Switzerland)	Second session 16-18 January 1978	AGRI/WP.1/GE.8/13
Group of Experts on Standardization of Cut Flowers <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M.J. Zijp (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Ruineau (France)	Fifth session 2-4 May 1977 Sixth session 10-12 April 1978	AGRI/WP.1/GE.9/10 AGRI/WP.1/GE.9/12
Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Coolman (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. S. Dimov (Bulgaria)	Twenty-third session 6-9 September 1977 Washington D.C. (United States)	FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/11
Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Agrarian Structure and Farm Rationalization <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Bueno (Spain) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Makeenko (USSR)	Second session 9-13 January 1978	FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.3/4
Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium on the Effects of Pollution on Vegetation <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.G. ten Houten (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Wolak (Poland)	21-22 November 1977	AGRI/SEM.8/AC.1/2 TIM/WP.3/AC.5/2

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>CHEMICAL INDUSTRY COMMITTEE</u>		
Chemical Industry Committee	Tenth session 12-15 September 1977 Moscow (USSR)	ECE/CHEM/20
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Crystal (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Dedov (USSR)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on the Use of Chemicals in Housing and Industrial Construction</u>	29-30 June 1977	CHEM/AC.8/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Balassa (Hungary)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. M.J.A. Philippe (Belgium)		
Group of Experts on the Periodic Survey of the Chemical Industry	Fifth session 27-28 June 1977	CHEM/GE.1/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Turonek (Poland)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Schuster (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Symposium on International Economic and Technical Co-operation in the Chemical Industry	9-13 May 1977 Budapest (Hungary)	CHEM/SEM.4/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Gaal (Hungary)		
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. F.M. Henglein (Federal Republic of Germany) Mr. J. Kaczor (Poland)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Air Pollution Problems from Specific Branches of the Organic Chemical Industry	12-14 December 1977	CHEM/SEM.7/PM/1 ENV/SEM.9/PM/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W.J. Kolstee (Netherlands)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Systems of Programming and Long-term Planning for Chemical Industry Development	2-3 March 1978	CHEM/SEM.8/AC/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Dolczewski (Poland)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Hope (United Kingdom)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>COAL COMMITTEE</u>		
Coal Committee	Seventy-third session 26-29 September 1977.	ECE/COAL/34
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Scheid (Federal Republic of Germany)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. Z. Wegrzyk (Poland)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts to Consider Details of Intensified Co-operation on Selected Research and Development Projects in the Field of Coal Gasification, Liquefaction and Treatment and to Draw up a List of Subjects Most Suitable for Such Co-operation</u>	16-18 January 1978	COAL/AC.2/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Geerssen (Netherlands)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Karkoshka (Czechoslovakia)		
Group of Experts on Productivity and Management Problems in the Coal Industry	Eighth session 22-24 June 1977	GOAL/GE.1/10
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Kurnosov (USSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Benthaus (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Group of Experts on Coal Statistics	Fourteenth session 27-29 June 1977	COAL/GE.2/10
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Oakland (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Muszkiet (Poland)		
Group of Experts on the Utilization and Preparation of Solid Fuels	Eighth session 20-22 June 1977	COAL/GE.3/10
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Barker (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Ruban (USSR)		
Meeting of Directors of National Mining Research Institutes	Fourth session 19-23 March 1978 Ostrava (Czechoslovakia)	COAL/GE.4/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Z. Matusek (Czechoslovakia)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Tregelles (United Kingdom)		
Working Party on Coal Trade	Sixteenth session 30 June - 1 July 1977	COAL/WP.1/34
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. de Corn (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Cernovsky (Czechoslovakia)	Seventeenth session 12-13 January 1978	COAL/WP.1/36

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium on Gasification and Liquefaction of Coal	18-19 May 1977	COAL/SEM.6/AC/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Z. Wegrzyk (Poland)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Vener (United States)		
<u>CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS</u>		
Conference of European Statisticians	Twenty-fifth plenary session 27 June - 1 July 1977	ECE/CES/10
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Tchervanev (Byelorussian SSR)		
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. L. Bosse (Austria) Mr. I. Latific (Yugoslavia) Mr. T.P. Linehan (Ireland)		
Meeting on Population Censuses	9-13 May 1977	CES/AC.6/142
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. van Waelvelde (Belgium)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Klinger (Hungary)		
Meeting on Population and Housing Censuses	21-25 November 1977	CES/AC.6/150 HBP/AC.5/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mrs. L. Skott (Denmark)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mrs. T. Dluska (Poland)		
Meeting on Housing Censuses	31 May - 3 June 1977	CES/AC.30/8 HBP/AC.4/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Stukel (Canada)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Vukovich (Hungary)		
Meeting on Environmental Statistics	9-13 January 1978	CES/AC.40/15 ENV/AC.6/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. K. Medin (Sweden)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Barta (Hungary)		
Meeting on Problems relating to Household Surveys	20-23 March 1978	CES/AC.48/11
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.L. Sanchez-Crespo (Spain)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Doumnov (USSR)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Working Party on Electronic Data Processing <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. T.F. Hughes (United Kingdom) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Walczak (Poland)	Fifteenth session 17-21 April 1978	CES/WP.9/165
Working Party on National Accounts and Balances <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.A. Rushbrook (United Kingdom) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Eidelman (USSR)	Ninth session 13-17 February 1978	CES/WP.22/55
Seminar on Integrated Statistical Information Systems and Related Matters (ISIS '77) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Klas (Czechoslovakia)	26-30 September 1977 Bratislava (Czechoslovakia)	CES/SEM.9/13
<u>COMMITTEE ON ELECTRIC POWER</u>		
Committee on Electric Power <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Rusnak (Czechoslovakia) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Cassapoglou (Greece)	Thirty-sixth session 21-25 November 1977	ECE/EP/27
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Preparation of a Terminology Suited to the Needs of the Committee on Electric Power</u> <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Tabet (France) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. K. Strauss (United Kingdom)	27-28 February 1978	EP/AC.3/4
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Use of Nuclear Power Stations for the Combined Production of Electric Power and Heat</u> <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. X. Michon (France) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. Z. Skopec (Poland)	12-13 September 1977	EP/AC.4/2
Group of Experts on Problems of Planning and Operating Large Power Systems <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Colamarino (Italy) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Andreiescu (Romania)	Ninth session 13-15 June 1977	EP/GE.2/10

