

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

v

COMPENDIUM
of resolutions and decisions
of the
Economic Commission for Europe
1973-1989



UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
Geneva

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Prepared by the ECE secretariat



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INTRODUCTION

1. This Compendium, which has been prepared by the secretariat pursuant to Commission resolution 4 (XXXVI), covers the resolutions and other decisions adopted by the Commission during the seventeen annual sessions and one special session held from 1973 to 1989. It is a companion volume to E/ECE/836 which covers Commission sessions held during the period 1947 to 1972.

2. The Index appearing in E/ECE/836 has been updated for inclusion in the present Compendium. A small number of new headings have been inserted of necessity and some headings of the earlier Index have been rationalized. Under each heading in the Index, resolutions and decisions are listed chronologically.

3. Numbering of resolutions and decisions continues earlier practice until the fortieth session of the Commission: resolutions are numbered consecutively in Arabic figures followed (in brackets) by the number of the session in Roman figures; and decisions are numbered in consecutive order using capital letters (A, B, C, etc.) followed (in brackets) by the number of the session in Roman figures. From the fortieth session onwards the number of the session is indicated in brackets in Arabic figures.

4. Attention is drawn to the fact that the resolutions and decisions listed herein deal only with matters on which action was taken by a Plenary session of the Commission. Many other matters were dealt with by or under the auspices of the Commission's Principal Subsidiary Bodies. For further details of the work of the Commission, readers are referred to the relevant Annual Reports of the ECE to the Economic and Social Council, which also contain accounts of the discussions which led to the adoption of resolutions and decisions.

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TEXTS OF RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER DECISIONS

TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION

(8-18 May 1973)

RESOLUTIONS

1 (XXVIII) The work of the Commission as a whole and implementation of priorities

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its 1967 Declaration and the previous resolutions it adopted on this subject, including its resolution 1 (XXVII),

Recalling further its resolutions 8 (XXII) and 5 (XXIV) concerning the new orientation of its programmes and methods of work, and 2 (XXV) on implementation of priorities,

Underlining its resolution 4 (XXVI) related to the celebration of its twenty-fifth anniversary,

Emphasizing the impact of the détente in Europe on the scope and intensity of co-operation in the ECE region,

Convinced that advantage should be taken of the improved political situation in the region in order to develop European economic co-operation,

Convinced further of being a useful instrument for promoting European co-operation and implementing the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level,

Conscious of the needs deriving from the developments in European co-operation,

Stressing its readiness to fulfil future tasks that might be requested by its member Governments,

Considering the results so far achieved in developing its activity,

Noting with satisfaction the efforts made and progress accomplished by its Principal Subsidiary Bodies during the past year in orienting their work towards the four major priority areas as well as in taking further steps toward integration of their individual programmes of work, in co-operating on problems of common interest and in carrying out their work through ad hoc meetings, seminars and symposia,

1. Reaffirms its determination to develop its activities so as to respond to the need of co-operation among the countries of the ECE region in the light of the improvement of the political situation in the region and within the framework of the four overall priority areas along the lines of its earlier decisions including resolution 5 (XXIV);

2. Takes note with appreciation of the Executive Secretary's report on the Commission's Activities and Implementation of Priorities E/ECE/838;

3. Draws the attention of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to document E/ECE/838 as well as to the comments made thereon at its current session;

4. Reaffirms further its earlier decisions to take due account, when implementing its priority tasks, of the fact that the ECE region is composed of countries having different economic and political systems and different levels of economic development;

5. Decides that the existing programme determination structure of the ECE, i.e. the Commission and its Principal Subsidiary Bodies, should be maintained and invites each of its Principal Subsidiary Bodies to transmit to the Commission for its consideration any views it may have concerning its future work in relation to the related activities of other Principal Subsidiary Bodies or suggestions as to the action which the Commission should take particularly in order to ensure appropriate co-ordination;

6. Invites its Principal Subsidiary Bodies to accelerate the process of concentration and integration of their programmes of work by:

(a) focusing their activities on tasks directly related to the four overall priority objectives of the Commission;

(b) postponing, whenever necessary, work on tasks of lesser importance and urgency;

(c) taking steps towards a further integration of their programmes of work, especially by widening the scope of and intensifying their co-operation with each other on problems of common concern; and

(d) carrying out their work, whenever possible and appropriate, through well-prepared ad hoc meetings, consultations, seminars and symposia on specific, carefully selected topics; and

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to give full assistance to its Principal Subsidiary Bodies in their implementation of the provisions of operative paragraphs 5 and 6 above, especially by:

(a) supplying them with comprehensive information on the relevant activities, both current and planned, of the other bodies concerned;

(b) addressing them at their annual meetings on questions related to the relevant policy decisions of the Commission in order to keep them fully informed on developments of concern to them within the Commission and in order to ensure that there will be full co-operation among the Principal Subsidiary Bodies as well as an effective concentration of work efforts towards the implementation of the agreed overall priorities without any unnecessary duplication of work; and

(c) taking any other appropriate measures designed to contribute to and to facilitate their effective co-operation with each other on problems of common interest. (E/5276, para. 41)

2 (XXVIII) Co-operation in the examination of long-term economic trends and problems and in long-term planning and programming

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Drawing attention to its resolutions 7 (XXII) and 2 (XXVII) and its decision E (XXVII) on the examination of long-term economic trends and problems of common interest in the ECE region,

Emphasizing the growing importance of long-term planning and programming in the formulation of national economic policies and, in particular, decisions concerning investment, research and development, trade and the environment,

Having taken into consideration the relevant observations and suggestions made in the report on the Commission's activities submitted by the Executive Secretary at the present session (E/ECE/838),

1. Reaffirms the need to extend as widely as possible the field covered in the exchange of information among member countries on their economic prospects and their long-term plans and programmes;

2. Requests all Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission:

(a) to keep themselves regularly informed on long-term economic trends and problems and on Governments' long-term plans and programmes with a view to identifying and examining problems of common interest in their respective fields of competence and thus to assist Governments in a common search for solutions to those problems;

(b) to co-operate among themselves in examining long-term economic trends and problems with a comprehensive approach which takes into account the many intersectoral links among those trends and problems;

(c) to make recommendations to the Commission in order to increase the scope for intensified international co-operation in solving those problems;

3. Requests the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments, whose duty it is to propose to the Commission a general framework and orientation for the studies which all subsidiary bodies are to conduct side by side in this field, to concentrate on those tasks which best lend themselves to more extensive international co-operation; and

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to keep all Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission informed of the various studies proposed or undertaken in this field and thus to facilitate integration of that activity. (E/5276, para. 42)

3 (XXVIII) Science and technology

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Considering that the development of scientific and technological co-operation in the European region plays an important role in the process of creating a climate of peace, security and understanding in Europe,

Reaffirming the importance of scientific and technological co-operation and the fact that it is a priority sphere of activities of the Commission,

Recognizing the positive results of seminars organized in 1972 in Bucharest and in Madrid under the auspices of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology and recognizing also the importance of such activities for an exchange of information and experience between member countries in the domain of science and technology,

Taking note of the Report of the first session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology ECE/SC.TECH/2 and the Report of the Executive Secretary E/ECE/853,

Stressing the necessity of maintaining close co-operation between the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology and other bodies of the Commission,

Recognizing the fact that problems of development of co-operative research and industrial management of technology have a great importance for further development of scientific and technological co-operation and are the subject of interest to all ECE bodies dealing directly or indirectly with scientific and technological co-operation,

Taking into account that at the first session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology it was suggested to organize meetings of experts on managerial aspects of co-operative research and on problems encountered in the industrial management of technology,

Recognizing the need for a speedy elaboration of the long-term programme of work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology,

1. Invites the ECE Governments to inform the Executive Secretary of their views on the scope and contents of the long-term programme of work and priorities of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary in consultation with interested Governments to make preparation for an ad hoc meeting of experts for discussion on the scope and contents of seminars on managerial aspects of co-operative research and on industrial management of technology and further requests him to organize such a meeting before the second session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology;

3. Recommends the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology to take into account in the elaboration of their long-term programme of work and priorities the results of the discussion at the present session, the results of the ad hoc meeting of experts and also the previous suggestions made on this subject; and

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to make a report on the implementation of this resolution at the twenty-ninth session of the Commission. (E/5276, para. 126)

4 (XXVIII) Programme of work of the Commission for 1973/74 and its long-term programme of work for 1974-1978

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes by the Executive Secretary on certain questions, and the programme of work for the Commission for 1973/74, as well as the long-term programme of work for 1974-1978,

Noting that during the twenty-eighth session various delegations have raised a number of points concerning the Commission's programme of work,

1. Draws the attention of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission to the relevant resolutions and other decisions of the Commission as well as to the points reported in the relevant passages of the summary records and the Report of the twenty-eighth session;

2. Requests its subsidiary bodies to take those decisions and points into consideration when reviewing their respective short and long-term programmes of work; and

3. Approves its programme of work for 1973/74 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its twenty-ninth session, its long-term programme of work for 1974-1978. (E/5276, para. 225)

OTHER DECISIONS**A (XXVIII) Symposium on the Planning and Development of the Tourist Industry in the ECE region**

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the intention of the Executive Secretary - as indicated in his Annual Report (E/ECE/838) - to take appropriate steps with a view to convening a Symposium on the planning and development of the tourist industry in the region, including infrastructural and environmental aspects, and concentration on the implications of the growth of tourism for the economy as a whole, with the help of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the ECE which are concerned with aspects of this problem;

(b) to express its appreciation to the Government of Yugoslavia for its invitation to hold such a Symposium in that country; and

(c) to invite the Executive Secretary to consult with Governments concerning the specific topics which require attention at such a Symposium, and, if the results of this consultation warrant it, to co-operate closely in its preparation with the International Union of Official Travel Organizations, in order to avoid duplication of work. (E/5276, para. 43).

B (XXVIII) Scientific and technological co-operation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Report of the Executive Secretary E/ECE/853;

(b) to invite Governments to inform the Executive Secretary of their views on the scope and contents of the long-term programme of work and priorities of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology;

(c) to request the Executive Secretary to convene the ad hoc Meeting of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology as soon as practicable; and

(d) to ask the ad hoc Meeting, when drawing up the long-term programme of work and priorities of the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology, to bear in mind the relevant discussions and views expressed at the twenty-eighth session of the Commission. (E/5276, para. 125).

C (XXVIII) Recurrent publications

The Commission decided:

(a) to note the conclusions reached by the Conference of European Statisticians on the general policy issues raised in the JIU Report A/8362 as expressed in the Conference's Report on its twentieth plenary session (Conf.Eur.Stats/321, paragraph 162);

(b) to request the Executive Secretary to transmit to the Secretary-General, for his observations and recommendations to the General Assembly pursuant to its resolution 2886 (XXVI), the decisions of its subsidiary bodies concerned that the Bulletin of Statistics on World Trade in

Engineering Products; the ECE Annual Bulletin of Coal Statistics; the ECE annual publication of concentration indices in the coal industries; the ECE Annual Bulletin of Gas Statistics for Europe; the ECE Annual Bulletin of Electric Energy Statistics for Europe; the ECE Annual Bulletin of General Energy Statistics for Europe; the ECE Annual Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics for Europe; the ECE Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe; the ECE Annual and Quarterly Bulletins of Steel Statistics for Europe; the ECE/FAO Timber Bulletin for Europe; and the Annual Forest Products Market Review, should continue to be published; and

(c) to request the subsidiary bodies concerned and the Executive Secretary to keep the frequency and the contents of the ECE statistical bulletins under constant review, taking into account both the need for economy in United Nations publications and the purposes these bulletins serve. (E/5276, para. 164)

D (XXVIII) European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the decision taken by UNCITRAL at its sixth session, concerning the European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration;

(b) to invite countries members of the Economic Commission for Europe which have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration; and

(c) to invite the Economic and Social Council to draw the attention of States Members of the United Nations which are not members of the Commission and which have not acceded to the Convention to its existence, and to ask them to indicate whether they intend to adhere thereto. (E/5276, para. 175)

E (XXVIII) Development of trade

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Report of the twenty-first session of the Committee on the Development of Trade and invite the Committee at its next session to continue to study the questions raised in that report;

(b) to ask the Committee on the Development of Trade to study the two draft resolutions contained in the report of the twenty-seventh session of the Commission;

(c) to request the Executive Secretary to convene a second marketing seminar, to be held if possible before the twenty-second session of the Committee on the Development of Trade;

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to begin preparations for a further informal meeting of experts on trade, to be held at a convenient time and, in the light of consultations with member Governments, to suggest a subject or subjects for discussion there. (E/5276, para. 176)

F (XXVIII) Industrial co-operation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's Analytical Report on Industrial Co-operation among ECE Countries (E/ECE/844);

(b) to request the Executive Secretary to bring to the attention of the Committee on the Development of Trade and the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned the Analytical Report on Industrial Co-operation among ECE Countries;

(c) to invite the Committee on the Development of Trade and the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned to consider the suggestions contained in Chapter V of the Analytical Report, taking into account the discussions of this Report at the present session and bearing in mind, inter alia, the proposal for the establishment of a Centre for Industrial Co-operation;

(d) to request further the Executive Secretary to consider, in consultation with the Governments of member countries, the possibility of organizing a multilateral discussion, in the form of a seminar of experts on the problems of payments, financing and related issues of industrial co-operation; and

(e) to request also the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of decisions contained in paragraphs (c) and (d) of this decision to the twenty-ninth session. (E/5276, para. 181)

G (XXVIII) Standardization

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/848 on standardization;

(b) to request its Principal Subsidiary Bodies to continue to give special attention to problems of standardization in their respective fields of activity pursuant to operative paragraph (c) of Commission decision G (XXVII);

(c) to express the hope that in preparation for the Third Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies which should be held in 1974 agreement will be reached on action to be taken by ECE Governments for the removal of specific barriers to international trade arising from a lack of harmonization in standards or in the international application of standards; and

(d) to request the Executive Secretary:

(i) to continue to maintain close co-operation with the secretariats of the other international organizations concerned in respect of international standardization activities;

(ii) to make preparations for the Third Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies; and

(iii) to report to the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/5276, para. 200)

H (XXVIII) Automation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's Report E/ECE/849; and

(b) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on the progress made in the implementation of the decisions of the second session of the Working Party on Automation. (E/5276, para. 207)

I (XXVIII) Engineering industries

The Commission decided,

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/850 and Addendum 1;

(b) to approve the short-term and long-term programmes of work for 1973/74 and 1974-1978 in the field of engineering agreed at the Third ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries, as contained in paragraphs 5 and 7 of E/ECE/850/Add.1 and paragraphs 19, 20, 27 and annex I of ECE/ENGIN/2;

(c) taking into account the Executive Secretary's suggestions contained in paragraph 84 of his Annual Report on the Commission's Activities and Implementation of Priorities (E/ECE/838):

(i) to recommend to the Executive Secretary to take appropriate measures in order to continue in the future the examination of the role of engineering industries in the development of other branches of the economy and overall economic growth of the ECE countries as well as of other regions;

(ii) to request the Executive Secretary to organize such seminars, symposia and study tours that may appear necessary devoted to the special issues encountered in the engineering industry;

(iii) to invite the Executive Secretary to study the necessity of convening a Fourth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries at a suitable time in order to discuss, inter alia, the appropriate institutional form through which problems of the engineering industries should be thoroughly and comprehensively considered in the framework of the Commission;

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its twenty-ninth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/5276, para. 214)

J (XXVIII) Application of modern mathematical-economic methods and computer techniques to economic research

The Commission decided to take note of:

(a) the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/851; and

(b) the action taken by the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments on the implementation of its decision B (XXVI). (E/5276, para. 216)

TWENTY-NINTH SESSION

(18-29 April 1974)

RESOLUTIONS

1 (XXIX) The future activities of the Commission

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Having considered the report by the Executive Secretary on the Commission's activities (E/ECE/857),

Having exchanged views on the status of economic relations and co-operation in the ECE region as well as on the activities of the Commission with a view to developing further the co-operation among member States,

Recalling the Declaration adopted by the Commemorative Meeting to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the Economic Commission for Europe stressing the value of the Commission's activities for the co-operation among countries of the ECE region with different economic and social systems and the determination of its member States to continue to utilize the Commission for the development and strengthening of co-operation in the interests of safeguarding peaceful and friendly relations and security,

Considering the need for intensified trade, economic, scientific and technological co-operation among member countries on a mutually advantageous basis, inter alia, through further consideration of practical measures which might be taken to remove the obstacles to trade within the region and to promote and diversify it and through encouraging access to the achievements of modern science and technology so that the ECE region may become a zone of broad and fruitful co-operation in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter,

Aware that the ECE should play an increased role in the development and extension of economic, scientific and technological co-operation in the region by pursuing with determination its search for solutions to the basic problems facing member States and by new initiatives to expand the development of the regional economic co-operation and the harmonious development of all member States,

Recognizing that improved present conditions within the region and a successful outcome of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe may give a new impetus and open new perspectives for the further activities of the ECE in the field of economic, scientific and technological co-operation,

Aware of the importance of the economic relations of member States with the other regions in the world as well as of the need for equitable and mutually advantageous international relationships, to contribute to intensified trade exchanges and economic co-operation in fields of major interest (such as raw materials, energy, science and technology and other) and to promote the economic growth within the region and elsewhere, including in the developing countries, and hence peace and security in the world,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report by the Executive Secretary on the Commission's activities (E/ECE/857);

2. Reiterates the need to strengthen the efficiency and the contribution of the ECE to the development of economic, scientific and technological co-operation and of trade through consistent actions aimed at finding practical ways and means to favour durable and mutually advantageous solutions to economic problems and the process of peace and security-building in Europe;

3. Determines to concentrate its activities on practical areas of mutual interest in order to strengthen bilateral and multilateral co-operation within the region,

4. Agrees to examine possible new approaches for formulating and implementing its programme, in order to give new impetus to activities of the Commission in the light of the improved climate for such activities in the ECE region; and

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare a report for submission to the thirtieth session of the Commission containing suggestions concerning the programmes and approaches mentioned above. (E/5470, para. 44)

2 (XXIX) The work of the Commission as a whole

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolutions 1 (XXVIII) and 2 (XXVIII) on the activities of the Commission,

Underlining again that projects concerning ECE's work programme in individual fields are or can be interrelated,

Recognizing the imperative need of postponing work on tasks of lesser importance and urgency,

Emphasizing that economies throughout the United Nations system are required,

Conscious therefore that it is necessary to concentrate its resources to obtain the most useful results,

Noting with satisfaction that its Principal Subsidiary Bodies have paid due attention to the concentration of their programmes of work as well as to the co-operation on projects of common interest through the appropriate use of joint meetings,

Considering that, to this purpose, its Principal Subsidiary Bodies have increased the use of ad hoc meetings, seminars and symposia,

Convinced that the flexibility of its programmes and methods of work permits the concentration and integration of its activity,

1. Reiterates its earlier decisions to strengthen further co-operation among member countries of the ECE within the framework of the overall priorities agreed upon in its resolution 5 (XXIV);

2. Requests its Principal Subsidiary Bodies:

(a) to pursue their efforts towards concentration and integration of their programmes of work through appropriate co-operation on projects of common concern in the framework of the existing programme determination structure of ECE as decided in operative paragraphs 5 and 6 of its resolution 1 (XXVIII);

(b) to pay special attention to the examination of long-term economic trends and problems as stipulated in operative paragraph 2 of Commission resolution 2 (XXVIII); and

(c) to make appropriate use of joint meetings in order to strengthen co-ordination among them;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue assisting its Principal Subsidiary Bodies in the implementation of the provisions of this resolution by taking appropriate measures designed to keep them fully informed of the relevant work on projects of common concern - including the submission of tables with the synoptic presentation of their programmes of work - and to facilitate in every respect their efforts towards further co-operation in and towards integrated consideration of problems of common concern while avoiding any unnecessary duplication of work. (E/5470, para. 45)

3 (XXIX) Programme of work of the Commission for 1974/75 and its long-term programme of work for 1975-1979

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes by the Executive Secretary on certain questions, and the programme of work for the Commission for 1974/75, as well as the long-term programme of work for 1975-1979,

Noting that during the twenty-ninth session various delegations have raised a number of points concerning the Commission's programme of work,

1. Draws the attention of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission to the relevant resolutions and other decisions of the Commission as well as to the points reported in the relevant passages of the summary records and the Report of the twenty-ninth session;

2. Requests its subsidiary bodies to take those decisions and points into consideration when reviewing their respective short and long-term programmes of work; and

3. Approves its programme of work for 1974/75 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its thirtieth session, its long-term programme of work for 1975-1979. (E/5470, para. 249)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (XXIX) ECE and the United Nations Conference/Exposition on Human Settlements

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Report of the thirty-fourth session of the ECE Committee on Housing, Building and Planning and of its decision, as reflected in its programme of work and priorities for 1974/75, to assist as appropriate in the preparatory work for the Conference/Exposition on Human Settlements to be organized in Vancouver (Canada) in 1976 by the United Nations;

(b) to take note, as well, of the General Assembly resolution 3128 (XXVIII) concerning the Conference/Exposition on Human Settlements, in particular paragraphs 7 and 9 thereof, and to refer this resolution to the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning for follow-up;

(c) to request the Executive Secretary to communicate with the Secretary-General of the Conference/Exposition on the relevant decisions and discussions of the ECE Committee on Housing, Building and Planning;

(d) to request the ECE Committee on Housing, Building and Planning, taking into account in particular the information to be transmitted by the Executive Secretary pursuant to paragraph (c) above, to consider at its thirty-fifth session what it could do to facilitate the preparations for the Conference/Exposition. (E/5470, para. 106)

B (XXIX) Terms of reference of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems

The Commission:

(a) took note of the recommendation of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems for their terms of reference (ECE/ENV/4, para. 115); and

(b) decided to adopt the following terms of reference of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems:

"The Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems are charged by the Commission with providing a forum for an exchange of experience and information, for discussion and consultation, and for action on problems of environmental protection and improvement, in particular those of a transboundary nature, which are of broad concern to ECE Governments, in conformity with the character and specific functions of the ECE. The Senior Advisers will bear in mind the fundamental relationship between, and compatibility of, economic and social development and environmental protection. In carrying out these activities, this body should, inter alia:

(1) assemble information periodically on the state of the environment in the ECE region and on national policies and legislation and examine the implications of those policies;

(2) identify and examine selected problems of environmental policy which are of major concern to Governments in the ECE region;

(3) encourage the study of the technical means for protecting the environment;

(4) encourage the study of possibilities for the education and advanced training of specialists;

(5) stimulate the development of analytical tools and methods for improving decision-making on problems of the environment;

(6) promote the development of intergovernmental, including sub-regional, agreements and other forms of international arrangements dealing with environmental problems of concern to ECE Governments;

(7) review periodically, in the interest of consistency in the environmental activities of the ECE, all ECE activities and programmes related to the environment and, in close co-operation with the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies, prepare specific suggestions and recommendations, in particular for a comprehensive and integrated ECE short-term programme and long-term programme on the environment, for consideration and approval by the Commission;

(8) promote mutual and regular exchanges of information on the environmental activities and programmes of other international bodies with a view to obtaining close inter-organizational co-operation;

(9) be available to assist in the implementation within the ECE region of the United Nations Environment Programme; and

(10) be available to assist in carrying out other tasks related to the environment with which the Commission might later be entrusted." (E/5470, para. 129)

C (XXIX) Development of trade

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of

(i) the decisions relevant to operative paragraphs (a) and (b) of Commission decision E (XXVIII) made by the Committee on the Development of Trade at its twenty-second session;

(ii) the action taken by the Executive Secretary to convene a Second Seminar on East-West Trade Promotion, Marketing and Business Contacts to be held from 13-18 May 1974 on the basis of the programme agreed upon at the Preparatory Meeting held in 1973 for this purpose;

(b) to approve the steps taken to arrange a second Informal Meeting of Experts on Trade and to decide that this Informal Meeting should be convened early in 1975 preceded by a Preparatory Meeting to be held at an appropriate prior date. (E/5470, para. 196)

D (XXIX) Industrial co-operation

The Commission decided:

(a) to endorse the decision of the Committee on the Development of Trade at its twenty-second session to convene a Second Meeting of Experts on Industrial Co-operation which will focus on the Analytical Report on Industrial Co-operation among ECE Countries (E/ECE/844/Rev.1) including particularly its suggestions concerning financing and payments; and

(b) to request the Executive Secretary to convene the Second Meeting of Experts on Industrial Co-operation in due time and, with the assistance of Governments, to begin preparations for it. (E/5470, para. 203)

E (XXIX) Energy problems in Europe

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of:

(i) the Executive Secretary's Note E/ECE/864 on Energy Problems in Europe;

- (ii) the Report on the Symposium on Mathematical Models of Sectors of the Energy Economy held in Alma-Ata (USSR) (ENERGY/SEM.1/1);
- (iii) the Report of the Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium in Delphi (Greece) on the Role of Electric Power in Meeting Future Energy Needs and on International Co-operation in this Field (EP/SEM.3/AC.1/2);

(b) in accordance with the Commission's established four main priorities and the relevant decision contained in paragraph 189 of E/5276, to invite its Principal Subsidiary Bodies to give attention to those aspects of energy problems which are within their areas of responsibility and within the framework, and on the basis of, their programmes of work and plans, and in particular to request:

- (i) the Committees on Coal, Electric Power and Gas to intensify their work on measures to increase efficiency in the production and distribution of energy in their respective areas of responsibility;
- (ii) the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments to continue their work on the study of basic products and energy and to give due consideration, within the framework of their medium and long-term projections, to the factors of domestic demand and production potential, seeking, as appropriate, the co-operation of the other subsidiary bodies concerned;
- (iii) the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology to continue their work on new technologies in energy production and utilization;
- (iv) the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems to examine the environmental aspects of the energy economy;
- (v) the Committees dealing with economic activities which use energy on a large scale, such as the Inland Transport Committee, the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning, the Steel Committee and the Chemical Industry Committee, to examine within their respective areas of responsibility problems relating to increased efficiency in the use of energy and energy conservation;
- (vi) the Executive Secretary to assist the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned in the fulfilment of the above tasks and to prepare a synoptic presentation of the Commission's programme of work in the fields of energy;

(c) to request the Executive Secretary, taking note of the positive results of the Alma-Ata Symposium of 1973 on Model Building in the Energy Sectors, to continue work in this field;

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to prepare - on the basis of information which Governments may wish to supply as well as possible contributions from and the results of the work by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies referred to in paragraph (b) above, as well as in co-operation with the secretariats of other international organizations concerned in order to avoid duplication - a study on measures taken, or which might be taken, in order to achieve increased economy and efficiency in the extraction, conversion, transport and use of energy in the ECE region, and to submit this study for consideration at the thirtieth session of the Commission;

(e) to ask the Executive Secretary to report to the thirtieth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/5470, para. 209)

F (XXIX) Standardization

The Commission decided:

(b) to take note of the Executive Secretary's Report on the activities of the Commission on standardization;

(a) to express the hope that at the Third Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies to be held in June 1974 agreement will be reached on action to be taken by ECE Governments for the removal of specific barriers to international trade arising from a lack of harmonization in standards or in the international application of standards;

(c) to request its Principal Subsidiary Bodies to continue to give special attention to problems of standardization in their respective areas of activity and to continue to report regularly to the Commission on the progress made on these problems;

(d) to request the Executive Secretary:

(i) to continue to maintain close co-operation with the secretariats of other international organizations, especially ISO and IEC, in respect of international standardization activities; and

(ii) to report to the thirtieth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision, including the results of the Third Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies. (E/5470, para. 218)

G (XXIX) Automation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's Report E/ECE/866 and Add.1 on the progress made during 1972/1973 in the activities of the Working Party on Automation;

(b) to approve the Working Party's programmes of work and priorities for 1974/75 and for 1975-1979, as contained in the Annex of ECE/AUTOMAT/2; and

(c) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirtieth session on the progress made in the further work of the Working Party on Automation. (E/5470, para. 225)

H (XXIX) Engineering industries

The Commission decided,

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/867;

(b) to approve the short-term programme of work for 1974/1975 in the field of engineering industries, including in particular:

(i) the holding of the Seminar on Techno-economic Aspects and Results of Anti-corrosion Measures in Engineering Industries in Romania in September 1974;

- (ii) the convening in 1975 of the Second ad hoc Meeting of Governmental Experts for the study on Special Aspects of Market Trends and Prospects in Selected Branches of Engineering Industries;
- (iii) the convening in 1975 of the Second ad hoc Meeting of Governmental Experts for the study on Production of Engineering Equipment for Preventing Pollution and the Techno-economic Effectiveness of Such Equipment;
- (iv) the continued publication of the Bulletin of Statistics on World Trade in Engineering Products;

(c) to convene the Fourth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries in 1975, in order to draw up short-term and long-term programmes of work in the field of engineering, taking into account the progress made in the implementation of the programmes agreed at the Third ad hoc Meeting; and

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirtieth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/5470, para. 236)

I (XXIX) **Symposium on the Planning and Development of the Tourist Industry
in the ECE region**

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's Report on preparations made for the Symposium on the Planning and Development of the Tourist Industry in the ECE Region (E/ECE/868 and Add.1) to be held in Dubrovnik (Yugoslavia) from Monday, 13 to Saturday, 18 October 1975 and to be followed by a study tour organized by the host authorities;

(b) to endorse the decisions of the First Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium as recorded in the Report of that Meeting ECE/SEM.1/AC/2;

(c) to request the Executive Secretary to convene in January 1975 the Second Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium and to take any other measures required in preparation for the Symposium; and

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission's thirtieth session on the measures taken to implement this decision. (E/5470, para. 242).

THIRTIETH SESSION

(15-24 April 1975)

RESOLUTIONS

I (XXX) The work of the Commission as a whole

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolutions 5 (XXIV) and 2 (XXIX),

Convinced of the value of the activities of the Commission as an important forum for broad co-operation among countries of the ECE region with different economic and social systems,

Convinced also that, for this purpose, a better co-ordination, integration and concentration of the programmes of work of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission should be achieved,

Considering that the synoptic tables provided by the Executive Secretary indicate areas which offer opportunities for increased integration of the programmes of work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies,

Conscious of the need to ensure that the activities of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies are carried out under its close guidance and control,

Emphasizing also the usefulness of a close co-ordination at national levels relating to ECE activities,

Bearing in mind the need of reducing overlapping and duplication of activities both of the ECE subsidiary bodies and those of the Commission itself, as well as those of the other United Nations Organs,

Mindful of the need to make the best possible use of available national experts,

Convinced of the important role foreseen for the Sessional Committee in co-ordinating the work of subsidiary bodies,

1. Notes with appreciation the progress made in 1974 towards concentration and integration of programmes of work, as reported by the Executive Secretary in document E/ECE/874 and in particular the elaboration to this end of the synoptic tables;

2. Invites its Principal Subsidiary Bodies to continue the process of concentration and integration of their programmes of work, bearing in mind, inter alia, the following:

(a) The Principal Subsidiary Bodies should focus their activities on major substantive problems, in the areas assigned to them by the Commission;

(b) In making programming decisions for their subsidiary bodies, the Principal Subsidiary Bodies should:

(i) give priority to major questions of practical relevance to improving conditions for co-operation between member countries, and avoid pursuing work of lesser importance;

- (ii) make fuller use of joint meetings when dealing with questions of inter-sectoral interest;
- (iii) consider the possibility, bearing in mind the availability of national experts, of reducing the number of meetings, in particular of the subsidiary bodies whose work would not seem to require frequent meetings;
- (iv) try to organize in close succession meetings of subsidiary bodies dealing with related subjects;
- (v) continue to convene, if necessary, ad hoc meetings only to deal with one project at a time;
- (vi) continue to include in the programme of work the results of Seminars and Symposia;

3. Calls on its member countries to consider the desirability of instructing, as appropriate, their own experts on the advantage obtainable by implementing this resolution;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to bring the foregoing to the attention of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and to assist them in its implementation;

5. Requests also the Executive Secretary to submit, before the thirty-first session, suggestions for improving the methods of work and co-ordination functions of the Sessional Committee; and

6. Requests further the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-first session of the Commission on the implementation of this resolution. (E/5651, para. 47)

2 (XXX) The future activities of the Commission

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Conscious that the Commission is approaching the fourth decade of its activities at a time of improving international relations at the political level, concurrently with well-known economic difficulties in a number of areas of the world,

Recalling its resolutions 5 (XXIV) and 1 (XXIX),

Recalling further the Declaration adopted by the Commemorative Meeting to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the Economic Commission for Europe stressing the value of the Commission's activities for the co-operation among countries of the ECE region with different economic and social systems and the determination of its member States to continue to utilize the Commission for the development and strengthening of co-operation in the interests of safeguarding peaceful and friendly relations and security,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Executive Secretary on "The future activities of the Commission" (E/ECE/875) prepared prior to the conclusion of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe,

Aware that in the future its Member Governments might ask the Commission to review its activities and that suggestions and broad guidelines for future co-operation, contained in document E/ECE/875, might be generally used to that effect,

Believing in particular that the expected results of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe will give a new impetus and open new perspectives for a further intensification of economic, scientific and technical co-operation between the countries of the ECE region,

Expecting that its Member Countries will examine, as soon as possible, the consequences of the CSCE for the further work of the Commission,

Recognizing that the strengthening of regional co-operation will help Member Governments and the Commission make greater contributions towards solving the pressing problems of world development and promoting the economic growth within the region and elsewhere, including in the developing countries, and hence peace and security in the world,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies for their careful consideration document E/ECE/875 together with the comments made thereon by its Member Countries at this session;

2. Invites the Principal Subsidiary Bodies on the basis of the aforesaid with the assistance of the Executive Secretary to formulate proposals for adaptation of their short and long-term programmes of work, while maintaining the necessary flexibility to deal with possible new assignments; and

3. Asks the Executive Secretary to prepare, for the thirty-first session of the Commission, in the light of the above considerations and of the discussions at the thirtieth session upon further consultations with Member Governments and informal contacts with their Permanent Missions in Geneva, a detailed report containing:

(a) information on measures to be taken or envisaged by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies in pursuance of the above; and

(b) concrete suggestions and specific proposals on possible adaptation of the Commission's future activities. (E/5651, para. 48)

3 (XXX) Programme of work of the Commission for 1975/76 and its long-term programme of work for 1976-1980

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes by the Executive Secretary on certain questions, and the programme of work for the Commission for 1975/76, as well as the long-term programme of work for 1976-1980,

Noting that during the thirtieth session various delegations have raised a number of points concerning the Commission's programme of work,

1. Draws the attention of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission to the relevant resolutions and other decisions of the Commission as well as to the points reported in the relevant passages of the summary records and the Report of the thirtieth session;

2. Requests its subsidiary bodies to take these decisions and points into consideration when reviewing their respective short and long-term programmes of work; and

3. Approves its programme of work for 1975/76 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its thirty-first session, its long-term programme of work for 1976-1980. (E/5651, para. 255)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (XXX) ECE assistance to Habitat Conference

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the statement by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Mr. E. Penalosa, especially regarding the meeting of its Preparatory Committee in August 1975;

(b) to endorse the decision taken by the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning at its thirty-fifth session to devote a substantial part of its thirty-sixth session to the Committee's contribution to the HABITAT Conference and other matters relating thereto, having in mind that this session will take place after the meeting of the Preparatory Committee;

(c) to request the Executive Secretary to convene, during the two week period when the Working Parties on Housing and on Building are scheduled to meet, namely 20 June and 1 July, an ECE consultation in Geneva to discuss primarily the agenda and the substantive framework of the HABITAT Conference;

(d) to take note of statements made by certain delegations that they would contribute in meeting extra budgetary expenses required for organizing this consultation and/or to offer professional help or documentation for the consultation. (E/5651, para. 100)

B (XXX) Transport statistics

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling resolutions 1 (XXVI), 3 (XXVII) and 2 (XXIX) concerning in particular the co-operative efforts of all subsidiary bodies of the ECE to co-ordinate their activities in fields of common interest by undertaking joint projects as appropriate,

Reaffirming once more that ECE projects in individual fields are interrelated and that there is a need to consider them as one single aspect of an integrated programme of work of the Commission as a whole,

Noting the wish expressed by the Commission for joint meetings of its subsidiary bodies,

Decided to reiterate the urgent request for the Inland Transport Committee to accept, as other subsidiary bodies have already done, the use of joint meetings with the Conference of European Statisticians for dealing with statistical problems. (E/5651, para. 117)

C (XXX) Terms of reference of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Took note of the recommendation of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments for their terms of reference (ECE/EC.AD/10, paragraph 75 and Annex III); and

Decided to adopt the following terms of reference of the Senior Economic Advisers:

"The Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments shall:

(a) Promote regular exchanges of information and views and make appropriate recommendations on:

- (i) General economic trends and problems in the ECE region (including the interrelations in the framework of the economy as a whole between trends and problems in particular branches of economic activities);
- (ii) Medium- and long-term economic plans, programmes and projections for the development of countries of the ECE region;
- (iii) Instruments and methods for the elaboration of national plans, programmes and projections;

(b) Identify and examine within their area of responsibility major inter-sectoral economic problems of common interest to countries of the ECE region, giving special attention to those tasks which contribute most effectively to the widest possible international co-operation;

(c) In their reports to the Commission, draw its attention to specific opportunities for expanded and intensified intergovernmental co-operation, and especially to the possibility of intensified East-West co-operation, on economic problems of common interest to countries in the ECE region which have emerged from the work referred to under (a) and (b);

(d) Prepare and propose to the Commission a general economic framework for studies of long-term trends and problems including their views on their work in relation to the work of other Principal Subsidiary Bodies and on the actions to be taken to ensure appropriate co-operation and co-ordination;

(e) Co-operate with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies in activities of mutual concern utilizing for this purpose information on their relevant work done and planned, particularly on studies of long-term economic trends and problems of common interest;

(f) Convene, within their area of responsibility groups of experts, ad hoc meetings, symposia or seminars to examine problems selected for special examination." (E/5651, para. 145)

D (XXX) Development of trade

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's Note, E/ECE/880, and

(b) to express the hope that at the Third Seminar on East-West Trade Promotion, Marketing and Business Contacts (scheduled to be held from 13-16 May 1975) and at the Informal Meeting of Trade Experts, when duly convened by the Executive Secretary, useful results will be obtained. (E/5651, para. 192)

E (XXX) Industrial co-operation

The Commission agreed:

(a) to take note of the decision of the Committee on the Development of Trade at its twenty-third session, by which the Committee requested the Executive Secretary to convene the

Second Meeting of Experts on Industrial Co-operation, in consultation with the Permanent Missions in Geneva, as soon as possible after the results of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe are known;

(b) to express the hope that the Group of Experts on International Contract Practices will complete in 1975 their work on the Guide for drawing up contracts on industrial co-operation. (E/5651, para. 198)

F (XXX) Energy problems in the ECE region

The Commission:

Taking note of:

(a) the Executive Secretary's Note E/ECE/882 on energy problems in the ECE region; and

(b) the Executive Secretary's Study on measures taken, or which might be taken, in order to achieve increased economy and efficiency in the extraction, conversion, transport and use of energy in the ECE region (E/ECE/883 and Add.1);

Decided:

1. to request the Executive Secretary to revise and up-date the study contained in E/ECE/883 and Add.1 to take account of recent information submitted by Governments and to include a survey of relevant work undertaken or projected by other international bodies;

2. to request its Principal Subsidiary Bodies to examine, as a matter of priority, at their forthcoming sessions in 1975/76 the above-mentioned revised and up-dated Study contained in E/ECE/883 and Add.1 and to include their observations thereon in their Reports to the Commission;

3. to request the Executive Secretary to convene as soon as practicable in consultation with the Governments an ad hoc meeting of Experts, with a limited mandate, to examine the revised and up-dated report contained in document E/ECE/883 and Add.1 and comments of Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned thereon, with a view to drawing up recommendations to the Commission for possible future work on energy economy and efficiency in the ECE region;

4. to authorize the printing and general distribution of the report contained in E/ECE/883 and Add.1, as revised and up-dated in accordance with paragraph 1;

5. to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-first session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/5651, para. 207)

G (XXX) Standardization

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Report of the Third Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies (ECE/STAND/14) and to endorse the decisions contained therein;

(b) to take note of the Report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization E/ECE/884;

(c) to express the hope that the Fourth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies - which should be held in 1976 - will result in accelerated progress in international standardization, especially with a view to removing technical barriers to international trade arising out of different standards and technical regulations or their application, as well as in the promotion of scientific and technological co-operation and environmental improvement;

(d) to request its Principal Subsidiary Bodies:

(i) to continue to pay particular attention to problems of standardization in their respective fields of activity including the means of implementation of ECE standards in member countries, taking into account the recommendations adopted by the Meetings of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies;

(ii) to co-operate, as appropriate, in work on the revision of the priorities for international standardization;

(iii) to keep government officials responsible for standardization policies informed about their standardization activities;

(e) to invite Governments to give appropriate consideration to the implementation of the recommendations formulated by the Meetings of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies;

(f) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-first session on the implementation of this decision. (E/5651, para. 214)

H (XXX) Automation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/885 on the progress made during 1974 in the activities of the Working Party on Automation;

(b) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-first session on the progress made in the further work of the Working Party on Automation. (E/5651, para. 223)

I (XXX) Engineering industries

The Commission decided,

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/886;

(b) to request the Fourth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries, to be held in 1975, to make a list of topics that are of special interest to ECE member Governments for consideration by the next Commission session in connection with the possible adoption of ECE's programme of work and priorities with respect to the engineering industries;

(c) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-first session on the implementation of this decision. (E/5651, para. 235)

J (XXX) Symposium on the Planning and Development of the Tourist Industry in the ECE region

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's Report E/ECE/887 on the preparations made for the Symposium on the Planning and Development of the Tourist Industry in the ECE Region to be held in Dubrovnik (Yugoslavia) from Monday, 13 to Saturday, 18 October 1975 and to be followed by a study tour organized by the host authorities;

(b) to endorse the decisions of the Second Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium as recorded in the Report of that meeting (ECE/SEM.1/AC/4);

(c) to request the Executive Secretary:

(i) to take all measures required to hold the Symposium; and

(ii) to report to the Commission at its thirty-first session on the implementation of this decision. (E/5651, para. 242).

