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UNITED NATIONS

# **ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

(26 MARCH 1954—30 MARCH 1955)

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**OFFICIAL RECORDS: TWENTIETH SESSION**

**SUPPLEMENT No. 3**

**NEW YORK**

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E/2706  
E/ECE/203

1 April 1955



## ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Annual report to the Economic and Social Council covering the period from  
26 March 1954 to 30 March 1955

### INTRODUCTION

#### Scope and Status of the Report

1. This annual report of the Economic Commission for Europe is presented for the consideration of the twentieth session of the Economic and Social Council in accordance with the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Europe which instruct it to "... submit to the Economic and Social Council a full report

on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary body, once a year . . .". The present report covers the activities of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies from the adjournment of the ninth session on 25 March 1954 up to the end of its tenth session on 30 March 1955.<sup>1</sup> The report was approved by the Commission at the 21st plenary meeting of its tenth session on 30 March 1955.

### PART I. GENERAL

#### A. Relations with specialized agencies, inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations

2. During the period between the ninth and tenth sessions, specialized agencies of the United Nations, inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations continued to participate in a wide range, principally technical in character, of the Commission's activities.

##### SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

3. The co-operation of the Commission's technical organs and of the secretariat with the specialized agencies—in particular with those mentioned hereunder—was continued in accordance with the Commission's terms of reference, with resolution 125 (II) of the General Assembly, calling for the development of "more effective co-ordination in the economic field . . . among the United Nations and the specialized agencies", as well as with resolutions of the Economic and Social Council concerning co-ordination of its work with that of the specialized agencies, more particularly resolution 497 (XV), concerning "co-ordination of the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies". Salient developments under this heading are summarized below.

##### *Food and Agriculture Organization*

4. Close and systematic co-operation with FAO has continued through the joint ECE/FAO Agriculture and Timber Divisions, which service the ECE Committee on Agricultural Problems and the Timber Committee respectively.

5. On the level of research in general, co-operation with FAO has, as in the past, taken the form of regular exchange of statistical and other relevant information. In timber, a Joint ECE/FAO Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers has been established. The ECE secretariat co-operated with FAO in the preparation of the survey, *World Pulp and Paper Resources and Prospects*, published in 1954 by FAO.

6. In agriculture, valuable assistance was rendered by FAO in initiating and embarking upon the programme established by the Working Party on the Mechanization of Agriculture, a subsidiary of the Committee on Agricultural Problems.

7. FAO experts contributed to the discussion on problems of agriculture, timber and forestry which exist in the countries represented in the Special Group of Experts on the Economic Development of Southern Europe.

8. FAO has also followed the work of the Conference of European Statisticians.

<sup>1</sup> The previous activities of the Commission and its subsidiary organs have been reported to the Economic and Social Council in the following documents: Report of the Economic Commission for Europe on its first and second sessions, document E/451; Interim Report submitted by the Executive Secretary to the sixth session of the Economic and Social Council, document E/603; Annual Report submitted by the Economic Commission for Europe to the seventh session of the Economic and Social Council, document E/791; Interim Report submitted by the Executive Secretary to the eighth session of the Economic and Social Council, document E/1074; and in annual reports to the Council's ninth, eleventh, thirteenth, fourteenth, sixteenth and eighteenth sessions (documents E/1328, E/1674, E/2002, E/2187, E/2382 and E/2556).

9. During the period under review, the ILO has participated in a number of activities of ECE's technical committees and the secretariat, and is actively associated with certain of their projects. Thus, the ILO closely co-operates on the study of vocational training of forest workers carried on under the ECE/FAO Joint Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers.

10. In the field of transport, ILO co-operated on problems relating to the causes and prevention of shunting rail accidents, and on the preparation of the relevant annexes of the General Agreement on Economic Regulations for International Road Transport and the Set of Rules.

11. ILO also participated in the deliberations of the Special Group of Experts on the Economic Development of Southern Europe on labour and manpower problems of the respective countries.

12. The secretariat has followed the work of certain of ILO's industrial committees, whilst representatives of the ILO have attended meetings of a number of ECE's committees.

13. The secretariat has also been in close touch with the ILO on the activities of the office in the field of manpower, and participated in the first European Regional Conference of ILO in January-February 1955.

*International Monetary Fund and International Bank for Reconstruction and Development*

14. The secretariat has maintained its contacts in matters of research with the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. The Research and Planning Division obtained valuable assistance from the Fund in the form of balance-of-payments data.

*ICAO, UNESCO, WHO, WMO*

15. The secretariat followed the Conference on Co-ordination of Air Transport in Europe which took place in Strasbourg in April-May 1954.

16. Work undertaken jointly with UNESCO on the compilation of a pilot machine-tool glossary is nearing completion.

17. Close contact was maintained with the World Health Organization in connexion with work on the prevention of road traffic accidents and in the field of sanitary and hygienic aspects of building by-laws and regulations.

18. The World Meteorological Organization was represented at meetings of the Electric Power Committee, and—in particular—has followed the Committee's work on the question of the determination of the gross hydro-electric potential of European countries. It was also represented at one of the meetings of the Special Group of Experts on the Economic Development of Southern Europe when hydrological problems were considered.

19. During the period under consideration, the secretariat continued, through informal contacts on the working level, to keep itself informed on and be in touch with the activities of a number of inter-governmental bodies of a regional character outside the United Nations structure, which operate in Europe in fields covered by the Commission.

20. Thus the secretariat has maintained informal contacts with the staff of the Organization for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC) on such matters as agriculture, coal, electric power and general economic research. With the secretariat of the Council of Europe it has continued to exchange information on such questions as transport and housing. As regards the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), these informal inter-secretariat relations covered matters pertaining to coal and steel, as well as to related aspects in the fields of transport, housing and statistics.

21. The Executive Secretary has continued contacts with the European Conference of Ministers of Transport and its officials.

22. A number of other inter-governmental organizations, viz. the Central Commission on the Navigation of the Rhine, the Central Office for International Railway Transport, the International Institute of Refrigeration, and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law, have remained closely associated with the work of the Inland Transport Committee on a number of projects enumerated in the Note by the Executive Secretary, submitted to the ninth session of the Commission.

23. Contact on the secretariat level was continued with ICITO with regard to questions on trade and commercial policy.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

24. Non-governmental organizations of all categories continued to follow the work of ECE and were represented at most meetings of its subsidiary organs. The active interest in and valuable technical contributions to the work of the committees by a considerable number of NGOs of varied character have become an established feature of ECE's activities, particularly in agriculture, coal, electric power, housing, industry and materials, inland transport, and more recently also in trade.

**B. Relations with the Allied Control Authorities in Germany**

25. During the period under review, experts from the Eastern and Western Zones of Germany have continued to participate in meetings of the Commission's subsidiary organs in accordance with paragraph 10 of the Commission's terms of reference.

**C. Inter-regional co-operation**

26. In addition to the question of inter-regional co-operation in matters of trade,<sup>2</sup> the day-to-day co-

<sup>2</sup> See below, part III, paragraphs 182-292.

operation of the Commission—an important continuing activity by means of which the Commission manifests its concern for the problem of economic development in the less-developed regions, in conformity with the directives of the Economic and Social Council—has continued. This co-operation, ranging as it does over most fields within the Commission's purview such as coal, electric power, housing, inland transport and timber is organized through liaison with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at Headquarters, as well as through a variety of contacts and arrangements with the other two Regional Economic Commissions. Hereunder is a brief summary of developments which have occurred since the closure of the ninth session of the Commission.

#### Coal

27. A paper prepared by the ECAFE secretariat on "Classification of Coals in the ECAFE Region" was presented for information to the ninth session (June 1954) of the Coal Classification Working Party, a subsidiary of ECE's Coal Committee, for information. The Working Party, noting the report with satisfaction, stressed the importance of establishing a uniform world-wide coal classification system for both hard and brown coals.

28. The ECE secretariat also arranged for laboratories in the Netherlands, the USA and Yugoslavia to test lignite samples from interested ECAFE countries.

#### Electric Power

29. The Committee on Electric Power is in contact with ECAFE's Sub-Committee on Electric Power and communicates to its participants any information of interest on the work done by that sub-committee.

#### Research

30. The ECE secretariat has continued to supply ECLA on a regular quarterly basis with statistics covering trade between European and Latin American countries.

#### Steel

31. The ECAFE secretariat has contributed material on the Far East to the *Steel Market Review* for 1954 and to the study on "The European Pipe and Tube Industry".

32. Arrangements have been made for the ECE secretariat to co-operate in the organization of a group visit to steelworks in Europe which ECAFE is planning under the auspices of TAA.

33. The ECLA secretariat has contributed similarly to the two studies mentioned above and has consulted with the secretariat on the preparation of a conference on steel and steel-using industries to be held in São Paulo in 1955 under the auspices of TAA.

#### Timber

34. The ECE secretariat, together with FAO, co-operated, *inter alia*, in preparing a document—"Financing Pulp and Paper Development in Latin America"—which was submitted to the Latin American Meeting of Experts

on the Pulp and Paper Industry held in Buenos Aires in October-November 1954, under the joint auspices of ECLA, TAA and FAO.

### D. Technical Assistance matters

35. During the period under review, the secretariat developed its co-operation along established lines with the Technical Assistance Administration of the United Nations through TAA's office located in Geneva. Thus, as described in the Commission's last annual report to the Economic and Social Council (E/2556, para. 34) it has given advice, when so requested, on the recruitment of experts from, and the placement of fellows in Europe, as well as on economic aspects of European country projects, both at the stage of preparation and at that of implementation.

36. The Study Group on Rural Electrification, originally organized as a Technical Assistance project, has led to the setting up, within the Committee on Electric Power, of a Working Party on Rural Electrification, which has since developed a comprehensive programme of work. Several countries participating in this working party expressed their readiness to consider favourably specific requests for technical assistance in this field which might be transmitted to them by TAA.

37. The secretariat has continued its collaboration with TAA in co-ordinating the technical aspects of the work of a first mission of experts appointed to prepare a detailed study on rural electrification in Turkey. A number of TAA experts contributed towards the study of the development of the hydro-electric resources of Yugoslavia and exports of electric energy, now completed in a study stage.

38. In the course of the work of the Special Group of Experts on the Economic Development of Southern Europe, set up in pursuance of Commission resolution 4 (IX), a number of regional projects have emerged which may eventually qualify as regional technical assistance projects.

39. Finally, mention should be made of the Commission's efforts to promote the international exchange of technical knowledge for economic development which pertains to technical assistance activities in the broader sense.

### E. Conference of European Statisticians

#### LIST OF MEETINGS HELD

|                                                                  |                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Second plenary session . . . . .                                 | 14-19 June 1954    |
| Working Group on Statistics of Stocks and Work in Process . .    | 26-29 January 1954 |
| Working Group on Manpower Statistics by Sample Surveys . . .     | 2-5 March 1954     |
| <i>Ad hoc</i> Group of Experts on Input-Output Studies . . . . . | 3-4 May 1954       |
| Working Group on Statistics of Fixed Capital Formation . . . .   | 5-8 May 1954       |

40. The second plenary session of the Conference, which met during the period under review, considered:

(a) the reports of its Working Groups on Statistics of Stocks, Manpower Sample Surveys and Fixed Capital Formation; (b) progress reports and the proposed work programmes on input-output studies and current movements of wholesale and retail trade; (c) reports prepared by the secretariat on the statistical activities carried out under the programmes of the Committee on Agricultural Problems, the Coal Committee, the Committee on Electric Power, the Housing Sub-Committee of the Industry and Materials Committee, the Inland Transport Committee, the Steel Committee, and the Timber Committee, and (d) the future programme of work. The Conference approved the reports of its working groups, and asked that further work should be done on statistics of stocks and fixed capital formation, including the preparation of proposed minimum programmes of data collection in these fields. The Conference also approved the suggested programmes of work on input-output and on current movements of wholesale and retail trade, and recommended that working groups should be convened on these subjects.

41. With regard to the statistical work carried out under the various ECE committees, the Conference, acting in an advisory capacity, made a number of suggestions which have been drawn to the attention of the committees or working parties concerned.

42. In addition, the Conference made suggestions designed to secure more systematic reviews of this work by the respective parent committees, and more systematic consultation between national representatives on the various statistical working parties and national statistical authorities. The Conference also wished to draw the attention of the ECE to the desirability of the committees' consulting the Conference when possible, before undertaking new major statistical projects and before setting up new groups of a continuing nature to discuss statistical subjects.

## F. Work of the secretariat

43. The secretariat of the Commission, forming an integral part of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat of the United Nations, maintained close and regular general liaison with Headquarters and co-operated with the Department on a number of specific projects.

44. In addition to the work described under sections A, C, D and E of part I of this report, the secretariat of the Commission has discharged its normal and continuing tasks—viz., to service the Commission, its committees and their subsidiary organs, as well as other special meetings held under ECE auspices. In so doing, the secretariat, in accordance with established practice, furnished the requisite material, in the form both of routine documentation and of various studies and analyses of an economic and technological character. The Research and Planning Division and the technical divisions have continued the publication of periodic surveys and reviews, including the annual *Economic Survey of Europe*, the quarterly *Economic Bulletin for Europe*, and a number of specialized statistical bulletins covering the fields of coal, housing, steel, timber and transport. A study entitled *Growth and Stagnation in the European Economy*, prepared by Professor Ingvar Svennilson in co-operation with the secretariat, was published in January 1955.

45. In its work, the secretariat has been greatly aided by the services rendered by government experts who, as delegates to the subsidiary bodies of the Commission and in many cases as rapporteurs, assumed a major responsibility for carrying out a number of technical investigations.

46. A description of the work being carried out by the secretariat on behalf and on the authority of the Commission is contained in the Commission's programme of work for 1955/56 (see part VI of this report).

## PART II. SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE COMMISSION<sup>3</sup>

### A. Committee on Agricultural Problems

#### LIST OF MEETINGS HELD

- Committee on Agricultural Problems :
- Third session . . . . 21-26 June 1954
  - Fourth session . . . . 15-20 November 1954
- Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Foodstuffs:
- Fifth session . . . . 27 September - 1 October 1954
- Group of Experts on Eggs . . . . . 24-25 September 1954
- Group of Experts on Apples and Pears . . . . 14 December 1954
- Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture:
- First session . . . . 6-8 December 1954

#### LIST OF OFFICERS

- Committee on Agricultural Problems:
- Chairman:* Mr. L. Maire (Switzerland)
  - Vice-Chairman:* Mr. S. Gal (Rumania)

Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Foodstuffs:

- Chairman:* Mr. R. Grooten (Belgium)
- Vice-Chairman:* Mr. F. Vaca (Czechoslovakia)

Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture:

- Chairman:* Mr. I. Rázsó (Hungary)
- Vice-Chairman:* Mr. C. Santini (Italy)

#### ACTIVITIES

47. In accordance with resolution 6 (IX) of the Economic Commission for Europe, the Committee on Agricultural Problems resumed its activities.

<sup>3</sup> The following is a summary of the work of the ECE committees during the period under review. A fuller statement of their activities is contained in the reports presented for the consideration of the tenth session of the Commission (document E/ECE/195). These include also a brief general survey of the field covered by each committee, as well as an account of its organizational structure.

#### A. *Review of market outlook*

48. In order to meet the request of the Commission to make a periodical examination of the market outlook for the main agricultural and food products, the Committee carried out a general exchange of information on the agricultural measures adopted by the various countries regarding the principal products, both vegetable and animal, and the major production, consumption and trade problems.

49. The Committee also undertook a detailed examination of the recent changes in the market outlook for grain (bread and coarse grain), meat and livestock for slaughter, butter, cheese, eggs, apples, pears and citrus fruits. The Committee's studies, which were based on a series of documents prepared by the secretariat, including statistical data supplied by governments on the probable volume of trade, concerned developments during the crop year 1953/54 and the outlook for supplies and intra-European trade during 1954/55, and were intended to serve as a guide to future action by participating governments.

50. The Committee decided to continue its examination of the market outlook for the above-mentioned products during subsequent sessions, and added tomatoes, table grapes and tobacco to the list of those it intends to study.

51. The Committee also considered it desirable, in the near future, to examine the longer-term prospects (three to five years) for the main agricultural and food products, both as regards production and consumption, and as regards trade.

#### B. *Consideration of certain obstacles to trade*

52. The Committee made an initial examination, based on concrete examples supplied by various delegations, of certain obstacles encountered by governments or private undertakings in carrying out existing international trade arrangements. Since this field appeared to offer real opportunities for action to remove certain obstacles to the development of trade—in particular, East-West trade—the Committee decided to re-examine these problems at subsequent sessions. Means of removing the difficulties encountered will be sought either multilaterally or by bilateral negotiation.

#### C. *Long-term trade arrangements*

53. Many representatives considered, in principle, that long-term trade arrangements (agreements and contracts) were calculated to further the development of inter-regional trade in agricultural products. In some countries, however, trade policies limit the possibility of concluding such arrangements.

54. On the basis of the information received during its fourth session, the Committee drew up a list of agricultural products in respect of which various countries wish to enter into bilateral negotiations for long-term trade agreements or contracts.

55. The Committee also decided that at subsequent sessions it would examine and analyse the practical procedures prescribed in existing agreements and contracts of this type, in order to show to what extent

they contribute to the solution of the trade problems within the Committee's purview.

#### D. *Establishment of standard conditions of sale for certain agricultural products*

56. Pursuant to a general recommendation made by the Committee on the Development of Trade (E/ECE/Trade 8, paragraph 11), the Committee considered the possibility of establishing standard conditions of sale for certain agricultural products, and decided to set up two *ad hoc* groups of experts to prepare proposals concerning cereals and citrus fruits respectively. The Committee will subsequently explore the possibility of extending this work to other products, such as potatoes and cotton.

#### E. *Standardization of perishable foodstuffs*

57. The Committee took note of the work done by the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Foodstuffs. At its fifth session (September 1954), that working party approved recommendations concerning the standardization and quality control of four more products—tomatoes, table grapes, lettuces and eggs. It also amended the text of its recommendations concerning potatoes.

58. The Working Party had come to the conclusion that certain common general provisions might be applied to all such products. A document containing these provisions, in the form of a protocol, was drafted, taking account of the proposals for amendment received from many countries. This new text was submitted to governments for approval, on the understanding that those accepting the provisions would take the necessary steps to put them into effect within one year. The Working Party also decided to add the following products to the list of those being considered: onions, nuts, carrots, witloof chicory and salted herrings.

#### F. *Work on certain technical aspects of agricultural production*

59. The Committee set up a Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture, composed of experts designated by the governments interested in the study of the following problems:

- (i) Harvesting of cereals, with special reference to experience in moist climates and humid periods;
- (ii) Harvesting, baling, transport and storage of hay;
- (iii) Mechanization on dairy farms.

60. This working party held its first session from 6 to 8 December 1954. It laid down the general lines of its future activities and defined the main aspects of the problems selected for study by the experts. The Working Party also considered the possibility of strengthening contacts between European experts by arranging visits and film shows during its sessions. Lastly, it drew up a provisional list of problems concerning the mechanization of various agricultural tasks, the international study of which it considers desirable.

61. At the suggestion of certain delegations, the Committee on Agricultural Problems also decided to consider, at its fifth session, the possibility of including in its programme of work the study of certain technical

and economic problems concerning agricultural production in Europe. The secretariat will assemble any proposals which governments may wish to make, and prepare a draft programme taking account, firstly, of the need to avoid duplication of the work done by other organizations and, secondly, of the possibility of inviting such organizations to co-operate in solving the problems selected.

62. Furthermore, at its third session the Committee recommended the various countries to pursue by all possible means the exchange of technical information and documents, to organize visits to agricultural centres or regions of special interest, and to promote contacts between specialists. Many members of the Committee visited the Agricultural Exhibition at Moscow in August 1954, in response to the invitation extended to them during the third session, on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture of the USSR. Representatives of various countries likewise visited agricultural and other centres of special interest in Switzerland.

## B. Coal Committee

### LIST OF MEETINGS HELD

#### Coal Committee:

|                             |                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Thirty-second session . . . | 21 and 22 September 1954 |
| Thirty-third session . . .  | 15 December 1954         |
| Thirty-fourth session . . . | 9-10 March 1955          |

*Ad hoc* working party to examine the secretariat study on the relationship between coal and black oils in the west European fuel market . . . . .

9 August 1954

#### Coal Trade Sub-Committee:

|                             |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Twenty-second session . . . | 22 June 1954      |
| Twenty-third session . . .  | 21 September 1954 |
| Twenty-fourth session . . . | 14 December 1954  |
| Twenty-fifth session . . .  | 8 March 1955      |

*Ad hoc* working party to revise questionnaire on quarterly forecasts of requirements of solid fuels . . . . .

16 November 1954

#### Utilization Working Party:

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Sixteenth session . . . . .   | 21 June 1954     |
| Seventeenth session . . . . . | 13 December 1954 |

#### Classification Working Party:

|                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Ninth session . . . . . | 23 and 24 June 1954 |
| Tenth session . . . . . | 16-18 December 1954 |

#### Sub-Group of Experts on Brown Coal and Lignites:

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| First session . . . . . | 15 and 16 December 1954 |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|

#### Working Party on Coal Statistics:

|                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Fourth session . . . . . | 25, 26 and 28 June 1954 |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|

## LIST OF OFFICERS

#### Coal Committee:

*Chairman:* Mr. F. Williams (United Kingdom)  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. A. Schummer (Luxembourg)

#### Coal Trade Sub-Committee:

*Chairman:* Mr. J. Picard (France)  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. N. Hansen (Denmark)

#### Utilization Working Party:

*Chairman:* Secretariat

#### Classification Working Party:

*Chairman:* Mr. C. Charmelot (France)

#### Working Party on Coal Statistics:

*Chairman:* Mr. G. Daniel (United Kingdom)

## ACTIVITIES

### 1. Coal Committee

#### (a) *Reviews of the coal market*

63. At its thirty-first session, held on 2 and 3 March 1954, the Committee agreed that these reviews should in future be examined by the Coal Trade Sub-Committee, since they could be considered as an essential part of its activities (see Section B).

#### (b) *Consumption of solid fuels by consuming sectors*

64. Preliminary versions of a document relating to coal consumption in the domestic sector have been studied. In addition, monographs on this subject have been prepared for a number of countries. Other countries have been asked to provide the secretariat with information of general interest which will be included in the final study, and replies are being received.

