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**REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE
FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION
on the work of its twenty-third session**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 38 (A/38/38)



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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

[25 May 1983]

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
ABBREVIATIONS		x
<u>Chapter</u>		
<u>Part One: Report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the first part of its twenty-third session, held at United Nations Headquarters from 9 May to 4 June 1983</u>		
I. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION	1 - 13	2
II. CROSS-ORGANIZATIONAL PROGRAMME ANALYSIS IN MARINE AFFAIRS	14 - 19	5
III. EVALUATION	20 - 79	8
A. Technical co-operation activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the field of manufactures financed by the United Nations Development Programme	20 - 36	8
B. In-depth evaluation of the work of the Department of Public Information	37 - 55	11
C. Programme and plan of activities of the Joint United Nations Information Committee	56 - 73	14
D. Implementation of the recommendations made on the mineral resources programme by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-second session	74 - 79	16
IV. REPORTS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON CO-ORDINATION ..	80 - 108	18
A. Annual report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination for 1982-1983	80 - 94	18
B. Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the strengthening of the co-ordination of information systems in the United Nations system	95 - 108	20
V. PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985	109 - 291	23
A. Establishment of an information systems unit in the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs	109 - 116	23

CONTENTS (continued)

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
B. Co-ordination of food and agriculture activities in Asia and the Pacific by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	117 - 124	24
C. Reformulations of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989	125 - 139	26
D. Rules governing programme planning, the programme aspects of the budget, the monitoring of implementation and methods of evaluation	140 - 170	32
E. Strengthening the capacity of the United Nations evaluation units and systems and timetable for review of evaluation programmes, requested under General Assembly resolutions 36/228 B and 37/234	171 - 197	38
F. Methods and procedures for the provision of statements of programme implications to the General Assembly	198 - 203	44
G. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 ..	204 - 291	46
Foreword and Introduction	204 - 221	46
Economic Commission for Europe	222 - 230	50
Economic Commission for Africa	231 - 252	52
Economic Commission for Western Asia	253 - 271	55
United Nations Industrial Development Organization	272 - 291	57
ANNEXES		
I. Agenda for the twenty-third session of the Committee		64
II. List of documents before the Committee at the first part of its twenty-third session		65

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
<u>Part Two: Report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination</u> <u>on the second part of its twenty-third session, held at</u> <u>United Nations Headquarters from 29 August to</u> <u>12 September 1983</u>		
I. ORGANIZATION OF THE RESUMED SESSION	1 - 5	68
II. PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985	6 - 415	70
A. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 ..	6 - 379	70
General observations	6 - 7	70
Section 1. Overall policy-making, direction and co-ordination	8 - 20	70
Section 2A. Political and Security Council affairs; peace-keeping activities	21 - 32	71
Section 2B. Department for Disarmament Affairs	33 - 49	73
Section 3. Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization	50 - 60	75
Section 4. Policy-making organs (economic and social activities)	61 - 69	76
Section 5A. Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation	70 - 89	78
Section 5B. Centre for Science and Technology for Development	90 - 99	81
Section 6. Department of International Economic and Social Affairs	100 - 138	83
Section 7. Department of Technical Co-operation for Development	139 - 160	93
Section 8. Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters	161 - 163	97
Section 9. Transnational corporations	164 - 185	98
Section 11. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	186 - 223	104
Section 12. Economic Commission for Latin America	224 - 250	110

CONTENTS (continued)

<u>Chapter</u>		<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
	Section 15. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	251 - 267	115
	Section 16. International Trade Centre	268 - 274	119
	Section 18. United Nations Environment Programme	275 - 288	121
	Section 19. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	289 - 301	123
	Section 20. International drug control	302 - 317	126
	Section 21. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	318 - 325	129
	Section 22. Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator	326 - 335	131
	Section 23. Human rights	336 - 348	132
	Section 24. Regular programme of technical co-operation	349 - 356	135
	Section 25. International Court of Justice	357 - 362	137
	Section 26. Legal activities	363 - 369	137
	Section 27. Department of Public Information	370 - 376	138
	Sections 28 to 32 and income sections 1 to 3	377	140
	General recommendation	378 - 379	140
B.	Methods, procedures and timetable followed in the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985	380 - 397	140
C.	Integration of the programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation functions in the Secretariat of the United Nations	398 - 415	143
III.	RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL REGARDING THE JOINT MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON CO-ORDINATION	416 - 425	148
IV.	EVALUATION	426 - 433	151

CONTENTS (continued)

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
A. Technical co-operation activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the field of manufactures financed by the United Nations Development Programme	426 - 428	151
B. Strengthening the capacity of United Nations evaluation units and systems and timetable for review of evaluation programmes requested under General Assembly resolutions 36/228 B and 37/234, section II	429 - 433	151
V. PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE	434 - 435	153

ANNEXES

I. Programme, financial and administrative implications of the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination concerning various sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985		156
II. List of documents before the Committee at the second part of its twenty-third session		158

Part Three: Conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-third session, held at United Nations Headquarters from 9 May to 4 June and from 29 August to 12 September 1983

I. PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985	1 - 108	162
A. Foreword and Introduction	1	162
B. General observations	2 - 3	162
C. Consideration of sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985	4 - 108	162
II. ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INFORMATION SYSTEMS UNIT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS ...	109 - 111	182
III. CO-ORDINATION OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC AND THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS	112	183
IV. REFORMULATION OF THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1984-1989	113 - 115	183

CONTENTS (continued)

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
V. RULES GOVERNING PROGRAMME PLANNING, THE PROGRAMME ASPECTS OF THE BUDGET, THE MONITORING OF IMPLEMENTATION AND METHODS OF EVALUATION	116 - 135	187
VI. STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF THE UNITED NATIONS EVALUATION UNITS AND SYSTEMS AND TIMETABLE FOR REVIEW OF EVALUATION PROGRAMMES, REQUESTED UNDER GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS 36/228 B and 37/234	136 - 148	190
VII. METHODS AND PROCEDURES FOR THE PROVISION OF STATEMENTS OF PROGRAMME IMPLICATIONS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY	149	194
VIII. METHODS, PROCEDURE AND TIMETABLE FOLLOWED IN THE PREPARATION OF THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985	150	194
IX. INTEGRATION OF THE PROGRAMME PLANNING, BUDGETING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION FUNCTIONS IN THE SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS	151 - 155	194
X. CROSS-ORGANIZATIONAL PROGRAMME ANALYSIS IN MARINE AFFAIRS	156	195
XI. EVALUATION	157 - 168	196
A. Technical co-operation activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the field of manufactures financed by the United Nations Development Programme	157 - 159	196
B. In-depth evaluation of the work of the Department of Public Information	160 - 165	196
C. Programme and plan of activities of the Joint United Nations Information Committee	166 - 167	197
D. Implementation of the recommendations made on the mineral resources programme by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-second session	168	197
XII. REPORTS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON CO-ORDINATION .	169 - 176	197
A. Annual report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination for 1982-1983	169 - 170	197
B. Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	171 - 173	198

CONTENTS (continued)

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
C. Recommendations to the Economic and Social Council regarding the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination	174 - 175	198
D. Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the strengthening of the co-ordination of information systems in the United Nations system	176	199
XIII. PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE		199

ABBREVIATIONS

ACABQ	Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions
ACC	Administrative Committee on Co-ordination
CPC	Committee for Programme and Co-ordination
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLA	Economic Commission for Latin America
ECWA	Economic Commission for Western Asia
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICJ	International Court of Justice
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IOB	Inter-Organization Board for Information Systems
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
JIU	Joint Inspection Unit
JUNIC	Joint United Nations Information Committee
MULPOCS	Multinational Programming and Operational Centres
UNCITRAL	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRO	Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WFC	World Food Council
WHO	World Health Organization

Part One

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION
ON THE FIRST PART OF ITS TWENTY-THIRD SESSION*

Held at United Nations Headquarters
from 9 May to 4 June 1983

* Originally issued in mimeographed form on 14 June 1983 under the symbol A/38/38 (Part I).

CHAPTER I

ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

1. The Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) held three organizational meetings (1st to 3rd meetings) at United Nations Headquarters on 11 and 29 April 1983.
2. The agenda for the twenty-third session, adopted by the Committee at its 1st meeting, is reproduced in annex I. The list of documents before the Committee is contained in annex II.
3. The Committee held the first part of its twenty-third session at United Nations Headquarters from 9 May to 4 June 1983. It held 38 meetings (4th to 42nd meetings).
4. At the 4th meeting, on 9 May, tribute was paid to the memory of Mr. Shri-Vatsa Purushottam of India, Chairman of the Committee during 1982.
5. At its 4th and 5th meetings, on 9 May, the Committee elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairman: Mr. Angel María Oliveri López (Argentina)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. Jan Berteling (Netherlands)
Mr. Ion Goritza (Romania)
Mr. Tommo Monthe (Republic of Cameroon)

Rapporteur: Mr. Banbit Roy (India)

6. The following States members of the Committee were represented:

Argentina	Nigeria
Brazil	Pakistan
Cameroon	Philippines
Chile	Romania
Ethiopia	Senegal
France	Trinidad and Tobago
Germany, Federal Republic of	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
India	United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Japan	Northern Ireland
Morocco	United States of America
Netherlands	Yugoslavia

7. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers:

Austria	Indonesia
Belgium	Ireland
Canada	Italy
China	Kenya
Denmark	Mexico
Egypt	Sudan
Finland	Sweden
German Democratic Republic	

8. The following specialized agencies were represented:

International Labour Organisation

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

World Health Organization

World Bank

International Fund for Agricultural Development

The International Atomic Energy Agency was also represented.

9. Also present at the session were the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management, the Under-Secretary-General, Department of Public Information, the Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination, the Controller, the Assistant Secretary-General, Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters, the Deputy Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and other senior officials of the United Nations Secretariat, as well as representatives of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA). Representatives of the World Food Council (WFC), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) also attended the session.

10. At the invitation of the Committee, Mr. Maurice Bertrand, Inspector, Joint Inspection Unit, participated in the Committee's discussion of the rules governing programme planning, the programme aspects of the budget, the monitoring of implementation and the methods of evaluation.

Resumed session

11. At its 28th meeting, on 25 May, the Committee decided, owing to the serious delay in the issuance of the fascicles of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it should resume its twenty-third session, in New York, from 29 August to 9 September 1983. The Committee took this decision after being informed by the Secretariat, in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, that the costs incurred in holding the resumed session could be absorbed within existing resources.

12. At its 15th plenary meeting, on 27 May, the Council decided to authorize the Committee, on an exceptional basis, to hold the resumed session from 29 August to 9 September 1983 and to submit the second part of its report, on its resumed twenty-third session (A/38/38 (Part II)), directly to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session.

Adoption of the Committee's report

13. The Committee considered and adopted its draft report on the first part of its twenty-third session (E/AC.51/1983/L.3 and Add.18), as orally revised, at its 38th to 42nd meetings, held from 2 to 4 June 1983.

CHAPTER II

CROSS-ORGANIZATIONAL PROGRAMME ANALYSIS IN MARINE AFFAIRS

A. Introduction

14. At its 5th, 16th, and 21st meetings, on 9, 17 and 19 May, the Committee considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the cross-organizational programme analysis of the activities of the United Nations system in marine affairs (E/AC.51/1983/2 and Corr.1-3) and on replies of Member States to the note verbale of the Secretary-General requesting information on the national priorities in marine affairs (E/AC.51/1983/2/Add.1).

B. Discussion

Marine Affairs

15. Members of the Committee felt that the report provided a definitive and comprehensive description of the work of the United Nations system in marine affairs. It was noted, however, that the report had not succeeded in meeting the Committee's request for an analysis of activities in terms of the broad problems of the field, especially in terms of the needs and priorities of developing countries. The Committee noted the attempt made to identify those national needs and priorities through an analysis of relevant mandates of the United Nations system and through the sending of a note verbale to all Member States requesting information on the subject. It was felt that the problem of accurately gauging national needs as a yardstick against which to measure the responsiveness of the activities of the system to those needs had not yet been satisfactorily solved, and there was some discussion of other modalities of approaching it. The Committee noted that the secretariat had approached the Commission on Human Settlements for its guidance in preparation of the cross-organizational programme analysis of human settlements activities of the United Nations system to be presented to it at its twenty-fourth session, but that no equivalent intergovernmental body existed which dealt with all aspects of marine affairs. It noted that this issue needed to be further addressed in future cross-organizational programme analyses.

16. The Committee felt that the conclusion in the analysis on co-operation and co-ordination within the system might be overly positive and that real problems in this connection did exist. In particular, the problems of overlap and potential duplication between the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in the area of maritime legislation was cited, as well as the possibility that the work of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in this area was developing beyond its initial mandate and that potential problems existed, especially in relation to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). As regards the problem which had become evident between UNCTAD and IMO, the Committee noted that the optimistic tone of the report stemmed from assurances to the Secretariat that the issue was being satisfactorily resolved. It further noted that one positive side-effect of preparing reports such as this one was to encourage resolution of such problems.

Future cross-organizational programme analysis

17. The Committee was invited to consider arrangements for preparation of the cross-organizational programme analysis of activities of the United Nations system in the area of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries which it had decided to consider at its twenty-fifth session in 1985. It was suggested that the Committee might wish to consider a report on the mandates and problems to be addressed in activities in economic and technical co-operation among developing countries at its twenty-fourth session in 1984, so as to provide the Secretariat with appropriate guidance on the structure within which activities should be analysed.

18. The Committee noted that, in order to provide adequate lead time for preparation of future cross-organizational programme analyses, it would have to decide at its twenty-fourth session in 1984 subject areas for such analyses for 1986 and 1987. It further noted the suggestion that, at the same time, it might consider the role of such analyses in its deliberations, including their relationship to programme planning and evaluation.

C. Recommendations

19. The Committee recommended that:

Marine affairs

(a) In view of the complexity of this field, ACC should review the work of the system in marine affairs on a periodic basis through existing co-ordination mechanisms, with a view to ensuring that the consistent and co-ordinated approach demonstrated in the cross-organizational programme and analyses should continue;

(b) IMO and UNCTAD should increase their level of co-operation in the field of maritime transport which should be based on compliance with existing agreements and ensure that duplication and overlap of activities will be avoided, and they should report to CPC at its twenty-fourth session on their joint efforts;

(c) The organizations of the system should co-operate closely in the follow-up to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, using existing ACC mechanisms, with particular emphasis on joint approaches and co-operative arrangements for assisting developing countries in the fields of marine science, technology and ocean service infrastructures as well as the need to ensure a continuous flow of information on national and international action to implement the Convention and report on results to the Committee at its twenty-fourth session;

(d) As intergovernmental bodies consider new legislative mandates on marine affairs, the servicing secretariat should advise Member States about possible conflict with the mandates of other organizations. If conflicting mandates are approved, these should be implemented by the responsible secretariat on the basis of a careful review of existing programmes in other organizations and with close co-operation with other relevant secretariat entities, keeping the appropriate intergovernmental bodies informed;

Future cross-organizational programme analysis

(e) Future cross-organizational programme analyses should include an analysis of the broad problems towards which the activities of the system are directed and

against which the pattern of activities should be compared, and for this purpose an analysis of the mandate and problems addressed in economic and technical co-operation among developing countries should be presented to the Committee at its twenty-fourth session, on the basis of which the analysis can be prepared for the twenty-fifth session;

(f) Future cross-organizational programme analyses should, to the extent possible, have a closer relationship with programme planning, monitoring and evaluation. Suggested areas for future analyses to be presented to the Committee at its twenty-fourth session should, therefore, take into account the feasibility of scheduling simultaneous consideration of evaluations, analyses and plan reviews on the same subject;

(g) The Secretariat should continue to seek the views of Member States on priorities for action when undertaking a cross-organizational programme analysis.

EVALUATION

A. Technical co-operation activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the field of manufactures financed by the United Nations Development Programme

1. Introduction

20. At its 13th, 14th and 21st meetings on 13, 16 and 19 May, the Committee considered under agenda item 5 the evaluation of UNDP-financed technical co-operation activities of UNIDO in the field of manufactures in accordance with its decisions at its twentieth and twenty-second sessions. 1/ It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (E/AC.51/1983/5) and the summary of the report of the evaluation team on the topic (E/AC.51/1983/5/Add.1).

21. In introducing the report, the Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination recalled that the study had been undertaken in response to the Committee's concern at its twentieth session that there was a need for a deeper review of the technical co-operation activities of UNIDO in the field of manufactures. He also noted that the study had followed faithfully the study design that the Committee had endorsed at its twenty-second session and that the methodology was rigorous and allowed for objectivity and independence.

22. He explained that the Secretary-General's report was in the form of a brief introduction in which it was stated that the actual study, an addendum to the report, contained a summary of the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation team. The report also indicated that the team had consisted of three evaluators, one from each of the organizational entities concerned, the office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination of the United Nations, UNIDO and UNDP, working independently and in their personal capacity. Considering that the issues raised by the evaluators extended far beyond the specific sector of industrialization and taking into account the major concerns expressed by the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Director of UNIDO with regard to the general approach of the evaluation team, the Secretary-General was of the view that the Governing Council of UNDP and the Industrial Development Board should have the opportunity to examine the findings before he could submit a comprehensive report. The Assistant Secretary-General also referred to the scope of the study by the evaluation team and emphasized that much information had been collected that was too voluminous to be included in the report. This information included data on project effectiveness and impact, the four stages of the project cycle, institutional problems within UNDP and UNIDO, the functioning of the tripartite system and communications between that system and the industrial sector. He pointed out that the recommendations had been formulated in a manner that was intended to provide UNDP and UNIDO with a certain amount of freedom in selecting the most appropriate means for considering and introducing recommended reforms.

23. As representatives of the other two organizational entities that had participated in the study, both the Deputy Administrator of UNDP and the Deputy Executive Director of UNIDO emphasized the independence with which the member of the evaluation team from their organization had worked. Nevertheless, both

organizational entities had reservations. The Deputy Administrator of UNDP said that while UNDP welcomed many of the suggestions in the report, it had serious reservations with regard to the way the agreed methodology had been applied, the evidence presented and the very broad and wide-ranging conclusions reached and recommendations made by the evaluation co-ordinators. He pointed out the importance of considering factors that lead to successes as well as to failures so as to draw well-founded conclusions on which to base future improvements. The Administrator had studied the report carefully and intended to report on it to the Governing Council at its thirtieth session in June 1983. He also intended to examine in detail the evidence on which the conclusions and recommendations were based and to consider the recommendations further in that light. The Deputy Executive Director of UNIDO indicated that UNIDO considered that the report gave an unbalanced picture with undue emphasis on shortcomings. He cited a number of recent measures that were being taken in UNIDO to improve evaluation methods and regretted that those measures had not been taken into account in the report. He also indicated that he thought that the points mentioned by the Deputy Administrator of UNDP touched on important issues. He informed the Committee that the Permanent Committee of the Industrial Development Board would be ready to examine the matter at its twentieth session in November 1983.

2. Discussion

24. The Committee's discussion on the item centred on the procedural issues ensuing from the manner in which the report had been presented, preliminary observations and clarifications on substantive aspects and on recommendations, and modalities for a detailed review of the study at the following session.

25. The Committee noted the reservations of UNDP about the study design and methodology and reaffirmed its own support for the evaluation's approach, citing the fact that UNDP and UNIDO had actively participated in the formulation of the study design and that the Committee had unanimously endorsed the study design and methodology at its twenty-second session in 1982 and that the recommendations of the Committee in this respect had been approved by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session. Many members of the Committee noted that the methodology was rigorous and appeared to have resulted in valid and useful findings that could bring about beneficial change in the project cycle, institutional arrangements and the planning of industrial programmes. With respect to the concern of UNDP with the critical nature of the report, it was suggested that objective findings identifying deficiencies were valuable and that UNDP should regard these as an opportunity for making constructive improvements.

26. Regarding the manner of presentation of the report to CPC by the Secretary-General, it was felt that independent and objective evaluation studies would be more useful if they were supported by the Secretary-General. The Committee noted the view of the Secretary-General that in this instance it might be more advisable to await the views of the Governing Council of UNDP and the Permanent Committee of the Industrial Development Board before receiving the final comprehensive report of the Secretary-General and it decided that this procedure should be regarded as exceptional and should not represent a precedent. The Committee also decided that the preliminary substantive views of CPC should be made available, together with the report of the evaluation team, to those bodies at their next sessions in 1983, so as to ensure that they would have the benefit of the Committee's views. The Committee would then take up the subject again at its twenty-fourth session in 1984, when it, in turn, would have the benefit of the views of those two bodies, together with the report of the Secretary-General.

27. In response to a number of requests for clarification of the nature of the reservations of UNDP concerning the findings on the tripartite system, project design deficiencies, the capability of UNDP to refuse approval of projects, and evaluation of impact, the Deputy Administrator of UNDP presented a more detailed exposition of the views of his organization. He described them as honest differences of opinion regarding how the technical assistance programme should be carried out. He emphasized the fact that UNDP welcomed the constructive criticism in this and other reports and cited the thematic evaluations that UNDP had itself conducted, which often resulted in critical findings that it took seriously into account in improving the work of the organization.

28. He also expressed doubt about the rating system and the approach used, particularly with regard to assessing the impact of technical co-operation projects, as it was often difficult to separate the impact of the technical assistance components of a project from the project itself. Also, the benefits that flowed from technical assistance were not fully apparent until well after completion of a project. He also did not accept the report's analysis that many of the shortcomings of the two organizational entities were caused by shortage or absence of qualified staff. In any case, recommendations based upon those findings could not be implemented in the present situation of financial stringency. The report also overlooked measures that UNDP and UNIDO had taken towards developing a more pragmatic approach for solving problems without additional funds.

29. He emphasized that the report's evaluation applied not only to the field of industry but also to the entire programme of technical assistance and operational activities, not just of UNDP but of all of the agencies of the United Nations system. It would indeed be very difficult to accept that the 27 agencies, donor countries and Governments of the developing countries could have allowed the state of affairs disclosed in the report to have continued undetected and uncorrected all this time. In fact, the implication in the report that recipient countries had little interest in whether or not projects achieved their objectives would, if true, make it perfectly justifiable for donors to have grave doubts about the worth of those programmes. He held that the perception of UNDP was that recipient Governments were concerned with ensuring that technical assistance inputs were effective. The reason was that no external technical assistance input was meaningful by itself. There was always a counterpart cost to the developing country, which would have been concerned about ensuring that its own resources were not wasted.