K (XXX) Participation of the Republic of San Marino in the work of the Commission

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Decided in accordance with article 8 of its terms of reference to admit the Republic of San Marino to participate in its work in a consultative capacity. (E/5651, para. 256)

L (XXX) Participation of the European Economic Community and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance in the work of the Commission

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Decided to invite the European Economic Community and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance to participate in its work in accordance with article 12 of its terms of reference. (E/5651, para. 257)

THIRTY-FIRST SESSION

(30 March-9 April 1976)

RESOLUTIONS

1 (XXXI) The future activities of the Commission and the implementation of the Final Act of the CSCE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolutions 1 (XXX) and 2 (XXX),

Convinced of the value of the activities of the Commission as an important forum for broad co-operation among the countries of the ECE region,

Aware of the diversity of the economic and social systems of the countries of the region and reaffirming the will of the member countries to intensify their co-operation between one another, irrespective of their systems,

Considering the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe to have been an event of great importance and recalling the resolve of the participating States "to pay due regard to and implement the provisions of the Final Act of the Conference",

Noting that the Final Act expresses the wish of the participating States to "take advantage of the possibilities offered by relevant international organizations, in particular by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, for giving effect to the provisions of the final documents of the Conference",

Convinced that the further development of their co-operation in the fields of trade, industry, science and technology, the environment and other areas of economic activity should "take place in full respect for the principles guiding relations among participating States as set forth in the relevant document" */ and in accordance with the pertinent provisions of the Final Act,

Mindful that the Final Act provides for unilateral and bilateral implementation as well as for multilateral implementation "by meetings of experts of the participating States, and also in the framework of existing international organizations, such as the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe",

Conscious of the significance of the role accorded to the Economic Commission for Europe by the Final Act and the opportunities created for it by that Act,

Taking into account the useful experience gained by the Commission in initiating and developing co-operation among the Member Countries irrespective of their economic and social systems,

*/ This refers to the "Declaration on principles guiding relations between participating States" which forms part of the Final Act of the CSCE.

Recognizing that the strengthening of regional co-operation will help Member Governments and the Commission to make greater contributions towards solving the pressing problems of world development and promoting economic growth, within the region and elsewhere, including in the developing countries, and hence peace and security in the world,

Recalling ECOSOC resolution 1952 (LIX) entitled Regional Co-operation and General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII) entitled Development and International Economic Co-operation, as adopted,

Believing that a continuing and close review of the current and future work programmes of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies by the Commission in Plenary Session will help to achieve a better co-ordination, integration and concentration of the programmes of work of the Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission and will thereby enhance both the effectiveness of the work of the Commission as a whole and its ability to respond appropriately and within the limits of available resources to the tasks confronting it,

Aware that the Final Act of the CSCE provides for the holding of a preparatory meeting in Belgrade, beginning on 15 June 1977, to decide on the date, duration, agenda and other modalities of the meeting of representatives appointed by Ministers of Foreign Affairs to be held at Belgrade in 1977,

1. Calls upon Governments of Member Countries to take full advantage of the potential of the Economic Commission for Europe as an instrument for developing their multilateral co-operation;

2. Affirms the determination of the Member Governments to implement, within the framework of the competence of the Commission, the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference calling for multilateral implementation, making appropriate adaptations to the Commission's programme of work, seeking further to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its activities, and considering whether adaptations to its structure and working methods are desirable to this end;

3. Welcomes the constructive Report on the Future Activities of the Commission (E/ECE/900) prepared by the Executive Secretary;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution, together with document E/ECE/900, and the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by Member Governments at the thirty-first session, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission;

5. Invites the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to complete the elaboration of their individual work programmes taking full account of document E/ECE/900 and being guided by the views recorded in the report of the thirty-first session of the Commission;

6. Reminds the Principal Subsidiary Bodies that, as part of their broader effort to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act calling for multilateral implementation, they should pay particular attention to the topics specifically referred by the Final Act to the Economic Commission for Europe for implementation;

7. Draws to the attention of Member Governments its decisions B (XXXI) and D (XXXI);

8. Asks the Executive Secretary to prepare for consideration at the thirty-second session of the Commission a report containing:

(a) a general review of the work of each of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies taking into account the results of the thirty-first session of the Commission;

(b) proposals and suggestions on future activities of the Commission, including those arising from the implementation of the Final Act; and

9. Agrees to consider at its thirty-second session the manner in which the meeting in Belgrade in 1977 will be informed of the progress made in the Economic Commission for Europe with the implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act. (E/5781, para. 78)

2 (XXXI) Programme of work of the Commission for 1976/77 and its long-term programme of work for 1977-1981

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes by the Executive Secretary on certain questions, and the programme of work for the Commission for 1976/77, as well as the long-term programme of work for 1977-1981,

Noting that during the thirty-first session various delegations have raised a number of points concerning the Commission's programme of work,

1. Draws the attention of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission to the relevant resolutions and other decisions of the Commission as well as to the points reported in the relevant passages of the summary records and the Report of the thirty-first session;

2. Requests its subsidiary bodies to take these decisions and points into consideration when reviewing their respective short and long-term programmes of work; and

3. Approves its programme of work for 1976/77 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its thirty-second session, its long-term programme of work for 1977-1981. (E/5781, para. 305)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (XXXI) Encouragement of economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Bearing in mind the provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and in particular that section entitled "Questions relating to Security and Co-operation in the Mediterranean",

Conscious of the possibilities of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe for giving effect to the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference,

Reaffirming the declared intention of the States signatory to the said Final Act to encourage with the non-participating Mediterranean States the development of mutually beneficial co-operation in the various fields of economic activity and to contribute to a diversified development of their economies,

Asks the Executive Secretary while preparing specific suggestions and proposals for submission to the thirty-second session to take due account of the need to encourage economic co-operation as envisaged in the section of the Final Act entitled "Questions relating to Security and Co-operation in the Mediterranean" and at the same time to continue his consultations with United Nations bodies and regional economic commissions, including the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Western Asia, as envisaged in ECOSOC resolution 1952 (LIX). (E/5781, para. 62)

B (XXXI) The proposal in regard to the holding of all-European congresses on questions of co-operation in the field of protection of the environment

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Takes note with satisfaction of the readiness of member Governments to intensify co-operation in a number of fields of economic activity as set forth in the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe;

Notes the interest expressed in the proposal made by the Soviet Government for the "Holding of all-European congresses on questions of co-operation in the fields of the protection of the environment, development of transport and energy", as well as the offer of the Soviet Union to be the host country for a congress on energy;

1. Draws to the attention of member Governments the discussion at the thirty-first session of the Commission on the proposal for congresses, and suggests that member Governments study the proposal thoroughly in the light of that discussion and of the provisions of the Final Act;

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

3. Draws to the attention of the relevant Principal Subsidiary Bodies the topics suggested for discussion at the proposed congresses on questions of co-operation in the fields of the protection of the environment, development of transport, and energy;

4. Asks the Executive Secretary to submit to the thirty-second session of the Commission a report on the work already effected or under way in the Economic Commission for Europe in these fields. (E/5781, para. 72)

C (XXXI) General energy problems

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Having considered its future activities in the field of general energy problems in the ECE region,

(a) Decided to adopt as its programme of work in this field Annex R to E/ECE/900 in respect of work areas 1, 2 and 4;

(b) Requested the Executive Secretary to incorporate in work area 3 of this programme its decision G (XXXI) on problems of energy economy and efficiency; and

(c) Requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a report for the thirty-second session concerning activities of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies with respect to all areas of this programme of work and to suggest procedures by which the Commission might implement this programme of work in the future. (E/5781, para. 75)

D (XXXI) Selected topics for special attention

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Reminds the competent Principal Subsidiary Bodies that, in addition to the topics specifically referred by the Final Act to the Economic Commission for Europe for multilateral

implementation, they should devote special attention to the multilateral implementation of other provisions set forth in the section of the Final Act entitled "Co-operation in the field of economics, of Science and Technology and of the Environment", such as the following:

1. The promotion of the publication and dissemination of economic and commercial information;

2. The promotion of international agreements and other appropriate arrangements on acceptance of certificates of conformity with standards and technical regulations;

3. The development through international co-operation of an extensive programme for the monitoring and evaluation of the long-range transport of air pollutants;

4. The harmonization of administrative and technical provisions concerning safety in road, rail and river transport.

Requests the competent subsidiary bodies to present progress reports to the thirty-second session. (E/5781, para. 79)

E (XXXI) Development of trade

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the decision of the Committee on the Development of Trade at its twenty-fourth session to convene a Second Informal Meeting of Trade Experts with the general theme; "New Developments in East-West Trade: Problems and Prospects in the light of the results of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe" to be held on 26-28 May 1976;

(b) to endorse the decisions of the Committee on the Development of Trade at its twenty-fourth session concerning the preparations and the conduct of the Second Informal Meeting; and to express the hope that the Meeting will give useful results; and

(c) to take note with satisfaction of the results of the Third Seminar on East-West Trade Promotion, Marketing and Business Contacts and of the decision of the Committee on the Development of Trade at its twenty-fourth session to convene a fourth Seminar in early 1977 on a theme to be determined by a preparatory meeting which will consider a list of proposals drawn up by the secretariat on the basis of suggestions made by member Governments. (E/5781, para. 238)

F (XXXI) Industrial co-operation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the decision of the Committee on the Development of Trade at its twenty-fourth session to convene the Second Meeting of Experts on Industrial Co-operation on 13-15 October 1976;

(b) to express the hope that the Meeting will yield useful results by giving due consideration to specific and practical measures aimed at creating the best possible conditions for the development of industrial co-operation in the ECE region; and

(c) to take note of the decision of the Committee on the Development of Trade at its twenty-fourth session by which the Committee invited the Group of Experts on International Contract Practices in Industry:

- (i) to prepare a final version of the Guide for Drawing Up International Contracts on Industrial Co-operation to be published by the secretariat as soon as possible; and
- (ii) to undertake the preparation of a guide for drawing up international contracts on consortiums. (E/5781, para. 248)

A (XXXI) Energy problems in the ECE region

The Commission decided:

- (a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/899 and Add.1;

(b) to adopt the recommendations on future work on energy economy and efficiency in the ECE region contained in paragraph 16 of the Report of the ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Energy Economy and Efficiency in the ECE Region (ECE/AC.2/2);

- (c) in order to implement those recommendations:

- (i) to include in its project on general energy problems a work area on Problems of Energy Economy and Efficiency, to be implemented with the assistance of appropriate Principal Subsidiary Bodies and ad hoc meetings and seminars as necessary. This work area would comprise:

- periodic exchanges of information and views on measures adopted or envisaged to achieve greater energy economy and efficiency and on the results of these measures;
- periodic reviews of work done or planned in the ECE framework relating to energy economy and efficiency;
- consideration of relevant economic, technological and environmental problems;

- (ii) to request the Executive Secretary to convene, and to prepare, as appropriate, with the assistance of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned, ad hoc meetings and seminars on the following priority topics:

- combined production of electric power and heat and the integration of energy systems of large energy consumers into broader combined electric power and heat systems, including regional and district heating systems and the use of waste heat and gases from power stations and large industrial complexes (a seminar to be held in 1978);
- conservation aspects of the development and application of new techniques for the transformation of primary energy, such as coal gasification and liquefaction (a seminar to be held in 1979);
- techniques and results of "public awareness" and "public action" programmes;
- recycling of energy-intensive industrial wastes and by-products, as well as the use of municipal wastes for energy production;
- improved techniques for extraction and processing of primary forms of energy;
- improved insulation of houses and buildings (this topic will be included in the ECE seminar to be held in Canada in 1977);

(iii) to ask its Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned to continue to give special attention to the possibility of including in their work programmes, or of intensifying their work on, projects relating to increased energy economy and efficiency, and to initiate and carry out co-operative studies on such specific topics selected by them as:

- incorporation into national plans and programmes for economic growth of the objective of lowering energy consumption rates and increasing energy efficiency (Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments);
- possibilities, methods and related problems of increasing energy productivity in selected economic branches (Committees on Agricultural Problems, Chemical Industry, Coal, Electric Power, Gas, Inland Transport, Steel and Timber);
- long-term energy consumption perspectives and scenarios in the light of energy conservation programmes (Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments);
- the use of econometric models, input-output and cost-benefit analysis for assessing the potential of energy conservation and for optimizing conservation programmes;
- elaboration of internationally acceptable concepts, definitions and statistics on energy conservation (Conference of European Statisticians);
- application of the heat pump (Committee on Electric Power);
- regulations for construction of motor vehicles with a view to energy savings, including dieselization, size and fuel consumption limits, etc. (Inland Transport Committee);
- environmental aspects of energy conservation measures (Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems);

(iv) to invite Governments to transmit to the Executive Secretary for distribution, prior to the thirty-second session, national studies analysing the progress made in their countries towards the achievement of greater energy economy and efficiency, and to consider these studies at its thirty-second session.

(v) to ask the secretariat and the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to ensure that in carrying out work on problems of energy economy and efficiency unnecessary duplication be avoided; and

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-second session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/5781, para. 258)

H (XXXI) Standardization

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization E/ECE/901 and Add.1;

(b) to request the Fourth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies - to be held from 12 to 16 July 1976 - to elaborate, on the basis of Annex S to E/ECE/900 and the comments made on it during the discussions at the thirty-first session of the Commission, a short- and long-term programme of work in the field of standardization, and to submit it to the thirty-second session of the Commission for its approval;

(c) to reiterate its hope that the Fourth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies will result in accelerated progress in international standardization; and;

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-second session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/5781, para. 266)

I (XXXI) Automation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/903 and Add.1 on the progress made during 1975/76 on the activities of the Working Party on Automation;

(b) to approve the Working Party's programmes of work and priorities for 1976-1977 and for 1978-1981 as contained in Annex 1 to ECE/AUTOMAT/4; and to decide to convene the Fifth Session of the Working Party on Automation prior to the thirty-second session of the Commission to adapt, on the basis of Annex T of E/ECE/900 and the comments made on it during the discussions at the thirty-first session of the Commission, those short and long-term programmes of work, and to submit them to the thirty-second session of the Commission for its approval; and

(c) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-second session on the implementation of this decision. (E/5781, para. 274)

J (XXXI) Engineering industries

The Commission decided,

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/902;

(b) to convene prior to the thirty-second session of the Commission the Fifth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries:

(i) to discuss matters arising from the decisions taken by the thirty-first session of the Commission, relevant to the ECE activities in the field of engineering;

(ii) to consider - on the basis of Annex Q to E/ECE/900 and of the discussions which took place at the thirty-first session of the Commission on the adaptation of its future activities and methods of work, and taking into account recommendations made by the Fourth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries (ECE/ENGIN/5 and Annex) - proposals for the possible adoption of ECE's programmes of work in the field of engineering industries, and to submit them to the thirty-second session of the Commission;

(iii) to select a topic to be dealt with by a seminar to be organized in Poland at the invitation of the Polish authorities in 1977 or 1978;

(iv) to select a topic for a study to be undertaken by the secretariat in 1976-78 after concluding its study on "Special aspects of market trends and prospects in selected branches of engineering industries;

(c) to convene, prior to the thirty-second session of the Commission, the preparatory meeting for a seminar to be held in Poland in 1977 or 1978; and

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-second session on the implementation of this decision. (E/5781, para. 285)

K (XXXI) Tourism

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's Report E/ECE/904 on the outcome of the Symposium on the Planning and Development of the Tourist Industry in the ECE Region;

(b) to ask the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems, the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning and the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned with activities related to problems of tourism to consider incorporating in their programmes of work appropriate projects taking into account the results of the Symposium on the Planning and Development of the Tourist Industry in the ECE Region as embodied in its Report ECE/SEM.1/3;

(c) to ask the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate closely on activities related to tourism with the international organizations concerned, in particular the World Tourism Organization, in order to avoid duplication; and

(d) to ask the Executive Secretary to transmit to the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization, for examination and comment, the text of the monograph on the Use of the Mediterranean Coasts for Tourism, as well as the recommendation on this topic which was unanimously adopted by the Dubrovnik Symposium. (E/5781, para. 291).

L (XXXI) Presentation of programme category 01 of the Commission's programme of work

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Having considered the presentation of category 01 of its programme of work,

Adopted the format of Annex A to E/ECE/900; and

Requested the Executive Secretary to submit for its consideration and approval at its thirty-second session programme category 01 in the new presentation in accordance with Annex A to E/ECE/900. (E/5781, para. 306)

M (XXXI) Participation of the Principality of Liechtenstein in the work of the Commission

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Decided in accordance with article 8 of its terms of reference to admit the Principality of Liechtenstein to participate in its work in a consultative capacity. (E/5781, para. 307)

N (XXXI) Participation of the Holy See in the work of the Commission

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Decided in accordance with article 8 of its terms of reference to admit the Holy See to participate in its work in a consultative capacity. (E/5781, para. 308)

THIRTY-SECOND SESSION

(19-30 April 1977)

RESOLUTION

1 (XXXII) The work and future activities of the Commission

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling resolution 1 (XXXI), the decisions referred to in that resolution, and resolution 2 (XXXI),

Reaffirming in particular the provisions of resolution 1 (XXXI) relating to the value of the activities of the ECE and to the significance of its role in the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe,

Mindful of the experience gained by the Commission and the valuable results which have been achieved in many fields,

1.

Welcoming the progress made in adapting the work programmes of the ECE to bring them into line with the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE,

Conscious of the need to maximize the effectiveness of the work of the ECE as a whole and of the need to continue the effort to achieve a better co-ordination, integration and concentration of the work of the Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission,

Drawing attention to the provision of the Final Act of the CSCE which refers to the need to take into account the interests of the developing countries throughout the world, including those among the member countries of the ECE as long as they are developing from an economic point of view,

Having considered the reports of its Subsidiary Bodies on their activities, the notes by the Executive Secretary on certain questions and the programme of work for the Commission for 1977-1978, as well as the long-term programme of work for 1977-1981,

1. Calls upon the Governments of member countries to continue to take full advantage of the potential of the Economic Commission for Europe as an instrument for developing their multi-lateral co-operation;

2. Reaffirms the determination of the member Governments to implement, within the framework of the competence of the Commission, the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference calling for multilateral implementation, making appropriate adaptations to the Commission's programme of work, seeking further to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its activities, and considering whether adaptations to its structure and working methods are desirable to this end;

3. Welcomes the constructive report prepared by the Executive Secretary on the future activities of the Commission and the implementation of the Final Act of the CSCE (E/ECE/911) and takes note of the report which he has prepared in accordance with decision D (XXXI);

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution together with document E/ECE/911, and the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments at the thirty-second session to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission for their guidance;

5. Approves its programme of work for 1977-1978 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its thirty-third session, its long-term programme of work for 1978-1981;

6. Requests its subsidiary bodies, as well as the Executive Secretary, to take into account in their work and when reviewing their respective short and long-term programmes this resolution, the decisions of the Commission, and the points raised by delegations and reported in the relevant passages of the summary records and the report of the thirty-second session;

7. Requests its Subsidiary Bodies also to take into account when reviewing their programmes the provision of the Final Act dealing with the interests of countries which are developing from an economic point of view;

8. Reaffirms its wish that the Principal Subsidiary Bodies should continue to pay special attention to the topics in the Final Act requiring multilateral implementation and referred to in the section entitled "Co-operation in the Field of Economics, of Science and Technology and of the Environment", as is provided for in decision D (XXXI); and asks the Executive Secretary to prepare a report to the thirty-third session on progress in these areas.

11.

Recalling its resolution 1 (XXXI) and decision B (XXXI) concerning the proposal in regard to the holding of all-European congresses on questions of co-operation in the fields of the environment, development of transport, and energy,

Taking into account the communications made to the Executive Secretary in accordance with decision B (XXXI),

Commending the useful work performed by the subsidiary bodies of the Commission in the three fields above,

Noting the view expressed by the Executive Secretary in his report E/ECE/911 that the authority of the ECE could be reinforced, and its work in the relevant area given additional impetus, by high-level meetings properly prepared and held within the framework of the ECE at an appropriate moment; and recognizing that such meetings could provide further expression of the will of member countries to implement those provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE which call for multilateral implementation,

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

Taking into consideration the discussion which took place at the thirty-second session of the Commission on the holding of high-level meetings,

1. Invites the Executive Secretary, in consultation with member Governments and with the assistance of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems, to carry out a detailed analysis of topics which, in the light of the views of member Governments, may be appropriate for consideration at a high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE on the protection of the environment;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to present to the thirty-session of the Commission for its consideration and decision a report on the analysis mentioned above as well as one on the modalities of organizing such a high-level meeting and on the procedural and organizational issues related thereto;

3. Agrees that with a view to taking a decision the Commission will consider constructively at its thirty-third session, in the light of the Executive Secretary's reports and against the criteria set out earlier in this resolution, the holding as soon as practicable of such a high-level meeting;

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

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

III.

Recalling its resolution I (XXXI) entitled "The Future Activities of the Commission and the Implementation of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe",

Recalling that the Final Act of the CSCE provides for the continuation of the multilateral process initiated by the Conference, inter alia, at a meeting at the level of representatives appointed by Ministers of Foreign Affairs to be held at Belgrade in 1977,

Recalling that in its resolution I (XXXI) the Commission decided to consider at its thirty-second session the manner in which the meeting in Belgrade will be informed of the progress made in the ECE in the implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act,

Invites the Executive Secretary to inform the meeting in Belgrade, if invited to do so by the participating States, of the progress made in the ECE on the implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act as well as of the possibilities open to the Commission for contributing further to the implementation of the Final Act. (E/5944. Vol.1, para. 57)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (XXXII) The contribution of the Commission to the preparations for the
United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Noting with satisfaction the adoption of resolution 31/184 by which the General Assembly decided to convene in 1979 the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development,

Recalling resolution 2028 (LXI) of the Economic and Social Council which contained the aims of the Conference, and desiring to give its full support to the achievement of these aims,

Bearing in mind its great interest in the development of scientific and technological co-operation and the numerous possibilities in this respect offered by the region,

Recalling also the decisions adopted by the Committee on Science and Technology for Development at its first extraordinary session, according to which the regional commissions of the United Nations were requested to prepare regional contributions to the preparation for the Conference,

1. Decides to co-operate fully and actively in these preparations in order to ensure the success of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development;
2. Invites the Executive Secretary to co-operate closely with the competent organs of the United Nations system in the preparations for the Conference while at the same time ensuring co-ordination at the regional level;
3. Requests the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology, as well as its other subsidiary bodies, to pay particular attention in their programmes of work to projects related to the aims of the Conference;
4. Decides that the regional meeting of the ECE shall take place in Bucarest in June/July 1978 with a view to elaborating the regional documents for presentation to the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development;
5. Invites member countries to contribute fully to the success of the ECE regional meeting;
6. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-third session on the implementation of this decision. (E/5944, Vol.1, para. 59).

B (XXXII) Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling resolution 1952 (LIX) on regional co-operation, as well as resolution 2043 (LXI) on the strengthening of the regional commissions for regional and interregional co-operation, adopted by the Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the declared intention of the States signatory to the Final Act to encourage with the non-participating Mediterranean States the development of mutually beneficial co-operation in the various fields of economic activity and to contribute to a diversified development of their economies,

Bearing in mind that a great number of those member countries of the ECE which are developing from an economic point of view are geographically situated in the Mediterranean,

1. Notes with satisfaction the report of the Executive Secretary, pursuant to decision A (XXXI), on the encouragement of economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE;
2. Notes with satisfaction the positive responses of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Western Asia, as well as other International Organizations and Specialized Agencies; and requests the Executive Secretary to continue the work in this field, and to submit to the Commission conclusions thereon in the report mentioned in paragraph 6 below;
3. Recommends that its Principal Subsidiary Bodies should pay due regard to projects and activities of interest to the Mediterranean countries of the ECE region;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit ECE documentation of interest and relevance directly to all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission;

5. Agrees that, in carrying out the provisions of this decision, and in exercise of the Commission's prerogatives under paragraph 11 of the terms of reference, all Mediterranean states not members of the ECE shall be invited to participate in accordance with that paragraph of the terms of reference; and

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the thirty-third session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/5944, Vol.I, para. 65)

C (XXXII) Selected topics for special attention

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling that among the topics accorded special attention by decision D (XXXI) is the development through international co-operation of an extensive programme for the monitoring and evaluation of the long-range transport of air pollutants,

Welcoming the work accomplished in this respect, as well as the various proposals for further efforts intended to combat transboundary air pollution problems in the region,

1. Agrees that special attention should be accorded to these problems in all relevant aspects of the work of the Commission during the coming year; and

2. Requests the Executive Secretary, consulting member States through an appropriate ad hoc machinery within the ECE, to prepare specific proposals for measures designed to lead to the solution of transboundary air pollution problems in the region, such as the harmonization of emission control policies; and to report accordingly to the thirty-third session of the Commission. (E/5944, Vol.I, para. 74)

D (XXXII) Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolution 1 (XXXI),

Having considered the report of the Executive Secretary on Concentration and Integration of the Commission's Programmes of Work contained in document E/ECE/912,

Conscious of the necessity of a continuous process of concentration, integration and co-ordination of the Commission's programmes of work,

Taking note of the suggestion of the Executive Secretary to decide each year on a major priority topic to be considered in depth at the next session,

Requests the Executive Secretary to submit to the member Governments well ahead of the thirty-third session, a report on the activities in the field of trade from the point of view of concentration, integration and co-ordination, to be further discussed at that session, taking into account the comments made by the Committee on the Development of Trade. (E/5944, Vol.I, para. 99)

E (XXXII) Problems of land use and land-use planning in the ECE region

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Bearing in mind the growing concern over the urgent problems of land use and land-use planning as stated by a number of Principal Subsidiary Bodies, and

Taking note of the views expressed during the thirty-second session on the proposals made by the Executive Secretary in his report (E/ECE/912, annex VI),

1. Requests the Executive Secretary in consultation with member Governments, to consider convening, before the thirty-third session, an ad hoc consultative meeting of governmental experts representing relevant disciplines to undertake, in co-operation with other international organizations concerned, the following tasks:

(a) to identify the problem areas in land use and land-use planning requiring international co-operation; and

(b) to make proposals and recommendations so that these problems are fully taken into consideration in the overall ECE activities;

2. Asks the Executive Secretary to bring this decision to the attention of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned, which meet prior to the ad hoc meeting and to invite them to make their contributions; and

3. Invites the Executive Secretary to present to the thirty-third session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/5944, Vol.1, para. 100)

F (XXXII) Dissemination of information

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolution 1 (XXXI),

Aware of the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe,

Considering the role accorded to the Economic Commission for Europe in the follow-up of those provisions,

Reaffirming the declared intention of the States Signatory to the said Final Act to promote their mutual economic relations,

Conscious that the exchange of information plays an important role in the development of economic co-operation,

Requests its competent subsidiary bodies to systematically examine their studies and reports with an aim to releasing as many of them as possible when completed to the public domain. (E/5944, Vol.1, para. 101)

G (XXXII) The Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE region up to 1990

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolutions 7 (XXII), 2 (XXVII) and 2 (XXVIII) on the basis of which the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments and the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission undertake studies of long-term trends in the economy of the ECE region and make overall evaluations of these trends,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on long-term trends in economic development,

Bearing in mind its resolution 1 (XXXI),

1. Takes note with appreciation of the work accomplished so far by the Senior Economic Advisers in the elaboration of the Overall Economic Perspective;

2. Further notes that the main purposes of the study on the Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE Region up to 1990 are:

- to provide ECE Governments and Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission with overall economic views on the development of the region in the context of the world economy, and
- to identify long-term economic problems of common interest thus allowing member States to more easily visualize future new areas for mutually beneficial co-operation especially between member countries with different social and economic systems;

3. Endorses the plans made by the Senior Economic Advisers at their fourteenth session to pursue their work on the Overall Economic Perspective, and in particular their readiness to engage in a constructive co-operation with the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned in revising the interim version of the Overall Economic Perspective;

4. Invites the Senior Economic Advisers to bear in mind in their future work on the Overall Economic Perspective the specific problems of member countries of the Commission which are developing from an economic point of view;

5. Requests the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies in the spirit of dialogue to make their contribution, in the area of their competence, to the work done so far in the study on the OEP so that their comments could fully be taken into account in further versions of the OEP;

6. Approves the inclusion in the programme of work of the Senior Economic Advisers of plans to undertake regularly the elaboration of sliding long-term economic perspectives, preferably every five years; and

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the thirty-third session of the Commission an interim report on the examination of long-term trends in the economic development of the region, taking into account the work on the OEP. (E/5944, Vol.I, para. 218)

H (XXXII) General energy problems in the ECE region

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Having considered its future activities in the field of general energy problems in the ECE region:

A. PROGRAMME OF WORK

1. Decided to adopt the programme of work on general energy problems contained in Annex II to E/ECE/921.

B. MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVES

1. (a) Invited the Executive Secretary to prepare, on the basis of existing material, a study on new issues affecting the energy economy of the ECE region in the medium and long term;
- (b) Requested the Executive Secretary to circulate a questionnaire to member Governments requesting views on the subject matter of this study;
- (c) Requested the Executive Secretary to convene as soon as possible and ad hoc meeting of experts for the discussion of the scope and structure of the new study as well as the questionnaire referred to above.

C. ENERGY ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY

1. Agreed to pursue activities on the following subjects:

- (a) consideration of up-dated national studies analysing the progress made towards the achievement of greater energy economy and efficiency;
- (b) review and evaluation of work done or planned within ECE relating to energy economy and efficiency;
- (c) exchange of experience and views on problems related to the rational utilization of secondary forms of energy generated by industrial complexes, and on the reduction of specific energy consumption for various industrial products;
- (d) exchange of information and views on techniques and results of public awareness and public action programmes.

2. Invited member Governments to transmit to the secretariat:

- (a) up-dated national studies analysing the progress made towards the achievement of greater energy economy and efficiency (prior to 15 October 1977);
- (b) reports on and an evaluation of public awareness and public action programmes in the field of energy conservation (prior to 15 October 1977);
- (c) written comments on the study "Methods of increasing the recovery of liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons from underground deposits" (ECE/AC.3/R.4) to be taken into account in preparations for the seminar to be convened under 3(c) below (prior to 1 April 1978).

3. Requested the Executive Secretary to convene preparatory meetings for the following seminars:

- (a) combined production of electric power and heat (preparatory meeting: September 1977; Seminar: autumn 1978);
- (b) Econometric models, input-output and cost-benefit analysis for assessing the potential of energy conservation and for optimizing conservation programmes (preparatory meeting: early 1978; Seminar: 1979); (an exchange of views on methodological questions should take place at the preparatory meeting and note ECE/AC.3/R.1/Add.1 should be taken into account);
- (c) improved techniques for the extraction and processing of primary forms of energy (preparatory meeting: autumn 1978; Seminar: 1979/1980).

4. Noted that:

- (a) energy conservation aspects of coal gasification and liquefaction will be dealt with at the Coal Committee Symposium on gasification and liquefaction of coal (Poland, 1979);
- (b) preparations are well advanced for the Seminar on the impact of energy considerations on the planning and development of human settlements to be held under the auspices of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning at Ottawa (Canada) from 3-14 October 1977;
- (c) the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems, the Chemical Industry Committee and the Steel Committee are presently examining problems relating to recycling of energy-intensive industrial wastes and by-products, as well as on the use of municipal wastes.

5. Requested its Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned to give special attention to:

- (a) ways of intensifying co-operation within the ECE framework with respect to energy conservation;
- (b) standards of specific energy consumption and means of lowering them in various sectors;
- (c) rational utilization of secondary forms of energy;
- (d) the relationship between energy conservation and structural changes of the economy, taking into account results of econometric models, cost-benefit and input-output analysis;
- (e) non-conventional recoverable energy sources, particularly solar energy, and small-scale (employment-intensive) energy technologies;
- (f) the study on "Methods of increasing the recovery of liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons from underground deposits" (ECE/AC.3/R.4) as part of the preparations for the seminar to be convened under 3(c) above.

6. Requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a report containing a review and an evaluation of work done or being planned in ECE relating to energy economy and efficiency for consideration at the ad hoc meeting of experts referred to in section D below; and

7. Requested the Executive Secretary to consider the practical aspects of the preparation of a monograph on present problems in the field of energy conservation.

D. Requested the Executive Secretary to convene, prior to the thirty-third session in early 1978, an ad hoc meeting of experts to consider the following:

1. New issues affecting the energy economy of the ECE region in the medium and long-term taking into account a preliminary version of the study and replies to the questionnaire referred to in section B of this decision; and
2. Problems of energy economy and efficiency as contained in section C, paragraph 1 of this decision.

E. Requested the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-third session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/5944, Vol.I, para. 300)

I (XXXII) Standardization

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization (E/ECE/923) and the report of the Fourth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies (ECE/STAND/16);

(b) to take a decision, having in mind the increasingly important role of international standardization and certification in the future activities of the Commission, to convene meetings at intervals of one-and-a-half years;

(c) to convene a Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies in 1978;

(d) to convene a Group of Experts on Standardization Policies to prepare that Meeting and to consider the matters referred to it by the Fourth Meeting; and

(e) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-third session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/5944, Vol.I, para. 308)

J (XXXII) Automation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/924 and Add.1 and the progress made during 1976/77 in the activities of the Working Party on Automation;

(b) to approve the Working Party's programme of work for 1977-1981, as contained in Annex I to ECE/AUTOMAT/6;

(c) to consider the holding of sessions of the Working Party annually instead of every two years, provided that the total length of automation meetings did not exceed the number of days so far allocated, and the convening of ad hoc meetings of experts only when special expertise was required; and

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-third session on the implementation of this decision. (E/5944, Vol.I, para. 316)

K (XXXII) Engineering industries

The Commission decided,

- (a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/925;
- (b) to adopt the programme of work ^{1/} based on the proposals by the fifth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries (document ECE/ENGIN/7, Annex II) as amended by the thirty-second session of the Commission;
- (c) to convene prior to the thirty-third session of the Commission the sixth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries:
 - (i) to review in the light of the views expressed by delegates and the decisions taken by the Commission at its thirty-second session the programme of work in the field of engineering industries;
 - (ii) to make suggestions for the Commission on the most suitable method of work for the implementation of the programme of work;
- (d) to convene prior to the thirty-third session of the Commission the preparatory meeting for a seminar on technical trends in the development of airborne equipment for agriculture and other selected areas of the national economy, to be held in Poland in 1978;
- (e) to hold a Seminar on Problems of Engineering Equipment for Foundries and the Introduction of Advanced Methods of Production of Such Equipment, in Geneva in 1977; and
- (f) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-third session on the implementation of this decision. (E/5944, Vol.I, para. 331)

L (XXXII) Presentation of programme category O1 of the Commission's programme of work

The Commission decided:

- (a) to adopt the text of programme category O1, contained in the annex to E/ECE/926; and
- (b) to request the Executive Secretary in accordance with established practice to incorporate in programme category O1 of the Commission's programme of work for 1977-1981 the operative paragraphs of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission at its thirty-second session. (E/5944, Vol.I, para. 335)

M (XXXII) Participation of the Danube Commission in the work of the Commission

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Decided to invite the Danube Commission to participate in its work in accordance with paragraph 12 of its terms of reference. (E/5944, Vol.I, para. 357)

^{1/} The amended text of this programme of work is annexed to document E/ECE(XXXII)/L.10 and also appears in Part V of the Annual Report of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council (E/5944, Vol.II).

THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

(11-22 April 1978)

RESOLUTION

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

The Economic Commission for Europe,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes and reports by the Executive Secretary, the programme of work for the Commission for 1978-1979 as well

as the long-term programme of work for 1978-1982, and noting that during the thirty-third session delegations have raised a number of points concerning the Commission's programme of work,

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

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

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

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

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

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

I.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

II.

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

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

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

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

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

A. Long-range transboundary air pollution, including:

- (i) Development of policies and strategies as a means of combating the discharge of atmospheric pollutants, including the harmonization of emission control policies relevant to the reduction of long-range transboundary air pollution, starting with sulphur dioxide, and taking account of all relevant factors including damage caused by the pollutants, cost estimates, and the cost of reducing discharges, and of local remedies;
- (ii) Intergovernmental co-operation in research and development on methods to reduce sulphur dioxide discharges and to study their effects on health and the environment;
- (iii) Exchange of information concerning new and existing sources of pollution;

- (iv) Implementation and further development of the Co-operative Programme for the Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transport of Air Pollutants in Europe;
- (v) Development of procedures aimed at avoiding disputes concerning damage caused to the environment by atmospheric pollution;
- (vi) Possible form of an agreement on the above points.

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

- (i) Support for research/development into low- and non-waste techniques, including the reutilization and recycling of waste; application of such techniques in certain branches of industry which have considerable repercussions on the environment;
- (ii) Encouragement for industrial co-operation and trade in licences and technical knowledge about products and processes based on "low- and non-waste techniques, including the reutilization and recycling of waste";
- (iii) Arrangements for the purpose of carrying out intergovernmental studies to illustrate the principal stages of introducing "low- and non-waste techniques, including the reutilization and recycling of waste";
- (iv) Support for the rapid implementation of study projects by the ECE/UN;
- (v) Stimulation of the exchange of information among member Governments on the type and magnitude of incentives utilized to encourage non-waste technology and on the methods used in reaching decisions whether (or not) to proceed with the development of non-waste technology for various types of industries;
- (vi) Possible form of an agreement on the above points.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

III.

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

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

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution as well as the other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned for their guidance. (E/1978/47, Vol. I, para. 82)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (XXXIII) The economic consequences of migrant labour in the ECE region

The Economic Commission for Europe,

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

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

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

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

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

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

2. Recommends that host countries and countries of origin should intensify their bilateral contacts in order to find joint solutions to the most urgent problems in the sphere of migrant labour. (E/1978/47, Vol. I, para. 80)

B (XXXIII) The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980

The Economic Commission for Europe,

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

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

1. Decides to request the Executive Secretary to convene a seminar on "The participation of women in the economic evolution of the ECE region", to be held in 1979; and
2. To request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fourth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1978/47, Vol. 1, para. 81)

C (XXXIII) Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work

The Economic Commission for Europe,

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

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

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

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the Executive Secretary's report on concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work (E/ECE/934);
2. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present decision, together with document E/ECE/934 and the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments at the thirty-third session, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies for their consideration;
3. Invites the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to consider:
 - (a) the possibility of appropriate modifications in their programmes of work with a view to removing possible gaps, overlapping and inconsistencies, if any, in their activities related to trade and industrial co-operation;
 - (b) ways and means of improving the flow of information on their interrelated trade activities and, particularly, the exchange of information between the Committee on the Development of Trade and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies;
4. Reminds its Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the possibility of jointly sponsoring specific interrelated trade projects and of convening joint ad hoc meetings or seminars;

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

6. Decides to choose activities in the field of science and technology as the next major topic to be considered in depth from the point of view of concentration, integration and co-ordination and, consequently, requests the Executive Secretary to submit to the member Governments, well in advance of the thirty-fourth session, a report on the subject to be further discussed at that session, taking into account the comments made by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology. (E/1979/47, Vol. 1, para. 114)

D (XXXIII) Enhanced co-operation in the field of coal gasification and liquefaction

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2118 (LXIII) on the study, development and use of coal resources,

Aware of the need to ensure long-term supplies of energy for the region, and of the consequent responsibility to intensify international co-operation to this end,

Conscious of the forthcoming transformation of the structure of energy sources to cover the demand of the region for energy in the years to come,

Emphasizing the new prospects for coal whose abundant reserves are situated within the region not only as a solid fuel but more and more as a raw material both for producing liquid and gaseous fuels and for chemical industry while taking into full account the environmental effects of different uses of coal,

Considers it necessary to strengthen the activities of the Coal Committee in the context of envisaged importance of coal in the regional energy supplies,

Notes with interest the report and conclusions of the ad hoc Meeting of Experts to Consider Details of Intensified Co-operation on Selected Research and Development Projects in the Field of Coal Gasification, Liquefaction and Treatment in particular a concept of the creation of an international co-ordinating centre on coal gasification and liquefaction under the auspices of the Commission as contained therein,

1. Requests the Coal Committee in close consultation with the Committee on Chemical Industry and Gas Committee, to explore in-depth and constructively the concept of the creation of such a centre;

2. Invites its Coal Committee to consider initiating a new study on the future role of coal in supplying the ECE region with energy and raw materials in the light of new technologies of its conversion and utilization in the framework of its project "Long-term Prospects of Coal beyond 1985"; and

3. Requests its Committee on Chemical Industry, Committee on Gas, Electric Power Committee, as well as the Senior Economic Advisers and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned to closely co-operate with the Coal Committee in this endeavour. (E/1978/47, Vol.1, para. 152)

E (XXXIII) The ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Bearing in mind the recommendations and resolutions adopted by the United Nations Water Conference and in particular Conference Resolutions VII and VIII,

Noting with satisfaction that the United Nations Water Conference asked the regional commissions to assume a central role in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan within their respective regions,

Recalling Commission decision B (XXXII),

1. Takes note of resolutions 2121 (LXIII) and 2115 (LXIII) of the Economic and Social Council regarding the follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference;

2. Decides to intensify its efforts in the water sector by inter alia strengthening the activities and responsibilities of the Committee on Water Problems;

3. Further decides to offer to share its experience on water-related problems with the other United Nations regional commissions, when appropriate, and

(i) requests the Executive Secretary to transmit ECE documentation on water-related problems directly to interested countries not members of the Commission;

(ii) agrees that States, not members of ECE, shall be invited to selected ECE meetings on water-related problems designated by the Committee on Water Problems, in accordance with Article 11 of the Commission's terms of reference;

4. Takes note of resolution VII of the United Nations Water Conference and in order to facilitate this resolution offers to convene under the auspices of the Committee on Water Problems a meeting of representatives of existing international river commissions within the ECE region in response to that resolution, with appropriate provisions for the participation of individual countries.