65. A study of consumption trends in the transport sector is now being undertaken.

#### (c) *Coal in relation to other forms of energy*

66. The final version of the first study in this series, which dealt with the relationship between coal and black oils in the west European fuel market, has been issued. Following the tentative conclusions reached by the secretariat on the subject of the co-ordination of fuel policies, the Committee invited the secretariat to prepare a working paper elaborating its ideas on this subject.

67. As the next step in this field, the Committee has examined another paper in this series—i.e., on electric energy in Europe derived from sources other than coal and oil.

68. An outline of a study on the technical and economic possibilities of increased gasification of coal and the use of coal gas, natural gas and refinery gases has been prepared.

69. At its thirty-fourth session the Committee had before it the document on "The Price of Oil in Western Europe" and unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"The Coal Committee invites the secretariat promptly to publish, on its own responsibility, simultaneously in New York and Geneva, the document 'The Price of Oil in Western Europe' in its present form."



70. In presenting the resolution to the meeting, the Chairman made it clear that it in no way committed representatives of participating countries to the substance of the study, and that the right of the governments was naturally reserved to comment on the study at an appropriate time and place.

(d) *Stabilization of the European coal market*

71. The Committee examined a secretariat paper, "Recommendation on Target for Coal Stocks", pursuant to the decision reached at its twenty-ninth session. The Committee also examined a secretariat paper on co-ordinated fuel policy prepared in response to the Committee's invitation. After discussing the short-term and long-term aspects of this problem, the Committee invited the secretariat to prepare an outline of an annual survey of the energy situation listing the information and statistical data which would be necessary to carry out such work on an all-European basis. This outline would be examined at the next session of the Committee to see how far the information required could be made available. In connexion with long-term trends, the Committee invited delegations to communicate in writing to the secretariat what had been done in their respective countries in the field of long-term forecasts and planning. These replies would be circulated to the Committee.

72. Further, the Committee considered a paper on long-term trade agreements. In the course of the discussion it was stressed that these agreements might assist producing countries to plan ahead and make the necessary investments for producing, both quantitatively and qualitatively, the coal required.

73. It was also stated that the stabilization of prices was closely linked with the problem of long-term agreement. Some delegations expressed the view that action in this field would best be carried out in bilateral discussion. It was agreed that delegations should provide the secretariat with information on long-term contracts already concluded, on the difficulties experienced, including an account of how price problems had been overcome when entering into such contracts and of any reasons inducing hesitation in concluding such contracts.

(e) *Standardization of general conditions of sales for selected commodities*

74. The Committee examined a note on standardization of general conditions of sale for selected commodities and requested the secretariat: to invite governments to send to the secretariat copies of the general clauses used in contracts documents relating to the import and export of coal, coke and manufactured fuel; and to make a comparative analysis of the general clauses in use in different countries.

2. *Coal Trade Sub-Committee*

75. The Coal Trade Sub-Committee has met each quarter to review the situation for the following quarter, on the basis of information from participating countries, as to import requirements and quantities available for export. Where discrepancies have been found, these have been adjusted on the basis of agreement between the importing and exporting countries, without proceeding to a formal allocation.

76. The Sub-Committee examined the third and fourth Coal Market Reviews (based on the 1953/54 winter and 1954 summer periods). Taking account of resolution 2, adopted at the eighth session of the Economic Commission for Europe, these reviews analyse the current coal market situation and examine special problems affecting the market such as production, consumption, stocks, international trade and intra-European trade and prices, etc., and serve as a basis for consideration of the coal situation.

3. *Utilization Working Party*

(a) *Rational utilization of European coal availabilities*

77. The Working Party is studying the problem of widening the range of coal to be used for carbonization purposes, with the object of a more rational utilization of European coal availabilities.

(b) *International Co-operation in Documentation and Research on the Efficient Use of Solid Fuels*

78. Existing possibilities for exchange of information of this kind were found to be sufficient, and although a number of countries expressed their interest in the publication of an international bibliographical index, this has been limited to the drawing up and keeping up to date of a list of existing national bibliographical indexes from which queries could be answered. The Working Party will review this arrangement at a later date.

(c) *Meetings with Experts on Technical Problems*

79. The Working Party has decided to hold two *ad hoc* meetings of experts on specific technical subjects related to solid fuel utilization in 1955.

4. *Classification Working Party*

80. The simplified international classification system for hard coals by rank drawn up by the Classification Working Party is being given a trial by governments for a period not exceeding two years—i. e., not later than the end of 1955. Most coal-producing countries have classified their coals according to the proposed system. Delegations are keeping the Working Party informed on progress made during this two-year trial period.

81. Work on the establishment of an international classification of hard coals by size is proceeding satisfactorily and consideration is being given to the establishment of a complete international classification system for coals by rank, size and other properties.

82. Exchanges of brown-coal samples have taken place between countries in order to compare analyses, and it has been found necessary for the Classification Working Party to set up a Sub-Group of Experts on Brown Coals and Lignites, to work on the establishment of an international classification system for these coals.

83. Work on the establishment of an international classification system for coke has begun, and proposals for such a system are being considered by the Working Party.

84. Close co-operation is being maintained with the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East in the field of coal classification, and the importance of establishing a uniform world-wide coal classification

system for both hard and brown coals has been emphasized by the Classification Working Party.

85. A paper prepared by the secretariat of the ECAFE, on the classification of coals in the ECAFE region, was examined by the Classification Working Party.

#### 5. Working Party on Coal Statistics

86. The Working Party on Coal Statistics is investigating the possibility of enlarging the scope of the *Quarterly Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe* so as to include regular data, not only on consumption of solid fuels, but also on other forms of energy in competition with coal—notably oil, natural gas and hydro-electricity. Inclusion of series on coal prices and miners' wages is also being considered.

87. Further improvements in the comparability of productivity statistics have been made as a result of the findings of the Working Party.

### C. Committee on Electric Power

#### LIST OF MEETINGS HELD

##### Committee on Electric Power:

Eleventh session . . . . 24-26 May 1954  
Twelfth session . . . . 28 February-2 March 1955

Group of Experts for the Study of Gross Hydro-electric Potential . . . . 4 March 1954

Group of Experts on the Prospects of Exporting Electric Power from Yugoslavia . . . . . 25 May 1954  
13-14 December 1954

Group of Experts for the Study of Method Employed for the Determination of Electric Power Consumption Forecasts . . . 10 December 1954

Working Party for the Study of Rural Electrification . . 6-9 December 1954

Group of Experts for the Study of Legal Questions . . 4-5 March 1954

Liaison Group . . . . . 13 May 1954  
11 December 1954

#### LIST OF OFFICERS

##### Committee on Electric Power:

*Chairman:* Mr. A. Rusck (Sweden)  
*Vice-Chairmen:* Mr. S. Han (Yugoslavia), Mr. L. Postler (Czechoslovakia), Mr. M. Visentini (Italy)

##### Group of Experts for the Study of Gross Hydro-electric Potential:

*Chairman:* Mr. D. Tonini (Italy)

##### Group of Experts for the Study of Methods employed for the Determination of Electric Power Consumption Forecasts:

*Chairman:* Mr. Ch. Crescent (France)  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. S. Markowicz (Poland)

##### Working Party for the Study of Rural Electrification:

*Chairman:* Mr. N. Sazonov (USSR)  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. C. A. Cameron-Brown (United Kingdom)

##### Group of Experts for the Study of Legal Questions:

*Chairman:* Mr. M. Visentini (Italy)

#### ACTIVITIES

##### 1. Utilization of Europe's electric power resources

88. Optimum utilization of Europe's traditional sources of electric power—water and coal—will be greatly facilitated if power can cross frontiers freely. To reduce administrative obstacles to such crossing of frontiers and promote transfers of power are among the Committee's main aims.

89. A recommendation was made to governments with a view to reducing the formalities still impeding the free movement of electric power. A further inquiry carried out during the period under review seems to show that there is no particular difficulty in that direction at present.

##### (a) Guaranteed supplies<sup>4</sup>

90. The increase in consumption in all countries calls for a constant effort on their part to build corresponding means of production. The length of time required to build power plants and the limited amount of capital available for investment in most countries, do not allow them to undertake, with their own resources, the construction of power stations producing solely for export. Hence, in most cases, guaranteed supplies by one country to another require international action. Schemes of this sort have a number of points in common as regards finance and law which the Committee is trying to establish in the light of its experience. Various international bodies emerged during the year; the Committee and the secretariat have been called upon to play some part in their constitution and working, according to circumstances, and have been kept informed of their activities.

##### (i) Yugoslavia

91. As a result of a request by the countries concerned, an *ad hoc* group of experts was formed to study the prospects of exporting electric power from Yugoslavia. To carry out this study, the group set up an inter-governmental body known as Yougelexport, which carried on its work on the technical, economic, financial and legal aspects of the project during the past year. The final text of the study has been approved by the Liaison Group on behalf of the Committee, by virtue of the special authority given to it by the Committee at its last meeting at Geneva, on 14 December 1954.

92. The main project comprises the construction of four hydro-electric power plants and a high-voltage transmission network on Yugoslav territory.

93. Having considered a detailed account of the sites and the technical features of the installations which

<sup>4</sup> i. e., supplies which make the importing country dependent to some extent on the exporting country, as distinct from "exchanges", which are the product of differences in production and consumption pattern between one country and another.

could be constructed in Yugoslavia, together with an exhaustive study of the import potentialities of the neighbouring countries interested in the project and its financial implications, the *ad hoc* group of experts approved the study prepared by Yougelexport. It noted that it was economically possible to export large quantities of electric power from Yugoslavia over long periods and stressed the effective co-operation which had developed between the countries interested in carrying out the study.

94. The Committee examined the matter at its twelfth session and decided to propose the setting up, at the inter-governmental level, of a co-ordination committee under the auspices of the Committee on Electric Power, consisting of two representatives each of Austria, the Western Zones of Germany, Italy and Yugoslavia.

95. The Co-ordination Committee's terms of reference would be as follows: "To study, in the light of developments in the situation, the various arrangements which might be contemplated for the execution of the scheme; to facilitate the negotiation of inter-governmental agreements to match the bilateral contracts concluded between the undertakings of the countries concerned, and generally to co-ordinate the study and execution of the several stages."

#### (ii) Turkey

96. Turkey asked the secretariat for assistance in studying the development, in the east of its territory, of rivers which are also of interest to neighbouring countries, including Syria, Iraq and Iran. The Committee approved this request, on condition that the question of competence arising from the fact that the three latter States are not within the province of the Economic Commission for Europe or of another regional commission is cleared up by agreement between the governments concerned. At its twelfth session the representative of Turkey supplied further information concerning this plan.

#### (iii) Austria

97. When it was first set up, the Committee drew the attention of governments to the possibilities offered by Austria's hydro-electric potential. A body representing the electricity undertakings of the Western Zones of Germany, France, Italy and Austria, has since been formed to study the harnessing of certain Austrian falls to produce power for export. The construction of a first power plant is already planned.

#### (iv) Luxembourg

98. The Committee also concerned itself with the construction of a pumping station in Luxembourg, and a company called the Compagnie électrique de l'Our has been formed by the Luxembourg authorities and the undertakings of the interested countries, to carry out this project.

### 2. Rural electrification

99. The Working Party for the Study of Rural Electrification continued its work. Of the twenty-nine subjects of study which it adopted as an initial programme,

eleven have been dealt with in reports which were discussed at the second session; reports on the other subjects are in course of preparation.

100. Concurrently with this work of a general nature, the secretariat has collaborated with the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration in co-ordinating the technical aspects of the work of a first mission of experts appointed to prepare a detailed study on rural electrification in Turkey; the Committee supported the request of Greece to be submitted to the Technical Assistance Administration concerning rural electrification problems in that country.

### 3. Hydro-electric development of rivers of common interest

101. The Committee continued its work on problems connected with the hydro-electric development of successive rivers.

102. The secretariat placed its services at the disposal of the Governments of Austria and Yugoslavia, with a view to smoothing out any difficulties arising from the development and exploitation of the hydro-power of the Drava. After two years, the negotiations finally resulted in a treaty, which was signed by the plenipotentiaries of Austria and Yugoslavia at Geneva, on 25 May 1954. This treaty regulates the conditions under which existing power stations on this river are to be operated, and establishes a Joint Commission of the Drava consisting of representatives of Austria and Yugoslavia. In addition to the treaty, there is a commercial agreement providing for the practical settlement of claims for damage suffered by the two countries in the past.

### 4. Other activities

103. Apart from these tasks, which constitute its main work, the Committee studied various current problems arising at the international level.

#### (a) Report on recent developments in the electric power situation in Europe

104. The Committee discussed the annual report prepared by the secretariat analysing the main factors governing the electric power situation in Europe during the period 1953/54.

#### (b) Inquiry concerning electric supply installations put into service or under construction

105. In accordance with the wish expressed by the Committee, a document on the installations (power plants and high voltage transmission lines) put into service or under construction during the previous year was circulated.

#### (c) Statistics

106. As is usual every year, a document was issued containing the statistics supplied by governments on production, consumption and transfers of electric power during the previous year. At its twelfth session the Committee decided to set up a statistical working party to review the international statistics on electric power in Europe.

(d) *Forecasts of electric power consumption*

107. A comparison of methods of forecasting electric power consumption has been undertaken by the group of experts set up for the purpose and is now under examination by the Committee.

(e) *Legal problems*

108. The Group of Experts for the Study of Legal Questions continued work on other problems besides the development of rivers of common interest. All pertinent information on arbitration clauses in contracts has been collected with the view to drafting a standard clause.

(f) *Gross hydro-electric potential of Europe*

109. The general study on the gross hydro-electric potential of certain European countries is being extended to cover Turkey, to the part of Yugoslavia not yet covered, and to Greece.

110. The group of experts dealing with these questions is studying the determination of gross potential on a seasonal basis. It has also adopted official definitions of hydrologic terms relating to the hydraulic year and hydraulic conditions.

(g) *Production of electric power by nuclear reactors*

111. In accordance with its previous decision, the Committee considered this question at its twelfth session, and stressed the interest aroused by the question in the various countries; decided to await the results of the international conference to be held at Geneva in August 1955 before taking any action or adopting a programme of work on the subject; and decided to consider, at its next session, whether it rests with the Committee to take such action at the European level, in the light of the results of the above-mentioned conference and of any decisions taken by it, which will be communicated to the Committee in a report by the secretariat.

(h) *Possibility of developing the use of electricity for domestic purposes*

112. In accordance with its previous decision, the Committee considered this question at its twelfth session. It noted the proposals submitted to it, and declared itself in favour of making such a study; considered that the study should cover all the participating countries; considered, likewise, that it should bear mainly on the uses of electric power, but should also take account of other sources of energy; and directed the secretariat to draft a preliminary report on the subject.

**D. Industry and Materials Committee**

LIST OF MEETINGS HELD

*Ad hoc* Working Party on Contract Practices in Engineering:

- Ninth session . . . . . 4-8 October 1954
- Tenth session . . . . . 7-12 February 1955

Housing Sub-Committee:

- Eighth session . . . . . 17-19 May 1954
- Ninth session . . . . . 25 and 29 October 1954

Working Party on Housing and Building Statistics:

- Third session . . . . . 13-15 May 1954
- Fourth session . . . . . 20-22 October 1954

Working Party on Development of Housing Policies:

- Fifth session . . . . . 25-26 October 1954

Working Party on Cost of Building:

- Fifth session . . . . . 17 May 1954
- Sixth session . . . . . 27 and 28 October 1954

LIST OF OFFICERS

*Ad hoc* Working Party on Contract Practices in Engineering:

*Chairman:* Mr. G. de Sydow (Sweden)

Housing Sub-Committee:

*Chairman:* Mr. J. Gorynski (Poland)  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. E. Skarum (Denmark)

Working Party on Housing and Building Statistics:

*Chairman:* Mr. B. Nikolajevic (Yugoslavia)

Working Party on Development of Housing Policies:

*Chairman:* Mr. Z. van der Meer (Netherlands)

Working Party on Cost of Building:

*Chairman:* Mr. L. de Vestel (Belgium)

ACTIVITIES

1. *Engineering Products*

*Contract Practices in Engineering*

113. The *Ad hoc* Working Party on Contract Practices in Engineering, after having completed its work on "General Conditions for the Supply of Plant and Machinery for Export", met in February and October 1954 in order to discuss draft clauses on erection. Progress has been made, but several sessions are still necessary to complete the clauses.

114. At its meeting in February 1955, the Working Party reviewed the General Conditions on the basis of comments submitted by delegations. It was decided that the amendments adopted on first reading at the present session, together with those clauses of the General Conditions 1953 which remained unaltered, should constitute the General Conditions 1955, which would be available equally with the General Conditions 1953 for adoption at the discretion of the parties. The Working Party continued its examination of the clauses on erection on which no decision of principle had so far been taken.

2. *Housing and building*

*Development of housing policy*

115. The Housing Sub-Committee, at its eighth session, held a full discussion of the current European housing situation, based on an examination of the secretariat's provisional version of a survey of "European Housing Progress and Policies in 1953".

116. The provisional report on "European Housing Progress and Policies in 1953" was revised and completed by the secretariat in the light of the Sub-Committee's

discussion and issued for general distribution in August 1954. A separate document containing ten monographs submitted by countries was also issued for general distribution.

117. The Working Party on Housing Policies, at its fifth session, reviewed preparations for the survey of the European housing situation in 1954. It agreed that the principal questions relating to housing policy which should be treated in the 1954 survey were as follows: housing requirements and the housing shortage; policy problems arising in connexion with the existing housing stock; recent developments in the financing of house construction; the social aspects of housing policy, with particular reference to rent policies; principal elements comprising the cost of building.

#### *Housing and building statistics*

118. The *Quarterly Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics for Europe* was published regularly in 1954. It was agreed, in addition to the *Quarterly Bulletins*, to launch in 1955 an Annual Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics for Europe.

119. The Working Party on Housing and Building Statistics has elaborated a long-term programme of work for the improvement of the availability and international comparability of European housing and building statistics, with particular reference to arriving at standards for selected concepts and definitions.

120. The activities of the Housing Sub-Committee in the field of housing and building statistics have been co-ordinated with those of the Conference of European Statisticians and of the United Nations Statistical Commission.

#### *Cost of building*

121. After studying the general paper on "The Cost of Housing Construction", the Working Party on Cost of Building has undertaken a series of specific projects to be carried out either by the secretariat with the assistance of, or by rapporteurs drawn from governments and international organizations participating in the Housing Sub-Committee. The principal projects on which work is proceeding are: development of model building codes and regulations; promotion of standardization and modular co-ordination; trends in mechanization of house building; methods of awarding building contracts and the placing of orders; the use of reinforced and pre-stressed concrete; and cost of various types of construction. Work on the last project is being carried out by the International Council for Building Research, Studies and Documentation (CIB), as rapporteur, and will be examined by the Housing Sub-Committee.

122. A provisional version of a survey prepared by the secretariat and outlining the mechanization trends in the handling of materials and in earth-moving operations was examined by the Working Party on Cost of Building, in October 1954. It was agreed that the preliminary survey should be revised and completed, and that the final report, together with its conclusions and recommendations, should be considered at the next session of the Working Party on Cost of Building.

123. A provisional report on contract practices in the building industry, including recommendations for improving present methods and procedures, was prepared by the secretariat, with the advice of rapporteurs, and examined by the Working Party in October 1954. It was agreed that the study should be continued along the lines indicated by the Working Party.

#### *Building research and documentation*

124. The Housing Sub-Committee stressed the importance of interested governments continuing to encourage and support the International Council for Building Research, Studies and Documentation (CIB), which was organized following recommendations made by the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee took note of a statement by the President of CIB on the progress of work carried out by that Organization and of its willingness to assist the Sub-Committee by investigating specific projects.

#### *Trade in building materials and components*

125. Following a decision of the seventh session of the Housing Sub-Committee, the governments' replies to the secretariat's enquiry regarding trade possibilities in building materials and components were circulated at the Second East-West Trade Consultation held in April 1954. This information was used as a background paper by the trade experts in the course of the discussion.

#### *Development of housing programmes of less-industrialized countries of Europe*

126. The Housing Sub-Committee decided to include in its programme of future work an item relating to the housing problem in the less-industrialized countries of Europe.