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Experts on Electric Power Stations <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Zhilin (USSR) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Féron (France)	Eighth session 3-5 October 1977	EP/GE.3/10
Group of Experts on the Relationship between Electricity and the Environment <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Lindsay (United Kingdom) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Yakovlev (USSR)	Sixth session 5-7 October 1977	EP/GE.4/10
Symposium on Load-curve Coverage in Future Electric Power Generating Systems <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Angelini (Italy) <u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. E. Sovary (Hungary) Mr. A. Di Perna (Italy) Mr. F.J. Willekens (Netherlands) Mr. A. Loeffler (German Democratic Republic) Mr. A. Plumpton (United Kingdom)	24-28 October 1977 Rome (Italy)	EP/SEM.5/2
<u>COMMITTEE ON GAS</u>		
Committee on Gas <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Robert (France) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Danhelka (Czechoslovakia)	Twenty-fourth session 23-27 January 1978	ECE/GAS/38
Group of Experts on Gas Statistics and Forecasting Problems <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W.F.M. Beems (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Margulov (USSR)	Sixteenth session 28-30 November 1977	GAS/GE.1/10
Group of Experts on the Use and Distribution of Gas <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Koranyi (Hungary) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Spee (Netherlands)	Eighth session 9-11 May 1977	GAS/GE.2/10

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Experts on the Transport and Storage of Gas <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H.S. Jones (United Kingdom) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Geangala (Romania)	Eighth session 11-13 May 1977	GAS/GE.3/10
Group of Experts on Natural Gas Resources <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Schott (Federal Republic of Germany) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Parshev (Ukrainian SSR)	Second session 5-6 May 1977	GAS/GE.4/4
Symposium on the Gas Industry and Environment <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. I.M. Glazkov (Byelorussian SSR) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Bakker (Netherlands)	20-26 June 1977 Minsk (Byelorussian SSR)	GAS/SEM.3/2
<u>COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING</u>		
Committee on Housing, Building and Planning <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Hinrichs (Federal Republic of Germany) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Kotela (Poland)	Thirty-eighth session 29 August - 2 September 1977	ECE/HBP/22
Meeting on Housing Censuses <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Stukel (Canada) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Vukovich (Hungary)	31 May - 3 June 1977	HBP/AC.4/2 CES/AC.30/8
Meeting on Population and Housing Censuses <u>Chairman:</u> Mrs. L. Skott (Denmark) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mrs. T. Dluska (Poland)	21-25 November 1977	HBP/AC.5/2 CES/AC.6/150
Group of Experts on Housing, Building and Planning Problems and Policies in the Countries of Southern Europe <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Lecourt (France) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. Z. Genchev (Bulgaria)	Eighth meeting 31 October - 5 November 1977 Nice (France)	HBP/GE.2/9

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<p><u>Ad hoc Meeting of Government Officials and Experts concerned with Regulations on Structural Safety and Loads</u></p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Tichy (Czechoslovakia)</p> <p><u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Aakre (Norway)</p>	<p>9-13 May 1977 Vyskov (Czechoslovakia)</p>	<p>HBP/WP.2/AC.4/2</p>
<p><u>Ad hoc Meeting on Programmes and Priorities for International Standards Work and Approvals in the Building Field</u></p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Burgess (United Kingdom)</p> <p><u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Sychev (USSR)</p>	<p>19-22 December 1977</p>	<p>HBP/WP.2/AC.5/2</p>
<p><u>Ad hoc Meeting on Fire Protection Regulations, Standards and Research</u></p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Borbely (Hungary)</p> <p><u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Wahlström (Sweden)</p>	<p>14-18 November 1977 Budapest (Hungary)</p>	<p>HBP/WP.2/AC.6/2</p>
<p><u>Ad hoc Meeting on Requirements for Construction in Seismic Regions</u></p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. S. Bubnov (Yugoslavia)</p> <p><u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Ferry Borges (Portugal)</p>	<p>3-7 April 1978 Belgrade (Yugoslavia)</p>	<p>HBP/WP.2/AC.7/2</p>
<p><u>Ad hoc Meeting on Integrated Physical, Socio-economic and Environmental Planning</u></p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Hauge (Norway)</p>	<p>30 November - 2 December 1977</p>	<p>HBP/WP.3/AC.2/2 ENV/AC.5/2</p>
<p><u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Role of Transportation in Urban Planning, Development and Environment</u></p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Meijer (Netherlands)</p> <p><u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Agassiants (USSR)</p>	<p>23-25 January 1978</p>	<p>HBP/WP.3/AC.3/2</p>
<p><u>Group of Experts on Urban and Regional Research</u></p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Horniak (Czechoslovakia)</p> <p><u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Lecourt (France)</p>	<p>Ninth meeting 20-24 February 1978</p>	<p>HBP/WP.3/GE.1/13</p>
<p><u>Seminar on Housing Policy</u></p> <p><u>Chairman:</u> Mr. O. Lindblom (Finland)</p> <p><u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. A. Steensma (Netherlands) Mr. V. Lebedev (USSR)</p>	<p>4-9 July 1977 Turku (Finland)</p>	<p>HBP/SEM.15/2</p>