5. Requests the Committee on Water Problems, in the light of the Mar del Plata Action Plan, to assist the Commission in assuming its central role by reviewing, at each annual session, the relevant work done and planned under various United Nations water programmes and by other international organizations operating in the ECE region;

6. Recommends the Economic and Social Council to give a positive response to proposals for inter-agency co-ordination presented to the United Nations Water Conference in the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and the Environmental Co-ordination Board; a/

7. Takes note of the programme of work for 1978-1982 adopted by the Committee at its ninth session recognizing that it is a first step in the reorientation of its work programme in the light of the results of the United Nations Water Conference; in this respect the Committee should take into account the possible interest of different projects to the other United Nations regional commissions;

a/ Present and future activities of the United Nations system in water resources development (CONF.70/CBP/4).

8. Agrees to submit to the Special Session of the Committee on Natural Resources in 1978 those parts of the report of the ninth session of the Committee on Water Problems relating to the regional follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference, together with this decision (E/1978/47, Vol.I, para. 278)

F (XXXIII) The contribution of the Commission to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD)

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling the United Nations General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI), which contain the Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, the Charter of the Economic Rights and Duties of States and the tasks resulting from these documents for the United Nations bodies among which the regional economic commissions,

Considering the contribution the Commission should bring to the examination of the problems concerning the access to the achievements of science and technology as well as the dissemination of technological and scientific information with a view to enlarging the regional and international co-operation in this field,

Recognizing the important role science and technology play in the accelerated development of all countries and first of all the developing ones,

Recalling its decision A (XXXII) by which there have been adopted a series of measures for the preparation and the organization of the ECE Regional Meeting to elaborate the regional documents to be presented to the UNCSTD to take place in Vienna in 1979,

Taking note with satisfaction of the measures already undertaken by the Executive Secretary in order to ensure a substantive contribution by the ECE to the preparations for the Conference,

Taking into account the decisions of the second session of the UNCSTD Preparatory Committee,

1. Takes note of the report by the Executive Secretary submitted in accordance with decision A (XXXII), in document E/ECE/940 and Add.1;

2. Endorses the resolution "Preparation of the United Nations Conference for the Application of Science and Technology to Development", adopted by the second session of the UNCSTD Preparatory Committee;

3. Reaffirms its intention to co-operate fully and actively in this preparation, so that it contributes to the success of the Conference;

4. Invites the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology to take into account fully, in co-operation with the other interested main subsidiary bodies and international organizations, the high priority given to regional preparations for the Conference by the UNCSTD Preparatory Committee and of the importance bestowed upon regional co-operation in the fields of science and technology in the Final Act of the CSCE;

5. Takes note of the recommendation adopted by the second session of the UNCSTD Preparatory Committee that the Regional Meeting under the aegis of ECE to be held in Bucarest, between 26-30 June 1978, should take place at ministerial or other high policy-making level;

6. Requests the Governments of Member-States to present the first version of their national documents and summaries containing recommendations for action by 1 May 1978 so that they can be discussed at the aforementioned Regional Meeting;

7. Resolves that the documents to be adopted by the Regional Meeting contain recommendations for actions at national, regional and international levels, formulated in such a way that they represent a constructive contribution to the formulation of the UNCSTD Programme of Action;

8. Decides that the report and the recommendations of the Bucarest Regional Meeting shall be transmitted to the third session of the UNCSTD Preparatory Committee and to the seventh annual meeting of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology; and

9. Requests the Executive Secretary to present to the thirty-fourth session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/1978/Vol.1, para. 302).

G (XXXIII) Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions A (XXXI), B (XXXII) and resolution 1 (XXXII) as well as resolutions 1952 (LIX) and 2043 (LXI) adopted by the Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the declared intention of the States signatory to the Final Act to encourage with the non-participating Mediterranean States the development of mutually beneficial co-operation in the various fields of economic activity and to contribute to a diversified development of their economies,

Bearing in mind that a great number of those member countries of the ECE which are developing from an economic point of view are geographically situated in the Mediterranean,

Noting that some of the subsidiary bodies have included in their programmes of work projects of special interest to the Mediterranean countries of the ECE region and actively started to implement some of them,

Having in mind that a meeting of experts on the Mediterranean will be convened in Valletta, Malta, in 1979 to consider, within the Mediterranean Chapter of the Final Act, the possibilities and means of promoting concrete initiatives for mutually beneficial co-operation concerning various economic, scientific and cultural fields,

Desiring to contribute to the promotion of economic co-operation in the Mediterranean,

1. Notes with satisfaction the report of the Executive Secretary, pursuant to Commission decision B (XXXII) on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE;

2. Requests its subsidiary bodies to continue to pay particular attention in their work to projects and activities of interest to the Mediterranean countries of the ECE region;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to transmit ECE documentation of interest and relevance directly to all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission and agrees

that their attention is drawn to relevant ECE meetings to which they will be invited in accordance with paragraph 11 of the Commission's terms of reference;

4. Further requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Western Asia on projects within the competence of the ECE which may be of common interest to all the Mediterranean countries;

5. Draws attention to the Seminar on Selected Water Problems in Island and Coastal Areas with Special Regard to Desalination and Groundwater, to be held in Malta in June 1978, which is of particular interest to Mediterranean countries;

6. Decides to intensify co-operation with other relevant international bodies on subjects of common interest to the Mediterranean countries and in particular to give increased attention to the practical applications of non-conventional sources of energy such as sun, wind, biogas and geothermal power;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to contribute fully to the preparations of the meeting of experts and, if invited to do so, to participate in that meeting which will be convened within the framework of the Mediterranean chapter of the Final Act, upon the invitation of the Government of Malta, in Valletta, in February 1979;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the thirty-fourth session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/1978/47, Vol.1, para. 307)

H (XXXIII) Problems of land use and land-use planning in the ECE region

The Commission decided:

(a) to invite its Principal Subsidiary Bodies to give appropriate attention to land use and land-use planning aspects in drawing up their programmes of work;

(b) to invite the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to draw the Commission's attention to land-use problems, for which a co-ordinated approach between Principal Subsidiary Bodies might be useful or necessary;

(c) to request the Executive Secretary to further review, analyse and report to the Commission's thirty-fourth session on the activities within ECE which are closely related to land use and land-use planning, with a view to suggesting, if necessary, modifications to the ECE programme of work taking into account the problem areas identified at the ad hoc consultative meeting, the contributions of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies under (a) and (b) above and the most important work undertaken in other, notably international, bodies;

(d) to request the Executive Secretary, in the light of the review and analysis in (c) above, to investigate whether it is possible and necessary to carry out a study of the implications for land use of the demographic and socio-economic developments forecast in the Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE region, and advise the Commission accordingly;

(e) to attach great importance to substantial progress being achieved in the work being undertaken on regional and land-use statistics, under the auspices of the Conference of European Statisticians;

(f) to draw the attention of member Governments to work being undertaken on the following projects:

- land-use policies, with particular reference to housing and related services, under the auspices of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning; and
- integrated physical, socio-economic and environmental planning, under the auspices of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning and the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems;

(g) to draw the attention of member Governments to the need for adopting adequate land-management and soil conservation measures, with a view to optimizing land utilization and secure land, for vital non-urban usages, for the future;

(h) to recommend to member Governments to continue their efforts with a view to exchanging technical information in the above fields, especially with regard to problems of member countries which are developing from an economic point of view; and

(i) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fourth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/1978/47, Vol.I, para. 321)

L (XXXIII) Standardization

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization (E/ECE/947),

(b) To convene a Group of Experts on Standardization Policies, to be held late in 1978 or early in 1979, to consider, in the light of the views expressed and decisions taken at the thirty-third session, such matters as may be referred to it by the Fifth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies;

(c) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fourth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/1978/47, Vol.I, para. 341)

J (XXXIII) Automation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/948 and Add.1 on the activities of the Working Party on Automation during 1977/1978;

(b) to approve the Working Party's programme of work as contained in Annex I to ECE/AUTOMAT/8; and

(c) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fourth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1978/47, Vol.I, para. 352)

K (XXXIII) Engineering industries

The Commission decided,

- (a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/949;

(b) to adopt the programme of work for 1978-1979 as proposed by the Sixth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries (ECE/ENGIN/11, Annex);

(c) to convene prior to the thirty-fourth session of the Commission the Seventh ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries to review in the light of the views expressed and the decisions taken by the Commission at its thirty-third session on the programme of work in the field of engineering industries;

(d) to hold the Seminar on Techno-Economic Trends in Airborne Equipment for Agriculture and other Selected Areas of the National Economy, in Poland, in September 1978;

(e) to hold an ad hoc Meeting for the study on measures for saving raw materials (especially application of metal and non-metal materials, etc.) in engineering industries prior to the thirty-fourth session of the Commission;

(f) to convene in the spring of 1979 a preparatory meeting for the Seminar on techno-economic aspects of innovation in fabrication processes and products of engineering industries to be held in Italy;

(g) to hold the Seminar on Development and Use of Industrial Handling Equipment in Bulgaria, in September 1979; and

(h) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-fourth session on the application of this decision. (E/1978/47, Vol.I, para. 367)

THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION

(27 March-27 April 1979)

RESOLUTION

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

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolution 1 (XXXIII), and in particular the determination of its member countries to continue to intensify efforts to promote economic relations and co-operation; the significance of the activities of the ECE for strengthening such relations and co-operation and of being a useful instrument for the implementation of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level; the role of the ECE in the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and the wish of the participating States to "take advantage of the possibilities offered by relevant international organizations, in particular by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, for giving effect to the provisions of the final documents of the Conference",

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes and reports by the Executive Secretary, including his reports E/ECE/964 and E/ECE/982, the programme of work for the Commission for 1979-1980 as well as the long-term programme of work for 1979-1983, and noting that during the thirty-fourth session delegations have raised a number of points concerning the Commission's programme of work,

Welcoming the progress made in the implementation of the Commission's work programme, pursuant to resolution 1 (XXXIII), on topics in the Final Act of the CSCE requiring multilateral implementation and referred to in the section of that Act entitled "Co-operation in the Fields of Economics, of Science and Technology and of the Environment",

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

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

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

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

Recalling the Soviet Government's proposal in regard to the holding of all-European congresses or inter-State Conferences on co-operation in the field of protection of the

environment, development of transport, and energy, and the suggestion in decision B (XXXI) that member Governments should study the proposal thoroughly in the light of discussion in the Commission and the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE,

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

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

Having considered the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/964 on the Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1978, and the report ECE/ENV/29 of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems regarding implementation of Commission resolution 1 (XXXIII) Part II,

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

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

3. Notes with satisfaction that the Executive Secretary stated his views at the Meeting of Experts foreseen by the Final Act in order to prepare a "Scientific Forum" which took place in Bonn in June 1978, and that he made contributions relating to the work of the Meeting of Experts on the Mediterranean which recently took place in Valletta within the framework of the Mediterranean chapter of the Final Act, and asks him to participate, if invited to do so, in activities resulting from these meetings, and to make the necessary arrangements to that effect;

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

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

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue contacts with the Executive Secretary of the other regional commissions of the United Nations concerning the co-operation between the ECE and other regional commissions on problems of common interest, having in mind also the resolution

of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, and to inform the Commission accordingly;

7. Notes with satisfaction the work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems in accordance with part II of resolution I (XXXIII) concerning a high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE on the protection of the environment as contained in document ECE/ENV/29;

8. Agrees that following completion and acceptance by the Commission of the draft convention and draft resolution on long-range transboundary air pollution and the draft declaration on low and non-waste technology and re-utilization and recycling of wastes as contained in Commission document E/ECE(XXXIV)/L.18 and in Annex B to document ECE/ENV/29 respectively, the above-mentioned criteria for the convening of a high-level meeting on the protection of the environment within the framework of the ECE have been met;

9. Decides therefore to convene the high level meeting on the protection of the environment from 13 to 16 November 1979 and, in this regard, draws to the attention of member Governments decision A (XXXIV);

10. Reiterates the importance of an extensive exchange of information and views between member Governments on general energy problems, including energy resources, and national objectives and policies in these areas, thus providing a basis for closer international co-operation on energy matters and, inter alia, for discussion of problems related to a possible high-level meeting on energy organized within the framework of the ECE;

11. Decides to establish on an ad hoc basis a new Principal Subsidiary Body entitled Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy and draws to the attention of member Governments decision B (XXXIV);

12. Reiterates the suggestion in resolution I (XXXIII) that member Governments should study thoroughly the USSR Government's proposal for the holding of all-European congresses in the fields of transport and energy in the light of further discussions in the Commission and the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE;

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

14. Approves its programme of work for 1979/80 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its thirty-fifth session, its long-term programme of work for 1979-1983;

15. Endorses the Executive Secretary's conclusions relating to increasing efficiency in methods of work as contained in document E/ECE/964 and reiterates that continued efforts should be made for better concentration, integration and co-ordination of the ECE activities and, in this respect, draws to the attention of member Governments and the subsidiary bodies its decision D (XXXIV);

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

17. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution as well as the other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned for their guidance. (E/1979/47, Vol.I, para. 101)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (XXXIV) High-level Meeting within the framework of the ECE on the protection of the environment

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolution 1 (XXXIV) and in particular its decision to hold a high-level meeting within the framework of the ECE on the protection of the environment;

Bearing in mind that environmental problems are increasing in scope and that their implications may involve large material, financial and human resources;

Acknowledging that, in accordance with the chapter on Environment of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, economic development and technological progress must be compatible with the protection of the environment, that damage to the environment is best avoided by preventive measures and that every suitable opportunity should be made use of to co-operate in the field of environment;

Aware of the activities of other competent United Nations organs and international organizations in this matter,

Having examined the report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems as selected in document ECE/ENV/29 and amended the proposals contained in Annex A to this document,

Considering that the preparatory work on long-range transboundary air pollution, and low- and non-waste technology and re-utilization and recycling of wastes which has been completed by the Commission at its present session, as contained in Commission document E/ECE(XXXIV)/L.18 and in Annex B to document ECE/ENV/29, has therefore been brought to a satisfactory conclusion,

Agreeing that the treatment of these two topics would require a high level of representation, that a high-level meeting holds promise of important decisions, and that the subject-matter is of concern to the region as a whole and would not lead to unnecessary duplication of the work of other international organizations,

Considering moreover that during the high-level meeting a general exchange of views on the other topics considered by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems, namely water pollution including transboundary water pollution, protection of native flora and fauna and their habitats, and toxic substances and toxic wastes could be useful,

1. Decides to convene the high-level meeting on the protection of the environment from 13 to 16 November 1979;

2. Agrees that the following draft documents be submitted to the high-level meeting for formal adoption;

A. Convention and Resolution on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution,

B. Declaration of Intent and Recommendations for National Action and International Co-operative Activities including Follow-up Activities within the Framework of the ECE in the field of low- and non-waste technology and re-utilization and recycling of wastes;

and, for this purpose, asks the Executive Secretary to convene an ad hoc group of experts to finalize the legal and linguistic editing of Commission document E/ECE(XXXIV)/L.18 and Annex 8 to document ECE/ENV/29, as necessary, from 11 to 15 June 1979;

3. Invited the Executive Secretary to make the necessary preparations for the high-level meeting and to draw up the following agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of Officers
3. General debate on the environmental situation in the ECE region, in particular long-range transboundary air pollution and low- and non-waste technology and re-utilization and recycling of wastes, and also other environmental problems dealt with in the ECE, inter alia, water pollution including transboundary water pollution
4. Formal adoption of the Convention and Resolution on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, the Declaration of Intent and Recommendations for National Action and International Co-operative Activities including Follow-up Activities within the Framework of the ECE in the field of low- and non-waste technology and re-utilization and recycling of wastes
5. Other business
6. Adoption of the report

4. Invites the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission. (E/1979/47, Vol.1, para. 102)

B (XXXIV) Energy

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolution 1 (XXXIV),

Recognizing the major importance of energy for economic and social development,

Conscious of the importance and urgency of stimulating closer international co-operation on energy matters and the need for extensive exchange of information and views between member States on general energy problems, including energy resources and national objectives and policies in these areas,

Commending the Committees on Coal, Electric Power and Gas in the valuable practical contribution they have made in their respective fields,

Aware of the need to avoid unnecessary duplication of the activities of existing subsidiary bodies of the Commission and other international organizations,

Recalling the proposal of the Soviet Government for the holding of an all-European congress on co-operation in the field of energy and the suggestion in decision B (XXXI) that member States should study the proposal thoroughly in the light of the further discussions in the Commission and the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE,

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

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

1. Endorses the ongoing activities in the framework of the Commission's programme of work on General Energy Problems in the ECE region pursuant to Commission decision H (XXXII);

2. Decides to establish on an ad hoc basis a new Principal Subsidiary Body entitled "Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy" with the following mandate:

(a) to undertake an extensive exchange of information, views and experiences between member States on general energy problems, including an extensive exchange of information, views and experiences regarding energy resources, and national objectives and policies in these areas;

(b) To elaborate on the basis of the foregoing a programme of work, subject to annual review and approval by the Commission, taking into account the need for regular co-operation and co-ordination with the Committees on Coal, Electric Power, and Gas, and co-operation with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned; in this regard particular attention should be given to the decision E (XXXIV), and to the suggestions made by the Executive Secretary as contained in document E/ECE/982/Add.1;

(c) To examine problems related to a possible High-level Meeting on energy organized within the framework of the ECE;

3. Declares its willingness to consider, as of its next session, an assignment to the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy for the exploration of topics for a possible high-level meeting on energy within the framework of ECE on the assumption that satisfactory progress has been made in all areas of the mandate of the new body;

4. Further declares its willingness to consider as of its next session the advisability in the light of the progress achieved in the field of energy, of making the newly created ad hoc body a permanent one;

5. Decides to consider at a future session proposals by member States or by the Executive Secretary in consultation with member States, designed to increase the effectiveness of the energy activities and programmes of all ECE bodies dealing with energy; and

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1979/47, Vol.I, para. 103)

C (XXXIV) Contribution of the ECE to the preparations for an international development strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling the resolutions of the General Assembly 2626 (XXVI) of 24 October 1970 containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade and 33/193

of 29 January 1979 on the preparations for an international development strategy for the third United Nations Development Decade,

Taking note of the report represented by the Executive Secretary on the Commission's activities and the implementation of the priorities in 1978 (E/ECE/964),

Recalling its resolutions 1 (XXXII), 1 (XXXIII) as well as resolutions on interregional co-operation and other relevant resolutions,

Requests the Executive Secretary to:

(a) co-operate fully with the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation in fulfilling his tasks in connexion with the formulation of a new international development strategy;

(b) submit the relevant information on the results achieved in analysing past trends and making projections, in particular relating to specific fields of international co-operation; and

(c) contribute effectively to the preparatory work of the new international development strategy by providing inputs including relevant documentation such as, *inter alia*, that enumerated in paragraph 37 of the document E/ECE/965 submitted to the thirty-fourth session of the Commission. (E/1979/47, Vol.1, para. 73)

D (XXXIV) Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work

The Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the Executive Secretary's reports on concentration and integration of the Commission's programmes of work (E/ECE/968 and 969);

2. Requests the Executive Secretary, at the regular sessions of each Principal Subsidiary Body, to indicate to what extent any of its projects could be undertaken jointly with other organs of the Commission, with a view to:

- Ensuring complementarity in the Commission's activities;
- Increasing the effectiveness of the studies undertaken by achieving interconnexion between them particularly through the utilization of the results of one study as an input for others;
- Making maximum use of available expertise in member countries; and
- Combining some of their *ad hoc* meetings;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present decision, together with document E/ECE/969 and the views expressed in relation thereto by member Governments at the thirty-fourth session, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies for their consideration;

4. Decides to select activities in the field of environment as the next major topic to be considered in depth from the point of view of concentration, integration and co-ordination; and

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the thirty-fifth session, take into account the comments made by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems. (E/1979/47, Vol.1, para. 138)

E (XXXIV) Increased effectiveness in use of ECE resources

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolution 1 (XXXIV), and further recalling its resolution 1 (XXX) and other relevant resolutions including General Assembly resolution 35/55 of 14 December 1978,

Convinced of the need to make the most effective and efficient use possible of all resources,

Convinced also that better integration, concentration and co-ordination of the Commission's activities should be achieved,

Concerned that any delay in distribution of documents in all official languages to its subsidiary bodies might have an adverse effect on the efficiency of these bodies,

Noting with satisfaction the Executive Secretary's report on this topic as contained in Chapter VI of E/ECE/964.

1. Commends the Executive Secretary for his initiative within the secretariat to improve further the management of ECE resources;

2. Requests and encourages the Executive Secretary to continue his efforts for rational use of resources;

3. Requests its subsidiary bodies to implement the proposals outlined in E/ECE/964, paragraph 153;

4. Requests the subsidiary bodies to streamline their programmes in the process of concentration and integration by focussing their activities on major substantive problems and avoiding work of lesser importance, and to report to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission on measures taken and proposed to give effect to this provision;

5. Agrees that such measures should lead to an appreciable reduction in the number, and better co-ordination, of ECE meetings;

6. Invites the Executive Secretary to bring to the attention of the Joint Inspection Unit the contents of this decision with a view to their carrying out a thorough inspection of the translation, reproduction and distribution facilities of the United Nations Office at Geneva; and

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to deliver a consolidated report to the thirty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Europe on all actions and results deriving from this decision. (E/1979/47, Vol.1, para. 139)

F (XXXIV) International co-operation in the pharmaceutical industry

The Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Recommends to the Chemical Industry Committee to explore in close collaboration with the Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies the problems of the pharmaceutical industry related to safety requirements, methods of examination and the ways how these problems could be dealt with in the framework of the ECE; and

2. Decides to consider this question at its thirty-fifth session on the basis of a report prepared by the Executive Secretary. (E/1979/47, Vol.1, para. 161)

G (XXXIV) Study of trade in chemical products among ECE member countries

The Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Recommends that the Chemical Industry Committee consider engaging in a study of trade in chemical products among ECE member countries;

2. Recommends to the Group of Experts on the Periodic Survey of the Chemical Industry, scheduled to meet on 1-2 October 1979, to consider the scope, outline, and methods of work of such a study taking into account the discussion which took place at the thirty-fourth session of the Commission;

3. Invites Governments to transmit to the secretariat by 1 August 1979 any further comments and proposals they may have on this subject;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare, on the basis of the comments and proposals received, a note to facilitate the discussions at the meeting of the Group of Experts on the Periodic Survey of the Chemical Industry; and

5. Invites the Group of Experts on the Periodic Survey of the Chemical Industry to report to the twelfth session of the Chemical Industry Committee on the outcome of the deliberations. (E/1979/47, Vol.1, para. 162)

H (XXXIV) Human Settlements

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Noting with satisfaction the results of Habitat, the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (A/CONF.70/15), and, in particular, the emphasis laid by the Conference on follow-up action at the regional level within the framework of the regional commissions,

Welcoming the decisions of the General Assembly on "Institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements" (Resolution 32/162),

1. Endorses the measures already taken by the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning at its thirty-seventh, thirty-eight and thirty-ninth sessions with a view to streamlining its structure, programme and methods of work to be better adapted to serve the interests and concerns of ECE member countries and to contribute effectively to global United Nations efforts in the field of human settlements (ECE/HBP/16, ECE/HBP/22 and ECE/HBP/25);

2. Decides to revise the terms of reference of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning as follows:

1. The Committee, acting within the framework of the policies of the United Nations and subject to the general supervision and relevant decisions of the Economic Commission for Europe, shall:

(a) initiate and participate in housing, building and planning activities and programmes aimed at encouraging and supporting effective government action to ameliorate conditions in rural and urban human settlements;

- (b) undertake and promote studies, research and programmes evaluation on problems and policies in the field of human settlements, in particular relating to: settlement policies and strategies; settlement planning; institutions and management; shelter, infrastructure and services; land; and public participation;
- (c) undertake and promote the collection, evaluation, comparison and dissemination of statistical data regulations and standards and promote, as appropriate, their harmonization or unification in the interest of international comparability, rationalization and promotion of trade and technical co-operation;
- (d) draw up recommendations to member countries relating to policies and strategies in the field of human settlements;
- (e) provide a forum for a regular exchange of views and experience as well as information and documentation on current trends and policies relating to human settlements;
- (f) review and assess, from time to time, the state of the human settlements situation in the ECE region.

2. The Committee shall ensure, while taking into account relevant Commission decisions, that close co-operation is maintained with other international organizations in the ECE region, with the Commission on Human Settlements, with the committees on human settlements in other regions and with the specialized agencies on matters of mutual interest.

3. The Committee may establish, in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedures, such subsidiary bodies and employ such methods of work as it deems appropriate in order to carry out its responsibilities, including the convening of conferences, seminars, ad hoc meetings and informal consultations of rapporteurs, and the organization of study tours. (E/1979/47, Vol.1, para. 224)

I (XXXIV) Co-operation between the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems and the Committee on Water Problems

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recognizing the relationship existing between the activities of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems and the Committee on Water Problems on matters related to the protection of the aquatic environment and water pollution control,

Aware of the importance for ECE member countries of the completion of the "ECE Declaration of policy on prevention and control of water pollution, including transboundary pollution",

1. Invites the Senior Advisers and the Committee on Water Problems to consider closer co-operation in activities related to the protection of the aquatic environment and water pollution control and in particular, as far as possible, in the drafting of the ECE Declaration of policy on prevention and control of water pollution, including transboundary pollution;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to seek to make the necessary arrangements to enable the Group of Rapporteurs which has been entrusted with the revision of the Declaration to fulfil the mandate given to it by the Committee on Water Problems that "the revised Declaration may be ready in due time for examination by the Group of Experts on Aspects of Water Quality and Quantity at its seventh session, and subsequently by the Committee on Water Problems". (E/1979/47, Vol.1, para. 249)

J (XXXIV) Co-operation in the field of science and technology

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Convinced that science and technology constitutes an essential factor for the economic and social development of all peoples,

Recognizing the need to pay greater attention to the development of scientific and technological co-operation among the member countries of the ECE region, as well as to the contribution that these countries can bring to the application of science and technology to development, taking into account the needs of developing countries and those countries within the ECE region which are developing from the economic point of view,

Taking into account the role of the Commission in the implementation on a multilateral basis of the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe referring to science and technology,

Recognizing the importance of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development as a significant step towards a policy of international co-operation in the field of science and technology for development,

Recalling the contribution made by the European Regional Meeting held in Bucharest (Romania) in preparation for that Conference and more particularly the significance of the Declaration of the European Meeting containing recommendations for action,

Confident that the Governments of the member States will lend their full support to and take an active part in the Conference, thus contributing to its success,

Noting the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/975), the report of the European Regional Meeting in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (ECE/ERM.CSTD/2), and the European Regional Paper (A/CONF.81/PC.14/Add.1);

1. Requests the Executive Secretary to inform the Conference, if invited to do so, of the work of the Commission in the field of science and technology as well as of the ECE contribution to the Conference, and to transmit to the Conference the Commission's wishes for a successful outcome and the Commission's interest in, and willingness to co-operate fully and actively in such follow-up action as may arise from the Conference that falls within the competence of the ECE;

2. Recommends to the ECE member States to develop the co-operation among themselves in the field of science and technology taking into account the recommendations contained in the Declaration of the European Regional Meeting held in Bucharest in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (ECE/ERM.CSID/2/Annex 2);

3. Requests the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology at their next session when reviewing their programme of work to take into account the recommendations contained in the Declaration of the European Regional Meeting (ECE/ERM.CSID/2), and, as appropriate, the results of the Conference; and, in this respect, to take into account the possible interest of different projects to countries outside the ECE region;

4. Requests that the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology, when examining their programme of work, take into account the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of science and technology from the point of view of concentration, integration and co-ordination (E/ECE/969), as well as views expressed on this report by delegations at the thirty-fourth session of the Commission; and

5. Invites the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision and on any further action which may be required of it in the light of the outcome of the Conference. (E/1979/47, Vol.1, para. 257)

K (XXXIV) Long-term economic trends and development of international co-operation

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolutions 7 (XXII), 2 (XXVII) and 2 (XXVIII) relating to the work of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments and of the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies on studies of long-term economic development in the region,

Bearing in mind its decision G (XXXII),

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on long-term trends in economic development,

Considering that better knowledge of long-term economic trends should assist in the development of mutually advantageous co-operation,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the work accomplished and the experience gained so far by the Senior Economic Advisers and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies in the field of long-term programming and projections and, in particular, in the elaboration of the Overall Economic Perspective;

2. Considers it necessary to streamline these activities to bring about sufficient comparability of the results thereof; to this end development trends should be covered by analyses using common time horizons and methods of research;

3. Requests the Senior Economic Advisers and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies involved, especially the Committee on the Development of Trade, to continue their joint efforts to amend and improve the Overall Economic Perspective up to 1990;

4. Looks forward to the deliberations of the ECE Seminar on Forms and Orientations of International Co-operation in the Long-term Development Pattern to be held in Warsaw in May 1979; and

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1979/47, Vol.1, para. 266)

L (XXXIV) Multilateral system for the notification of laws and regulations concerning foreign trade and changes therein (MUNOSYST)

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Referring to the provision of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe pledging support for a feasibility study within the framework of ECE on creating a multilateral system for the notification of laws and regulations concerning foreign trade and changes therein (MUNOSYST),

Bearing in mind discussion in the twenty-seventh session of the Committee on the Development of Trade on the results of the trial runs for MUNOSYST which have been carried out with the

participation of certain member States and on the information obtained by the questionnaires on such a system as reflected in document ECE/TRADE/130,

1. Invites ECE Governments that have not already done so to answer as soon and as completely as possible the questionnaire referring to MUNOSYSI in order to enable the secretariat to collect further information for the feasibility study;

2. Urges wider and more representative participation for a possible further trial run; and

3. Decides to review the situation at its thirty-fifth session and if appropriate to consider further steps permitting the completion of the feasibility study. (E/1979/47, Vol. I, para. 323)

M (XXXIV) Economic consequences of migrant labour in the ECE region

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision A (XXXIII) on the economic consequences of migrant labour in the ECE region,

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

Taking note of the study in preparation referred to in the Executive Secretary's Report (E/ECE/971) and entitled "Labour Supply and Migration in Europe: Demographic Dimensions 1950-1975, and Prospects",

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

1. Invites the secretariat to complete the above-mentioned studies; and

2. Reiterates its recommendation that host countries and countries of origin should intensify their bilateral contacts in order to find joint solutions to the most urgent problems in the sphere of migrant labour. (E/1979/47, Vol. I, para. 329)

N (XXXIV) The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980

The Commission decided:

(a) To take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/972;

(b) To hold the Seminar on the Participation of Women in the Economic Evolution of the ECE Region in Paris (France) from 9-12 July 1979;

(c) To submit the findings and conclusions of this Seminar as a contribution to the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2062 (LXII); and

(d) To request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1979/47, Vol. I, para. 336)

O (XXXIV) Co-operation in the field of new technologies of coal extraction and utilization

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2118 (LXII) on the study, development and use of coal resources,

Recalling also its decision D (XXXIII) on enhanced co-operation in the field of coal gasification and liquefaction,

Aware of the necessity to secure continuous supplies of fuels and energy for the region,

Expressing its desire to follow with interest the sectoral developments taking place in the national economies of member countries caused by the energy situation and its prospects,

Conscious of the importance of international co-operation to ensure optimum utilization of the energy resources available in the region, in particular its vast coal resources,

Bearing in mind the importance of international co-operation to develop technologies for reducing levels of the air pollution caused by coal combustion,

Taking note of the report of the seventy-fourth session of the Coal Committee and of the Executive Secretary's report on enhanced co-operation in the field of coal gasification and liquefaction E/ECE/973,

1. Emphasizes the role of the Coal Committee in promoting new technologies of coal extraction and utilization designed to respond to the highly needed improvement in energy effectiveness and in levels of pollution caused by coal combustion, and further research on its gasification and liquefaction;

2. Requests the Committee to intensify the international co-operation conducted in its framework in the field of new technologies of coal extraction and utilization;

3. Requests the Coal Committee to consider close co-operation with the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems and its Working Party on Air Pollution;

4. Requests the Coal Committee, in close consultation with the Chemical Industry Committee and the Committee on Gas to continue to consider the concept of the creation of the ECE Co-ordinating Centre on Coal Gasification and Liquefaction and its possible status;

5. Looks forward to the second Symposium on Coal Gasification and Liquefaction to be held in Katowice (Poland) in April 1979; and

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to present to the thirty-fifth session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/1979/47, Vol.I, para. 338)

P (XXXIV) The ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference

The Commission decided:

(a) To take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/974 on the ECE follow-up to the United Nations Water Conference;

(b) To express its satisfaction with the steps taken by the Committee on Water Problems to adapt its programmes of work in the light of the Mar del Plata Action Plan, adopted at the United Nations Water Conference;

(c) To reaffirm its intention to assume the central role within the region entrusted to it by the Economic and Social Council and in this respect to take any further steps to secure the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan within the region;

(d) To invite the Committee on Water Problems to make concrete proposals for consideration by the Commission at its thirty-fifth session aimed at promoting and strengthening intergovernmental co-operation on water problems within the region, bearing in mind, *inter alia*, the resolution and/or decisions which might be adopted by the Economic and Social Council as a follow-up to the third special session of the Committee on Natural Resources;

(e) To urge the Committee on Water Problems to pay special attention to those projects which are of particular relevance for, and/or could be jointly implemented with, other regional commissions; and

(f) To request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1979/47, Vol.I, para. 340)

Q (XXXIV) Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision G (XXXIII) and the other resolutions and decisions quoted therein,

Reaffirming the declared intention of the States signatory to the Final Act to encourage with the non-participating Mediterranean States the development of mutually beneficial co-operation in the various fields of economic activity and to contribute to a diversified development of their economies,

Bearing in mind that a great number of those member countries of the ECE which are developing from the economic point of view are geographically situated in the Mediterranean,

Mindful of the report of the Meeting of Experts representing the participating States of the CSCE held in Valletta (Malta) from 13 February to 26 March 1979 in order to consider within the Mediterranean Chapter of the Final Act the possibilities and means of promoting concrete initiatives for mutually beneficial co-operation concerning various economic, scientific and cultural fields,

1. Notes with satisfaction the reports of the Executive Secretary, documents E/ECE/976 and E/ECE/977 and Addenda 1 and 2, pursuant to Commission decision G (XXXIII) on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, and the contributions made by the Commission relating to the preparation and to the work of the Valletta Meeting;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to transmit ECE documentation of interest and relevance directly to all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, and agrees that their attention is drawn to relevant ECE meetings to which they will be invited in accordance with paragraph 11 of the Commission's terms of reference;

3. Further requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Western Asia on projects within the competence of the ECE which may be of common interest to all the Mediterranean countries;

4. Notes with interest the report of the Valletta Meeting in its references to the ECE, and requests its subsidiary bodies to continue to pay particular attention in their work to projects and activities of interest to the Mediterranean countries of the ECE region, bearing in mind the relevant sections of the report of the Valletta Meeting;

5. Decides to intensify co-operation with other relevant international organizations on subjects of common interest to the Mediterranean countries; and

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the thirty-fifth session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/1979/47, Vol.1, para. 354)

R (XXXIV) Standardization

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization (E/ECE/979) and of the Report of the Fifth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies (ECE/STAND/19);

(b) to convene the Sixth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies to be held in May 1980;

(c) to convene the seventh session of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies to prepare the Sixth Meeting referred to in (b) above in October 1979; and

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/1979/47, Vol.1, para. 368)

S (XXXIV) Automation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/980 and Addendum I on the activities of the Working Party on Automation during 1978/1979;

(b) to approve the Working Party's programme of work as contained in Annex II to ECE/AUTOMAT/10; and

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1979/47, Vol.1, para. 377)

T (XXXIV) Engineering industries

The Commission decided,

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/981;

(b) To adopt the programme of work for 1979/80 as proposed by the Seventh ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries (ECE/ENGINE/14, Annex);

(c) To convene prior to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission the Eighth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries to review in the light of the views expressed and the decisions taken by the Commission at its thirty-fourth session the programme of work in the field of engineering industries;

(d) To hold the Seminar on Development and Use of Industrial Handling Equipment, in Bulgaria, in September 1979;

(e) To hold a second Meeting for the study on Measures for Saving Raw Materials in Engineering Industries prior to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission;

(f) To convene prior to the thirty-fifth session of the Commission a Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Present and Future Use of Precision Instruments in Engineering Industries, to be held in the German Democratic Republic in 1981; and

(g) To request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-fifth session on the application of this decision. (E/1979/47, Vol.1, para. 394)

**U (XXXIV) Participation of the Conference of European Ministers for Transport
in the work of the Commission**

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Decides to invite the Conference of European Ministers for Transport to participate in its work in accordance with article 12 of its terms of reference. (E/1979/47, Vol.1, para. 415)

THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION

(15-26 April 1980)

RESOLUTION

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

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Conscious of the role of the ECE as an instrument for the implementation of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level,

Emphasizing the significance of its activities for promoting economic relations and co-operation between its member countries and their determination to continue to intensify efforts in this regard,

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

Recalling its resolution 1 (XXXIV),

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes and reports by the Executive Secretary, including his reports E/ECE/987 and E/ECE/1007, the programme of work for the Commission for 1980/81 as well as the long-term programme of work for 1980-1984, and noting that during the thirty-fifth session delegations have raised a number of points concerning the Commission's programme of work,

Welcoming the progress made in the implementation of the Commission's work programme, pursuant to resolution 1 (XXXIV), on topics of the Final Act of the CSCE requiring multilateral implementation and referred to in the section of that Act entitled "Co-operation in the Fields of Economics, of Science and Technology and of the Environment",

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

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

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

Bearing in mind United Nations General Assembly resolutions 32/174 and 34/207 on the preparation for the special session of the General Assembly in 1980; the contribution that the Commission and its member States could make in the formulation of the New International Development Strategy thereby contributing towards establishing a New International Economic Order; as well as the importance of the global negotiations relating to international economic co-operation for development,

Recalling the Soviet Government's proposal in regard to the holding of all-European congresses or inter-State Conferences on co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, and energy, and the suggestion in decision B (XXXI) that member Governments should study the proposal thoroughly in the light of discussion in the Commission and the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE,

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

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

Recalling its resolution 1 (XXXIV) and decision A (XXXIV) concerning the convening of a High-level Meeting within the Framework of the ECE on the Protection of the Environment,

Affirming the major importance of energy for economic and social development, and recalling its decision B (XXXIV),

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

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

3. Recalls that the Final Act of the CSCE provides for the continuation of the multilateral process initiated by the Conference by organizing, *inter alia*, follow up meetings among the representatives of the participating States of the CSCE, further recalls that the participating States have decided at the Belgrade Meeting that the second of these meetings will be held in Madrid commencing Tuesday, 11 November 1980 and requests the Executive Secretary to inform the Madrid meeting, if invited to do so by the participating States, on the progress made in the ECE on the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Act as well as of the possibilities open to the Commission for contributing further to the implementation of the Final Act, and following that, to report as appropriate to the thirty-sixth session;

4. Notes the holding of the "Scientific Forum" of the CSCE, which took place in Hamburg from 18 February to 3 March 1980, as well as the contributions made by the Executive Secretary;

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

6. Notes the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/989, and requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their activities the possible contributions of the ECE to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries, and the necessity of effective co-operation with other international organizations;

7. Expresses the readiness of the member States to attach full attention to the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to contribute effectively to preparations for the special session of the General Assembly;

9. Requests the Executive Secretary to participate actively in the further development of the United Nations Medium-term System-wide Planning in the light of General Assembly resolution 34/224 and other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions;

10. Notes with satisfaction the Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women which will take place in Copenhagen in July 1980 and requests the Executive Secretary to submit to the Conference his report and the report of the Seminar on the Participation of Women in the Economic Evolution of the ECE Region which was held in Paris in July 1979;