## **E. Inland Transport Committee**

### **LIST OF MEETINGS HELD**

- Group of Customs Experts:
  - Third session . . . . . 29 March-2 April
- Group of Experts on the Lighting of Vehicles . . . . . 5-6 April
- Working Party on the Prevention of Road Traffic Accidents:
  - Fifth session . . . . . 6-9 April
- Working Party on the Co-ordination of Transport:
  - Seventh session . . . . . 10-14 May
- Sub-Group on Road Transport (Tariffs):
  - Fourth session . . . . . 17-20 May
- Working Party on the Development and Improvement of Transport of Passengers and Goods by Road:
  - Seventh session . . . . . 20-22 May
- Sub-Group on Rail Transport (Tariffs):
  - Fifth session . . . . . 28 May - 1 June
- Working Party on Tariffs:
  - Fourth session . . . . . 2-4 June

Working Party on International Passenger Transport Services by Road:  
 Eighth session . . . . . 8-10 June

Sub-Group on Inland Water Transport (Costs):  
 Fourth session . . . . . 21-24 June

Working Party of Experts on Statistical Information:  
 Tenth session . . . . . 23-27 August

Sub-Groups on Rail Transport (Costs):  
 Fifth session . . . . . 13-16 September

Sub-Group on Road Transport (Costs):  
 Fourth session . . . . . 20-23 September

Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Food-stuffs:  
 Ninth session . . . . . 27-29 September

Working Party on Costs:  
 Fifth session . . . . . 19-22 October

Sub-Committee on Rail Transport:  
 Eighth session . . . . . 25-27 October

Sub-Committee on Road Transport:  
 Twelfth session . . . . . 18-20 November

Inland Transport Committee:  
 Twelfth session . . . . . 22-26 November

#### LIST OF OFFICERS

Inland Transport Committee:  
*Chairman:* Mr. G. de Sydow (Sweden)  
*Vice-Chairmen:* Mr. Z. Matyassy (Hungary);  
 Mr. B. Tapernoux (Switzerland)

Group of Customs Experts:  
*Chairman:* Mr. A. van Aken (Belgium)

Group of Experts on the Lighting of Vehicles:  
*Chairman:* Mr. W. von Hemert (Netherlands)

Working Party on the Prevention of Road Traffic Accidents:  
*Chairman:* Mme R. Liger (France)

Working Party on the Co-ordination of Transport:  
*Chairman:* Mr. C. Mariame (Belgium)

Sub-Group on Road Transport (Tariffs):  
*Chairman:* Mr. K. Glover (United Kingdom)

Working Party on the Development and Improvement of Transport of Passengers and Goods by Road:  
*Chairman:* Mr. S. Acker (Denmark)

Sub-Group on Rail Transport (Tariffs):  
*Chairman:* Mr. H. Janssen (Netherlands)  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. S. Hlava (Czechoslovakia)

Working Party on Tariffs:  
*Chairman:* Mr. H. Janssen (Netherlands)  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. Z. Matyassy (Hungary)

Working Party on International Passenger Transport Services by Road:  
*Chairman:* Mr. G. de Sydow (Sweden)

Sub-Group on Inland Water Transport (Costs):  
*Chairman:* Mr. S. Sterk (Netherlands)

Working Party of Experts on Statistical Information:  
*Chairman:* Mr. H. Kuiler (Netherlands)  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. L. Frey (Switzerland)

Sub-Group on Rail Transport (Costs):  
*Chairman:* Mr. A. Fioc (UIC).  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. L. Frey (Switzerland)

Sub-Group on Road Transport (Costs):  
*Chairman:* Mr. C. Mariame (Belgium)  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. K. Glover (United Kingdom)

Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Food-stuffs:  
*Chairman:* Mr. M. Balensi (France)  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. A. Martin (Switzerland)

Working Party on Costs:  
*Chairman:* Mr. A. Brunet (France)  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. C. Mariame (Belgium)

Sub-Committee on Rail Transport:  
*Chairman:* Mr. H. Janssen (Netherlands)

Sub-Committee on Road Transport:  
*Chairman:* Mr. A. W. Clarke (United Kingdom)  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. K. Piczynski (Poland)

#### ACTIVITIES

##### Tariffs

127. The Working Party on Tariffs and its sub-groups studied the following problems, some of which were entrusted to the specialized international non-governmental organizations:

- (a) Standardization of the layout and structure of national railway tariffs;
- (b) Formulation of uniform principles for the establishment of international railway tariffs independent of national tariffs;
- (c) Study and classification of railway tariff differentiations with a view to the elimination of those that are unjustifiable;
- (d) Adoption of an international tariff terminology for the three modes of transport;
- (e) Adoption of a uniform international goods tariff nomenclature, taking into account the existence of other international nomenclatures;
- (f) International goods tariffs for combined transport (rail/road, rail/waterway);
- (g) Means of supervising the application of tariffs by carriers.

128. With the development of economic co-operation between European countries in view, the Committee decided to request the Working Party to pay special attention to questions (b) and (e) above and to consider particularly, in connexion with (c), whether these differentiations hamper or facilitate international transport in Europe.

##### Costs

129. The study of cost problems was continued by the Working Party on Transport Costs, whose activities included the making of a preliminary analysis, with a view to their evaluation, of the burdens imposed on

undertakings of the three modes of transport (rail, road, inland waterway) and of the advantages granted to them. This working party also examined the problem of variability of costs in relation to traffic peaks, the terms of which differ according as transport undertakings are or are not under legal obligation to carry. It took up the study of partial costs, traffic transfer costs, the cost of port operations, and the problems involved in the calculation of economic and social cost (total cost, marginal cost) for the three modes of transport. These activities entail studies to be carried out by the secretariat with the assistance of experts, and others to be done by rapporteurs.

#### *Co-ordination of transport*

130. The Working Party on Co-ordination of Transport continued with the study of the questions of principle concerning the calculation and apportionment of track costs. It also defined the studies to be continued or undertaken on the subject of co-ordination of transport.

131. To enable it to review the problem with a view to achieving practical results, the Committee requested the secretariat, with the assistance of experts where necessary, to undertake or continue these studies, together with those on track cost.

#### *Statistics*

132. In accordance with an earlier recommendation by the Inland Transport Committee, certain countries intend to conduct censuses of road traffic on main international traffic arteries, using the methods developed by the Working Party of Experts on Statistical Information.

133. The Working Party has requested the secretariat to analyse and collate the detailed reports on the sample surveys of the volume of goods traffic by road carried out in various countries.

134. The Committee decided to replace the publication of quarterly statistics by a quarterly breakdown of traffic figures in the annual statistics.

135. The Committee also decided that the Working Party should revise the table of statistical information to be supplied by governments, so as to reduce that information to the strict minimum required.

#### *Investments*

136. The Committee requested governments to forward to the Executive Secretary, if need be, lists of transport equipment desired for import, and asked the Executive Secretary to submit any lists received to the competent body of the Commission for consideration. The lists received were made available for the purposes of the East-West Trade Consultations held at Geneva in April 1954.

137. The Committee also decided to cease circulating documentation on the transport equipment programmes of the various European countries.

#### *Railway questions*

138. The Sub-Committee on Rail Transport noted the progress made by the International Union of Railways (UIC) in its studies on the standardization of

rolling stock. The Sub-Committee has recommended governments to urge railway administrations to order only such standard wagons as stock types in future.

139. The Sub-Committee is studying the question of concentrating international goods traffic on the most rational routes. The Sub-Committee considered the question to be of great importance both for the reduction of railway operating costs as a whole and for the choice of the routes to be modernized.

140. The Committee decided to request all the international non-governmental organizations concerned to study, in collaboration with the Central Office for International Railway Transport, the problem of standardization and other problems raised by the use of combined transport equipment and trailers attached to such equipment.

#### *Road transport*

141. The Working Party on the Prevention of Road Traffic Accidents studied various questions relating to signs and signals. These studies will be continued.

142. The Working Party on the International Transport Régime is engaged in preparing the annexes to the General Agreement on Economic Regulations for International Road Transport.

143. The Sub-Committee on Road Transport decided to suspend the study on physiological and mental standards for motor vehicle drivers until the World Health Organization had made its recommendations on the subject.

144. The Sub-Committee requested the Working Party on the Construction of Vehicles to give urgent attention to the question of standardizing permissible maximum weights for the same types of commercial vehicle.

145. The Sub-Committee studied the problem of fiscal charges payable by commercial vehicles engaged in international transport and the question of extending the period of exemption from taxation for private vehicles abroad.

146. The Sub-Committee decided not to proceed for the time being with the study of an ideal network of international tourist services by road; on the other hand, it decided that the Working Party on International Passenger Transport Services by Road should continue to discuss, each year, applications for licences submitted by carriers, and related questions, with a view to submitting proposals to the governments concerned.

147. The Committee decided to convene an *ad hoc* meeting of experts to prepare, with due regard to earlier studies and in co-operation with the international organizations concerned, a draft contract for the international transport of goods by road, and then, about September 1956, to call a special session of the Committee for final revision and signature of the Convention concerning this contract.

#### *Automatic signalling at level crossings*

148. A joint *ad hoc* working party has prepared a draft European Agreement on automatic signalling at level crossings without gates or with half-gates, to

supplement article 49 of the Protocol of 19 September 1949 on Road Signs and Signals.

149. In view of the comments made on the draft agreement by certain governments, the Committee decided to refer it back to the Working Party on the Prevention of Road Traffic Accidents, on the understanding that railway experts will take part in the discussions.

#### *Inland waterway problems*

150. The Committee, finding it advisable for certain problems concerning inland waterways to be studied, decided to convene an *ad hoc* meeting of representatives of the countries concerned for the purpose of considering to what extent these problems could be dealt with and the procedure for studying them.

151. The Committee noted that the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law, in collaboration with the International Chamber of Commerce, has prepared a draft Convention concerning the Contract for the Transport of Goods by Inland Waterways, and instructed the above-mentioned *ad hoc* meeting to consider procedure for studying this question as well.

#### *Customs questions*

152. The Group of Customs Experts continued its examination, firstly, of a number of more or less permanent problems relating to international transport (customs office hours, simplification of frontier formalities, use of the TIR carnet) and secondly, of certain more specific questions.

153. It took note of the acceptance by a large number of countries of the new International Customs Declaration Form proposed as a means of facilitating transit traffic by rail.

154. The Committee heard a statement on the Group of Experts' report and noted the information given by the secretariat concerning the agreement by a large number of countries to waive the stipulation that the *volet de contrôle* in  *carnets de passage en douane* for tourist aircraft be returned to the airport of departure. It also noted the action taken on its earlier recommendations concerning the technical conditions applying to containers accepted for transport under customs seal, the temporary duty-free admission of containers and pleasure craft, and customs examination at loading and unloading points of goods carried by road.

155. The Committee asked the Group of Customs Experts to complete the standardization of markings for containers moving in international traffic under customs seal.

156. Having regard to the discussion on the subject at the 795th meeting of the Economic and Social Council (July 1954), the Committee asked the Group of Customs Experts to study the measures to be taken to obtain a final settlement at the European level of the questions dealt with in the 1949 Agreement for the provisional application of the three draft international customs conventions, but not covered by the new instruments signed at New York on 4 June 1954, relating to customs facilities for touring and the temporary importation of private road vehicles. The Group of Experts decided to prepare two European conventions, one on the tempo-

rary duty-free admission of pleasure craft of more than 5.5 metres in length and tourist aircraft, the other on the temporary duty-free admission of commercial road vehicles and containers.

#### *Transport of perishable foodstuffs*

157. A protocol on the standardization of wooden packaging for fruit and vegetables was drawn up by the Working Party on Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs, in co-operation with the competent working party of the Committee on Agricultural Problems. Governments which accept the protocol undertake to ensure that its provisions are progressively put into effect as from 1 January 1955. The provisions relate to the nature, form, dimensions and construction of packaging and methods of control to ensure that packaging complies with the standards defined in the protocol.

158. An Annex C.1 (Transport of certain perishable foodstuffs) to the Set of Rules appended to the General Agreement on Economic Regulations for International Road Transport was signed on 1 July 1954 by the following countries: Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, subject to ratification, and France, without reservation as to ratification. This annex defines the standards for special equipment used for the transport of perishable foodstuffs by road and lays down the temperatures to be observed for certain foodstuffs at the time of handing over to the carrier and during transport.

159. The Committee decided to ask the Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs to pursue the questions relating to the application of the Protocol on the standardization of packaging and to carry on with the studies undertaken in collaboration with the various international organizations, with a view to laying down technical conditions for the transport of perishable foodstuffs applicable to all modes of inland transport.

#### *Transport of dangerous goods*

160. The Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road is engaged in preparing a European agreement on the transport of dangerous goods by road.

161. In order to leave the way open for possible standardization of the conditions of transport of dangerous goods by land and sea, and in view of the world study on the subject which led to the meeting at Geneva in August of a group of experts convened by the United Nations Transport and Communications Commission in implementation of a decision by the Economic and Social Council, the Committee decided to put aside the study of Annex A, containing, *inter alia*, the classification, lists and conditions of transport of dangerous goods, and to confine the working party's activities to the preparation of Annex B, relating to the conditions to be observed by international road carriers.

### **F. Committee on Manpower**

162. It will be recalled that the Committee on Manpower established a programme of work which, on the decisions of governments, was taken over by the ILO in April 1948. This committee continued to be inactive



between the ninth and tenth sessions of the Commission. The secretariat has kept in touch with the work of the ILO in the field of manpower, and, as in the previous year, a document prepared by the International Labour Office and giving an account of its activities in this field has been circulated for the information of the Commission in connexion with its tenth session.

### G. Steel Committee

#### LIST OF MEETINGS HELD

|                                                                                                           |                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Twelfth session of the Steel Committee . . . . .                                                          | 29 and 30 March 1954               |
| Thirteenth session of the Steel Committee . . . . .                                                       | 2-4 December 1954                  |
| Working Party on Steel Statistics . . . . .                                                               | 29 November 1954                   |
| <i>Ad hoc</i> Working Party on the Definition of Theoretical Iron and Steel Production Capacity . . . . . | 30 November 1954                   |
| <i>Ad hoc</i> Working Party on the Annual Review of the Steel Market . . . . .                            | 30 November and<br>1 December 1954 |

#### LIST OF OFFICERS

Steel Committee:

*Chairman:* Mr. P. van der Rest (Belgium)

Working Party on Steel Statistics:

*Chairman:* Mr. R. Shone (United Kingdom)

*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. B. Matuschka (Austria)

*Ad hoc* Working Party on the Definition of Theoretical Iron and Steel Production Capacity:

*Chairman:* Mr. F. Slajmer (Yugoslavia)

*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. E. Ruist (Sweden)

*Ad hoc* Working Party on the Annual Review of the Steel Market:

*Chairman:* Mr. P. van der Rest (Belgium)

*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. W. Musiaek (Poland)

#### ACTIVITIES

##### *Annual review of the European steel market*

163. "The European Steel Market in 1953" formed the basis for a thorough discussion by the Committee at its twelfth session. A provisional version of the review of the steel market in 1954 was considered by an *ad hoc* working party which met on 1 and 2 December.

##### *Substitution between steel and other metals and materials*

164. The final version of the study on "Competition between Steel and Aluminium" was released for general circulation in February 1954. A provisional version of a study on "Substitution between Steel and Plastics" was examined by the Steel Committee at its thirteenth session. The next paper in this series will deal with timber, concrete and asbestos-cement in relation to steel within a single study. Part of the work is being planned

in collaboration with that on substitution being carried out for the Timber Committee.

##### *Sector studies*

165. The Committee, at its thirteenth session, discussed the principal developments in the field of flat products in the last two years, on the basis of a paper by the secretariat prepared as a follow-up to the study on *The European Steel Industry and the Wide-strip Mill*. This subject will continue to be kept under review.

166. At the same session the Committee discussed a provisional version of a study on "The European Pipe and Tube Industry". The document will then be put into its final shape and released for general circulation about the middle of 1955.

167. The secretariat was requested to undertake a study on railway material, with particular emphasis on trends of consumption of steel products for railway purposes in Europe and overseas. The Committee noted that this document will also be submitted to the Inland Transport Committee.

##### *Market research*

168. The Committee, at both its sessions held in 1954, discussed the state of market research in the steel industry, with particular emphasis on the development of steel consumption and the rational utilization of steel.

##### *Trade*

169. (a) The Committee considered, on the basis of the available statistical data, possibilities governing Europe's internal trade and exports to non-European countries of ores, semi-finished and finished steel. The Committee expressed its interest in the possibility of long-term arrangements, which should be negotiated bilaterally; several delegations expressed their willingness to explore such possibilities.

170. (b) The Committee, in the light of the conclusions reached by the Committee on the Development of Trade on the question of drafting general permissive conditions of sale for selected commodities and taking into account the work already done by the ECE in other fields, invited governments to provide the secretariat with copies of the general clauses used in contract documents relating to the import and export of iron, chromium and manganese ores and rolled steel products, and requested the secretariat to make a comparative analysis of the general clauses in use in different countries.

##### *Inter-regional co-operation*

171. The secretariat is continuing to keep in close touch with the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East and the Economic Commission for Latin America, and to draw the attention of the Steel Committee to work being done there of interest to it. Close contact is being maintained with the regional commissions in connexion with the studies on market research and on pipes and tubes and the annual review of the steel market.

##### *Statistics*

172. The *Quarterly Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe* has continued to be published regularly. The

Working Party on Steel Statistics met on 29 November to consider the improvement of statistics on deliveries to industries and on stocks in the hands of producers, merchants and consumers.

#### *Technology*

173. The third in the annual series dealing with major developments in steel technology, relating to 1954, is to be released for general circulation early in 1955.

#### *Measurement of theoretical iron and steel production capacity*

174. The Committee decided to continue to seek a definition of iron and steel-making capacity, concentrating in the first instance, however, on blast furnaces and steel-making capacity, applicable to the whole of Europe, and asked governments who had not yet done so to send to the secretariat written statements on definitions in use in their countries.

## H. Timber Committee

### LIST OF MEETINGS HELD

Timber Committee :

Twelfth session . . . . . 4-9 November 1954  
Joint FAO/ECE Working Party  
on Logging Techniques and  
Training of Forest Workers . . . 8-18 June 1954

### LIST OF OFFICERS

Timber Committee :

*Chairman:* Mr. du Vignaux (France).  
*Vice-Chairmen:* Mr. Soderhjelm (Finland), Mr. Kaczerginski (Poland).

Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Logging Techniques and Training of Forest Workers:

*Chairman:* Mr. Winkelmann (Switzerland).  
*Vice-Chairmen:* Mr. Kostron (Czechoslovakia), Mr. Gläser (Western Germany).

### ACTIVITIES

#### *Market review*

##### *1. Sawn Softwood*

175. At its twelfth session the Timber Committee stated that Europe's sawn softwood trade in 1954 had remained very firm with supply and demand well balanced. The Committee estimated that total imports were likely to come close to 3.6 million standards, thus reaching the highest level since the end of the war. The high level of European imports was mainly attributable to the removal of consumption controls in the United Kingdom. Exports of sawn softwood from European sources were expected to reach 3.2 million standards in 1954. Canada remained the main overseas supplier of sawn softwood. Exports of softwood from the United States to Europe were expected to reach about the same level as in 1953.

176. No marked change in the level of aggregate import requirements was expected by the Committee

in 1955. Total sawn softwood exports, available for European countries in 1955, were placed at between 3.35 and 3.74 million standards, as against 3.7 million standards in 1954.

177. Thus estimates of demand and supply in 1955 seemed to the Committee to be remarkably well balanced; there was therefore little reason to expect any significant fluctuations either in prices or in the volume of trade. The Committee expressed its view, however, that a further increase of timber prices would threaten the future level of timber consumption, especially in importing countries.

##### *2. Small-sized roundwood*

178. (a) *Pitprops.* The Committee's review of import requirements and export availabilities in 1954 showed a reasonably stable situation. Stocks had been well maintained in most countries. Consumption was believed to have declined as a result of efforts to economize pitprop consumption by more rational utilization or by recourse to props of other materials.

179. The Committee's estimates of prospective demand and supply in 1955 led it to the conclusion that the present stability would continue.

180. (b) *Pulpwood.* Demand for pulp and paper steadily rose in 1954, and with it the need for pulping raw material. At its eleventh session, the Committee's estimates of export availabilities in 1954 had fallen short of estimated import requirements. Both production and export availabilities exceeded expectations, and no major difficulties were experienced.

181. There was an apparent deficit in 1955 of 640 thousand cubic metres, a deficit substantially smaller than that customarily shown in the Committee's estimates at that stage; there was thus reason to hope that the requirements of European pulp-mills would be met without difficulty in 1955.

##### *Price statistics*

182. The Committee made a series of recommendations concerning the publication of price data, and recommended that timber price tables be included in the FAO/ECE quarterly Bulletin; it further suggested that the joint *Ad hoc* FAO/ECE Working Party of Experts on Forestry and Timber Statistics, to be convened in 1955, should also look into the question of price statistics.

##### *Long-term trade arrangements*

183. Being of the opinion that it would be eminently desirable to achieve maximum stability in European timber trade and prices, and to avoid excessive fluctuations with their harmful consequences, the Committee agreed to include an item on "Medium and long-term trends and forecasts for European timber trade" in the agenda of its next session. Delegates indicated their willingness to consider the possibility of presenting estimates of the levels of imports and exports of the main timber categories likely to be attained around 1960.

##### *Substitution of timber by other materials*

184. The Committee examined recent developments in the substitution of timber by other materials, and

expressed its desire to keep the progress of substitution under continuous review. It urged that high priority be given to the study of substitution (which already figured in the 1954/55 work programme) and considered that initially the study should examine the main end-uses for sawn timber—sleepers, pitprops, etc. The Committee also asked that the possible replacement of other materials by timber should not be overlooked.

*Joint FAO/ECE Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers*

185. As a result of a recommendation made at the second joint meeting of the Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission in Rome in October 1953 (E/ECE/177-G), a Joint Working Party on Logging Techniques and Training of Forest Workers was set up, consisting of representatives of countries participating in the work of ECE and of the FAO European Forestry Commission. This joint working party met in Geneva in June 1954, and made recommendations to the Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission on the technical work to be undertaken in coming years in the field of working methods and techniques of work in the forests, and mechanization of forestry, and the training, safety and health of forest workers.

186. The Timber Committee, at its twelfth session, agreed to the proposal to set up a Joint Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers of the FAO European Forestry Commission and the ECE Timber Committee. The European Forestry Commission of FAO has similarly endorsed these proposals.

*Commercial grading*

187. The Committee invited the Executive Secretary to convene a working party on commercial grading, composed of specialists from those countries interested, to prepare proposals as to the methods to be adopted in order to achieve reductions in the great diversity of timber grades and sizes.

*Standardization of general conditions of sale of certain commodities*

188. After noting the discussions on this subject of the third session of the Committee on the Development of Trade, the Timber Committee exchanged views concerning the possible advantages of elaborating on an international basis the standard conditions of sale for timber and timber products. It was understood that such a standard contract would not be binding, but would be purely optional. As the opinion of delegates on the usefulness of such an undertaking was not unanimous, the Committee decided that the question should be considered by an *ad hoc* working party composed of representatives of those countries which had expressed interest in this matter.

**I. Committee on the Development of Trade**

LIST OF MEETINGS HELD

Committee on the Development of Trade:  
Third session . . . . . 11-16 October 1954

*Ad hoc* Working Party on Arbitration . . . . . 14-17 February 1955

LIST OF OFFICERS

Committee on the Development of Trade:  
*Chairman:* Mr. G. Seidenfaden (Denmark).  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. A. Wolynski (Poland).  
*Ad hoc* Working Party on Arbitration:  
*Chairman:* Mr. G. de Sydow (Sweden).  
*Vice-Chairman:* Mr. P. Kott (Poland).

ACTIVITIES

*Action on decisions of the ninth session of the Commission*

189. The Committee on the Development of Trade, which, in accordance with Commission resolution 1 (IX), resumed its activities during the period under review, discussed at its third session the questions which had been listed in that resolution for its eventual consideration. The agenda also included consideration of the question of inter-regional trade referred to in resolution 5 (IX) of the Commission and questions which grew out of the discussions at the Second East-West Trade Consultation (arbitration, standardized conditions of sale).