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Seminar on Building Research Policies <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Cederwall (Sweden) <u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. D. Katanov (USSR) Mr. A. Newburg (United States)	23-27 May 1977 Gävle (Sweden)	HBP/SEM.16/3
Seminar on the Impact of Energy Considerations on the Planning and Development of Human Settlements <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Strong (Canada) <u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. A. Iakimtchuk (Byelorussian SSR) Mr. J.L. Seip (Norway)	3-14 October 1977 Ottawa (Canada)	HBP/SEM.17/2
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Land-use Policies <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Svenson (Sweden)	25-27 January 1978	HBP/SEM.18/PM/2
<u>INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE</u>		
Inland Transport Committee <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Kozin (USSR) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Woelker (Federal Republic of Germany)	Thirty-seventh session 30 January - 3 February 1978	ECE/TRANS/28
<u>Ad hoc Meeting for Reviewing Transport Development Trends</u> <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P.R. Jordanis (Switzerland)	10-14 October 1977	TRANS/AC.1/4
Group of Experts on Transport Statistics <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Pálos (Hungary) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Ledru (France)	Thirty-first session 5-9 December 1977	TRANS/GE.6/6
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Rapporteurs to Study Statistics concerning the Use of Energy in Transport</u> <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Pisarski (United States)	3-5 October 1977	TRANS/GE.6/AC.1/5
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on Road Traffic Censuses</u> <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Beukers (Netherlands)	5-7 September 1977	TRANS/GE.6/AC.2/2
Group of Experts on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Petitmermet (Switzerland)	Thirty-first session 24-27 October 1977	TRANS/GE.11/9

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Spencer (United Kingdom) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Andronov (USSR)	Twenty-ninth session 9-13 May 1977	TRANS/GE.15/11
Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the ECE Group of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Kirschsieper (Switzerland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. N. Lamme (Netherlands)	10-21 October 1977	TRANS/GE.15/R.275
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. Kirschsieper (Switzerland) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Gömmel (Federal Republic of Germany)	3-14 April 1978 Berne (Switzerland)	TRANS/GE.15/R.315
Group of Rapporteurs on Container Transport (GRCT) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Beazley (United Kingdom)	Nineteenth session 12-15 September 1977 Twentieth session 13-16 February 1978	TRANS/GE.24/GRCT/11 TRANS/GE.24/GRCT/13
Group of Experts on Customs Questions affecting Transport <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Duquesne (France)	Thirty-eighth session 17-20 October 1977	TRANS/GE.30/12
Group of Rapporteurs on Customs Questions concerning Containers (GRCC) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Bendall (United Kingdom)	Twenty-first session 12-14 October 1977 Twenty-second session 13-17 March 1978	TRANS/GE.30/GRCC/5 TRANS/GE.30/GRCC/6
Working Party on Road Transport <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W. von Harpe (Finland) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Viktor (Hungary) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. W. von Harpe (Finland)	Sixty-second (special) session 18-22 July 1977 Sixty-third session 28 November - 2 December 1977	TRANS/SC1/291 TRANS/SC1/293
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Development of the International Road Network in South-East Europe</u> <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Rabar (Hungary)	13-15 June 1977 Athens (Greece)	TRANS/SC1/AC.2/3
Group of Experts on Road Traffic Safety <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Quist (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Astachov (USSR)	Thirty-second session 6-10 June 1977 Thirty-third session 26-29 September 1977	TRANS/SC1/GE.20/15 TRANS/SC1/GE.20/17