11. Notes with appreciation the efforts already under way by the secretariat (as described in E/ECE/988, pages 4 and 5) to the preparatory activities for the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and requests the Executive Secretary to respond fully as appropriate to the requirements in the General Assembly resolutions 33/148 and 34/190;

12. Notes with satisfaction the adoption, during the High-level Meeting within the Framework of the ECE on the Protection of the Environment, which took place in Geneva from 13 to 15 November 1979, of the Convention and Resolution on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and the Declaration in the field of low and non-waste technology and re-utilization and recycling of wastes, stresses the desirability of early ratification of the Convention, endorses the decisions adopted by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems at their eighth session to implement the important results of the High-level Meeting without delay, further endorses the priorities established in the new ECE programme of work on environmental problems, which will give new impetus to the work of the Commission in the field of environment, and notes the Executive Secretary's expressed intention to provide secretariat resources adequate for the implementation of the programme of work in this field;

13. Adopts the Declaration of Policy on Prevention and Control of Water Pollution including Transboundary Pollution, and commends the Committee on Water Problems for the successful work in its preparation;

14. Reiterates the importance of an extensive exchange of information and views between member Governments on general energy problems, including energy resources; and national objectives and policies in these areas, thus providing a basis for closer international co-operation on energy matters and, *inter alia*, for discussion of problems related to a possible high-level meeting on energy organized within the framework of the ECE;

15. Draws to the attention of member Governments decision E (XXXV);

16. Reiterates the suggestion in resolution 1 (XXIV) that member Governments should study thoroughly the USSR Government proposal for the holding of all European congresses in the field of transport and energy in the light of further discussions in the Commission and the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE;

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

18. Approves its programme of work for 1980/81 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its thirty-sixth session, its long-term programme of work for 1980-1984;

19. Notes with satisfaction the progress achieved so far with a view to increasing the effectiveness in methods of work and in use of ECE resources and the measures described by the Executive Secretary in his report E/ECE/995 in implementation of decision E (XXXIV) and requests the Executive Secretary to continue his efforts in this direction; and

20. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution as well as the other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned for their guidance. (E/1980/28, Vol.I, para. 62)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (XXXV) Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Executive Secretary on concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work (E/ECE/991), prepared pursuant to operative paragraph 5 of Commission decision D (XXXIV),

Commending the steps taken by the Executive Secretary to assure a more efficient co-operation within the secretariat on matters related to environment,

Considering the need to further strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of the concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work and to make fuller use of the opportunities offered within ECE, in particular by its annual sessions, when reviewing the activities of the selected sector,

Further considering that present procedures could be improved to respond more adequately to the need for timely co-ordination and to reinforce the possibility for influencing on-going activities at an early stage,

Further acknowledging that concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work will also contribute to increased effectiveness in the use of ECE resources,

1. Invites the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to ensure that the programme of work of the Commission with regard to environment is carried out in close co-operation with each other;

2. Welcomes the restructuring of the work programme of the Senior Advisers on Environmental Problems aimed at streamlining their work;

3. Requests the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems to continue and to strengthen their efforts to review at their annual sessions ECE activities and programmes related to the environment, taking into account the revised Declaration of Policy on Prevention and Control of Water Pollution, including Transboundary Pollution, in close co-operation with the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies, and to prepare specific suggestions and recommendations for consideration by the Commission in accordance with paragraph 7 of their terms of reference;

4. Decides to select activities in the field of economic projections as the next major topic to be considered in depth from the point of view of concentration, integration and co-ordination;

5. Encourages member Governments to make fuller use of the opportunities offered by the review of concentration and integration of the programme of work in the selected sector for streamlining and directing the programme of work as a whole;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary when preparing his report on concentration and integration in the selected sector for the thirty-sixth session to pay particular attention to possible improvements which may be brought to the programme of work in this respect;

7. Invites the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to submit concrete proposals on ways to improve co-ordination and co-operation among themselves by, for example,

(a) examining further possibilities for organizing their work jointly with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies in areas of common interest as a means of avoiding unnecessary duplication;

(b) examining means of strengthening the consultative process among themselves so that they may benefit from each other's views and advice before final decisions are reached, but without provoking unnecessary delays; and

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to inform the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the contents of this decision and to report to the thirty-sixth session on its implementation. (E/1980/28, Vol.1, para. 87)

**B (XXXV) ECE declaration of policy on prevention and control of water pollution,
including transboundary pollution**

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Mindful of the special importance of solving the problems of the protection of water against pollution and its rational utilization in ECE member countries as an integral part of the environmental protection policy in the interests of present and future generations,

Appreciating the important role of the ECE Declaration of policy on water pollution control of 29 April 1966, which has contributed to the substantial progress made in this field by ECE member countries, the Committee on Water Problems and its subsidiary bodies,

Taking note of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and the Mar del Plata Action Plan adopted by the United Nations Water Conference, in particular resolutions VII and VIII and the recommendations applying more specifically to Europe,

Bearing in mind the recent international conventions aimed at the protection of the marine environment; the Convention for the prevention of marine pollution by dumping from ships and aircraft (Oslo, 1972); the Convention on the protection of the marine environment of the Baltic

Sea area (Helsinki, 1974); the Convention for the prevention of marine pollution from land-based sources (Paris, 1974); the Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution (Barcelona, 1976); the Convention on civil liability for oil pollution damage resulting from exploration and exploitation of sea-bed mineral resources (London, 1976); and the international conventions applicable to marine pollution due to vessel sources,

Considering that the efforts of individual countries in solving the problems of the protection of water against pollution, including transboundary pollution, should be supplemented and supported, as appropriate, by bilateral and multilateral international co-operation,

Aware of the responsibilities and activities of different United Nations bodies and other relevant international organizations in this field,

Recognizing the need for further development and strengthening of international co-operation and improvement in the co-ordination of efforts by ECE member countries in water pollution control matters, including transboundary pollution, in the light of the experience acquired during the past few years in the management and integrated use of water resources,

1. Decides to adopt the Principles on prevention and control of water pollution, including transboundary pollution set forth in the appendix to this Decision, which complete and develop the Principles contained in the 1966 Declaration;
2. Recommends to ECE Governments that they consider the possibility of applying these Principles in formulating and carrying out their water policies and in their international co-operation;
3. Invites the member Governments to report in depth to the Commission at three year intervals, through the Committee on Water Problems, on the action taken by them in this regard;
4. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit this decision to the member Governments as a Declaration of policy on prevention and control of water pollution, including transboundary pollution;
5. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit this decision to the organizations concerned with a view to extending international co-operation in this field.

PRINCIPLES

1. The conservation of water resources and the prevention and control of water pollution are integral parts of a comprehensive national policy in environmental protection and call for active participation of national and local public authorities and water users as well as close international co-operation. The rational utilization of water resources, both surface and underground, as a basic element in the framework of long-term water management, should be viewed as an effective support to the policy of prevention and control of water pollution, taking into account the special features of each drainage basin.
2. Water pollution control should be handled taking account of possible interactions of pollutants on air, land and water.
3. The aim of water pollution control is to preserve, as far as possible, the natural quality of surface and ground water, to protect the environment which depends on such water, and to decrease existing levels of water pollution in order to protect public health and to allow the satisfaction

of the needs of such water, under the best economic conditions and in sufficient quantity, in particular for: 1/

- providing drinking water of sufficiently good quality for human health;
- preserving the aquatic flora and fauna;
- providing water for industry;
- providing water for agriculture, in particular irrigation and animal consumption;
- recreation (sports and leisure) with due regard to sanitary and aesthetic requirements.

4. Governments should adopt a long-term policy directed towards the reduction of existing water pollution and its prevention in the future. To this end a series of interrelated measures should be developed including, so far as necessary, the improvement of water legislation and its implementation, the use of all legal and administrative measures, integrated land-use planning, and the application of suitable economic incentives to encourage, *inter alia*, the conservation of water, the optimization of water resources management, the elimination of pollutants, in particular at source, the development of low- and non-waste technology, including recycling of water, and research and development.

5. Important tools in water pollution control are standardization and monitoring of water quality in rivers and lakes or standardization and monitoring of effluents, or an appropriate combination of both; the quantitative and qualitative assessment of waste water and its treatment with due regard to the interests of water users and environmental protection. In setting criteria and standards, all types of water resources (surface, ground and sea water) and/or effluents should be covered. The criteria and standards themselves should, as far as possible, reflect public health, drinking water supply and environmental protection requirements and should also satisfy the demand for water in the industrial, agricultural, fisheries and other sectors of the economy.

6. Pollution of the aquatic environment by dangerous substances that are toxic, persistent and bioaccumulative should be prevented by using the best available technology and eliminated within a reasonable period of time.

7. Governments should organize the implementation of water pollution control measures as part of their national policy of environmental protection, within the framework of their institutions and taking into account the nature of the problems to be solved. In this connection, it may be desirable that States, within the limits of their constitutional and legislative competence, have at their disposal appropriate organs at the central or regional levels or at the level of the various hydrographic basins. It may be desirable that the central responsibility for water pollution control be vested in one authority or co-ordinating body on a sufficiently high level. This authority or body should carry out its work in collaboration with other authorities and within the framework of water resources, water utilization and public health policies in general. Furthermore, bodies such as committees, commissions, etc., composed of representatives of the public authorities, of representatives of users and independent experts may be entrusted with the task of helping and advising the above mentioned organs.

1/ Apart from drinking water, these uses are not necessarily listed in order of importance.

8. To promote water pollution control and to protect both surface and underground water, it is essential to establish laws which prohibit all discharges of liquid and solid wastes from domestic, industrial and agricultural activities to surface waters and aquifers unless they have been authorized by the competent authority in charge of water pollution control. However, regulations for discharges of limited importance and special derogations, if appropriate, could be implemented in particular cases. In deciding whether to permit these discharges, the appropriate competent authority should ensure that the effluents are treated at least by the best practicable technology possible and that they will not endanger public health or life in general and should take particular account of the following factors:

(a) the capacity of the receiving water to assimilate materials being discharged, taking into account the physical, chemical, biological, microbiological and radio-active characteristics of these materials;

(b) the evaluation of the environmental, social and economic advantages and disadvantages of possible methods of treatment and disposal.

9. Each country should take all appropriate steps to prevent pollution of the sea, namely by the direct or indirect introduction by man into the marine environment - including estuaries - of substances or energy which may endanger human health, harm living resources and the marine ecosystem, affect amenities or interfere with other legitimate uses of the sea. Governments should therefore seek: to reduce progressively land-based pollution provoked by toxic, non-degradable and bioaccumulative substances enumerated in the appropriate supplements to different international conventions; to prohibit or to set up controls by specific permits, according to the different international conventions, of the discharge of these substances from their territories into the sea; and to carry out the principles set out in the convention pertaining to the reduction and prohibition of pollution caused in coastal areas and estuaries by exploration and exploitation of the resources of the sea.

10. It is essential that legislation on water use and pollution control should be drawn up and applied in such a way that if violations occur effective sanctions can be imposed. The competent authorities should be authorized to take immediate action in case of need.

11. The general principle should be adopted that, as far as possible, the direct or indirect costs attributable to pollution should be borne by the polluter. Each State should use the most suitable economic incentives in order to discourage pollution and encourage the reduction of polluting discharges and the development of new technologies which are less polluting. Strategies for water pollution control should include, in addition to the installation of effluent treatment plants, the adoption of preventive measures at the earliest possible stage in the production processes, especially through the incorporation of low- and non-waste technology, water recycling and the rational use of chemicals and fertilizers in agriculture and forestry, as well as the implementation of land-use policies.

12. States should establish information and educational programmes in order to influence individual behaviour in relation to water utilization and pollution and to promote the acceptance of responsibility for dealing with water problems.

13. States sharing water resources ^{2/} should undertake, on the basis of their national policies, concerted action to improve the quality of surface and groundwater to control pollution and to

^{2/} The term "shared water resources" is used only for the uniformity of the text and its use does not prejudice the position of the countries supporting the terms "transboundary waters" or "international waters" in any of the problems involved.

guard against accidental pollution. These States should by means of bilateral or multilateral agreements define their mutual relations on water pollution control, especially through the widest possible exchange of information and through consultations at an early stage in regard to activities likely to have significant adverse effects on water quality in the territory of the other States. In these agreements, water quality standards and/or emission standards for a particular water body should be established, where necessary. These agreements would also stipulate the obligations of the States in solving water pollution problems, including their scientific and technological aspects. Provision should be made in particular for the use of existing structures of co-operation and for seeking new ones, as appropriate, to meet fully the interests of expanding and intensifying international relations.

14. International co-operation on water problems, within the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and other competent international organizations operating within the ECE region should facilitate the exchange of experience between countries and help them to find the most appropriate solutions through the exchange of available information, especially on ways of predicting and effectively avoiding adverse environmental consequences of economic activities and new technology. This co-operation should include: exchange of scientific and technical information including experience of structure, design and technology of waste water treatment plants, and on the development and introduction of low- and non-waste technology; exchange of researchers, specialists, trainees; carrying out joint studies; comparison of long-term national policies for rational water use and water protection; organization of scientific and technical meetings; and comparison of water quality criteria and standards as well as their methods of application. (E/1980/28, Vol.1, para. 240).

C (XXXV) The work of the Committee on Water Problems - the revised declaration of policy on prevention and control, of water pollution, including transboundary pollution - proposal for monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution.

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision A (XXXIV), as well as its decision I (XXXIV) concerning the need for closer co-operation between the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems and the Committee on Water Problems,

Taking into account the Report of the High-Level Meeting, within the Framework of the ECE, on the Protection of the Environment (ECE/HLM.1/2) and the Report of the eighth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems (ECE/LNV/33),

Mindful of the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe,

Recalling the Mar del Plata United Nations Water Conference,

Underlining the importance of water problems in the ECE region, including those related to water pollution,

Expressing its appreciation for the work of the Committee on Water Problems and its efforts so far, as well as its co-operation with the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems in relation to the preservation of water quality as one of the main elements of the environment and the quality of life in general,

Stressing the outstanding importance of the revised Declaration of Policy on Prevention and

Control of Water Pollution, including Transboundary Pollution, elaborated by the Committee on Water Problems,

1. Requests the Committee on Water Problems to consider in its activities the implication of the adoption of the "Declaration of Policy on Prevention and Control of Water Pollution, including Transboundary Pollution", in order that the principles included therein receive further consideration;

2. Decides to reiterate its invitation for closer co-operation between the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems and the Committee on Water Problems and urgently requests the latter to consider the feasibility of setting up a project in co-operation with the Senior Advisers for the monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution, taking into account the activities of UNEP, WHO, as well as other international organizations in that field, in order to avoid duplication; and

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-sixth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of this decision. (E/1980/28, Vol.I, para. 241)

D (XXXV) Promotion of trade and industrial co-operation in the ECE region

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recognizing the importance of the development of intra-regional trade and industrial co-operation for the economic development of the region and affirming thereby the priority role of the Committee on the Development of Trade,

Underlining the particular importance of the ECE in respect of problems related to trade among member countries having different economic and social systems,

Drawing the attention of member Governments to the importance in the elaboration of trade policies in the region of the provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE concerning co-operation in the field of economics, of science and technology and of the environment,

1. Invites member Governments to devote efforts to expanding this trade, to endeavour to reduce or progressively eliminate all kinds of obstacles to trade and further to improve economic information; and

2. Requests the Committee on the Development of Trade to contribute further to the achievement of these objectives. (E/1980/28, Vol.I, para. 258)

E (XXXV) Energy

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolution 1 (XXXV),

Further recalling its resolution 1 (XXXIV) and decision B (XXXIV),

Conscious that a closer and mutually advantageous co-operation on energy matters could open up new possibilities for a solution on energy problems facing its member countries,

Noting the work done so far by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy in pursuance of their mandate as provided for in decision B (XXXIV),

1. Notes the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/994 and the reports of the first and second sessions of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy (ECE/ENERGY/2 and 4) and confirms the conclusions adopted and the decisions taken by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy;

2. Approves, subject to review at its thirty-sixth session, the draft programme of work on general energy problems as drafted during the second session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy and contained in Annex I to document E/ECE/994 as well as the calendar of meetings mentioned in Annex II of the same document;

3. Requests the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy to continue their activities according to the terms of their mandate under decision B (XXXIV) on the understanding that all its elements should receive due attention;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare with the assistance of experts recommended by members and appointed by the secretariat the report foreseen in subparagraph (4) of paragraph 32 of document ECE/ENERGY/4 so that the third session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy which should take place two or three months after distribution of that report could be convened as soon as possible; and

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-sixth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1980/28, Vol. I, para. 283)

F (XXXV) Co-operation in the field of science and technology

The Economic Commission for Europe

Aware of the fundamental importance and growing role of scientific and technological progress for economic and social development of all countries,

Recalling its decision J (XXXIV) by which it recognized the need to pay greater attention to the development of the scientific and technological co-operation among the member countries of the ECE Region, as well as to the contribution that these countries can bring to the application of science and technology to development, taking into account the needs of developing countries and those countries within the ECE region which are developing from the economic point of view,

Conscious of the continuous need for an active contribution of the Commission to the implementation on a multilateral basis of the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe concerning science and technology, and, in this context,

Recalling that such co-operation can be developed and implemented bilaterally and multilaterally at the governmental and non-governmental levels, for example, through intergovernmental and other agreements, international programmes, co-operative projects and commercial channels, while utilizing also various forms of contacts, including direct and individual contacts,

Noting the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development and the adoption of the Vienna Programme of Action,

Bearing in mind resolution A/34/218 of the General Assembly which, inter alia, decided to establish an Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology for Development, requesting organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations to comply with the recommendations set forth in the Vienna Programme of Action; and

requesting the Secretary-General of the United Nations to prepare a basic study of the activities, mandates and working methods of all various organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the field of science and technology for development and to examine the possibilities of improving the efficiency of the system in that field,

Having in mind the Declaration of the European Regional Meeting held in Bucharest, containing recommendations for action,

1. Takes note of the report by the Executive Secretary on co-operation in the field of science and technology (E/ECE/997) and the report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology on their eighth session (ECE/SC.TECH./19);

2. Confirms the importance of scientific and technological co-operation within the ECE;

3. Reaffirms the importance it attaches to the activities of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology and approves their programme of work as presented in Annex I to document ECE/SC.TECH/19;

4. Invites the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission to consider further practical projects in their programme of work relevant to the scientific and technological co-operation in the ECE Region;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to inform the new Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology for Development of the interest and willingness of the Commission to co-operate fully and actively in the follow-up action of the Vienna Programme of Action and the work of the Committee, and action envisaged under paragraph 8 below;

6. Invites the Executive Secretary to provide the Secretary-General of the United Nations with all material and information on the work of the Commission in the field of science and technology which might be useful for the preparation of his basic study mentioned in the preamble of this decision;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare proposals for the consideration of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology at their ninth session on possible contributions which the ECE might make to the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development; as agreed to by the Senior Advisers at their eighth session (ECE/SC.TECH/19, para. 78(c));

8. Requests further that in the interim the Executive Secretary should take steps towards the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action by, inter alia, disseminating the results of the ECE studies, and bringing ECE meetings which might be of particular interest for developing countries to their attention; and

9. Requests furthermore the Executive Secretary to present to the thirty-sixth session of the Commission a report on the implementation of this resolution and the progress report referred to in paragraph 6 (c) of document E/ECE/997. (E/1980/28, Vol.I, para. 287)

G (XXXV) Long-term economic trends and development of international co-operation

The Commission decided:

(a) To take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/998;

(b) To express its satisfaction with the steps taken by the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments and the Committee on the Development of Trade to adapt their work programmes in order to improve their work on long-term prospects for growth and international co-operation; and

(c) To invite all Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned to continue to co-operate with the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments on the identification of long-term economic trends and possibilities for development of international co-operation. (E/1980/28, Vol.1, para. 289)

H (XXXV) The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980

The Commission decided:

(a) To take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1000, the report of the Seminar on the Participation of Women in the Economic Evolution of the ECE Region held in Paris (France) in July 1979 (ECE/SEM.5/9) and of the study of the Economic Role of Women in the ECE Region prepared by the secretariat for submission to the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, 1980;

(b) To request the Executive Secretary to assess changes in the economic role of women within the ECE region in conjunction with other research activities of the secretariat. (E/1980/28, Vol.1, para. 294)

I (XXXV) Co-operation in the field of new technologies of coal extraction and utilization

The Commission decided:

(a) To take note of the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1001) on co-operation in the field of new technologies in coal extraction and utilization;

(b) To express its satisfaction with the steps taken by the Coal Committee to intensify co-operation in the field of new technologies in coal extraction and utilization, and in particular with the work and results of the Symposium on the Gasification and Liquefaction of Coal held at Katowice (Poland) in April 1979;

(c) To request the Coal Committee to continue consideration of the concept of creating an ECE Co-ordinating Centre on Coal Gasification and Liquefaction. (E/1980/28, Vol.1, para. 296)

J (XXXV) Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Reaffirming its decision Q (XXXIV) and the other resolutions and decisions quoted therein,

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

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

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1003 on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, and the encouraging response from Mediterranean countries as well as from the Economic Commissions for Africa and Western Asia;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Western Asia and the Economic Commission for Africa and other relevant United Nations bodies and to pursue his contacts with all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries;

3. Recommends to its subsidiary bodies to identify areas of interest for economic co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of overall ECE activities and its programme of work; and

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the thirty-sixth session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/1980/28, Vol.I, para. 305)

K (XXXV) Standardization

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization (E/ECE/1004 and Add.1) and of the reports of the sixth and seventh sessions of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies (STAND/GE.1/13 and 15);

(b) To express the hope that the Sixth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies will result in further progress being made towards the harmonization of standards and technical regulations in the ECE region and the creation and promotion of international certification arrangements, and thereby contribute to the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE;

(c) To convene the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies for two further sessions (26 to 28 January 1981 and 25 to 27 May 1981) to consider such matters as may be referred to it by the Sixth Meeting of Government Officials, and to prepare for a possible Seventh Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies;

(d) to consider at its thirty-seventh session the convening of a Seventh Meeting of Government Officials to be held in late 1981 or early 1982; and

(e) to request the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the thirty-sixth session of the Commission. (E/1980/28, Vol.I, para. 312)

L (XXXV) Automation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1005 and Addendum on the activities of the Working Party on Automation during 1979/1980;

(b) to approve the Working Party's programme of work as contained in the Annex to ECE/AUTOMAT/13; and

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-sixth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1980/28, Vol.I, para. 318)

M (XXXV) Engineering industries and automation

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision D (XXXIV) on concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work and decision E (XXXIV) on increased effectiveness in the use of ECE resources,

Taking note of the debated ion the Sessional Committee concerning the activities of the ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries and the Working Party on Automation, which showed an interrelationship between their programmes, and the joint activities currently conducted by these two bodies in the Fields of Statistics and in organizing seminars,

1. Decides to dissolve the Working Party on Automation and to create a new permanent body to be called the "Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation";

2. Recommends that this new body include into its programme of work those specific sectors of activity which up to now are covered within the framework of the ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries and the Working Party on Automation and to present its draft programme of work to the thirty-sixth session of the Commission;

3. Decides to convene the first session of this New Working Party prior to the thirty-sixth session of the Commission; and

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-sixth session of the Commission on the application of this decision. (E/1980/28, Vol.I, para. 319)

N (XXXV) Engineering industries

The Commission decided:

(a) To take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1006;

(b) To adopt the programme of work for 1980/81, as proposed in the Eighth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries (ECE/ENGIN/16, Annex);

(c) To convene prior to the thirty-sixth session of the Commission the Ninth ad hoc Meeting of Experts on Engineering Industries to review in the light of the views expressed and the decisions taken by the Commission at its thirty-fifth session the programme of work in the field of engineering industries and to review possibilities of amending the methods of work;

(d) To hold the Seminar on Innovation in Engineering Industries: Techno-economic Aspects of Fabrication Processes and Quality Control, in Italy, in June 1980;

(e) To convene prior to the thirty-sixth session of the Commission a Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Techno-economic Aspects of the International Division of Labour in the Automobile Industry (including production sharing, especially east-west connexions in this field), to be held in Poland in 1981;

(f) To convene a Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Present Use and Prospects for Precision Instruments in Engineering Industries, to be held in the German Democratic Republic in 1982;

(g) To hold prior to the thirty-sixth Commission session a Study Tour of Agricultural Aviation Specialists, in the United Kingdom;

(h) To hold a third meeting for the study on Measures for Saving Materials in Engineering Industries prior to the thirty-sixth session of the Commission;

(i) To hold an ad hoc Meeting for the study on Development of Airborne Equipment to Intensify World Food Production prior to the thirty-sixth session of the Commission;

(j) To convene an ad hoc meeting on Questions of Statistics concerning Engineering Industries and Automation jointly sponsored with the Working Party on Automation prior to the thirty-sixth session of the Commission; and

(k) To request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-sixth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1980/28, Vol. 1, para. 335)

THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

(30 March-8 April 1981)

RESOLUTION

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

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its previous resolutions and in particular resolution 1 (XXXV),

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes and reports by the Executive Secretary, including his reports E/ECE/1016 and E/ECE/1021, the programme of work for the Commission for 1981/82 as well as the long-term programme of work for 1981-1985, and noting that during the thirty-sixth session delegations have raised a number of points concerning the Commission's programme of work,

Conscious of the role of the ECE in the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and welcoming in this regard the progress made in the implementation of the Commission's work programme, pursuant to resolution 1 (XXXV),

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

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

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

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

Recalling the Soviet Government's proposal in regard to the holding of all-European congresses or inter-State Conferences on co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, and energy, and the suggestion in decision B (XXXI) that member Governments should study the proposal thoroughly in the light of discussion in the Commission and the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE,

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

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

Affirming the major importance of energy for economic and social development, and recalling its decision E (XXXV),

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

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

3. Commends the Executive Secretary's report as contained in document E/ECE/1021 which he presented to the meeting in Madrid in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE and of its resolution 1 (XXXV) and requests the Executive Secretary to participate, if invited to do so, in activities that may result from that meeting and, in that case, to make the necessary arrangements to that effect;

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

5. Notes the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1018, and requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their activities the possible contributions of the ECE to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries, and the necessity of effective co-operation with other international organizations;

6. Notes with satisfaction the progress made during the first meeting of the Interim Executive Body (IEB), entrusted with the provisional implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, the elaboration by the IEB of a comprehensive workplan, and its support for the co-operative programme for monitoring and evaluation of the long-range transmission of air pollutants in Europe (EMEP), and the elaboration of the programme of work by the first session of the Working Party on Low- and Non-waste Technology and Re-utilization and Recycling of Wastes, as a follow-up to the High-level Meeting on the Protection of the Environment;

7. Recalls its resolution 1 (XXXV) and reiterates its appeal for early ratification of the Convention;

8. Welcomes the decision of the Committee on Water Problems, following the adoption by the thirty-fifth session of the Declaration of Policy on the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution, including Transboundary Pollution and in accordance with the provisions of decision C (XXXV), to convene an ad hoc Meeting entrusted with the preparation of draft terms of reference for a pilot project on monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution, for consideration by the

Committee at its next session; and requests the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-seventh session of the Commission;

9. Recognizes the importance of the development of intraregional trade and the particular importance of the ECE, in respect of problems related to trade among member countries having different economic and social systems, and draws the attention of member Governments to the importance of the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE in the elaboration of trade policies in the region;

10. Takes note of the report E/ECE/1022 of the Executive Secretary and of the report (ECE/TRADE/136) of the Committee on the Development of Trade on its twenty-ninth session;

11. Notes the discussions which took place during the twenty-ninth session of the Committee on the Development of Trade and invites member Governments to pay particular attention to problems in the following areas, without prejudice to their relative importance: all kinds of obstacles to trade, economic and commercial information, business contacts and facilities, industrial co-operation, small and medium size enterprises and compensation transactions in all their forms;

12. Invites the Committee on the Development of Trade to contribute further to the achievement of the objectives mentioned in decision D (XXV);

13. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1024 on energy matters and the report of the third session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy (ECE/ENERGY/6);

14. Notes that progress has been made with regard to an extensive exchange of information and views between member Governments on general energy problems, including energy resources, and national objectives and policies in these areas; and reiterates the importance of this exchange which should provide a useful basis for closer international co-operation on energy matters and for further work at subsequent sessions of the Senior Advisers on Energy;

15. Requests the Senior Advisers, at their fourth and subsequent sessions, to continue their activities according to the terms of their mandate under decision B (XXXIV) and reiterates its understanding that all the elements of their mandate should receive due attention; and therefore invites the Executive Secretary to prepare an improved version of the report ENERGY/R.10 in accordance with the conclusions adopted and the decisions taken by the Senior Advisers on Energy during their third session for consideration at their fourth session to be convened as soon as possible after distribution of the report;

16. Reiterates the suggestion in resolution I (XXV) that member Governments should study thoroughly the USSR Government proposal for the holding of all European congresses in the field of transport and energy in the light of further discussions in the Commission and the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE;

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

18. Notes that the Executive Secretary will transmit under his own responsibility to the Secretary-General of the United Nations his proposal on the draft medium-term plan provided for in resolution 34/224 of the General Assembly together with the report of the thirty-sixth session of the ECE containing views of the members of the Commission;

19. Decides to review the proposal for the medium-term plan at its thirty-seventh session to take into account views expressed by member Governments and all the decisions with programme implications taken during the present biennium;

20. Approves its programme of work for 1981/82 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its thirty-seventh session, its long-term programme of work for 1981-1985;

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

22. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution as well as other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned for their guidance. (E/1981/53, Vol.I, para. 61)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (XXXVI) Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recognizing the value of a review of concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work in a selected sector and the progress achieved so far in the areas of trade, science and technology and environment,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Executive Secretary on concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work (E/ECE/1020) prepared pursuant to operative paragraph 6 of Commission decision A (XXXV),

Commending the steps taken by the Executive Secretary to assure a more efficient co-operation within the secretariat on matters related to economic projections and noting the shortcomings identified in this respect,

Considering the need to further strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of the concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work and to make fuller use of the opportunities offered within ECE, in particular by its annual sessions, when reviewing the activities of the selected sector,

Further considering that present procedures could be improved to respond more adequately to the need for timely co-ordination and to reinforce the possibility for influencing activities at an early stage,

Acknowledging that concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work together with clear identification of priorities and possibilities for co-operation in new areas of common interest will also contribute to increased effectiveness in the use of ECE resources,

Further acknowledging the primary role of the Senior Economic Advisers in providing guidance to the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies in the field of economic projections,

1. Invites the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to ensure that the programme of work of the Commission with regard to economic projections is carried out with due regard to the work of the Senior Economic Advisers and of other Principal Subsidiary Bodies;

2. Requests the Senior Advisers to consider:

(a) adopting a set of common assumptions, and

(b) deciding upon a set of common time horizons for the guidance of all Principal Subsidiary Bodies in their work on economic projections, thus facilitating a greater exchange of inputs and outputs from one Principal Subsidiary Body to another;

3. Requests the secretariat to continue its work on the creation of an ECE data bank so that comparable data will in future be available to all Principal Subsidiary Bodies for their work on economic projections;

4. Invites the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to consider ways to improve co-ordination and co-operation among themselves by, for example,

(a) examining further possibilities for organizing their work jointly in areas of common interest as a means for avoiding unnecessary duplication and thus more effectively using ECE resources;

(b) examining means of strengthening the consultative process among themselves so that they may benefit from each other's views and advice before final decisions are reached, but without provoking unnecessary delays;

5. Invites all the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, when reviewing their programmes of work, to evaluate regularly their activities in order, *inter alia*, to eliminate activities of marginal utility and release resources for other activities;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to inform the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the contents of this decision and to report to the thirty-seventh session on the implementation of this decision and of its effect on the organization of work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies;

7. Decides to select activities in the field of energy as the next major topic to be considered in depth from the point of view of concentration, integration and co-ordination;

8. Encourages member Governments to make fuller use of the opportunities offered by the review of concentration and integration of the programme of work in the selected sector for streamlining and directing the programme of work as a whole; and

9. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare a report on concentration and integration in the selected sector for consideration at the thirty-seventh session and to pay particular attention to possible improvements which may be brought to the organization of work in this respect. (E/1981/53, Vol.I, para. 80)

B (XXXVI) Joint projects relating to water problems in agriculture

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Aware of the importance of water supply in agriculture, and of the fact that this question is of common interest for the States of the region,

Appreciating the efforts of the Committee on Water Problems and the Committee on Agricultural Problems to take up closer co-operation and manifested in their convening of the seminar on "Water Pollution from Animal Production",

Noting with satisfaction the results of discussion within the Committee on Agricultural Problems concerning specific projects relating to water problems in agriculture, in particular irrigation and drainage,

1. Endorses the decisions of the Committee on Water Problems and of the Committee on Agricultural Problems to consider closer co-operation related to water problems in agriculture in different fields;

2. Requests the Committee on Water Problems and the Committee on Agricultural Problems to examine the possibility of further joint projects on an ad hoc basis, relating to water problems in agriculture, in particular irrigation and drainage;

3. Recommends to the Committee on Water Problems and to the Committee on Agricultural Problems to engage in closer co-operation with other relevant international organizations, inter alia, with the FAO and UNEP. (E/1981/53, Vol.I, para. 89)

C (XXXVI) Introduction and harmonization of summertime in Europe

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Aware of the fact that a general introduction and harmonization of summertime in the European continent would eliminate difficulties which arise in international transport,

Taking note of the discussion and the request on this item during the last session of the Inland Transport Committee,

1. Requests Governments and competent regional organizations to send their comments on the unified date for the introduction of summertime to the secretariat as recommended by the Inland Transport Committee;

2. Invites the Inland Transport Committee to consider at its forty-second session the question of the harmonization of summertime and the possibilities of bringing about the unification of its dates; and

3. Invites the Executive Secretary, in conjunction with the Inland Transport Committee and other competent Principal Subsidiary Bodies, to endeavour to make proposals regarding the above questions and to report to its thirty-seventh session. (E/1981/53, Vol.I, para. 201)

D (XXXVI) Long-term economic trends and development of international co-operation

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Bearing in mind the importance of the need to study in several practical aspects long-term economic trends in the ECE region,

Invites all Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned to continue to co-operate with the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments on the identification of long-term economic trends and possibilities for the development of international co-operation. (E/1981/53, Vol.I, para. 233)

E (XXXVI) Co-operation in the field of science and technology

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision F (XXXV) which confirmed the importance of scientific and technological co-operation in the ECE region,

Conscious of the great potential for scientific and technological co-operation in the ECE region and the increasing interest in the development of such co-operation in the framework of the Commission on a mutually advantageous basis,

Noting the adoption of the Vienna Programme of Action as well as of the Declaration of the European Regional Meeting held in Bucarest,

Aware of the necessity for all ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies, particularly the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology, to give due attention to studies and practical projects for the development of the co-operation in the field of science and technology between the ECE member countries,

Bearing in mind the fact that the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development will consider at its next session the Plan of Operation for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action,

Bearing in mind the request made by its thirty-fifth session to the Executive Secretary to prepare for the consideration of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology at their ninth session proposals on possible contributions by the ECE to the follow-up of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development,

1. Takes note of the report by the Executive Secretary on co-operation in the field of science and technology (E/ECE/1025);

2. Reaffirms the importance it attaches to ECE activities in the field of science and technology including possible contributions to the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action taking into account the objectives of the work of the Commission in promoting international co-operation in this field;

3. Requests the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology to prepare for consideration by the Commission at its thirty-seventh session specific proposals concerning the contribution which the ECE should make to the follow-up to the UNCSTD, taking into account the results of the third session of the ICSTD;

4. Invites the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology to examine at their ninth session the possibility of convening, if necessary, and within existing resources, before the thirty-seventh session of the Commission an ad hoc meeting to consider in depth this matter; and

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the thirty-seventh session of the Commission. (E/1981/53, Vol.1, para. 297)

F (XXXVI) Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Reaffirming its decision J (XXXV) and the other resolutions and decisions quoted therein,

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

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

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1026 on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, and the encouraging response from Mediterranean countries as well as from the Economic Commissions for Africa and Western Asia;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Western Asia and the Economic Commission for Africa and other relevant United Nations bodies and to pursue his contacts with all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries;

3. Recommends to its subsidiary bodies to continue their efforts in identifying areas of interest for economic co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of over-all ECE activities and its programme of work; and

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the thirty-seventh session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/1981/53, Vol.1, para. 302)

G (XXXVI) Standardization

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization (E/ECE/1027) and the reports of the Sixth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies (ECE/STAND/22) and of the eighth session of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies (STAND/GE.1/17);

(b) to convene the ninth session of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies from 3 to 6 November 1981;

(c) to note the decision of the Group of Experts to convene as necessary *ad hoc* meetings on testing prior to the Seventh Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies;

(d) to convene the Seventh Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies from 1 to 4 March 1982;

(e) to request the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the thirty-seventh session of the Commission. (E/1981/53, Vol.1, para. 309)

H (XXXVI) Engineering industries and automation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1028;

(b) to adopt the Terms of Reference of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (ECE/LNG.AUT/2, Annex 1);

(c) to approve the Working Party's programme of work as contained in Annex II to ECE/ENG.AUT/2;

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-seventh session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1981/53, Vol.1, para. 322)

THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION

(23 March-2 April 1982)

RESOLUTION

1 (XXXVII)

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Having considered the items of the agenda of its thirty-seventh session, recalling its previous resolutions and in particular resolution 1 (XXXVI),

Conscious of the role of the ECE as an instrument for the implementation of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level, in particular with regard to the development of co-operation among countries of the region in the fields of trade, industry, science and technology, the environment and other areas of economic activity,

Conscious further of the role of the ECE in the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and noting in this regard the progress made in the implementation of the Commission's work programme, pursuant to resolution 1 (XXXVI),

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

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

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

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

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes and reports of the Executive Secretary, including his report E/ECE/1032, the long-term programme of work for 1982-1986 as well as his proposal on the draft Medium-term Plan for 1984-1989, and noting that during the thirty-seventh session delegations have made a number of comments and suggestions concerning the Commission's programme of work,

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

2. Considers in this connection that the implementation of all provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and full respect for the principles guiding relations among the participating States set out therein are an essential basis for the development of co-operation among them in the fields of trade, industry, science and technology, the environment and other areas of economic activity, and requests its subsidiary bodies to continue to take into account, for their work, the pertinent provisions of the Final Act which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the ECE;

3. Notes the report on the work and future activities of the Commission (E/ECE/1032) prepared by the Executive Secretary;

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

5. Notes the Executive Secretary's reports E/ECE/1034 and E/ECE/1035 and requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their activities the possible contributions of the ECE to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries and the necessity of effective co-operation with other international organizations;

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

7. Takes note of the report of the Committee on the Development of Trade on its thirtieth session, and recalls the pertinent provisions of resolution 1 (XXXVI), paragraphs 9 to 12;

8. Notes that the Executive Secretary will transmit under his own responsibility to the Secretary-General of the United Nations his proposal on the revised draft Medium-term Plan for 1984-1989 provided for in resolution 34/224 of the General Assembly together with the report of the thirty-seventh session of the ECE containing views of the members of the Commission and related comments of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies;

9. Approves its programme of work for 1982/83 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its thirty-eighth session, its long-term programme of work for 1982-1986;

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

11. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution as well as other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned for their guidance. (E/1982/19, Vol.I, para. 80)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (XXXVII) Energy

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling the mandate of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy as contained in its decision B (XXXIV),

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1039 on energy matters and the report of the fourth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy ECE/ENERGY/8;

2. Approves the programme of work of the Senior Advisers on Energy as contained in document ENERGY/R.17 and referring, inter alia, to activities to be undertaken in the period 1982/83, and notes that seminars are planned to be held under their mandate;

3. Invites the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Member Governments to convene, at an appropriate moment, the fifth session of the Senior Advisers on Energy;

4. Invites the Senior Advisers on Energy to consider convening an ad hoc meeting on energy conservation;

5. Invites the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Member Governments to convene an ad hoc meeting on new and renewable sources of energy as proposed in document E/ECE/1039. (E/1982/19, Vol.I, para. 307)

B (XXXVII) Co-operation in the field of protection and improvement of the environment

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its earlier resolutions 1 (XXXV) and 1 (XXXVI),

Noting the progress achieved in the implementation of the decisions of the High-level Meeting within the Framework of the ECE on the Protection of the Environment,

Taking into account the activities of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the ECE and other international organizations in the field of protection of the environment,

1. Notes with satisfaction the progress with regard to the process of ratification of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, and reiterates its appeal for an early ratification of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution;

2. Notes with satisfaction the results of recent important work within the ECE in the field of the environment and the progress made during the first two meetings of the Interim Executive Body, entrusted with the implementation of the Convention;

3. Approves in general the programme of work of the Senior Advisers in the field of environment impact assessment;

4. Notes further the elaboration and ongoing implementation of the programme of work by the Working Party on Lowland Non-waste Technology and Re-utilization and Recycling of Wastes on the basis of the Declaration on Lowland Non-waste Technology and Re-utilization and Recycling of Wastes and emphasizes the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources;

5. Notes the activities of the Senior Advisers in other areas such as air pollution problems, and welcomes further co-operation within the region in the protection of flora and fauna and their habitats taking into account the activities of competent international fora in this respect. (E/1982/19, Vol.I, para. 203)

C (XXXVII) Co-operation in the field of science and technology

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision E (XXXVI),

Having in mind the discussions held during the ninth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology,

1. Takes note of the document SC.TECH/R.108 on the possible contribution to the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD);

2. Invites ECE Member Governments to transmit to the secretariat in due time views on specific proposals concerning the contribution which the ECE might make to the follow up to the UNCSTD, taking into account the results of the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development;

3. Requests the ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned to continue to inform the secretariat on those projects in their programmes of work which might contribute to the follow-up to the UNCSTD;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to up-date and complete the document SC.TECH/R.108 taking into account the views transmitted by Member Governments;

5. Requests the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology to examine this document at its tenth session;

6. Invites the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology to examine at their tenth session the utility of convening, if necessary, and within existing resources, before the thirty-eighth session of the Commission, an ad hoc meeting to consider this matter; and

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the thirty-eighth session of the Commission. (E/1982/19, Vol.I, para. 311)

D (XXXVII) International co-operation on shared water resources ^{1/}

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recognizing the growing significance of economic, environmental and physical interrelationships between ECE countries, in particular where streams or lakes and related ground water aquifers cross or are located on international boundaries,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of States over their natural resources,

^{1/} The term "shared water resources" has been used only for the uniformity of the text and its use does not prejudice the position of the countries supporting the terms "transboundary waters" or "international waters" in any of the problems involved. The interpretation of the term "shared water resources" excludes all possibilities of prejudice to international law and to the sovereign rights of States over water resources located within their frontiers and, also, in respect of their rights and obligations regarding the use and conservation of those resources.