*Removal of obstacles of an economic, administrative or trade policy character to intra-European, especially East-West, trade*

190. At its third session the Committee held what was generally considered a useful discussion of this question and agreed that efforts should continue to be made in the Committee and in bilateral talks to explore means of solving particular problems of this kind. The programme of work adopted by the Committee envisages a review at each session of developments in the field of intra-European, especially East-West, trade, a review which is to include a discussion of obstacles of an economic, administrative or trade policy character, as well as of possibilities of trade expansion.

*Long-term trade arrangements*

191. The Committee considered long-term trade arrangements and other measures designed to increase stability in East-West trade; it agreed that long-term trade arrangements in the form of inter-governmental agreements or contracts might contribute to the expansion of East-West trade, though such arrangements could best be further explored bilaterally between interested governments. A number of countries have put forward lists of commodities on which they were prepared to negotiate long-term agreements or contracts; it is understood that these lists might be considered by other countries with a view to eventual bilateral discussion or negotiation. The attention of the other ECE committees has also been drawn to the possible usefulness of examination of long-term possibilities for trade in particular commodities within their purview. The Committee is to discuss this question further at future meetings; the secretariat is to circulate information on the results obtained and, if possible, on the techniques used in such arrangements.

### *Improvements of payments arrangements*

192. The Committee discussed the question of long-term and multilateral payments arrangements and reached the conclusion that, in spite of some reservations on the part of certain delegations all participating countries were, in principle, favourably disposed to consider methods of increasing multilateral payments which would not interfere with the successful functioning of existing bilateral agreements and which would facilitate the development of trade between countries of eastern and western Europe. The Committee established an *Ad hoc* Working Party of Financial Experts to consider the possibility of an arrangement, additional to the existing facilities afforded by certain transferable currencies, for a voluntary multilateral compensation of balances arising in bilateral payments agreements. The Working Party was also to take into consideration any suggestions which governments might wish to put forward concerning other means of improving payments relationships either bilaterally or multilaterally between countries of eastern and countries of western Europe.

### *Standardization of general conditions of sale for selected commodities*

193. The Committee, recognizing the value of international standardization of general conditions of sale for the development of international trade, expressed the view that it might be useful to extend this work, already undertaken in the field of engineering, to other selected products of importance in European trade. The recommendation of the Committee on the Development of Trade, favouring this work, has been brought to the attention of the appropriate other ECE committees.

### *Facilitation of contact between representatives of business circles including question of trade fairs and exhibitions*

194. The Committee has expressed the view that international trade fairs should be facilitated and that consideration should be given to concrete measures to overcome any difficulties which may arise in that connexion. It decided to include a review of international fair activities in the programme of work.

### *Arbitration Facilities*

195. At its third session the Committee agreed that commercial arbitration was a problem meriting further consideration by the Committee. Since it was recognized that the subject involved complex legal issues requiring examination by experts, the Committee agreed to set up an *ad hoc* working group with specified terms of reference.

196. At its first session in February 1955, the working party discussed the following questions:

1. Present facilities for international commercial arbitration;

2. Problems relating to the arbitral settlement of commercial disputes;
3. Difficulties attributable to the present state of facilities for international commercial arbitration.

197. On the first question the working party was of the opinion that the documentation already assembled should be amplified.

198. On the second point the working party drew up a list of questions relating to arbitration of which it felt that a detailed study might be made in co-operation with the governments. As far as the problems on the enforcement of arbitral awards are concerned, the Executive Secretary was asked to keep in touch with the *ad hoc* committee set up by the Economic and Social Council to study the draft convention on the enforcement of international arbitral awards. It was also suggested that a study should be made of the problem of reference to arbitration of disputes concerning quality control of certain products.

199. With regard to the third point under discussion, the working party embarked on an initial exchange of views on the difficulties existing in the present state of facilities for international commercial arbitration. The view was expressed that one of the difficulties lay in the variety of arbitration formulae and consequent problems of interpretation. In this connexion, various delegations expressed a desire for the standardization of arbitration clauses. Some of the delegations also mentioned particularly the difficulty of reaching agreement on the place of arbitration and the appointment of arbitrators and umpire. Difficulties were also noted in the enforcement of foreign arbitral awards. It was agreed that most of the difficulties noted would be considered by the working party at a later stage.

### *Consultations of experts on East-West trade*

200. A further East-West Trade Consultation is planned for the early autumn of 1955 as a separate part of the fourth session of the Committee on the Development of Trade. This consultation is expected to concentrate on bilateral discussions and contacts organized as in the past.

### *Inter-regional trade*

201. At its third session the Committee considered a report from the Executive Secretary on recent developments following the adoption of Resolution 5 (IX) concerning inter-regional co-operation by the Ninth Session of the Commission. In this connexion the Committee expressed its interest in exploring ways of increasing inter-regional trade, its intention to continue to examine this question in accordance with its terms of reference and its belief that inter-regional trade consultations might be useful for strengthening inter-regional trade relations and could contribute to the expansion of world trade.

## **PART III. TENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION**

### **A. Attendance and officers**

202. The tenth session of the Commission was held from 15 to 30 March 1955. It was attended by representatives from the following countries: Albania, Austria,

Belgium, Bulgaria, Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukrainian SSR, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United

Kingdom, United States of America and Yugoslavia. Iceland and Ireland were not represented. Australia, Brazil, Canada, Iran and Israel were represented under the provision of paragraph 11 of the Commission's terms of reference. The following specialized agencies sent representatives: the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the International Monetary Fund. Representatives from the following non-governmental organizations attended the session: Commission of Churches on International Affairs, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Co-operative Alliance, International Federation of Christian Trade Unions, International Organization of Employers, International Organization for Standardization, World Federation of Trade Unions and the World Federation of United Nations Associations. A full list of representatives is attached as an appendix to this report (see pages 44-47).

203. At its first meeting, the Commission heard an opening statement by the Chairman, as well as statements by the Executive Secretary and the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs.<sup>5</sup>

204. The Commission elected Mr. Max Suetens (Belgium) Chairman and Mr. Juliusz Katz-Suchy (Poland) Vice-Chairman of the Commission.<sup>6</sup>

#### B. Agenda and documentation <sup>7</sup>

205. The provisional agenda (E/ECE/193) was adopted in an amended form, with the inclusion of an additional subject as item 3, thus:

1. Adoption of agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Consideration of a draft resolution submitted by the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the participation of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany in the work of the tenth session of the Commission.
4. Reports of the committees of the Commission on their activities since the closing date of the ninth session, and an additional note to the reports of the committees by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/195):

Committee on Agricultural Problems,  
Coal Committee,  
Committee on Electric Power,  
Industry and Materials Committee,  
Inland Transport Committee,  
Committee on Manpower,  
Steel Committee,  
Timber Committee,  
Committee on the Development of Trade.

5. Other activities of the Commission and its secretariat—note by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/196).

<sup>5</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/1, E/ECE/201 and E/ECE/202.

<sup>6</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/2.

<sup>7</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/2. The documents which served as a basis for the Commission's deliberations at this session are indicated in parentheses. In addition to the basic documentation a series of working papers was issued prior to and in the course of the proceedings of the session.

6. Inter-regional co-operation—report by the Secretary-General (E/2674) and note by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/197).
7. Report of the Special Group of Experts on Southern Europe (E/ECE/198).
8. Resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council during its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions and by the General Assembly during its ninth regular session of concern to the Commission—note by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/199).
9. Review of the economic situation in Europe.
10. The Commission's programme of work for 1955/56 (E/ECE/200).
11. Annual report of the Economic Commission for Europe to the twentieth session of the Economic and Social Council.
12. Any other business.

#### C. Account of proceedings

CONSIDERATION OF A DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE DELEGATION OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS CONCERNING THE PARTICIPATION OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY IN THE WORK OF THE TENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION (item 3 of the agenda)<sup>8</sup>

206. At the session's first meeting, the delegation of the USSR introduced a draft resolution proposing to invite the representatives of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany to take part in the work of its tenth session.

207. In introducing this draft, the representative of the USSR, regretting that representatives from so large and economically so important a country as Germany were not yet amongst the participants to the present session, recalled that at the ninth session of the Commission the proposal of the Polish delegation to invite representatives of the German Democratic Republic and of the Federal Republic of Germany to take part in the work of the Commission had been deferred in view of the negative attitude of the majority. To continue to withhold the right of the representatives of Germany to take part in the examination of major problems relating to intra-European and intra-regional economic co-operation, was unjustifiable and harmful, particularly in the light of recent events, the notable expansion of economic and trade relations of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany with an increasing number of other countries and the active and constructive participation of German representatives in the Commission's committees and their subsidiary organs. The fact that a unified democratic Germany was unfortunately not yet in being should be no reason meanwhile to debar representatives of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany from participating in the session's proceedings.

<sup>8</sup> For details of the discussions on this item of the agenda, see E/ECE/SR.10/1 and 2.

208. The delegations of the USSR and Poland pointed to the fact that the Government of the German Democratic Republic had more than once addressed itself to the Commission concerning its participation in the work of the sessions of the ECE, in accordance with article 8 of the Commission's terms of reference. In particular, they drew attention to the letter of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe in which the wish was expressed that, pending the reunification of Germany, both the Governments of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany be invited to the sessions of the Economic Commission for Europe.<sup>9</sup>

209. Representatives of Albania, Bulgaria, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic supported the Soviet Union's draft resolution.

210. Representatives of France, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States and Yugoslavia, whilst acknowledging Germany's economic importance, declared that they could not accept the draft resolution submitted by the delegation of the USSR. Germany's juridical status had not changed since the Commission's ninth session: it was still an occupied territory which, under the provisions of article 10 of the Commission's terms of reference, which the Commission had no power to alter, could be represented only through the delegations of the occupying Powers. Any modification of the present procedure under article 10 was not, for the time being, warranted. It was in accordance with these provisions that experts from the eastern and western zones of Germany were at present taking part in, and making a valuable contribution to, the work of the Commission's subordinate bodies. In the opinion of the French delegation, moreover, the draft resolution submitted by the Delegation of the USSR was tantamount to asking the Commission to take a first step towards recognizing as a State a zone which many countries consider still to be under the administration of the USSR.

211. The representatives of the USSR and Poland pointing out that the admission to the work of ECE of both parts of Germany on an equal footing does not imply diplomatic recognition, expressed regret that the representative of France made unwarranted remarks directed against the political structure of an independent and peaceful State, the German Democratic Republic. They pointed out that the opposition against the admission of the whole of Germany to direct relations with the ECE is also, on the part of the powers occupying Western Germany, an attempt to prevent the German Federal Republic from broadening its relations.

212. The Yugoslav representative stated that this problem was the result of developments in the post

<sup>9</sup> See E/ECE/10/Misc.1, containing the letter in question circulated to the governments participating in the tenth session at the request of the Polish delegate and accompanied by a covering note explaining that the Executive Secretary, acting under article 10 of the Commission's terms of reference, was not in a position to take official cognizance of the letter referred to.

war political situation, which itself reflected the relations between the great Powers. Since the situation did not yet permit the reaching of a satisfactory solution, it was preferable to make no change with regard to Germany's representation in the Commission.

213. The draft resolution submitted by the delegation of the USSR was put to the vote by roll-call and rejected by 13 votes<sup>10</sup> to 5<sup>11</sup> with no abstentions.<sup>12</sup>

214. The representative of the USSR declared that the delegation of the Soviet Union considered this decision as contrary to the strengthening and expansion of economic co-operation of European countries, to the interests of further successful activity of ECE, and also to the interests and the right to participation in European economic co-operation of Germany through the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany. The Soviet delegation considered it wrong that once again no positive decision had been arrived at concerning this question.

215. After the vote on this draft resolution the Executive Secretary stated that he regarded the discussion on this item and the vote just taken as implying that there should be no change in the Commission's procedure concerning the participation of the eastern and western zones of Germany in the work of the Commission's subsidiary organs, and that therefore the *status quo* and the established procedures should be maintained in this respect.

#### CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES OF THE COMMISSION ON THEIR ACTIVITIES SINCE THE CLOSING DATE OF THEIR REPORTS TO THE NINTH SESSION AND AN ADDITIONAL NOTE BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (E/ECE/195A-I) (item 4 of the agenda)

##### *General statements*

216. Before proceeding to a consideration of the reports of the committees, which were prefaced by introductory statements by their respective Chairmen<sup>13</sup> or by the secretariat, the representatives of the USSR and Hungary made general statements on their countries' over-all appraisal of the committees' work during the period between the ninth and tenth sessions of the Commission.<sup>14</sup>

217. The representative of the USSR expressed his gratification at the increase in the activity of the Commission's committees and their subsidiary bodies as manifested both in terms of wider participation and also of greater attention now being devoted by the committees to subjects relevant to the strengthening of economic relations amongst all countries of Europe. These subjects fell into two broad groups—viz., economic and trade problems, and technical matters, such as the

<sup>10</sup> Viz., Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

<sup>11</sup> Viz., Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

<sup>12</sup> For the text of the draft resolution, see Appendix I.

<sup>13</sup> The report of the Committee on the Development of Trade was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

<sup>14</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/3.

exchange of scientific and technical information and experience. The Committee on Agricultural Problems, the Committee on Timber and the Committee on Steel had done useful work on the first group of problems, and should persevere along these lines. Some work relating to the second group of problems had also been undertaken by the committees in the field of industry, agriculture and transport, but greater attention should be devoted to this type of work, particularly by the Industry and Materials Committee, the Inland Transport Committee and the Committee on Agricultural Problems. A beginning had been made for countries participating in the work of the Commission, and others, to arrange visits of specialists to study techniques and to view various establishments in different countries on the basis of reciprocity, this being one of the useful ways of promoting the interchange of technical knowledge.

218. The representative of Hungary felt that during the past year the Commission and its subsidiary bodies had achieved substantial results, as evidenced, *inter alia*, by the large number of unanimously adopted decisions of a practical character. The work accomplished by two subsidiary bodies which had resumed their activities during the period between the ninth and tenth sessions—viz., the Committee on Agricultural Problems and the Committee on the Development of Trade—had been promising. Nevertheless, there was still a tendency for certain committees to be unduly preoccupied with minor administrative problems instead of focusing attention on the development of trade as well as the exchange of economic and technical experience.

219. After the conclusion of the consideration of the reports of the committees, the following draft resolution concerning the work of ECE committees was submitted jointly by the delegations of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Kingdom:

*“The Economic Commission for Europe,*

*“Welcoming the positive work done by the committees of the Commission and their subsidiary bodies in 1954,*

*“Noting that they are doing some positive work in the organization of studies of technical questions relating to the countries of Europe,*

*“Considering that an expansion of the exchange of technical experience between the countries taking part in the Commission’s work will contribute to the development and strengthening of economic co-operation between European countries for the promotion of their peaceful economies and the improvement of the well-being of their peoples,*

*“Considering that the organization on a reciprocal basis of mutually beneficial visits of specialists between the various countries participating in the work of the Commission is a useful method to this end,*

*“Recognizes that, though these visits must be organized by mutual agreement between the countries concerned, the necessary arrangements could be facilitated by contact between the delegations of the countries concerned, within the framework of the committees of the Commission; and*

*“Recommends to the committees that, parallel to their consideration of economic problems, they devote more attention to the exchange, on a reciprocal basis, of production experience and scientific-technical and statistical information.”<sup>15</sup>*

220. The representative of the United Kingdom, as co-sponsor of the draft resolution, explained that in his government’s view it was important, in implementing the draft resolution, if adopted, to strike a proper balance between the economic and technical aspects of the committees’ work and to take care that only such technical questions were selected for study as were of practical importance and relevant to the general economic issues facing European countries, paying due regard to the need of avoiding duplication of work done by specialized agencies or non-governmental organizations in this field. Moreover, he believed it to be the understanding of both co-sponsors that nothing in the resolution concerning visits should impose new demands on the United Nations budget and that such visits should be organized on either a bilateral or a multilateral basis between the countries directly concerned. He laid particular emphasis on the importance of reciprocity in the matter of the exchange of information, including statistical information.

221. The representative of Yugoslavia, voicing his delegation’s support for the joint draft resolution, expressed his delegation’s hope that the activities envisaged would not hinder the Commission’s basic work.

222. The Executive Secretary declared that, should the joint draft resolution, which provided for a certain broadening of the scope of the committees’ work, be adopted, the secretariat would propose to absorb any such activity within the limits of the existing establishment and budgetary resources; this might not be easy, since the secretariat, following the recent increase of participation in the Commission’s work, was already working at the very limit of its capacity. Increased co-operation on the part of governments by way of tangible contributions to the carrying forward of the various technical projects was therefore more essential than ever.

223. In connexion with the United Kingdom representative’s statement, the representative of the USSR noted that the draft resolution which had been submitted by the two delegations was worded in such a way that it precluded differing interpretations and paid due attention to each of the questions with which it dealt.

224. As regards the exchange of information, including statistical information, he pointed out that the committees’ terms of reference provided for such an exchange, but was in practice already being carried out.

225. Both the co-sponsors made it clear that they treated the resolution as a whole, though they had naturally, in their statement introducing it, laid emphasis on those points to which they each attached particular importance.

226. The joint draft resolution was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

<sup>15</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/18 and Part IV.

### *Committee on Agricultural Problems*

227. The consideration of the report of this committee, which after a lapse of many years resumed its activities during the period between the Commission's ninth and tenth sessions in conformity with Commission resolution 6 (IX), evinced considerable response amongst the delegations, eighteen of them taking part in the discussion on the activities of this subsidiary body.<sup>16</sup>

228. There was a general consensus of opinion as to the useful and promising character of the activities on which the Committee had embarked both in the field of intra-European trade in agricultural commodities and in that of the mechanization of a certain number of agricultural processes and of agricultural techniques. A number of representatives noted with approval that the Committee was extending its range of activities as it went along, whilst some others cautioned the Committee not to take on too many tasks at once. With regard to the production and trade aspect, all representatives who spoke emphasized the value of the Committee's market analyses, both short- and long-term, as means of promoting rational trade patterns in agricultural commodities. Some representatives felt that a more ample supply of relevant information by governments would enhance the practical significance of the Committee's periodic appraisals of the outlook of Europe's agricultural markets. A number of governments from different parts of Europe expressed their positive interest in the possibility of concluding mutually advantageous long-term arrangements covering certain commodities, thereby encouraging production and stabilizing the flow of goods. The use of the Committee's forum for the purpose of airing grievances and overcoming various obstacles in trade was also deemed to be of practical assistance to governments. In the view of some delegations, the Committee's work in the field of trade should help Europe to satisfy its requirements through increased intra-continental exchange and thereby reduce Europe's dependence on extra-European sources of supply of certain commodities. The Committee's activities concerning the standardization of the conditions of sale with respect to a number of major agricultural commodities such as cereals were held to be conducive to a more ordered trade in these products.

229. One delegation argued that the Committee, in its preoccupation with the trade aspect, should not neglect other economic problems of a more general character, such as protection, which, in its view, was still one of the main obstacles to increased production and productivity in European agriculture.

230. Many positive references were made to the Committee's work on the technical side of agriculture through its Working Party on Mechanization, some delegations feeling that this type of activity should be fostered by means of increased exchange of technical experience, while others preferred that the Committee's activities in this domain should not be unduly dispersed. In this connexion, a number of delegations praised the harmonious collaboration which had developed with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

<sup>16</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/3.

231. Gratification was expressed with the opportunities afforded to the Committee's delegates to visit the All-Union Agricultural Exhibition in Moscow and agricultural centres in Switzerland, by the courtesy of the competent authorities in these countries. Visits of this kind constituted, in the opinion of a number of representatives, a valuable adjunct to the Committee's work.

232. Some delegations availed themselves of the discussion to acquaint the Commission with recent developments in the field of agriculture in their respective countries.

### *Coal Committee*

233. All delegations which contributed to the examination of the report of this committee<sup>17</sup> were agreed on the continued practical value to governments of work performed by the Committee and its subsidiary organs. The quarterly meetings of the Coal Trade Sub-Committee were regarded as a useful means of keeping abreast of market developments. Some delegations referred to the question of long-term agreements in solid fuels. The representative of Poland called for a study of such agreements, particularly as a means of promoting the stability of Europe's coal market and assisting Europe in covering its coal requirements from its own resources; the representative of Austria pointed out that it was desirable that contracts of this type be coupled with guarantees of deliveries to ensure adherence to contract conditions over a number of years.

234. Other delegations suggested that the Committee might with advantage devote more attention in future to the exchange of technical experience and information in the field of coal, more particularly to the technical aspects of the rational utilization of Europe's coal resources in the interests of Europe's coal economy.

235. A further point made by a number of delegations was that the Committee's work would be rendered more fruitful if the information at its disposal could be improved.

236. Mention was also made of the study "The Price of Oil in Western Europe" published by the secretariat on its own responsibility.<sup>18</sup> The delegation of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic observed that it would seem appropriate for the Commission to examine the substance of this document, which was published at the Committee's invitation and which bore on the present abnormal profits of oil companies operating in the Near and Middle East, and inquired as to the views of other delegations and of the secretariat on this point.

237. The representative of the United Kingdom remarked that the study of this complex subject was of a partial character, dealing with only certain aspects of the oil industry on the basis of limited information, and this question was of direct concern also to members of the United Nations not members of ECE. The report did not, in his opinion, afford a basis for further study in ECE, because no effective conclusions could be drawn from it.

<sup>17</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/6.

<sup>18</sup> See also paragraphs 69-70.



238. After the representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic had stated that he did not consider that his query had been answered, the Executive Secretary observed, *inter alia*, that the work programme of the Commission and its committees was in the hands of governments, and that any government was free to raise the matter in the Commission or in any appropriate subsidiary body, just as the secretariat had of course also the right to take the initiative. As the study under reference had been presented by the secretariat to the Coal Committee, which had taken the action recorded in its report, he did not see any reason for the secretariat to take any new initiative in the matter.

#### *Committee on Electric Power*

239. The examination of the report of this committee<sup>19</sup> was characterized by a positive evaluation of the work undertaken by this organ of the Commission, and the practical orientation of the projects in hand. It was generally felt that the Committee had made a tangible contribution to the development of electric power production in Europe by means of a series of studies bearing upon certain economic and technical factors involved in the production and consumption of electric power and by the organization of an exchange of technical information, as well as by facilitating and sponsoring appropriate inter-governmental agreements within the Committee's purview.