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Group of Experts on the Construction of Vehicles	Fifty-second session 20-24 June 1977	TRANS/SC1/WP29/29
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Pocci (Italy)	Fifty-third session	TRANS/SC1/WP29/32
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Andronov (USSR)	24-28 October 1977	
	Fifty-fourth session 6-10 March 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/37
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Harmonization of Requirements on Motor Vehicles Construction</u>	31 October - 1 November 1977	TRANS/SC1/WP29/AC.1/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Pocci (Italy)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Programme of Work of the Group of Experts on the Construction of Vehicles</u>	16-17 June 1977	TRANS/SC1/WP29/AC.2/3
	20-21 October 1977	TRANS/SC1/WP29/AC.2/4
	2-3 March 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/AC.2/5
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Pocci (Italy)		
Group of Rapporteurs on Noise (GRB)	Sixth session 4-7 October 1977 Brussels (Belgium)	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRB/4
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Tippmann (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Group of Rapporteurs on Crashworthiness (GRCS)	First session 12-15 September 1977	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRCS/1
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Pocci (Italy)	Second session 16-20 January 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRCS/2
Group of Rapporteurs on Protective Devices (GRDP)	Second session 25-29 July 1977	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRDP/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. C. Lomonaco (Italy)	Third session 14-17 February 1978 Rome (Italy)	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRDP/3
Group of Rapporteurs on Lighting and Light-signalling (GRE)	First session 11-14 July 1977	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRE/1
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.G. Kuiperbak (Netherlands)	Second session 4-7 April 1978 The Hague (Netherlands)	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRE/2
Group of Rapporteurs on Air Pollution (GRPA)	Seventeenth session 22-25 August 1977	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRPA/7
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Gauvin (France)	Eighteenth session 6-10 February 1978	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRPA/8
Group of Rapporteurs on Brakes and Running Gear (GRRF)	Second session 7-10 November 1977 Frankfurt/Main (Federal Republic of Germany)	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRRF/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Tippmann (Federal Republic of Germany)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Rapporteurs on Safety Provisions on Motor Coaches and Buses (GRSA) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Perring (United Kingdom)	Seventeenth session 10-13 May 1977 Eighteenth session 5-9 December 1977 London (United Kingdom)	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSA/8 TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSA/9
Group of Rapporteurs on General Safety Provisions (GRSG) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Furness (United Kingdom)	Twenty-eighth session 23-27 May 1977 Twenty-ninth session 19-23 September 1977 London (United Kingdom) Thirtieth session 15-18 November 1977 Barcelona (Spain) Thirty-first session 18-21 April 1978 Frankfurt/Main (Federal Republic of Germany)	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSG/7 TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSG/8 TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSG/9 TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSG/10
Working Party on Rail Transport <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Hatnean (Romania) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Gauthier (France)	Thirty-first session 2-4 November 1977	TRANS/SC2/146
Working Party on Inland Water Transport <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Ö. Vass (Hungary) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. S. Glazenburg (Netherlands)	Twenty-first session 14-18 November 1977	TRANS/SC3/91
Group of Experts on the Standardization of Technical Requirements for Vessels and of Ships' Papers <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Ö. Vass (Hungary) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J.F. Lévy (France)	Tenth session 3-7 October 1977 Eleventh session 6-10 March 1978	TRANS/SC3/GE.1/18 TRANS/SC3/GE.1/20
Group of Experts on the Standardization of Rules of the Road and Signs and Signals in Inland Navigation <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.F. Lévy (France)	Ninth session 2-6 May 1977 Tenth session 19-23 September 1977	TRANS/SC3/GE.2/16 TRANS/SC3/GE.2/18
Steering Committee (Trans-European North-South Motorway Project (TEM)) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Torovsky (Austria) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Petropoulos (Greece)	Third session 27 February - 1 March 1978	TEM/4
Working Group on Technical Co-ordination (TEM) <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Cerny (Czechoslovakia)	Second session 23-25 November 1977	TEM/TC/2

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS</u>		
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems	Sixth session 27 February - 3 March 1978	ECE/ENV/19
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Lykke (Norway) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Szenes (Hungary)		
Consultative Meeting of the Senior Advisers	19-21 September 1977	ECE/ENV/17
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Lykke (Norway) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Szenes (Hungary)		
<u>Ad hoc</u> Meeting of Experts on Environmental Perspectives	12-15 September 1977 Bilthoven (Netherlands)	ENV/R.80
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Spaander (Netherlands)		
<u>Ad hoc</u> Meeting on Integrated Physical, Socio-economic and Environmental Planning	30 November - 2 December 1977	ENV/AC.5/2 HBP/WP.3/AC.2/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Hauge (Norway)		
Meeting on Environmental Statistics	9-13 January 1978	ENV/AC.6/2 CES/AC.40/15
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. K. Medin (Sweden) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Barta (Hungary)		
Working Party on Air Pollution Problems	Eighth session 10-12 January 1978	ENV/WP.1/10
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. L.E. Reed (United Kingdom) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J.W. Werner (Poland)		
Steering Body to the "Co-operative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe"	First session 31 August - 2 September 1977	ENV/WP.1/GE.1/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Schneider (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. G. Persson (Sweden) Mr. A. Fressman (USSR) Mr. L. Reed (United Kingdom) Mr. D.J. Szepesi (Hungary)		
Seminar on Fine Particulates	17-21 October 1977 Villach (Austria)	ENV/SEM.8/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Haider (Austria) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Jagusiewicz (Poland)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Air Pollution Problems from Specific Branches of the Organic Chemical Industry <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W.J. Kolstee (Netherlands)	12-14 December 1977	ENV/SEM.9/PM/2 CHEM/SEM.7/PM/1
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Environmental Impact Assessment <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. F.G. Hurtubise (Canada) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J.A.R. Sobisek (Czechoslovakia)	5-6 December 1977	ENV/SEM.10/PM/2
<u>SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY</u>		
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. K.V. Ananichev (USSR) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J.D. de Haan (Netherlands)	Sixth session 4-8 July 1977	ECE/SC.TECH./15
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Technological Forecasting</u> <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Smirnov (USSR) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. K. Taylor (United Kingdom)	16-17 May 1977	SC.TECH./AC.8/2
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on Contributions to the Preparations for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development</u> <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.D. de Haan (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Matache (Romania)	18-19 May 1977	SC.TECH./AC.9/2
Special session to prepare regional activities in connexion with UNCSTD <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.D. de Haan (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Gapochka (USSR)	6-8 December 1977	SC.TECH./AC.10/2