30. The Deputy Executive Director of UNIDO also clarified points arising from the text of paragraphs 12 and 14 of document E/AC.51/1983/5. He emphasized that the wording in paragraph 14 was misleading and that every effort had been made within existing resources to maintain a very high level of technical expertise with respect to relations with developing countries on industrial development.

31. Many delegations, however, felt that many conclusions and recommendations of the report were warranted.

32. In this connection, some members of the Committee expressed the wish to have copies of the evaluation staff report on which the summary report of the evaluation team was based in order to facilitate the Committee's review.

33. Some delegations expressed strong doubts about the position taken in the last part of the second sentence of the recommendation contained in paragraph 34.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

34. The Committee took note with great interest of the report of the evaluation team and the observations presented by UNDP and UNIDO in the Secretary-General's report and during the discussion. It noted the extensive work done and the scope of the evaluation study's conclusions, which should serve as a basis for consideration by the Governing Council of UNDP and the Industrial Development Board of how technical co-operation was being conducted, particularly in the field of manufactures.

35. The Committee noted that future reports of this nature should be accompanied by a comprehensive report from the Secretary-General. However, under the circumstances, it decided to accept paragraph 7 of the Secretary-General's report and to transmit the report (E/AC.51/1983/5 and Add.1), together with the comments of the Committee at its present session, to the Governing Council of UNDP and the Permanent Committee of the Industrial Development Board of UNIDO for their careful consideration at their next sessions in June 1983 and November 1983, respectively. The Committee would review the comments of those bodies, together with the report of the Secretary-General, at its twenty-fourth session in 1984.

36. The Committee recommended that copies of the complete evaluation be made available to Member States, on request.

B. In-depth evaluation of the work of the Department of Public Information

1. Introduction

37. At its 15th and 16th meetings, on 16 and 17 May, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the work of the Department of Public Information (E/AC.51/1983/7), which was prepared in response to the Committee's request at its twenty-first session for an in-depth evaluation of the work of the Department. 2/ A note by the Secretariat on the progress made on the establishment of systematic procedures for the monitoring and evaluation of the activities of the Department of Public Information (A/AC.198/60), to be submitted to the Committee on Information at its fifth session (20 June-8 July 1983), was made available to the Committee.

38. In introducing the report, the representative of the Secretary-General noted that the report was also being submitted to the Committee on Information, at its fifth session, for review, since that Committee was concerned with both the examination of United Nations public information policies and activities as well as the methodologies required to evaluate such activities. In the absence of a precise definition by CPC of the scope or orientation of the study requested, the evaluation focused on the extent to which the Department had achieved certain objectives set for itself some 12 years before, within the overall mandate of the United Nations in public information, as reflected in a report of the Secretary-General on the review and reappraisal of United Nations public information policies and activities (A/C.5/1320/Rev.1). Methodological problems, as well as the absence of certain essential pre-conditions in the operations of the Department, had precluded the conduct at this time of a meaningful assessment of the end-use or the impact of the Department's work outside the Organization.

2. Discussion

39. The Under-Secretary-General for Public Information provided further information by way of introduction and in response to questions raised by members of the Committee. He assured the Committee that the analysis, suggestions and conclusions set forth in the report would help the Department to improve its work. He noted the indication in the report that considerable success had been achieved by the Department with respect to the planning and co-ordination of its activities, and pointed to the need to simplify the programme structure with subprogrammes that were conceptually comprehensible. In this connection, he said that this had been taken into account in the formulation of the proposals for the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. The Committee had been informed that emphasis would be placed in the work of the Department on the role of redisseminators in order to reach opinion-makers with activities having a multiplier effect.

40. The Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General informative and useful. One delegation felt that it was difficult to judge the work of the Department in its entirety, since the scope of the report had been limited for the reasons explained by the representative of the Secretary-General. Another delegation expressed the view that the report did not constitute an evaluation because it did not deal with the means for dissemination, impact or the reactions of end-users.

41. One delegation felt that impact could not be weighed and, therefore, should not be taken as the only measure of the Department's activities. Several delegations, however, considered that the Department ought to develop measures for assessing the impact of its activities in order to improve their effectiveness.

42. One delegation believed that many of the problems experienced by the Department resulted from its failure to adhere to original mandates, in particular to move beyond its "supporter role" and become more directly involved in the process of dissemination.

43. The Committee noted with particular concern the findings regarding the lack of adequate feedback, particularly from the United Nations information centres or units mandated to perform the task of United Nations information centres. It agreed that the Department should devote efforts to the refinement and expansion of an active feedback system, including the analysis of the data obtained through such a system.

44. With regard to target audiences, it was suggested that there was still a need for better definition and clearer identification of target audiences.

45. The Committee expressed concern about the Department's preoccupation with production and stressed the importance of focusing serious attention on distribution. In this connection, the Committee suggested that the distribution of photo materials and radio tapes should be included in paragraph 12 of document A/AC.198/60.

46. The Committee noted that the efforts to reduce the delays and eliminate the backlogs in the publication of the Yearbook of the United Nations had not been effective, despite requests to the Secretary-General to take all necessary steps to speed up its publication and despite the provision of additional resources. With regard to the decline in demand for certain products and services of the Department, as shown in the paid circulation of the UN Chronicle and the number of

visitors taking the guided tour at Headquarters, the Committee noted the steps the Department proposed to take to reverse those trends, including a market study and more promotional efforts. The Committee felt, however, that the Department should reassess the utility of those services and products as public information tools and should define their potential users.

47. On the question of planning, the Committee welcomed the significant improvements within the Department and noted the commitment of the Department to continue those efforts. In this connection, a number of delegations suggested that the Department was constantly called upon to undertake additional activities and indicated that the Department should evaluate the allocation of its resources in relation to its priorities.

48. Some delegations believed that the problems outlined were not related to lack of resources; solutions to these problems could be found through better management of the resources currently available to the Department.

49. The Committee noted the areas for improvement that had been identified in the current report. The Committee recalled the relevant General Assembly resolution on the report of the seventeenth session of CPC and requested that it be taken fully into account. The Committee also noted that the Secretary-General intended to take appropriate action on the issues raised by the present evaluation. The Committee decided to consider a progress report on the action taken by the Secretary-General at its twenty-sixth session (1986).

3. Conclusions and recommendations

50. The Committee noted the areas for improvement as identified in the report of the Secretary-General (E/AC.51/1983/7).

51. The Committee requested that further work be done on the question of impact as well as on the identification and reaction of end-users. The Committee recommended that all future evaluations should deal fully with those two aspects.

52. The Committee recommended that, within the Department of Public Information:

(a) The imbalance between the concern with production and the concern with dissemination should be corrected;

(b) Efforts should be devoted to the refinement and expansion of an active feedback system, including the analysis of the data collected;

(c) There should be a better definition and clearer identification of target audiences;

(d) Every effort should be made to improve the timeliness of publication of the Yearbook of the United Nations and to remedy the decline in paid circulation of the UN Chronicle through proper targeting of the output.

53. The Committee recommended that the distribution of photo materials and radio tapes should be included in paragraph 12 of document A/AC.198/60.

54. The Committee requested that the relevant recommendations at its seventeenth 3/ session should be taken fully into account.

55. Having taken note that the Secretary-General intended to take appropriate action on the issues raised by the present evaluation, the Committee decided to consider a progress report on the action taken by the Secretary-General at the twenty-sixth session (1986).

C. Programme and plan of activities of the Joint
United Nations Information Committee

1. Introduction

56. At its 36th and 37th meetings, on 1 June 1983, the Committee considered the report of the Joint United Nations Information Committee (JUNIC) (E/AC.51/1983/8). In his introductory statement, the representative of the Department of Public Information explained that the work of JUNIC during the period covered by the report had taken place in an unpropitious international environment in which there was an increasing questioning of the activities of the United Nations system and even hostility in some quarters directed towards those activities.

57. In this situation, JUNIC had remained conscious of the need to keep under close scrutiny its objectives, approaches and methods of work. It had conducted major reviews of its activities in the particular sphere of the public perception of the United Nations system, as well as in the more narrowly defined context of operational activities for development. These reviews had reaffirmed the need for closer interaction and effective co-operation among the information services of the system. JUNIC recognized that there existed a number of avenues which could be further explored in order to ensure that the success stories of the United Nations were better identified and revealed.

58. The Committee on Information had taken a keen interest in the work of JUNIC and was now reviewing JUNIC programmes and activities on an annual basis. It had consistently asked that JUNIC should continue its task and be strengthened. The guidance and support of the Committee on Information had been helpful in establishing priorities for the work of JUNIC and in providing an opportunity for a useful dialogue to take place between Member States and the public information community of the United Nations system.

2. Discussion

59. Several delegations expressed the view that the report was too descriptive and did not provide any evaluation. Too much emphasis had been placed on operations and not enough on assessment of current activities and on the selection of priorities. Other delegations stated that CPC had not specifically requested JUNIC to prepare an evaluation report. They also stressed the fact that JUNIC already received guidance from ACC and the Committee on Information. It would therefore appear more logical for CPC to review and make recommendations on the co-ordination aspect of the activities of JUNIC.

60. A number of delegations stressed that the aim of JUNIC should be to strengthen the co-ordination process and to improve cost effectiveness rather than to concentrate on activities linked to the improvement of the image of the United Nations system. They also asked about the future prospects for better co-ordination. In that connection, it was stressed that the activities of JUNIC should cover all aspects of the activities of the United Nations and of the organizations of the United Nations system.

61. A number of delegations asked about the status of the single synthesis paper to be prepared by the JUNIC secretariat which would contain recommendations on the follow-up to ACC decision 1982/28 on public perceptions of the United Nations system and proposals for the implementation of ACC decision 1982/27 relating to the drawing up of a common strategy for a system-wide public information campaign related to operational activities for development.
62. Some delegations questioned the activities of JUNIC in the field of development education and sought clarification from the representative of UNESCO on the position of his organization on that issue.
63. Other delegations raised questions concerning the mandate, financing and future prospects of the non-governmental liaison services both in New York and at Geneva. A few delegations more specifically questioned the mandate of the Non-Governmental Liaison Service for North America, based in New York, as well as the reasons behind the selection of its target audiences. One delegation objected to the use of the term "political education" in reference to the non-governmental liaison services work in North America and stated that the mandate of the Department did not permit "political education" of citizens of any Member States.
64. A number of delegations sought clarification concerning activities related to development support communication. A few delegations asked about the link between those activities and the activities undertaken under the auspices of the International Programme for the Development of Communication. In that connection, the representative of UNDP pointed out that development support communication/project support communication was aimed at planning and implementing communication within development projects and that the International Programme was aimed at building communication capacities in and within developing countries.
65. One representative suggested that, should CPC decide in future to have a further report on JUNIC, such a report should be on co-ordination of activities under the auspices of JUNIC. He also suggested that JUNIC, together with UNESCO, should study ways of strengthening their co-operation in the field of development education.
66. In response to questions raised, the representative of the Department of Public Information stated that, with the recent augmentation of staff resources, the Division for Economic and Social Information would be in a position to devote more time to the activities of JUNIC. At the tenth session of JUNIC, in 1983, a special effort had been made to improve the agenda of the Joint Committee in such a way that JUNIC would devote more time to items for joint action. JUNIC had also started three major joint assessments, as follows:
- (a) A review of information activities concerning international conferences, years, special events and celebrations and the like, including the budgetary implications of such activities;
 - (b) A review of experiences in the field of film and television production and co-production;
 - (c) A review of the assistance provided to the media when visiting development projects undertaken by organizations of the United Nations system.
- The data collected would be considered by JUNIC at its eleventh session. It was expected that those assessments would greatly help in evaluating the use of resources being devoted to such activities.

67. Regarding the financing of information activities to be undertaken in the framework of a system-wide public information campaign related to operational activities for development, the Committee was informed that JUNIC, at its tenth session, had recommended that no additional financing should be envisaged but rather that a review of current activities should take place in order to reorient and refocus them with the emphasis on "success stories".

68. The synthesis paper (see para. 61 above) was being prepared and would, after consideration by ACC, be made available to the Committee on Information, most likely at its session in 1984. On the question of development education, JUNIC had come forward with a definition that had been accepted by all JUNIC members with the exception of UNESCO. JUNIC had expressed the hope that development education activities and the non-governmental liaison services could be funded on a more permanent basis. It was not the intention of the Secretary-General to present proposals to this effect for the biennium 1984-1985.

69. The representative of UNESCO reiterated that his organization could not accept the conclusions of JUNIC on this matter. UNESCO did not consider "development education" to be education at all, and most of the activities undertaken under the JUNIC Ad Hoc Working Group on Development Education were in fact public information activities. The name of the Working Group should be changed to Ad Hoc Working Group on Development Information.

70. The representative of the Department of Public Information indicated that the activities of the non-governmental liaison services were currently financed on a voluntary basis by a number of members of JUNIC, as well as by Member States in the form of grants for specific projects. The activities of the non-governmental liaison services were the result of close consultation between the organizations of the United Nations system sponsoring those services and related to issues the importance of which had been stressed by the General Assembly.

71. One delegation strongly objected to the attempts to provide pressure on Governments through a system-wide public information campaign which was planned by JUNIC under ACC decision 1982/27.

3. Recommendations

72. The Committee recommended that a progress report of JUNIC, including a draft plan of action for 1984-1985, should be presented to CPC at its twenty-fourth session.

73. The Committee recommended that JUNIC, together with UNESCO, should study ways and means of strengthening co-operation in the field of development education.

D. Implementation of the recommendations made on the mineral resources programme by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-second session

1. Introduction

74. At its 3rd meeting, on 9 May, the Committee considered, under agenda item 5, the implementation of recommendations made on the mineral resources programme by CPC at its twenty-second session. 4/ The Committee had before it a note by the Secretariat on the implementation of those recommendations (E/AC.51/1983/4).

75. In introducing the document, the representative of the Secretary-General informed the Committee that the note covered the responses of nine units or organizational entities that were directly involved in, or whose programmes were related to, the subject of mineral resources development. The responses were grouped under three main headings: methodological recommendations, those related specifically to mineral resources and those related to technical assistance. It was also pointed out that, as implementation of the recommendations was to be carried out in several stages, ranging from the short term to the long term, only those that could be implemented on a shorter-term basis were discussed in the note by the Secretariat.

2. Discussion

76. The Committee commended the level of response to the recommendations and suggested that the initiatives reported by the various organizational entities should be kept under review in order to assess the impact of their implementation. It was also suggested that organizational entities such as the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, which reported marked success in their implementation of a particular recommendation, should share their techniques with others.

77. In response to a question on investment follow-up activities in the area of minerals exploitation, the representative of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development informed the Committee that his Department had established a unit that was currently compiling lists of deposits with economic potential prior to offering aid in the difficult task of locating investment for exploitation. He also indicated that one of the major objectives of the proposed reorganization of his Department was to improve efficiency and delivery capacity.

78. Responding to comments on the methodology and reporting procedures of the follow-up exercise, the representative of the Secretary-General expressed regret that, despite the rigour that could be applied to the evaluation of a programme, the Secretariat was currently constrained in the follow-up to depend on reports by implementing organizations. As no objective assessment of such information was possible, it was transmitted as received. The Committee was reminded, however, that implementation of recommendations was carried out in several stages and that the rate of implementation varied according to the activity involved. Recommendations regarding activities that had not yet been completed (for example, the report on the document dissemination system) would be prepared for the Committee at its twenty-fourth session. 5/ Questions relating to co-ordination in the field of minerals development would be brought to the attention of the Committee on Natural Resources at its eighth session, to be held at Headquarters from 8 to 17 June 1983.

3. Conclusion

79. The Committee noted with appreciation the note by the Secretariat on the implementation of the recommendations made on the mineral resources programme by the Committee at its twenty-second session (E/AC.51/1983/4). However, in connection with its discussion of this question, the Committee requested the Secretariat to provide a more objective analysis of the responses from participating entities in the future. 6/

REPORTS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON CO-ORDINATION

A. Annual report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination for 1982-1983

1. Introduction

80. At its 34th, 35th and 37th meetings, on 31 May and 1 June, the Committee considered agenda item 6 entitled "Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination". For its consideration it had before it the annual overview report of ACC for 1982/83 (E/1983/39).

81. In his introductory statement, the representative of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation stated that the report was not intended to be a comprehensive account of all the activities of ACC; its purpose was to present a general picture of major developments as perceived by ACC. Detailed information on specific issues could be found in separate reports of ACC or of its subsidiary bodies. He noted that the overview report contained a summary of the discussions that took place at an informal meeting held by ACC in Paris in March 1983 at the initiative of the Director-General of UNESCO. He also noted that the section of the report on the Task Force on Long-Term Development Objectives (paras. 15-18) was a summary of the report of the Task Force itself and that report had not necessarily been endorsed by all members of ACC. He further stated that the brevity of section V did not imply a lessening of the importance of management and institutional policy issues.

2. Discussion

82. The Committee noted that various paragraphs of the report seemed to imply a criticism of member States and expressed the hope that this would be avoided in the future; it was noted that it was not the role of ACC to pass judgement on the economic and social policies of member States or to determine what action was required from member States.

83. The Committee expressed agreement with the Secretary-General's basic perceptions guiding his approach to inter-agency co-operation and co-ordination (as described in para. 2 of the report).

84. Regarding the overview of the objectives and plans of the organizations of the United Nations system, the Committee was informed that ACC had considered a draft of the report at its first session of 1983 and had not reached agreement on the text. The draft, which was approximately 250 pages long, might be published under United Nations auspices and used for information and training purposes.

85. Regarding the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, the Committee expressed the wish that the reports to be submitted by the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system pursuant to General Assembly resolution 37/202 of 20 December 1982 would be consolidated in one single comprehensive report. However, the possibility for submission of individual contributions by organizations was left open.

86. The Committee noted that the wording of ACC decision 1983/1, as contained in annex III of the report, was misleading and should not be construed as giving ACC any authority beyond advising member States and suggesting various modalities of co-operation. Several delegations were strongly of the view that the analysis of the international economic situation in the report should have been prepared in the context of the General Assembly resolutions on the new international economic order and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States (resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3281 (XXIX), respectively). Some delegations stressed the need for the exchange of views within ACC on international economic co-operation and development and that the report on the exchange be presented by the Secretariat more analytically.

87. Several delegations regretted the insistence of ACC on raising the issue of a 5 per cent increase in the salaries of professionals and the higher categories in the United Nations, as the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session had expressed its views on this matter and taken action on it.

Reservation

88. One delegation reaffirmed its strong reservations regarding the preparation by the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities) of the report on operational activities that was considered by ACC at its third regular session of 1982, and it stated its objection to ACC decision 1982/27.

Joint meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination

89. The Committee held informal consultations regarding the topics for discussion at the joint meetings.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

a. Annual report of ACC for 1982-1983

90. The Committee recommended that:

- (a) Future ACC annual overview reports should:
 - (i) Put more emphasis on the action required from the organizations of the United Nations system, in line with the decisions taken at intergovernmental level, than on the action required from member States;
 - (ii) When addressing the management of programme activities and programme issues, contain more information as to the nature of the problems, the concrete output of the work of ACC in co-ordinating the activities of the system, and the proposed solutions;
 - (iii) Contain a list of the various reports of ACC and its subsidiary bodies, which should be made more easily accessible to member States;

(b) The contributions by the organizations of the United Nations system to the process of review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade should, to the extent possible, take the form of a consolidated, synthesized analysis, rather than of individual organizations' sectoral contributions;

(c) Real progress in joint planning should be actively pursued by ACC, which should report on the matter to CPC at its twenty-fourth session;

(d) The United Nations Secretariat should make available an overview of the objectives and plans of the organizations of the United Nations system and ACC should prepare an abstract of it for submission to the Economic and Social Council through CPC at its twenty-fourth session.

91. The Committee welcomed the intention of the Secretary-General to rationalize the work of ACC and to prevent the proliferation of its subsidiary machinery and requested the Secretary-General to report to CPC at its twenty-fourth session on the measures taken to that effect.

b. Joint meetings of CPC and ACC

92. The Committee decided to recommend to ACC that the topic for discussion at the joint meetings of CPC and ACC should be that of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

93. The Committee further decided that an annotated list of the major existing documents on the subject should be made available and that those documents might be a basis of the discussions in the joint meetings.

94. The Committee also stressed the necessity of adopting measures to improve the effectiveness of the joint meetings, in particular regarding the need for an earlier decision on the topics for discussion and for a better structuring of the preparation for the joint meetings and with respect to the follow-up of their conclusions. The Committee suggested that the joint meetings review this matter at its session in 1983.

B. Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the strengthening of the co-ordination of information systems in the United Nations system

1. Introduction

95. At its 24th and 27th meetings, on 23 and 24 May, the Committee considered the report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) on the strengthening of the co-ordination of information systems in the United Nations system (E/1983/48), which was prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/71 of 10 November 1982.

96. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee for Co-ordination of Information Systems, in introducing the report, recalled developments which had led to the adoption of Council resolution 1982/71, by which the Council had, inter alia, urged that a small central mechanism should be established in ACC to ensure more efficient operation of existing or planned United Nations information systems from the perspective of users at the national level, and to enhance the capacity of the United Nations system to collect, store, retrieve and disseminate information.

97. The Chairman said that, following intensive consultations, ACC had agreed on the measures described in the report. These measures which, while modest, would, it was hoped, provide a realistic response to the request of the Council. The new

work programme proposed by ACC was aimed at giving a fresh impetus to the creation of building-blocks and tools necessary for the long-term development of co-ordination of information systems, and included new or significantly reoriented activities designed to meet the specific requirements defined by the Council, particularly with regard to facilitating the access of developing countries to United Nations information systems. The execution of the work programme was to be entrusted in part to a small cohesive inter-agency secretariat but would be largely carried out by technical panels of specialists drawn from organizations under a lead agency. In response to questions raised about the technical panels, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee for Co-ordination of Information Systems informed the Committee that three technical panels, on standards, broad terms and terminology, and telecommunications, respectively, were currently functioning. An Advisory Committee for Co-ordination of Information Systems had been established to monitor, stimulate and orient the work of the technical panels and supervise the secretariat and there would be a steering committee which would ensure that the responsibilities of the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters) and the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities) were fully taken into account.

2. Discussion

98. The Committee welcomed the approach which had been adopted by ACC in establishing new arrangements for the co-ordination of information systems and noted with satisfaction that the work programme for 1983 (E/1983/48, annex) would make provision for determining the needs of users at the national level, particularly in developing countries. Some delegations were of the belief, however, that, to be effective, the programme had to remain modest. Some concern was expressed that the programme was, perhaps, too ambitious, given the history of the predecessor body, the Inter-Organization Board for Information Systems. One delegation expressed reservations regarding the need and potential efficiency of the structure and machinery proposed and the expenses related to the activities.