240. Against the background of this over-all appraisal, reference was made to a number of concrete assignments on which the Committee was engaged, such as the Yougelexport scheme and its recent progress, the signing (in May 1954) of a convention on the development of the Drava, a river of common interest, the extensive and fruitful programme of activities carried forward by the Committee's Working Party on rural electrification, and the Committee's studies now in progress, such as those on the use of electricity for domestic purposes. The importance of such problems as long-distance transmission of power over high-tension lines was pointed out. Some representatives stressed the importance of all countries participating in the Committee's work providing the fullest possible information, so that the Committee's studies could cover the whole of the continent.

241. A number of delegations felt that the Committee's scope should be broadened by furthering studies of a technical character in various fields, and that the Committee should be supplied with the necessary material means for that purpose.

#### *Industry and Materials Committee*<sup>20</sup>

242. In connexion with the consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the secretariat's report on the activities of the Industry and Materials Committee during the period under review (E/ECE/195-D and part I of the additional note to the reports of the committees by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/195-I)).

<sup>19</sup> See E/ECE/ST.10/5.

<sup>20</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/3, 4, 17.

243. After an exchange of views as to the future of this Committee, a working party<sup>21</sup> was set up to frame generally acceptable recommendations in this regard. The working party unanimously recommended for adoption by the Commission the following resolution concerning the Industry and Materials Committee:

*"The Economic Commission for Europe,*

*"Having examined the annual report of the Industry and Materials Committee to the tenth session of the Commission and the additional note by the Executive Secretary on the subject of the Industry and Materials Committee,*

*"Considering that there is scope for international collaboration in some clearly defined fields falling within the terms of reference of the Industry and Materials Committee, particularly in the engineering industry,*

*"Realizing that in view of the wide diversity of the engineering industry work can only proceed in clearly defined and carefully selected fields,*

*"Considering accordingly that work can best be undertaken through ad hoc working parties,*

*"Taking into account the work already in progress in the Committee on Agricultural Problems and the Committee on Electric Power on the mechanization of agriculture and rural electrification respectively, with a view to increasing European agricultural production and improving agricultural techniques,*

*"Requests the Executive Secretary to convene an ad hoc working party on agricultural machinery to exchange information on an all-European basis on technical developments; and to consider the scope for increased production and possibilities of increased trade in certain types of agricultural equipment;*

*"Invites governments to indicate to the Executive Secretary particular problems in this field which they consider should be examined, and to supply the necessary information;*

*"Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare this material for the consideration of the ad hoc working party;*

*"Recalls resolution No. 6, adopted by the seventh session of the Commission, requesting the Executive Secretary, inter alia, to continue to convene as necessary and in consultation with interested governments ad hoc working parties to deal with specific economic, industrial, legal and institutional problems, or with a series of problems relating to a particular branch of industry;*

*"Invites interested governments to inform the Executive Secretary of their proposals for possible concrete action in accordance with the resolution No. 6 referred to above; and*

*"Decides to consider at its eleventh session, particularly in the light of experience gained meanwhile in the ad hoc working party on agricultural machinery,*

<sup>21</sup> Composed of the representatives of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, France, Sweden, the USSR, the United Kingdom and the United States. Representatives of Italy, Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia also participated in some or all of the working party's deliberations.

what other measures might be taken concerning the Industry and Materials Committee."

244. Prior to the vote's being taken, the representative of the United Kingdom stated that his delegation was glad to accept the draft on the understanding that, since most studies in the field covered by the Industry and Materials Committee referred to sectors of industry which in his own and most other west European countries were in private hands, commercial considerations might place certain limits on the provision of information in that field. He assumed that whatever exchanges of information proved appropriate within the framework of the activities contemplated by the draft resolution would be on a reciprocal basis.

245. The draft resolution was then adopted unanimously.<sup>22</sup>

#### *Housing Sub-Committee*

246. The review<sup>23</sup> by the Commission of the activities of the Housing Sub-Committee, during which various representatives took the opportunity of acquainting the Commission with the developments in the field of housing in their respective countries, was marked by a generally positive appreciation of the work done by this body, in particular on such important economic and technical subjects as housing policy, trade in building materials, housing in less industrialized countries, housing statistics, the cost of building, its mechanization and standardization, and modular co-ordination in building. A spirit of co-operation had pervaded the Sub-Committee's deliberations, greatly contributing to its successful functioning and to its concentration on questions which were of real practical interest to governments. Some delegations expressed the hope that the Sub-Committee would not neglect the social aspects of housing, including such matters as community development and town planning. Certain representatives recorded their wish to see the Committee take steps designed to increase the exchange of technical experience and information. The representative of the United States noted with satisfaction that purely technical questions had been turned over for study to a non-governmental organization.

247. The representative of Poland stated that the Polish Government invited members of the Sub-Committee to visit Poland after its next session, and expressed the hope that this visit and similar visits which might be arranged would prove a useful means of facilitating contacts and technical co-operation amongst the different countries in the sphere of housing. The representative of Hungary thanked the French Government for its invitation extended to members of the Sub-Committee in 1954 to visit new housing projects in that country.

248. The representative of the United Kingdom expressed his delegation's belief that the Sub-Committee was important enough to stand on its own feet and should be converted into a committee on housing. He consequently proposed the following draft resolution:<sup>24</sup>

<sup>22</sup> See Part IV.

<sup>23</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/4.

<sup>24</sup> See Part IV.

*"The Economic Commission for Europe,*

*"Recognizing the importance to the European economy of the work of the Housing Sub-Committee of the Industry and Materials Committee,*

*"Considering the independent character of its activities,*

*"Resolves to convert the Sub-Committee on Housing of the Industry and Materials Committee into an independent committee on housing, with the existing terms of reference."*

249. This draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

#### *Inland Transport Committee*

250. All representatives who spoke during the examination of the report of this committee<sup>25</sup> were unanimous in recognizing the great value of this body for the study and discussion of the problems of inland transport in the whole of Europe—a body whose documents constituted a most notable source of information on transport on the continent. It was felt that the subjects dealt with by the Committee in the fields of rail, road and inland waterways were of vital concern to governments. Delegations instanced various projects on which the Committee is at present engaged as being of particular interest to them. Amongst these, such varied matters were mentioned as the use of containers for combined rail and road transport, the standardization of rolling stock, studies on co-ordination, the establishment of direct international rail tariffs, and the study of the problem of combined transport. The importance of the Committee's continued work in preparing international conventions and agreements such as the convention concerning the international transport of goods by road, was emphasized and its continuance urged so that road and inland waterway transport operations could ultimately be regulated by such instruments, as is already the case for rail transport.

251. Some representatives pointed to the direct bearing of transport matters on trade and underlined that the Committee should be at pains to seek solutions appropriate to the whole continent.

252. Special mention was made by one delegation of the Committee's decision to call a special session to discuss inland waterway problems.

253. All delegations which participated in the discussion commended the Committee for simplifying its organizational structure, which should enable it to concentrate on practical problems of common interest. In the view of some representatives there were still certain shortcomings in the work of the Committee which should be remedied; the point of view was expressed that the Committee was embarking upon unduly theoretical studies, and paying insufficient attention to the study of technical problems connected with safety and the development of international traffic. On the other hand, it was also stated that technical studies could be better carried out by international non-governmental organizations.

254. Amongst the new topics proposed for study was the suggestion to call a joint meeting of agricultural,

<sup>25</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/5, 6.

forestry and traffic experts to consider safety problems which had arisen as a result of the appearance on the roads of new types of automotive agricultural machinery.

#### *Committee on Manpower*

255. The consideration of the situation of this committee<sup>26</sup> was based on part II of the additional note by the Executive Secretary to the reports of the committees (E/ECE/195-I). A report prepared by the International Labour Office on the work of the International Labour Organisation in the manpower field in Europe during the year 1954 was circulated to the Commission for information. The representative of the International Labour Organisation to the tenth session made a statement in connexion with this report, referring in particular to the proceedings of the First European Regional Conference of the ILO.

#### *Steel Committee*

256. In the course of the consideration of the activities of the Steel Committee,<sup>27</sup> representatives who took the floor attested to the satisfactory way in which this body had dealt with its appointed tasks during the period under review. With regard to those of its activities which bear on the production, consumption and trade aspects of steel, representatives commented favourably on the secretariat's studies dealing with such matters as the annual review of the European steel market, and the inquiries into the problem of substitution of other metals and materials for steel. Several representatives praised the procedure whereby certain papers, prepared by the secretariat on its own responsibility, are presented in provisional form for discussion by specialists in a working party and, if necessary, subsequently revised in the light of comments before final issuance. As to technical matters, reference was made to the usefulness of the study on the measurement of the theoretical iron and steel production capacity.

257. Amongst subjects which, in the view of some delegations, deserved study, mention was made of the question of the enrichment of low-grade ores, a more equitable distribution of rich ores, and the problem of raising productivity in the steel industry.

258. The representative of Poland stated that the Committee could play an important role in the diffusion of new methods of production, in promoting the exchange of production experience amongst different countries, and at the same time in furthering trade in ferrous ores and steel.

259. The representative of Czechoslovakia, speaking in a similar vein, added that Czechoslovakia intended to raise the question of the enrichment of low-grade ores for the consideration of the next session of the Committee.

260. The representative of the United Kingdom pointed out that care should be taken not to impair the very useful work of the Committee by overloading the secretariat with unnecessary work. He considered the exchange of technical information to be of great importance; recalled that the United Kingdom had already played a considerable part in organizing such exchanges;

and added that he would particularly welcome an offer of technical information on the part of the Soviet Union.

261. The representative of the Soviet Union agreed that the Committee was indeed the best forum for the discussion by specialists of matters of common concern and the pooling of their knowledge.

#### *Timber Committee*

262. Representatives who made statements on the report of this body<sup>28</sup> recognized the Committee's high standing as an authoritative meeting-place where producers, consumers and traders from the whole of Europe were effectively represented; thereupon they surveyed and appraised briefly the major features of the Committee's work.

263. It was felt that the periodic reviews and forecasts of the market situation—the Committee's principal activity so far—had, as a result of widening participation, become increasingly helpful to governments, producers and traders as a guide to their own dispositions in matters pertaining to timber. One of the delegations considered that the usefulness of the Committee's market reviews would be enhanced if they covered a period of more than a year.

264. The proposed studies relating to the commercial grading of timber and to contract practices were mentioned as new elements in the Committee's efforts to promote and facilitate trade in timber. In connexion with the examination of the Committee's work in this field, certain delegations, importers and exporters alike, reiterated their interest in concluding long-term trade agreements on mutually advantageous terms.

265. The Committee's decision to include prices in its statistical analyses was held to be a valuable addition to its statistical programme. Importance was attached to the proposed study of substitution of timber by other materials; this investigation, it was felt, should be expedited and dovetailed with similar studies being carried out within the framework of other ECE committees.

266. Some suggestions were made concerning the form in which periodic timber statistics issued by the secretariat could most usefully be presented, and on the desirability of the Committee's paying greater attention to the problems of increasing European trade in sawn hardwoods and the extending of the utilization of hardwood species, such as beech, for pulping.

267. Certain delegations considered that more weight should in future be given to the study of technical problems covering both production and utilization of forest products. The decision to set up a joint ECE/FAO committee on forest working techniques and the training of forest workers was specially welcomed.

#### *Committee on the Development of Trade*<sup>29</sup>

268. The consideration of the report presented by this committee, which after a long period of quiescence had been reconvened during the period under review, on the basis of Commission resolution 1(IX), gave rise

<sup>26</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/18.

<sup>27</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/6.

<sup>28</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/5.

<sup>29</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/8, 9.

to a lengthy and comprehensive discussion not only encompassing the whole field covered by the Committee, but ranging over the entire trade problem as it presents itself to the countries participating in the Commission's work.

269. All delegations which contributed to the discussion expressed their satisfaction with the Committee's reactivation; for, after all, that committee occupied a central position in the Commission's structure as the principal instrument for the fulfilment of the ECE's major task—viz., the promotion of intra-European trade. In this connexion, delegations referred with gratification to the recent expansion of East-West trade, both in terms of its volume and in terms of a wider network of bilateral trade agreements. Several representatives emphasized, however, that, as the Committee's report had put it, trade remained below the potentially attainable level.<sup>30</sup> The practical work on which the Committee had embarked at its third session was considered promising, and representatives dwelt in some detail on the various projects which make up its programme of activities, such as long-term trade arrangements, multilateral payments arrangements, commercial arbitration facilities, the standardization of general conditions of sale for selected commodities, and the question of trade fairs and exhibitions. Some delegations expressed the view that the Committee should not concentrate only on the problems of East-West trade, but should also consider the problem of trade as between other European countries, especially the intensification of trade between the countries of south and south-east Europe with the countries of north and north-west Europe,<sup>31</sup> and pay due attention to the trade links of European countries with other regions.

270. As to the consultations of experts in East-West trade, several delegations pointed to their beneficial results in the past and expressed the view that even under conditions of a normally functioning Committee on the Development of Trade, such consultation could perform a most useful function.

On the other hand, the delegation of the United Kingdom did not consider it necessary or desirable in future to hold trade consultations independently of the meetings of the Committee on the Development of Trade, whilst the delegation of Greece did not regard them as being indispensable any longer.

271. The principal point dealt with in the discussion was the question of the obstacles to intra-European and, more specifically, East-West trade. Broadly speaking, two differing viewpoints were put forward on this matter. Whilst there was agreement that the Committee could perform a most useful function by removing a whole host of existing obstacles to trade—of which several concrete examples were given—the delegations of the Soviet Union and of the Eastern European countries observed that the Committee had so far failed to come

to grips with the major obstacles arising as a result of the existence in western European countries of lists of goods under embargo which governed those countries' commercial dealings with countries of eastern Europe. In the opinion of these delegations, the existence of such lists, embodying one-sided discriminatory procedures, impeded normal trade between the countries of western and those of eastern Europe. The items recently removed from the lists were in most cases goods which were of no interest to the eastern European countries, either because they themselves produced or even exported them or because they referred to obsolete types of merchandise. These lists and their increasingly vigorous observance were only harming west-European business circles, without holding up the continued economic development of the countries to which they applied.

272. Representatives of several western European countries, whilst not questioning the importance of the Committee's task of considering obstacles of an economic, administrative or trade policy character to foreign trade, and their removal, reiterated the position on this question which they had clearly and unequivocally expressed at the Commission's ninth session, that the existence of strategic control lists, which were the unfortunate outcome of the world political situation, was dictated by considerations of national security, and that it was consequently not within the Committee's competence to consider them in any way. In their opinion, the recent revision of these lists had had the effect of appreciably reducing the number of goods under embargo. The lists affected only a very small proportion of world trade, and in no way interfered with trade in non-strategic goods. Several western European delegations referred to a number of obstacles which in their opinion were more important than the strategic control lists. The difficulties mentioned by those delegations included that of finding eastern European commodities of interest to western Europe, questions of relative prices, payments difficulties and differences in quality standards and in commercial practices and organization. Some western European delegations stated that the situation had recently improved in respect of payments arrangements and of the provision of spare parts and servicing.

273. The Yugoslav delegation pointed out that the strategic control lists in question were a consequence of the so-called cold war and, in such circumstances, every country was entitled to apply appropriate security measures. It was necessary to eliminate the basic conditions which led to the introduction of such measures. The Yugoslav delegation expressed the hope that the creation of a better political situation would make such security measures unnecessary.

274. At the conclusion of the discussion, the delegation of the Soviet Union proposed a draft resolution requesting the Executive Secretary, in preparing the documentation on the development of intra-European trade for the Committee's fourth session, to give due attention to the problem of present obstacles to such trade, including those arising from the existence in a number of western European countries of schedules of goods the export of which is prohibited.

<sup>30</sup> Certain delegations presented their views on this subject in the course of the Commission's review of the economic situation in Europe.

<sup>31</sup> This question was emphasized by the delegations belonging to the group of under-developed countries of southern Europe.

275. This draft resolution was put to the vote by roll-call and rejected by 13 votes<sup>32</sup> to 5<sup>33</sup> with no abstention.<sup>34</sup>

CONSIDERATION OF THE NOTE BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION AND ITS SECRETARIAT (E/ECE/196) (item 5 of the agenda)<sup>35</sup>

*Conference of European Statisticians*

276. After a brief introductory statement by the Executive Secretary, in which he summarized the objectives and the current programme of this periodic gathering of the heads of the central statistical offices, the representative of the United Kingdom expressed his Government's satisfaction with the Conference's work, and welcomed its continuation.

*Technical Assistance*

277. The representative of Turkey, commenting on this part of the Executive Secretary's note, expressed satisfaction with the Commission's fruitful activities in the field of technical assistance.

*Relations with specialized agencies, inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations*

278. In connexion with this part of the Executive Secretary's note, the representatives of the USSR, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary declared that their delegations objected to the relations of the secretariat with the European Coal and Steel Community, the Organization for European Economic Co-operation, the Council of Europe and other similar bodies; the activities of these organizations, in which separate groups of western European countries were represented, impeded the development of economic co-operation between east-European and west-European countries and consequently were in contradiction with the tasks confronting ECE. Therefore, the above-mentioned delegations could not approve of contacts in any form whatsoever with the organizations under reference.

279. The representatives of the United Kingdom, Greece, France, the Netherlands and Italy, in their turn, re-emphasized their inability to see any justification for these objections. In their opinion, the work of the above-mentioned organizations was dedicated to the promotion of peaceful co-operation amongst their members. In their view, it was only natural, and fully in accord with the Charter of the United Nations, for the ECE secretariat to keep in touch with the secretariat of any European organization working in the economic field. It was therefore to be hoped that arrangements for comparable facilities for informal contacts with organizations for economic co-operation among the countries of eastern Europe could be devised.

<sup>32</sup> Viz., Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

<sup>33</sup> Viz., Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

<sup>34</sup> See Appendix I for the text of the draft resolution.

<sup>35</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/7.

280. The Executive Secretary, by way of conclusion to this exchange of views, pointed out that without naturally wishing to pass any judgment on the character of the organizations under reference, which were composed of governments participating in the work of the Commission, he had always approached the question of inter-secretariat relations with these bodies purely from the practical standpoint of the need to follow developments within the purview of the Commission and to safeguard its interests. Being fully aware of the different views held on the matter by the governments, he would continue to approach this question with the greatest care and circumspection, whilst persisting in the hope that the issue concerning the secretariat's informal relations with the aforementioned organizations would lose its contentiousness in the measure that political and economic tensions in Europe relaxed.

*Relations with the Allied Control Authorities in Germany*

281. The account of these relations during the period under review was examined without comment.

CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON INTER-REGIONAL TRADE CO-OPERATION (E/2674) AND THE NOTE BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON INTER-REGIONAL CO-OPERATION (E/ECE/197)<sup>36</sup>

282. In connexion with the consideration of this item, the Commission had before it the report by the Secretary-General and the note by the Executive Secretary on inter-regional co-operation. It examined part II (Other matters) of the note without comment and passed over to the consideration of the question of inter-regional co-operation in trade matters.

283. The representative of the USSR, supported by the representative of Yugoslavia, stated that the Chinese People's Republic should be invited to the inter-regional consultations of trade experts. In this connexion, the representative of the USSR recalled the opinion of the Secretary-General expressed in his report concerning the possibility of invitations for participation in these inter-regional consultations to countries not participating in the regional economic commissions.<sup>37</sup> After this exchange of views a working party<sup>38</sup> was set up to draft an agreed text of a resolution on inter-regional trade co-operation. The working party recommended for

<sup>36</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/10, 17.

<sup>37</sup> The passage referred to in the Secretary-General's report on inter-regional trade co-operation (E/2674) is as follows:

" 24. . . . In the event that it is decided to hold one or both consultations, the question of further inter-regional trade consultations, also involving countries of regions other than those covered by ECE, ECAFE and ECLA, might be considered in the light of the experience gained from the first consultations. "

<sup>38</sup> Composed of the representatives of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Poland, the USSR, the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia. Delegates from the Netherlands, and the United States also attended. Brazil attended the working party as an observer by special permission of the working party.

adoption by the Commission the following resolution concerning inter-regional trade co-operation:

*"The Economic Commission for Europe,*

*"Taking note of resolution 535B(XVIII) of the Economic and Social Council,*

*"Having examined the report by the Secretary-General on inter-regional trade co-operation (E/2674),*

*"Considering that this report contains information which would facilitate the organization on an inter-regional level of consultations of trade experts according to the methods utilized by the Economic Commission for Europe,*

*"Recalls and reaffirms its opinion on this question as expressed in its resolution 5(IX);*

*"Considers it desirable that, following the decisions of the Economic and Social Council which may be reached on inter-regional trade co-operation, appropriate action should be taken as soon as possible, bearing in mind the need for careful preparation; and*

*"Invites the Executive Secretary to bring this resolution to the attention of the Economic and Social Council at its twentieth session."*

284. Before the vote was taken, several delegations took the floor to explain their attitude towards the proposed draft resolution.

285. The representative of Yugoslavia wished to place it on record that his delegation favoured a clear and positive answer to the question which had been addressed to the regional economic commissions by the Economic and Social Council by its resolution 535B (XVIII) as to whether the convening of trade consultations was an appropriate means for increasing inter-regional trade. In the interests of unanimity, his delegation was prepared to vote for the proposed compromise draft.

286. The representative of the United Kingdom declared that whilst his government shared the view of all other governments in the Commission that world trade should be furthered by all possible means, he noted that under its resolution 535B (XVIII) the Council would be reconsidering the question of inter-regional co-operation in the light not only of the views of the three regional economic commissions and the Secretary-General's technical report (E/2674), but also of his report, yet to be issued, on the world economic situation. The final attitude of the United Kingdom on the matter would have to be decided with due regard to all these factors involved, so that his delegation's acceptance of the draft resolution would in no way prejudice the ultimate position of the United Kingdom, and no doubt also of other governments, as to whether or not the method of trade consultations was the best method for promoting inter-regional trade.