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on ECE Sponsorship of Study Groups Bringing Together Younger Scientists and Technologists with Eminent Specialists</u> <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Cortellessa (Italy) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Lauterbach (German Democratic Republic)	9 December 1977	SC.TECH./AC.11/2
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Technological Forecasting</u> <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Menkes (United States) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Baworowski (Poland)	20-21 March 1978	SC.TECH./AC.12/2
<u>SENIOR ECONOMIC ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS</u>		
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Prostjakov (USSR) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G. Mignot (France)	Fifteenth session 20-24 February 1978	ECE/EC.AD./16
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on the Overall Economic Perspective</u> <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. O. Thur (Canada) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Prostjakov (USSR)	24-28 October 1977	EC.AD.(XIV)/AC.1/2
Consultation on Draft Part III of the Overall Economic Perspective <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. O. Thur (Canada) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Prostjakov (USSR)	12-14 December 1977	-
Seminar on Employment, Income Distribution and Consumption: Long-term Objectives and Structural Changes <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Daney de Marcillac (France) <u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. Z. Fiejka (Poland) Mr. W. Haeder (German Democratic Republic) Mr. O. Thur (Canada)	6-13 September 1977 St-Maximin-la-Ste-Baume (France)	EC.AD./SEM.5/13

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>STEEL COMMITTEE</u>		
Steel Committee	Forty-fifth session 26-28 October 1977	ECE/STEEL/19
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Z. Sobczyk (Poland)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Ghislain (Belgium)		
Group of Experts for the Study on Structural Changes in the Iron and Steel Industry	Third meeting 24-25 October 1977	STEEL/GE.3/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Fumagalli (Italy)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Eberling (German Democratic Republic)		
Working Party on the Steel Market	Sixteenth session 16-17 June 1977	STEEL/WP.1/10
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Miksa (Czechoslovakia)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Clerget (France)		
Group of Rapporteurs on the Steel Market	17 February 1978	-
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Miksa (Czechoslovakia)		
Symposium on the Interrelation between the Iron and Steel Industry and the Steel Consuming Sectors	12-16 December 1977	STEEL/SEM.3/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Clerget (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. D. Popov (USSR)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on the Economic and Technical Aspects of the Application of Computer Techniques in Iron and Steel-making Processes	14-15 June 1977	STEEL/SEM.4/AC/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Knotek (Czechoslovakia)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Steel Use in Public Works, Infrastructure and Construction	15-16 February 1978	STEEL/SEM.5/AC/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Ghislain (Belgium)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Horváth (Hungary)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
<u>TIMBER COMMITTEE</u>		
Timber Committee	Thirty-fifth session 17-21 October 1977	ECE/TIM/11
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. F. Palmer (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. V. Nemtsov (USSR) Mr. A. Froncillo (Italy)		
Seminar on Reforestation of Forests Destroyed by Storm and Fire	24-27 May 1977 Hermannsburg, Bruchhausen-Vilsen (Federal Republic of Germany) Assen (Netherlands)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/GE.3/ SEM.1/1
<u>Chairmen:</u> Mr. G. Calabri (Italy) Mr. E. Lammerts van Bueren (Netherlands) Mr. H.P. Lang (Austria) Mr. N. Dannatt (United Kingdom)		
Seminar on Man/Machine Productivity	11-13 April 1978 Garpenberg (Sweden)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/SEM.4/1
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. A. Staaf (Sweden)		
Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics	Eleventh session 31 May - 3 June 1977	TIM/EFC/WP.2/6
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Clicheroux (Belgium)		
<u>Vice-Chairmen:</u> Mr. A. Grayson (United Kingdom) Mr. I. Predescu (Romania)		
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Standardization of Stress Grading and Finger-jointing of Coniferous Sawnwood</u>	6-9 June 1977	TIM/WP.3/AC.3/8
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. W.E. Townsley (Canada)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium on Efficiency in Energy Use in Forestry and Wood-working Industries	16 May 1977	TIM/WP.3/AC.4/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Quiquandon (France)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium on the Effects of Pollution on Vegetation	21-22 November 1977	TIM/WP.3/AC.5/2 AGRI/SEM.8/AC.1/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.G. ten Houten (Netherlands)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Wolak (Poland)		

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Economic and Technical Developments in the Furniture Industry <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. M. Kalemba (Poland)	28-29 March 1978	TIM/WP.3/AC.6/2
<u>COMMITTEE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE</u>		
Committee on the Development of Trade <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. R. Morawitz (Federal Republic of Germany) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. Z. Krzysztofowicz (Poland)	Twenty-sixth session 28 November - 2 December 1977	ECE/TRADE/128
<u>Ad hoc Meeting to Discuss the Multilateral Notification System (MUNOSYST)</u> <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P. Kraneveld (Netherlands) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Major (Hungary)	15-16 September 1977	TRADE/AC.7/2
Group of Experts on International Contract Practices in Industry <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. H. Stumpf (Federal Republic of Germany) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Szász (Hungary)	Twelfth session 9-13 May 1977 Thirteenth session 30 January - 3 February 1978	TRADE/GE.1/37 TRADE/GE.1/39
Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. Kostikov (USSR) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. R.C. Milne (Canada)	Sixth session 8-10 June 1977 Seventh session 9-10 February 1978	TRADE/WP.4/121 TRADE/WP.4/123
Group of Experts on Automatic Data Processing and Coding <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. V. David (Czechoslovakia) <u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. E. Borgström (Sweden)	Fifteenth session 7 June 1977 Sixteenth session 26-28 September 1977 Seventeenth session 2-6 February 1978	TRADE/WP.4/GE.1/30 TRADE/WP.4/GE.1/32 TRADE/WP.4/GE.1/34