99. The Committee attached great importance to subprogramme 1 which would concentrate on overall requirements by Member States for information about existing services and facilities, training requirements and provision of advice on setting up new information systems. In this connection, it was strongly stressed that it was important to ensure that Member States were made aware of what information was available in the United Nations system and that the data bases of organizations were easily accessible to Member States.

100. As regards tools for obtaining United Nations system information, the Committee noted the activities to be carried out by the Advisory Committee for Co-ordination of Information Systems under subprogramme 2. Members of the Committee commented favourably on the approach which was being used in developing the directory of United Nations data and word processing facilities, and it was noted that in 1984 it was intended to issue a manual covering information, and means for obtaining such information, available in the United Nations system. Members of the Committee also expressed satisfaction over the proposed creation of a common indexing vocabulary for use throughout the United Nations system.

101. The Committee noted with satisfaction the proposals for the development of a register of development activities (subprogramme 3) and some members of the Committee supported using the UNDP PPMS together with information on projects funded from sources other than UNDP. One delegation expressed serious objections

regarding the inclusion of information on bilateral assistance not channelled through the United Nations system. It was also pointed out, however, that within the context of technical co-operation among developing countries there was a clear mandate for the inclusion of such information.

102. The Committee emphasized the importance of the role of the Advisory Committee for Co-ordination of Information Systems in reviewing proposals for new information systems (subprogramme 4). In this connection, the Committee was informed that the Advisory Committee was already receiving requests for advice from organizations planning new or redesigned systems and that it was envisaged that the Advisory Committee would be able to refer organizations to the appropriate source of expertise.

103. In reply to a question raised regarding the Newsletter referred to in subprogramme 5 (Basic co-ordination services), clarification was provided to the effect that the Newsletter was intended to provide up-to-date information on new developments in the field within the United Nations system and developments outside that were of particular significance.

104. The Committee emphasized the need for an effective secretariat. The Committee noted with concern that the rebuilding of a core staff for the secretariat of the Advisory Committee was meeting with administrative difficulties but received assurances that they would be expeditiously overcome. The Committee expressed confidence therefore that the execution of the current work programme would now proceed smoothly.

105. It was also stressed that the success of the Advisory Committee depended largely on the co-operation of organizations of the system.

106. Questions were raised about the cost of the new arrangements, and it was noted that the work programme would be carried out within the limits of the budget provided for the former Inter-Organization Board for Information Systems for 1983 in real terms (\$US 686,000).

107. Finally, the Committee agreed to keep under review the progress made by the Advisory Committee in order to ensure that it constituted a productive element in the United Nations system.

3. Conclusion

108. The Committee noted with satisfaction the report of ACC on co-ordination of information systems (E/1983/48) and recommended that ACC continue its work in this direction in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/71. It decided to keep under close review the progress made by the Advisory Committee for Co-ordination of Information Systems.

CHAPTER V

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985

A. Establishment of an information systems unit in the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

1. Introduction

109. At its 6th meeting, on 10 May, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the establishment of an information systems unit in the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (E/AC.51/1983/6).

110. The report had been prepared in response to General Assembly resolution 36/237 of 18 December 1981, by which the Assembly had requested the Secretary-General to report to CPC on the potential and appropriate institutional arrangements in regard to the Information Systems Unit which would enable it to serve as a focal point for the expansion, merging and distribution of the development-related data bases of the regional commissions and the maintenance of the macrothesaurus. The Assembly had further requested the Secretary-General to undertake measures to improve the Development Information System of the Information Systems Unit in terms of its coverage and services.

111. In his introductory statement, the Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination reviewed the progress of the Unit to date, including the growth of the data base, the growth of the demand for services, and the reduction of unit costs. He presented the conclusions of an evaluation of the performance and utility of the Unit requested by the Assembly in its resolution 36/237 and carried out by the Advisory Committee for Co-ordination of Information Systems.

112. In the evaluation, it was concluded that the community of users of the services of the Information Systems Unit was growing at a fairly rapid rate, that there was a substantial and growing secondary community of potential users in developing countries, that the demand for products of the Unit was increasing rapidly as the programme became more widely known, that through the work of the Unit the flow of unpublished United Nations development information to Member States, and particularly to developing countries, was improving, that the diversity of elements and projects incorporated in the programme of the Unit was impressive, considering the small staff, that the productivity of the Unit was noteworthy and that a very large proportion of users appeared to be satisfied or extremely satisfied with the services provided by the Unit.

2. Discussion

113. Some delegations referred to the need to provide the Unit with an appropriate institutional base to continue its activities. Questions were raised, to which the secretariat provided replies, concerning the number of items in the data base written by authors from developing countries and concerning co-operation with the United Nations Bibliographic Information System in the preparation of a common indexing vocabulary for the United Nations family. The Committee noted that it was difficult to determine the nationality of the authors of the documents in the data base as the nationality is not indicated on the document.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

114. The Committee took note with satisfaction of the progress made by the Information Systems Unit in increasing its productivity and advancing its work.

115. It was felt that care should be taken that merging data bases of the regional commissions and distributing the resulting products to the Commissions should contribute to proper co-ordination, information dissemination and the strengthening of the information systems of the regional commissions. The importance of the Unit continuing to systematically collect unpublished material of value and to co-operate with other information systems was recognized.

116. The Committee suggested that the Information Systems Unit should be given an institutional base in which to locate its activities and accordingly proposed that the integration of the Unit within the Dag Hammarskjöld Library should be examined by the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General should report to CPC on his decision.

B. Co-ordination of food and agriculture activities in Asia and the Pacific by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

1. Introduction

117. At its 20th meeting, on 19 May, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on co-ordination of food and agriculture activities in Asia and the Pacific by ESCAP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (E/AC.51/1983/3) and considered a joint statement on the question of harmonization of the work programmes of food and agriculture activities in Asia and the Pacific by the Director-General of FAO and the Executive Secretary of ESCAP (E/AC.51/1983/3/Add.1).

2. Discussion

118. The Committee expressed satisfaction with the joint statement which acknowledged a commitment by ESCAP and FAO to co-operate in the field of food and agriculture, in particular in areas relating to food security in the Asia and Pacific region. It was noted that the comparative table of ESCAP/FAO activities contained in the report, while giving full details of activities undertaken by each organization, did not specify problems of overlap and duplication. However, in the main body of the same report, examples of duplication were cited concerning ESCAP activities on formulation, implementation and evaluation of agricultural plans and projects; regional studies and/or surveys on the socio-economic aspects of coarse grains, pulses, roots and tuber crops, and food supply and distribution systems in Asia and the Pacific.

119. The Committee noted that General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, clearly delineated the sectoral, regional and sub-regional activities. The regional commissions, therefore, did have responsibilities for undertaking activities in socio-economic sectors, including food and agriculture. While it was recognized that FAO had a global responsibility and a major role to

play in the area of food and agriculture, in view of the importance of the subject matter, particularly in Asia and the Pacific, ESCAP also had an important function in that region. Co-operation and co-ordination of activities, therefore, was essential between ESCAP and FAO.

120. The Committee noted that the report had partly attributed inadequacies in co-ordination between ESCAP and FAO to imperfect communication among governmental departments dealing with the two organizations at the national level. The Committee felt that this was not substantiated in the report and expressed strong objection to this point. It stressed that it was the responsibility of the secretariats concerned to inform their intergovernmental bodies, which legislate mandates, of any potential overlap or duplication that could arise from such mandates. If any broad and conflicting mandates were approved, these should be implemented by the secretariats only after a careful review of existing programmes and close co-ordination with relevant work of the organizations concerned.

121. Since both organizations had a role to play, it was important therefore to clarify respective frameworks for action by each organization. ESCAP activities, for example, could concentrate on socio-economic aspects of food and agriculture programmes in the region. While it was recognized that overlap could not be totally eliminated, it was agreed that the joint statement by the Director-General of FAO and the Executive Secretary of ESCAP contained the necessary elements for better co-operation and co-ordination. In this context, it was emphasized that ESCAP and FAO should not only avoid overlapping and duplication, but should make an attempt to find complimentary areas for mutual action. It was also hoped that the establishment by FAO of a regional commission on food security for Asia and the Pacific would further strengthen collaboration between the two organizations.

122. The Committee, while rejecting the recommendation contained in paragraph 29 (a), which addressed the regional member Governments of ESCAP and FAO, in general agreed with other recommendations under paragraph 29 (b), concerning improvements in co-operation and co-ordination between the two organizations. The Committee noted with satisfaction that those recommendations could be implemented without any additional resources.

123. The Committee was informed by the representative of ESCAP that duplication was more apparent at higher levels of abstraction when defining work programmes than at the working level of the individual activities. There was, invariably, in some modality or other, a close working relationship with FAO and, where there was not, it was the responsibility of the joint review meetings to find one.

3. Recommendations

124. The Committee recommended that:

(a) As intergovernmental bodies consider new legislative mandates on food and agricultural affairs, the servicing secretariat should advise member States about possible conflict with the mandates of other organizations. If conflicting mandates were approved, they should be implemented by the secretariat on the basis of a careful review of existing programmes in other organizations and with close co-operation with other relevant entities, keeping the appropriate intergovernmental bodies informed;

(b) FAO and ESCAP should, through their mechanisms for co-operation and co-ordination, make every effort to avoid overlap at the secretariat levels by clarifying respective roles, highlighting complementary areas of action and promoting joint planning and programming as far as possible;

(c) In view of the volume of extrabudgetary resources available to ESCAP for its activities, the joint FAO/ESCAP programme review meetings should include operational activities in their review;

(d) The executive heads of FAO and ESCAP should forward the report of the Secretary-General, the text of their joint statement, and the comments of the Committee, to their respective intergovernmental bodies at their earliest sessions for their review and comments, which should be brought to the attention of CPC at its twenty-fifth session, along with a progress report on the new phase of co-operation and co-ordination, including joint planning and programming, between the two organizations.

C. Reformulations of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989

1. Introduction

125. At its 7th, 9th, 16th and 17th meetings, on 10, 11, and 17 May, the Committee considered requested reformulations for the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 (future A/37/6/Add.1). The reformulations were requested by the General Assembly in adopting the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 on the basis of recommendations made by the Committee and the Economic and Social Council (see Assembly resolution 37/234). There were two sections for which reformulations had been requested: subprogramme 5 of programme 1 of chapter 21 (Social development and humanitarian affairs) and subprogrammes 1-3 of programme 1 and subprogramme 4 of programme 3 of chapter 17 (Natural resources) which were to be reformulated "in the light of the decisions of the recently concluded Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and the consideration thereof to be conducted by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session". 7/

126. In introducing the reformulations in marine affairs, the Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination noted that, in interpreting the request for reformulations, the Secretary-General had taken into account the need for planning the permanent and transitional functions arising from the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which was noted by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/66 of 3 December 1982, and the growing concern of regional intergovernmental bodies with action at that level to assist Governments in implementing the Convention. He had accordingly included both the requested reformulations and the proposed new formulations in a single new major programme on marine affairs. The intention was to ensure thereby that all programmed activities arising from or influenced by the Convention could be co-ordinated either directly through inclusion in the major programme or indirectly through cross-referencing to other parts of the plan.

127. In introducing the reformulated text for social development, the Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination noted that the proposed reformulations took into account the views expressed by delegations in the Committee, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

2. Discussion

128. Regarding the reformulated text for part of chapter 21, 8/ a few delegations suggested revisions to the text to make the language of the plan more consistent with resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session. These revisions were considered during informal consultations. The recommendations are contained in paragraph 137 below.

129. During the discussion of the reformulated proposals in marine affairs, a number of delegations inquired whether a new major programme was necessary since the Committee had only requested reformulation of certain subprogrammes in an existing major programme. Other delegations stated that there was a clear need for United Nations activities in the field of marine affairs to help implement the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and that the separate chapter provided a focus for planning and monitoring those activities. It was noted that the new functions of the Secretary-General had to be included somewhere in the plan. It was also observed that the presentation of activities within the framework of a major programme did not necessarily have organizational implications.

130. During the discussion on the new draft chapter 25 on marine affairs (future A/37/6/Add.1, annex II), many delegations expressed their satisfaction with and support for the work done by the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea and stated that the Office should continue to be in charge of those affairs.

131. Some delegations noted that the proposals were incomplete in that all regional commissions had not yet been included, and because a number of conceptual questions, such as the relationship between activities of the United Nations and those of the specialized agencies and between central and regional activities, had not yet been fully clarified. Again, some delegations considered that the fifth part, on activities scheduled in the plans and programmes of specialized agencies, could not properly be included in the plan and regretted that the new programme did not include, as was customary, sections on organization. It was also noted that a number of organizational decisions affecting the plan would be taken by the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session.

132. The Committee felt that, although the wording of that major programme needed to be improved on the occasion of the revision of the medium-term plan in 1984, most members were of the opinion that the functions of the United Nations in the field were of such importance that marine affairs should be retained as a separate major programme, since the adoption of the Convention of the Law of the Sea brought into focus more clearly the activities in the field and would improve cohesion and co-ordination.

133. The Committee noted that, in interpreting programme planning regulation 3.5 which states that "The plan shall cover all activities, substantive and servicing, including those to be financed partially or fully from extrabudgetary resources", 9/ the Secretary-General had included in his proposals work relating to the transitional functions in terms of servicing the Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-Bed Authority and for the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea which was a non-recurrent activity in budgetary terms and would be funded as such. Some delegations were of the opinion that this particular non-recurrent item could not properly be included in the plan since, strictly speaking, it would not be included in the programme budget in the same way as activities funded on a recurrent basis. These delegations noted that regulation 3.4 stated that "The

medium-term plan shall serve as a framework for the formulation of the biennial programme budgets within the period covered by the plan" 9/ and observed that the transitional functions would not be budgeted in programme terms as such and would not necessarily extend through the entire plan period. Other delegations considered that the transitional functions were planable and did constitute activities which should be included in the medium-term plan. The Committee concluded, on the basis of its discussion, that the work required to undertake the transitional functions should be reflected in the medium-term plan.

134. Following informal consultations, the Committee arrived at recommendations which are contained in paragraphs 138 and 139 below.

Reservations

135. One delegation expressed its objection in principle to the establishment to new major programmes in the medium-term plan.

136. While supporting the rest of the proposed programme, one delegation expressed its strong reservation to the text of the plan contained in paragraphs 25.47-25.51 inclusive and with the last sentence of paragraph 25.3 and several delegations reserved their position with regard to the revised texts for paragraphs 25.14, 25.35 and 25.37.

3. Recommendations

Chapter 21. Social development and humanitarian affairs

137. The Committee recommended to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly the adoption of subprogramme 5 of programme 1 of chapter 21 (Social development and humanitarian affairs) with the following revisions:

(a) The title of the subprogramme should be "Participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation".

(b) In paragraph 21.27, the following mandates should also be cited: General Assembly resolution 34/180 and resolutions 7, 28, 40 and 47 of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women. Resolution 11 of the World Conference should not be cited.

(c) Paragraph 21.29. The text of the paragraph should read: "Despite progress towards the achievement of equality between men and women, considerable discrimination against women continues to exist, thereby impeding the active participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation".

Chapter 25. Marine affairs

138. The Committee recommended to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly the adoption of chapter 25 (Marine affairs) of the proposed medium-term plan, with the following revisions:

(a) I. GENERAL ORIENTATION OF THE MAJOR PROGRAMME. The section should begin with the following new paragraph:

"25. The purpose of this major programme in marine affairs is to provide a focus for United Nations efforts concerning the seas and oceans through inclusion within a single chapter of the plan the major activities of the United Nations which deal specifically with the subject. It is intended thereby to help ensure effective co-ordination and careful delineation of tasks among the organizations included in the plan and other organizations of the United Nations system. On the basis of this plan, the evolving priorities of the United Nations in the field can be considered, reviewed and implemented. In the course of reviewing the responsibilities of the Secretary-General as a consequence of the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, it was recognized that there were responsibilities which were not of an economic and technical nature but which should be covered by the approved medium-term plan. Accordingly, these other activities, many of which are already being carried out, are included with those of an economic or technical nature in a single chapter of the plan."

(b) Paragraph 25.4. In the last sentence, replace the words "section V" with the words "the annex".

(c) Paragraph 25.6. The first sentence should read: "The comprehensive nature of the Convention which was carefully negotiated and delicately balanced throughout since the inception of preparatory work needs to be maintained as a whole in implementing the Convention." The beginning of the fourth sentence should read "This information would assist Governments in the process of acceptance ...".

(d) Paragraph 25.7. In the third sentence, the words "especially marine minerals and ocean energy" should be deleted. The last sentence should read: "This research and analysis is intended to respond to the increasing needs of Member States for the efficient management and utilization of marine and coastal resources in the light of the adoption of the Convention on the Law of the Sea."

(e) After paragraph 25.7, the following new paragraph should be added:

"The requirements for work at the regional level in marine affairs will be reviewed as regional intergovernmental bodies define new needs arising out of the adoption of the Convention. As these deliberations unfold, it is expected that all regions will address the issues. At the present time, two regions have defined objectives against which activities can be planned. Both ECA and ECLA seek to encourage regional co-operation in the exploration and development of marine resources within the limits of national jurisdiction and in the application of other provisions of the Convention. There will be an effort to assist states in the region both directly and in co-operation with other organizations of the United Nations system working at the regional level. In addition, the related activities of regional commissions which are not yet included under this chapter of the plan, because they are part of other plan chapters, have been cross-referenced where appropriate as the result of consultations."

(f) II. CENTRAL PROGRAMMES (PERMANENT FUNCTIONS). The heading should read: "II. CENTRAL PROGRAMMES".

(g) PROGRAMME 1. The first subheading should read "A. Subprogrammes (permanent functions)".

(h) Paragraphs 25.8, 25.17 and 25.24. Replace the words "paragraphs 6 and 7" with "paragraph 7".

(i) Paragraph 25.9. The intergovernmental objective should read: "to facilitate decision-making about acceptance and consistent application of the Convention by States".

(j) Paragraph 25.10. The paragraph should read: "Since the Conference did not establish official travaux préparatoires, it is necessary to continue the work commenced by the Secretariat of the Conference in cataloguing and indexing the documentation of the Conference, including documentation used in the process of the harmonization and concordance in the Convention of the official languages of the United Nations, in order to help Governments analyse the provisions of the Convention and their interrelationship and trace the development of succeeding formulations in the documentation of the Conference, in particular those provisions that have a major impact on the development of international law and relations among States."

(k) Paragraph 25.11. In the second sentence replace the words "nor are they able to" with "nor are they always in a position to".

(l) Paragraph 25.13. In the first sentence, replace the words "monitoring of" with "maintaining of information on". In the last sentence, replace the word "registry" with "registration".

(m) Paragraph 25.14. In the second sentence, replace the words "each of the areas such as" with "such areas of broad interest to Governments as"; delete the words "development and transfer of"; replace the words "the relevant elements of" with "developments reflected in evolving"; and replace the words "the interrelationship between the provisions of the Convention" with "the impact of other provisions of the Convention".

(n) SUBPROGRAMME 2. The first subheading should read "(a) Legislative authority".

(o) Paragraph 25.18. In the intergovernmental objective, replace the word "enable" with "assist".

(p) Paragraph 25.21. Replace the word "analysis" with "study".

(q) Paragraph 25.22. Replace the words "development of legislative guidelines as needs determine" with "development of model legislation or guidelines as needs determine".

(r) Paragraph 25.23. Delete the paragraph.

(s) Paragraph 25.27. In the second sentence, replace the words "highly effective system" with the words "highly effective co-operation" and add at the end of the last sentence the phrase "in order to improve co-ordination, reduce or eliminate overlapping and establish a clear division of labour for activities in the light of the Convention".

(t) Paragraph 25.28. After the paragraph insert the following heading: "B. Subprogramme (transitional functions)" and place after it the text of paragraph 25.47, the heading "SUBPROGRAMME 4. SERVICING THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SEA-BED AUTHORITY AND FOR THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA" and the text of paragraphs 25.48-25.51, deleting the headings "III. CENTRAL PROGRAMME (TRANSITIONAL FUNCTIONS)", "PROGRAMME 1. LAW OF THE SEA AFFAIRS" and "Subprogramme".

(u) Paragraph 25.51. After the paragraph, add the heading "C. Organization" and the following text "Secretariat: pending a decision on the matter by the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 37/66, the work included under this programme is currently the responsibility of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea. In 1982, this office had 18 Professional posts assigned to it on a temporary basis. For 1983, the General Assembly approved a total of 24 Professional posts on a temporary basis."

(v) PROGRAMME 2. ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF MARINE AFFAIRS. The first subheading should read "A. Subprogrammes".

(v) Paragraph 25.35. The subsidiary objective of the Secretariat should read: "to complete the initial collection of and make available technical information on the occurrence of marine resources and the economic feasibility of exploiting marine resources and ocean energy in relation to global economic developments".

(x) Paragraph 25.37. The first sentence should read: "Development of marine resources cannot be viewed in isolation from general development processes but has to take into account the interdependence between the various factors." In the second sentence, the words "and global mineral production" should read "including global mineral production".

(y) Paragraph 25.42. The last sentence under the heading "(ii) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development" should be replaced by the phrase "such as the impact of the production of marine and other minerals on future levels of commodity prices and of the export earnings of the developing producing countries", which should be added to the preceding sentence.

(z) Paragraph 25.44. The intergovernmental objectives should read: "to develop an effective capability among Governments for identifying, assessing, developing, acquiring and establishing technologies and processes required for the development of coastal and marine resources and uses based on full information about available technologies".

(aa) Paragraph 25.46. After the paragraph add the subheading "B. Organization" and the following text: "Secretariat: the Secretariat unit responsible for this programme is the Ocean Economics and Technology Branch of the Office of Development Research and Policy Analysis of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, which had 11 established Professional posts as at 1 January 1982."

(bb) IV. REGIONAL PROGRAMMES. The heading should read "III. REGIONAL PROGRAMMES".

(cc) PROGRAMME 3. The first subheading should read "A. Subprogramme".

(dd) Paragraph 25.59. After the paragraph add the subheading "B. Organization" and the following text "Secretariat: the Secretariat unit responsible for this programme is the Resources of the Sea Unit of the Natural Resources Division of the Economic Commission for Africa which had no established posts as of 1 January 1982".

(ee) PROGRAMME 4. The first subheading should read "A. Subprogramme".

(ff) Paragraph 25.63. After the paragraph add the subheading "B. Organization" and the following text: "Secretariat: the Secretariat unit responsible for this programme is the Natural Resources and Environment Division of the Economic Commission for Latin America which had 11 established posts as at 1 January 1982".