Mindful of the vital importance and special urgency to continue and stimulate efforts which promote international co-operation on shared water resources aiming at their development, use and conservation for the mutual benefit of present and future generations,

Believing that the intensification of concerted endeavours for a further strengthening of international co-operation on shared water resources will not only be of interest to countries involved but also to other ECE member countries, as firm co-operation between countries contributes fundamentally to promoting and deepening mutual understanding, confidence and trust in the region,

Conscious of the wish of participating States expressed in the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe to develop such co-operation, inter alia, "by promoting the progressive development, codification and implementation of international law as one means of preserving and enhancing the human environment, including principles and practices, as accepted by them, relating to pollution and other environmental damage caused by activities within the jurisdiction or control of their States affecting other countries and regions",

Commending the efforts already undertaken by riparian countries to harmonize and co-ordinate their national policies in the field of management of shared water resources by bilateral and multilateral conventions and agreements or other legally binding arrangements,

Welcoming the substantive progress made in the development and formulation of principles and guidelines governing international co-operation on shared natural resources elaborated by the United Nations Environment Programme, with a view to placing such co-operation on a more systematic basis, and mindful of the principles recommended by the Mar del Plata Action Plan that "in relation to the use, management and development of shared water resources, rational policies should take into consideration the right of each State sharing the resources to equitably utilize such resources as the means to promote bonds of solidarity and co-operation",

Underlining the importance of the ECE Declaration of Policy on Prevention and Control of Water Pollution, including Transboundary Pollution, which invites States to define, by means of bilateral or multilateral agreements, their mutual relations on water pollution control, especially through the widest possible exchange of information and through consultations at an early stage in regard to activities likely to have significant adverse effects on water quality in the territories of the other States,

Recalling further that this ECE Declaration of Policy called on States to make provisions in particular for the use of existing structures of co-operation and for seeking new ones, as appropriate, to meet fully the interests of expanding and intensifying international relations,

Conscious of the role of ECE as an instrument for promoting bilateral and multilateral co-operation on shared water resources within the region,

1. Calls upon member Governments to pursue and if necessary to strengthen their efforts to co-operate in the elaboration of policy aims, programmes and planning regarding the development, use and conservation of shared water resources;

2. Notes with appreciation that the great majority of ECE countries have already entered into legal, binding arrangements, including treaties, conventions and agreements, with a view to better co-operation in their endeavours towards better protection and more equitable utilization and development of shared water resources;

3. Encourages member Governments to continue their efforts to extend already existing international arrangements in the light of changing socio-economic requirements or of changing

priorities in the utilization of shared water resources and in particular to speed up procedures within international river commissions and competent governmental bodies to cope efficiently with emergency situations and/or to embody sufficient power to existing legal and administrative arrangements to deal with such situations;

4. Stresses the important and useful role that international river commissions play within the context of international co-operation on shared water resources and in this respect invites member Governments, inter alia:

(a) to make full use of international river commissions by providing them with all necessary means for the efficient and mutually beneficial implementation of those tasks they entrusted to them and in particular by facilitating periodical exchange of information between international river commissions and, where appropriate,

(b) to promote and strengthen international co-operation through international river commissions by improving their efficiency and by establishing new ones where they do not already exist, through regional conventions and through the harmonization of different long-term national plans of riparian States and of national monitoring systems, as well as, at a second stage, if necessary, to take steps for the possible elaboration of a joint plan for the entire basin;

5. Reiterates its previous decision to intensify its efforts in the water sector by, inter alia, strengthening the activities and responsibilities of the Committee on Water Problems with a view to providing a basis for co-operation among countries involved in the spirit of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and to assist them at the request of all ECE member Governments concerned with a particular shared water resource;

6. Requests, therefore, the Committee on Water Problems to pay full attention to facilitating international co-operation on shared water resources and in this respect:

(a) to elaborate a report on international co-operation in the field of shared water resources development which may contain, inter alia, case studies prepared by concerned ECE countries on the principles and results achieved in bilateral and multilateral co-operation;

(b) to carry out projects relating to the collection and use of compatible statistical data; comparison of water quality norms; comparison of methods for analysing the composition and properties of water including waste water; review of measures taken in emergency cases (such as accidental pollution, floods) and those taken for the assessment of socio-economic impacts due to accidental pollution and floods;

7. Decides to convene under the auspices of the Committee on Water Problems, as and if required, meetings on international river commissions in order to promote and facilitate international co-operation on shared water resources in the ECE region. (E/1982/19, Vol.I, para. 260)

E (XXXVII) Monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Taking note of the report of the thirteenth session of the Committee on Water Problems (ECE/WATER/28), of the report of the tenth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems (ECE/ENV/38) and of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1038 on the Monitoring and Evaluation of Transboundary Water Pollution,

Welcomes the adoption by the Committee on Water Problems, in its thirteenth session, of the Terms of Reference for a Programme on Monitoring and Evaluation of Transboundary Water Pollution (ECE/WATER/28, Annex II) and takes note of the readiness of some ECE member countries to participate in a pilot project or projects on a monitoring system or systems in the ECE region, when and where member countries concerned agree, following the above terms of reference. (E/1982/19, Vol.1, para. 281)

F (XXXVII) Introduction and harmonization of summertime in Europe

The Commission decided :

(a) to note with satisfaction that in nearly all European continental countries summertime had been introduced in 1981 for the same period, thereby eliminating difficulties which had arisen in the past due to time differences;

(b) to recognize the need to pursue efforts with a view to harmonizing the application of summertime and standardizing its dates of application for a medium-term period so as to ease train time-table problems in particular;

(c) to note that the matter was of concern to transport but also to various other sectors of the activities of Governments;

(d) to recommend that all Governments which introduce or intend to introduce summertime should pursue their efforts to standardize over a medium-term period the application of summertime in European ECE member countries;

(e) to request Governments to inform the Executive Secretary in good time of any changes they may be contemplating in the period of application of summertime, so that other ECE Governments may be informed accordingly;

(f) to request the Executive Secretary to continue to approach the Governments and bodies concerned with a view to achieving as soon as possible harmonization of the dates of application of summertime; and

(g) to request the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the thirty-eighth session of the Commission. (E/1982/19, Vol.1, para. 309)

G (XXXVII) Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision F (XXXVI) and the other resolutions and decisions quoted therein,

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

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

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1042 on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, and the encouraging response from Mediterranean countries as well as from the Economic Commissions for Africa and Western Asia;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Western Asia and the Economic Commission for Africa and other relevant United Nations bodies and to pursue his contacts with all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries;

3. Recommends to its subsidiary bodies to continue their efforts in identifying areas of interest for economic co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of over-all ECE activities and its programme of work; and

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the thirty-eighth session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/1982/19, Vol.I, para. 315)

H (XXXVII) Standardization

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization (E/ECE/1043) and the report of the ninth session of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies (STAND/GE.1/19);

(b) to express the hope that the Seventh Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies will result in further progress towards the four main objectives of the Commission in the field of standardization policies, namely, the safeguard of public health and safety, the improvement of the environment, the promotion of scientific and technological co-operation and the removal of technical barriers to international trade resulting from disparate standards and technical regulations and their application;

(c) to convene two further sessions of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies to consider such matters as may be referred to it by the Seventh Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies ;

(d) to consider at its thirty-eighth session the convening of an Eighth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies;

(e) to request the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the thirty-eighth session of the Commission. (E/1982/19, Vol.I, para. 320)

I (XXXVII) Engineering industries and automation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report (E/ECE/1044 and Add.1);

(b) to approve the programme of work of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation as contained in the annex to ECE/ENG.AUT/6;

(c) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-eighth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1982/19, Vol.I, para. 339)

THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION

(12-23 April 1983)

RESOLUTION

1 (XXXVIII) The work of the Commission as a whole and its future activities

The Economic Commission for Europe,

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

Conscious further of the role of the ECE in the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and noting in this regard the progress made in the implementation of the Commission's work programme, pursuant to resolution 1 (XXXVII),

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

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

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

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

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

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes and reports of the Executive Secretary, in particular his report E/ECE/1048 on the Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1982, and the long-term programme of work for 1983-1987, and noting that during the thirty-eighth session delegations have made a number of comments and suggestions concerning the Commission's programme of work,

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

2. Considers in this connection that the implementation of all provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and full respect for the principles guiding relations among the participating States set out therein are an essential basis for the development of co-operation among them in the fields of trade, industry, agriculture, science and technology, the environment and other areas of economic activity, and requests its subsidiary bodies to continue to take into account, for their work, the pertinent provisions of the Final Act which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the ECE;

3. Notes the report on the work and future activities of the Commission (E/ECE/1048) prepared by the Executive Secretary;

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

5. Notes the Executive Secretary's reports E/ECE/1050 and E/ECE/1051 and requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their activities the possible contributions of the ECE to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries and the necessity of effective co-operation with other international organizations;

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

7. Underlines the particular significance of the Sixth Session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to be held in Belgrade in June 1983 as an important forum to review and consider the world economic situation and its impact on trade and development of all countries and in particular of the developing countries;

8. Calls upon the ECE member countries to work for a positive outcome of UNCTAD VI, thus contributing significantly to the necessary recovery process of the world economy and in particular to the reactivation of economic development of the developing countries as well as to the development of international trade in all its flows;

9. Takes note of the report of the Committee on the Development of Trade on its thirty-first session (ECE/TRADE/144) and of its decision to convene, in 1983, special expert meetings on compensation operations and on all kinds of obstacles to the development of trade and recalls its pertinent provisions aimed at the development of trade and industrial co-operation;

10. Recognizes the importance of the development of transport for the economies of the ECE member countries, notes with satisfaction the results of the forty-fourth session of the Inland Transport Committee and invites the Committee to pay attention to the problems of future development of transport in the ECE region;

11. Reaffirms the importance of co-operation in the field of science and technology as one of the priority areas in ECE activities;

12. Invites the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments, in continuing their work on the Over-all Economic Perspective, to devote, within the framework of their mandate, increased attention to carrying out in-depth analyses of selected economic issues of relevance to the development of co-operation in the ECE region;

13. Approves its programme of work for 1983/84 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its thirty-ninth session, its long-term programme of work for 1983-1987;

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

15. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution as well as other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned for their guidance. (E/1983/22, Vol.I, para. 64)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (XXXVIII) Energy

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions A (XXXVII) and B (XXXIV),

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1055, its Addendum 1 "Summary of a study on Energy Transition in the ECE Region", Addendum 2 "Summary of a study on An Efficient Energy Future: Prospects for Europe and North America" and the study "Energy problems and co-operation in the ECE region" (ENERGY/R.20);

2. Approves the report and the recommendations of the ad hoc Meeting on New and Renewable Sources of Energy (ECE/AC.8/2);

3. Invites the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the member Governments, to convene at an appropriate moment the fifth meeting of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy in order to continue their work;

4. Invites the Executive Secretary in consultation with the member Governments to convene an ad hoc meeting on energy conservation;

5. Takes notes of the report ENERGY/SEM.2/2 of the Symposium on Comparative Merits of Energy Sources in Meeting End-use Heat Demand (Ohrid, Yugoslavia, 6-10 September 1982) and takes note of the comments made by the Committees on Electric Power and on Gas on this report;

6. Invites the Executive Secretary to convene, in consultation with the member Governments, a second ad hoc meeting on new and renewable sources of energy;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the thirty-ninth session of the Commission. (E/1983/22, Vol.I, para. 262)

B (XXXVIII) Air pollution

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Bearing in mind that the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution came into force on 16 March 1983,

Convinced that better protection against the dangers of air pollution is required,

1. Appeals to ECE member Governments

- which have not yet ratified the Convention to do so at an early date and to participate in the deliberations of the Executive Body;

- to implement fully the principles and provisions of the Convention;

- to make available, on a basis to be agreed at the first meeting of the Executive Body, the financial resources to enable the Executive Body to carry out its activities which under the Convention require priority, in particular as regards the work of EMEP;

2. Stresses the urgency of intensifying efforts to arrive at co-ordinated national strategies and policies in the ECE region to decrease effectively sulphur emissions at national levels;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session about the activities of the Executive Body on the implementation of the Convention, bearing in mind this decision. (E/1983/22, Vol.1, para. 65)

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

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/42 of 27 July 1982 on the convening of a World Conference on Population to be held in the second half of 1984,

Noting in particular paragraph 8 of the Economic and Social Council resolution which invites the regional commissions to consider, at their annual sessions in 1984, the report of the January 1984 meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference, with a view to formulating suggestions and recommendations for further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action at the regional level, and to transmit those suggestions and recommendations to the Conference for its consideration,

1. Decides to request the Executive Secretary to convene in Sofia from 6 to 12 October 1983 at the invitation of the Government of Bulgaria, a regional Meeting on Population at an appropriate governmental level; and

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-ninth session on the findings of the meeting regarding suggestions and recommendations for further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action at the regional level for consideration by the Commission. (E/1983/22, Vol.1, para. 71)

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

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling ECOSOC resolution 1982/26 on preparations for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women,

Noting the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women, acting as the preparatory body for the World Conference to the effect that regional intergovernmental meetings should be held, and that these meetings should be organized by the regional commissions,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary to revise the study on "The Economic Role of Women in the ECE Region", to be presented before the World Conference in 1985;
2. Requests the Executive Secretary to convene a seminar in 1984 on the economic role of women in the ECE region;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-ninth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1983/22, Vol.1, para. 72)

E (XXXVIII) Concentration and integration of the programme of work of the Commission

The Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work (E/ECE/1052);
2. Invites the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission when reviewing their programme of work to continue to pay special attention to the efficiency and effectiveness of their activities in order, inter alia, to eliminate those of marginal utility and release resources for others;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary to undertake for consideration at its thirty-ninth session an evaluation of the impact and usefulness to Governments of ECE activities and to make preliminary proposals for an adaptation of the work programme for 1984-1988, with a view to the identification of priorities in order to increase the effectiveness of the Commission's activities and to make more efficient use of resources possible;
4. Decides to revert to the question of how to continue the work on concentration and integration after having discussed the results of the Executive Secretary's evaluation referred to in paragraph 3 above;
5. Requests further the Executive Secretary to submit to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session suggestions of possible changes, if appropriate, in the method of work of the Sessional Committee of the Commission with a view to devoting more attention to co-ordination, concentration and integration of the activities of the Commission as well as to strengthening intra-secretariat co-ordination with a view to increasing the efficient use of available resources;
6. Requests the Executive Secretary to draw the attention of ECOSOC and CPC to the present decision. (E/1983/22, Vol.1, para. 92)

F (XXXVIII) Co-operation in the field of protection and improvement of the environment

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision B (XXXVII),

Recalling General Assembly resolution 37/219 and ECOSOC resolution 1982/56,

Taking into account the special role and importance of low- and non-waste technology in preventing damage to the environment, for such technology can reduce and eliminate waste and ensure more rational use of energy and raw materials,

Taking into account the existence of various urgent problems of the environment specific to the ECE member countries,

1. Welcomes the activity of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems with regard to the carrying out of the Declaration on Low- and Non-waste Technology and Re-utilization and Recycling of Wastes, and invites them to continue their efforts in this field;

2. Invites the Senior Advisers, taking into account that the problems of transboundary air pollution would be dealt with under the auspices of the Executive Body, to concentrate their efforts on implementing their programme of work in other areas, such as other air pollution problems, low- and non-waste technology, environmental impact assessment, etc.;

3. Further invites the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems to expand co-operation in the protection of flora and fauna and their habitats taking into account the activities of competent international fora in this respect;

4. Calls upon the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems to consider at their next session the elaboration of a strategy for environmental protection and rational use of natural resources in the ECE member countries for the period up to the year 2000 and beyond taking into account decisions regarding the elaboration of a global strategy to be taken at the eleventh session of the Governing Council of UNEP. (E/1983/22, Vol.1, para. 185)

G (XXXVIII) Monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution

The Economic Commission for Europe,

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

Taking note of its decision C (XXXV) and resolution 1 (XXXVI), as well as of the report of the fourteenth session of the Committee on Water Problems (ECE/WATER/30) and the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1054 on the Monitoring and Evaluation of Transboundary Water Pollution, as well as the comments made by delegations thereon,

1. Takes note of the work accomplished so far in the field of monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution;

2. Recognizes the significance of the development and strengthening of co-operation of the ECE member countries and co-ordination of their activities in water pollution control matters, including transboundary water pollution;

3. Reaffirms the decision of the Committee on Water Problems at its fourteenth session concerning a Monitoring and Evaluation System of Transboundary Water Pollution in the ECE region. (E/1983/22, Vol.1, para. 250)

H (XXXVIII) Introduction and harmonization of summertime in Europe

The Commission decided :

1. to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1056, the recommendations of the Inland Transport Committee and document TRANS/R.174;

2. to recommend:

(i) that all Governments which introduce or intend to introduce summertime should pursue their efforts to standardize over a medium-term period the application of summertime in European member countries of the ECE;

(ii) that in case this should encounter difficulties, Governments should decide upon summertime at least one year before its introduction and inform the Executive Secretary accordingly;

(iii) that Governments might determine henceforth the transition to summertime on the last Sunday in March and the end of summertime on the last Sunday in September;

3. to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1983/22, Vol.1, para. 264)

I (XXXVIII) Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision G (XXXVII) and the other resolutions and decisions quoted therein,

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

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

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1058 on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, and the response from Mediterranean countries as well as from the Economic Commissions for Africa and Western Asia;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Western Asia and the Economic Commission for Africa and other relevant United Nations bodies and to pursue his contacts with all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries;

3. Takes note of recent developments in the field of transport infrastructure and techniques and requests the Executive Secretary in particular to continue his efforts in the field of transport in the Mediterranean in co-operation with competent organizations;

4. Recommends to its subsidiary bodies to continue their efforts in identifying areas of interest for economic co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of over-all ECE activities and its programme of work; and

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the thirty-ninth session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/1983/22, Vol.1, para. 270)

J (XXXVIII) Standardization

The Commission decided :

1. to take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization (E/ECE/1059) and the reports of the Seventh Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies (ECE/STAND/24) and of the tenth session of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies (STAND/GE.1/21);

2. to convene the Eighth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies prior to its thirty-ninth session;

3. to agree to consider at its thirty-ninth session the convening of further sessions of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies and any other matter which might be referred to it by the Eighth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies ;

4. to draw to the attention of its subsidiary bodies the suggestion of the Seventh Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies contained in paragraph 34(d) of ECE/STAND/24; and

5. to request the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the thirty-ninth session. (E/1983/22, Vol.1, para. 274)

K (XXXVIII) Engineering industries and automation

The Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Takes note of the report of the third session of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (ECE/ENG.AUT/9) and the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1060 and Add.1;

2. Approves the programme of work of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation as contained in ECE/ENG.AUT/9, Annex I;

3. Agrees to consider at its thirty-ninth session a possible change in the status of the Working Party in the light of the results of the evaluation of ECE activities provided for in decision E (XXXVIII). (E/1983/22, Vol.1, para. 290)

THIRTY-NINTH SESSION

(3-14 April 1984)

RESOLUTION

1 (XXXIX) The work of the Commission as a whole and its future activities

The Economic Commission for Europe,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

activities; and welcomes the efforts of the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology in this direction;

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

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

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

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

15. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution as well as other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned for their guidance. (E/1984/23, Vol.I, para. 66)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (XXXIX) Concentration and integration of the programme of work of the Commission

The Economic Commission for Europe,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

6. Decides to revert at its fortieth session to the question of the concentration and integration of the activities of the Commission taking into account, inter alia, the report of the ad hoc Group. (E/1984/23, Vol.I, para. 100)

B (XXXIX) An Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000

The Economic Commission for Europe,

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

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

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

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

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

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

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fortieth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1984/23, Vol.I, para. 229)

C (XXXIX) ECE Declaration of Policy on the Rational Use of Water

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Mindful of the importance and urgency of combating wasteful use of water, both in terms of quantity and quality, and of promoting all measures which stimulate rational, economic and

efficient water use to enable economic development to take place in a manner compatible with maintaining or improving the quality of life for present and future generations,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Recognizing the vital need for further developing and enhancing international co-operation and for improving co-ordination of efforts in ECE countries to formulate and apply strategies of

water demand management for coping with limited water supply and to promote the concept of rational water use in the light of experience acquired during past years,

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

PRINCIPLES

1. It is recognized that:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

economies that may result from the construction and operation of centralized water supply and sewage systems. Attention should also be given to the efficient operation of drinking water and waste water treatment plants.

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

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

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

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

(a) their optimum combination with the existing patterns of legal, administrative and technical instruments;

(b) their consistency with prevailing economic principles; and

(c) anticipated changes of water-use practices due to measures applied.

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

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

13. Policies at all appropriate levels should be geared towards promoting the rapid development and sound application of relevant technologies and their optimum operation for more efficient use of water and preventing wastage of water; both in terms of quantity and quality in all sectors. To this end, strong emphasis should be placed on those economic and administrative instruments that stimulate the application of the best available technology, taking into account economic reasonableness and feasibility. In further supporting this water strategy, Governments should encourage the establishment of research and development centres, sponsorship and cost-sharing arrangements for pilot application of technical innovations and dissemination of information on available and new technologies aiding their capability to meet the requirements set forth by the concept of rational water use. In this respect, the effects of new technologies should be comprehensively evaluated, in particular for their effects on socio-economic and environmental conditions. Such technologies could, inter alia, ensure:

(a) the reduction of total costs, in particular for water and other factors in the production process, as well as the reduction of water losses and of discharge of polluting effluents;

(b) the utilization of usable substances contained in waste water and sewage sludge;

(c) the application of water recycling systems within the production process, as well as the reuse of successive and concurrent uses of water within the same industry, other industrial complexes or in agriculture;

(d) the reduction or substitution of hazardous substances, in particular with regard to toxicity, bio-degradability and bio-accumulation and the reduction of eutrophication; this also in view of their risk of detrimental effects on actual or potential water supplies; and

(e) the use of automatic control and regulation systems for in-process water use and consumption.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(c) research programmes relating to the use of non-conventional water resources and to an improved control of losses through evaporation. (E/1984/23, Vol.1, para. 257)

D (XXXIX) Air pollution

The Economic Commission for Europe,

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

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

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

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

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

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Body of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on the work of its first meeting (ECE/EB.AIR/1);

2. Appeals to the ECE Governments to implement fully the principles and provisions of the Convention and to take into account the decisions and recommendations of the first meeting of the Executive Body;

3. Asks the member Governments to assure financing of EMEP for the year of 1984 on a voluntary basis and recommends that efforts be intensified to elaborate an agreement for long-term financing of EMEP;

4. Asks its relevant Principal Subsidiary Bodies to co-operate whenever it is appropriate within their respective mandate with the Executive Body of the Convention;

5. Stresses the urgency of intensifying efforts to arrive at co-ordinated national strategies and policies in the ECE region to decrease effectively sulphur emissions at national levels, with possible extension to other pollutants; and

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fortieth session about the activities of the Executive Body on the implementation of the Convention, bearing in mind this decision. (E/1984/23, Vol.1, para. 280)

E (XXXIX) The Conference on the Causes and Prevention of Damage to Forests and Water through Air Pollution in Europe

The Economic Commission for Europe,

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

1. Requests the Executive Secretary to participate and to co-operate as appropriate with the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany in the organization, preparation and the proceedings of the Conference and its Preparatory Meeting; and

2. Invites the Executive Body of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution to consider the report of this Conference at its second session, and requests the Executive

Secretary to inform the fortieth session of the Commission on the results of this Conference. (E/1984/23, Vol.I, para. 281)

F (XXXIX) Introduction and harmonization of summertime in Europe

The Commission decided :

1. to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1074, the recommendations of the Inland Transport Committee and document TRANS/R.201;
2. to recommend that all Governments continue to pursue their efforts to standardize over a medium-term period the application of summertime in European member countries of the ECE;
3. to recommend also that efforts be undertaken by Governments with a view to standardizing the hour of transition at the beginning and end of summertime; and
4. to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fortieth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1984/23, Vol.I, para. 295)

G (XXXIX) The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the International Conference on Population

The Commission decided,

1. to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1075, the report of the regional Meeting on Population (ECE/AC.9/2) and the report of the Preparatory Committee of the International Conference on Population;
2. to transmit the suggestions and recommendations for further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action at the regional level, as contained in the Annex to document ECE/AC.9/2, to the International Conference on Population to be held in Mexico from 6 to 13 August 1984 for its consideration; and
3. to request the Executive Secretary to examine the suggestions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 23, 59, 62, 64 and 67 of the Annex to the report of the Meeting on Population and to submit proposals to the Commission at its fortieth session on work which could be undertaken by ECE within existing resources, taking into account also the results of the International Conference on Population. (E/1984/23, Vol.I, para. 300)

H (XXXIX) Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe

The Economic Commission for Europe,

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

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

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

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1076 on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, and the response from Mediterranean countries as well as from the Economic Commissions for Africa and Western Asia;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Western Asia and the Economic Commission for Africa and other relevant United Nations bodies and to pursue his contacts with all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary, within the mandate of the Commission, to participate and co-operate in the preparation and the proceedings of the Seminar on Economic, Scientific and Cultural Co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of the results of the CSCE Valetta Meeting of Experts, which will take place in Venice from 16 to 26 October 1984 in accordance with the provisions of the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting;

4. Takes note of recent developments and respective international meetings in the field of transport in the Mediterranean region, including the Barcelona Seminar held in June 1983, hosted by the Government of Spain;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary, in co-operation with the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Western Asia, to convene in Thessaloniki, from 2 to 4 October 1984, at the invitation of the Government of Greece, a meeting on transport development in the region of the Mediterranean;

6. Recommends to its subsidiary bodies to continue their efforts in identifying areas of interest for economic co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of overall ECE activities and its programme of work; and

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the fortieth session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/1984/23, Vol.1, para. 310)

I (XXXIX) Standardization

The Commission decided :

1. to take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization (E/ECE/1077) and the reports of the eleventh session of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies (STAND/GE.1/23), of the Seminar on Testing (STAND/SEM.1/1: TRADE/SEM.6/1) and of the Eighth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies (ECE/STAND/26);

2. to convene two further sessions of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies to consider those matters referred to it by the Eighth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies or by the Commission;

3. to agree to consider at its fortieth session the convening of a Ninth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies, which could be held late in 1985; and

4. to request the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the fortieth session. (E/1984/23, Vol.1, para. 316)

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

The Commission decided,

1. to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1078;
2. to request the Executive Secretary to continue the preparations for the Seminar on the Economic Role of Women in the ECE Region to be held in Vienna (Austria) in October 1984 and the revision of the study on "The Economic Role of Women in the ECE Region", taking into account the Commission's comments and suggestions in this connection;
3. to request the Executive Secretary, pursuant to paragraph 7 of Council resolution 1982/26, to make available to the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the Conference at its meeting early in 1985 the report of the Seminar on the Economic Role of Women in the ECE Region;
4. to consider at its fortieth session the report of the Seminar and the revised study mentioned in paragraph 2 above;
5. to decide at its fortieth session on any further action which might be taken by the Commission to contribute to the preparations for the World Conference; and
6. to request the Executive Secretary to report to the fortieth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1984/23, Vol.I, para. 320)

K (XXXIX) Engineering industries and automation

The Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Takes note of the report of the fourth session of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (ECE/ENG.AUT/14) and the note by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1079);
2. Approves the programme of work for 1984-1988 and the calendar of meetings for 1984 and 1985 of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (ECE/ENG.AUT/14, annexes I and II); and
3. Decides to consider at its fortieth session a possible change in the status of the Working Party in the light of the results of the evaluation of ECE activities (provided for in decision A (XXXIX)). (E/1984/23, Vol.I, para. 331)

L (XXXIX) Monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution

The Economic Commission for Europe,

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

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

1. Takes note of the work accomplished so far in the field of monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution;
2. Recognizes the significance of the development and strengthening of co-operation of the ECE member countries and co-ordination of their activities in water pollution control matters, including transboundary water pollution;
3. Takes note of the invitation of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, to host, in the autumn of 1984, an ECE seminar on co-operation in the field of transboundary waters; and
4. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its fortieth session on the development in this field. (E/1984/23, Vol.I, para. 333)

M (XXXIX) Co-operation in the field of protection and improvement of the environment

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision F (XXXVIII),

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

1. Welcomes the activities of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems with regard to elaborating a strategy for environmental protection and rational use of natural resources in the ECE member countries for the period up to the year 2000 and beyond, taking into account the activities of UNEP in regard to the elaboration of a global strategy;
2. Invites the Senior Advisers to pursue their efforts in implementing the recommendations contained in the Declaration on Low- and Non-waste Technology and Re-utilization and Recycling of Wastes, including the recommendation to draw up a compendium on non-waste technology;
3. Calls upon the Senior Advisers to intensify their activities as regards air pollution matters not covered by the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and as regards the work of the Group of Experts on Environmental Impact Assessment;
4. Recommends to the Senior Advisers to elaborate concrete proposals for their programme of work in the field of protection of flora and fauna and their habitats in the ECE region taking into account the activities of other international organizations in this respect;
5. Requests the Senior Advisers to pay special attention to co-ordination of their activities with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission on environmental protection, taking into account relevant decisions on concentration and integration of the Commission's work programme; and
6. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the Commission at its fortieth session. (E/1984/23, Vol.I, para. 335)

FORTIETH SESSION

(16-27 April 1985)

RESOLUTION

1 (40) The work of the Commission as a whole and its future activities

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Bearing in mind in line with General Assembly resolution 39/161A that the theme of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations shall be "United Nations for a better world" and expressing the hope and desire that the year 1985 will mark the beginning of an era of durable and global peace and justice, social and economic development and progress and independence of all peoples,

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

Noting that the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe will mark its fortieth anniversary in 1987,

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

Conscious of the role of the ECE in the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act and of the Madrid Concluding Document; noting in this regard the progress made in the implementation of the Commission's work programme, pursuant to resolution 1 (XXXIX); and recognizing that the Madrid Concluding Document contains recommendations directed towards the future work of the Commission,

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

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

Bearing in mind the contribution that the Commission and its member States could make in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 35/56 on the International Development Strategy as adopted, thereby contributing towards establishing a new international economic order on a just and equitable basis, thus fostering and promoting international economic co-operation for development,

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

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes and reports of the Executive Secretary, in particular his report E/ECE/1086 on the Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1984, and the long-term programme of work for 1985-1989, and noting that during the fortieth session delegations have made a number of comments and suggestions concerning the Commission's programme of work,

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

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

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

4. Notes the report on the work and future activities of the Commission (E/ECE/1086) prepared by the Executive Secretary;

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

6. Notes the Executive Secretary's reports E/ECE/1088 and E/ECE/1089 and requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their activities the possible contributions of the ECE to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries and the necessity of effective co-operation with other international organizations;

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

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

9. Takes note of the report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology adopted at their twelfth session (ECE/SC.TECH/27); reaffirms the importance of co-operation in the field of science and technology as one of the priority areas in ECE activities; and welcomes the efforts of the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology in this direction;

10. Takes note of the results of the forty-sixth session of the Inland Transport Committee, recognizes the importance of the development of transport for the economies of the ECE member countries and emphasizes the importance of practical measures designed to improve all aspects of transport in the region, including those of its perspective development;

11. Approves its programme of work for 1985/86 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its forty-first session, its long-term programme of work for 1985-1989;

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

13. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution as well as other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned for their guidance. (E/1985/34, para. 80)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (40) Concentration and integration of the programme of work of the Commission

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling the relevant provisions of resolution 5 (XXIV) and its decision A (XXXIX),

Recognizing the importance of concentrating and integrating the programme of work of the Commission,

Noting the need further to increase the efficiency of the work of the Commission and of its Principal Subsidiary Bodies and to improve the co-ordination of their activities,

1. Notes with satisfaction the work done by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies in reviewing and assessing their programmes;

2. Approves the new format for the submission of their programmes of work adopted by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies at their annual session held after the thirty-ninth session of the Commission;

3. Takes note of the opinions and recommendations of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerning the proposals set out in Annexes C-J to the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1070;

4. Instructs the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, in drafting their programmes, to proceed on the basis of the need to secure better results and more efficiency in their work, as well as the rational utilization of the resources of the Commission and the removal of overlaps in their work;

5. Invites the Sessional Committee to consider at the forty-first session methods for improving the efficiency of its work within its existing mandate, taking into account the proposals Governments have made in this respect, as reflected in document ECE/AC.15/R.1/Add.1 and to report thereon;

6. Emphasizes the value of discussions, within the framework of the Sessional Committee, on the future activities of the Commission, including the problems of co-ordination between and

concentration and integration of the programmes of work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the formulation of recommendations thereon in accordance with resolution 5 (XXIV);

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit to the Commission at its forty-first session a special report in tabular form for each Principal Subsidiary Body containing a brief account of its meetings, highlighting important accomplishments and problems encountered, a list of new proposals and action taken thereon and all programme elements of a cross-sectoral nature;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to provide indicative information, when asked by the Commission to do so, on the resources required, and the implications for the Commission's budget, of major areas of work, such information to be included in the annual document reviewing the programme of work of the Commission for the coming year;

9. Decides to select, as necessary, for detailed consideration at annual sessions of the Commission, from the viewpoint of concentration, integration and co-ordination, activities in one major area;

10. Supports the proposal on management training for administration and enterprises in Annex A of E/ECE/1070, taking into account the work undertaken by the ILO;

11. Takes note of the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1090) evaluating the impact and usefulness of the Commission's publications for the Governments of ECE countries;

12. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-first session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/1985/34, para. 146)

B (40) The development of co-operation in agriculture

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Noting that the further strengthening of economic, scientific and technical co-operation among ECE member countries in the field of agriculture will have both a positive impact on the efficiency of national agricultures and a stimulating effect on the broadening of economic co-operation among all countries of the region,

1. Takes note of the report of the Committee on Agricultural Problems on its thirty-sixth session (ECE/AGRI/81);

2. Recalls the recommendations on activities in the field of agriculture contained in the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting of Representatives of the Participating States of the CSCE and directed to the Economic Commission for Europe, including those concerning wider exchange of scientific and technological information in the field of agriculture;

3. Draws the attention of the Committee on Agricultural Problems to such important topics as:

- agrarian structure and farm rationalization;
- agricultural mechanization;
- technological and economic issues with regard to land use, soil quality and fertility, fertilizers and pollution problems in agriculture, as well as the efficient use of energy;
- rational use of water resources;

4. Underlines the usefulness of symposia, seminars and study tours and invites the ECE member countries to continue to organize and taken an active part in such events;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-first session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1985/34, para. 155)

C (40) Statistical activities

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recognizing that the provision of statistics is an essential basis for the development of economic co-operation between its member countries,

Taking note of the report of the thirty-second session of the Conference of European Statisticians,

1. Invites the Conference of European Statisticians to continue to offer methodological assistance to member countries, where necessary, in order to overcome problems in providing official statistics;

2. Asks the Conference of European Statisticians to continue its work directed towards the harmonization of statistical nomenclatures and standards in the ECE region;

3. Welcomes the co-operation of the ECE secretariat with other international organizations in improving co-ordination and the sharing of work in various areas in international statistical programmes;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-first session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1985/34, para. 185)

D (40) Trade and industrial co-operation

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recognizing the important role of intra-regional trade for economic co-operation among all countries of the region,

Drawing the attention of member Governments to the possibilities offered by the ECE for promoting the development of trade and industrial co-operation in the region,

1. Notes with satisfaction the decisions of the thirty-third session of the Committee on the Development of Trade aimed at giving impetus to its work and in particular its decisions to convene in 1985 a special meeting of experts on industrial co-operation with the aim of examining possibilities for creating more favourable conditions for industrial co-operation and a special experts meeting on prospects for East-West trade in the 1980s;

2. Calls upon all its member Governments, taking advantage of the potential of the ECE, to increase their efforts for the expansion of trade and economic co-operation in the region taking into account the provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE and of the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting of Representatives of the Participating States of the CSCE. (E/1985/34, para. 326)

E (40) Air pollution

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision D (XXXIX),

Noting with appreciation the progress that has been achieved in implementing the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution since its entering into force on 12 March 1983,

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on the work of its second session (ECE/EB.AIR/4) and of the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1093);

2. Takes note of the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1106) on the Multilateral Conference on the Causes and Prevention of Damage to Forests and Water through Air Pollution in Europe (Munich, 24-27 June 1984) pursuant to Commission decision E (XXXIX) and welcomes the relevance of the recommendations of that Conference for the work of the Executive Body and the appropriate bodies of the Commission, inter alia, when taking into account paragraph 17 of the Resolution of that Conference, in developing common strategies towards a further reduction of pollutants in exhaust gases of motor vehicles by using the best measures available and economically feasible;

3. Appeals to the Contracting Parties of the Convention to adhere to the provisions of the Executive Body's resolution on Long-term Financing of the Co-operative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP) and urges them to accede without delay and ratify as soon as possible the Protocol on the Financing of EMEP;

4. Welcomes the invitation of the Government of Finland to host at ministerial level the third session of the Executive Body, in Helsinki, from 8-12 July 1985, for the purpose of, inter alia, opening for signature the Protocol on the Reduction of Sulphur Emissions or their Transboundary Fluxes by at least 30%, and appeals to all Contracting Parties of the Convention that are in a position to do so, to sign the Protocol at the third session and ratify it as soon as possible;

5. Appeals to ECE member Governments to implement decision A (II) of the second session of the Executive Body on the reduction of NO_x emissions with a view to reducing effectively the total annual national emissions of nitrogen oxides from stationary and mobile sources or their transboundary Fluxes by 1995, and recognizes the need on the part of other States that have already made progress in reducing these emissions to maintain and review their NO_x emission standards;

6. Welcomes the initiative of the Government of the Netherlands to hold in co-operation with the ECE in 1986 an "International Symposium on acidification and its policy implications";

7. Reiterates its request to its relevant Principal Subsidiary Bodies and to the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation to co-operate whenever it is appropriate, within their respective mandates with the Executive Body for the Convention;

8. Calls upon ECE member Governments that are in a position to do so to consider providing for a sufficient supply of unleaded petrol of appropriate quality as a prerequisite for the introduction of some low emission technologies in motor vehicles to meet the needs, as they evolve, of international traffic in the ECE region;

9. Stresses the need for continuing co-operation, including scientific and technical co-operation, under the Convention to, inter alia, further clarify the causes and effects of long-range transboundary air pollution taking fully into account results of scientific research and indicating further effective and economically feasible ways of mitigating, arresting and reversing environmental damage;

10. Commends the Executive Body for the work undertaken to develop and carry out its work programme;

11. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-first session on the implementation of this decision together with a report on the activities of the Executive Body on implementing the Convention, and to convey to the Commission the report of the Executive Body on its third session. (E/1985/34, para. 337)

F (40) Energy

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions B (XXXIV) and A (XXXVIII),

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report on energy (E/ECE/1094);
2. Decides to convene the fifth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy from 23 to 27 September 1985;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-first session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision.

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DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE SENIOR ADVISERS
TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON ENERGY
Geneva, 23-27 September 1985

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of officers
3. Review of the ECE activity in the field of general energy since the fourth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy
4. Review of the energy situation in the ECE region
5. Work programme in the field of general energy (1985-1989)
6. Relevant activities of other Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission
7. Other business
8. Adoption of the report

* * *

Annotations

Item 3 - Review of the ECE activity in the field of general energy since the fourth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy

The Senior Advisers would review the implementation of the Commission's programme of work in the field of general energy (E/ECE/1094).

Item 4 - Review of the energy situation in the ECE region

The Senior Advisers would review developments in the field of energy in the region and exchange views on progress made or anticipated in the adaptation of the energy economies. The secretariat publication "Energy Transition in the ECE Region" (E/ECE/1063) might serve as a background document.