Body and officers	Session	Document symbol of report
Group of Experts on Data Requirements and Documentation	Fifteenth session 6 June 1977	TRADE/WP.4/GE.2/30
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Duquesne (France)	Sixteenth session	TRADE/WP.4/GE.2/32
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. I. Balázs (Hungary)	29-30 September 1977	
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J. Duquesne (France)	Seventeenth session	TRADE/WP.4/GE.2/34
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. K. Miziniak (Poland)	7-8 February 1978	

COMMITTEE ON WATER PROBLEMS

Committee on Water Problems	Ninth session 14-18 November 1977	ECE/WATER/19
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. T. Krempels (Hungary)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. G.D. Cobb (United States)		
Group of Experts on Aspects of Water Quality and Quantity	Fifth session 25-27 May 1977	WATER/GE.1/10
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. J.E. Brachet (France)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. B. Mate (Hungary)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Rational Utilization of Water	13-15 March 1978	WATER/SEM.6/PM/2
<u>Chairman:</u> Mr. P.J. Parsons (United Kingdom)		
<u>Vice-Chairman:</u> Mr. L. Roussak (USSR)		

ANNEX III

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. LIST OF MAJOR ECE STUDIES AND PUBLICATIONS, 1977/78

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

GENERAL

Annual Report of the ECE to the ECOSOC, 10 April 1976 - 30 April 1977,
Vol. I and II (E/5944-E/ECE/928 and Add.1) E F R

Economic Survey of Europe in 1976 - Part I: The European Economy in
1976 (Sales No. 77.II.E.1) Part II: The five-year plans for
1976-1980 in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union (Sales No. 77.II.E.11) E F R

Economic Bulletin for Europe, Vol. 29 - A. Recent Changes in
Europe's Trade; B. Case Study on Specialization in East-West Trade
(Sales No. 78.II.E.4) E F R

Structure and Change in European Industry (Sales No. 77.II.E.3) E F R

AGRICULTURE

Seventh Report on Output, Expenses and Income of Agriculture in
European Countries, 1960-1968, Vol. I and II (ECE/AGRI/28) E F R

Prices of Agricultural Products and Selected Inputs in Europe and
North America 1975/76 - Annual ECE/FAO Price Review No. 26
(ECE/AGRI/30) (Sales No. 77.II.E.6) E F R

Agricultural Trade Review No. 14: Agricultural Trade in Europe -
Recent Developments (prepared in 1976), the European market for
unmanufactured tobacco (ECE/AGRI/32) (Sales No. 77.II.E.9) E F R

Agricultural Market Review No. 19: Review of the Agricultural
Situation in Europe at the End of 1976; Vol. I: General review, grain,
livestock and meat; Vol. II: Dairy products, eggs (ECE/AGRI/33)
(Sales No. 77.II.E.7) E F R

Proceedings of the Symposium on Frozen and Quick Frozen Food -
New Aspects for Agricultural Production and Marketing, Budapest
(Hungary), 25-28 April 1977 (ECE/AGRI/34) E/F/R

Use of Hydraulic Transmission Systems in Tractors and Self-propelled
Machines: AGRI/MECH Report No. 68 (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/9) E F R

Equipment and Techniques for Manure Treatment: AGRI/MECH Report
No. 69 (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/10) E F R

Revised European Standard No. 11/Rev.2 - Strawberries
(AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.11/Rev.2) E F R

Revised European Standard No. 14/Rev.2 - Table grapes (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.14/Rev.2)	E F R
Revised European Standard No. 23/Rev.1 - Cucumbers (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.23/Rev.1)	E F R
Revised European Standard No. 27/Rev.1 - Horse-radish (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.27/Rev.1)	E F R
Revised European Standard No. 40/Rev.1 - Raspberries (AGRI/WP.1/EUR.STAN.40/Rev.1)	E F R
Protein and Non-Protein Nitrogen for Ruminants, Proceedings of a Symposium held in Geneva, 10-14 January 1977	*
Frozen and Quick-frozen Food, Proceedings of a Symposium held in Budapest (Hungary), 25-28 April 1977	*

CHEMICALS

Annual Review of the Chemical Industry 1975 (ECE/CHEM/16)	E F R
The Raw Material Requirements of the Chemical Industry (ECE/CHEM/17)	E F R
Energy Requirements of the Chemical Industry (ECE/CHEM/19)	E F R
Annual Review of the Chemical Industry, 1976 (ECE/CHEM/21)	E F R
Proceedings of the Seminar on Air Pollution Problems of the Inorganic Chemical Industry, 1-6 November 1976, Vol. I and II (CHEM/SEM.5/3-ENV/SEM.7/3)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products, 1976, Vol. III (Sales No. 77.II.E.22)	E/F/R
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ENERGY

The Coal Situation in the ECE Region in 1975 and its Prospects (ECE/COAL/21)	E F R
Current Position and Recent Developments relating to the Control of Atmospheric and Water Pollution caused by the Operation and Products of Coking Plants (ECE/COAL/24)	E F R
Various Aspects of the Use of Coal in the Chemical Industry (ECE/COAL/25)	E F R
Methods of Constructing and Means of Introducing Integrated Data Processing Systems to Meet the Management Requirements of Collieries and Groups of Collieries (ECE/COAL/26)	E F R
Mechanization and Automation of Shaft-sinking and Road-driving in Coal and in Rock (ECE/COAL/27)	E F R
Progress Achieved in Mobile Powered Supports (ECE/COAL/28)	E F R