(gg) V. ACTIVITIES RELATED ... The heading should read: "ANNEX. ACTIVITIES RELATED TO MARINE AFFAIRS IN THE PLANS AND PROGRAMMES OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES" after which the following new paragraph should be added: "In order to provide an easy reference to activities of the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, the following are the activities contained in the plans and programmes of the specialized agencies which relate specifically to the proposed activities of the United Nations in marine affairs".

139. The Committee also recommended:

(a) That the major programme should be revised as part of the normal revision of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 and that the revisions should be presented to the Committee at its twenty-fourth session and should (i) give a stronger justification for a major programme on marine affairs, based on an analysis of the present state of affairs, the proposed activities of the United Nations at the central and at the regional levels and the activities being carried out, and to be carried out, by the specialized agencies; and (ii) include all relevant regional commissions.

(b) That, in implementing programme 3 of the plan, ECA and UNESCO should undertake to ensure that duplication and overlap of activities were avoided and joint efforts were encouraged.

D. Rules governing programme planning, the programme aspects of the budget, the monitoring of implementation and methods of evaluation

1. Introduction

140. At its 8th to 12th meetings, on 11, 12 and 13 May, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General containing rules governing programme planning, the programme aspects of the budget, the monitoring of implementation and methods of evaluation (A/38/126). The Committee also had before it a note by the Secretary-General (A/38/160) transmitting to the members of the General Assembly the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Second report on the elaboration of regulations for the planning, programming and evaluation cycle of the United Nations" (JIU/REP/83/6).

141. In introducing the report of the Secretary-General, the Director for Programme Planning and Evaluation recalled that, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 36/228 A of 18 December 1981, the Secretary-General had submitted to the twenty-second session of the Committee a set of proposed regulations governing programme planning, the programme aspects of the budget, the monitoring of implementation and the methods of evaluation (A/37/206). At its thirty-seventh session, the Assembly considered the draft regulations as revised by the Committee together with the set of intended rules in implementation thereof, prepared by the Secretary-General (A/37/206/Add.1) and a report by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) on the elaboration of regulations for the planning, programming and evaluation

cycle of the United Nations (A/37/460), prepared in response to the request of the Committee. The Assembly adopted resolution 37/234 of 21 December 1982, which included an approved set of Regulations. Furthermore, noting that the draft set of rules submitted by the Secretary-General did not conform fully with the Regulations in all their stipulations, the Secretary-General was requested to issue rules in implementation of and in conformity with those Regulations and with the Committee's recommendations at its twenty-second session, taking into consideration comments made in the Fifth Committee during its review of the draft Regulations, and to submit those rules to the Committee at its twenty-third session and to the Assembly at its thirty-eighth session.

142. The Director for Programme Planning and Evaluation stated that the report of the Secretary-General (A/38/126) contained the rules requested by the General Assembly. During its preparation, the Secretariat had discussions with JIU, which presented a second report (A/38/160) in addition to the one presented to the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session (A/37/460). In preparing the Secretary-General's report (A/38/126), the Secretariat had held internal consultations and the draft rules before the Committee had been formally approved by the Planning and Programming Board. Compared to the draft rules presented to the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session (A/37/206/Add.1), document A/38/126 contained two additional rules under article 6, Evaluation, namely, rules 106.3 and 106.4, and an annex containing definitions of programming and planning terms. The following rules had also been revised: 101.1 (c); 103.6; 104.4; 104.9; 105.2; 106.1; and 106.2.

143. In introducing the second report of JIU (A/38/160), Inspector Maurice Bertrand recalled that JIU had co-operated with the Secretariat in the long-term and joint endeavour of setting up the planning, programming and evaluation cycle of the United Nations. He held the view, however, that the rules in document A/38/126 could have a harmful effect on the implementation of the Programme Planning and Evaluation cycle in the United Nations because they did not reflect the philosophy behind the Regulations and limited their scope. In the view of JIU, the proposed rules reduced planning, programming, monitoring and evaluation to a formal exercise and, if adopted, would render these activities more bureaucratic than substantive in nature and thus incapable of helping Member States to determine the priorities of the United Nations. In its report, JIU had underlined three major points of divergence with the proposed rules.

144. The first point was that the rules had selected the level of the subprogramme as the basis for planning the strategy of the Organization. In the view of JIU, the plan should provide an explanation for objectives at the programme level, whereas the programme budget should provide details at the subprogramme level. A plan discussing the role of the Organization at the programme level would be an interesting document which would facilitate reflection by Member States; conversely, at the subprogramme level the importance of the objectives and strategy were devalued.

145. The second point of divergence was proposed rule 103.7 on the introduction to the plan. The introduction had so far been of very limited use: JIU would like it to become a basic instrument for joint planning of the United Nations system and to establish priorities. Whereas regulation 3.7 constituted a solemn and precise description of what the introduction should be, the corresponding rule 103.7 seemed to narrow its scope and failed to explain the underlying methodology.

146. The third point of divergence related to evaluation. The proposed rules implied minimal interest in the subject; whereas regulation 6.1 (a) laid down that evaluation should be carried out "as systematically as possible", JIU failed to see such system in the proposed rules 106.1 to 106.4, which were unclear as to whether evaluation should take place at the programme or subprogramme level, failed to specify the contents of the evaluation reports, and did not indicate to what kind of conclusions the reports should lead. In the view of JIU, during the six-year cycle, all subprogrammes should be evaluated either by a central evaluation unit or through a process of self-evaluation which should be centrally designed and monitored.

147. In reply, the Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination stated that programme planning and evaluation were closely related. The basic structure of the medium-term plan had been reviewed by the Committee and by the General Assembly in 1976 in the context of preparations for the plan of 1978-1981, and it had been decided then that the level of analysis of the plan's strategies and objectives should be the subprogramme. This had been reaffirmed by the Committee and the Fifth Committee which undertook a major reappraisal of the techniques and philosophy of the plan in 1978 and 1979, leading to resolution 36/228. The Assistant Secretary-General stated that attempts to improve the formulation of objectives at the programme and major programme levels would continue but would remain contingent on actual political circumstances which sometimes militated against the identification of clear and specific objectives at those levels. As regards evaluation, however, he expressed his belief that with a substantial effort it would be possible to evaluate progress and actual achievement at the subprogramme level. This would require action along the following lines: an attempt to reconstruct baseline information to permit measurement of induced change; clarification of the several levels of intergovernmental and secretariat objectives of the subprogrammes to provide a verifiable standard against which evaluation could be made; identification of the external factors which affected the achievement of the subprogramme objectives; formulation of indicators of progress and achievement; and establishment of information sources and methods of collection needed to use the indicators. Action of this nature were unlikely to produce useful evaluation results if they were applied to the programme or major programme levels, because evaluation was highly dependent upon specificity and precision at the planning stage.

2. Discussion

148. Several divergent views were expressed during a detailed discussion of the proposed rules (A/38/126). As regards the Preamble, one delegation suggested the inclusion of a new paragraph to clarify that the rules were meant for governing the work of the Secretariat in implementing programmes and regulations agreed upon by the legislative bodies. Another delegation proposed the deletion of paragraph 1 (f). As regards Article 1, Applicability, one delegation emphasized that programme planning should not be extended to extrabudgetary resources. Some delegations expressed doubts regarding the retention of the phrase "such activities will be implemented only if adequate funds are made available" because it weakened the scope of proposed rule 101.1 of the regulations, while at the same time it was not duly taking into account the views of some delegations expressed during the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly as requested in resolution 37/234. Other delegations stressed that the entire text of proposed rule 101.1 (b) was in conformity with the recommendation of CPC at its twenty-second session and thus corresponded to resolution 37/234.

149. As regards article 2, Instruments of Integrated Management, several delegations proposed the addition of provisions requesting the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, through the Committee, information on activities considered by him to be obsolete, of marginal usefulness or ineffective, and laying down the procedure and time-table for the preparation of the medium-term plan and the programme budget. On article 3, Medium-term plan, views were expressed in favour of planning political activities as extensively as possible, specifying the responsibility of the Secretariat for recommending priorities and, whenever possible, identifying the strategy and objectives at the programme level. Several delegations further expressed their agreement with some of the views contained in the JIU report on the subject (A/38/160). One delegation, speaking of proposed rule 103.11, said the Secretary-General should not modify the plan unduly, while others stated that the Introduction to the plan should be discussed in draft with Member States sufficiently in advance to serve as a policy orientation document for the formulation of the draft plan.

150. As regards article 4, Programme aspects of the budget, and article 5, Monitoring of programme implementation, one delegation noted in a reference to proposed rule 104.6 (a) (iii) that the fact that a new programme element had not begun during the biennium did not necessarily make it obsolete or of marginal usefulness. With respect to proposed rule 104.9, several delegations emphasized that the mandate of the General Assembly should be strictly followed. As regards proposed rules 105.1 and 105.2, several delegations noted that the procedure envisaged for the monitoring unit was inadequate and that the proposed rules gave too much latitude to the programme manager to change the work programmer agreed upon by the Assembly. As regards article 6, Evaluation, general agreement was expressed with the views contained in the JIU report (A/38/160).

3. Recommendations

151. In order to ensure that the rules to be promulgated by the Secretary-General in the implementation of the regulations adopted in resolution 37/234 were in conformity with those regulations and with the recommendations of CPC at its twenty-second session, and that consideration was taken of the comments made in the Fifth Committee during its review of the draft regulations, the Committee recommended that the rules that the Secretary-General intended to promulgate, as proposed in document A/38/126, should be amended along the following lines:

Article 1. Applicability

152. In rule 101.1, a phrase should be added at the end of the first sentence of paragraph (a): "and are intended to govern the Secretariat activities in implementation of the United Nations programme and of the Planning and Programming Regulations".

153. Under the same rule, add the following new sentence at the end of the second sentence of subparagraph (a): "These special cases shall be brought to the attention of the General Assembly".

Article 2. Instruments of integrated management

154. A rule 102.2 should be added, which could read as follows:

"The Secretariat procedure for the preparation of the medium-term plan and its revisions and of the programme budget shall consist of the following stages:

- (a) Formulation of policy guidelines;
- (b) Issuance of instructions incorporating those policy guidelines;
- (c) Submission of proposals by the heads of organizational units;
- (d) Revisions of original submissions within the overall concept of the medium-term plan or the programme budget;
- (e) Finalization and approval of the proposed medium-term plan or programme budget by the Secretary-General."

155. The Secretary-General shall establish the timetable for consistent implementation of each sequence of this procedure and ensure strict adherence to such a timetable in order to guarantee the submission of the proposed medium-term plan and its revisions to CPC in accordance with the six-week rule and the submission of the proposed programme budget to CPC and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) not later than by the end of April of the year preceding the budgetary period.

Article 3. Medium-term plan

156. In rule 103.2, paragraph (c) should indicate that such proposals of the Secretary-General should be reviewed by CPC which, in turn, would make recommendations on them before they are submitted to the General Assembly.

157. In rule 103.3, paragraph (b) should provide for achievement indicators.

158. Rule 103.6, on substantive activities, should indicate that each major programme or programme should contain an introductory narrative presenting an analysis of the rationale for selecting the objectives and the subprogrammes intended to attain them. Such an analysis could take into account the situation in the sector in question, the problems which had been identified, the progress made by the international community towards solving those problems and the reasons for choosing (in the framework of the existing mandates) to have the United Nations make a given type of contribution towards the solution of those problems in preference to others.

159. Rule 103.7, on the Introduction to the medium-term plan, should describe it in a more detailed fashion as a policy document and should elaborate on the co-ordination aspect as provided in regulation 3.7 (a).

160. Rule 103.12 should indicate that the formulation of the draft medium-term plan shall be supervised by the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board.

161. Rule 103.16 should make it clearer that the Secretary-General has also a responsibility for recommending priorities among the subprogrammes of the medium-term plan.

Article 4. Programme aspects of the budget

162. The text of rule 104.2 should be strengthened so as to include explicitly the treatment of new activities.

163. In rule 104.4, the definition of a programme element should be identical to that given in the annexed glossary, by amending either of the two.

164. In rule 104.6, the following paragraph should be inserted at the beginning:

"In the context of the preparation of the proposed programme budget, the Secretary-General shall submit to the General Assembly, through CPC, information on activities considered by him to be obsolete, of marginal usefulness or ineffective and on an estimate of the resources which might be released as a result of termination or curtailment of those activities."

165. In rule 104.6, revise (a) (i) and (iii) as follows:

"(i) Programme elements derived from mandates at least five years old, unless a relevant intergovernmental body has reaffirmed the continuing validity of the mandate";

"(iii) Programme elements which were programmed as new elements in the budget for the previous biennium but not begun in that biennium; if such elements are to be included in the budget, justification must be provided."

166. In rule 104.9, the programme budget statement referred to under regulation 4.9 should be an integrated report merging programme, financial and administrative implications of draft resolutions.

Article 5. Monitoring of programme implementation

167. In rule 105.1, paragraph (a) (i) should instruct Central Monitoring Unit to actually monitor the delivery of output.

168. Rule 105.2 should be more restrictive regarding the flexibility left to programme managers to modify the commitments on output delivery approved in the budget.

Article 6. Evaluation

169. Rules in article 6 should take into account the Committee's recommendations on strengthening the capacity of the United Nations evaluation units and evaluation systems (see paras. 189-197 below) as well as the recommendation 3 of the JIU report contained in document A/38/160, in particular the suggestions concerning:

(a) The evaluation system (para. 35), including the establishment of a calendar and a programme of evaluation (in-depth policy-oriented evaluation studies and internal management-oriented evaluation), the processing of evaluation reports and the responsibility of the central evaluation unit; however, references to a six-year cycle should be replaced by "on a regular periodical basis";

(b) The design of evaluation reports (para. 37); however, the timing recommended in subparagraph (g) of paragraph 37 should be made more flexible;

(c) The feedback of evaluation and its integration in the planning and programming cycle (para. 39); however, the role recommended for CPC in the second paragraph of paragraph 39 should not include proposals for administrative reorganization of units.

* * *

170. The Committee also recommended that the Secretary-General should provide, in the context of budget performance reports, information on resources not utilized in the biennium.

E. Strengthening the capacity of the United Nations evaluation units and systems and timetable for review of evaluation programmes, requested under General Assembly resolutions 36/228 B and 37/234

1. Introduction

171. At its 12th, 17th to 19th and 21st meetings, on 13 and 17 to 19 May, the Committee considered the question of strengthening the capacity of United Nations evaluation units and systems and the timetable for review of evaluation programmes under agenda item 3. The Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the subject, prepared in response to General Assembly resolutions 36/228 B and 37/234, section II (A/38/133 and Corr.1).

172. The report was introduced by the representative of the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination, who pointed out that, for the purposes of the report, "evaluation capacity" had been defined as the ability to carry out a prescribed number of basic evaluation functions that covered the establishment and management of an internal evaluation system, carrying out evaluation studies and reporting findings, following up the implementation of recommendations, ensuring feedback and co-ordinating evaluation approaches throughout the United Nations system. The report represented a synthesis of replies from approximately 17 organizational entities. On the basis of their current evaluation capacity, three levels of development were identified among the organizations examined. Six evaluation units, which could be described as the most developed, had been in existence for at least two years, had at least one full-time evaluation officer and had undertaken, if not completed, a fairly wide range of tasks. The eight entities at the second level were found, with one or two exceptions, to be on the point of establishing an evaluation unit and had allocated part-time resources on a regular basis for performing either ad hoc or routine tasks. The three entities which had the least developed evaluation capacity had been able to carry out only minimum evaluation functions.

173. Although the report did not present the design for an internal evaluation system, it proposed a formula for estimating required resource strength by matching essential evaluation functions to staff resources on the basis of the time taken to perform such tasks. The representative of the Secretary-General made it clear that the guidelines proposed in the report were meant to be flexible and the notion of an appropriate evaluation capacity would depend on the nature and scope of the work of the organization concerned, the amount of available resources and the commitment to evaluation at the policy-making and intergovernmental level.

174. The Committee's attention was drawn to the fact that in order to rationalize the requests for additional resources for evaluation appearing throughout several sections of the programme budget, the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board had

decided to remove individual requests from the proposed budget and to include them in the report of the Secretary-General (A/38/133 and Corr.1), together with the current evaluation work and a rationale for systematically strengthening the evaluation capacity of various organizational entities. On the basis of current resources, the activities proposed, in at least 9 of the 17 organizations, were considered to be adequately staffed. New resources were requested for five entities.

175. With regard to the timetable for review of evaluation programmes, the Committee was asked to comment on the subjects chosen and the proposed order of presentation, bearing in mind that selection was principally based on whether or not the programme had been previously evaluated by CPC and allowing for the two-year lead time that had become standard practice for such evaluations.

2. Discussion

176. The Committee expressed its belief that the content and direction of the report did not reflect the provisions of resolution 36/228 B. The Committee also expressed its concern that more had not been done to strengthen evaluation units since the adoption of the resolution.

177. The Committee's discussion centred around four main themes: (a) clarification and rationalization of the respective functions of the central evaluation unit and of other regional and sectoral units, and definition of their complementary relationship, (b) the possibility of merging certain existing evaluation functions at the United Nations around one central unit, (c) the modalities for further developing existing evaluation capacity and related requests for additional resources and (d) the timetable for intergovernmental review of in-depth evaluation studies and reviews.

178. With regard to the functions of the central evaluation unit, several members of the Committee expressed concern that the establishment of regional and sectoral evaluation units would undermine the concept of a strong centralized function, which had been fundamental to the Committee's thinking on evaluation. They also expressed the view that clear direction from the centre would ensure consistency in evaluation and feedback procedures throughout the system. In this connection, Maurice Bertrand, Inspector, JIU, referred to the second report prepared by JIU on the elaboration of regulations for the planning, programming and evaluation cycle of the United Nations (A/38/160). He suggested that a central unit was necessary to develop methodology, set procedural standards for reporting findings and provide a source of technical expertise for departments wishing to engage in self-evaluation.

179. There were a number of questions on the use of terminology in the report relating to self-evaluation and internal and external evaluations.

180. In responding to these queries, the representative of the Secretary-General proposed a list of nine basic functions for which the central evaluation unit should be responsible. He also suggested a number of definitions with a view to clarifying and standardizing the terminology for evaluation. He proposed that "management-oriented evaluation study" was a more precise term for "self-evaluations". This type of evaluation was conducted for and by secretariat programme managers under the guidance of the central evaluation unit in order to enhance the relevance, effectiveness and impact of programme activities through improvements in design and execution. Those evaluations might be conducted by the

programme staff directly responsible for the activity, by other secretariat staff, by consultants or by a combination of these. The depth, frequency, timing, scope, methodology and other characteristics of the evaluation studies utilized existing monitoring data but required the collection of additional information specific to its purpose. Evaluation findings, conclusions and recommendations were reported in a number of ways, including informal oral reports, workshops, seminars and informal and formal written reports. Intergovernmental bodies were informed periodically of the results of that type of evaluation activity but did not receive copies of the reports. The United Nations evaluation system defined and provided guidance for such management-oriented studies. It was his view that that type of evaluation could also be termed an "internal evaluation".

181. The representative of the Secretary-General went on to propose a second type of study, which he termed a "policy-oriented evaluation study", of selected programme sectors or other topics prepared by the Secretariat and reviewed and approved by CPC or other intergovernmental bodies. Those studies were scheduled in advance by the Committee, had a two-year lead time and were formally reported to the Committee and/or other intergovernmental bodies. Guidance for the overall design and methodology of those studies had been established by the Committee over the past years and continued to be refined. That type of evaluation could also be termed a "central evaluation unit study". It had both internal and external facets since it was conducted by a central unit "internal" to or part of the organizational entity being evaluated, but "external" to the work of the substantive unit being evaluated. It was also conducted under the guidance of the High-level Steering Committee on Evaluation, chaired by the Director-General for International Economic Co-operation and Development. A third type of study, the "external evaluation study", was conducted by JIU either at the request of an intergovernmental body or on its own initiative.

182. Strong interest was expressed in exploring the possibility of merging the evaluation functions and combining resources of units in the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination in the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the Office of Financial Services in the Department of Administration and Management, and in the Department of Public Information. Some members thought that such an initiative would represent a more efficient use of available resources and would lay the foundation for a co-ordinated approach to evaluation. Others acknowledged that they found the proposed merger conceptually attractive but pointed out that more information was needed on the scope and orientation of evaluation activities in the three units, as well as on any differences in their use of evaluation findings. It was also pointed out that in the case of the units in the Department of Administration and Management and in the Department of Public Information, a majority of the staff resources had to be devoted to programme planning rather than to evaluation. Furthermore, the work of the Department of Public Information unit was concerned with sectoral rather than central functions.

183. With regard to the issue of additional resources for strengthening evaluation units, some members were of the opinion that any strengthening of evaluation units should be effectuated through redeployment within existing resources. Others, however, acknowledged that, where no further redeployment could be undertaken, the Committee should consider approving requests for the necessary resources.

184. The Committee questioned some of the topics proposed for intergovernmental evaluation review in the timetable, as well as their order of presentation. Delegations expressed concern that, according to the timetable, the Committee would review only one evaluation study each biennium rather than two. Similarly, one

delegation asked whether the triennial reviews of implementation of Committee recommendations on previous studies would be presented every three years or annually as proposed by the Secretariat.

185. In responding to the Committee's comments on the merger of evaluation units, the representative of the Secretary-General pointed out that, although the functions of the existing evaluation units were often complementary, they were quite distinct in orientation, scope and purpose. He further noted that the institutional means of effecting a merger of those units and functions were the prerogative of the Secretary-General.

186. With regard to the request for additional resources, the representative of the Secretary-General pointed out that the increases proposed were not on a major scale. They would permit the initiation of evaluation capability for programme and project activities in the case of ESCAP, where one P-5 and one P-4 were being proposed, and in ECA, where one P-5 was proposed. They would also permit current functions to be performed more efficiently in the case of the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination, and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements for each of which a P-4 post was being proposed, and the Department of Public Information, where a G-5 post was requested.

187. There was general agreement that organizational entities should develop a viable evaluation capacity. The recommendation of the Secretary-General (A/33/133, para. 84) to strengthen the evaluation units of the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the Department of Public Information, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, ESCAP and ECA is worthy of emphasis in this regard. The opinions of the members of the Committee diverged on the question of financing. Some members of the Committee expressed the view that the development of a viable evaluation capacity needed to be financed from additional resources, while others favoured redeployment within existing resources.