287. In associating himself with the substance of the explanation of the United Kingdom delegation's stand on the matter, the representative of the United States stated that, since the bulk of his country's import and export trade was based on decisions involving competing private buyers and sellers, his government did not consider that trade consultations of the type

described in the Secretary-General's report under reference would help to bring about an expansion of the foreign trade of the United States. Recognizing, however, that other countries might feel differently, his delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution. He added that should the Council pronounce itself in favour of such consultations, these should be organized by the Secretary-General in accordance with the United Nations Charter, and be open only to countries participating in the work of the regional economic commissions, and other countries members of the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

288. The delegate of Czechoslovakia put it on record that his delegation was in favour of the draft resolution, since, though arrived at by way of a compromise, it did express the Commission's view on the Secretary-General's report, which contained information useful for the organization of inter-regional trade consultations, recalled and reaffirmed the opinion expressed by the Commission on this question at its ninth session—namely, that the inter-regional trade consultations "might be useful for strengthening inter-regional trade relations and could contribute to the expansion of world trade"—and went a step farther by calling for appropriate action to be taken by the Council as soon as possible. As a member of the Council, his government would seek to bring about further practical progress along these lines.

289. The representative of France declared that his delegation would have preferred a more definite answer to the question put by the Economic and Social Council and that for that reason it supported the statement of the Yugoslav representative.

290. The representative of the USSR said that his delegation also would have preferred a more positive and precise recommendation concerning the organization of inter-regional trade consultations. His delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution since it expressed support for the proposal to convene such consultations as a means likely to contribute to the expansion of inter-regional trade. He regretted that the position of the United Kingdom and the United States on this question had not advanced since the Commission's ninth session; their position continued to be subject to the same kind of reservations as they had made a year ago.

291. The representative of Turkey declared his delegation's readiness to vote in favour of the draft resolution on the understanding that the trade consultations would not be embarked upon until the Council had pronounced itself on the subject, and that only countries participating in the work of the regional economic commissions would take part in such consultations.

292. The draft resolution was then adopted unanimously.<sup>39</sup>

*Report of the Special Group of Experts on Southern Europe*<sup>40</sup> (item 7 of the agenda)

293. In introducing this report (E/ECE/198), the Executive Secretary recalled that in pursuance of the

<sup>39</sup> See Part IV.

<sup>40</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/10.

general recommendations of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly that special attention be devoted to the promotion of economic development, the secretariat had, on the basis of Commission resolution 4 (VIII), made a special study of southern Europe which had formed Part III of the *Economic Survey of Europe in 1953* and formed the background to the Commission's discussions at its ninth session and to its resolution 4(IX) authorizing the Executive Secretary to convene and to collaborate with a special group of experts to be nominated by the Governments of Greece, Italy, Turkey and Yugoslavia, to consider the problem of the economic development of those countries and to make appropriate recommendations. The Executive Secretary added that this group had made a good start in the four meetings it had held. The report under consideration described the work of the experts accomplished so far on a number of specific problems in the region in the sector of agriculture, industry and trade. By assisting the Group to the best of its ability the secretariat was doing its share in the fulfilment by the Commission of one of the most vital tasks of the United Nations—viz., the economic development of under-developed countries.

294. Representatives of the countries who had nominated the experts of the Special Group commented on the substance of the report submitted, and expressed the continued interest and readiness of their governments to support the group in its further efforts.

295. Those delegations pointed out that the Group of Experts was preparing studies on general long-term development programmes and studies on specific projects, some of which could be worked out in the near future and would, in certain cases, involve international financing.

296. The delegations of France, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, while noting that the report of the southern European study group was necessarily of a preliminary character, expressed the sympathy and interest of their governments in the work undertaken by the Group; expected that the results of that work would have favourable repercussions in Europe and elsewhere; and supported the suggestion that it should be continued. They also made some suggestions on certain aspects of the Group's report which in their opinion deserved attention.

297. On the Chairman's suggestion, it was agreed to indicate in the Commission's report to the Economic and Social Council that the Commission had examined the report and that it looked forward to receiving, at its eleventh session, a further report on the work done during the intervening period.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL DURING ITS SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH SESSIONS AND BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DURING ITS NINTH REGULAR SESSION OF CONCERN TO THE COMMISSION—NOTE BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (E/ECE/199) (item 8 of the agenda)

298. After hearing a statement by the representative of the World Federation of United Nations Associations<sup>41</sup>

this item on the agenda was examined without further comment.<sup>42</sup>

REVIEW OF THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN EUROPE  
(item 9 of the agenda)

299. In its review of the economic situation in Europe, the Commission had as a background document for its discussion the *Economic Survey of Europe in 1954* (E/ECE/194), prepared by the Research and Planning Division and issued by the secretariat of the Commission on its own responsibility. The summary records of the discussion are contained in documents E/ECE/SR.10/12-19.

THE COMMISSION'S PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1955/56  
(E/ECE/200) (item 10 of the agenda)

300. The Commission considered and approved its programme of work for 1955/56 as embodied in document E/ECE/200.

301. A number of delegations commented on the various projects of the work programme.<sup>43</sup> The Executive Secretary stated that before the work programme was presented to the Economic and Social Council the secretariat would make the necessary adjustments in the light of the relevant decisions of the Commission and that the committees concerned would, as in the past, be acquainted with the views expressed during the present session of the Commission as regards their activities.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS (item 12 of the agenda)

*Requests for hearings from non-governmental organizations*

302. Requests were received from the World Federation of United Nations Associations for permission to present the views of that organization to the Commission concerning item 8 (Resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council during its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions and by the General Assembly during its ninth regular session of concern to the Commission—note by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/199); from the representatives of the World Federation of Trade Unions and the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions for permission to present the views of those organizations to the Commission during the discussion of item 9 (Review of the economic situation in Europe).

*Date and place of next session*

303. The Commission decided to leave to the Executive Secretary the responsibility, in consultation with the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, and in the light of the arrangements of the Economic and Social Council, of determining the proposed date of the eleventh session of the Commission and to advise governments of this date in due time. A number of delegations expressed certain wishes in this respect which the Executive Secretary undertook to bear in mind in his consultations on this matter. It was understood that the eleventh session would be held at the seat of the European Office of the United Nations.

<sup>42</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/11.

<sup>43</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/20.

<sup>41</sup> See paragraph 302.

## PART IV. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE TENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

### Resolution 1 (X)

#### Resolution concerning the work of ECE committees

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

*Welcoming* the positive work done by the Committees of the Commission and their subsidiary bodies in 1954,

*Noting* that they are doing some positive work in the organization of studies of technical questions relating to the countries of Europe,

*Considering* that an expansion of the exchange of technical experience between the countries taking part in the Commission's work will contribute to the development and strengthening of economic co-operation between European countries for the promotion of their peaceful economies and the improvement of the well-being of their peoples,

*Considering* that the organization on a reciprocal basis of mutually beneficial visits of specialists between the various countries participating in the work of the Commission is a useful method to this end,

*Recognizes* that, though these visits must be organized by mutual agreement between the countries concerned, the necessary arrangements could be facilitated by contact between the delegations of the countries concerned, within the framework of the Committees of the Commission; and

*Recommends* to the Committees that, parallel to their consideration of economic problems, they devote more attention to the exchange, on a reciprocal basis, of production experience and scientific-technical and statistical information.

### Resolution 2 (X)

#### Resolution concerning the Industry and Materials Committee

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

*Having examined* the annual report on the Industry and Materials Committee to the tenth session of the Commission and the additional note by the Executive Secretary on the subject of the Industry and Materials Committee,

*Considering* that there is scope for international collaboration in some clearly defined fields falling within the terms of reference of the Industry and Materials Committee, particularly in the engineering industry,

*Realizing* that in view of the wide diversity of the engineering industry work can only proceed in clearly defined and carefully selected fields,

*Considering* accordingly that work can best be undertaken through *ad hoc* working parties,

*Taking into account* the work already in progress in the Committee on Agricultural Problems and the Committee on Electric Power on the mechanization of agriculture and rural electrification respectively, with a

view to increasing European agricultural production and improving agricultural techniques,

*Requests* the Executive Secretary to convene an *ad hoc* working party on agricultural machinery to exchange information on an all-European basis on technical developments; and to consider the scope for increased production and possibilities of increased trade in certain types of agricultural equipment;

*Invites* governments to indicate to the Executive Secretary particular problems in this field which they consider should be examined and to supply the necessary information;

*Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare this material for the consideration of the *ad hoc* working party;

*Recalls* resolution No. 6, adopted by the seventh session of the Commission, requesting the Executive Secretary, *inter alia*, to continue to convene as necessary and in consultation with interested governments *ad hoc* working parties to deal with specific economic, industrial, legal and institutional problems, or with a series of problems relating to a particular branch of industry;

*Invites* interested governments to inform the Executive Secretary of their proposals for possible concrete action in accordance with the resolution No. 6 referred to above; and

*Decides* to consider at its eleventh session, particularly in the light of experience gained meanwhile in the *ad hoc* working party on agricultural machinery what other measures might be taken concerning the Industry and Materials Committee.

### Resolution 3 (X)

#### Resolution concerning the Housing Sub-Committee

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

*Recognizing* the importance to the European economy of the work of the Housing Sub-Committee of the Industry and Materials Committee,

*Considering* the independent character of its activities,

*Resolves* to convert the Sub-Committee on Housing of the Industry and Materials Committee into an independent committee on housing, with the existing terms of reference.

### Resolution 4 (X)

#### Resolution concerning inter-regional trade co-operation

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

*Taking note* of resolution 535B(XVIII) of the Economic and Social Council,

*Having examined* the report by the Secretary-General on inter-regional trade co-operation (R/2674),



Considering that this report contains information which would facilitate the organization on an inter-regional level of consultations of trade experts according to the methods utilized by the Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalls and reaffirms its opinion on this question as expressed in its resolution 5 (IX);

Considers it desirable that, following the decisions of the Economic and Social Council which may be reached on inter-regional trade co-operation, appropriate action should be taken as soon as possible bearing in mind the need for careful preparation; and

Invites the Executive Secretary to bring this resolution to the attention of the Economic and Social Council at its twentieth session.

## PART V. DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR THE COUNCIL'S ACTION ON THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

*The Economic and Social Council*

Takes note of the annual report of the Economic Commission for Europe for the period between 26 March 1954 and 29 March 1955 and of the views expressed during the discussion at the tenth session of the Commission.

## PART VI. THE COMMISSION'S PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1955/56

### Introduction<sup>44</sup>

304. At its tenth session, the Commission considered its programme of work for 1955/56<sup>45</sup>. For this purpose the Commission had before it document E/ECE/200, containing the Commission's draft programme of work for 1955/56, drawn up in the light of two sets of considerations:

(i) The programme takes account of a series of basic decisions on the part of the Economic and Social Council defining a comprehensive United Nations programme pattern in the economic and social fields, and comprising criteria for priorities and procedures for establishing them, and providing for priority grouping into broad substantive categories;

(ii) The programme also bears in mind the established practices and working arrangements developed by the ECE and its subsidiary organs.

305. The Council decisions under reference are incorporated in the following resolutions or specific parts thereof: 324 (XI), 402 B (XIII), 451 A (XIV), 497 (XVI), 553 (XVIII) and 557 B I (XVIII).

306. In accordance with the Council's request contained in resolution 497 (XVI) and directed, *inter alia*, to the regional economic commissions, "to include in a special section of their next reports to the Council a description of the progress made in so concentrating their efforts" in the light of the series of basic programme resolutions referred to above, the Commission's programme of work for 1955/56, as considered and approved at the tenth session of the Commission<sup>46</sup> is incorporated

as part VI of the Commission's present report to the twentieth session of the Economic and Social Council.

307. Following established practice, the secretariat has estimated in the Annex the distribution of the ECE budget for 1955 over the major fields of its activities as set out in the work programme.

### The programme of work for 1955/56

The work programme of the Commission is divided into the following broad subjects:<sup>47</sup>

- 01 — General
- 02 — Agriculture
- 03 — Coal
- 04 — Electric power
- 05 — Engineering and industrial materials
- 06 — Housing and building
- 07 — Inland transport
- 08 — Steel
- 09 — Timber
- 10 — Trade

It is not practicable or realistic to attempt to make a differentiation of priority as between these broad subjects. Within these groups, however, projects or functions have been divided into the categories established by the Economic and Social Council:

- 1 — Priority projects (or functions) of a continuing nature;
- 2 — Priority projects (or functions) of an *ad hoc* nature;
- 3 — Other projects (or functions).

Within category 3, projects have, wherever possible, been listed in order of importance. The category includes:

- (i) Projects which have been deferred because of the staffing position, but which are considered of sufficient importance to remain on the work programme for future attention should the circumstances permit;

<sup>44</sup> In accordance with paragraph 301 of this report, the Executive Secretary has made certain adjustments in the final text of the Commission's programme of work for 1955/56 in the light of the relevant decisions of the Commission. This applies in particular to project 05.1.1, which stems directly from resolution 2 (X). In addition, the programme has been amplified in accordance with the decisions of the thirty-fourth session of the Coal Committee, which took place after the draft programme of work (document E/ECE/200) was completed. Under the Steel Committee's programme of work, project 08.2.5 has been added, having been inadvertently omitted from the above-mentioned document.

<sup>45</sup> See E/ECE/SR.10/20.

<sup>46</sup> See paragraphs 300, 301.

<sup>47</sup> This classification represents a change from the one presented last year inasmuch as trade projects are now placed under a separate category (10) and not under 01.—General, as hitherto.

- (ii) Projects which are not so important as those in the priority categories, but which are of such a nature that useful work can be done on them by staff which would in any case be required for the priority projects;
- (iii) Projects which are part of certain committees' broad functions under their respective terms of reference, but which are not yet mature for systematic study.

Following the practice established last year, the secretariat has estimated in Annex I the distribution of the ECE budget for 1955 over the major fields of its activities as set out in the work programme.

## 01. — GENERAL PROJECTS

### 01.1. *Priority projects of a continuing nature*

#### 01.1.1. *Continuing review and analysis of European economic developments and problems*

Authority : Terms of reference of the Commission, annual sessions of the Commission.

Description : This function is performed by the preparation and publication of the annual *Economic Survey* and the quarterly *Economic Bulletin*. Under present arrangement the *Survey* is published in February, and is used as a background document for the review by the Commission of the general economic situation in Europe. The quarterly *Bulletin* is published in April, July and October.

#### 01.1.2. *Collection, improvement, standardization and dissemination of economic statistics and promotion of international statistical co-operation through : Collection, collation and dissemination of statistics in studies, statistical bulletins and other publications of the secretariat ;*

*Co-operation with national statistical agencies and with other international organizations in improving national statistics and their international comparability ;*

*Promotion of co-operation among international organizations on European statistical activities.*

Authority : Terms of reference of the Commission; resolutions of the Economic and Social Council; resolutions of the Statistical Commission; decisions, recommendations and requests of ECE committees and their subsidiary bodies, and of the Conference of European Statisticians.

Description : The collection, appraisal and dissemination of statistical data is the foundation of much of the other work of the secretariat—for instance, that described in project 01.1.1—but is nevertheless a function in itself. The work covers substantially the full range of general economic statistics, as well as the specialized statistics required in the technical work of the ECE. The work of improving national statistics, increasing their international comparability, and furthering co-operation on international statistical activities in Europe, related to the foregoing functions, also rests on procedures set up by the Economic and Social Council for the promotion of regional

activities in statistics, including regular meetings of the heads of national statistical offices. These functions are carried out in close collaboration with the Statistical Office of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

#### 01.1.3. *Co-operation in the Technical Assistance Programme, through, inter alia :*

*Assistance to governments in formulation of requests, etc. ;*

*Assistance to the TAA in recruitment of experts ;  
Assistance to the TAA in the purchase of equipment ;*

*Assistance to the TAA through placement and development of study programmes for stipendists and fellows.*

Authority : Eighth session of the Commission and provisions of the Economic and Social Council resolutions on Technical Assistance.

Description : In addition to the work undertaken by the ECE secretariat at the direct request of the Technical Assistance Administration, certain Technical Assistance projects have been developed by interested governments through the ECE committees, the requests to the TAA for assistance in this connexion being formulated on the basis of prior consideration of the specific problem in an ECE committee or subsidiary body. An example of this type of arrangement is the work being done on the development of the hydro-electric resources of certain countries (04.1.4) and on rural electrification (04.1.5).

### 01.2. *Priority projects of an ad hoc nature*

#### 01.2.1. *Development problems of southern Europe*

Authority : Terms of reference of the Commission, resolution 4 (IX) and paragraph 297 of this report.

Description : On the basis of the above resolution, experts nominated by the Governments of Greece, Italy, Turkey and Yugoslavia explore possibilities of co-operation in promoting their economic development.

## 02. — AGRICULTURE

(Note. — The work programme of the ECE in the field of agriculture is developed and carried out jointly with FAO, the latter organization providing the professional staff engaged in the work. Below are listed the projects of which the primary responsibility rests with the ECE Committee on Agricultural Problems. The joint projects for which FAO is primarily responsible do not figure in this list.)

### 02.1. *Priority projects of a continuing nature*

#### 02.1.1. *Review of situation and trade outlook for selected agricultural products*

Authority : Resolution 6 (IX)

Description : The Committee reviews the agricultural and marketing situation of a number of products based on commodity reviews prepared by the secretariat and trade forecasts submitted by governments.

02.1.2. *Analysis of principles of trade agreements and contracts*

Authority: Committee on Agricultural Problems, fourth session (E/ECE/AGRI/23).

Description: The Committee examines the principles of bilateral long-term arrangements covering agricultural products, on the basis of information collected by the secretariat from governments. The Committee also provides a forum for an exchange of experiences in the negotiation or fulfilment of contracts and considers difficulties encountered in this connexion, some of which may be taken up later for more systematic study.

02.1.3. *Longer-term trends and forecasts*

Authority: Committee on Agricultural Problems, fourth session (E/ECE/AGRI/23).

Description: The Committee examines the long-term trends relating to agricultural production, food consumption and trade in agricultural products and the forecasts of the different countries for the coming three to five years.

02.2. *Priority projects of an ad hoc nature*

02.2.1. *Studies on quality standards of perishable foodstuffs*

Authority: Committee on Agricultural Problems, first session (E/ECE/AGRI/12).

Description: Work on this project proceeds in phases as standards are developed for particular commodities. A draft protocol containing the general provisions to be applied for quality control of fruit and vegetables has been revised and submitted to governments for approval and application. Standards have been drawn up for apples and pears, citrus fruits, plums, peaches, apricots, table grapes, potatoes, tomatoes, salad vegetables and eggs. Work continues on early potatoes, cauliflowers, witloof endives, onions, nuts, poultry, carrots and salted herrings.

02.2.2. *Standard conditions of sale*

Authority: Committee on Agricultural Problems, fourth session (E/ECE/AGRI/23).

Description: The Committee decided to set up *ad hoc* groups of experts to establish standard conditions of sale for cereals and citrus fruits. It invited the secretariat to prepare preliminary drafts which would serve as a basis for discussion at the first meetings of these groups.

02.2.3. *Mechanization in agriculture*

Authority: Committee on Agricultural Problems, third session (E/ECE/AGRI/20).

Description: The Committee has established an *ad hoc* working party of experts of interested governments to examine the following aspects of mechanization in agriculture:

The harvesting of cereals, studying especially the results obtained in moist climates and humid periods;

The harvesting, baling, transport and storage of hay;

Mechanization of dairy farms.

02.3. *Other projects*

02.3.1. *Prices of agricultural products and fertilizers*

Authority: Resolution I(V) of the Commission.

Description: This study examines the development of agricultural prices and the relationship between prices paid and received by farmers. It serves as background for the marketing review of the Committee. The study will continue the series of four papers, AGRI/40, 41, 43 and 44, on the same subject.

02.3.2. *Output and expenses of agriculture in European countries*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Committee on Agricultural Problems.

Description: This study concerns the relation between receipts and expenses in the agricultural economy of certain countries, and continues the work which began with the document AGRI/42.

03. — COAL

03.1. *Priority projects of a continuing nature*

03.1.1. *Review of the coal market*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Coal Committee; resolution II adopted at the eighth session of the Economic Commission for Europe (E/ECE/162);<sup>48</sup> and the programme of work approved by the Committee at its thirty-third session.

Description: The European market in solid fuels is kept under continuous consideration, and a coal market review is prepared by the secretariat periodically (at least twice a year); this draws attention to the current situation and special problems affecting the market, such as production, consumption, stocks, international trade and prices, with the object of agreeing on such action by governments as appears necessary.

03.1.2. *Distribution of export availabilities*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Coal Committee, and the programme of work approved by the Committee at its thirty-third session.

Description: On the basis of information supplied by governments, probable availabilities and requirements in solid fuels are determined, with the object, if necessary, of achieving agreement among governments in advance of each quarter on an equitable distribution of solid fuels available for export.

03.1.3. *Consumption of solid fuels by consuming sectors*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Coal Committee, and the programme of work approved by the Committee at its thirty-third session.

<sup>48</sup> This resolution refers, *inter alia*, to the aim of restoring European self-sufficiency in solid fuel.

Description: Consumption trends in the main coal-consuming sectors are being studied. The first study covers household consumption. A second study will deal with the transport sector as a consumer of energy; it will analyse the development of the use of different forms of energy in this sector, and the consequences for the coal market.

#### 03.1.4. *Solid fuel utilization*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Coal Committee; and the programme of work approved by the Committee at its thirty-third session.

Description: The problem of widening the range of coal to be used for carbonization purposes, with a view to achieving a rational utilization of European coal availabilities, particularly coking coal, is being studied. Lists of existing national bibliographical indices are being set up and will be kept up to date. At the seventeenth session of the Utilization Working Party, it was decided to organize in 1955 two special meetings of experts, each dealing with one of the following subjects:

- (a) The combustion of fuels with a high ash content and of ungraded fuels and,
- (b) The utilization of solid fuels in the domestic sector.

#### 03.1.5. *Statistics*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Coal Committee, and the programme of work approved by the Committee at its thirty-third session.

Description: The *Quarterly Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe* and the *Monthly Coal Statistical Summary* are issued. Continuous work is proceeding in order to improve European coal statistics by rendering them more comparable and complete.

### 03.2. *Priority projects of an ad hoc nature*

#### 03.2.1. *Coal classification*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Coal Committee, and the programme of work approved by the Committee at its thirty-third session.

Description: The classification of hard coal by rank agreed at the thirtieth session of the Coal Committee held on 1 and 2 December 1953, and given a trial period until the end of 1955, is kept continuously under review. A proposal for the classification of hard coals by size is under consideration, and work is proceeding towards an agreement. The problem of under-size will also be considered. Work has started on the formulation of a complete classification of hard coals, including rank, size and other characteristics. The formulation of a system for the classification of brown coal and lignite is proceeding. Work has been initiated on the establishment of an international classification system for coke.