Consolidation of Coal and Rock by Injection of Appropriate Substances in Workings (ECE/COAL/29)	E F R
A Study of Factors Influencing the Achievement of High Over-all and High-face Productivity in Mines (on the basis of examples of mines showing high over-all and face productivity) (ECE/COAL/30)	E F R
UN-ECE: Coal: 1985 and beyond - A Perspective Study	*
Electric Power and the Environment, Vol. IV, V, VI and VII (ECE/EP/19)	E F R
Electricity and the Environment, Vol. I (ECE/EP/22)	E F R
Methods used in Training Personnel for the Nuclear Power Stations (ECE/EP/24)	E F R
Economic and Technical Problems arising from Long-distance Transport of Heat for District Heating (ECE/EP/26)	E F R
The Gas Situation in the ECE Region in 1975 and its Prospects (ECE/GAS/32)	E F R
Underground Storage of Gas (ECE/GAS/34)	E F R
The Use of Gas to Meet Total Energy Needs of Certain Types of Consumption Centres (ECE/GAS/35)	E F R
First Report on the Rational Use of Gas in the Various Sectors of the Economy: Methods of Determining the Efficiency in the Use of Gas (ECE/GAS/36)	E F R
Investments in the Gas Industry and their Financing Possibilities from 1970 to 1980 (ECE/GAS/37)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of General Energy Statistics for Europe, 1975, Vol. VIII (Sales No. 77.II.E.5)	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe, 1976, Vol. XI (Sales No. 77.II.E.14)	E/F/R
Quarterly Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe, 1976, Vol. XXV, No. 4	E/F/R
Quarterly Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe, 1977, Vol. XXVI, No. 1, 2 and 3	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Electric Energy Statistics for Europe, 1976, Vol. XXII (Sales No. 77.II.E.17)	E/F/R
Half-yearly Bulletin of Electric Energy Statistics for Europe, 1977, Vol. XXII, No. 1 and 2	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Gas Statistics for Europe, 1976, Vol. XXII (Sales No. 77.II.E.19)	E/F/R

ENVIRONMENT

Proceedings of the Second Seminar on Desulphurization of Fuels and Combustion Gases, Washington D.C. (United States), 11-17 November 1975, Vol. I, II, III and IV (ENV/SEM.4/3) E F R

Proceedings of the Seminar on the Principles and Creation of Non-waste Technology and Production, Paris (France), 29 November - 4 December 1976 (ENV/SEM.6/3) E F R

Non-waste Technology and Production, Proceedings of the above mentioned Seminar *

Proceedings of the Seminar on Air Pollution Problems of the Inorganic Chemical Industry, 1-6 November 1976, Vol. I and II (ENV/SEM.7/3-CHEM/SEM.5/3) E F R

HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING

The Improvement of Housing and its Immediate Surroundings (ECE/HBP/21) E F R

Proceedings of the Seminar on Special Housing Needs, The Hague (Netherlands), 8-13 November 1976 (HBP/SEM.13/2) E F R

Housing for Special Groups, Proceedings of the above mentioned Seminar *

The Building Industry and the Environment: Proceedings of the Fifth ECE Seminar on the Building Industry, Budapest (Hungary) 4-8 October 1976 (HBP/SEM.14/4) E F R

Building Research Policies, Proceedings of a Seminar held in Gävle (Sweden), 23-27 May 1977 *

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics for Europe, 1976, Vol. XX (Sales No. 77.II.E.12) E/F/R

SENIOR ECONOMIC ADVISERS

Proceedings of the Seminar on Factors of Growth and Investment Policies: An International Approach, Budapest (Hungary), 13-18 December 1976 (ECE/EC.AD./15) (Sales No. 77.II.E.13) * F R

Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE Region up to 1990 (ECE/EC.AD./17) E F R

Report on Current Research during the Year 1976 on the Use of Mathematical Methods in Economic Analysis (EC.AD./6) E/F/R

STATISTICS

Standardization Input-output Tables of ECE Countries for Years around 1965, Statistical Standards and Studies No. 30 (Sales No. 77.II.E.18) E F R

Statistical Indicators of Short-term Economic Changes in ECE Countries, Vol. XX E only

STEEL AND ENGINEERING

- The Steel Market in 1976 (ECE/STEEL/17) (Sales No. 77.II.E.15) E F R
- The Production of Engineering Equipment for Preventing Pollution and the Techno-Economic Efficiency of Such Equipment (ECE/ENGIN/9) E F R
- Role and Place of Engineering Industries in National and World Economies - Up-dating to 1970-1975 the Main Statistical Tables, Vol. II (ECE/ENGIN/12/Vol.II) E/F/R

Periodic Bulletins

- Statistics of World Trade in Steel, 1976 (Sales No. 77.II.E.16) E/F/R
- Annual Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe, 1976, Vol. IV (Sales No. 77.II.E.10) E/F/R
- Quarterly Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe, 1976, Vol. XXVII, No. 4 E/F/R
- Quarterly Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe, 1977, Vol. XXVIII, No. 1, 2 and 3 E/F/R

TIMBER

- Exchange of Information - List of organizations engaged in forest working techniques, mechanization and environmental problems related to forestry (TIM/EFC/WP.1/6) E F R
- Proceedings of the Symposium on the Harvesting of a Larger Part of the Forest Biomass, Hyvinkää (Finland), 14-16 June 1976, Vol. I and II (TIM/EFC/WP.1/SEM.3/3) E/F/R
- Behaviour of Wood Products in Fire, Proceedings of a Seminar held in Oxford (United Kingdom), 22-25 March 1977 *

Supplements to the Timber Bulletin for Europe

Volume XXIX

Supplement No.