188. The representative of the Secretary-General explained to the Committee that the proposed timetable had been designed to alternate subjects in the economic and social sectors with others. A revised timetable was drawn up, taking into account the Committee's suggestions, and was presented for approval. With regard to the triennial review schedule, it was suggested that annual re-examination of studies presented three years previously would provide more effective managerial oversight by the Committee, would be less burdensome to both the Committee and the evaluating unit and would allow enough time for recommendations to have been implemented and objectively assessed.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

Strengthening evaluation capacity

189. The Committee recommended that the Secretary-General should continue to strengthen the evaluation capacity of units and systems by:

(a) Further clarifying, rationalizing and studying the possibility of merging central evaluation functions and units and by preparing a report taking into account the Committee's views on measures for integrating the programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation functions as requested by the General Assembly in paragraph 9 of section II of resolution 37/234;

(b) Ensuring that sectoral and regional evaluation entities drew on the work and experience of the appropriate central unit and that their respective functions were further rationalized;

(c) Developing effective feedback mechanisms for disseminating evaluation findings to intergovernmental bodies and to programme managers;

(d) Emphasizing to programme managers the significance of incorporating evaluation findings into the decision-making process;

(e) Monitoring the implementation of evaluation findings.

Responsibilities of the central evaluation unit

190. In partial pursuance of the recommendation in paragraph 189 above, the Committee further recommended that the central evaluation unit's responsibilities should include the following nine functions:

(a) Establishing evaluation policies, concepts and objectives;

(b) Defining coverage of the evaluation system and setting standards of quality;

(c) Providing methodological guidance;

(d) Providing procedural guidance, checklists and formats;

(e) Monitoring quality and compliance and supervising systematic implementation of management-oriented evaluation carried out by programme managers;

(f) Co-ordinating evaluation planning;

(g) Providing training and orientation;

(h) Providing central evaluation information services;

(i) Carrying out in-depth evaluations for intergovernmental bodies.

Resource considerations

191. In submitting its report to the General Assembly, the Committee calls the attention of the ACABQ, in the light of its mandate and in the context of considering the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget, to the Committee's views on this question in the present report. To that end, the Committee requests the Secretariat to prepare the necessary statement of programme and financial implications.

Functions of evaluation units

192. The Committee expressed appreciation for the evaluation functions and responsibilities outlined in paragraphs 57-61 of the Secretary-General's report (A/38/133 and Corr.1). The Committee recommended that, in addition to the basic ad hoc tasks for an evaluation unit set out in paragraph 57, procedures for follow-up activities should also be included as follows:

"(e) Preparation of an outline of procedures for follow-up exercises and guidance to the substantive unit concerned in conducting implementation studies and for transmittal of information on the status of follow-up activities to the appropriate intergovernmental body."

Similarly, the Committee also recommended that additional evaluation tasks proposed in paragraph 58 of the report should include the follow-up on implementation of previous evaluation studies.

Triennial evaluation reviews

193. In view of the Committee's decision at its twenty-second session 10/ to establish triennial reviews of the implementation of decisions taken by the Committee on the basis of the in-depth evaluations conducted three years previously, and in order to enable the Secretariat to review and deal comprehensively with recommendations of a short-term as well as long-term nature, the Committee recommended that:

(a) Triennial reviews should be presented to the Committee every year starting with 1985. The first review would include an examination of the implementation of the Committee's recommendations on all in-depth evaluations reviewed by the Committee in 1979 and subsequently (that is, of the programmes on transnational corporations (E/AC.51/98 and Add.1 and 2), manufactures (E/AC.51/1980/2 and Add.1) and mineral resources (E/AC.51/1982/5));

(b) In 1986, the topic would be the Department of Public Information, together with any points which the Committee might consider requiring further examination from the 1985 review. Subsequent triennial reviews would follow a similar format.

In-depth evaluation studies

194. In order to permit the central evaluation unit to concentrate on developing and managing an evaluation system as a first priority and to give a two-year lead time for the thorough preparation of in-depth evaluation studies, the Committee adopted two central principles governing the conduct of intergovernmental evaluation reviews. First, only one in-depth topic should be reviewed each session and, secondly, in order to maintain the two-year lead time for preparation of a study, subjects in the economic and social sectors should be reviewed in every other year alternating with those in the political, legal, humanitarian and other sectors.

Timetable for intergovernmental review of in-depth and triennial evaluation studies

195. The Committee therefore decided on the following timetable for in-depth evaluations and triennial evaluation reviews at its twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth sessions, in 1984 and 1985, respectively:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Session</u>	<u>Evaluation topic</u>	<u>Triennial review</u>
1984	Twenty-fourth	Technical co-operation and activities of UNIDO in manufactures funded by UNDP; and activities of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (JIU study)	-
1985	Twenty-fifth	Drug control	1980 manufactures study; transnational corporations; and mineral resources

Tentative timetable

196. The Committee also agreed to review the following tentative timetable at its twenty-fourth session in 1984:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Session</u>	<u>Evaluation topic</u>	<u>Triennial review</u>
1986	Twenty-sixth	Population	Department of Public Information
1987	Twenty-seventh	Electronic data processing and information systems	Technical co-operation and activities of UNIDO in manufactures; and activities of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development
1988	Twenty-eighth	Development issues and policies	Drug control
1989	Twenty-ninth	Human rights	Population
1990	Thirtieth	Human settlements	Electronic data processing and information systems
1991	Thirty-first	Political and Security Council affairs	Development issues and policies
1992	Thirty-second	Science and technology for development	Human rights

Linkage with cross-organizational programme analyses

197. The Committee welcomed the suggestion that work on in-depth evaluation studies should be more closely linked with that on cross-organizational programme analyses. The Committee therefore decided to request the Secretary-General to prepare specific proposals for this linkage at its twenty-fourth session in connection with the Committee's review of the timetable for evaluations and triennial reviews tentatively scheduled to be carried out between 1986 and 1991.

F. Methods and procedures for the provision of statements of programme implications to the General Assembly

1. Introduction

198. At its 37th meeting, on 1 June, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on methods and procedures for the provision of statements of programme implications to the General Assembly (E/AC.51/1983/11), which had been prepared pursuant to paragraph 7 (a) of section II of General Assembly resolution 37/234 of 21 December 1982.

199. In introducing the report, the representative of the Secretary-General indicated that the United Nations had an elaborate system of programme planning, the main features of which were set out in the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and

the Methods of Evaluation adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session and in the draft rules which the Committee had been considering since its previous session. The report before the Committee proposed methods and procedures for systematic programme analysis of supplementary budget proposals equivalent to that given the proposals in the proposed programme budget.

2. Discussion

200. The Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General useful and some delegations commended its presentation and clarity. Many delegations endorsed the content of the report and invited the Secretary-General to implement the methods and procedures (as set out in paras. 19 and 21 of the report) for the provision of statements of programme implications to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session. Those delegations expressed strong support for having a single document presenting programme, administrative and financial implications in an integrated manner and indicated that such statements should cover all the areas of activity of the United Nations and should be submitted not only to the Fifth Committee, but also to the other Main Committees of the Assembly. They were also of the opinion that the question of the involvement of CPC in the review of programme implications while the Assembly was in session should be left open until the following year in order not to add to the difficulties which would have to be faced during the thirty-eighth session of the Assembly. Those delegations suggested that another, more detailed report could be requested to be submitted to CPC at its twenty-fourth session, taking into account the experience gained during the thirty-eighth session. They were of the view that a central mechanism should be established within the Secretariat in order to provide the Assembly with statements of programme, administrative and financial implications which should, in addition, decide which resolutions or decisions of the Assembly required such a statement. Such decisions should not be left to the discretion of the heads of substantive departments. One delegation felt, however, that in cases where the central structure could not be established in time for the thirty-eighth session of the Assembly, the possibility could be envisaged of having two documents issued simultaneously, one on the programme implications and one on the administrative and financial implications.

201. Some other delegations expressed strong reservations on the content of the report, in particular, of paragraphs 19 (e) and (f) and 22 (b). They noted that the Secretary-General had actually reached, in the report, two conflicting and extremely cautious conclusions. One delegation stated that, if CPC could not agree on the methods and procedures outlined in the report, it would be difficult for the Secretary-General to provide statements of programme implications to the General Assembly as requested in paragraph 7 (b) of section II of resolution 37/234. One delegation indicated that under programme planning regulation 4.9, such statements had to be provided to all competent intergovernmental bodies and not just the Assembly.

202. All delegations referred to difficulties of timing which would be encountered with the introduction of statements of programme implications. Many delegations indicated that the Secretary-General should proceed, on a trial basis, at the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly, with the methods and procedures proposed in his report as requested in paragraph 7 (b) of section II of resolution 37/234. Some other delegations, however, indicated that those difficulties showed the need for further discussion and clarification, which could take place during the forthcoming session of the Assembly, as it would be inappropriate for CPC to

accept a procedure whereby the Committee would not have any possibility of advising the Assembly on the programme implications of those draft resolutions.

3. Conclusion

203. The Committee took note of the report of the Secretary-General on methods and procedures for the provision of statements of programme implications to the General Assembly (E/AC.51/1983/11).

G. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985

Foreword and Introduction

1. Introduction

204. At its 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 25th and 32nd meetings, on 19, 20, 23 and 27 May, the Committee considered the foreword and the introduction to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

205. In his introductory statement, the Controller noted the following distinctive features of the proposed programme budget:

(a) The prefacing of the document with a Foreword reflecting the Secretary-General's philosophy and main issues facing the Organization and its resource needs and an Introduction covering a more technical analysis of programming and financial information;

(b) The inclusion in the introduction of two new annexes, to be numbered annexes X and XI, relating respectively to a cross-sectional review of major programmes for the coming biennium and the determination of programme elements that were included in the programme budget for the current biennium, but which were considered obsolete, ineffective or of marginal usefulness and had therefore been excluded in the programme budget proposals for 1984-1985;

(c) The decision of the Secretary-General not to base his proposals on a predetermined figure, but rather on the concepts of maximum restraint through programme analysis and careful determination of priorities;

(d) As a consequence of that decision, the more exacting programmatic analysis and review of resource requirements conducted under the guidance of the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board established in 1982 by the Secretary-General.

206. The Controller indicated that, unfortunately, the rigorous analysis and review had lengthened the process and resulted in a delay of one month in the issuance of the fascicles. In this connection, the Controller suggested that all parties concerned might, at an appropriate time, consider whether a slightly later timetable for the review of the programme budget proposals by both CPC and ACABQ might not permit a more reflective and therefore more balanced and, perhaps, even a more economical presentation of the programme budget.

207. The Controller indicated that the approximate distribution in percentage terms of the total resources for the 1984-1985 biennium, according to the broad sectors of activities, was as follows:

- (a) Political activities: 11 per cent;
- (b) Economic and social activities: 36 per cent;
- (c) Humanitarian, legal and information activities: 11 per cent;
- (d) Meeting and conference-servicing activities: 20 per cent;
- (e) Administrative and common services activities: 22 per cent.

208. The Controller assured the Committee that it was not the Secretary-General's intention to do away with the concept of "growth" or to change the formula. Whatever its defects might be, it represented a comparative yardstick to measure successive budget presentations. It was, however, essential to realize that "growth" did not necessarily mean that the Organization was growing, nor did "negative growth" necessarily mean that the Organization was diminishing.

209. The Controller stated that, as noted in the introduction, the medium-term plan for 1984-1989 had served as a framework for the programme budget proposals. An attempt was also made to use the medium-term plan as a tool of reflection to help improve the effectiveness of the management, as well as the presentation of the intended activities in the proposed programme budget. Some difficulties had been encountered in applying the standard structure of programme presentation to some of the political sections. The Controller expressed the view that not all activities were planable and programmable to the same extent.

210. The Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination stated that the budget formulation process had involved considerable Secretariat consultations, both between submitting and central units and between central units themselves. These consultations were needed to carry out the instructions for the preparation of the budget issued by the Controller as early as July 1982, where programme considerations for the allocation and justification of the requested resources were given a major emphasis. Activities planned in the proposed programme budget were in strict conformity with the 1984-1989 medium-term plan, the commitments for output delivery were strictly defined, high- and low-priority programme elements were identified in most substantive sections and checks had been made to correct potential overlaps and facilitate inter-unit co-operation in areas of common interest. Preliminary drafts of the proposed programme budget had also been communicated to specialized agencies and comments received circulated to the United Nations units concerned. The proposed programme budget, in the format considered by the Committee, was supported by a large volume of preparatory documentation which could be made available on request to members of the Committee.

2. Discussion

211. The Committee stressed, at the outset of its discussions, that its observations on the Foreword and Introduction could only be provisional and preliminary, pending a detailed examination of all sections of the proposed programme budget. In this connection, the Committee expressed its deep concern about the effect the delay in documentation has had on its work. Several delegations stated that they had not had time to study the available fascicles carefully and to consult their Governments, and that it would be impossible for them to conduct a thorough review of the proposed programme budget within the prescribed time schedule. Without having all sections of the proposed programme

budget they would find it difficult to check the possibility of duplication among the various activities. A number of delegations stated that they were not satisfied with the explanations given by the Secretary-General and his principal advisors and felt that a clearer identification of the reasons for that delay was needed in order to avoid its recurrence. The Committee was emphatic in stating that the present grave situation was unrelated to the time schedule established for the meetings of the Committee and that therefore no modification of that schedule should be contemplated.

212. Subject to the qualifications indicated in paragraph 7 above, the Committee welcomed the improvements made in the format of the proposed programme budget and, in particular, the programme approach to budgeting. Some delegations commended the innovation of a separate Foreword setting forth the Secretary-General's philosophy concerning the main problems faced by the Organization and its resource requirements, and an Introduction which dealt in more detail with programming and financial aspects. The Committee expressed its pleasure that the programme budget and the medium-term plan, in organization and structure, bore close relationship one to another. This process would enable Member States to track the progress of United Nations programmes over the years from one document and plan to another.

213. With regard to sections 7 (Department of Technical Co-operation for Development), 15 (UNCTAD) and 25 (International Court of Justice) which, according to the Secretariat, would not be available for review by the Committee at the current session, the Committee felt that the Secretary-General should take necessary steps to ensure that those sections were submitted to the Committee for review. It also noted that a number of other sections were still not available, including sections 12 (ECLA), 14 (ESCAP), 22 (Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator), 23 (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) parts of section 28 and section 31.

214. Several delegations recognized that the level of real growth proposed by the Secretary-General was moderate but that, as noted earlier, definitive conclusions on this growth were subject to a detailed review of all the sections of the proposed programme budget, including the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, UNCTAD and the International Court of Justice. Several delegations took exception to the view expressed in paragraph 10 of the Foreword and in paragraph 20 of the Introduction that the programme growth merely compensated for a decline in the level of resources made available to the Organization. A reduction in extrabudgetary resources should not necessarily require a growth in the regular budget to preserve a programme in its original size. Several delegations questioned the accuracy of the statement in paragraph 19 of the Introduction concerning the distribution of additional resources in dollar terms among sections in the economic and social sectors. He stated that his calculation indicated a decrease. He also noted that ESCAP would have \$1 million less in extrabudgetary resources than had been available in the last biennium. With regard to the transfer of posts financed from extrabudgetary resources to the regular programme budget, which had given rise to the real growth, several delegations expressed the view that those proposals were unacceptable, some delegations stated that they had no objection to such transfers, while others reserved their positions until the review of each specific case. Delegations welcomed the efforts made for further decentralization by strengthening the regional economic commissions. Some believed that the process should include not only an increase in resources, but also a reallocation of tasks to those commissions while others believed that the increase should be effected through a transfer of resources from Headquarters and should not lead to an overall increase.

215. The Committee welcomed the progress made in identifying high-priority and low-priority activities and the redistribution of resources, and several delegations believed that that should be done in and between all the sections of the proposed programme budget, not only at the subprogramme level. Several delegations welcomed the statement by the Secretary-General in annex 11 to the proposed programme budget to the effect that the question of the identification of activities considered obsolete, of marginal usefulness or ineffective had become an integral part of the programme planning cycle as requested by relevant General Assembly resolutions. Further, other delegations expressed their belief that the termination was clearly the responsibility of Member States. They emphasized in that connection that identification should be done circumspectly, in order not to impair the Organization's ability to act. Some delegations were of the view that the willingness to suggest the replacement of less important programmes by newer ideas was essential in order to report out a sound programme budget.

216. At the 32nd meeting, on 27 May, the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management addressed the Committee at the invitation of its Chairman. He stressed that programme budgeting in the United Nations now had a firm basis as regards the current exercise. The Secretariat had conducted a difficult exercise and handled it seriously and professionally - albeit with much delay. A number of features deserved to be noted: the programme budget was, for the first time, based on an approved medium-term plan, a series of programme regulations and rules existed, and a programme planning board had been established to oversee the development of the programme budget. He also drew attention to the fact that no preconceived financial figure had been established. There was instead a quest for maximum containment and, consequently, a physically imposing task.

217. He wished to ask, in regard to this latter point, whether the very substantial increase in the size and complexity of the programme budget document resulted in significant benefit to Member States in terms of their capacity to reflect and decide on a clear presentation of the main issues before them.

218. The Under-Secretary-General did not consider it constructive to attribute or identify the causes of delays in documentation beyond what he had said. A number of innovations had been successfully tackled, but each of them, together with the enormous complexity of the programme budget document, had had a compounded effect on the delay. Programming was an exacting and rigorous intellectual discipline. He saw no alternative for the Secretariat but to strengthen its capacity for co-ordinated analysis and especially for the co-ordinated synthesis of the programmatic and financial aspects of its work. The Programme Planning and Budgeting Board had proved to be a considerable improvement over the previous situation in that it had permitted a more co-ordinated analysis of the work programme and of the related financial requirements and also more coherent and integrated advice to the Secretary-General on the programme budget issues. Neither he nor any of his colleagues claimed perfection, but it was fair to say that considerable progress had been made in orienting internal structure towards the requirements imposed by the intellectual discipline he had referred to. That progress would need to be maintained.

219. The Under-Secretary-General concluded by suggesting that Member States and the Secretariat consider engaging in consultations over the next 12 months on ways and means of simplifying the enormous and complex documentation he had described. Perhaps a more compact volume could be issued comprising the more essential parts of the programme budget and a separate annex, which could be issued at a later stage, containing supplementary data mainly of a financial order. The purpose of

the consultations would be to ensure, without room for doubt, that the documents would be received by Member States on time and in the shape which best facilitated their decision.

220. The discussion that followed centred on the delay in documentation and on how the problem could be resolved. Several delegations agreed that programming should continue to be developed and refined, but that improvements should not lead to delays in the issuance of the budget document. The delay on this occasion had adversely affected the work of the Committee; it would not be able to review the proposed programme budget before ACABQ and before the second regular session of the Economic and Social Council. The Committee reaffirmed that no change in the timetable was required. They felt that the solution would be for the Secretariat to start preparing the programme budget earlier than had been done. The Committee felt that it should be possible, without substantial changes in the current presentation and without detriment to the scope of information, to limit the volume and the complexity of the budget document. Some delegations felt that the causes of the problem of delay in documentation were of an institutional nature and that efforts should be made to improve the institutional arrangements and remedy the situation. One delegation noted that the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board had played a useful role although its procedures could have been responsible for the delay of documentation. Other delegations welcomed the suggestion for a dialogue between Member States and the Secretariat on how the situation might be improved.

3. Recommendation

221. The Committee requested the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures in order to ensure that complete and final texts of all sections of the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985 were submitted to the members of the Committee before its resumed twenty-third session. In this connection, the Committee specifically mentioned sections 7, 15 and 25.

Economic Commission for Europe

1. Introduction

222. At its 31st meeting, on 26 May, the Committee considered section 10 of the proposed programme budget.

223. In his introduction, the representative of the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination remarked that the proposed programme budget was fully in accordance with the medium-term plan for 1984-1989. Since the plan included a new major programme on energy, the former ECE programme on natural resources and energy was refocused to deal exclusively with energy. The remaining subprogramme, on water problems, and the corresponding posts were redeployed to the environment programme. Several other posts were redeployed, for example: one from the development issues and policies programme to the transport programme; one from the transport programme to the industrial development programme; one from the international trade and development finance programme to the energy programme; and one from administration and common services to the statistics programme. As regards priorities, ECE was expected to identify high- and low-priority programme elements for the 1984-1985 programme budget at its thirty-ninth session, to be held in 1984.

224. The representative of ECE recalled that the Commission, at its thirty-eighth session, held in April 1983, had approved the programme of work and deemed that the time was not ripe to venture into new areas. The Commission was determined that existing resources should be used as efficiently as possible; it had therefore recommended a stable level of resources for the three bienniums covering the years 1980-1985, refrained from tackling subjects that were appropriately covered at the national level and recommended a considerable degree of redeployment for the 1984-1985 biennium.

225. Turning to the issue of priorities, the representative of ECE stated that it had proved difficult for the Executive Secretary to determine the priorities of individual programme elements in view of the inherently political dimension of that aspect of the work programme. In 1969, the Commission had identified four priority areas: trade; environment; development policies; and science and technology. A proposal made by the Executive Secretary in 1982 that energy should also be designated a priority area had given rise to controversial and inconclusive discussions. Although the work programme had been developed on the basis of consensus, different Governments attached differing priorities to the individual programme elements, and any attempt by the Secretariat to set priorities could be perceived as an intrusion upon government prerogatives.

2. Discussion

226. During the general discussion of this section of the proposed programme budget, satisfaction was expressed that the submission had been based on the consensus of all member States of the Commission and with the redeployment of posts proposed for the 1984-1985 biennium. On the other hand, some concern was expressed that the maintenance of unchanging resources over a six-year period might affect the output of ECE.

227. As regards the programme on international trade and development finance in Europe, one delegation inquired why programme element 1.3, Review of interregional trade with special reference to the expansion of trade with the developing countries, had been assigned low priority. In reply, it was stated that the possibility of duplication with the work of other units of the United Nations had been one of the criteria used to designate low priority; in the case of the programme element in question, it was thought that some aspects of its envisaged output might be covered by UNCTAD. While some delegations agreed with that explanation, one delegation expressed its disagreement and noted that CPC had not set up proper criteria for the assignment of high and low priorities.

228. As regards the programme on energy issues in Europe, it was proposed, in response to a query, that in programme element 1.1 the word "annual" in output (i) and the dates referred to in output (ii) should be deleted. In reply to a query on coal gasification, the representative of ECE stated that the programme of work adopted by the Commission and the report of the Coal Committee referred to new uses of coal and that a Group of Experts, which was due to meet in autumn 1983, had the subject of coal gasification on its agenda. One delegation stated that output (viii) (a) of programme element 2.3 and output (i) (f) of programme element 4.3 should not be carried out at this time.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

229. The Committee recommended that, in programme 7, Energy issues in Europe, programme element 1.1, the word "annual" in output (i) and the dates in output (ii) should be deleted.