Item 5 - Work programme in the field of general energy (1985-1989)

The Senior Advisers would discuss suggestions for future activities (E/ECE/1094; E/ECE/1070). (E/1985/34, para. 345)

G (40) The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the International Conference on Population

The Commission decided :

1. to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1096;
2. to request the Executive Secretary to continue the work in the field of population, within existing resources, and to maintain collaboration with the United Nations Fund for Population Activities for the implementation of the relevant recommendations of the regional Meeting on Population and the International Conference on Population, 1984;
3. to request the Executive Secretary to collaborate with UNFPA in convening periodically, but not more than every two years, a regional meeting of experts on population for consultations amongst Governments and for the dissemination and exchange of information on population problems and policies in the ECE region; and
4. to request the Executive Secretary to keep the Commission informed of progress made in this respect. (E/1985/34, para. 349)

H (40) Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision H (XXXIX) and the other resolutions and decisions quoted therein,

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

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

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's reports E/ECE/1097 and E/ECE/1098 on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, and the response from Mediterranean countries as well as from the Economic Commissions for Africa and Western Asia;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Western Asia and other relevant United Nations bodies and to pursue his contacts with all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries;

3. Welcomes the holding of the Seminar on Economic, Scientific and Cultural Co-operation in the Mediterranean, within the framework of the results of the Valetta meeting of experts, hosted by the Government of Italy, in Venice, from 16 to 26 October 1984, whose final recommendations represent valuable guidelines for further developments of co-operation in the area concerned, and which the Commission should, within its mandate, take into consideration during the course of its activities;

4. Takes note of the decisions of the Thessaloniki Meeting on Transport Development in the Region of the Mediterranean, hosted by the Government of Greece from 2 to 4 October 1984, as adopted by the Inland Transport Committee, with the understanding that there will be no financial implications for the United Nations budget allocations to ECE, unless otherwise decided by the Commission at a later stage, and considers that the results of this meeting could contribute to a better understanding of the transport situation in the ECE region as a whole;

5. Requests the Inland Transport Committee and the Executive Secretary to study, in co-operation with the respective Governments, the definition of the status of the Transport Centres, the establishment of which was decided at the Thessaloniki meeting, their terms of reference as well as their relationship with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee with a view that the Commission might recommend to ECOSOC the granting of United Nations status to the said Centres;

6. Recommends to its subsidiary bodies to continue their efforts in identifying areas of interest for economic co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of overall activities and its programme of work; and

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the forty-first session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/1985/34, para. 358)

I (40) Standardization and related activities

The Commission decided :

1. to take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization (E/ECE/1099) and the report of the twelfth session of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies (STAND/GE.1/25);

2. to approve the programme of work proposed by the Group of Experts as regards programme category 01(c) (E/ECE/1099, Annex);

3. to convene the thirteenth session of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies from 28 October to 1 November 1985 in Czechoslovakia;

4. to convene the Ninth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies from 12 to 16 May 1986, during which a second ECE Seminar on Testing might be held;

5. to agree to consider at its forty-first session the convening of further sessions of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies; and

6. to request the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the forty-first session. (E/1985/34, para. 365)

J (40) The Commission's contribution to the preparatory work for the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women

The Commission decided :

1. to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1101;

2. to request the Executive Secretary to submit the report of the Seminar (ECE/SEM.6/2) and the study on the Economic Role of Women in the ECE Region to the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women;

3. to request the Executive Secretary, taking into consideration the results of the 1985 World Conference, to continue to assess developments with respect to the economic role of women in the ECE region in conjunction with other research activities of the secretariat;

4. to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-first session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1985/34, para. 371)

K (40) Engineering Industries and Automation

The Economic Commission for Europe :

1. Takes note of the report of the fifth session of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (ECE/ENG.AUT/21) and the Note by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1102);

2. Approves the programme of work for 1985-1989 and the calendar of meetings of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (ECE/ENG.AUT/21, Annexes I and II);

3. Decides to consider at its forty-first session a possible change in the status of the Working Party;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-first session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/1985/34, para. 383)

L (40) Monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution

The Economic Commission for Europe,

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

Taking note of its decision C (XXXV), resolution 1 (XXXVI) and decisions E (XXXVII), G (XXXVIII) and L (XXXIX) as well as the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/1103 on Monitoring and Evaluation of Transboundary Water Pollution,

1. Takes note of the work accomplished so far in the field of monitoring and evaluation of transboundary water pollution;
2. Recognizes the significance of the development and strengthening of co-operation of the ECE member countries and co-ordination of their activities in water pollution control matters, including transboundary water pollution;
3. Takes note of recent developments and respective international meetings in the field of transboundary waters, and in particular of the Seminar on Co-operation in the Field of Transboundary Waters hosted by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, in Düsseldorf in October 1984, and the decision of the Committee on Water Problems;
4. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-first session on the development in this field. (E/1985/34, para. 385)

M (40) Co-operation in the field of protection and improvement of the environment

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions F (XXXVIII) and M (XXXIX),

Taking note of the relevant recommendations contained in the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and in the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting of Representatives of the Participating States of the CSCE relating to continuing efforts aimed at strengthening co-operation within the ECE framework in the field of the environment,

1. Requests the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems to continue their activities in implementing the provisions of the Declaration on Low- and Non-waste Technology and Re-utilization and Recycling of Wastes taking into account the recommendations of the Seminar on Low-waste Technology held in Tashkent (USSR) on 15-19 October 1984;
2. Takes note of the decisions of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental Problems as adopted at their thirteenth session concerning the future elaboration of a long-term regional strategy for environmental protection and rational use of natural resources which may to the extent possible become a contribution to UNEP's work on a global strategy and notes with appreciation proposals and recommendations thereon;
3. Invites the Senior Advisers to intensify and expand their environmental impact assessment activities, in particular on the prospects for new activities as envisaged by the Group of Experts on Environmental Impact Assessment at their third session;
4. Calls upon the Senior Advisers, considering that the questions of transboundary air pollution are dealt with in the framework of the Executive Body of the Convention to pay special attention to dealing with problems of air pollution not covered by the Convention;
5. Requests the Senior Advisers to continue concrete activities in the field of protection of flora and fauna and their habitats in the ECE region taking into account the recommendations of the Ad hoc Meeting on the Protection of Flora, Fauna and their Habitats, held in Geneva on 27-30

November 1984 and bearing in mind the need to avoid overlapping with the activities of other competent international organizations in this area;

6. Recommends the Senior Advisers to consider at their fourteenth session the advisability and possibility of including into the programme of work other topical environmental problems of priority concern for the ECE member countries;

7. Invites the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission to co-ordinate their activities with the Senior Advisers in implementing projects related to the protection of the environment;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the implementation of this decision to the Commission at its forty-first session. (E/1985/34, para. 387)

N (40) An Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling decision B (XXXIX) on an Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000,

Taking note of the invitation of the Government of the Ukrainian SSR to host in the autumn of 1985 the ECE Seminar on the Interrelationships between Structural Changes and Investment Policies,

1. Welcomes the decisions taken by the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments at their twenty-first session especially the base line scenario as constituting a further step towards the timely elaboration of the Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000;

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

3. Expresses its hope that the Senior Economic Advisers will focus in the exchange of information and joint consideration of economic trends and prospects in the ECE region on the long-term implications of national economic policies;

4. Stresses the significance of the ECE Seminar on the Interrelationships between Structural Changes and Investment Policies in the elaboration of the Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-first session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1985/34, para. 389)

FORTY-FIRST SESSION

(15-26 April 1986)

RESOLUTION

1 (41) The work of the Commission as a whole and its future activities

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its previous resolutions, in particular resolution 1 (40) and conscious of the important role of the ECE as an instrument for the implementation of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level, in particular with regard to the development of co-operation among countries of the region in the fields of trade, industry, science and technology, the environment and other areas of economic activity,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 38/56 and 40/3 concerning the proclamation of the year 1986 the International Year of Peace,

Noting that the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe will mark its fortieth anniversary in 1987,

Bearing in mind the conclusion of the 1980 Madrid Meeting of representatives of the States participating in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and reaffirming that full respect for all the principles guiding relations among States set out in the Helsinki Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, as well as for all the provisions of that Final Act and for those contained in the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting contributes towards the building of an atmosphere of confidence in international relations, including economic relations,

Conscious of the role of the ECE in the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act and of the Madrid Concluding Document; noting in this regard the progress made in the implementation of the Commission's work programme, pursuant to resolution 1 (40); and recognizing that the Madrid Concluding Document contains recommendations directed towards the future work of the Commission,

Recalling that the Final Act of the CSCE provides for the continuation of the multilateral process initiated by the Conference by organizing, inter alia, follow-up meetings among the representatives of the participating States of the CSCE, and further recalling that the participating States have decided at the Madrid Meeting that the third of these meetings will be held in Vienna beginning 4 November 1986,

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

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

Bearing in mind the contribution that the Commission and its member States could make in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 35/56 on the International Development Strategy as adopted, thereby contributing towards establishing a new international economic order on a just and equitable basis, thus fostering and promoting international economic co-operation for development,

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

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes and reports of the Executive Secretary, in particular his report E/ECE/1110 on the Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1985, and the long-term programme of work for 1986-1990, and noting that during the forty-first session delegations have made a number of comments and suggestions concerning the Commission's programme of work,

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

2. Considers in this connection that full respect for the principles guiding relations among States set out in the Final Act, as well as the implementation of all the provisions of that Final Act and those contained in the Madrid Concluding Document, are an essential basis for the development of economic co-operation among them; reaffirms at the same time that such co-operation contributes to the reinforcement of peace and security in Europe and in the world as a whole;

3. Recalls that the Concluding Document of the 1980 Madrid Meeting of representatives of States participating in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, contains provisions which carry implications for the activities of the Commission, and requests its subsidiary bodies to continue to take into account, for their work, the pertinent provisions of the above-mentioned documents which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the Economic Commission for Europe; and asks the Executive Secretary to make appropriate arrangements to this end;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to inform the Vienna Meeting, if invited to do so by the participating States, of the progress made in the Economic Commission for Europe in the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Act as well as of the possibilities open to the Commission for contributing further to the implementation of the Final Act, and following that, to report as appropriate to the forty-second session;

5. Notes the report on the work and future activities of the Commission (E/ECE/1110) prepared by the Executive Secretary;

6. Decides to celebrate its fortieth anniversary in the course of its forty-second session at Geneva, in accordance with decision D (41);

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

8. Notes the Executive Secretary's reports E/ECE/1112 and E/ECE/1113 and requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their activities the possible contributions of the

Economic Commission for Europe to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries and the necessity of effective co-operation with other international organizations;

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

10. Reaffirms its previously adopted decisions within the field of environment;

11. Takes note of the report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology adopted at their thirteenth session (ECE/SC.TECH/29); reaffirms the importance of co-operation in the field of science and technology as one of the priority areas in ECE activities; and welcomes the efforts of the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology in this direction;

12. Reaffirms the need further to increase efficiency in the use of ECE resources, through developing and strengthening concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work and recalls in this regard its decision A (40),

13. Approves its programme of work for 1986-1987 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its forty-second session, its long-term programme of work for 1986-1990;

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

15. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution as well as other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned for their guidance. (E/1986/31, para. 9)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (41) Management training for administrations and enterprises

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Taking note of the report of the preparatory meeting for a Symposium on management training for administrations and enterprises held in Geneva from 28 to 29 November 1985 (ECE/SEM.7/AC/2) and of the proposals contained therein regarding the provisional agenda and the time-table for the preparation of the Symposium,

1. Decides to convene a Symposium on management training for administrations and enterprises in the autumn of 1987, in co-operation with the International Labour Organization;

2. Recommends that special attention be paid during the preparatory process for the Symposium to management training programmes and methods, as well as to international aspects of management training, within the region;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit a progress report to its forty-second session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1986/31, para. 130)

B (41) Co-operation in the field of transboundary waters

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recognizing the significance of the harmonious development, use and conservation of transboundary waters and aware that prevention and control of transboundary pollution in rivers and lakes crossing or forming frontiers between two or more countries, and in related groundwater aquifers, as well as prevention and control of Floods are important and urgent tasks whose effective accomplishment can only be ensured by enhanced co-operation among riparian countries,

Recalling its decision B (XXXV) whereby it adopted the ECE Declaration of Policy on Prevention and Control of Water Pollution, including Transboundary Pollution,

Taking into account the results of the Seminar on Co-operation in the Field of Transboundary Waters (Düsseldorf, Federal Republic of Germany in 1984),

Commending the efforts already undertaken by riparian countries to strengthen co-operation in the field of transboundary waters on a bilateral and multilateral level in particular regarding prevention and control of both transboundary water pollution including accidental pollution and transboundary flood episodes,

Conscious of the role of ECE as an instrument for promoting international co-operation regarding prevention and control of transboundary pollution, including accidental pollution as well as floods by, inter alia, elaborating international principles conducive to the achievement of those purposes as a means of placing on a firmer basis co-operation among riparian countries,

1. Decides to adopt the recommendations to ECE member Governments on Co-operation in the Field of Transboundary Waters, set forth hereunder;

2. Invites ECE member Governments to apply these recommendations in formulating and implementing water policies.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations set out below should provide direction for fostering and strengthening co-operation among the countries concerned, thus facilitating and supporting their endeavours to overcome problems associated with the harmonious development, use and conservation of transboundary waters. The following recommendations address mainly issues regarding control and prevention of transboundary water pollution, as well as flood management in transboundary waters. These issues were discussed at the Seminar on Co-operation in the Field of Transboundary Waters (held in Düsseldorf, Federal Republic of Germany, in 1984).

1. In view of the increased recognition of transboundary aspects of water management, riparian countries should seek through common agreement ways and means for harmonious development, use and conservation of transboundary waters.

2. Governments are urged to discuss and negotiate questions dealing with pollution control and flooding of particular transboundary waters that are of concern to one or more riparian countries.

3. Besides elaborating and implementing water management programmes for transboundary waters at a national level, Governments should consider setting up or adapting appropriate mechanisms such as joint commissions, either on an ad hoc basis or as permanent bodies, at a bilateral and/or multilateral level.

4. The terms of reference and tasks of joint commissions should be agreed upon by the contracting parties and could be stipulated either in a treaty, if it exists, or in a specific document which could also include the rules of procedure of such commissions, subject to endorsement by countries concerned.
5. Governments are urged to promote, set up or improve national monitoring systems which allow for the observation of changes both in quantity and in quality of surface waters and of aquifers, ensuring wherever possible their compatibility with current methods applied at appropriate international levels.
6. Governments should consider whenever possible setting up national and/or joint border monitoring stations, and adopting common methods of sampling, analysis, data processing and dissemination.
7. The creation of early warning and alarm systems should be encouraged in order to prevent or limit damages owing to accidental pollution. Governments are called upon also to promote the adoption of common procedures with regard to mutual information on accidental pollution episodes.
8. Governments should strive to improve water quality in transboundary waters to the extent required in order to protect the aquatic environment against pollution. Where quality objectives and standards are agreed upon among Governments, they should apply all measures necessary to meet them.
9. In national programmes aimed at water pollution control, Governments should apply means and methods at their disposal to reduce pollution both from point and non-point sources. To this effect programmes aiming at the reduction of pollution at source, introduction of low- and non-waste technology, appropriate waste-water treatment including advanced methods, research and education of the public should all be promoted and co-ordinated at the bilateral and multilateral level.
10. In flood-prone areas, Governments should establish appropriate mechanisms for the efficient and timely warning of authorities in the downstream parts of transboundary waters. Agreement should be reached on the most appropriate measures to be taken in order to prevent, as far as possible, floods and to limit their downstream impact.
11. In order to respond to the objectives of international co-operation, Governments should adapt existing institutional arrangements at the national level or, if required, should set up new ones so as to create the necessary support for the implementation of water management programmes for transboundary waters. (E/1986/31, para. 262)

C (41) Trade and industrial co-operation

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recognizing the important role of intra-regional trade for economic co-operation among all countries of the region,

Drawing the attention of member Governments to the possibilities offered by the ECE for promoting the development of trade and industrial co-operation in the region,

1. Takes note of the report of the Committee on the Development of Trade on the work of its thirty-fourth session (ECE/TRADE/153);

2. Notes the useful work of the special meeting of experts on industrial co-operation held in July 1985 and the special experts meeting on prospects for East-West trade in the 1980s held in March 1986;

3. Notes with satisfaction the decisions of the thirty-fourth session of the Committee on the Development of Trade aimed at giving impetus to its work and in particular its decision to convene in September 1986 in Thessaloniki (Greece) the Symposium on East-West Business Opportunities and Trade Prospects, invites Governments of the ECE member countries to contribute to the achievement of successful results at this forum, and expresses the hope that businessmen from ECE member countries will take an active part in the Symposium;

4. Calls upon all its member Governments, taking advantage of the potential of the ECE, to increase their efforts to promote favourable conditions for the development of trade and industrial co-operation in the region;

5. Requests the Committee on the Development of Trade to continue its work directed towards this objective, taking into account the provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE and of the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting of the Representatives of Participating States of the CSCE. (E/1986/31, para. 276)

D (41) Observance of the fortieth anniversary of the Commission

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Noting that the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe will mark its fortieth anniversary in 1987,

Convinced that this anniversary is an opportune occasion for taking stock of its achievements during the four decades of its existence, and equally for evaluating its future role,

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the preparations for the observance of the fortieth anniversary of the Commission in 1987 (E/ECE/1116);

2. Decides to celebrate the fortieth anniversary at the outset of its forty-second session in a way which would contribute to co-operation among member states of the ECE;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare, as far as existing resources permit, the publications mentioned in paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 6 of document E/ECE/1116. (E/1986/31, para. 281)

E (41) Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision H (40) and the other decisions previously adopted by the Commission on this subject,

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

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

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1120 on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE, and the encouraging and constructive response from Mediterranean countries as well as from the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and other relevant United Nations bodies and to pursue his contacts with the other Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries;

3. Takes note with satisfaction of the evolution of the activities related to transport in the Mediterranean region within the Inland Transport Committee as well as the decision taken by the Committee at its forty-seventh session in order to continue to study in detail, by the Group of Experts on Transport Trends and Policy (GE.36) the status and the programme of work of the Transport Centres as well as related matters and to prepare a recommendation for the Commission on that subject, and requests the Inland Transport Committee to pursue this work within the framework of the dispositions of paragraphs 4 and 5 of the decision H (40);

4. Takes note of the holding of the Seminar on the harmonization of the custom procedures in the ports of the Western Mediterranean, organized in October 1985 by the Government of Spain in the Transport Study Centre of Barcelona and underlines the positive effect of such work on transport in the Mediterranean region;

5. Recommends to its subsidiary bodies to continue their efforts in identifying areas of interest for economic co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of overall activities and its programme of work; and

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the forty-second session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/1986/31, para. 305)

F (41) Standardization and related activities

The Commission decided :

(a) to take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization and related activities (E/ECE/1121) and the report of the thirteenth session of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies (STAND/GE.1/27);

(b) to express the wish that the Ninth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies (to be held 12-16 May 1986) and the Second ECE Seminar on Testing (to be held 15 May 1986) will result in further progress towards the aims of the Commission in these fields;

(c) to convene two further sessions of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies (to be held 17-21 November 1986 and in the first half of 1987, respectively) to consider such matters as the Commission or the Ninth Meeting of Government Officials may refer to it;

(d) to consider at its forty-second session the convening of a Tenth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies;

(e) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-second session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1986/31, para. 311)

G (41) The Commission's contribution to the follow-up of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Bearing in mind the consensus adoption of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women and the Endorsement of the Strategies by the General Assembly in Resolution 40/108,

Recalling General Assembly Resolution 40/105 concerning incorporation of the interests of women in the work programmes of the regional commissions,

(a) Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1122;

(b) Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare a study on measures for reassessing the work programmes of the Commission in order to incorporate activities which focus on the economic role of women and to submit the study to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies for their comments and recommendations;

(c) Further requests the Executive Secretary, taking into consideration the comments and recommendations of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, to submit to the Commission at its forty-second session proposals to incorporate activities which focus on the economic role of women in the overall work programmes of the Commission for the biennium 1988-1989. (E/1986/31, para. 317)

H (41) Engineering industries and automation

The Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Takes note of the report of the sixth session of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (ECE/ENG.AUT/24) and the report by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1123);

2. Approves the programme of work for 1986-1990 and the calendar of meetings of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation, as contained in annexes I and II, respectively, to document ECE/ENG.AUT/24;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-second session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/1986/31, para. 326)

I (41) An Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision N (40) on an Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000,

Welcoming the holding of the ECE Seminar on the Interrelationships between Structural Changes and Investment Policies in Kiev (Ukrainian SSR) in 1985 as a significant sectoral contribution to the elaboration of an Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000,

Taking note of the invitation of the Government of Finland to host in the autumn of 1986 the ECE Seminar on the Evolution of Consumption Patterns and their Impact on Overall Economic Development,

1. Notes with satisfaction the progress reached in the preparation of an overall economic perspective to the year 2000;

2. Welcomes the fact that at their twenty-second session the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments held an open and fruitful exchange of information on recent developments in the economies of the countries of the region;

3. Takes note with appreciation the decisions taken by the Senior Economic Advisers at their twenty-second session and the elaboration of the preliminary version of the core document constituting together with the supporting papers the framework of an Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000;

4. Invites the Senior Economic Advisers to continue their work with a view to further improvement of the qualitative side of an overall economic perspective to the year 2000;

5. Calls upon the Governments of the member countries which are in a position to do so, to submit contributions to the seminar scheduled to be held in Helsinki in September 1986 on trends in consumption to the year 2000;

6. Invites the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned to continue to co-operate with the Senior Economic Advisers and, specifically, to provide them when appropriate with the results of their respective projects and long-term studies;

7. Reiterates its hope that the Senior Economic Advisers should give special attention to the exchange of information and joint consideration of economic trends and prospects in the ECE region on the long-term implications of national economic policies;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-second session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1986/31, para. 330)

FORTY-SECOND SESSION

(31 March-10 April 1987)

RESOLUTION

1 (42) The work of the Commission as a whole and its future activities

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its previous resolutions, in particular resolution 1 (41), and conscious of the important role of the ECE as an instrument for the implementation of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level, in particular with regard to the development of co-operation among countries of the region in the fields of trade, industry, science and technology, transport, the environment and other areas of economic activity,

Noting that the observance of the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe has been an opportune occasion for taking stock of its achievements, as well as for evaluating its future role, and reaffirming the conviction that the ECE is a unique forum for the promotion of regionwide economic and technical co-operation,

Reaffirming that full respect for all the principles guiding relations among States set out in the Helsinki Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, as well as for all the provisions of the Final Act and for those contained in the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting, contributes towards building an atmosphere of confidence in international relations, including economic relations,

Conscious of the role of the ECE in the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act and of the Madrid Concluding Document; noting in this regard the progress made in the implementation of the Commission's work programme, pursuant to resolution 1 (41); and recognizing that the Madrid Concluding Document also contains recommendations directed towards the future work of the Commission,

Recalling that the Final Act of the CSCE provides for the continuation of the multilateral process initiated by the Conference by organizing, inter alia, follow-up meetings among the representatives of the participating States of the CSCE, and noting that the third such meeting started in Vienna in November 1986,

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

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

Bearing in mind the contribution that the Commission and its member States could make in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 35/56 on the International Development Strategy as adopted, thereby contributing towards establishing a new international economic order on a just and equitable basis, thus fostering and promoting international economic co-operation for development,

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

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes and reports of the Executive Secretary, in particular his reports E/ECE/1133 and E/ECE/1134 on the Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1986, and the long-term programme of work for 1987-1991, and noting that during the forty-second session delegations have made a number of comments and suggestions concerning the Commission's programme of work,

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

2. Considers in this connection that full respect for the principles guiding relations among States set out in the Final Act, as well as the implementation of all the provisions of that Final Act and those contained in the Madrid Concluding Document, are an essential basis for the development of economic co-operation among them; reaffirms at the same time that such co-operation contributes to the reinforcement of peace and security in Europe and in the world as a whole;

3. Recalls that the Concluding Document of the 1980 Madrid Meeting of representatives of States participating in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, contains provisions which carry implications for the activities of the Commission, and requests its subsidiary bodies to continue to take into account, for their work, the pertinent provisions of the above-mentioned documents which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the Economic Commission for Europe; and asks the Executive Secretary to make appropriate arrangements to this end;

4. Takes note of the information which, at the invitation of the participating States, the Executive Secretary submitted on his own authority to the Vienna Meeting, of the progress made in the ECE in the multilateral implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Act and of those contained in the Madrid Concluding Document, as well as of the possibilities open to the Commission for contributing further to this multilateral implementation; hopes for substantive and balanced conclusions of the Vienna Meeting of Representatives of the Participating States of the CSCE;

5. Notes the reports on the work and future activities of the Commission (E/ECE/1133 and E/ECE/1134) prepared by the Executive Secretary;

6. Calls upon its subsidiary bodies to pay special attention, when reviewing and carrying out their programmes of work, to the interests of member countries which are developing from an economic point of view and to note that some such countries are faced with serious structural and economic constraints; to this effect, invites the Executive Secretary to take the appropriate measures;

7. Notes the Executive Secretary's reports E/ECE/1136 and E/ECE/1137 and requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their activities the possible contributions of the Economic Commission for Europe to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries and the necessity of effective co-operation with other international organizations;

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

9. Takes note of the report of the Committee on the Development of Trade on its thirty-fifth session (ECE/TRADE/157); recalls the useful work accomplished at the Thessaloniki Symposium on East-West Business Opportunities and Trade Prospects; considers that participation in discussions of specific questions related to development of trade and economic co-operation in the region of both official representatives of ECE member countries and businessmen from these countries is useful and might be practised in the most appropriate manner in the further work of the Committee on the Development of Trade; requests the Committee to pursue its activities aimed at the development of east-west trade and industrial co-operation, bearing in mind new developments in the ECE region; and calls upon all its member Governments, taking advantage of the potential of the ECE, to increase their efforts to promote favourable conditions for the development of trade and industrial co-operation in the region;

10. Takes note of the report of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology adopted at their fourteenth session (ECE/SC.TECH/31); reaffirms the importance of co-operation in the field of science and technology as one of the priority areas in ECE activities; and welcomes the efforts of the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology in this direction;

11. Reaffirms the need further to increase efficiency in the use of ECE resources, through developing and strengthening concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work and recalls in this regard its decision A (40);

12. Approves its programme of work for 1987-1988 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its forty-third session, its long-term programme of work for 1987-1991;

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

14. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution as well as other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned for their guidance. (E/1987/33, para. 93)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (42) Rule 13 of the Commission's rules of procedure

The Commission decided:

To amend Rule 13 of its Rules of Procedure to read as follows:

"The Commission shall, at its first meeting of each year, elect from among its representatives a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman, who shall hold office until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election. The Commission may, however, decide to elect the officers for its next session at its last meeting." (E/1987/33, para. 22)

B (42) Report containing views and proposals of the Economic Commission for Europe to the Special Commission of ECOSOC on the In-depth Study of the Intergovernmental Structure of the United Nations Economic and Social Sectors

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling Assembly resolution 41/213 and Council decision 1987/112,

Convinced that the scope and importance of the in-depth study being undertaken by ECOSOC and the complexity of the work and mechanisms of the ECE which have evolved over a period of forty years require further consultations with the member Governments and the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission, as appropriate,

Having adopted an interim report to be submitted to the Special Commission of ECOSOC within 30 days of the conclusion of the session and recognizing the necessity to prepare a more detailed supplementary report thereto,

Noting the results already achieved in the process of concentration and integration of ECE activities, being relevant to the goals of the above-mentioned Assembly resolution and Council decision,

1. Declares its willingness to fully respond to the tasks contained in Council decision 1987/112, bearing in mind the specific character of the regional co-operation in the framework of ECE;

2. Decides to set up an Ad hoc Committee for the Review of the Structure and Functions of the ECE;

3. Requests the Ad hoc Committee:

(a) to examine the work programmes of the ECE in order to ensure a more effective use of resources inter alia by:

- identifying projects of lower priority;
- eliminating overlapping and duplication whether within the work of the Commission or with the programmes of other international organizations;
- identifying programme elements which have exceeded the duration initially stipulated for them and by specifying appropriate fixed time limits for existing or future programmes, except those of an agreed continuous duration;
- taking an overall view of the balance of activity between the existing programmes inter alia in the light of available financial resources;
- developing guidelines subsidiary bodies should take into account when including new items in their work programmes;

and to make relevant recommendations for action to be taken;

(b) to examine the structure and functions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies in order to ensure the optimal concentration of efforts and resources on areas of greatest interest to member States yielding practical results;

(c) to study ways and means to achieve further economies in the Commission's calendar of meetings by inter alia reviewing the frequency and duration of the meetings, and exploring the possibility of making greater use of less costly forms of meetings without devolving costs on member States and without prejudice to the official languages of the ECE;

(d) to work out proposals for economies concerning the volume and number of documents and publications with due regard paid to the linguistic balance;

4. Decides to convene the first meeting of the Ad hoc Committee from 1-4 June 1987 and a second meeting from 5-9 October 1987;

5. Invites member States to participate in the meetings of the Ad hoc Committee and to ensure that the views of their experts on the work of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission are taken into consideration;

6. Agrees on an exceptional basis to appoint Ambassador K. Tellalov (Bulgaria) and Ambassador A. Costa Lobo (Portugal) Co-Chairmen of the Ad hoc Committee, to be accompanied by two delegates from each caucus without prejudice to ECE practice;

7. Decides that this Bureau shall
- secure the timely preparation of the report of the Ad hoc Committee,
 - establish the agenda and the organization of the meetings,
 - consider the proposals raised with the aim of reaching consensus;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to provide any assistance requested by the Ad hoc Committee;

9. Decides to convene a special session of the Commission on 9-10 November 1987; to this session the Ad hoc Committee shall submit the draft supplementary report including proposals for action to be taken;

10. Agrees that this supplementary report will be transmitted to the Special Commission of ECOSOC as soon as possible after the special session of the Commission;

11. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the interim report and the present decision to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies;

12. Further requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the report as adopted by the forty-second session and the present decision to the Special Commission of ECOSOC within 30 days. (E/1987/33, para. 111)

C (42) Co-operation in the field of transport

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its resolution 1 (40) recognizing the importance of the development of transport for the economies of the ECE member countries and emphasizing the importance of practical measures designed to improve all aspects of transport in the region, including those of its perspective development,

Welcoming the results achieved in the Commission in the field of codification, especially 47 agreed and legally binding documents,

Emphasizing the interest of member countries to continue co-operation with the aim of a good functioning of European transport and searching for mutually acceptable solutions on the basis of effective reciprocity,

Recognizing the significance of the results of the Inland Transport Committee for the further solution of important aspects of the transport problems in the ECE region,

1. Takes note of the report adopted by the forty-eighth session of the Inland Transport Committee;

2. Underlines that the international transport conventions and agreements must be kept up to date and supplemented by new instruments as and when necessary in order to respond to the evolution of transport in the ECE region;

3. Invites the member countries to continue to co-operate actively in the framework of the Inland Transport Committee and to carry out its programme of work taking account of the principal sectors indicated as priorities by the forty-eighth session of the Inland Transport Committee (ECE/TRANS/68, paras. 235, 236 and 237);

4. Requests the Inland Transport Committee to pay appropriate attention to a continuing assessment of the development of transport in the ECE region and the adequate conclusions for an efficient transport system, in particular questions of importance of the transport economy;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-third session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1987/33, para. 192)

D (42) Safety with regard to the transport of dangerous goods

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Aware of the risks to populations, transport operators and the environment represented by the constant, widespread increase in the carriage of dangerous goods,

Recognizing that such carriage is vital to the economies of the member States, but necessitates special precautions and that regulations must accordingly be updated constantly to take into account technological development,

Noting that with the present resources the Group of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods is already suffering from growing difficulties in accomplishing this updating within the appropriate time scale,

Recalling the requests submitted by the Economic and Social Council in its resolutions 1983/7, 1985/9 and 1986/66,

1. Declares that the safe carriage of dangerous goods is one of the transport priority objectives, as identified by the Inland Transport Committee at its forty-eighth session (ECE/TRANS/68);

2. Invites member Governments to co-operate within the Inland Transport Committee with the aim to:

- ensure close co-operation with the manufacturers of dangerous goods so that the adjustments to regulations necessitated by the placing on the market of new products can be made in good time, with respect to their being carried by road, rail or navigable waterway;

- ensure that the persons particularly involved in the carriage of dangerous goods both in transport undertakings and the services for the inspection, prevention and handling of accidents are suitably trained;
- ensure that information on safety instructions, routings and special traffic requirements relating to the type of product carried is very widely distributed to such persons;
- ensure strict compliance by all transport operators with the regulations on the carriage of dangerous goods and with safety instructions;
- promote progress within the ECE in further proceedings on safety in respect of the carriage of dangerous goods and to co-operate to ensure compliance with any provisions adopted;
- continue its work in the field of ADR/RID/ADN as rapidly as possible;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to regard the work of expert groups on the transport of dangerous goods as a priority task and to allocate to it the necessary resources at his disposal, in particular:

- to pay due attention to the fact that work on the transport of dangerous goods, as in other highly specialized technical areas within the work programme of the Inland Transport Committee, requires the support of highly specialized staff;
- to fully carry out the work programme for 1987/1988;
- to publish as soon as possible the revised edition of the ECOSOC Recommendations ("orange book") and the Amendments to the ADR which will enter into force on 1 January 1988;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary:

- to draw the attention of the Council to the urgent need of providing the necessary resources and its indispensable support to duly carry out this priority task;
- to report to the Commission on the implementation of this decision at its forty-third session. (E/1987/33, para. 193)

E (42) Application of summer time

The Commission decided:

(a) to reiterate its invitation to all the ECE member countries to introduce summer time in line with its decisions H (XXXVIII) and F (XXXIX);

(b) to recommend that in future the hour of transition at the beginning and end of the summer time period be 1 a.m. Greenwich Mean Time as agreed upon at the forty-sixth session of the Committee (ECE/TRANS/6), para. 188);

(c) to recommend that summer time be standardized over the longest possible period of time but not less than three years. (E/1987/33, para. 194)

F (42) Co-operation in the field of protection and improvement of the environment

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions M (40) and E (40),

Confirming that protection of the environment is one of the ECE priorities,

1. Notes with satisfaction the publication by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on *Environmental Problems of the Report on Environmental Trends and Policies in the ECE Region* as a first part of the long term regional strategy for environmental protection and rational use of natural resources, and invites the Senior Advisers to finalize the Regional Strategy prior to their sixteenth session;

2. Notes the decision of the Senior Advisers to hold, in co-operation with the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments, a meeting of a joint *ad hoc* working group of rapporteurs on the preparation of the section on protection of the environment to the Overall Economic Perspective to the year 2000;

3. Expresses its satisfaction with the progress made in the implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and appeals to Parties to the Convention to make every effort for prompt ratification of the protocols adopted under the Convention, or to those that are not in a position to ratify the Protocol on Sulphur Dioxide to take effective action to reduce further their sulphur emissions, taking into account the commitments entered into at Helsinki in July 1985;

4. Welcomes the decision taken by the fourth session of the Executive Body of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution concerning the mandate of the Working Group on Nitrogen Oxides and calls upon the Working Group to elaborate a draft protocol to the Convention concerning control of emissions of nitrogen oxides or their transboundary fluxes as soon as possible, on the basis of the implementation of the enlarged mandate of the Working Group;

5. Calls upon the Senior Advisers to take all necessary efforts for the implementation of the provisions contained in the Declaration on Low- and Non-waste Technology and Re-utilization and Recycling of Waste;

6. Invites the Senior Advisers to continue their work in the field of treatment and final storage of hazardous wastes, taking into account work done in this area by other fora;

7. Invites the Senior Advisers to continue their activities in the field of environmental impact assessment, and takes note of the progress made in preparation of the seminar on this question which will be held in Poland in September 1987;

8. Invites the Senior Advisers, taking into account the results of the Seminar on the Protection of Flora, Fauna and their Habitats held in Nurmes (Finland) in 1986, to start specific projects recommended by the Seminar and to finalize as soon as possible the elaboration of the Declaration on the Protection of Flora, Fauna and their Habitats, bearing in mind the need to adhere to existing agreements as well as the need to avoid overlapping with the activities of other competent international organizations in this area;

9. Recommends the Senior Advisers to review closely at their sixteenth session the activities of all Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission on environmental issues with a view to increasing the effectiveness of the work of the Commission by closer co-operation in this field;

10. Invites member States to consider improving the use of effective control technologies taking into account the necessity to co-operate effectively in the prevention and combating of pollution and to preserve and improve the environment in the ECE region;

11. Requests member States to promote the commercial exchange of available technology as well as direct industrial contacts in the field of environmental protection;

12. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-third session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/1987/33, para. 206)

G (42) Co-operation in the field of energy

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision F (40),

1. Decides to convene the sixth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy during Spring 1988 after the forty-third session of the Commission at a date to be set;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-fourth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision.

DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON ENERGY

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Election of officers
3. Review of the ECE activity in the field of general energy since the fifth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy
4. Review of the energy situation in the ECE region
5. Work programme in the field of general energy (1988-1992)
6. Relevant activities of other Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission
7. Other business
8. Adoption of the report.

Annotations

Item 3 - Review of the ECE activity in the field of general energy since the fifth session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy

The Senior Advisers would review the implementation of the Commission's programme of work in the field of general energy.

Item 4 - Review of the energy situation in the ECE region

The Senior Advisers would review developments in the field of energy in the region and exchange views on progress made or anticipated in the adaptation of the energy economies.

Item 5 - Work programme in the field of general energy

The Senior Advisers would discuss suggestions for future work of the group. (E/1987/33, para. 113)

H (42) International harmonization of the technical content of building regulations

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Considering that technical building regulations are a prerequisite for developing improved circulation of materials, elements and components and establishing effective mechanisms for co-operation in the countries in the region,

1. Recalls the inclusion of this topic in the agenda of the Seminar on Regulations and Technologies for Construction and Land Development, to be held in Paris (France) in June 1987 as part of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless;

2. Takes note of the report of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning on its forty-seventh session (ECE/HBP/64) and, in particular, of its work on the preparation of an ECE Compendium of Model Provisions for Building Regulations (ECE/HBP/55);

3. Recommends that its subsidiary bodies should continue their efforts on the preparation of these regulations as the first phase of a programme of action to promote the circulation of such materials, elements and components;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare a report on the implementation of this decision for the forty-third session. (E/1987/33, para. 169)

I (42) Principles regarding co-operation in the field of transboundary waters

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recognizing the significance of the harmonious development, use and conservation of transboundary waters and aware that prevention and control of transboundary pollution in rivers and lakes crossing or forming frontiers between two or more countries, and in related ground-water aquifers, as well as prevention and control of floods are important and urgent tasks whose effective accomplishment can only be ensured by enhanced co-operation among riparian countries,

Recalling its decision B (XXXV), whereby it adopted the ECE Declaration of Policy on Prevention and Control of Water Pollution, including Transboundary Pollution, and other related decisions, in particular D (XXXVII) and B (41),

Taking into account the results of the Seminar on Co-operation in the Field of Transboundary Waters held in Dusseldorf at the invitation of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, in 1984,

Commending the efforts already undertaken by riparian countries to strengthen co-operation in the Field of transboundary waters on a bilateral and multilateral level, in particular regarding prevention and control of both transboundary water pollution including accidental pollution and transboundary flood episodes,

Conscious of the role of ECE as an instrument for promoting international co-operation on prevention and control of transboundary pollution, including accidental pollution as well as floods, and in this regard recalling its decision B (41) containing recommendations to ECE Governments on co-operation in the field of transboundary waters,

1. Decides to adopt the Principles on Co-operation in the Field of Transboundary Waters, set forth hereunder;

2. Recommends to ECE member Governments that they apply these principles in formulating and implementing water policies;

3. Invites the member Governments to report in depth to the Commission at three-year intervals, through the Committee on Water Problems, on the action taken by them in this regard.

PRINCIPLES

The principles set out below should provide direction for fostering and strengthening co-operation among the countries concerned, thus facilitating and supporting their endeavours to overcome problems associated with the harmonious development, use and conservation of transboundary waters. The following principles address only issues regarding control and prevention of transboundary water pollution, as well as flood management in transboundary waters, including general issues in this field. Other issues concerning transboundary waters have not been covered in this document.

General

1. In accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting of Representatives of the Participating States of the CSCE and the principles of international law, every State has the sovereign right to use its own water resources pursuant to its national policy and must, in a spirit of co-operation, take measures such that activities carried out within its territory do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of its national jurisdiction. The ECE Declaration of Policy on Prevention and Control of Water Pollution including Transboundary Pollution, provides that riparian States shall undertake, on the basis of their national policies, concerted action to improve the quality of surface and ground water, to control pollution and to guard against accidental pollution.

1(a). Transboundary waters do not lend themselves to purely national approaches because natural phenomena and human activities, including effects originating beyond the transboundary area itself, may make themselves felt across borders, and require co-operation among riparian countries.

Co-operation

2. Transboundary effects of natural phenomena and human activities on transboundary waters are best regulated by the concerted efforts of the countries immediately concerned. Therefore, co-operation should be established as practical as possible among riparian countries leading to a constant and comprehensive exchange of information, regular consultations and decisions concerning issues of mutual interest: objectives, standards and norms, monitoring, planning, research and development programmes and concrete measures, including the implementation and surveillance of such measures.