- 5 Forest Products Apparent Consumption Statistics for the ECE Region 1950-1975 E/F
- 6 Papers presented to the Symposium on Extending the Use of Wood Residues, Bucarest (Romania), 27 September - 1 October 1976, Parts I and II E/F/R

Volume XXX

Supplement No.

- 1 Annual Forest Products Market Review E F R
- 2 ECE Recommended Standard for Stress Grading of Coniferous Sawn Timber E F R

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|---|---|-------|
| 3 | ECE Recommended Standard for Finger-jointing in Structural Coniferous Sawn Timber | E F R |
| 4 | Forest Products Market Trends in 1977 and Prospects for 1978 | E F R |
| 5 | Investment in the Forestry and Wood-processing Sector | E F R |
| 6 | Forest Products Statistics - Price series 1950-1976 | E/F |

Periodic Bulletins

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| Timber Bulletin for Europe, Vol. XXIX, No. 2 | E/F |
| Timber Bulletin for Europe, Vol. XXX, No. 1 | E/F |

TRADE

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| Marketing and Market Research in East-West Trade (TRADE/INF.4) | E F R |
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TRANSPORT

- | | |
|--|-------|
| Technical Requirements approved by the Group of Experts on the Construction of Vehicles (WP29) for Power-driven Vehicles and their Parts and Equipment, Vol. I (ECE/TRANS/25)
(Sales No. 77.II.E.8/Vol.I) | E F R |
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Periodic Bulletins

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|---|-------|
| Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe, 1976, Vol. XXVIII
(Sales No. 77.II.E.20) | E/F/R |
| Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe, 1976, Vol. XXIII
(Sales No. 77.II.E.21) | E/F/R |

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

Provisional Agenda for the thirty-third session	E/ECE/929/Rev.1 + Add.1
The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1977 (Commission resolution 2 (XXV))	/930
Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly	/931
Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries	/932
Co-operation with other international organizations	/933
Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work (Commission decision D (XXXII))	/934
The work and future activities of the Commission Commission resolution 1 (XXXII)	/935 /936 + Corr.1 /937 /938
Development of trade and industrial co-operation	/939
Contribution of the Commission to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (Commission decision A (XXXII))	/940 + Add.1
Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE (Commission decision B (XXXII))	/941
Selected topics for special attention (Commission decision C (XXXII))	/942
Problems of land use and land-use planning in the ECE region (Commission decision E (XXXII))	/943
Dissemination of information (Commission decision F (XXXII))	/944
The Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE Region up to 1990 (Commission decision G (XXXII))	/945
General energy problems in the ECE region (Commission decision H (XXXII))	/946
Standardization (Commission decision I (XXXII))	/947
Automation (Commission decision J (XXXII))	/948 + Add.1
Engineering industries (Commission decision K (XXXII))	/949
Programme of work for 1978-1982	/950
Holding of all-European congresses or inter-state conferences on co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, and energy	/951
The work and future activities of the Commission (Operative paragraphs 4 and 5 of Commission resolution 1 (XXXII)) - Communication from the Government of Czechoslovakia	/952
Communication from the Government of Poland	/953
Communication from the Government of the USSR	/954
Communication from the Government of Bulgaria	/955
Communication from the Government of Hungary	/956

Communication from the Government of the Byelorussian SSR	E/ECE/957
Communication from the Government of the Ukrainian SSR	/958
Communication from the Government of the German Democratic Republic	/959

REPORTS OF THE PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE COMMISSION

Committee on Agricultural Problems	ECE/AGRI/36
Chemical Industry Committee	ECE/CHEM/20
Coal Committee	ECE/COAL/34
Conference of European Statisticians	ECE/CES/10
Committee on Electric Power	ECE/EP/27
Committee on Gas	ECE/GAS/38
Committee on Housing, Building and Planning	ECE/HBP/22
Inland Transport Committee	ECE/TRANS/28 + Add.1
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems	ECE/ENV/19
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	ECE/SC.TECH./15
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	ECE/EC.AD./16
Steel Committee	ECE/STEEL/19
Timber Committee	ECE/TIM/11
Committee on the Development of Trade	ECE/TRADE/128
Committee on Water Problems	ECE/WATER/19

REPORTS OF OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Working Party on Automation	ECE/AUTOMAT/8
<u>Ad hoc Meeting on New Issues affecting the Energy Economy of the ECE Region in the Medium and Long Term and on Problems of Energy Economy and Efficiency</u>	ECE/AC.5/2
<u>Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries</u>	ECE/ENGIN/11
<u>Ad hoc Consultative Meeting of Governmental Experts on Land Use and Land-Use Planning</u>	ECE/AC.6/2
Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies	ECE/STAND/16

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Pre-publication text of the Economic Survey of Europe in 1977, Part I - Chapters 1 and 2 Chapter 3	ECE(XXXIII)/1 /Add.1
New Issues Affecting the Energy Economy of the ECE Region in the Medium and Long Term (Preliminary version)	ECE(XXXIII)/2 + Add.1 to 3



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