#### 03.2.2. *Coal in relation to other forms of energy*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Coal Committee, and the programme of work approved by the Committee at its thirty-third session.

Description: Following on the study of the relationship of coal and black oils, a study on electric energy in Europe produced by means other than fossil fuels will be completed. A study on the development of the use of gas in Europe is to be prepared.

#### 03.2.3. *Means of stabilizing the coal market*

Authority: Thirty-fourth session of the Coal Committee.

Description: The secretariat is to prepare:

- (a) An outline of an annual survey of the energy situation, indicating the information and statistical data which would be necessary to carry out such work on an all-European basis. This outline will be examined by the Committee in order to see how far the required information could be made available;
- (b) In connexion with long-term trends, delegations are to communicate information to the secretariat as to what has been done in their respective countries in the field of long-term forecasts and planning.
- (c) The secretariat will assemble information provided by delegations on long-term trade arrangements already concluded and on the difficulties experienced when entering into such contracts.

On the basis of information submitted in connexion with the above, the Committee will decide whether to proceed further with these projects.

#### 03.2.4. *Standardization of general conditions of sale for selected commodities*

Authority: Thirty-fourth session of the Coal Committee.

Description: On the basis of information supplied by governments relating to the import and export of coal, coke and manufactured fuel, the secretariat is to prepare, for consideration by the Committee, a comparative analysis of the general clauses in use in different countries.

On the basis of information submitted in connexion with the above, the Committee will decide whether to proceed further with this project.

### 03.3. *Other projects*

#### 03.3.1. *Studies of consumption trends in particular countries*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Coal Committee, and the programme of work approved by the Committee at its thirty-third session.

Description: The secretariat will edit and issue further studies in this field prepared by governments. Austria has indicated that a draft study will be submitted to the secretariat.

#### 03.3.2. *"Coal News"*

Authority: Programme of work approved by the Committee at its thirty-third session.

Description: *Coal News*, based on information received or confirmed by governments and incorporat-

ing information of general interest, is produced periodically—generally at monthly intervals—in order to help the Committee keep under constant review important developments in the coal industry, in the coal trade market and in other fields which may possibly affect the coal market.

#### 03.3.3. *Pit-wood supplies*

Authority: Programme of work approved by the Committee at its thirty-third session.

Description: The pit-wood situation is kept under review, and the anticipated situation for the following calendar year is presented annually, at the close of each year.

### 04. — ELECTRIC POWER

#### 04.1. *Priority projects of a continuing nature*

##### 04.1.1. *The electric power outlook in Europe*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Committee on Electric Power.

Description: Periodical examination of the trends of the various factors involved. The methods used in forecasting electric power consumption in the various countries will be studied further.

##### 04.1.2. *The electric power situation during the previous year*

Authority: Committee on Electric Power, tenth session.

Description: Annual economic analysis of the electric power situation during the previous year (consumption, production, exchanges across frontiers, investments, etc.).

##### 04.1.3. *The development of transfers of electric power across frontiers*

Authority: Committee on Electric Power, eighth session.

Description: Study of the legal or administrative difficulties which tend to hamper such transfers, and drafting of recommendations to governments. Negotiations under the auspices of the secretariat to facilitate the conclusion of agreements on such transfers between governments requesting this assistance.

##### 04.1.4. *The development of hydro-electric resources of common interest*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Committee on Electric Power; Committee on Electric Power, second session (E/ECE/EP/58).

Description: Study of the legal or administrative difficulties which tend to hamper such development on contiguous or successive waterways, and drafting of recommendations to governments.

Negotiations under the auspices of the secretariat to facilitate the conclusion of agreements on the development of such waterways between governments requesting this assistance.

Study of general principles for the guidance of negotiations in concrete cases.

##### 04.1.5. *Rural electrification*

Authority: Committee on Electric Power, tenth session.

Description: A working party is examining, at periodic meetings, the problems connected with the production, transmission, distribution and utilization of electric energy in rural areas, as well as various economic, administrative and financial questions.

Twenty-nine reports are in course of preparation by rapporteurs nominated by the various countries; eleven of them have already been issued in provisional form, but are to be supplemented. Where a particular country or group of countries is concerned, questions are studied in collaboration with the TAA.

##### 04.1.6. *Statistics*

Authority: Decisions taken by the Committee on Electric Power at its tenth and twelfth sessions.

Description: Annual publication of the figures for production, consumption and exchanges of electric power. Publication of the results of the annual inquiry concerning electric supply installations put into service during the past year or under construction. (Tenth session.)

Description: Establishment of a Statistical Working Party with the following terms of reference:

“To review the international statistics on electric power at present available in Europe;

“To consider what improvements are necessary, and what steps should be taken to bring about such improvements, including the formulation of the requisite definitions.”

(Twelfth session.)

#### 04.2. *Priority projects of an ad hoc nature*

##### 04.2.1. *Exports of electric power from Yugoslavia*

Authority: Decision taken by the Committee on Electric Power at its seventh session, confirmed at its tenth session, and amplified at its twelfth session.

Description: Now that the technical, economic, financial and legal study of the prospects of exporting electric power from Yugoslavia has been approved, establishment at the inter-governmental level of a Co-ordination Committee consisting of two representatives each of Austria, the western zones of Germany, Italy and Yugoslavia was agreed, with the following terms of reference:

“To study, in the light of developments in the situation, the various arrangements which might be contemplated for the execution of the scheme;

“To facilitate the negotiation of inter-governmental agreements to match the bilateral contracts concluded between the undertakings of the countries concerned; and

“Generally, to co-ordinate the study and execution of the several stages.”

#### 04.2.2. *Production of electric power by nuclear reactors*

Authority: Decision taken by the Committee on Electric Power at its eleventh session and confirmed at its twelfth session.

Description: This question will be placed on the agenda for the thirteenth session, when it will be decided whether it rests with the Committee on Electric Power to take action at the European level, in the light of the results of the International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy to be held in August 1955, and of any decisions taken by that conference, such decisions to be communicated to the Committee in a report by the secretariat.

#### 04.2.3. *Gross hydro-electric potential of European countries*

Authority: Committee on Electric Power, tenth and eleventh sessions.

Description: Extension of the general study (document E/ECE/EP/131) to cover Turkey, and later Yugoslavia and Greece.

Publication of a map of the gross hydro-electric potential of the various countries of Europe.

Determination of this potential by interested countries on a seasonal basis.

Preparation of annual and half-yearly maps of run-off and annual rainfall maps for Europe as a whole.

Standardization of certain terms used in hydrology.

Publication of a study on the distribution of dry years in the various countries, over the last thirty years at least.

#### 04.3. *Other projects*

##### 04.3.1. *Prospects of increasing the consumption of electric power for domestic purposes*

Authority: Decision taken by the Committee on Electric Power at its eleventh and twelfth sessions.

Description: Preparation of a preliminary report on the comparison of statistics and other data supplied by the various countries.

##### 04.3.2. *Organization of electric power services*

Authority: Decision taken by the Committee on Electric Power at its twelfth session.

Description: Preparation of a document giving, country by country, information on the organization of government services, of private or nationalized undertakings and of associations of such undertakings.

### 05. — ENGINEERING AND INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS

#### 05.1. *Priority projects of a continuing nature*

##### 05.1.1. *Review of trends of production, demand and trade in engineering products*

Authority: Industry and Materials Committee (E/ECE/IM/43 and E/ECE/IM/55, paragraph 14),

and tenth session of the Economic Commission for Europe, resolution No.2(I).

Description: The "General Survey of the European Engineering Industry" has been followed by studies of sectors of the industry as requested by the Committee. The general state of supply and demand for engineering products is kept under review within the framework of some of the reports prepared by the Steel Committee. The field of agricultural machinery is to be examined by an *ad hoc* working party to be convened at the end of 1955 or early in 1956, which will exchange information, on an all-European basis, on technical developments and consider the scope for increased production and possibilities of increased trade in certain items of agricultural equipment.

##### 05.1.2. *The unification of contract practices in engineering*

Authority: Industry and Materials Committee (E/ECE/IM/55, paragraph 13).

Description: The work on this project is designed to facilitate international trade in engineering products through unified contract practices. A set of general conditions for the supply of plant and machinery for export has been agreed by an *ad hoc* working party. Work is proceeding now on general conditions for erection of plant.

### 06. — HOUSING AND BUILDING

#### 06.1. *Priority projects of a continuing nature*

##### 06.1.1. *Survey of housing progress and policies*

Authority: Housing Sub-Committee (E/ECE/IM/HOU/48, paragraph 10, and IM/HOU/WP.1/19, paragraph 4).

Description: The object of the annual survey, prepared by the secretariat, is (a) to review the main current developments in the field of housing as a basis for an annual examination by the Sub-Committee of housing policies pursued and results achieved, and (b) to consider what action might be taken to deal with problems thus revealed and analysed.

The 1954 survey will pay special attention to the following aspects:

- (a) Housing requirements and the housing shortage;
- (b) Policy problems arising in connexion with the existing housing stock, such as the elimination of obsolete or insanitary houses, slum clearance and modernization;
- (c) Some specific problems in the financing of housing;
- (d) The social aspect of housing policy, with particular reference to rent policies; and
- (e) An assessment of the make-up and relative importance of the different factors entering into the cost of a typical house in various countries, including a graphic presentation.

### 06.1.2. *Reduction of the cost of building*

Authority: Housing Sub-Committee (IM/HOU/WP.2/38).

Description: A series of specific projects, arising in the first instance out of a general study ("The Cost of House Construction", document E/ECE/165), is being carried out either by the secretariat, with the assistance of rapporteurs drawn from governments and international organizations participating in the work of the Sub-Committee, or by the rapporteur. The projects at present being undertaken are as follows:

- (a) Model building codes and regulations. The Sub-Committee keeps under review the progress being made towards the revision and unification of building codes and regulations.
- (b) Contract practices. An examination of existing contract practices designed as a basis for mutual exchange of information and the improvement of present methods where appropriate.
- (c) Trends in mechanization. The Sub-Committee reviews developments in the mechanization of building operations.
- (d) Cost of various types of construction. A comparative study of the cost of different types of house construction, with particular reference to such factors as: (i) height; (ii) area; (iii) number of rooms; (iv) location; (v) quality of materials in construction; (vi) standard of internal appointments and equipment (this study being undertaken by the CIB, acting as rapporteur).
- (e) Standardization and modular co-ordination. The Sub-Committee periodically reviews efforts to promote standardization and modular co-ordination as a basis in the first instance for an exchange of information, and ultimately for the unification of approach between countries.
- (f) Pre-fabrication: An inquiry on developments in pre-fabrication in house construction, the scope of which remains to be defined at the next session of the appropriate working party.

### 06.1.3. *Collection and publication of housing and building statistics*

Authority: Housing Sub-Committee (IM/HOU/WP.3/19).

Description: The Sub-Committee (i) advises the secretariat on the preparation and issue of the *Quarterly* and the *Annual Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics for Europe*; (ii) attempts to improve the coverage and comparability of European housing and building statistics.

### 06.2. *Priority projects of an ad hoc nature*

#### 06.2.1. *Assistance to less-industrialized countries*

Authority: Housing Sub-Committee (E/ECE/IM/HOU/51, paragraph 4, and Document IM/HOU/WP.1/19, paragraph 6).

Description: The object of the project is to assist governments of the less-industrialized countries to

develop and expedite their housing programmes. In the first stage of the work an attempt will be made to find some means of considering the common features of the various elements of the housing problem within a single framework as it presents itself in the less-industrialized countries. The interested governments will submit information, on a uniform pattern and relating to the housing situation in their country, which will serve as a basis for the preparation of the paper, by the Secretariat, for consideration at the next session of the Working Party.

#### 06.2.2. *Reinforced and pre-stressed concrete*

Authority: Housing Sub-Committee (IM/HOU/WP.2/38).

Description: A proposed comparative technical and economic study of the use of pre-cast concrete and of concrete cast by the continuous process in civil construction in the countries of Europe, to be carried out by rapporteurs.

### 06.3. *Other projects*

#### 06.3.1. *Housing needs of a family*

Authority: Housing Sub-Committee (IM/HOU/WP.2/38).

Description: A comparative study of attempts made in various countries to ascertain the desires and needs of the population for housing, with particular reference to the examination of methods and techniques of sampling, investigation or experimentation, is being undertaken by the CIB, which is acting as rapporteur for the Housing Sub-Committee.

#### 06.3.2. *Town and country planning*

Authority: Housing Sub-Committee (IM/HOU/WP.2/30 Rev. 1, paragraph 9 (b)).

Description: The Sub-Committee decided to defer until further notice the consideration of possible studies of certain aspects of town and country planning, other than specific points arising within current projects being carried out by the Sub-Committee.

## 07. — INLAND TRANSPORT

### 07.1. *Priority projects of a continuing nature*

#### 07.1.1. *General policy*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee (E/ECE/TRANS/165, 192, 199, 309, 357, 398, 399/Corr. 1, 439, 441 and 456).

Description: One of the ITC's main functions is to promote agreement amongst European countries on long-term inland transport policy, study the co-ordination of the various modes of transport, and put forward recommendations on the subject. It has already worked out a number of principles relating to general policy and co-ordination of transport. Its work in this field is being carried out on the basis of studies entrusted to the secretariat, assisted, where

necessary, by experts, and of the conclusions reached by its subsidiary bodies concerned with costs, tariffs etc. (see 07.1.2).

#### 07.1.2. *Measures to facilitate international trade*

##### *Tariff measures*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee (E/ECE/TRANS/284, 309, 358, 359, 372 and 406).

Description: Co-ordination of tariffs, establishment of international tariffs, elimination of tariff discrimination, drafting of tariff agreements meeting the needs of the European economy—all these are measures calculated to give fresh impetus to trade. A working party has been set up to study these problems.

##### *Rational routing for rail traffic*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee (E/ECE/TRANS/120 and 412).

Description: Taking into account users' needs, the selection of routes which, on the basis of cost and the most appropriate existing or future equipment, will speed up transport and reduce expenditure. This study has been entrusted to the UIC, which will report to the ITC for action.

##### *International road transport licensing system*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee (E/ECE/TRANS/199) and General Agreement (E/ECE/186). Sub-Committee on Road Transport (E/ECE/TRANS/209).

Description: The General Agreement on Economic Regulations for International Road Transport (see 07.1.6) should be supplemented by an agreement laying down this system. A special working party is studying the annual programmes of international tourist services by road.

##### *Transport contract and international legal status of forwarding agents*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee (E/ECE/TRANS/198, 199 and 313); Sub-Committee on Road Transport (E/ECE/TRANS/340).

Description: Draft conventions concerning a road transport and an inland water transport contract have been prepared on the initiative of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law and are now being studied. The ITC proposes to study the question of the combined transport contract at a later date. The question of the legal status of forwarding agents, a matter of some importance for European trade generally, is being studied by the organizations concerned. A report on the subject will be made to the ITC.

##### *Customs, financial and fiscal matters*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee (E/ECE/TRANS/364, 450 and 452); Decisions of the Sub-Committee on Road Transport (E/ECE/TRANS/258, 381 and 396).

Description: The questions of customs seals, customs office hours, transfers of currency for

payment of transport services, and the taxation of foreign motor vehicles are being studied and may be the subject of agreements.

Once such agreements are concluded, they will be entered for interpretation, implementation and amendment purposes under 07.1.6. For this reason they have in principle been placed in the first category.

#### 07.1.3. *Traffic safety*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee (E/ECE/TRANS/240); Sub-Committee on Road Transport (E/ECE/TRANS/210, 338 and 384).

Description: Traffic safety is the concern of users and carriers alike. Any progress in this field has both social and economic implications. The Committee has concentrated particularly on the various aspects of road accident prevention—technical (road construction, improvement of signs and signals, and vehicle construction, equipment and maintenance), physiological (fitness of drivers) and psychological (behaviour of users). It has also taken up the question of automatic coupling on the railways.

#### 07.1.4. *Transport statistics*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Inland Transport Committee (E/451), (E/ECE/TRANS/29 and 63).

Description: The purpose of compiling transport statistics and a uniform terminology is to provide some of the basic material which is a pre-requisite for action by the Committee and by governments. For example, the problems of co-ordination of investments, rational routing and tariffs cannot be studied profitably without some knowledge of existing traffic flows and the means available for dealing with them. In this connexion the Committee is endeavouring to fill the gaps in the statistics on the movement of goods in international traffic and on road traffic.

#### 07.1.5. *Terminology*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee (E/ECE/TRANS/417).

Description: To ensure uniformity in the terminology and definitions used by its subsidiary bodies, the ITC has asked the latter to prepare draft lists of technical terms and definitions applicable to their particular fields of activity. A consolidated list of terms applicable to transport will be prepared at a later stage.

#### 07.1.6. *Interpretation, implementation and adjustment of agreements relating to European transport*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Inland Transport Committee (E/451).

Description: The agreements concluded under the auspices of the ITC (as well as a number of agreements concluded before its establishment) call more or less constantly for interpretation, implementation measures, additional provisions and adjustment to



changing circumstances and technical developments. There follows a list in chronological order of the agreements coming under this head :

Agreements of December 1947 on the Freedom of the Road;

International Customs Convention of 16 June 1949 on touring, on commercial road vehicles and on the international transport of goods by road;

Protocol of 11 March 1950 on the international transport of goods by containers (additional to the above-mentioned convention);

European Agreements of 16 September 1950 on weights and dimensions of vehicles and on road signs and signals, supplementing the 1949 Convention on road traffic and the 1949 Protocol on road signs and signals;

Declaration of 16 September 1950 on the construction of main international traffic arteries;

Conventions of 10 January 1952 to facilitate the crossing of frontiers for passengers and for goods carried by rail;

Regulations of January 1954 on technical conditions applicable to containers which may be accepted for transport under customs seals;

Temporary duty-free admission of containers, of January 1954;

General Agreement of 17 March 1954 on economic regulations for international road transport;

Agreement of . . . . . on automatic signalling at level crossings;

Protocol on standardization of wooden packaging for fruit and vegetables.

#### 07.1.7. *Technical questions*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee (E/ECE/TRANS/26, 68, 127, 133, 414 and E/ECE/TRANS/473); Sub-Committee on Rail Transport (E/ECE/TRANS/141).

Description: The ITC is studying the renewal, standardization and utilization of rolling stock—matters of great importance for the economy of railway operation—and also, at the request of the Soviet Union representative, the questions of mechanization of gravity marshalling operations; construction and operation of Diesel locomotives running on gas produced from wood or coal; equipment of wagons with roller-bearings, and operation of wagons thus equipped; and laying and use of ferro-concrete sleepers. Technical studies and practical applications are carried out, according to circumstances, on the recommendation of the ITC, either by governments with the assistance of the secretariat, or as a general rule by the UIC. The ITC has, for example, entrusted the UIC with the study of the question of modernization of passenger stock, which it regards as important from the social and tourist points of view.

#### 07.2. — *Priority projects of an ad hoc nature*

##### 07.2.1. *Transport of perishable foodstuffs*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee (E/ECE/TRANS/64, 118 and 235).

Description: Preparation of an agreement on the international transport of perishable foodstuffs covering such subjects as preparation for transport, transport equipment, and temperatures to be maintained during transport. This work is proceeding concurrently with that undertaken by the Committee on Agricultural Problems concerning the standardization of products. The work should be finished in 1955. The problem will then be classified under 07.1.6.

##### 07.2.2. *Equipment used for combined transport and mechanization of handling operations*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee (E/ECE/TRANS/286, 366 and 448).

Description: Work on standardization and efficient use of combined-transport equipment; legal questions and conditions of carriage (tariffs); questions relating to the mechanization of handling operations (pallets, loading trays, fork-lift trucks etc.). This work should be finished in 1956. The problem will then be classified under 07.1.6.

##### 07.2.3. *Transport and handling of dangerous goods, and related operations*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee (E/ECE/TRANS/241/Rev. 1 and 454).

Description: Drafting and supervising the implementation of a European agreement on international transport of dangerous goods by road, and preparation of general rules for the handling of dangerous goods at transloading points, and for their transport by inland waterways, having regard to the studies being carried out in this field at the world level and for all modes of transport. The agreement and general rules could be produced by 1957. Supervision of their implementation and their subsequent amendment will be classified under 07.1.6.

#### 07.3. *Other projects*

##### 07.3.1. *Water transport regulations*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee (E/ECE/TRANS/199 and 407).

Description: The unification of the various regulations relating to inland waterways, particularly the policing, transport and signalling regulations; the question of the bringing into force or amendment of the 1930 Conventions on river law; the question of pollution of the waters of international rivers; and similar questions relating to the main rivers and the canal systems connecting them, will be dealt with in a study to be entrusted to an *ad hoc* meeting of representatives of interested governments and organizations.

## 08. — STEEL

### 08.1. *Priority projects of a continuing nature*

#### 08.1.1. *Steel production and consumption trends in Europe*

Authority: Steel Committee (E/ECE/STEEL/73 and 88).

Description: On the basis of an annual market review, prepared by the secretariat, of major trends in production, consumption and trade in steel and steel-making raw materials in the preceding year, the Committee considers what action might be taken to deal with problems thus revealed and analysed. Within the framework of the annual market review consideration is given to the policy of the steel industry with regard to the development of steel consumption and the rationalization of steel utilization, including the question of market research in the widest sense of the term.

#### 08.1.2. *Trends in steel technology*

Authority: Steel Committee (E/ECE/STEEL/73).

Description: The Committee keeps under review, on the basis of an annual report prepared by the secretariat, derived from studies by national technical institutions and individual experts, technological developments in the steel industry, particularly with a view to helping the less-industrialized countries in the formulation of their steel policies.

#### 08.1.3. *Flat steel products*

Authority: Steel Committee (E/ECE/STEEL/77).

Description: The Committee makes a periodic review of developments in the field of flat products, with particular reference to:

- (a) Crude steel and finishing capacity, both existing and planned, associated with wide-strip mills;
- (b) Percentage utilization of production capacity of continuous, semi-continuous and reversing wide-strip mills;
- (c) Scrapping or putting out of operation of old plants, in order to determine measures which might be taken to increase the efficiency of this important and growing sector of the industry.