2(a). On the basis of the principle of reciprocity, good faith and good-neighbourliness and in the interest of rational water-resource management and protection of these resources against pollution, riparian countries are called upon to enter into consultation if a riparian country so desires, aiming at co-operation regarding:

- Protection of ecosystems, especially the aquatic environment;
- Prevention and control of transboundary water pollution;
- Protection against such dangerous hazards as accidental pollution, floods and ice drifts in transboundary waters; and
- Harmonized use of transboundary waters.

Treaties and other arrangements

3. Riparian countries should, by means of bilateral or multilateral treaties, or of other arrangements, define their mutual relations regarding control of water pollution, accidental pollution, floods and ice drifts, in order to secure specific regulation of their conduct.

3(a). During the elaboration of such treaties or similar arrangements, riparian countries should envisage including, if necessary, these principles.

3(b). Taking into account hydrological, environmental, economic and other relevant conditions, such treaties or other arrangements could be established between neighbouring countries for all transboundary waters forming or crossing their common frontiers or could be concluded among riparian countries for specific transboundary waters separately. International co-operation frameworks may be established which cover parts or the whole river basin concerned.

3(c). Each contracting party could commit itself to taking the legislative, organizational, technical and financial measures necessary to achieve the objectives of these agreements.

Terms of agreements

4. Transboundary water agreements should stipulate the aims and objectives of joint co-operation, describe the conduct, define the geographical and substantive scope and provide for concrete measures as well as for implementation and surveillance of measures taken.

4(a). In these agreements or in subsequent arrangements, water quality standards and emission standards for particular transboundary water bodies should be established, where necessary. Such emission standards and quality objectives are aimed at the protection, preservation and improvement of the aquatic environment and at the promotion of the rational use of waters; they are complementary and should be applied simultaneously.

4(b). These agreements or subsequent arrangements should contain sufficiently detailed provisions regarding assessment of water quality and regarding monitoring and evaluation of transboundary pollution, accidental pollution, floods, and ice drifts. They should also stipulate appropriate measures to prevent transboundary water pollution, reduce risks of water-related hazards as well as remedial measures for emergency cases.

4(c). Agreements negotiated on this subject usually contain provisions for peaceful settlement of disputes; the duration of the convention or agreement; possibilities of denunciation and periods of notice and for the distribution of expenditure resulting from the implementation of the convention or agreement.

Water quality objectives and criteria

5. In transboundary water agreements or in subsequent arrangements, contracting parties should jointly define water quality objectives and commonly adopt water quality criteria for the purpose

of maintaining and, if necessary, improving water quality in transboundary waters.

5(a). Such objectives also serve as a guide for co-ordinating national policies on water quality. A general limitation of emissions at the national level is considered to be an important means of ensuring good water quality. Even more stringent regulations may be necessary for attaining water quality in accordance with regional requirements.

5(b). Each contracting party should implement, within the framework of its national legislation, on the basis of the principle that responsibility lies with the polluter, the necessary measures aimed at the preservation and, if possible, the significant improvement of water-resources' quality. In evaluating compliance with the qualitative characteristics of the agreed requirements, the criteria followed are the mutually observed water-quality standards and norms at the agreed site.

Institutional arrangements

6. Riparian countries should consider the setting up, where not yet existent, of appropriate institutional arrangements such as joint commissions and working groups, as a means of promoting the objectives of the agreement and facilitating implementation of its provisions. The structure, task, competence and financing of joint commissions or other co-operating bodies should be defined in the agreement.

6(a). The formal character, functions and geographical and substantive scope of activity of the commission should be adjusted to the prevailing conditions in the best possible way. Existing national structures and legal provisions in the contracting countries, as well as intergovernmental structures, should be fully taken into account together with hydrological, environmental, economic and other relevant conditions.

6(b). Where institutional arrangements are already set up, contracting parties should make full use of them by providing all necessary means for the efficient implementation of their tasks.

6(c). The commissions, working groups or other institutional arrangements should be composed of delegations appointed for this purpose by the individual contracting parties. Commissions should have their own rules of procedure for their work. Commissions should have the right to seek advice from experts and scientific institutes and to appoint ad hoc or permanent working parties.

6(d). In the case of small projects of limited duration, ad hoc working groups could be set up by contracting parties to deal with specific concerns in common. Where the scope of the activities is broader and the projects more protracted in nature, joint commissions should be established, if necessary with permanent secretariats.

Functions of institutional bodies

7. In the respective agreements, contracting parties should stipulate the competence and tasks of commissions and other relevant bodies to achieve the best possible solution to existing and anticipated transboundary problems in the most appropriate, effective and economic way.

7(a). Transboundary water commissions or other relevant bodies should, where appropriate, be entrusted with the following functions, inter alia:

- To serve the contracting parties as an advisory and negotiating body in all matters concerning protection of water against pollution including accidental pollution, floods and ice drifts;

- To develop proposals for water-protection objectives and standards, as well as joint arrangements and control programmes, including common methodologies for monitoring and data interpretation;
- To monitor, collect, process, compare and evaluate the necessary data with a view to preparing inventories, time series and forecasts as well as to survey the state of transboundary waters and control the effectiveness of measures implemented, as a basis for drawing up new measures;
- To arrange for and carry out relevant research work in order to determine the nature, importance and origin of transboundary water pollution including accidental pollution, floods and ice drifts;
- To develop, propose, establish and operate early detection and warning systems;
- To monitor the effectiveness and compatibility of control measures implemented at the national level and to examine the extent to which objectives stipulated in the respective agreements are met;
- To prepare regular reports on work accomplished and information supplied with respect to the results of monitoring activities or special studies and surveys;
- To draft subsequent agreements on specific issues within its terms of reference;
- To co-ordinate its activities with those of other commissions where there are points of contact.

Prevention of water pollution

8. In order to protect transboundary waters against pollution, contracting parties should draw up control programmes, jointly if necessary, and implement these programmes. Contracting parties should commit themselves to taking all legal, administrative, financial and technical measures - compatible with balanced development - necessary to achieve at least an agreed upon reduction in pollution of such waters.

8(a). When defining their mutual relations, riparian States should envisage adopting provisions consistent with those adopted nationally.

8(b). For efficient control of transboundary water pollution, all waste water discharges should take place on the basis of permits issued by competent national authorities. When issuing waste-water discharge permits, specifications should be set for pollutants, both in terms of load and concentration, discharged into transboundary waters at the lowest possible amount in accordance with generally acknowledged rules of technology.

8(c). Observance of the limits for waste-water discharges stated in permits should be the subject of monitoring for compliance. The monitoring of discharges is a national task. Apart from obligatory permits for, and monitoring of waste-water discharges, great importance should be given to the monitoring of water quality in transboundary waters. The contracting parties should agree on a harmonized monitoring methodology as a means of exercising a decisive influence on the quality of transboundary waters.

8(d). In the prevention and control of transboundary water pollution, special attention should be paid to hazardous substances, especially those which are toxic, persistent and bioaccumulative, whose introduction into transboundary waters should be prohibited or at least prevented by using

the best available technology; such pollutants should be eliminated within a reasonable period of time.

Reduction of flood risks

9. For transboundary water subject to risk of flooding, contracting parties should draw up programmes, jointly if necessary, in order to reduce the risk of floods and ice drifts.

9(a). Such programmes involve both harmonized construction measures along the waters and non-structural measures. The latter may comprise mutual information and notification (warning and alarm systems) before and during floods caused by precipitation and ice jams; relocation; flood mapping and zoning. When construction measures are envisaged, the entire river basin that may be affected should be investigated to avoid shifting problems onto other river sections as a result of measures taken elsewhere. In principle, activities that may increase the risk of flooding should be offset by measures which diminish these risks. The joint preparation of mathematical models for the simulation of floods is to be recommended as well as their application in designing measures and joint flood-control strategies.

Monitoring and data processing

10. Contracting parties should establish and implement co-ordinated programmes for monitoring and observation of transboundary water quality, transboundary water pollution, accidental pollution, floods and ice drifts. Likewise, common methodologies should be agreed upon for data processing and evaluation procedures.

10(a). Co-ordinated monitoring programmes and common methodologies would promote efficient implementation of relevant treaty provisions, provide for mutually acceptable assessment of water quantity and water quality and for reporting on progress and achievements in co-ordinated control programmes.

10(b). Contracting parties should, where appropriate, agree upon a list of relevant pollution parameters and pollutants, particularly for substances which are toxic, persistent and bioaccumulative, and whose introduction and concentration in transboundary waters should be regularly monitored.

10(c). In this connection, rules for the setting up and operation of programmes for the monitoring of water quality and quantity should be developed and eventually agreed upon. Furthermore, harmonized or even joint water-quality sampling programmes and analytical programmes should be agreed upon, in order to produce comparable results after analysis.

10(d). Data resulting from such programmes may also be used to establish water management balances, to assess current and future opportunities of water use, provide forecasts of water management systems and develop schemes illustrating the comprehensive utilization and protection of transboundary waters for an appropriate period of time. Water management balances could be achieved primarily on the national level. Sufficient relevant information should be exchanged within the framework of co-operation on transboundary waters.

10(e). As a basic principle, all data should first be recorded, collected and evaluated by each contracting party with the aid of a national monitoring network; where appropriate joint monitoring should be carried out. The data for the joint programme, following a prescribed pattern, should then be evaluated. These findings would serve as a basis for preparing conclusions in respect to common transboundary interests.

10(f). In the interest of data comparability, it is important to co-ordinate the recording, collection and transmission of data. Valid water-quality assessments can be made with the aid of a survey of pollutants and their effects on the ecosystem; trend reports are also an indispensable element in the transmission of data for protection against water-related natural phenomena.

Exchange of information

11. Contracting parties should, by means of transboundary agreements or other relevant arrangements, provide for the widest possible exchange, as early as possible, of data and information regarding transboundary water quality and quantity relevant to the control of water pollution, accidental pollution, floods and ice drifts in transboundary waters.

11(a). In addition to supplying each other with information on events, measures and plans at the national level affecting the other contracting parties, as well as on implementation of jointly harmonized programmes, contracting parties should maintain a permanent exchange of information on their practical experience and research. Joint commissions offer numerous opportunities for this exchange, but joint lectures and seminars serve also as suitable means of passing on a great deal of scientific and practical information.

11(b). The co-operating bodies should submit to the contracting parties a report, preferably annually, in which they account for their activities carried out to achieve the collective objectives. This report may also contain an evaluation of the monitoring data. The report could likewise be used to inform the public.

11(c). Besides establishing a flow of information between the contracting parties, informing the interested public is also of major importance. Only through an information policy that addresses the citizen can comprehension of the necessary measures and thus public support be obtained.

Warning and alarm systems

12. Contracting parties concerned should set up and operate efficient warning and alarm systems to counteract special cases of pollution such as pollution from accidents, negligence and offences and to reduce risks of floods and ice drifts. In such emergency cases, parties involved could consider the possibility of mutual assistance on an agreed basis.

12(a). Warning and alarm systems should consist of a small number of main communication centres, whether permanently manned or rapidly made operational which, on the basis of the national reporting system, would ensure the speediest possible transmission of data and forecasts following previously determined patterns.

12(b). Warning and alarm systems on transboundary waters should moreover be operated efficiently to permit early undertaking of corrective and protective measures, containment of damage and reduction of risks from natural phenomena and human activities on transboundary rivers.

12(c). In this connection, contracting parties should inform each other of measures taken on their territory to reduce or eliminate causes of accidental pollution, floods and ice drifts.

Services from competent international organizations

13. Riparian countries may consider the possibility of jointly seeking the services of any competent international organization in clarifying problems related to prevention and control of water pollution, accidental pollution, floods and ice drifts in transboundary waters. (E/1987/33, para. 169)

J (42) Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Reaffirming its decision E (41) and the other decisions previously adopted by the Commission on this subject,

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

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

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1140 on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE and the encouraging and constructive contributions from the Mediterranean countries as well as from the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the other relevant United Nations bodies and to pursue his contacts with the other Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries;

3. Takes note with satisfaction of the evolution of the activities related to transport in the Mediterranean region within the Inland Transport Committee as well as the decision taken by the Committee at its forty-eighth session to study the method of adding in its programme of work activities of the Mediterranean Transport Centres and reiterates the request to the Inland Transport Committee to pursue and complete this work the soonest possible within the framework of the dispositions of paragraphs 4 and 5 of decision II (40) and of paragraph 3 of decision E (41);

4. Recommends to its subsidiary bodies to continue their efforts in identifying areas of interest for economic co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of over-all activities and its programme of work; and

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the forty-third session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/1987/33, para. 264)

K (42) Standardization and related activities

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization and related activities (E/ECE/1141) and the reports of the Ninth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies (ECE/STAND/28) and of the second ECE Seminar on Testing (STAND/SEM.2/1 and Add.1);

(b) to convene a further session of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies to be held in either May or November 1987;

(c) to convene a tenth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies to be held in the first half of 1988; and

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-third session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1987/33, para. 271)

L (42) The Commission's contribution to the follow-up of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1142;

(b) to request the Executive Secretary to continue to assess developments with respect to the economic role of women in the ECE region, in conjunction with the work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and with other research activities of the secretariat, taking into account the relevant sections of the Medium-term Plan for Women and Development (1990-1995). (E/1987/33, para. 273)

M (42) Engineering industries and automation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the report of the seventh session of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (ECE/ENG.AUT/28) and the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1143);

(b) to approve the programme of work for 1987-1991 and the calendar of meetings of the Working Party as contained in annexes I and II, respectively, to document ECE/ENG.AUT/28;

(c) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-third session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/1987/33, para. 283)

N (42) An Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions B (XXXIX), N (40) and I (41) concerning the preparation of an Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000 (OEP),

Recalling the substantial progress already accomplished in the preparation of the OEP, particularly as regards demographic trends and their economic consequences, science and technology, and investment,

Welcoming in particular the fact that the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments, at their twenty-third session, conducted an open and fruitful exchange of information and views on the present situation and medium-term prospects of their economies,

Noting with satisfaction that the seminar organized in Helsinki in September 1986 made it possible to produce relevant and useful inputs for the OEP, concerning the evolution of private or collective consumption to the year 2000, in relation to the development of the economy, social organization and ways of life,

1. Takes note of the pertinent decisions taken by the Senior Economic Advisers at their twenty-third session;

2. Takes note with interest of the progress made within the Synthesis Working Group in improving and updating the baseline scenario, and invites the Group to continue and intensify its work on the preparation of alternative scenarios or variants capable of offering more satisfactory pictures for the year 2000 than the baseline scenario, particularly as regards economic growth and employment, as well as the balance of payments;

3. Welcomes the preparation of a preliminary version of the final document in 1986;

4. Takes note of the fact that meetings are shortly to be held between Principal Subsidiary Bodies in ad hoc working groups, which should be of mutual benefit to their work:

- The meeting of the ad hoc working group of the Senior Economic Advisers and Senior Advisers on Energy;

- The meeting of the ad hoc working group of the Senior Economic Advisers and Senior Advisers on Environmental Problems;

5. Invites the Senior Economic Advisers, by the forty-third session of the Commission, to complete the finalization of the OEP, by adding to it, further improving its quality and striving to draw from it recommendations which will foster mutually beneficial solutions to the region's economic problems, within a long-term perspective;

6. Invites the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to continue to co-operate with the Senior Economic Advisers in preparing an Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000;

7. Emphasizes that it is important that the Senior Economic Advisers should complete their work as scheduled in 1988, making it possible for the Commission to examine and approve the documents pertaining to the Overall Economic Perspective for the ECE Region to the Year 2000 at its forty-third session;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to it at its forty-third session on the implementation of the present decision. (E/1987/33, para. 286)

0 (42) Management training for administrations and enterprises

The Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the work carried out in 1986/87 (E/ECE/1146);

2. Notes with satisfaction the progress made in preparation for the Symposium on Management Training Programmes and Methods: Implications of New Technologies, to be held from 17 to 19 November 1987;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-third session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1987/33, para. 288)

SPECIAL SESSION

(10-11 November 1987)

DECISION

**A (1987-S) Implementation by the Commission of proposals for action contained in its
Supplementary Report to the Special Commission of ECOSOC**

The Economic Commission for Europe

Recalling General Assembly resolution 41/213 and ECOSOC decision 1987/112,

Recalling further its decision B (42),

Noting the implications of the financial difficulties of the United Nations Organization for the work of the Commission,

Taking note of the economy measures introduced by the Secretary-General in 1986,

Reaffirming the joint efforts of the member countries of ECE designed to improve the effectiveness of the ECE and to develop co-operation between States with different social and economic systems,

Reaffirming its continued commitment to ensure the concentration and integration of its work,

Noting that further changes in the programme of work may result from developments taking place in the ECE region, notably the outcome of the current Vienna meeting,

Underlining the continuing nature of measures designed to improve the effectiveness of the ECE and the need to ensure their implementation,

1. Reaffirms the important role of ECE as an instrument for implementation of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level, in particular with regard to the development of economic co-operation among countries of the region; the role of ECE in the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE and of subsequent Concluding Documents; and the determination of the member countries of ECE to promote stable and equitable international economic relations in the mutual interests of all States;

2. Welcomes the results of the work done by the Ad hoc Committee for the Review of the Structure and Functions of the ECE;

3. Adopts the Supplementary Report (document E/ECE/1150/Rev.1) and submits it to the Special Commission of ECOSOC;

4. Decides to implement the provisions and proposals contained in this Report without delay;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary accordingly to transmit to the subsidiary bodies of the Commission this decision and the Supplementary Report, and all additional information required, and calls upon the subsidiary bodies to implement the agreed changes in their terms of reference, structure and programme of work, frequency and duration of meetings as well as documentation and publications;

6. Agrees to strengthen the role of the Sessional Committee of the Commission with a view to co-ordination, concentration and integration of work, inter alia in the light of available resources;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary accordingly to assist the Commission in this task by reporting on the implementation of this decision in his annual report on concentration and integration, by providing information, inter alia, on:

- resources available and resource problems encountered in servicing the work of the Commission,
- new work programme items taken up,
- work programme items which have exceeded the duration initially prescribed,
- work programme items no longer involving substantial activity,
- areas of duplication of work which may have arisen together with proposals for their elimination,
- sales of publications,
- total number of meeting days including ECOSOC meetings serviced by the ECE with an indication of meetings held outside Geneva,
- total number of pages of documentation submitted for reproduction in each of the three official languages,
- any other information he might wish to put forward with a view to enhancing efficiency.

(E/1987/133, para.17)

FORTY-THIRD SESSION

(12-21 April 1988)

RESOLUTION

1 (43) The work of the Commission as a whole and its future activities

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its previous resolutions, in particular resolution 1 (42), and conscious of the important role of the ECE as an instrument for the implementation of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level, in particular with regard to the development of co-operation among countries of the region in the fields of trade, industry, science and technology, transport, the environment and other areas of economic activity,

Recalling in particular its decision A (1987-5) on implementation by the Commission of proposals for action contained in its Supplementary Report to the Special Commission of ECOSOC (E/ECE/1150/Rev.1), and reaffirming the conviction that the ECE is a unique forum for the promotion of regional economic and technical co-operation,

Reaffirming that full respect for all the principles guiding relations among States set out in the Helsinki Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, as well as for all the provisions of the Final Act and for those contained in the Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting of representatives of States participating in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, contributes towards building an atmosphere of confidence in international relations, including economic relations,

Conscious of the role of the ECE in the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act and of the Madrid Concluding Document; noting in this regard the progress made in the implementation of the Commission's work programme, pursuant to resolution 1 (42); and recognizing that the Madrid Concluding Document also contains recommendations directed toward the future work of the Commission,

Recalling that the Final Act of the CSCE provides for the continuation of the multilateral process initiated by the Conference by organizing, inter alia, follow-up meetings among the representatives of the participating States of the CSCE, and noting that the third such meeting started in Vienna in November 1986,

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

Recalling General Assembly resolution 40/178 and reiterating the determination of each of the member countries of the ECE to promote stable and equitable international economic relations in the mutual interest of all States and in this spirit to participate equitably in promoting and strengthening economic co-operation with the developing countries, in particular the least developed among them,

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

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes and reports of the Executive Secretary, in particular his report E/ECE/1153 on the Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1987, and the long-term programme of work for 1988-1992, and noting that during the forty-third session delegations have made a number of comments and suggestions concerning the Commission's programme of work,

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

2. Considers in this connection that full respect for the principles guiding relations among States set out in the Final Act, as well as the implementation of all the provisions of that Final Act and those contained in the Madrid Concluding Document, are an essential basis for the development of economic co-operation among them; reaffirms at the same time that such co-operation contributes to the reinforcement of peace and security in Europe and in the world as a whole;

3. Recalls that the Concluding Document of the 1980 Madrid Meeting contains provisions which carry implications for the activities of the Commission, and requests its subsidiary bodies to continue to take into account, for their work, the pertinent provisions of the above-mentioned documents which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the Economic Commission for Europe; and asks the Executive Secretary to make appropriate arrangements to this end;

4. Hopes for substantive and balanced conclusions of the Vienna Meeting of Representatives of the Participating States of the CSCE;

5. Notes the report on the work and future activities of the Commission (E/ECE/1153) prepared by the Executive Secretary;

6. Reaffirms its determination to implement the provisions and proposals contained in the Supplementary Report of the special session of the ECE (E/ECE/1150/Rev.1), as agreed in decision A (1987-S), notes the report of the Executive Secretary thereon and calls upon its subsidiary bodies to pay due attention to it when reviewing and carrying out their programmes;

7. Calls upon its subsidiary bodies to pay special attention, when reviewing and carrying out their programmes of work, to the interests of member countries which are developing from an economic point of view and to note that some such countries are faced with serious structural and economic constraints; to this effect, invites the Executive Secretary to take the appropriate measures;

8. Notes the Executive Secretary's reports E/ECE/1155 and E/ECE/1156 and requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their activities the possible contributions of the Economic Commission for Europe to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries and the necessity of effective co-operation with other international organizations;

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

10. Reaffirms the importance of co-operation in the field of science and technology as one of the priority areas in ECE activities;

11. Takes note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of decision O (42) (E/ECE/1168) and of the report of the Symposium on Management Training Programmes and Methods: Implications of New Technologies (ECE/SEM.7/3) and takes note further of the recommendations of the Symposium as contained in paragraph 32 of its report;

12. Takes note of the on-going preparation for the sixth Meeting of the Senior Advisers on Energy;

13. Approves its programme of work for 1988-1989 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its forty-fourth session, its long-term programme of work for 1988-1992;

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

15. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution as well as other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned for their guidance. (E/1988/36, para. 67)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (43) The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling General Assembly Resolution 42/187 on the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development,

Welcoming the Report of the World Commission,

Bearing in mind that the World Commission in its Report sets out as a main goal to ensure that all economic and social development be environmentally sound and sustainable, which implies meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs,

Recalling also General Assembly Resolution 42/186 on the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond, which took account of conclusions and recommendations contained in the Report of the World Commission, while acknowledging that different views exist on some aspects of the Environmental Perspective,

Considering that ECE can make an important contribution to the promotion of sustainable development,

Recognizing the contribution to this goal represented by the Regional Strategy for Environmental Protection and Rational Use of Natural Resources in ECE Member Countries Covering the Period up to the Year 2000 and Beyond,

Noting that the Regional Strategy will be evaluated and adjusted, as appropriate, by ECE member Governments taking into account the global perspectives presented by the World Commission on Environment and Development and the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Noting also the special needs of the countries in the ECE region which are developing from an economic point of view,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary to undertake a review of the ECE's programmes and activities aimed at contributing to sustainable development, including the cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary aspects thereof, taking account of the Report of the World Commission, the Environmental Perspective, and the Regional Strategy;

2. Decides to convene, before the end of 1988, an Ad Hoc Meeting of Experts to consider the above review and to formulate concrete proposals for sectoral and interdisciplinary activities which should be submitted for comments to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies in a position to do so, before consideration by the Commission at its forty-fourth session with a view to inclusion in the Commission's programme of work;

3. Calls upon its subsidiary bodies to review their programme of work in the light of the report of the Ad Hoc Meeting of Experts as endorsed by the Commission at its forty-fourth session, to identify and evaluate ongoing activities contributing to sustainable development and, as appropriate, propose to the Commission sectoral and interdisciplinary activities towards this end;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare a progress report on the contribution of the ECE to the international efforts towards sustainable development for consideration by the Commission at its forty-fourth session, and submission, through the Economic and Social Council, to the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly in accordance with paragraph 12 of General Assembly Resolution 42/186 and paragraph 18 of General Assembly Resolution 42/187;

5. Invites the Executive Secretary to bring to the attention of the Executive Secretaries of the other United Nations regional commissions the activities undertaken by ECE aimed at contributing to sustainable development;

6. Welcomes the initiative of the Government of Norway to hold, in 1990, in co-operation with ECE, a regional conference at ministerial level to review progress in the follow-up of selected aspects of the Report of the World Commission and identify initiatives for further measures of relevance to the ECE region. (E/1988/36, para. 73)

B (43) The Commission's contribution to the follow up of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 42/62 on the implementation of the goals and objectives contained in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and 42/178 on effective mobilization and integration of women in development,

Considering ECOSOC resolutions 1986/64 on the updating of the world survey on the role of women in development, 1987/25 on the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and 1987/86 on the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development and

system-wide co-ordination of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to assess developments with respect to the economic role of women in the ECE region, in conjunction with the work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and with other research activities of the secretariat, taking into account the relevant provisions of the pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly and ECOSOC;

2. Further requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1988/36, para. 74)

C (43) Agriculture

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Having carefully studied the decisions taken by the Committee on Agricultural Problems in March 1988,

1. Decides to approve its programme of work;

2. Endorses:

- the revised terms of reference of the Committee (Annex III to document ECE/AGRI/96);
- the resolution on maintaining close co-operation between ECE and FAO (Annex IV to document ECE/AGRI/96);
- the resolution referring to the activities of the newly established FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Committee for standardization of tropical fresh fruit and vegetables (Annex V to document ECE/AGRI/96).

3. Requests furthermore the Executive Secretary to transmit this resolution to the joint FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission and to report to the Commission at its forty-fourth session on its implementation. (E/1988/36, para. 102)

D (43) International Codification System for Medium- and High-rank Coals

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Conscious of the need to facilitate international trade and industrial co-operation inter alia by means of international definitions, classifications and codifications,

Recalling the adoption, in 1956, of the International Classification of Hard Coals by type (E/ECE/247),

Further recalling the decision of the Coal Committee taken at its seventy-fourth session in 1978 (ECE/COAL/36) to prepare a new or modified classification, which would be better adapted to the diversified needs of users,

Commending the Coal Committee on the close co-operation which it established with interested international organizations and non-ECE member States during the elaboration of the new System,

1. Endorses the decision of the Coal Committee, taken at its eighty-third session in 1987 (ECE/COAL/113, para. 51(a)) to approve a new "International Codification System for Medium- and High-rank Coals";
2. Requests Governments to transmit copies of the International Codification System for Medium- and High-rank Coals (ECE/COAL/115) to potential users, for application;
3. Invites the Coal Committee to monitor the application of the International Codification System for Medium- and High-rank Coals;
4. Recommends to the Economic and Social Council to consider appropriate measures for a world-wide application of the International Codification System for Medium- and High-rank Coals. (E/1988/36, para. 115)

E (43) Co-operation in the field of environmental protection and water resources

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions F (42) and I (42),

Confirming that protection of the environment is one of the ECE priorities,

1. Welcomes the holding of the First session of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems as well as the progress already achieved in their work and invites the Senior Advisers to complete, at their second session, the preparation of their terms of reference and submit them to the forty-fourth session of the Commission for approval;
2. Adopts the Regional Strategy for Environmental Protection and Rational Use of Natural Resources in ECE Member Countries Covering the Period up to the Year 2000 and Beyond; as well as the Declaration on Conservation of Flora, Fauna and their Habitats and requests the Executive Secretary to arrange for wide dissemination of the two documents;
3. Invites the Senior Advisers to complete, at their second session, the preparation of the Draft Charter on Ground Water Management and submit it to the forty-fourth session of the Commission;
4. Endorses the results and recommendations of the Seminar on Protection of Soil and Aquifers against Non-point Source Pollution as well as the ECE Recommendations on Waste-water Treatment and invites the Senior Advisers and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies to take them into account in their activities;
5. Welcomes the decision of the Senior Advisers to elaborate a draft of a framework agreement on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context;
6. Expresses its satisfaction with the progress made in the implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and notes with appreciation the entry into force of the Protocol on the Reduction of Sulphur Emissions and the Protocol on the Long-term Financing of EMEP;
7. Appeals to Parties to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, that have not yet done so, to make every effort for prompt ratification of the protocols adopted under

the Convention, or to those that are not in a position to ratify the Protocol on the Reduction of Sulphur Emissions to take effective action to reduce further their sulphur emissions, taking into account the commitments entered into at Helsinki in July 1985;

8. Welcomes the progress made in the elaboration of a draft protocol on the control of emissions of nitrogen oxides and urges the Parties to the Convention to come to an early completion of the protocol;

9. Welcomes the decision of the Senior Advisers to entrust the Compendium on Low- and Non-waste Technology to the International Chamber of Commerce through its International Environmental Bureau;

10. Invites the Senior Advisers to strengthen co-operation in the field of hazardous waste management, taking into account work done in this area by other fora;

11. Welcomes the activities of the Senior Advisers on further development of co-operation in the field of protection of flora, fauna and their habitats;

12. Appreciates the efforts of the Senior Advisers aimed at strengthening their co-operation with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies;

13. Invites member States to consider improving the use of effective and environmentally sound technologies taking into account the necessity to co-operate effectively in the prevention and combating of pollution and to preserve and improve the environment in the ECE region;

14. Requests member States to promote the commercial exchange of available technology as well as direct industrial contacts in the field of environmental protection;

15. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-fourth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/1988/36, para. 137)

F (43) Rail and combined transport

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Conscious of an increasing need to develop international rail transport in Europe in order to improve its efficiency and competitiveness and that such improvement requires the strengthening of co-operation between the Railways,

Recalling that a co-ordinated plan for the development and construction of railway lines has already been set out in the European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC), which is an important element of modernization of the international railway network and of co-operation between Railways in Europe,

Taking note that one of the conditions required to bring the agreement into force is that eight member States shall be Parties thereto, but that only five member States have become Parties so far,

Conscious also of an increasing need to develop international combined transport taking into account the role played by railways in such transport and emphasizing that the establishment of a homogeneous network of international combined transport lines, adjusted to the requirements of future international traffic, would make an important contribution,

1. Takes note of the report of the forty-ninth session of the Inland Transport Committee (ECE/TRANS/72 and Add.1), in particular of the relevant discussions and decisions in the field of railway and combined transport, including those related to the TER project;
2. Invites the Governments of ECE member States to consider taking all necessary steps in order to become Parties to the AGC;
3. Calls upon the Governments of ECE member States which are Parties to the Agreement to take the necessary steps in order to bring their respective railway networks into conformity with the provisions of Annex II of the AGC;
4. Welcomes the decision of the Inland Transport Committee at its forty-eighth session to include in its programme of work a study on the establishment of a network of important international combined transport lines and requests the Committee to pursue and complete this work the soonest possible;
5. Requests Governments to analyse in close co-operation with their Railways the difficulties encountered in international rail transport and to develop commercially acceptable solutions;
6. Welcomes the decision of the Inland Transport Committee at its forty-ninth session to include in its programme of work a mandate for a detailed study of the current and future role of international rail transport in comparison to other transport modes and requests the Committee to analyse, *inter alia*, the conditions for
 - closer international co-operation between national Railways
 - appropriate commercial autonomy for international rail traffic management
 - international railway services according to prevailing market conditions;
7. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1988/36, para. 180)

G (43) Summertime

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Taking note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1159,

1. Reiterates its invitation to all European ECE member countries to introduce summertime in line with its decisions H (XXXVIII), F (XXXIX) and E (42);
2. Invites Governments of ECE member States to consider making provisions in such a way that a medium-term period of summer time will be applied for the same years in all European ECE countries;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1988/36, para. 181)

H (43) Policy implications of the study "European Timber Trends and Prospects to the Year 2000 and Beyond"

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Noting that a joint session of the Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations was convened in October 1987 for the purpose, *inter alia*, of considering the policy implications of the study "European Timber Trends and Prospects to the Year 2000 and Beyond" (ETIS IV),

Conscious of the expanding role that forestry is being called upon to play in promoting the economic, social and environmental development of rural areas and in providing society with industrial raw materials as well as, to an increasing extent, the environmental and other non-wood benefits of the forest,

Recognizing the value attached by member Governments to the series of long-term timber trends and prospects studies carried out jointly by ECE and FAO over the past forty years as tools for policy formation,

Welcoming the important contribution to the development of the forestry and forest industries sector in member countries arising from the activities of the Timber Committee, the European Forestry Commission and their joint subsidiary bodies,

Insisting that the damage being suffered by forests in the ECE region from air pollution, fire and other biotic and abiotic causes must continue to be combatted with the utmost vigour,

Emphasizing the need to give particular attention to the problems in the forestry and forest industries sectors of the countries of the Mediterranean that are developing from an economic point of view,

Recalling that the World Commission on Environment and Development ("Our Common Future") identified certain issues relating to forestry, including tropical deforestation, desertification, the fuelwood crisis in developing countries and damage attributed to air pollution, as being among the most serious challenges facing Governments and the international community today,

1. Welcomes the Declaration on the policy implications of the study "European Timber Trends and Prospects to the Year 2000 and Beyond", which was adopted unanimously by the joint session of the Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission;

2. Invites the ECE member Governments to disseminate the Declaration widely in their respective countries;

3. Recommends to member Governments to take the Declaration into account when reviewing their policies towards the forestry and forest industries sectors;

4. Expresses satisfaction with the action already taken by the Timber Committee to follow up the publication of ETIS IV, notably by initiating corresponding studies on the USSR and North America and undertaking, jointly with the International Tropical Timber Organization, a study of European markets for tropical hardwoods;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to draw the Declaration and ETIS IV to the attention of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, inviting them to bear their contents in mind when formulating their respective programmes of work, notably in the fields of natural resources, environmental protection, regional development, industry, trade and energy;

6. Invites the Timber Committee to ensure that its own programme of work reflects the concerns and priorities of member Governments as expressed in the Declaration. (E/1988/36, para. 218)

I (43). EDIFACT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Noting with satisfaction that after two decades of successful work the Working Party on the Facilitation of International Trade Procedures has taken a significant step forward with the adoption of Rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport and related data elements, segments and messages (EDIFACT),

Recognizing the benefits for world trade to be drawn from the universal application of EDIFACT,

Noting further that EDIFACT is expected, through the joint work of ECE and the UNCTAD Trade Facilitation Programme (FALPRO), to reach a level of worldwide acceptance comparable to that of the United Nations Layout Key for Trade Documents,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary to regard work on EDIFACT as a priority task and to allocate to it the necessary resources at his disposal;
2. Invites the other regional commissions to co-operate with ECE in the promotion and application of EDIFACT;
3. Recommends that, given the desirability of the worldwide application of these Rules and associated documentation, they be named henceforth the United Nations Rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (UN/EDIFACT);
4. Requests the Executive Secretary to draw the attention of the Economic and Social Council to this decision;
5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of this decision; (E/1988/36, para. 229)

J (43) The programme of work of the Committee on the Development of Trade

The Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Decides to adopt the programme of work of the Committee on the Development of Trade, elaborated by the Committee at its thirty-sixth session and subsequently amended as set out in the annex to this decision;
2. Requests the Executive Secretary to bring this decision to the attention of the Committee on the Development of Trade and to circulate these agreed amendments in the form of an addendum to its report contained in document ECE/TRADE/161.

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1987/1992

15.1.1 Review of recent and prospective trends, policies and problems affecting intraregional trade, including financing and compensation trade

Description: The Committee will review, at its annual sessions, trade trends and prospects with a view to exchanging information and experience useful to policy-makers in formulating their

economic and trade policies. It will, at the same time, examine changes and problems in trade policies, including financing, affecting intraregional trade with a view to obtaining accurate and up-to-date information on the general policy framework affecting the development of trade. The Committee will at its annual sessions examine compensation trade in all its forms. The secretariat will prepare appropriate documents or studies as required. Participants in the annual sessions of the Committee will give accounts of bilateral and regional developments of relevance to trade between member countries, and will review recent trends, policies and problems in intraregional trade including general trade problems of the member countries which are developing from the economic point of view. A review will also be presented by the secretariat in, inter alia, the Economic Bulletin for Europe for consideration by the Committee. The Bulletin will devote special attention to trends, policies and problems in the development of trade of the latter member countries.

Work accomplished: In 1987 the secretariat prepared Vol.39, No.4 of the Economic Bulletin for Europe as well as a Note (TRADE/R.523) describing changes in policies and institutions affecting intraregional trade. At its thirty-fifth session, the Committee discussed the problems of compensation transactions in all their forms, taking again into account the results of the Special Experts' Meeting on Compensation Trade of July 1983 (TRADE/AC.19/2), the discussions which took place during its thirty-fifth and previous sessions as well as the deliberations of the thirtieth session of the Group of Experts on International Contract Practices in Industry.

Work to be undertaken: In 1988 the secretariat will prepare background material for the annual review at the Committee's thirty-seventh session including a Note describing changes in policies and institutions following the layout proposed by the secretariat and agreed by the Committee at its thirty-fourth session. The secretariat will prepare for the thirty-seventh session of the Committee a study on compensation trade, concentrating in the first stage on the problems encountered by small and medium-sized enterprises in this field and the ways in which solutions could be found.

Duration: Continuing.

15.2.1 All kinds of obstacles to the development of trade

Description: To assist the Committee in its work towards identifying all kinds of obstacles to the development of trade, an up-to-date Inventory of those obstacles will be maintained by the secretariat on the basis of information provided by Governments. Notification of appropriate information will be made by ECE Governments to the secretariat by 31 May each year and notification of comments on such information by 15 September each year (see also project 15.2.2). In the light of the Inventory and/or other background material submitted by the secretariat or member Governments, the Committee will examine all kinds of obstacles to trade with a view to creating favourable conditions for its development.

Work accomplished: The secretariat invited ECE member Governments to provide information regarding obstacles to trade. On the basis of replies to this request the secretariat updated the Inventory of obstacles to trade (TRADE/R.390/Rev.2 and Addenda). In 1986 the secretariat, on behalf of the Committee, requested member countries and ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies to continue the examination of the notifications in the Inventory. The results of such examination together with some suggestions on the part of the secretariat were presented to the Committee at its thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth sessions (TRADE/R.513). The Committee, at its thirty-sixth session, examined the problem of obstacles to trade, taking also into account the results of the Special Experts' Meeting on Obstacles to Trade of September 1983, the discussions which took place during its thirty-fifth and previous sessions and the updated version of the Inventory.

Work to be undertaken: The Inventory will be kept up to date by the secretariat on the basis of relevant information communicated by Governments. Member countries which have made notifications

and member countries to which notifications are addressed are invited to take steps to ensure that, where appropriate, notifications are withdrawn or suitably modified or supplemented.

Duration: Continuing.

15.3.1 Information relevant to the promotion of trade and industrial co-operation

Description: The Committee will consider, at its annual sessions, means of promoting, collecting, publishing and disseminating economic, commercial and relevant administrative information relevant to the development of trade and industrial co-operation in order to enhance the transparency of this information in the light of the range of information requirements of those engaged in trade and industrial co-operation and the adequacy of existing information flows and channels. At bi-annual intervals, it will review and give guidance to the secretariat concerning the publication and dissemination of ECE information materials to assist businessmen in their commercial contacts. Seminars will be convened by the Committee to deal with specific themes relating to east-west trade promotion, marketing and business contacts. The theme of each seminar will be determined by the Committee or by a preparatory meeting, as appropriate. Reports and case studies will be prepared by governmental experts and by the secretariat for consideration at seminars; the proceedings, conclusions and recommendations of the seminars will be widely disseminated.

Work accomplished: At its thirty-sixth session the Committee considered the matter taking into account findings and proposals of the Ad hoc Meeting on Information relating to Trade, held in July 1980 (TRADE/AC.15/2). The secretariat Notes on recent trends, policies and problems in intraregional trade (TRADE/R.523); concerning economic, financial and practical aspects of east-west joint ventures (TRADE/R.528 and Addenda); and on economic and commercial information on industrial co-operation (TRADE/R.529) may also be considered relevant to this programme element. A Note by the secretariat (TRADE/R.518 and Addenda) on a portfolio of possible subjects and themes for future seminars on east-west trade promotion, marketing and business contacts was submitted to the thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth sessions of the Committee.

Work to be undertaken: The work to be undertaken under programme elements 15.1.1 and 15.4.2 is also relevant to this programme element. The Committee will consider at an appropriate time the organization of a Seventh Seminar on East-West Trade Promotion, Marketing and Business Contacts taking also into account the possible subjects and themes included in the portfolio.

The secretariat will prepare for the thirty-seventh session of the Committee a survey on the basis of consultations carried out both directly and through member Governments, with representatives of individual firms and business organizations on the type of economic, commercial and administrative information that business operators in east and west deem necessary for conducting their trade and industrial co-operation activities, in particular the information relevant to the promotion of new forms of such co-operation.

Duration: Continuing.

15.4.1 Review of recent and prospective trends and policies affecting industrial co-operation

Description: The Committee will examine recent and prospective trends and policies affecting industrial co-operation including all kinds of obstacles ^{1/}, with a view to exchanging information and experience useful to policy-makers in establishing and further developing policies regarding industrial co-operation.