230. With the above changes, the Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it should approve the commitments contained in the programme narratives of section 10 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Economic Commission for Africa

1. Introduction

231. At its 29th to 31st meetings, on 25 and 26 May, the Committee considered section 13 of the proposed programme budget.

232. The representative of the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination introduced the section by outlining the major programme changes contained in the proposals. Based on the approved medium-term plan for 1984-1989, two new programmes had been established on the environment and energy respectively, while the development issues and policies programme had been expanded significantly through the incorporation of the activities and resources of the economic co-operation programme and the education, training, labour, management and employment programme. He also pointed out that ECA had redeployed more than 10 per cent of its Professional posts, designated highest and lowest priorities and proposed a number of activities for termination. He informed the Committee of the results of prior consultations with other organizations of the United Nations system on the proposed work programme of ECA and stated that the majority of the comments received concerned proposals for increased co-operation and collaboration.

2. Discussion

233. Several delegations praised the presentation of the programme as a significant improvement over that of the programme budget for 1982-1983. Commenting on the programme proposals in general, the Committee focused on a number of issues, some members of the Committee endorsed the proposed setting of priorities, commenting favourably that it had in part been effected through the redeployment of posts, although other delegations were of the opinion that the strengthening of the regional commissions should be furthered through the decentralization of resources and activities from Headquarters.

234. Differing opinions were voiced concerning the adequacy of the resource growth proposed. Some delegations pointed out that, so far as real growth was concerned, especially in the context of the deliberations of CPC, the issue was whether additional resource allocations would have the effect of not only consolidating the basis of the activities of the regional commissions but also strengthening their capacity to meet new responsibilities. It was from that standpoint that the analysis of the growth rate by programme should be approached. The Committee was assured that the reorganization of programmes within ECA, in conformity with the medium-term plan for 1984-1989, would not result in the weakening of executive direction and management, or of the programmes in education, training, labour, management and employment and in natural resources.

235. Some delegations expressed concern about the ability of ECA to implement its programme and deliver projects and sought information on the status of the implementation of the recent recommendations of JIU. The representative of ECA informed the Committee that, in response to those recommendations, it was proposed to allocate one Professional post from within existing resources to improve the formulation and evaluation of programmes and projects. Additional resources would be needed, and a request to that end had been included in the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the capacity of the United Nations evaluation units and systems (A/38/133 and Corr.1), which was also before the Committee for its consideration. With respect to the recommendation concerning the establishment of a temporary administrative management services unit, he assured the Committee that some initial steps had been taken.

236. Some delegations inquired about the transfer of previously extrabudgetary posts to the regular budget to carry out the programme of multinational programming and operational centres. The Secretariat replied that, in compliance with General Assembly resolution 37/138 of 17 December 1982, those posts had been transferred to the regular budget during the 1982-1983 biennium and were thus included in the 1982-1983 resource base used for the preparation of the 1984-1985 budget estimates under the development issues and policies programme.

237. The Committee turned to a discussion of the proposals by programme. The discussion centred, in particular, on the following programmes.

(a) Executive direction and management

238. Following a query, the Committee was reassured by the Secretariat that the apparent reduction in resources for executive direction and management was merely a matter of accounting, due to the transfer of some functions previously included under this programme but now shown under other ECA programmes, and would not affect the management capacity of executive direction and management.

(b) Food and agriculture in Africa

239. A query was made about the basis for the estimates of requests for advisory services, that is, whether they were actually known requests, already received or whether the Secretariat was anticipating such requests. The Secretariat replied that the figures indicated were estimates based on past experience. While one delegation doubted the usefulness of such detailed estimates, another delegation commended the Secretariat on such quantification, which increased the quality of the document. It was pointed out that the biennial programme performance report would indicate the actual number of missions and the utilization of related resources.

(c) Development issues and policies in Africa

240. A query was made about the status of programme elements under which no outputs were listed. The Secretariat explained that according to draft rule 104.4 (e) of the rules governing programme planning, the programme aspects of the budget, the monitoring of implementation and methods of evaluation (A/33/126), activities to be carried out under a programme element which would not result in any final output during the budgetary period concerned would only be briefly described if those activities were not clear from the title of the programme element.

241. In response to a query concerning the low-priority designation of programme element 2.2 (The effectiveness of traditional tools of monetary management in Africa), it was explained that, while the element might deserve a higher priority in the future, at this time it had been accorded lowest priority because only preparatory work had begun and no final output was expected during the budgetary period concerned.

242. It was asked if there was not apparent duplication between programme elements 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4. The Secretariat replied that the output under programme element 3.2 (Survey of economic and social conditions in individual least developed African countries) would be incorporated into a global report, while the in-depth studies on the economies of least developed African countries under programme element 3.4 dealt with specific problems of the region.

243. Regarding the apparent duplication between outputs listed under programme element 4.2 (Promotion and strengthening of subregional economic co-operation and integration) and those listed under subprogrammes 1 and 2 of the international trade programme, the Secretariat explained that the outputs listed under programme element 4.2 indicated only what activities the core staff would carry out, while owing to the interdisciplinary nature of the subject, other, related aspects would be dealt with under other programmes.

(d) International trade and development finance in Africa

244. One delegation was of the opinion that the output citation under programme element 3.3 (Trade and economic co-operation between African countries and the socialist countries of Eastern Europe) was not in conformity with the objectives set out in paragraph 16.112 (iii) (d) of the medium-term plan and proposed a revision in line with the language of the medium-term plan (see para. 250 below).

(e) Natural resources in Africa

245. The Committee was of the opinion that, since the chapter on marine affairs of the medium-term plan was still under consideration and had not as yet been approved, it would be premature to discuss the subprogramme in that area.

(f) Population in Africa

246. Concerning the Secretary-General's interpretation of General Assembly resolution 37/136 of 17 December 1982 with respect to the financing of activities previously supported by UNFPA contributions, as expressed in the estimates for the population programme, some delegations supported the Secretary-General's interpretation, while others were opposed to it.

Reservation

247. One delegation confirmed its reservations regarding financing from the regular budget of multinational programming and operation centres and activities previously supported by UNFPA contributions.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

248. The Committee noted with appreciation the efforts made to improve the programme presentation and the adjustment of programmes and resources to reflect decisions taken in connection with the medium-term plan for 1984-1989.

249. The Committee considered that monitoring and evaluation functions in the Commission should be reinforced.

250. The Committee recommended that the words "existing obstacles to" in the output citation of programme element 3.3 of programme 7 (International trade and development finance in Africa) should be deleted.

251. In the absence of an approved medium-term plan in marine affairs, the Committee was not in a position to review the resources of the sea subprogramme in the natural resources programme.

252. With the above change, the Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it should approve the commitments contained in the programme narratives of section 13 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Economic Commission for Western Asia

1. Introduction

253. At its 32nd and 33rd meetings, on 27 May, the Committee considered section 14 of the proposed programme budget.

254. In his introductory statement, the Assistant-Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination drew the attention of the Committee to the redeployments and transfers of posts proposed in the ECWA programme budget. The Commission had just moved to its permanent headquarters and would at last be in a position to direct all its efforts to the implementation of its work programme. The Commission had presented a proposed programme budget that conformed to the medium-term plan for 1984-1989 by, inter alia, establishing new programmes on energy and environment issues in Western Asia and by transferring the former programme on labour, management and employment to the population programme, where it would be executed as a subprogramme. A number of subprogrammes and programme elements were proposed for termination as obsolete.

2. Discussion

255. Some delegations, while commending the form of presentation of section 14 and the efforts made to comply with General Assembly resolutions on redeployment of resources, setting of priorities and identification of obsolete, marginally useful or ineffective activities, raised questions about the high rate of post vacancies and about activities that could not be carried out by ECWA as a consequence. They also questioned the rate of inflation adopted and the problems of co-ordinating the activities of Headquarters, the regional commissions and the organizations of the United Nations system. In that context, questions were also raised about decentralization of activities to the regional commissions, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977.

256. Some delegations stated that the rate of real growth of resource requests in the section was too high considering the high rate of post vacancies in ECWA. One delegation expressed concern about the negative effects of the high rate of post vacancies on the implementation of the Commission's programmes.

257. During the debate there were divergent views about the necessity to invite ACABQ to review questions relating to the calculation of the rate of inflation and the reclassification of posts which fell under its mandate.

258. The representative of ECWA made a number of explanatory observations concerning the particular situation of ECWA and answered questions about the activities of the Commission. He informed the Committee of the recent establishment of a Standing Committee for the Programme, which reviewed the proposed programme budget for ECWA, including the setting of priorities, and of an Evaluation Unit within the Commission's secretariat. He also made reference to the agreements on co-ordination between ECWA and other organizations of the United Nations system to be carried out, inter alia, through joint divisions, and between ECWA and some of the Arab organizations in the region. The ECWA representative also explained the steps the Commission was taking to improve the recruitment of personnel.

259. The representatives of the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination and the Office of Financial Services underlined the difficult situation faced by ECWA after it had moved, in various stages, to its permanent headquarters and explained that the rate of inflation took into account the fact that ECWA was employing and had to recruit a larger proportion of non-resident staff after its move to its new headquarters, owing to the non-availability of local staff. They recalled that two reports on decentralization had already been submitted to the General Assembly and that a third one would be submitted to the Assembly at its thirty-eighth session.

260. The detailed discussion on the programmes of activity focused on the following programmes and questions.

(a) Food and agriculture

261. Some delegations inquired why most of the outputs in the programme were submitted to the FAO Near East Commission on Economic and Social Policy. The representative of ECWA explained that it was a consequence of a current agreement between FAO and ECWA. However, a new agreement on relations and co-operation between the Commission and FAO was under negotiation. He also informed the Committee that the outputs cited in the proposed programme budget concerned only the States members of ECWA, while the membership of the FAO Near East Commission on Economic and Social Policy included many African and Asian countries.

(b) Human settlements

262. Some delegations proposed elimination of programme element 1.1 (Monitoring of the planning situation in human settlements in the ECWA region), since it had been assigned lowest priority. In addition, one of those delegations proposed assigning lowest priority to programme element 2.2 (Survey of research and statistical services related to building materials in the ECWA region). One delegation objected to the latter proposal, and the representative of the Secretary-General brought it to the attention of the Committee that ECWA had already proposed termination of three programme elements contained in the 1982-1983 human settlements programme. One delegation stated that it could not agree that assigning a programme element lowest priority meant that the programme element would be terminated automatically.

(c) Industrial development

263. One delegation indicated that the programme was concentrating too much on heavy industries and that it should concentrate more on light industries. The delegation also proposed assigning highest priority to programme element 1.2 (Industrial programming for least developed countries) instead of to programme 3.1 (Identification of regional projects in capital goods and other engineering industries).

264. The representative of ECWA explained that the programme had been approved by the members of ECWA according to their needs, priorities, development plans and the resources available.

(d) Labour, management and employment

265. The Committee took note of the transfer of this programme to the population programme, where it would be executed as a subprogramme.

(e) Natural resources

266. One delegation asked why all outputs of the programme were planned for late 1985. The representative of ECWA indicated that the programme had a high rate of post vacancies and time was needed to recruit the qualified personnel to fill the posts.

(f) Energy issues

267. One delegation asked why seven out of nine outputs were planned for late 1985. The representative of ECWA indicated that the subprogramme on minerals in the former natural resources programme had been proposed for termination and its resources redeployed to the new programme on energy issues. He added that ECWA had reorganized its programme of work in accordance with the new situation and with the constraints faced by the Commission concerning the high rate of post vacancies and the time needed to recruit qualified personnel.

(g) Population

268. Some delegations stated their reservations on the Secretary-General's interpretation of General Assembly resolution 37/136 of 17 December 1982, concerning the financing of population activities in the regional commissions.

(h) Science and technology

269. One delegation proposed assigning lowest priority to programme element 1.5 (Role of financial institutions in strengthening endogenous scientific and technological capabilities), because it had no final output. Other delegations objected to the proposal and explained that the activities that would be undertaken under the programme element were important for the developing countries.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

270. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it should approve the commitments contained in the programme narratives of section 14 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

271. The Committee requested that it be informed of the results of the negotiations on a new agreement on the relations and co-operation between FAO and ECWA.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

1. Introduction

272. At its 25th to 28th meetings, from 23 to 25 May, the Committee considered section 17 of the proposed programme budget.

273. In introducing the proposed programme budget of UNIDO, the Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination stated that it followed the programme and subprogramme structure laid down in the medium-term plan for 1984-1989. The three central programmes that were identified in the medium-term plan for implementation by UNIDO corresponded to the three programmes of activity identified in the proposed budget, namely, policy co-ordination, industrial studies and research, and industrial operations. In addition, the executive direction and management programme also had substantive content. Programme support activities were covered in the proposed programme budget but were not included in the medium-term plan, which had been limited to substantive programmes of activity. The Assistant Secretary-General remarked that the submission of UNIDO had been very detailed and exhaustive. The only subject which had given rise to difficulties was the designation of low and high priorities. The UNIDO secretariat considered that its programmes of activities were complementary and commanded the same level of importance; thus, in the original submission the programme elements assigned high priority accounted for well over 10 per cent of resources, and those designated as low priority for well under 10 per cent. In numerous cases, therefore, the designation of priorities had been revised at United Nations Headquarters and, in this regard, the final submission reflected the decision of the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board.

274. The representative of UNIDO recalled that the Industrial Development Board at its seventeenth session, held from 26 April to 13 May 1983, had examined the Secretary-General's proposed programme budget for 1984-1985, which assumed additional importance in view of the ongoing negotiations on the transformation of UNIDO into a specialized agency. Its report had been issued as document ID/B/308. While it was generally recognized that the programmes contained in the proposed programme budget would form the basis for the activities of UNIDO in the future, the detailed discussions were characterized by a diversity of views. For example, while some delegations felt that the budget proposals should adhere strictly to the principle of zero net real growth, others argued that the proposed programme budget would not allow UNIDO to fulfil its responsibilities as outlined in the medium-term plan for 1984-1989.

275. The representative of UNIDO added that specific concern had been expressed with regard to a number of activities that had been described as being of the lowest priority; for example, the Board had considered that the development of human resources was of the utmost importance, especially the establishment of industrial training infrastructure and individual and group training, and should have been assigned high priority. Regret was expressed that low priority had been assigned to programme elements concerned with inter-agency co-ordination and the liaison officers in New York and at Geneva. In other areas, the deliberations of the Board reflected the priorities established in the proposed programme budget. The importance of a successful outcome for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa was underlined, and support was expressed for the System of Consultations; in its conclusion 1983/4 of 13 May 1983, the Board had decided on the sectors on which consultations would be held during the 1984-1985 biennium and those for which preliminary preparations would be held in that biennium. As regards the Senior Industrial Field Adviser programme, many delegations recognized that its strength largely determined the quantity and quality of the technical assistance programme of UNIDO. The existing short-term financial support by UNDP for that programme was considered unsuitable, and a number of alternative financial solutions were proposed. The representative of UNIDO concluded by referring to Industrial Development Board conclusion 1983/8 of 13 May 1983 on the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985, in which the Board, inter alia, agreed that the asterisks should be deleted before the document was presented to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session.

276. The Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination noted in reply to comments that the document before the Committee contained the proposals of the Secretary-General and would be transmitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, together with the reports of the Industrial Development Board and CPC.

2. Discussion

277. During the general discussion, further clarifications were requested on the criteria used by the central secretariat units in revising some of the priorities assigned by the UNIDO secretariat. One delegation remarked that several topics were dealt with in more than one part of the programme budget; for example, policy co-ordination was implemented as part of executive direction and management and as the main task of the policy co-ordination programme; in addition, co-ordination between UNIDO and the joint industry divisions in the regional commissions was effected by programme element 6.1 of the industrial studies and research programme. References to activities concerning the Industrial Decade for Africa, the least developed among the developing countries and economic co-operation among developing countries also recurred throughout the programme budget and gave rise to the perception that the activities of UNIDO could be better co-ordinated.

278. One delegation felt that the proposed programme budget did not sufficiently reflect the concerns for rationalizing the activities of UNIDO. The requirements for consultants and official travel were too high. Furthermore, the additional resources requested did not include the cost of the senior industrial field advisers; if the latter were included, the real growth rate would be considerably higher. Since those activities were traditionally financed from voluntary contributions, the delegation reaffirmed the negative vote it had cast at the session of the Industrial Development Board on that topic.

279. As regards priorities, the representative of UNIDO recalled that the UNIDO secretariat had presented its programme of work to the Permanent Committee of the Industrial Development Board at its meeting in November 1982 and had requested its guidance regarding the setting of priorities. However, diverging views were expressed during that meeting. The UNIDO secretariat had not encountered difficulties in setting priorities as such but in limiting high priority designations to 10 per cent of resources and in raising low priority designations to an equivalent proportion. The Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination recalled that the Secretary-General had instructions to keep high and low priorities in each case to 10 per cent of resources. The Committee could decide to make a different recommendation, if it deemed necessary. Among the criteria that had been used by the Secretary-General in assigning priorities to individual programme elements were: the proposals contained in the special review of the ongoing work programme of the United Nations (A/36/658); the priority areas contained in the medium-term plan; the existence of related work in other organizational entities of the United Nations system and past performance.

280. Turning to a detailed discussion of the programmes of activity, under programme 1, Policy co-ordination, the Committee had before it Industrial Development Board conclusion 1983/4 on the system of consultations, in which the Board identified six sectors on which consultations would be held and six other sectors for which preliminary preparations would be started during the 1984-1985 biennium. One delegation noted that subprogramme 5 (Programme formulation, management and other support activities) accounted for about one third of the staff

resources of the policy co-ordination programme and asked whether it was necessary to maintain such a level of resources for activities that seemed largely administrative, managerial or representative in nature and had thus been omitted from the medium-term plan.

281. As regards programme 2 (Industrial studies and research), some delegations stated that all of subprogramme 1 (Global and conceptual studies and research) should be accorded low priority because UNIDO should concern itself with practical activities and, furthermore, that those studies included in subprogramme 3 but not corresponding to a sector on which a consultation would be held in 1984-1985 should also be accorded low priority. Other delegations noted the possibility of duplication between programme element 1.2 (Institutional and policy instruments for co-operation) and the work of UNCTAD and between programme element 1.1 (International industrial restructuring, global co-operation strategies) and programme element 2.3 (Industrial redeployment and structural adjustment). Another delegation inquired about the exact division of labour between the Centre for Science and Technology for Development, UNCTAD and UNIDO as regards the work programme relating to science and technology. Other delegations noted that there was no direct and necessary link between the technical publications envisaged in subprogramme 3 (Sectoral studies and research) and the system of consultations and that the priority assigned to the former should therefore not depend on the consultations.

282. As regards programme 3 (Industrial operations), several delegations remarked that the output descriptions were not specific and informative enough and did not provide any basis for scrutiny, analysis and evaluation. One delegation reaffirmed its opposition to the use of funds for pre-investment activities and for the system of consultations favouring private foreign capital. Another delegation inquired whether any of the activities of programme element 3.22 (Formulation, packaging, quality control and production of pharmaceuticals) could be deemed to be antithetical to international efforts towards drug control and, furthermore, whether consideration had been given to the possibility of consolidating all United Nations efforts in the field covered by programme element 5.2 (Procurement of equipment, supplies and contractual services).

283. As regards the activities covered by conference services, public information and external relations, one delegation noted that external relations were covered by this topic, as well as by executive direction and management and subprogramme 5 of policy co-ordination programme and inquired about the exact division of labour among the three units. In reply to a question, the representative of UNIDO said that the UNIDO Public Information Section functioned also as a United Nations information service and as a United Nations information centre for Austria and the Federal Republic of Germany. A delegation remarked that, according to the medium-term plan for 1984-1989 (para. 9.35), one of the objectives of the programme on public information was to ensure that the Department of Public Information remained the focal point for co-ordination and implementation of the information activities of the United Nations and stated that it would have been preferable for public information activities to be included as a programme rather than as programme support. The full picture necessitated also the submission of the budget sections on the Department of Public Information (sect. 27) and on the United Nations Office at Vienna (sect. 28 M) which were not available at the time of discussion of section 17 (UNIDO). Therefore, in agreement with the Director of the Budget Division, that delegation considered it best to return to the subject when section 27 was being discussed by CPC. It was also favourably noted that JIU had been asked to conduct a study on working arrangements between UNIDO, the

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the United Nations Office at Vienna on common services. Some delegations suggested that there be no significant institutional changes in the current arrangements between UNIDO, IAEA and the United Nations Office in Vienna until the JIU report was received and reviewed by the appropriate United Nations bodies. However, other delegations, without prejudice to the views also expressed, emphasized the need not to prejudice the future.

284. The representative of UNIDO emphasized that the level of activities for the biennium 1984-1985 was the same as for the preceding biennium. He referred delegations to the annual report of the Executive Director of UNIDO, which explained in detail the organization of the UNIDO secretariat and the exact division of labour among various administrative units whose activities were, or seemed to be, germane. The organization of the UNIDO secretariat was such that industrial operations, studies and research and general policy analysis and consultations were co-ordinated within three divisions and programmes. This type of co-ordination had been judged to be preferable to one based on a horizontal division of activities, for example, one which would have grouped together research, operations, and policy analysis relating to the least developed countries. As regards the joint industry divisions, there was a process of consultation between UNIDO and the regional commissions on the work to be done. UNIDO also co-ordinated its work with UNEP and UNCTAD on matters of joint interest. The technical publications under subprogramme 3 (Sectoral studies and research) of programme 2 were used as background papers for the consultations, but their use was wider than that. The programme element on procurement of equipment was concerned with highly specialized equipment for the technical assistance projects of UNIDO and included services to all United Nations offices in Vienna.

285. The representative of the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination referred to chapter 20 on science and technology of the medium-term plan for 1984-1989 for a description of the respective roles of different administrative units of the United Nations Secretariat active in the area. There was no direct duplication of activities in the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985; however, this was considered to be a potential problem area and the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination had initiated a study on the distribution of activities relating to science and technology. As regards the distribution of tasks between UNIDO and UNCTAD, there was an awareness that since both units dealt with development, there was an interface between their respective activities. However, both the emphases and the audiences of UNIDO and UNCTAD were different; in addition, there was an institutional mechanism at the level of the secretariats of the two units to ensure co-ordination and avoid duplication.