#### 08.1.4. *Trade in Steel*

Authority: Steel Committee (E/ECE/STEEL/88).

Description: (a) The Committee keeps under periodic review Europe's internal trade and exports to non-European countries of ores, semi-finished and finished steel, including the evolution of export and import policies of European countries; (b) with a view to facilitating trade, the Committee has under consideration the possibility of drafting model clauses for use in import and export contracts for ores and rolled products.

#### 08.1.5. *Statistics*

Authority: Steel Committee (E/ECE/STEEL/88).

Description: The Committee promotes the collection and improvement of steel statistics and advises

the secretariat on the preparation and issue of a quarterly bulletin providing detailed European steel statistics on a comparable basis. At present, efforts are being concentrated on improving statistics of deliveries, stocks and consumption.

### 08.2. *Priority projects of an ad hoc nature*

#### 08.2.1. *Tubes*

Authority: Steel Committee (E/ECE/STEEL/73 and 88).

Description: A second provisional version of a study of the tube sector of the steel industry has been prepared. This study deals with trends of production and consumption by selected end-using industries, against the background of world developments. After further consideration by the Steel Committee, the study will be revised as necessary and completed with a view to general release about the middle of 1955.

#### 08.2.2. *Railway Material*

Authority: Steel Committee (E/ECE/STEEL/88).

Description: A study is to be prepared on railway material with particular emphasis on the trends of consumption of steel products for railway purposes in Europe and overseas. The provisional version of this study will be presented for consideration by the Steel Committee in the course of 1955.

#### 08.2.3. *Substitution between steel and other metals and materials*

Authority: Steel Committee (E/ECE/STEEL/82 and 88).

Description: The Committee is studying substitution between steel and other metals and materials. So far, papers have been prepared on aluminium and plastics. These subjects are being kept under review, and in addition work is now starting on concrete, asbestos-cement and timber, which will be discussed in a provisional version of a study to be considered by the Steel Committee towards the end of 1955. These inquiries involve comparison of relative availabilities of steel and alternative metals and materials, physical properties and characteristics, costs and prices, and consider the problems of substitution as they arise in end-using industries where there is a choice between steel and other materials.

#### 08.2.4. *The determination of capacity in the iron and steel industry*

Authority: Steel Committee (E/ECE/STEEL/77 and 88).

Description: The Committee is examining the possibility of establishing a method of arriving at a formula applicable to the whole of Europe for determining effective and theoretical capacity in the iron and steel industry.

08.2.5. *Standardization of general conditions of sale for selected commodities*

Authority: Steel Committee (E/ECE/STEEL/88).

Description: On the basis of information supplied by Governments relating to the import and export of iron, chromium and manganese ores and rolled-steel products, the secretariat is to prepare for consideration by the Committee a comparative analysis of the general clauses in use in different countries.

09. — TIMBER

(Note. — The Work Programme of the ECE in the field of timber is developed and carried out jointly with the FAO, the latter organization providing the professional staff engaged in the work. Below are listed the projects, primarily the responsibility of the ECE Timber Committee, to be undertaken during the period 1955/56. In addition to the annual session of the Timber Committee, joint FAO/ECE bodies will deal with the projects where appropriate. The joint projects for which FAO is primarily responsible do not figure in this list.)

09.1. *Priority projects of a continuing nature*

09.1.1. *“ Timber Statistics for Europe ”, including market reports*

Authority: Timber Committee (E/ECE/TIM/46, Annex III, section VII; E/ECE/TIM/48, para. 5).

Description: Timber statistics are published quarterly together with the market reports. The statistics, covering the main forest products, relate to production, trade and prices in European countries and Canada. The market reports are based on information collected from official and other sources and publications which is analysed by the ECE secretariat.

09.1.2. *Establishment of timber price series of European countries*

Authority: Timber Committee (E/ECE/TIM/46, Annex III, section VII; E/ECE/TIM/48, para. 5).

Description: The price series will be continued and supplemented by graphs. Further consideration will be given to comparisons between timber prices and substitute materials as well as other economic indicators (including cost-of-living index). See also 09.1.1.

09.1.3. *Long-term trade arrangements*

Authority: Committee on the Development of Trade (E/ECE/TRADE/8, para. 6A); Timber Committee (E/ECE/TIM/48, para. 6).

Description: Investigations are to be made into the possibilities of medium- and long-term arrangements, including forecasts of timber imports and exports.

09.1.4. *Increased efficiency in forestry operations*

Authority: Timber Committee (E/ECE/TIM/46, Annex III, section VI; E/ECE/TIM/48, para. 8).

Description: This project aims at increasing efficiency in forestry operations by improving methods of work, by mechanization and by better training of forest workers. This project will be dealt with by a joint FAO/ECE Committee on Forestry Operations and Training of Forest Workers, in collaboration with the ILO.

09.1.5. *Substitution of timber by other materials*

Authority: Timber Committee (E/ECE/TIM/46, Annex III, section IX; E/ECE/TIM/48, para. 8).

Description: The aim of this study is to examine to what extent other materials are used as substitutes for timber for construction, packaging and other end uses in European countries, and the impact of this substitution on Europe's timber requirements.

09.2. *Priority projects of an ad hoc nature*

09.2.1. *Long-term programme for European forestry and forest products statistics*

Authority: Timber Committee (E/ECE/TIM/46, Annex III, section VII; E/ECE/TIM/48, para. 5).

Description: This project aims at setting up a minimum programme for forestry and timber statistics. This programme will be examined during 1955 by a joint FAO/ECE working party of experts on European forestry and forest products statistics.

09.2.2. *General conditions of sale of timber*

Authority: Committee on the Development of Trade (E/ECE/TRADE/8, para. 11); Timber Committee (E/ECE/TIM/48, para. 11).

Description: Investigations will be made into the possibility of drawing up contract forms setting out general conditions for international sales of timber and timber products. This project will be dealt with by an *ad hoc* working party composed of specialists from interested countries.

09.2.3. *Timber grading*

Authority: Timber Committee (E/ECE/TIM/46, Annex III, section VI; E/ECE/TIM/48, para. 9).

Description: To prepare this project, staff visits to different countries are planned. Subsequently, the project will be dealt with by regional working parties consisting of grading specialists. Its aim will be to seek the best methods of approach to this problem.

09.3. *Other projects*

09.3.1. *Studies on the more rational utilization of wood*

Authority: Timber Committee (E/ECE/TIM/39, para. 6.; E/ECE/TIM/46, Annex III, section VI).

Description: These studies, the aim of which is to increase the better utilization of wood, include: Reducing waste in the forest and ensuring the

fuller use of by-products in the wood-using industries;  
 Improving the quality of sawn timber and other forest products;  
 Improving wood utilization;  
 The use by industry of types and sizes of wood not hitherto normally used;  
 The study of problems in connexion with the use of wood in packaging, including performance tests; and  
 Increased research and better public information concerning the utilization of lower grades of timber.

This project will be dealt with by joint FAO/ECE working parties of experts.

## 10. — TRADE

*Authority for Trade Projects:* Terms of reference and resolution 1 (IX) of the Commission and the decisions of the third session of the Committee on the Development of Trade (E/ECE/TRADE/8).

### 10.1. Priority projects of a continuing nature

#### 10.1.1. Review of developments in intra-European, especially East-West, trade

Description: The Committee undertakes at each session a review of developments in the field of intra-European, especially East-West, trade. This review includes, *inter alia*, such points as obstacles of an economic, administrative or trade policy character to intra-European trade as well as possibilities of further expansion of such trade.

#### 10.1.2. Long-term trade arrangements

Description: In its work on this project, the Committee reviews the question of long-term trade arrangements in the form of intergovernmental agreements or contracts and examines in this connexion results obtained and techniques used in long-term bilateral trade arrangements concerning specific commodities as reported and analysed by the secretariat. It also examines results of any considerations given by the other ECE committees to long-term forecasts of trade possibilities.

#### 10.1.3. Consultations of experts on East-West trade

Description: Consultations of experts on East-West trade are organized, as necessary, in the form approved by the Committee.

#### 10.1.4. Development of inter-regional trade

Description: The Committee keeps under review the possibilities of expansion of inter-regional trade.

### 10.2. Priority projects of an ad hoc nature

#### 10.2.1. Multilateral payments arrangements

Description: An *ad hoc* working party of financial experts has been set up to consider the possibility of an arrangement of multilateral compensation, on a voluntary basis, of balances arising in bilateral

payments agreements and any suggestions which governments might wish to put forward concerning other means of improving payments relationships either bilateral or multilateral, between countries of eastern and western Europe. The report of this group is to be presented to the Trade Committee for further consideration.

#### 10.2.2. Arbitration

Description: An *ad hoc* working party of experts has been set up to collate information on the present arbitration facilities, on any international conventions which may be in force, and on national laws concerning arbitration, as well as to examine problems concerning arbitral settlements of commercial disputes. The report of this group is to be presented to the Trade Committee for further consideration.

#### 10.2.3. Standardization of general conditions of sale for selected commodities

Description: The Committee, considering that work on this project is of importance for intra-European trade, has referred suggestions concerning a number of commodities to the other ECE committees. It will keep this work under review.

### 10.3. Other projects

#### 10.3.1. Trade fairs and exhibitions

Description: This question is kept under regular review.

## Annex I

### APPROXIMATE BUDGETARY COSTS OF MAJOR FIELDS OF ACTIVITY OF THE ECE—1955

Set out below is the approximate distribution of the budgetary costs of the ECE over the major fields of activity as set out in the work programme. The figures shown are:

- (i) The distribution of the costs which can be identified directly with the ECE, including salaries of ECE staff, costs of consultants, temporary assistance, travel, printing, and the so-called "common staff costs" pertinent to the ECE staff, and
- (ii) (in parentheses) The estimates of the shares of each major activity in the costs of translation, interpretation, internal documents reproduction and other general conference costs which have been distributed to the ECE from the budget of the European Office of the United Nations.

Because there have been no substantial changes since last year, the same figures have been reproduced in this statement. Since, under present arrangements, the main burden of the trade work falls on the Office of the Executive Secretary, assisted by the Research and Planning Division, it has not been found practicable to identify, at this stage, the costs for the work undertaken in this field.

| <i>Activity</i>                             | <i>Estimated costs<br/>(Dollars)</i> | <i>Activity</i>                   | <i>Estimated costs<br/>(Dollars)</i> |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 01 General                                  |                                      | 06 Housing and building . . . . . | 65,500                               |
| Economic analysis . . . . .                 | 315,500                              |                                   | (54,400)                             |
|                                             | (97,400)                             | 07 Inland transport . . . . .     | 230,300                              |
| Statistics . . . . .                        | 186,900                              |                                   | (242,400)                            |
|                                             | (49,200)                             | 08 Steel . . . . .                | 112,200                              |
| 02 Agriculture* . . . . .                   | 26,300                               |                                   | (108,500)                            |
|                                             | (29,900)                             | 09 Timber * . . . . .             | 52,300                               |
| 03 Coal . . . . .                           | 123,100                              |                                   | (59,000)                             |
|                                             | (129,400)                            | 10 Trade**                        |                                      |
| 04 Electric power . . . . .                 | 93,400                               |                                   |                                      |
|                                             | (79,400)                             |                                   |                                      |
| 05 Engineering and industrial materials . . | 21,000                               |                                   |                                      |
|                                             | (28,900)                             |                                   |                                      |

\* The professional staff for the work in agriculture and timber is provided by the FAO.

\*\* The bulk of the costs are covered under 01—General.

## APPENDICES

### I. Draft resolutions proposed to, but not accepted by, the tenth session of the Commission

#### 1. Draft resolution concerning the participation of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany in the work of its tenth session, submitted by the delegation of the USSR

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

*Taking into account* the fact that the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany play an essential part in the European economy,

*Considering* that the interests of economic co-operation between the countries of Europe imperatively demand the participation of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany in the work of its session,

*Resolves* to invite the representatives of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany to take part in the work of its tenth session.

#### 2. Draft resolution concerning the work of the Committee on the Development of Trade, submitted by the delegation of the USSR

*The Economic Commission for Europe,*

*Having examined* the report on the work of the Committee on the Development of Trade,

*Considering it essential* that at its next session the Committee make a comprehensive study of the problem presented by all the various obstacles at present impeding intra-European trade and recommendations concerning their removal,

*Requests* the Executive Secretary in preparing the documentation on the development of intra-European trade for the Committee's fourth session to give due attention to the problem of present obstacles to such trade, including those arising from the existence in a number of West-European countries of schedules of goods the export of which is prohibited.

### II. List of representatives and observers at the tenth session of the Commission

#### *Albania*

Mr. Shemsi Totozani, Head of the Delegation; Minister Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Albania in Paris.  
Mr. Dilaver Pinderi, Deputy Permanent Representative.

#### *Austria*

Mr. Bruno Kreisky, Head of the Delegation; Secretary of State; Ministry for Foreign Affairs (arrived 24 March).  
Mr. W. Goertz, Counsellor of Legation, Department of Foreign Affairs.  
Mrs. J. Monschein, Permanent Representative.  
Miss I. Müller-Aichholz, Secretary.

#### *Belgium*

Mr. Max Suetens, Head of the Delegation; Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.  
Mr. Jean Leroy, Legation Counsellor; Permanent Representative of Belgium to the European Office of the United Nations; Alternate Head of the Delegation.  
Mr. Robert Faniel, Counsellor, Ministry of Economic Affairs; Alternate Head of the Delegation.  
Miss Yvonne Moedts, Embassy Attaché.  
Mr. Marcel van de Kerckhove, Legation Attaché.  
Mr. M. E. Malbreco, Member of the Delegation.

#### *Bulgaria*

Mr. Evgueni Kamenov, Head of the Delegation; Minister Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in Paris.  
Mr. Ivan P. Daskalov, Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to the Economic Commission for Europe.  
Mr. Avakoum V. Branitchev, Head of the Trade Agreements Department, Ministry of Foreign Trade.  
Mr. Boris Tzvetkov, Second Secretary at the Bulgarian Legation in Berne.

#### *Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic*

Mr. A. E. Gurinovitch, Representative of the Byelorussian SSR.  
Mr. B. V. Kudryavtzev, Adviser to the Delegation.  
Mr. B. C. Kolbasin, Translator to the Delegation.

#### *Czechoslovakia*

Mr. Robert Schmelz, Head of the Delegation, Deputy Minister Foreign Trade.

Dr. Karel Svec, Representative, Ministry of Foreign Trade.

Dr. Pribyslav Pavlik, Representative, Permanent Representative of Czechoslovakia to the European Office of the United Nations.  
Mr. Jaroslav Písarík, Representative, Director of the Research Institute of Foreign Trade.

Mr. Alois Hloch, Adviser, General Manager, "Metalimex".  
Mr. Jaromír Strnad, Adviser, Member of the Permanent Delegation of Czechoslovakia to the European Office of the United Nations.

Mr. Ludvík Ubl, Adviser, Legation of Czechoslovakia in Berne.  
Mr. Ivan Sronek, Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Trade.

#### *Denmark*

Mr. J. O. Krag, Head of the Delegation; Minister for Economic Affairs and Labour.  
Mr. E. Blechingberg, Assistant Head of Department, Ministry for Foreign Affairs.  
Mr. H. E. Thrane, Assistant Head of Section, Ministry for Foreign Affairs.  
Mr. H. E. Kastoft, Permanent Representative to the United Nations European Office.  
Mr. P. Fergo, Ministry for Foreign Affairs.  
Miss Ruth Kroger, Secretary to the Delegation.

#### *Finland*

Mr. Gunnar Palmroth, Head of the Delegation; Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary; Director of the Commercial Division of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.  
Mr. Heige von Knorring, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.  
Professor Klaus Waris, Alternate, Governor of the Bank of Finland.  
Mr. Reino Rossi, Representative.  
Mr. Ilkka Tapiola, Representative.

#### *France*

Mr. Joannes-Dupraz, Head of the Delegation; former Minister.  
Mr. André Philip, Alternate Head of the Delegation; former Minister.  
Mr. Georges Boris, Alternate Head of the Delegation; Conseiller d'État.  
Mr. Brunet, Embassy Secretary; Adviser.  
Mr. Clement, Administrateur civil, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs.

#### *France (continued)*

Mr. de Curton, Embassy Counsellor; Permanent Representative of France to the European Office of the United Nations.  
Mr. Deshors, Embassy Secretary.  
Mr. Desprairies, Commissioner of Audit.  
Mr. Fournier, Ingénieur des Mines.  
Mr. Gruson, Inspecteur des Finances.  
Mr. d'Harcourt, Embassy Counsellor.  
Miss Lissac, Embassy Secretary; Deputy Permanent Representative of France to the European Office of the United Nations.  
Mr. Manheimer, Administrateur civil, Ministry of Industry and Trade.  
Mr. Plescoff, Inspecteur des Finances.  
Mr. Schwob, Inspector-General, Ministry of Industry and Trade.  
Mr. Thomassin, Administrateur civil, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs.  
Mr. du Vignaux, Director-General of Waters and Forests, Ministry of Agriculture.  
Mr. Wallon, Administrateur civil, Ministry of Agriculture.  
Miss Halega, Secretary.

#### *Greece*

Mr. Xenophon Zolotas, Professor at Athens University; Governor of the Bank of Greece.  
Mr. N. Hadji Vassiliou, Permanent Representative of Greece to the International Organizations at Geneva and Permanent Representative to the Council of Europe at Strasbourg.  
Mr. A. Cominos, former Deputy Head of the Greek Delegation to the OEEC.  
Mr. J. Papayannis, Member of the Permanent Delegation of Greece at Geneva; Secretary to the Delegation.

#### *Hungary*

Mr. Bela Szilagyi, Head of the Delegation; Director, Ministry of Foreign Trade.  
Mr. Simon Ferencz, Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of Hungary to the Economic Commission for Europe.  
Mr. Janos Hont, Director, Ministry of Agriculture.  
Mr. Ernoe Hars, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.  
Mr. Gyula Czigany, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Trade.

#### *Italy*

H. E. Mr. Ludovico Benvenuti, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Chairman of the Delegation.  
Mr. Tommaso Notarangeli, Permanent Representative of Italy to the Economic Commission for Europe, Vice-Chairman of the Delegation.  
Mr. Giuseppe Accardo, Intergovernmental Committee for Reconstruction.  
Mr. Guido Borgomanero, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.  
Mr. Giovanni Calderale, Treasury.  
Mr. Antonio Ferone, Ministry of Agriculture.  
Mr. Paolo Giorgeri, Ministry of Foreign Trade.  
Mr. Pietro Ghezzi Morgalanti, Deputy Permanent Representative of Italy to the Economic Commission for Europe.  
Mr. Roberto Gualtrieri, Ministry of Industry.  
Mr. Mario Lariccia, Office of the High Commissioner for Food.  
Mr. Alessandro Molinari, Director-General of SVIMEZ.  
Mr. Reginaldo Munafa, Secretary to the Delegation.  
Mr. Silvano Palumbo, Treasury.  
Mr. Giacomo Pittoni, Ministry of Agriculture.  
Mr. Alberto Solera, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

#### *Luxembourg*

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Dr. J. Linthorst Homan, Head of the Delegation; Director of Foreign Economic Relations.  
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Mr. K. Westerhoff, Commercial Secretary at the Netherlands Legation, Berne.  
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Mr. Arne Skaug, Head of the Delegation; Minister of Commerce.  
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Mr. Bue Brun, Secretary to the Norwegian Legation at Berne.  
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#### *Portugal*

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Mrs. L. Lagerquist, Secretary.  
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Mr. Edmond Wyss, Swiss Trade Union Association, Berne.

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*Ukrainian SSR*

Mr. P. V. Kriven, Representative.  
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Mr. V. F. Ivkin, Secretary; Translator to the Delegation.

*Union of Soviet Socialist Republics*

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Mr. V. N. Timofeyev, Second Secretary of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the USSR; General Secretary of the Delegation.

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The Most Honourable the Marquess of Reading, C.B.E., M.C., T.D., Q.C., Head of the Delegation (part of the time); Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.  
Mr. R. Maudling, M.P., Head of the Delegation (part of the time); Economic Secretary to the Treasury.  
Mr. K. C. Christofas, M.B.E., Alternate; Foreign Office.  
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Mr. J. A. E. Smart, Adviser, Board of Trade.  
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Mr. J. A. Beckett, Adviser, Ministry of Fuel and Power.  
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Mr. Nikola Milicevic, Representative  
Mr. Mladen Sekicki, Representative  
Mr. Milan Mesaric, Special Adviser.  
Mr. Bozidar Franges, Adviser.  
Mr. Dusko Jovanovic, Adviser.  
Mr. Slobodan Borisavljevic, Adviser.  
Mr. Zvonimir Petnicki, Secretary of the Delegation.

OBSERVERS ATTENDING UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH 11 OF THE COMMISSION'S TERMS OF REFERENCE

*Australia*

Mr. L. Corkery.

*Brazil*

Mr. F. Franco-Netto.

*Canada*

Mr. R. E. Reynolds, Adviser to the Canadian Delegation.

*Iran*

Mr. Javad Mansoor.

*Israel*

Mr. Bartur, Director of Economic Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.  
Dr. M. Kahany, Permanent Representative to the European Office of the United Nations.

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

*Food and Agriculture Organization*

Mr. Pierre Sinard, Representative; Regional Economist.

*International Labour Office*

Mr. F. Blanchard, Representative; Chief of the Manpower Division.  
Mr. M. Djamalzadeh, Alternate; International Organizations Division.  
Mr. A. Dawson, Alternate; Economic Division.  
Mr. R. Rossborough, Alternate; Manpower Division.

*International Monetary Fund*

Mr. F. Boyer de la Giroday, Representative.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

*Alliance Coopérative Internationale*

Mr. Marcel-Ed. Boson.

*Commission of Churches on International Affairs*

Mr. E. Rees.



*International Confederation of Free Trade Unions*

Mr. Walter Schevenels.  
Mr. Herman Patteet.

*International Organization of Employers*

Dr. Joseph Vanck.

*World Federation of Trade Unions*

Mr. Tom Drinkwater.

*World Federation of United Nations Associations*

Mr. Max d'Arcis.  
Mr. John A. F. Ennals.  
Mr. Dimitrius Tsaoussis.  
Miss Colette Bernet.

*International Organization for Standardization*

Mr. Henry St. Leger.

*International Federation of Christian Trade Unions*

Mr. Georges Eggermaan.