^{1/} Obstacles to trade are dealt with in sub-programme 15.2.

Work accomplished: The secretariat has prepared a statistical survey of recent trends in industrial co-operation (TRADE/R.527) and a study (TRADE/R.528 and Addenda) on economic, financial and practical aspects of east-west joint ventures.

Work to be undertaken: The secretariat will submit studies including the periodic updating of the statistical part of the Analytical Report on Industrial Co-operation among ECE Countries which will be considered by the Committee at its annual sessions. An intergovernmental meeting of experts to discuss the study on economic, financial and practical aspects of east-west joint ventures will be held in the second half of 1988.

Duration: Continuing. (E/1988/36, para. 230)

K (43) Co-operation in the field of transport

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions C (42) and D (42) recognizing the importance of co-operation in the development of transport in Europe,

Emphasizing the interest of member countries to continue co-operation with the aim of a good functioning of European transport and searching for acceptable solutions on the basis of mutual benefits,

Recognizing the significance of the results of the Inland Transport Committee for the further solution of important aspects of the transport problems in the ECE region and taking note of special activities within the framework of the international agreements:

- AGR -- including those related to the TEM project; and
- AGC,

1. Takes note of the report of the forty-ninth session of the Inland Transport Committee (ECE/TRANS/72 and Add.1);

2. Reiterates the principal sectors indicated as priorities by the forty-eighth session of the Inland Transport Committee (ECE/TRANS/68, paras. 235-237) confirmed by Commission decision C (42) and invites its member countries to continue to co-operate actively within the framework of the Inland Transport Committee and to carry out its programme of work, taking into account the established priorities;

3. Underlines that the international transport conventions and agreements must be kept up to date and supplemented by new instruments as and when necessary in order to respond to the evolution of transport in the ECE region;

4. Requests the Inland Transport Committee to pay due attention to a continuing assessment of the development of transport in the ECE region and the adequate conclusions for an efficient transport system, in particular questions of importance of the transport economy, transport regulation and the transport infrastructure;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1988/36, para. 232)

L (43) Building regulations

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision H (42),

1. Invites the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning to continue intensive work on the ECE Compendium of Model Provisions for Building Regulations so that all the planned chapters could be published by 1990;

2. Draws the attention of other regional commissions and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements to the results of the ECE work on building regulations, inasmuch as they could be of use to countries outside the ECE region in the formulation of appropriate policies and regulations for construction;

3. Invites the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning to submit, as soon as possible, the results of exploratory work already begun on the promotion of international trade in building products, taking account of the specific administrative structures of member States;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the progress made in the implementation of this decision to the forty-fourth session of the Commission. (E/1988/36, para. 240)

M (43) Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Reaffirming its decision J (42) and the other decisions previously adopted by the Commission on this subject,

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

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

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1164 on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE and the encouraging and constructive contributions from the Mediterranean countries as well as from the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the other relevant United Nations bodies and to pursue his contacts with the other Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries;

3. Takes note with satisfaction of the evolution of the activities related to transport in the Mediterranean region within the Inland Transport Committee as well as of the decision taken by the Committee at its forty-ninth session to include selected programme elements of the Mediterranean Transport Centres in its programme of work in order to co-ordinate the respective work programmes;

4. Reiterates its request to the Inland Transport Committee to pursue the co-operation with the Mediterranean Transport Centres in fields of common interest and invites the Committee to take full advantage of the work done by the Centres;

5. Recommends to the Economic and Social Council to grant United Nations Status to the Transport Study Centre for Eastern Mediterranean in Greece (Volos), the Transport Study Centre for Western Mediterranean in Spain (Barcelona) and the Transport Training Centre in Turkey (Istanbul), with the understanding that there will be no financial implications for the United Nations budget allocations to ECE, unless otherwise decided by the Commission at a later stage;

6. Recommends to its subsidiary bodies to continue their efforts in identifying areas of interest for economic co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of overall activities and its programme of work; and

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the forty-fourth session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/1988/36, para. 249)

N (43) Standardization and related activities

The Commission decided :

(a) to take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization and related activities (E/ECE/1165) and the report of the fourteenth session of the Group of Experts on Standardization Policies (STAND/GE.1/29);

(b) to endorse the recommendation made by the Group of Experts (STAND/GE.1/29; paras. 29, 30 and 31) that a one day Seminar on Metrology be held during the tenth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies;

(c) to authorize the tenth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies to convene, if it so wishes, a three day meeting of experts in the first half of 1989 to consider the preparation of an eleventh Meeting of Government Officials and any other matter which the tenth Meeting may refer to it;

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-fourth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1988/36, para. 255)

O (43) Engineering industries and automation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the report of the eighth session of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (ECE/ENG.AUT/34) and the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1166);

(b) to approve the programme of work for 1988-1992 and the calendar of meetings of the Working Party as contained in ECE/ENG.AUT/34, annexes I and II;

(c) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-fourth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/1988/36, para. 263)

P (43). Medium and long term economic trends and issues: impact of services on economic growth

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision N (42) as well as its previous decisions concerning the preparation of an Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000 (OEP),

Noting with satisfaction the fact that the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments, at their twenty-fourth session, approved the Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000 (OEP) and in addition conducted an open and fruitful exchange of information and views on the present situation and medium-term prospects of their economies,

Emphasizing that the work of the Senior Economic Advisers according to the Supplementary Report (E/ECE/1150/Rev.1):

- will concentrate on the study of selected structural and micro economic issues,
- should also draw from the OEP recommendations which will foster mutually beneficial solutions to the region's economic problems, within a long term perspective,

1. Takes note of the pertinent decisions taken by the Senior Economic Advisers at their twenty-fourth session;

2. Reiterates its hope that the session of the Senior Economic Advisers will continue to devote due attention to exchange of information on medium and long term development of national economies, focusing the discussion on a specific topic which will be selected for each session;

3. Approves the OEP and welcomes in particular its conclusions concerning the study of selected medium and long-term economic issues;

4. Stresses the decision of the Senior Economic Advisers to convene a symposium on Long-term Prospects in ECE Countries: National and International Aspects to be held at the invitation of the Hungarian Government in Budapest, 4-7 October 1988, and notes the wish of the Hungarian Government to organize a round table discussion;

5. Expresses its hope that the secretariat will, as in the past, develop the specialized long-term macro-economic data and update and extend the existing system of SEM models according to the requirements of the new issues to be studied;

6. Requests the Senior Economic Advisers at their twenty-fifth session to pay special attention to the study of trends and factors in the development of personal and collective services and their impact on economic growth. In preparing this study, the Senior Economic Advisers should make use of work carried out on this topic elsewhere in the United Nations system and other organizations with a view to avoiding duplication of activities;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-fourth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/1988/36, para. 265)

FORTY-FOURTH SESSION

(11-21 April 1989)

RESOLUTION

1 (44) The work of the Commission as a whole and its future activities

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its previous resolutions, in particular resolution 1 (43), and conscious of the important role of the ECE as an instrument for the implementation of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level, in particular with regard to the development of co-operation among countries of the region in the fields of trade, industry, science and technology, transport, the environment and other areas of economic activity,

Recalling in particular its decision A (1987-S) on implementation by the Commission of proposals for action contained in its Supplementary Report to the Special Commission of ECOSOC (E/ECE/1150/Rev.1), and reaffirming the conviction that the ECE is a unique forum for the promotion of regional economic and technical co-operation,

Noting with satisfaction the adoption of a balanced and substantive Concluding Document of the Vienna Meeting of the Representatives of the Participating States of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe,

Reaffirming that full respect for all the principles guiding relations among States set out in the Helsinki Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, as well as for all the provisions of the Final Act and for those contained in the Concluding Documents of the Madrid and of the Vienna Meetings of representatives of States participating in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, contributes towards building an atmosphere of confidence in international relations, including economic relations,

Conscious of the role of the ECE in the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Final Act and subsequent CSCE documents, noting in this regard the progress made in the implementation of the Commission's work programme, pursuant to resolution 1 (43) and recognizing that the Madrid and the Vienna Concluding Documents also contain recommendations directed towards the future work of the Commission,

Recalling that the Final Act of the CSCE provides for the continuation of the multilateral process initiated by the Conference by organizing, inter alia, follow-up meetings among the representatives of the participating States of the CSCE,

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

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

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

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes and reports of the Executive Secretary, in particular his report E/ECE/1174 on the Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1988, and the long-term programme of work for 1989-1993, and noting that during the forty-fourth session delegations have made a number of comments and suggestions concerning the Commission's programme of work,

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

2. Considers in this connection that full respect for the principles guiding relations among States set out in the Final Act, as well as the full implementation of all the provisions of that Final Act and those contained in the Madrid and the Vienna Concluding Documents, are essential bases for the development of the economic co-operation among them; reaffirms at the same time that such co-operation contributes to the reinforcement of peace and security in Europe and in the world as a whole;

3. Recalls that the Vienna Concluding Document contains provisions which carry implications for the activities of the Commission; draws the attention of its subsidiary bodies to the provisions of the Vienna Concluding Document and to the possibilities open to the Commission for contributing to their multilateral implementation; requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account, for their work, the pertinent provisions of the above-mentioned documents which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the Economic Commission for Europe; and asks the Executive Secretary to make appropriate arrangements to this end;

4. Recalls that the Vienna Concluding Document provides for the convening of a number of CSCE meetings and requests the Executive Secretary to accept the invitation to attend the Meeting on the Protection of the Environment in Sofia, the Conference on Economic Co-operation in Europe in Bonn, and the Meeting on the Mediterranean in Palma de Mallorca, and to contribute, within the existing resources and drawing on ECE experience, and if invited to do so by the host country, to the preparation of these meetings and the conference as set forth in their respective agendas, and to report to its forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions;

5. Notes the report on the work and future activities of the Commission (E/ECE/1174) prepared by the Executive Secretary;

6. Reaffirms its determination to implement the provisions and proposals contained in the Supplementary Report of the special session of the ECE (E/ECE/1150/Rev.1), as agreed in decision A (1987-5); notes the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1178); and calls upon its subsidiary bodies to pay due attention to it when reviewing and carrying out their programmes;

7. Calls upon its subsidiary bodies to pay special attention, when reviewing and carrying out their programmes of work, to the interests of member countries which are developing from an economic point of view and to note that some such countries are faced with serious structural and economic constraints; to this effect, invites the Executive Secretary to take the appropriate measures;

8. Notes the Executive Secretary's reports E/ECE/1176 and E/ECE/1177 and requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their activities the possible contributions of the

Economic Commission for Europe to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries and the necessity of effective co-operation with other international organizations;

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

10. Reaffirms the importance of co-operation in the field of science and technology as one of the priority areas in ECE activities;

11. Takes note of the report of the thirty-seventh session of the Committee on the Development of Trade; underlines the importance of the further development of mutually advantageous trade and commercial and industrial co-operation in the region; and requests the Committee on the Development of Trade to continue its work directed towards these objectives;

12. Approves its programme of work for 1989-1990 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its forty-fifth session, its long-term programme of work for 1989-1993;

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

14. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution as well as other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned for their guidance. (E/1989/34, para. 67)

OTHER DECISIONS

A (44) The work of the Sessional Committee

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision A (1987-S) on implementation by the Commission of proposals for action contained in its Supplementary Report to the Special Commission of ECOSOC (E/ECE/1150/Rev.1),

1. Decides that the Sessional Committee will also:

(a) review and comment on, as appropriate, the draft medium-term plan for 1992-1997 as contained in document E/ECE/1194, and subsequent documents, elaborating, if necessary, recommendations for the adjustment of the proposed plan, taking into account on-going economic developments in the region, major orientations and priorities of ECE's work and the strategy proposed by the Executive Secretary in the above-mentioned documents;

(b) review and comment on, as appropriate, the draft ECE section of the proposed biennial programme budget of the United Nations with particular emphasis on questions of priorities, new activities and activities proposed for termination, in line with the relevant decisions of the Commission, its Principal Subsidiary Bodies, and subsidiary bodies reporting directly to the Commission;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to provide all the relevant available information as specified in the mandate above, in time to allow discussion to take place before the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination considers the draft ECE section of the biennial programme budget;

3. Decides that the meeting to discuss the above mandate will normally occur within the deliberations of the Sessional Committee. If however, all the relevant documentation is not available in a timely manner prior to the annual session, an ad hoc meeting will be convened to examine the issues specified in the above mandate;

4. Decides that in years such as 1989 when the convening of an ad hoc meeting is necessary, the report of the meeting will be presented to a resumed session of the Commission;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit to the Secretary-General the report of the proceedings under this mandate, as approved by the Commission. (E/1989/34, para. 68)

B (44) Climate change

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Welcoming General Assembly Resolution 43/53 on the Protection of the Global Climate for present and future generations of mankind, which recognized climate change as a common concern of mankind,

Recognizing the role of the joint WMO/UNEP Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in providing internationally co-ordinated scientific assessments of the magnitude, timing and potential environmental and socio-economic impact of climate change and realistic response strategies,

Bearing in mind the call of the General Assembly to all relevant organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to support the work of the IPCC,

Considering that possible action in the field of the protection of the climate should be undertaken in close co-ordination with WMO and UNEP in particular with respect to activities of WMO/UNEP IPCC,

Convinced that ECE can make an important contribution to efforts aimed at preventing detrimental effects on climate and other activities affecting the ecological balance,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary

(a) to undertake a review of the Commission's programmes, activities and discussions bearing on the relationship of human activities and the climate, taking also into account the work and studies of the IPCC and possible ECE contributions thereto,

(b) to submit his report in time to member Governments and to the forty-fifth session for consideration and appropriate action. (E/1989/34, para. 80)

C (44) Statistical activities

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision C (40),

Taking into account that the Vienna Concluding Document contains provisions related to statistics, and expressing the will to encourage co-operation between statistical services and within the framework of the ECE,

Recognizing that the provision of statistics is an essential basis for the development of economic co-operation between its member countries,

Taking note of the report of the Conference of European Statisticians on its thirty-sixth session,

1. Invites the Conference of European Statisticians to continue to offer methodological assistance to member countries in order to overcome problems in providing official statistics;

2. Recalls that the member countries will envisage making balance-of-payment figures available;

3. Invites the Conference of European Statisticians to pursue and intensify its work directed towards the harmonization of statistical nomenclatures and standards in the ECE region, particularly in ECE areas of activity, and to make the results of its work available to the other subsidiary bodies;

4. Calls upon the member countries to publish up-to-date macroeconomic information and statistics;

5. Requests the Committee on the Development of Trade, together with the Conference of European Statisticians, to devote particular attention to the elaboration of measures to develop international co-operation in order, *inter alia*, to facilitate the identification of disparities in foreign trade statistics and to improve the international comparability of such statistics;

6. Requests the Conference of European Statisticians, in collaboration with the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems, to intensify its work directed towards the methodological development and harmonization of environmental statistics;

7. Requests the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation, in collaboration with the Conference of European Statisticians, to compile statistics for sectors of the engineering industries which are of commercial importance;

8. Recommends to the Conference of European Statisticians to contribute to the increase of the publication and exchange of statistics on demography, agriculture, the environment and energy;

9. Draws the attention of the Executive Secretary to the fact that the programme of work of the Conference of European Statisticians, in particular as regards the harmonization of statistical nomenclatures and standards in ECE areas of activity, requires adequate human resources and material support from the secretariat;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary to ensure that the subsidiary bodies concerned are able to draw upon the results of studies by the Conference of European Statisticians for their own work, and to report to the Commission at its forty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1989/34, para. 123)

D (44) Co-operation in the field of energy

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions A (43) and G (42),

Taking into account that energy is one of the major fields for implementing a policy aimed at promoting sustainable development,

Considering that the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy can make their contribution to preparing initiatives concerning further measures in the ECE region to be considered by the Regional Conference at the Ministerial level to be held in Bergen in May 1990 on the progress in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development,

1. Decides to convene the seventh session of the Senior Advisers on Energy in Autumn 1990 with dates to be determined later;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to ensure sufficient progress in the implementation of the current work programme to optimize success at the meeting in Autumn 1990;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit a report on the implementation of this decision to the forty-sixth session of the Commission;

4. Decides to insert under programme element 4.2(v) a Symposium on energy efficiency measures in industry to be held in Ljubljana (Yugoslavia) in 1991, following a preparatory meeting in 1989.

**DRAFT AGENDA OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE
SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON ENERGY**

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Election of Officers
3. Review of the ECE activities in the field of general energy since the Sixth Session of the Senior Advisers on Energy
4. Review of the energy situation in the ECE region from the point of view of sustainable development
5. The programme of work in the field of general energy 1990-1994
6. Relevant activities of other Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission
7. Consideration of the existing terms of reference of the Senior Advisers
8. Other business
9. Adoption of the report.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

- Item 3 - Review of the ECE activities in the field of general energy since the Sixth Session of the Senior Advisers on Energy

The Senior Advisers would review the implementation of the Commission's programme of work in the field of general energy.

- Item 4 - Review of the energy situation in the ECE region from the point of view of sustainable development

The Senior Advisers will consider whether the current energy situation corresponds to the trends in the policy of promoting sustainable development.

- Item 5 - The programme of work in the field of general energy

The Senior Advisers will consider proposals concerning their further work and prepare recommendations on further measures of an energy policy conducive to sustainable development in the ECE region.

- Item 7 - Consideration of the existing terms of reference of the Senior Advisers

The Senior Advisers will reconsider the existing terms of reference. (E/1989/34, para. 332)

E (44) Charter on ground-water management

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions B (XXXV), C (XXXIX), I (42) and E (43),

Taking into account the results of the Seminar on Ground-water Protection Strategies and Practices, held in Athens (Greece) in 1983, and the Seminar on Protection of Soil and Aquifers against Non-point Source Pollution, held in Madrid (Spain) in 1987,

Recognizing ground water to be a natural resource with both ecological and economic value, particularly important as a prime source of drinking water,

Aware that aquifers are potentially or actually threatened by over-use and pollution from point sources and diffuse sources which could permanently impair ground-water resources and thus have far-reaching and even unpredictable implications for present and future generations,

Recalling that the Regional Strategy for Environmental Protection and Rational Use of Natural Resources in ECE Member Countries covering the period up to the Year 2000 and Beyond stresses the need to establish or improve policies and measures for the protection and sustainable use of ground water,

1. Decides to adopt the Charter on Ground-water Management, as contained in document E/ECE/1197;

2. Recommends that ECE member Governments apply the provisions contained in the Charter when formulating, adapting and implementing ground-water policies and strategies, both at national and international levels;

3. Requests that the Executive Secretary transmits the Charter to member Governments and international organizations concerned, and arranges for its wide dissemination. (E/1989/34, para. 144)

F (44) Earthquake prediction

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recognizing that multilateral co-operation in the field of earthquake prediction could yield beneficial results for all countries of the ECE region,

Conscious of the fact that the economic impact of earthquakes increases with economic development,

Welcoming the conclusions of the ECE Seminar on the Prediction of Earthquakes held in Lisbon (Portugal) in November 1988, which recommended that the follow-up action be taken within the framework of ECE,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 43/202 and 42/169 and recognizing that new activities relating to earthquake prediction might constitute an important ECE contribution to fostering international co-operation in the field of natural disaster reduction,

1. Requests the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology to:

(a) consider the conclusions and recommendations of the Lisbon Seminar with a view to identifying activities within the ECE region which might contribute, within existing resources, to follow-up action in the framework of ECE taking also into account the work being undertaken in other fora;

(b) consider convening an ad hoc meeting of experts to formulate concrete proposals in particular on the possibilities of

(i) establishing a network of appropriate bodies at a national level and non-governmental organizations active in this field;

(ii) setting up test sites in order to provide data for broad-based co-operation within the region;

(iii) convening an international meeting of experts on earthquake prediction, monitoring facilities and techniques, in the USSR in 1991;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-fifth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/1989/34, para. 195)

G (44) The report of the World Commission on Environment and Development

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision A (43) on the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development,

Recognizing that there is a close interrelationship between many kinds of economic activity and environmental problems in the ECE region which calls for appropriate solutions,

Having considered the Progress Report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1195) on the contribution of the ECE to the international efforts towards sustainable development,

1. Welcomes the report (ECE/AC.18/2) of the Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development held 10-12 October 1988, to consider the review undertaken by the Executive Secretary of the ECE's programmes and activities aimed at contributing to sustainable development and to formulate concrete proposals for sectoral and interdisciplinary activities, and endorses the conclusions of the Ad hoc Meeting;

2. Calls upon its subsidiary bodies to actively promote sustainable development as a guiding principle for all relevant activities of the ECE, and in particular to take account of the objective of sustainable development when including new projects in their work programme;

3. Reiterates its call upon its subsidiary bodies to review their programme of work in the light of the report of the Ad hoc Meeting of Experts to identify and evaluate ongoing activities contributing to sustainable development and, as appropriate, propose to the Commission sectoral and/or interdisciplinary activities towards this end;

4. Encourages in particular the further development of co-operation between the Senior Economic Advisers and the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems with a view to promoting sustainable development;

5. Welcomes the co-operation of the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems in the implementation of the new programme element on sustainable economic development of the work programme of the Senior Economic Advisers and also welcomes the continuation of the work of the Task Force on Environment and Economics as a joint endeavour between the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems and the Senior Economic Advisers;

6. Decides that upon completion of the work of the Joint Task Force in 1990, consideration should be given to how work should be carried forward under the auspices of the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems and the Senior Economic Advisers as one important contribution to the effective implementation of the Commission's continuing and cross-sectoral activities to promote sustainable development, including possible follow-up action to the Bergen Conference;

7. Notes the Progress Report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1195) on the contribution of the ECE to the international efforts towards sustainable development and requests the Executive Secretary to submit this report, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, through the Economic and Social Council, to the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, in accordance with paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 42/186 and paragraph 18 of General Assembly resolution 42/187, and to make it available to the Governing Council of UNEP at its next regular session;

8. Welcomes the progress made in the preparations for the regional conference at ministerial level to be held in Bergen (Norway) from 8-16 May 1990 in co-operation with ECE and in consultation with UNEP, to review progress in the follow-up of selected aspects of the Report of the World Commission, and identify initiatives for further measures of relevance to the ECE region, and requests that the agreed co-operation between the Government of Norway and ECE should continue on the further preparations, including, within existing resources and without prejudice to ongoing activities of ECE, the convening in Geneva of a session of the Preparatory Committee for the conference;

9. Invites the Executive Secretary to continue to bring to the attention of the Executive Secretaries of the other United Nations regional commissions the activities undertaken by ECE aimed at contributing to sustainable development and strengthening of international co-operation in this field;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to its forty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1989/34, para. 247)

H (44) The Commission's contribution to the follow-up of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 42/62 and 43/101 on the implementation of the goals and objectives contained in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,

Taking into consideration the need for a better knowledge of the actual situation of women and their economic role,

Taking into account the importance of considering the problems of women within the work developed in the various sectors of the ECE,

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the Commission's contribution to the follow-up of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (E/ECE/1181);

2. Welcomes the progress made by the Conference of European Statisticians and its work on statistics and indicators on the role of women and acknowledges the outcome of the workshop on Statistics and Indicators on the Measurements of Women's Work, which took place in Athens (Greece) in October 1988;

3. Welcomes the convening of a CES-INSTRAW Joint Meeting on Statistics of Women to be held in November 1989 under the auspices of the Conference of European Statisticians;

4. Takes note of the project on time-use of women, and requests the ECE secretariat to concentrate on an inventory of the scope and content of time-use/time-budget questionnaires and of time-use studies, and to make this data available to member countries;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-fifth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision before reporting to the Commission on the Status of Women. (E/1989/34, para. 251)

I (44) Co-operation in the field of environmental protection and water resources

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions F (42), I (42) and E (43),

Confirming that protection of the environment is one of the ECE priorities,

Underlining the importance of the Regional Strategy for Environmental Protection and Rational Use of Resources in ECE Member Countries covering the period up to the Year 2000 and Beyond,

Noting with satisfaction increased international co-operation in the ECE region in the field of environmental protection,

Welcoming the convening of the CSCE meeting on the Protection of the Environment to be held in Sofia,

1. Invites the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems to complete at their third session the preparation of their terms of reference and to submit them to the forty-fifth session of the Commission for approval;

2. Expresses its satisfaction with the progress made in the elaboration of a draft Framework Agreement on Environmental Impact Assessment in a transboundary context, and invites member Governments and regional economic integration organizations to contribute to its conclusion at an early date;

3. Invites the Senior Advisers to complete at their third session the preparation of the draft Code of Conduct on accidental pollution of transboundary waters, and to submit it to the forty-fifth session of the Commission;

4. Notes with interest the setting up of a task force on responsibility and liability regarding transboundary water pollution;

5. Calls the attention of the Senior Advisers to the importance of further co-operation in the field of transboundary waters focusing on the Principles adopted by decision 1 (42) as well as taking into consideration the pertinent recommendations of the CSCE Vienna Concluding Document, including the recommendation to elaborate a framework convention or specific conventions to improve the protection of transboundary water courses and international lakes;

6. Invites member Governments and international organizations concerned to participate actively in the preparation of the Seminar on Waste-Water Management to be held in the Federal Republic of Germany from 21 to 25 May 1990;

7. Invites the Senior Advisers, taking due account of work in other fora, to initiate the examination of key elements related to the transboundary character of industrial accidents, such as clean-up, restoration, and liability, with a view to improving and co-ordinating arrangements for prevention, early warning, exchange of information and mutual assistance in cases of industrial accidents likely to cause transboundary damage to the environment;

8. Notes the results of the ad hoc Meeting on Hazardous Waste Management and invites the Senior Advisers to strengthen their co-operation in that field;

9. Further notes the progress achieved in the implementation of the provisions of the Declaration on the Conservation of Flora, Fauna and their Habitats, and invites the Senior Advisers to complete the draft Red List of Threatened Animals and Plants at an early date;

10. Invites member States to consider improving the application of effective and environmentally-sound technologies taking into account the necessity to co-operate effectively, and on all appropriate levels, in the monitoring, prevention and reduction of pollution, and to preserve and improve the environment in the ECE region;

11. Recognizes the importance of promoting exchange of information on, and experience with, environmentally-sound technologies, and requests member States to promote, on a commercial basis, the exchange of environmental technologies;

12. Notes with interest the decision of the Senior Advisers to include in their programme of work a new element concerning possible areas of co-operation;

13. Appreciates the efforts of the Senior Advisers aimed at strengthening their co-operation with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies;

14. Emphasizes the need to avoid overlapping and duplication of efforts in the field of international environmental co-operation, and, to this end, requests the Executive Secretary to prepare a synoptic survey of international environmental activities bearing on the whole of the ECE region in the various international fora with a view to facilitating co-ordination of efforts;

15. Invites the Executive Secretary to attend the Sofia Meeting on the Protection of the Environment and to circulate, prior to the Meeting, written contributions, either directly or through the Executive Secretary of the Meeting, to all participating States in order to allow thorough preparation of the Meeting, and encourages member Governments to contribute actively to the Meeting;

16. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-fifth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/1989/34, para. 254)

J (44) Air pollution

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions F (42) and E (43),

Further recalling the pertinent provisions of the Vienna Concluding Document related to air pollution,

Confirming that protection of the environment is one of the ECE's priorities,

Recognizing the need for preventive action to protect and improve the environment and for respecting ecological limits,

Convinced of the need for timely and effective reductions of air pollutant emissions or their transboundary fluxes,

Noting with appreciation the progress that has been achieved within the framework of the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution,

Taking due account of the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development and the Environmental Perspective to the year 2000 and beyond,

1. Appeals to ECE member Governments to strengthen their co-operation and intensify efforts aimed at protecting and improving the environment, by, inter alia, developing their internal legislation and their international commitments, and by applying the best available means, taking into account levels of development as well as economic and technical constraints;

2. Considers that the control and reduction of air pollutants, like sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxide emissions, or their transboundary fluxes, deserve high priority in the pollution abatement programmes;

3. Calls upon Contracting Parties and Signatories to the Convention to become parties to the Protocol on the reduction of sulphur emissions or their transboundary fluxes by at least 30%, and to make every effort for its prompt ratification;

4. Recommends that further steps to reduce sulphur emissions, in line with the objectives of the Protocol, be taken by those States which are not parties to the Protocol, and that those States where the goal is already accomplished continue to control their emissions;

5. Further calls upon Contracting Parties and Signatories to the Convention to elaborate at an early date an arrangement for further reductions of sulphur emissions beyond the level established by the Protocol and, *inter alia*, to this end invites them to fully contribute to the working group, established under the Convention, for the development of a common understanding of critical loads, and of proposals for abatement strategies taking into account the best available scientific and technological developments, internationally accepted critical loads and overall emissions reductions;

6. Welcomes the adoption of the Protocol on the control of nitrogen oxide emissions, signed on 1 November 1988, in Sofia;

7. Invites Parties to the Convention which have not yet done so to sign or to accede to the Protocol, and urges prompt ratification of that Protocol;

8. Notes with appreciation the mutual commitment undertaken by several countries to implement immediate and substantial reductions of national annual emissions of nitrogen oxides;

9. Emphasizes the importance of elaborating without delay the necessary substantiation for appropriate internationally agreed measures and proposals for a draft protocol to the Convention aimed at the limitation/reduction of emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds or their transboundary fluxes as well as of photochemical oxidants and/or effective air management measures, and calls upon Contracting Parties to contribute actively to the work of the Working Group on VOCs;

10. Appeals to the Contracting Parties and Signatories to the Convention to strengthen and develop EMEP as agreed upon in the Vienna Concluding Document and recommends that those countries which have not yet done so should become parties to the Protocol on the long-term financing of EMEP;

11. Commends the Executive Body for the work undertaken to develop and carry out its work programme;

12. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to make every effort to allocate the secretariat resources and conference facilities necessary for the full implementation of the work programme of the Convention, and to report to the Commission at its forty-fifth session on the activities of the Executive Body on implementing the Convention. (E/1989/34, para. 254)

K (44) Evolution in the dimensions of loading units

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision F (43), concerning rail and combined transport,

Emphasizing the growing need to develop international combined transport,

Aware of the importance of the sound functioning of the transport system for world trade,

Recognizing the value of multimodal transport techniques in facilitating the routing and safety of goods,

Noting with concern the evolution towards a steady increase in the dimensions of maritime containers,

Observing that this evolution has an adverse impact on road and rail infrastructure, the environment and the further development of combined transport in Europe, since it is becoming impossible to transport such very large containers from ports into the hinterland of European countries without prejudicing the loading gauge and road traffic interests of a large number of them,

Considering, in addition, that road carriage of containers of large dimensions can reduce road safety,

Taking note of the decision of the Inland Transport Committee at its fiftieth session to organize a seminar on "the evolution in the dimensions of loading units, particularly maritime containers, and its consequences on the organization of inland transport",

1. Declares that it fully supports this initiative;
2. Invites member Governments and competent international governmental and non-governmental organizations:
 - to participate in the seminar, so as to engage with all the parties concerned in a thorough examination of the various aspects of this question,
 - to call the attention of standardization organizations to the handling and traffic problems posed by the increasing size of containers,
 - to co-operate in finding a joint position with regard to these problems;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary to report, at its forty-fifth session, on the implementation of this decision. (E/1989/34, para. 256)

L (44) EDIFACT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision L (43) on this subject,

Noting that the rules and associated documentation are now named the United Nations Rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (UN/EDIFACT),

Noting further that the UN/EDIFACT provides for a suitable framework for the progressive replacement of trade documents by electronic messages,

Reaffirming the importance for all countries to be in a position to derive full benefit from electronic data interchange using UN/EDIFACT and recognizing the benefits for world trade to be drawn from the universal application of EDIFACT,

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1186;
2. Recommends to the Executive Secretary that, in examining closely the resources required for the maintenance and development activity now underway, consideration be given to the issue of what resources, from within existing ECE resources, might be made available to support this activity;
3. Invites the other regional commissions to co-operate with ECE and UNCTAD within their respective fields of competence in the promotion and application of UN/EDIFACT;
4. Supports in principle, in close co-operation with member Governments, co-operative activities at the regional and interregional levels for international trade facilitation and promotion of UN/EDIFACT;
5. Recommends to the Economic and Social Council that it consider a project for interregional co-operation, based on project documents detailing technical and resource requirements, from regional commissions in co-operation with other appropriate United Nations bodies aimed at promoting a world-wide application of UN/EDIFACT;
6. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1989/34, para. 259)

M (44) Co-operation in the field of transport

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision K (43) and the previous decisions relating to transport,

Bearing in mind the Concluding Document of the Vienna Meeting of representatives of the participating States in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and in particular its recognition of the important role of transport in economic and social development and the overall consequences of increased activity in the transport sector, including problems related to the environment, and of the work done by the Economic Commission for Europe in that context,

Conscious of the problems which exist in respect of safety, the environment and energy as a result of the use of transport, in particular road transport,

Emphasizing the vital importance throughout the world of improving road safety and the urgent need to take all appropriate measures to reduce the number of deaths and injuries caused by road traffic,

Endorsing the conclusions drawn by the Inland Transport Committee at its forty-eighth session (ECE/TRANS/68) concerning the priorities for its work,

Emphasizing the significance of the results achieved by the Inland Transport Committee in identifying solutions to all aspects of transport problems in the ECE region,

Recalling its decision E (40),

Recalling also decision D (42) taken by the Commission at its forty-second session, in which it declared that the safe carriage of dangerous goods was one of the transport priority objectives,

Emphasizing that efforts should be continued to meet adequately the needs of the secretariat in terms of personnel and material resources,

Bearing in mind that major changes ensuing from economic developments in countries of the region could have a great impact on trends in the development of transport in Europe,

1. Takes note of the report of the fiftieth session of the Inland Transport Committee, and in particular of the discussions and decisions pertaining to the carriage of dangerous goods and the harmonization of regulations in the field of motor-vehicle construction, as well as the studies (White Paper) on the future role of railways in Europe;

2. Underlines the value of an exchange of information on transport trends in Europe, and in particular in respect of the integration processes and economic reforms under way in the ECE region;

3. Declares that harmonization of regulations in the field of motor-vehicle construction, road safety and the carriage of dangerous goods are some of the transport priority objectives, as identified by the Inland Transport Committee at its forty-eighth session (ECE/TRANS/68);

4. Declares that, consequently, priority sectors of work should receive from the secretariat all the support required to complete their activities satisfactorily;

5. Welcomes the resolution on the campaign against driving under the influence of alcohol;

6. Endorses the progress made in efforts to reduce air pollution by motor vehicle emissions;

7. Underlines the importance of making unleaded fuel of satisfactory quality sufficiently available in particular cases, as a minimum along main international transit routes, to facilitate the circulation within ECE of vehicles equipped with catalytic converters;

8. Emphasizes the importance of continuing work to review international conventions and agreements in the field of transport so as to bring them into line with the changes which have taken place in that field in the ECE region, and in particular to complete as quickly as possible the review of the 1968 Conventions on Road Traffic and Road Signs and Signals;

9. Invites member Governments and the competent international organizations:

- to continue their co-operation to harmonize regulations on motor vehicle construction,
- to consider the joint preparation of a European road safety week,
- to give the widest possible publicity to the resolution on the campaign against driving under the influence of alcohol and to implement its recommendations;

10. Calls upon the Executive Secretary to give all the necessary attention to the highly specialized and diverse activities for the harmonization of regulations on vehicle construction, as well as those on road safety and the carriage of dangerous goods, which require appropriate support by the secretariat in terms of the staff and equipment essential to carry out satisfactorily its priority tasks;

11. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1989/34, para. 261)

M (44) Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Reaffirming its decision M (43) and the other decisions previously adopted by the Commission on this subject,

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

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

Taking note with satisfaction of the dispositions of the Vienna Concluding Document, providing, inter alia, for the convening of a meeting on the Mediterranean in Palma de Mallorca in 1990, to which the ECE has been invited,

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1189 on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE and the encouraging and constructive contributions from the Mediterranean countries as well as from the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia;

2. Calls upon the Executive Secretary to undertake a study on the areas of co-operation already identified in his report E/ECE/1189 in order to lead where appropriate to an action which fully corresponds to the need expressed by the Mediterranean countries;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the other relevant United Nations bodies and to pursue his contacts with the other Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries;

4. Expresses satisfaction on the adoption by the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session, in July 1988, of the decision to confer United Nations status on the Transport Study Centre for the Eastern Mediterranean in Volos (Greece), the Transport Study Centre for the Western Mediterranean in Barcelona (Spain), and the Transport Training Centre in Istanbul (Turkey), on the understanding that there would be no financial implications for the regular budget of the United Nations and invites the Executive Secretary to take the soonest possible all necessary measures so that the agreements foreseen in the above-mentioned decision can be concluded and that such status will take effect and to report thereon at the fifty-first session of the Inland Transport Committee;

5. Stresses the need to pursue, through the Inland Transport Committee, its co-operation with the Mediterranean Transport Centres in programmes and projects of common interest and invites the Committee to take full advantage of the work done by the Centres;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary, after consultations with the interested Governments, to identify specific areas of possible co-operation in the field of the protection of the environment in the Mediterranean, taking all necessary measures to avoid duplication of work with other international organizations;

7. Recommends to its subsidiary bodies to continue their efforts in identifying areas of interest for economic co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of overall activities and its programme of work;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the forty-fifth session a report on the implementation of this decision. (E/1989/34, para. 269)

O (44) Standardization and related activities

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Stressing the importance of standardization policies and practices, and of related activities, for the facilitation of international trade, especially regarding products subject to compulsory certification,

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization and related activities (E/ECE/1190) and the report of the Tenth Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies;

2. Confirms the decision of the Tenth Meeting to hold a Meeting of Experts on Standardization Policies from 10 to 12 May 1989 pursuant to the authority in that respect given by the Commission at its forty-third session;

3. Invites the Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies and the other ECE subsidiary bodies to promote co-operation in the field of standardization and related activities;

4. Requests the Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies to continue the elaboration of recommendations and resolutions leading to mutual recognition of national testing and certification procedures and practices;

5. Decides to convene the Eleventh Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies in the first half of 1990. During that meeting, a one-day Seminar on standards for environmental protection might be held, should the Meeting of Experts to be held in May 1989 so decide;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-fifth session on the implementation of this decision. (E/1989/34, para. 275)

P (44) Engineering industries and automation

The Commission decided:

(a) to take note of the report of the ninth session of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (ECE/ENG.AUT/38) and the report by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1191);

(b) to approve the programme of work for 1989-1993 and the calendar of meetings of the Working Party as contained in annexes I and II, respectively, to document ECE/ENG.AUT/38;

(c) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-fifth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/1989/34, para. 285)

Q (44) Medium- and long-term economic prospects and issues: analysis of economic growth conditions

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision P (43),

Noting that the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments, at their twenty-fifth session, considered that it was necessary to analyse further the issues at stake and alternatives identified in the OEP,

Recalling the decision taken by the Senior Economic Advisers to examine the conditions of growth in the ECE countries in the 1991-1995 period within the framework of the new medium-term plans and programmes drawn up by member countries,

Noting with satisfaction that the Senior Advisers have decided to develop further the concept of durable economic growth which defines the characteristics of economic growth compatible with environmental conservation,

1. Takes note of the relevant decisions taken by the Senior Economic Advisers at their twenty-fifth session;

2. Welcomes the conclusions of the Symposium on Long-term Prospects in ECE Countries: National and International Aspects held in Budapest (Hungary) from 4 to 7 October 1988 (EC.AD/SEM.11/2);

3. Welcomes with satisfaction the Senior Advisers' decision to hold a seminar on the economic growth of trends and factors in the development of personal and collective services, to be held in 1990 at the invitation of the Netherlands;

4. Recalls that, at their twenty-fifth session, the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments proposed a number of topics that they considered significant in the context of discussions on the conditions of medium-term economic growth;

5. Requests the secretariat, therefore, to prepare a note setting out those topics in a coherent manner, on the basis of the assumptions and results in the Overall Economic Perspective to the Year 2000, and to distinguish between the opportunities and risk factors of growth and also between specific country factors, factors common to the countries of the ECE region as a whole and factors which involve economic co-operation among member countries;

6. Requests the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments to select, on the basis of proposals by member countries, those topics which could be covered by future seminars or special meetings;

7. Expresses the hope that the updating of the special long-term macro-economic data base and the improvement of the annual system of SEM models produced by the secretariat will help better to identify the conditions of growth to the year 1995;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-fifth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision. (E/1989/34, para. 287)

RESUMED FORTY-FOURTH SESSION

(5-9 June 1989)

R (44) The work of the resumed session of the forty-fourth ECE annual session

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Taking into account its decision A (44) on the work of the Sessional Committee,

Recalling further its decision A (1987-S) on the implementation by the Commission of proposals for action contained in its supplementary report to the Special Commission of ECOSOC (E/ECE/1150/Rev.1);

1. Notes the views expressed in connection with the ECE section of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 (as contained in document A/44/6 Section 10);
2. Takes note of the draft Medium Term Plan 1992-1997 as contained in document E/ECE/1194 and of the views and comments presented during the ad hoc meeting of the Sessional Committee;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit to the Secretary-General the draft Medium Term Plan and the report of the proceedings of the Resumed Session reflecting in particular the views and comments expressed during the session on document E/ECE/1194;
4. Requests the Executive Secretary to make available full documentation in time to permit the proceedings under the mandate contained in decision A (44) to take place during the forty-fifth and subsequent sessions of the Commission. (E/1989/34/Add.1, para. 64)

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