3. Recommendations

286. The Committee recommended that, in view of conclusion 1983/4 of the Industrial Development Board, the programme elements under subprogramme 4 (System of consultations) of programme 1 (Policy co-ordination) and under subprogramme 3 (Sectoral studies and research) of programme 2 (Industrial studies and research) should be revised as follows:

(a) In programme 1 (Policy co-ordination) subprogramme 4 (System of consultations) in the light of the decision of the Industrial Development Board the following consultations shall have the highest priority:

Food processing
Fertilizer
Leather
Building materials
Petrochemicals
Capital goods with special emphasis on energy-related equipment and technology;

(b) The following consultations shall have neither highest nor lowest priority (since they will not be taken up until the 1986-1987 biennium and will be given appropriate priority designation when considering the programme budget during that biennium):

Fisheries
Industrial manpower
Agricultural machinery
Non-ferrous metals
Iron and steel
Pharmaceuticals;

(c) Programme element 4.4 (Wood and wood products industry) shall be deleted since it will be completed during the 1982-1983 biennium;

(d) Programme elements 4.10 (Consultations on industrial financing) and 4.12 (Trade and trade-related aspects of industrial collaboration arrangements) shall be deleted since no consultations are scheduled during the next two bienniums (and, in the latter instance, the Industrial Development Board considered that the ad hoc group working in this area had completed its task);

(e) Programme element 4.13 (Programme management and supporting activities) shall be amended to reflect the operation and organization of the system of consultations along the lines proposed by the Industrial Development Board;

(f) In subprogramme 3 (Sectoral studies and research):

(i) Programme element 3.4 (Study on the wood and wood processing industry) shall be given lowest priority, since no consultations on this subject are scheduled during the next two bienniums;

(ii) Programme element 3.11 (Study on the capital goods industry) shall be amended to conform with the subject for consultations.

287. The Committee recommended that in paragraph 17.37 the second entry under the heading Programme element should read 4.1-4.17 instead of 4.17 and that, in paragraph 17.46, subprogramme 4, programme element 4.5, (Monitoring implementation of recommendations of the International Forum on Appropriate Industrial Technology) should be deleted, in accordance with annex XI to the introduction to the proposed programme budget, and the subsequent programme elements should be renumbered accordingly.

288. The Committee recommended that, as regards the activities relating to narcotics and plants envisaged in programme element 3.22, (Formulation, packaging, quality control and production of pharmaceuticals) of programme 3, UNIDO should maintain close co-ordination with the International Narcotics Control Board and other related bodies.

289. The Committee also endorsed the request of the Industrial Development Board that, in anticipation of the transformation of UNIDO into a specialized agency, JIU should undertake a study of the necessary co-ordination among the United Nations agencies located at Vienna with a view to avoiding duplication.

290. The Committee recommended in the light of the discussion in the Industrial Development Board and its conclusions, that the establishment of industrial training infrastructure and individual group training and inter-agency co-ordination and the liaison offices in New York and at Geneva should be upgraded from low priority to none.

291. With the above change, the Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it should approve the commitments contained in the programme narratives of section 17 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/35/38), para. 345, and *ibid.*, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/37/38), para. 375.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/36/38), para. 514.

3/ For the report of the Committee on its seventeenth session, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/32/38).

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/37/38), paras. 360-374.

5/ *Ibid.*, para. 367.

6/ See also chap. V, sect. E, of the present report.

7/ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 38 (A/37/38), para. 343.

8/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/37/6).

9/ See General Assembly resolution 37/234, annex.

10/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/37/38), para. 362.

ANNEX I

Agenda for the twenty-third session of the Committee

1. Election of officers for 1983.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.
4. Cross-organizational programme analysis in marine affairs.
5. Evaluation.
6. Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination.
7. Provisional agenda for the twenty-fourth session of the Committee.
8. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

ANNEX II

List of documents before the Committee at the first part
of its twenty-third session

Future A/37/6/Add.1

Reformulations of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989, including reformulated subprogrammes 1, 2 and 3 of programme 1 and subprogramme 4 of programme 3, chapter 17 (Natural resources), in the light of the new requirements resulting from the decisions of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and the considerations thereon by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session; and reformulated subprogramme 5 of programme 1, chapter 21 (Social development and humanitarian affairs)

A/C.5/37/51

Updating of the special review of the ongoing work programme of the United Nations: report of the Secretary-General

Future A/38/6

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985:
Introduction
Foreword
Section 10 (Economic Commission for Europe)
Section 13 (Economic Commission for Africa)
Section 14 (Economic Commission for Western Asia)
Section 17 (United Nations Industrial Development Organization)

A/38/126

Rules governing programme planning, the programme aspects of the budget, the monitoring of implementations and methods of evaluation: report of the Secretary-General

A/38/133 and Corr.1

Strengthening the capacity of the United Nations evaluation units and systems and timetable for review of evaluation programmes requested under General Assembly resolutions 36/228 B and 37/234: report of the Secretary-General

A/38/160

Second report on the elaboration of regulations for the planning, programming and evaluation cycle of the United Nations: note by the Secretary-General

E/1983/39

Annual report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination for 1982-1983

E/1983/48

Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on the strengthening of the co-ordination of information systems in the United Nations system

A/AC.198/60	Progress report on the establishment of systematic procedures for monitoring and evaluation of the activities of the Department of Public Information: note by the Secretariat
E/AC.51/1983/1	Provisional agenda
E/AC.51/1983/2 and Corr.1-3 and Add.1	Cross-organizational programme analysis in marine affairs: report of the Secretary-General
E/AC.51/1983/3 and Add.1	Co-ordination of food and agriculture in Asia and the Pacific by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: report of the Secretary-General
E/AC.51/1983/4	Implementation of recommendations made on the mineral resources programme by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-second session: note by the Secretariat
E/AC.51/1983/5 and Add.1	Evaluation of United Nations Development Programme-financed technical co-operation activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the field of manufactures: report of the Secretary-General
E/AC.51/1983/6	Establishment of an information system unit in the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs: report of the Secretary-General
E/AC.51/1983/7	In-depth evaluation of the work of the Department of Public Information: report of the Secretary-General
E/AC.51/1983/8	Report on the programme and plan of activities of the Joint United Nations Information Committee
E/AC.51/1983/10	Agenda and programme of work adopted by the Committee at its first (organizational) meeting on 11 April 1983
E/AC.51/1983/11	Methods and procedure for the provision of statements of programme implications to the General Assembly: report of the Secretary-General
E/AC.51/1983/L.2	Draft programme of work: note by the Secretariat
E/AC.51/1983/L.3 and Add.1-18	Draft report
E/AC.51/1983/CRP.1	Timetable for the preparation of the programme budget proposals for 1984-1985 by the units of the Secretariat: note by the Secretariat
E/AC.51/1983/CRP.2	Tentative programme of work (16 May to 3 June 1983): note by the Secretariat

Part Two

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION
ON THE SECOND PART OF ITS TWENTY-THIRD SESSION*

Held at United Nations Headquarters
from 29 August to 12 September 1983

* Originally issued in mimeographed form on 26 September 1983 under the symbol A/38/38 (Part II).

ORGANIZATION OF THE RESUMED SESSION

1. The Committee held its resumed twenty-third session at United Nations Headquarters from 29 August to 12 September 1983. It held 27 meetings (43rd to 69th meetings).

2. The following States members of the Committee were represented:

Argentina	Nigeria
Brazil	Philippines
Cameroon	Romania
Chile	Trinidad and Tobago
Ethiopia	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
France	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Germany, Federal Republic of	
India	United States of America
Japan	Yugoslavia
Netherlands	

3. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers:

Bahamas	Greece
Belgium	Italy
Denmark	Mexico
Egypt	Sierra Leone
Finland	Sweden
Ghana	

The following specialized agencies were represented:

International Labour Organisation
 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
 World Health Organization
 International Fund for Agricultural Development

The International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/GATT) was also represented.

4. Also present at the resumed session were the Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination, the Controller, the Executive Director, Centre for Science and Technology and Development, the Assistant Secretary-General, Office for Development Research and Policy Analysis, the Assistant Secretary-General, Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, the Assistant Secretary-General, Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters, the Assistant Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and other senior officials of the United Nations Secretariat, as well as representatives of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA). Representatives of

the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO), the World Food Council (WFC), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), UNEP, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) also attended the session.

Adoption of the Committee's report

5. The Committee considered and adopted its draft report on its resumed twenty-third session (E/AC.51/1983/L.3/Add.19-43), at its 66th to 69th meetings, held from 9 to 12 September 1983.

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985

A. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985

General observations

6. The view was expressed that the programme outputs set out in the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985 1/ could and should be implemented within existing resources, through more effective and rational utilization of these resources and through elimination of duplication and overlapping.

7. Other delegations were of the firm opinion that discussion of the subject of the level of resource requirements was not within the mandate of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination. Furthermore, they believed that the setting of any pre-determined level of resources was detrimental to the proper functioning of the United Nations; and that the use of the concept of implementation of programmes from existing resources constituted a pre-judgement of the level of activity mandated by the relevant legislative bodies of the United Nations.

Section 1. Overall policy-making, direction and co-ordination

1. Introduction

8. At its 62nd and 63rd meetings, on 7 and 8 September 1983, the Committee considered section 1. The section was introduced by the representative of the Budget Division who explained that the programmes represented in it referred to the needs for resources of those organs or offices which respond to initiatives of the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs, or to matters of general application to the aims and activities of the Organization as a whole.

2. Discussion

9. Concern was expressed by delegations at the lack of a programmatic format in the presentations within the section, the World Food Council being an exception.

10. It was proposed that the World Food Council would in future be deleted from section 1 and would have to appear in another section. The representative of the Secretary-General said that this question would be considered when preparing the next proposed programme budget.

11. One delegation stated that priorities should be clearly set in this programme. The representative of the World Food Council replied that although the priorities had not been indicated in the document, programme elements 1.1 (Policy co-ordination) and 1.2 (Policy development and economic analysis) were of equally high priority while programme element 1.3 (Information activities) had a lower priority.

12. In the detailed examination of programme element 1.2, it was stated that output (v) appeared to be a duplication of outputs (ii) and (iv). However, the representative of the World Food Council indicated that it could be subsumed in output (ii) of programme element 1.1 instead.

13. Several delegations suggested that activities in the other programmes of the section such as meetings, lecture tours and consultants' reports were outputs which could be programmatic and more clearly defined by the use of such format.

14. Several delegations questioned the need for the two new Professional posts proposed for the Executive Office of the Secretary-General. The representative of the Budget Division pointed out that the needs of the Secretary-General were of an immediate nature for information material properly screened, condensed and synthesized, very often concerning subjects not in the day-to-day scope of coverage of other Departments. Regarding the second post, it was mentioned that the Secretary-General often delivers speeches on complex issues in languages that are not his mother tongue.

15. With regard to the Liaison Office of the Co-ordinator of Assistance for the Reconstruction and Development of Lebanon, a question was raised concerning paragraph 1.120. Some delegations recommended deleting the words "The Security Council or the General Assembly" in paragraph 1.120 and replacing them by the words "a relevant body of the United Nations".

3. Conclusion and recommendations

16. The Committee decided to recommend that succeeding programme budget proposals should be formulated in the same generally accepted programmatic format wherever possible.

17. The Committee further agreed that the reference to output (v) in programme element 1.2 (Policy development and economic analysis) of the World Food Council would be deleted and accommodated in output (ii) of programme element 1.1 (Policy co-ordination).

18. In connection with paragraph 1.82, the Committee drew attention to the desirability of adhering to the principle set forth in General Assembly resolution 31/140.

19. The Committee also recommended deleting the words "the Security Council or the General Assembly" in the first sentence of paragraph 1.120 and replacing them by the words "a relevant body of the United Nations".

20. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 1 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 2A. Political and Security Council affairs; peace-keeping activities

1. Introduction

21. At its 65th and 66th meetings, on 9 September 1983, the Committee considered section 2A of the proposed programme budget.

22. The representative of the Office of Financial Services, in introducing the section, pointed out that this section corresponded to programmes contained in the approved medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989, in chapters 1, 2 and 8.

2. Discussion

23. Some delegations expressed concern about possible duplication in respect of the provision of information to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General as indicated in paragraph 2A.12 of section 2A. It was recalled that similar functions were included in paragraph 1.49 of section 1 and that the Committee had indicated on several occasions in the past that information functions should be the responsibility of only one unit in the Secretariat.

24. The representative of the Budget Division explained that the activities in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General referred to in paragraph 1.49 were different and sui generis, involving screening and synthesizing the vast volume of world-wide media coverage, including information collected from different sources and also from various secretariat units.

25. Several delegations questioned the inclusion of the Peace Observation Commission (programme element 1.9 of subprogramme 1 (Security Council and Political Committees Division)) as it had been deleted by CPC at its twenty-second session. One delegation supported the retention of this programme element. The representative of the Budget Division informed the Committee that the annotated preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly (A/38/100, item 17 (f)) made express reference to the recommendation of CPC at its twenty-second session. One delegation expressed its strong objection to the inclusion of the International Sea Bed Authority and its subsidiary organs in the United Nations programme budget. However, other delegations expressed objections to that view.

26. Some delegations expressed concern about the continuing practice of the transfer of staff from extrabudgetary resources to the regular budget as reflected in paragraph 2A.74, but one delegation expressed support for this case.

27. Several delegations proposed the deletion of the words "intermediate output" in the narratives of programme elements 2.2 (Specific peace and security issues) and 2.4 (International marine political and security questions) of subprogramme 2 (Service for international peace and security including international marine political and Security Council affairs) under Political Affairs Division.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

28. On the question of the provision of information to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (para. 2A.12) the Committee felt that there was a possible duplication between the activities in this section and those indicated in paragraph 1.49 of section 1 of the proposed programme budget.

29. With reference to programme element 1.6, the Committee expressed its interest in seeing a streamlining of the programme of work of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations.

30. Regarding programme element 1.9 (Peace Observation Commission) of subprogramme 1, the Committee decided that this matter should be specifically brought to the attention of the General Assembly, recalling the recommendation contained in its report on the work of its twenty-second session. 2/

31. The Committee recommended the deletion of the word "intermediate" regarding outputs under programme elements 2.2 and 2.4 of subprogramme 2 under the Political Affairs Division.

32. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 2A of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 2B. Department for Disarmament Affairs

1. Introduction

33. At its 63rd meeting, on 8 September 1983, the Committee considered section 2B of the proposed programme budget.

34. In introducing the section, the representative of the Department for Disarmament Affairs emphasized the growing importance of disarmament activities since the tenth special session of the General Assembly and as stressed by the concluding document of the twelfth special session of the General Assembly, the second special session devoted to disarmament (A/S-12/32).

35. The increasing workload and the complexity of the issues involved had led to the transformation, as of 1 January 1983, of the Centre for Disarmament into the Department for Disarmament Affairs as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/99 K of 13 December 1982. The major responsibility of the Department was the provision of substantive servicing of the Committee on Disarmament and the annual sessions of the First Committee of the General Assembly, which deals exclusively with questions of disarmament and related international security. Another function mandated by the General Assembly was that of providing central guidance in the co-ordination of World Disarmament Campaign activities within the United Nations system and maintaining liaison with governmental and non-governmental organizations and research institutes. The Department would need to respond swiftly to the growing demands by intergovernmental bodies for the promotion, substantive preparation, implementation and control of the process of disarmament.

36. The representative of the Office of Financial Services stated that new subprogramme 5 (World Disarmament Campaign), had been included in section 2B. Its identification as a separate subprogramme was the result of the growing importance of the United Nations in this activity. This subprogramme was based on the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1985 and on General Assembly resolution 37/100 I, which approved the general framework of the World Disarmament Campaign.

37. Subprogramme 4 (Fellowships on disarmament), was based on subprogramme 4, (Training for disarmament), of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989. It was considered that such presentation would better reflect the growing importance of this activity, emphasized by General Assembly resolution 37/100 G.

2. Discussion

38. Members of the Committee in their comments noted the importance of the United Nations activity in the field of disarmament and expressed their agreement with the priority rating given by the Secretary-General.

39. Some delegations expressed concern at the high rate of real growth proposed in this section of the proposed programme budget. One delegation questioned the effectiveness of the Department as a result of an increased number of posts.

40. One delegation stated that General Assembly resolution 37/99 K on the strengthening of disarmament activity at the United Nations did not mention any increase in resources for this activity.

41. Some delegations pointed out that programme element 2.2 (Disarmament Reference Library) should be given normal priority instead of highest priority.

42. Two delegations requested further information about the need for the reclassification of a D-1 post to the D-2 level in the Information and Studies Branch proposed in paragraph 2B.18. In reply, the representative of the Department for Disarmament Affairs stated that the reclassification of the post proposed in paragraph 2B.18 was based on the increased responsibility for information and studies in the field of disarmament.

43. Some delegations proposed the merger of subprogramme 2 (Information on disarmament) and subprogramme 5 (World Disarmament Campaign). They believed that the two subprogrammes duplicated each other. Some delegations pointed out that the world disarmament campaign was already included in subprogramme 2 of the medium-term plan. They, therefore, objected to the inclusion of a new subprogramme 5 in the proposed programme budget before revision of the medium-term plan. Other delegations stated that they had no difficulty in accepting the proposal of the Secretary-General for a separate subprogramme 5.

44. One delegation drew the Committee's attention to the necessity of co-operation between the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Department of Political and Security Council Affairs on the question of servicing the First Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean. The delegation also proposed the deletion of paragraph 2B.20 as the Committee on Disarmament and the Secretariat had an adequate number of competent staff members in this area.

45. In reply to questions raised by some delegations on the absence of information on extrabudgetary resources relating to disarmament activities and a breakdown of provisions on consultants and ad hoc expert groups, it was stated that, at the time of the preparation of the proposed programme budget, the Secretariat did not have information on extrabudgetary resources for disarmament activities; also the details requested for consultants and ad hoc expert groups were given as follows:

(a) Consultants: (para. 2B.20), programme element 2.4, \$19,000 and programme element 3.2, \$101,900;

(b) Ad hoc expert groups (para. 2B.22), programme element 3.1, \$337,900 and programme element 3.2, \$269,000.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

46. The Committee noted the growing importance of the United Nations in strengthening international activities in the field of disarmament.

47. As the views of delegations diverged on the question of merging subprogrammes 2 and 5, it was decided to reflect that point in the conclusions of the Committee.

48. The Committee recommended that programme element 2.2 (Disarmament Reference Library) of subprogramme 2 (Information on Disarmament) should be given a normal priority instead of highest priority.

49. With the above change, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 2B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 3. Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization

1. Introduction

50. At its 64th meeting, held on 8 September 1983, the Committee considered section 3 of the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985.

51. In introducing the section, the representative of the Department for Political Affairs, Trusteeship and Decolonization described some departures in the programme budget from the medium-term plan for 1984-1989 and stated that additional responsibilities including the functions of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs in South-East Asia had been assigned to the head of the department. The head of the Department had also been assigned the responsibility of assisting the Secretary-General in carrying out the mandate given by the General Assembly by its resolution 37/6 on the situation in Kampuchea. These additional responsibilities made it necessary to transfer the activities related to the situation in Kampuchea from section 1 to section 3 of the proposed programme budget. The Department was also responsible for assisting the Secretary-General in fulfilling the mandates given to him by the Assembly under resolution 37/9 on the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), resolution 37/30 on East Timor and resolution 37/28 and decision 37/411 on Western Sahara. In co-operation with other departments and offices of the Secretariat, this Department was required to assist the Secretary-General in his efforts towards developing the capacity of the Organization for fact-finding in potential conflict areas, pursuant to his annual report to the thirty-seventh session of the Assembly as endorsed in resolution 37/67.

52. The representative of the Department also pointed out that, in order to fulfil these additional responsibilities within existing resources, and to rationalize and simplify the presentation of the programme budget, the narrative had been presented according to the types of activity. The four main activities carried out by the Department were: (a) servicing of intergovernmental bodies; (b) research and analysis; (c) information, preparation of documentation and co-ordination; and (d) fact-finding and good offices. These activities were grouped together under separate subprogrammes indicating the objectives as well as outputs in each case. He noted, however, that these activities were related to all the four programmes under the major programme, namely, political affairs, trusteeship, decolonization and Namibia. It was for this reason that each subprogramme had been listed under all the four programmes thus avoiding repetition and duplication in the presentation.

2. Discussion

53. The view was expressed by one delegation that some paragraphs of the narratives of subsections A and B did not reflect clearly the relationship between the Trusteeship Council and the Security Council. He also suggested that instead of using the words "still remaining to be decolonized" in paragraph 3.10 the words "on the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories" should be used.

54. Another delegation questioned the propriety of including in the proposed programme budget an element in respect of only the activities of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO). Other delegations pointed out that this inclusion reflected decisions taken by the General Assembly. It was also suggested that references to "national liberation movements" throughout the proposed programme budget should be brought into line with accepted phraseology and qualified by the addition of the words "recognized by the Organization of African Unity."

55. With regard to the information component of subprogramme 3 (Co-ordination and information) of programme 1, one delegation expressed concern about a possible duplication of this activity with the activities carried out by the Department of Public Information.

56. Another delegation stated that in the future the section should be prepared in accordance with the standard format, that is, indicating programmes and subprogrammes together with specific outputs. At the request of one delegation, clarification was provided about the United Nations Trust Fund for the Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (UNETPSA).

3. Conclusion and recommendations

57. References to "national liberation movements" should be followed by the words "recognized by the Organization of African Unity".

58. In paragraph 3.1, the first sentence should read as follows: "The Trusteeship Council, composed of five Member States, is a principal organ of the United Nations, established under Article 7 of the Charter. Its function is to assist the General Assembly and the Security Council in carrying out their functions with respect to the international trusteeship system."

59. In paragraph 3.10, the words "still remaining to be decolonized" should be replaced by the words "on the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories."

60. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve outputs in the programme narratives of section 3 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 4. Policy-making organs (economic and social activities)

1. Introduction

61. At its 66th meeting, on 9 September, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination considered section 4 of the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985. The representative of the Office of Financial Services introduced the section.

2. Discussion

(a) Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and committees and other recurrent meetings

62. It was suggested that the third sentence of paragraph 4.1, which read "The Ad Hoc Committee ... regrouped.", was superfluous and should be deleted from the text.

(b) Committee for Programme and Co-ordination

63. Several delegations suggested that the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination should be taken out of section 4 and included under section 1.A (Policy-making organs of the General Assembly), since the Committee dealt not only with economic and social activities but also with the question of programming and co-ordination in the whole Secretariat and the United Nations system. The Committee was also a subsidiary of both the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. It was also suggested that the special arrangements provided for under General Assembly resolution 32/197, annex, by which the cost of travel and subsistence of the representatives of the Committee were to be paid by the United Nations for an experimental period as an exception to General Assembly resolution 1798 (XVII), should be made permanent by the General Assembly. This would enable the Committee to fulfil its functions as spelt out in resolution 31/13 and would continue to facilitate high-level representation by States members of the Committee. The special arrangement for the payment of the travel and subsistence of the States members of the Committee is currently guided by a restrictive interpretation and should logically be extended to the joint meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination since the participation of the Committee at the joint meetings was not adequate. Some members expressed their strong opposition to these proposals on the grounds that the Committee was not an expert body but a Committee of government representatives. The burden of attending these meetings should not be borne by the entire membership.

64. Questions were raised by delegations concerning the adequacy of the sessions of the Committee during the budget years, which were now limited to four weeks. It was pointed out that while this period was barely sufficient for the consideration of the many sections of the proposed programme budget, the Committee also had to consider other substantive items, such as evaluation studies and cross-organizational programme analyses, at those sessions.

(c) International Conference on Population

65. It was suggested that, in the first sentence of paragraph 4.36, the phrase "in his capacity as Secretary-General of the Conference" should be added after "The Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities ...". In response to questions concerning paragraph 4.39 of the document, it was explained that the additional appropriation that would be requested under the regular budget for the holding of the International Conference on Population in 1984 would not exceed the amount of \$800,000 recommended by the Economic and Social Council, and that the rationale for not including the request at this time was due to the expectation that it might be possible that the resources to be requested under the regular budget would be less than originally anticipated.

(d) Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

66. Doubt was expressed about the necessity of having as many as four staff members representing the Office of the Secretary-General at the Seventh Congress.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

67. The Committee decided that the programme budget on the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination should be transferred to section 1 of the programme budget.

68. The Committee decided also to delete the third sentence of paragraph 4.1 of the document, which read "The Ad Hoc Committee ... regrouped".

69. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narratives of section 4 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 5A. Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation

1. Introduction

70. At its 43rd meeting, on 29 August, the Committee considered section 5A of the proposed programme budget. That section had been introduced by a representative of the Office of Financial Services at the 33rd meeting, on 27 May, during the first part of the Committee's twenty-third session.

2. Discussion

71. The Committee first considered the programme description pertaining to section 5A as contained in paragraphs 5A.1 to 5A.10.

72. Some delegations noted that the description of the activities to be undertaken by the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation during the biennium 1984-1985 did not conform to the format used throughout the proposed programme budget. One delegation felt that the presentation of the programme of activities was, because of its general nature, more akin to the medium-term plan than the proposed programme budget. That delegation felt furthermore that, in the absence of specified programme elements and outputs, no real analysis by the Committee could be carried out in accordance with the programme planning regulations and rules. Another delegation stated that, in spite of the complexities inherent in the nature of the activities carried out by the Office of the Director-General, the programmatic information could have been more specific.

73. One delegation inquired about the action taken by the Secretary-General as a result of the recommendation made by the Joint Inspection Unit in its report on the relationships between the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation and entities of the United Nations Secretariat (A/36/419) to the effect that the authority of the Director-General should be clarified and specified, and that a Secretary-General's bulletin and a section of the United Nations organization manual devoted to the Office of the Director-General should be issued. It was recalled that, in its decision 37/442, the General Assembly had requested the Secretary-General to undertake implementation of the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit along the lines indicated in his comments (A/36/419/Add.1).

74. One delegation requested a clarification on the distinction made in paragraph 5A.10 (c) between the provision of Secretariat support to the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board and participation in the work of the Central Monitoring Unit, which operates under the authority of the Board itself.

75. With regard to paragraph 5A.10 (c), one delegation suggested that the description of the functions of the Office of the Director-General could be reformulated to state that it assisted the Director-General "in carrying out his responsibilities relating to the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board, which is chaired by the Secretary-General or in his absence by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation".

76. The representative of the Office of the Director-General remarked that the Director-General recognized that his Office was, as were other entities in the United Nations Secretariat, bound by the rules and regulations governing programme planning and the budget instructions. It was to be noted in that respect that the programmatic text under section 5A of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 went well beyond the corresponding presentation made in the proposed programme budget for 1982-1983 in terms of details and specificity. However, given the nature of the functions assigned to the Director-General, a close adherence to the presentation by programme element and output would not have resulted in an improved and more informative text. It had to be borne in mind that the Office of the Director-General exercised very few direct operational responsibilities but rather carried out overall direction and co-ordination responsibilities which did not lend themselves to a presentation strictly in conformity with all aspects of the prescribed format.

77. With regard to the implementation of section V of General Assembly decision 37/442, he was aware that work was under way in connection with the preparation of the Secretary-General's bulletin and a section of the United Nations organization manual devoted to the Office of the Director-General, in the context of the preparation of a new issue of the organization manual, but was not in a position to indicate to the Committee when that work would be completed.

78. With respect to paragraph 5A.10 (c), the representative of the Office of the Director-General remarked that a distinction should be made between the functions of the Director-General himself, as Chairman of the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board (PPBB) in the absence of the Secretary-General, and those of his Office, which provided secretariat services for the Board. The participation of his Office in the work of the Central Monitoring Unit was reflected in the composition of that Unit, which included one staff member from the Office of the Director-General. The activities of the Central Monitoring Unit were the subject of a separate paragraph of a report now before the Committee (A/C.5/38/6).

79. The Committee then turned to a review of paragraphs 5A.11 to 5A.20, dealing with resource requirements.

80. Several delegations expressed their satisfaction with the efforts made to improve the allocation of resources within section 5A, and expressed support for the proposed redeployment of posts from section 5A to section 6 (Department of International Economic and Social Affairs).

81. One delegation expressed concern at the apparent contradiction between requests made over the past few years to the effect that the Director-General should play a more dynamic and innovative role and the reduction in real terms of related resource requirements in 1984-1985.

82. A few delegations felt that the justification provided in support of the request for consultant funds was couched in too general terms. One delegation, noting that, for the most part, the Office of the Director-General was responsible

for harmonizing inputs from substantive departments and other United Nations entities and co-ordinating the response of the Secretariat to the mandates given to it by the legislative bodies, questioned the need for outside expertise in the implementation of those functions. Another delegation noted that, in paragraph 5A.15, the request for consultant services was said to be justified, particularly in relation to the issues identified for inclusion in the process of global negotiations and with respect to the processes of restructuring and rationalization of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations. In the view of that delegation, neither of those areas could benefit from the use of consultant services. In the first case, because only intergovernmental inputs could represent a valid contribution; in the second case, because the responsibility for implementing the very detailed legislative mandate on restructuring and rationalization fell clearly on the members of the Secretariat.

83. On the other hand, several delegations stressed the fact that the Office of the Director-General, being a small office, should be granted the flexibility of using, as and when required, outside expertise to deal with the various tasks entrusted to it. One delegation, while recognizing that a certain discipline had to be observed in the use of consultant funds, expressed the view that the need to reconcile that requirement with a need for flexibility could be considered at a later stage. Another delegation expressed the view that the use of consultant services by the Office of the Director-General within the framework of the process of global negotiations and with regard to other international economic issues had proved useful to the developing countries in the past and should be continued.

84. The representative of the Office of the Director-General emphasized that the general character of the justification provided in support of the request for consultant funds was due to the inherent nature of the duties entrusted to the Director-General by the General Assembly and the fact that, to a large extent, the exact utilization of all those resources could not be foreseen at that stage. On the basis of the experience of the current biennium, he was positive that the amount requested was absolutely needed. He provided information on the broad areas of activity in which those funds were spent in the current biennium and those in which it was anticipated such funds would be spent in 1984-1985. He indicated that it should also be borne in mind that, while one important aspect of the responsibilities of the Director-General related to his co-ordination functions, the Director-General was also required, under the terms of General Assembly resolution 32/197, as underlined in the subsequent report of the Secretary-General on restructuring (A/33/410/Rev.1), to perform innovative and catalytic tasks of an interdisciplinary nature straddling the activities of substantive departments. In resolution 32/197, provision was made for the Secretary-General to entrust to the Director-General, in addition to the functions specified in the resolution, such other tasks in areas of responsibility related to the ensemble of the economic and social activities of the United Nations as he deemed necessary. Furthermore, he indicated that there were specific areas where the Director-General had responsibilities distinct from those of the substantive departments concerned, such as in the fields of operational activities of the United Nations system and of new and renewable sources of energy. He assured the Committee that consultant services were only used when existing expertise in the Secretariat could not be made available.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

85. The Committee noted with appreciation the efforts made to improve the allocation of resources within section 5A.

86. The Committee noted the progress made in the format of the programmatic content of section 5A as compared to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1982-1983. Nevertheless, while bearing in mind a special need for flexibility in view of the unique functions carried out by the Office of the Director-General, the Committee recommended that further efforts should be made to improve the presentation by making it more specific, in conformity with the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on programme planning and the presentation of the programme budget.

87. The Committee recommended that in paragraph 5A.10 (c) the second sentence should read as follows:

"In this connection, the Office, inter alia, assists the Director-General in preparing the introduction of the medium-term plan and in carrying out his responsibility relating to the PFBB, which is chaired by the Secretary-General or, in his absence, by the Director-General."

88. The Committee recommended that the Secretary-General's bulletin and the section of the United Nations organization manual devoted to the Office of the Director-General should be issued urgently.

89. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narratives of section 5A of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 5B. Centre for Science and Technology for Development

1. Introduction

90. At its 43rd and 44th meetings, on 29 August, the Committee considered section 5B (Centre for Science and Technology for Development) of the proposed programme budget.

91. In his introductory statement, the Assistant-Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination pointed out that subprogramme 3, entitled "Financing for science and technology for development", had been included under the Centre's programme budget proposals for 1984-1985. It would be recalled that the Committee during its review of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989, had recommended at its twenty-second session the deletion of subprogramme 3 of the Centre's programme of work 3/ in order not to prejudge the decisions on the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development to be taken by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session. The Committee's recommendation to delete subprogramme 3 had been endorsed by the General Assembly when it adopted the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 (resolution 37/234 of 21 December 1982). At a subsequent meeting, the Assembly, in resolution 37/244 of 21 December 1982 on the long-term financial and institutional arrangements for the Financing System, had assigned certain general functions to the Centre. In response to that mandate, the Secretary-General was now proposing to reinstate subprogramme 3 under the Centre's work programme. He considered the activities to be carried out under this programme as of the highest priority. Except for the proposed reinstatement of subprogramme 3, the Centre's budgetary proposals as proposed were in compliance with the 1984-1989 medium-term plan. Highest and lowest priorities had been designated throughout the programme.

2. Discussion

92. A good part of the discussion centred around the reinstatement of subprogramme 3 (Financing for science and technology for development). Delegations sought more clarification on the matter and several were of the opinion that General Assembly resolution 37/244 by itself did not provide a strong enough mandate to reinstate the subprogramme. However, the Secretary-General's proposal to reinstate subprogramme 3 was also supported on the grounds that its deletion had been recommended as a temporary measure in order not to prejudge the decisions of the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session and that, in resolution 37/244, the Assembly had now acted on this matter. Some delegations thought that there was a possible case of duplication between programme elements 2.1 and 3.1, both of which concern the Centre's support to the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development, and recommended the merger of the two programme elements in a revised programme element 2.1.

93. In response, the Executive Director of the Centre stated that, on the basis of General Assembly resolution 34/218 of 19 December 1979, a subprogramme 3 on financing for science and technology for development had existed in all previous programme budgets of the Centre, and that, in his view, resolution 37/244 did not remove any of the Centre's responsibilities but, on the contrary, paragraphs 14 (d), (i) and (f) gave the Centre a mandate to continue to work in this area.

94. Observations were made regarding the apparent duplication between outputs listed under programme elements 1.2 (Early identification and assessment of new scientific and technological developments) and 4.4 (Provision of information on science and technology for development). The Executive Director of the Centre explained that the two publications were different in nature. The output under programme element 4.4 would be the publication of the quarterly newsletter Update, while the technical/scientific publications under programme element 1.2 would deal with early identification and assessment of new technological developments which might affect the development process of developing countries.

95. Queries were made concerning the lack of output during the biennium under programme elements 2.3 (Support to the ACC Task Force on Science and Technology for Development), 2.4 (Co-ordination of, and support to, the activities of Secretariat units - including the regional commissions - participating in the implementation of the major programme in science and technology) and 3.2 (Promotion of the financing of science and technology as an integral part of national capacity building in the context of the Vienna Programme of Action). In response it was explained that, according to standard practice, final output was cited under a programme element only if it were to be produced and distributed to users outside of the secretariats of the United Nations system during the budgetary period under consideration. In the case of programme element 4.2 (Monitoring of contributions by the scientific community and other non-governmental organizations and support to their activities in science and technology for development), the performance report for the biennium 1982-1983 would give the reason for the postponement of output delivery from that biennium.

96. Some delegations considered that the titles of programme elements 3.2 and 4.2 should be reworded so as to convey a clearer meaning of the activities envisaged.

97. In conjunction with a query regarding the specific outputs planned under programme element 2.3 (Support to the ACC Task Force on Science and Technology for Development), some delegations observed that reference to such activities could be found throughout the budget and proposed a general recommendation requesting the Secretary-General to provide detailed information regarding the mandates for and sources of financing of ACC organs.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

98. The Committee made the following recommendations:

Under subprogramme 3. Financing for science and technology for development:

(a) The reference under (b) to General Assembly resolution 37/244 of 21 December 1982 should be expanded to include the following:

section II A, paragraph 11 and section II C, paragraph 14.

(b) The title of programme element 3.1 should be changed to read as follows:

"3.1 Assistance to the Director-General in providing the necessary substantive support to the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development in its work relating to the Financing System."

(c) The title of programme element 3.2 should be changed to read as follows:

"3.2 Promotion and assistance in the elaboration of mechanisms of financing of science and technology at the national, subregional and regional levels as an integral part of national capacity building in the context of the Vienna Programme of Action."

99. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 5B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 6. Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

1. Introduction

100. At its 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th and 50th meetings, on 29, 30 and 31 August 1983, the Committee considered section 6 of the proposed programme budget. It also had before it a statement by the Secretary-General on the programme, financial and administrative implications (E/AC.51/1983/L.6).

101. The Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination, in his introductory statement, noted that the programme budget of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs had been designed to help fulfil the Department's critical function of providing policy research and analysis on the broad economic and social issues with which Governments had to deal. Despite an increase in the scope and complexity of those issues, the proposals had implied virtually no increase in resources for the Department. Rather the new imperatives for action had been accommodated through careful programming according to plan priorities, redeployment of staff and increased use of technologies to improve productivity.

102. He noted that changes from the programme budget for the previous biennium reflected the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989. They included a new programme on energy with two subprogrammes. The ocean economic and technology programme had been based on the proposed new major programme in marine affairs discussed during the first part of the Committee's session. Work in development issues and policies emphasized the review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade; that in population stressed the International Population Conference in 1984; that in social development emphasized the United Nations Conference to Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, International Youth Year and the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders; and the statistics programme was continuing on the basis of specific guidance by the Statistical Commission. He further noted that the Office of Programme Planning and Co-ordination had been subjected to a particularly close review in order to help streamline and rationalize the work of the Department. This had included transfer of the function of resources planning for the Department to the "Executive direction and Management" programme and of work on transport, which emphasized that aspect of the International Development Strategy to the Development Issues and Policies" programme.

2. Discussion

103. In the general discussion on section 6, a number of delegations expressed satisfaction with the section as a whole, noting that it provided a good example of programme planning. General concern was expressed in the Committee over the use of consultants in the section, as in the budget as a whole. A number of delegations recalled the General Assembly's understandings about the proper use of consultants and questioned whether this had always been applied in section 6. In particular, the need to avoid duplication in the work of consultants between different sections or even subsections of the budget was underscored, as was the importance of not using consultants to perform tasks that were more properly the functions of regular Secretariat staff. General concern was expressed about the context and utility of Secretariat studies. Some delegations recalled that those studies should be guided by section 8 of the annex to resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 and should be action-oriented. Another delegation added that the review of studies would be enhanced if Governments could form a judgement about the impact that those studies had at the national level.

(a) Executive direction and management

104. The Committee requested an explanation of the justification for the additional post for programme element 1.3 (Liaison with non-governmental organizations) and was informed by the Secretariat that the level of resources for that activity had been constant for the past 20 years despite the rapid increase in the number of non-governmental organizations that were serviced. Several members of the Committee noted that the redeployment of the resources planning function for the Department from programme planning and co-ordination to executive direction and management would help rationalize work. Several delegations noted that the consultants requested in paragraph 6.11 appeared similar to those included in section 5A and in other subsectors of section 6 and suggested that duplication existed. In reply, the Assistant Secretary-General for Development Research and Policy Analysis noted that the consultants were for broad subjects that transcended the work of the specialized divisions in the Department; the representative of the Director-General assured the Committee that close consultations were maintained to

ensure that there was no duplication, but rather that the tasks for which consultants were engaged would be complementary and in keeping with the appropriate levels of policy decision of the respective offices.

(b) Global development issues and policies

105. Several delegations noted that the terminology used in the subsection was frequently not sufficiently clear to permit a complete understanding of the nature of the work. Specific mention was made of paragraphs 6.19, 6.21 and 6.22 with reference to terms such as "a more effective integrated and coherent approach to interregional interdisciplinary and intersectoral research and analysis of policy alternatives", "alternative strategies" and "global structural changes". The Committee was of the view that future budgets should be more clearly drafted. One delegation questioned inclusion of the development and extension of the LINK model under subprogramme 1 (Development perspectives) rather than under subprogramme 6 (Monitoring and assessment of emerging trends and problems), as would be implied by the medium-term plan. In reply, a representative of the Department explained the nature of the activities and agreed that work on the LINK model was more properly located in subprogramme 6.

106. In reviewing subprogramme 4 (Lagging countries: problems and prospects), many delegations noted that, in referring to "lagging countries" in the subprogramme and programme element titles, the budget had not taken account of the recommendation of the Committee at its twenty-second session. The correct term was "developing countries". One delegation suggested that the two programme elements could reasonably be merged into one, but others noted that, while linked by a common theme, the two reports dealt with different subjects. In reply, the Assistant Secretary-General for Development Research and Policy Analysis agreed that the titles should be changed and that the outputs, in fact, were different.

107. One delegation pointed out, in the context of subprogramme 6, that two reports called for by the General Assembly in resolutions 37/203 and 37/204 did not seem to be included in the budget. The mandate for preparing annual supplements to the World Economic Survey, which is itself an annual publication, was also questioned. In reply, the Assistant Secretary-General stated that the analysis of negative trends in the world economy called for in resolution 37/203 would form part of the World Economic Survey for 1984-1985, but noted that the report on the implementation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States had been inadvertently omitted from the proposed budget. The mandate for the supplements, which dealt in depth with specific policy issues, derived from the original mandate for the Survey, which was initially prepared in two sections. Subsequent practice had led to calling the original Part Two of the survey a supplement.

108. With regard to subprogramme 7 (Transport development), one delegation underscored the importance of work in transport development and proposed that programme element 7.2 be given highest priority.

109. The Committee held a wide-ranging discussion on the consultant provisions of the subsection (para. 6.28). Specifically, the identification of work to be performed was faulted by several delegations. One delegation pointed out that the programme element references for three consultant tasks (2.2, 2.3 and 3.2) were inconsistent with the budget and referred to non-existent programme elements and suggested their deletion. The Director of the Programme Planning Branch explained that the inconsistencies were the result of an error; an internal programme review prior to the budget submission had consolidated three proposed programme elements

into one but, through a lapse, the equivalent consolidation had not been made in the description of consultant requests. In fact they should have been added together under programme elements 2.1 and 3.1 respectively.

(c) Ocean economics and technology

110. Noting that the proposals were related to revisions to the medium-term plan for 1984-1989 discussed by the Committee during the first part of its session, one delegation asked whether the proposed budget took into account the changes recommended by the Committee. In reply, a representative of the Department stated that the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan had been taken into account and only minor modifications in the programme budget proposals had been necessary as a result; those functions in marine affairs now classified as transitional no longer appeared in the programme budget. One delegation noted that both sections 6 and 7 had work dealing with exclusive economic zones and questioned whether this would lead to duplication. In reply it was affirmed that the work was complementary.

(d) Analysis of world population

111. Several delegations questioned whether there was duplication of effort, particularly in subprogrammes 1 (World demographic analysis) and 2 (Demographic projections) with the work of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). It was also suggested that four programme elements (1.1 (Population structure report: an analysis of the world child and youth population), 2.2 (Global estimation and projection of households by country), 4.3 (Review, appraisal and elaboration of population and development models) and 6.2 (Projects of evaluation of family planning programmes and other policy measures and their impact on fertility)), which had been given lowest priority, might be eliminated without affecting the quality of the programme and, in that context, the decision of the Governing Council of UNFPA to move away from statistics and population research to family planning was referred to. In reply, the Director of the Population Division pointed out that UNFPA was a user of the demographic analysis and projections prepared by the Population Division, and those, in fact, formed the basis of the reporting of UNFPA. Accordingly there was no duplication. Commenting on the low priority programme elements, the Director observed that, while the Population Division gave a lower priority to programme element 1.1 relative to other work, such work was not being done elsewhere and could be used by institutions concerned with social questions. Similarly, programme element 6.2, concerned with evaluation of family planning programmes, while having a low priority, was a matter of considerable importance to many Governments. With regard to programme elements 2.2 and 4.3, the Director agreed that they could be terminated without adversely affecting the programme.

112. One delegation questioned, under programme element 2.4 (Comparative analysis and evaluation of population censuses around 1980), the frequency of analyses of population censuses, as well as the need for biennial demographic projections, particularly given the decennial periodicity of population censuses. In reply, the Director noted that, while censuses were decennial and were usually targeted for the beginning of the decade, they were not carried out simultaneously in all countries. Moreover, while projections derive considerable information from censuses, these are not the only bases for projections, which, by a mandate by the Population Commission, are updated every two years. Another delegation noted that the medium-term plan specified a two-year periodicity and the delegation which had raised the question suggested that, while the evaluation of censuses would be acceptable during the biennium 1984-1985, as a matter of principle this was an activity which should be undertaken every 10 years.

113. With regard to ad hoc expert groups, the Secretariat advised the Committee that there had been a typographical error in paragraph 6.42 and that the words "Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) inter-agency working group" should read "expert group". One delegation requested clarification of the work to be undertaken by the expert group and the mandate for its apparent two-year periodicity. In reply, the Director, informed the Committee that the experts met every two years to discuss the methodologies to be employed in the next round of demographic estimates and projections.

(e) Global social development issues

114. Some delegations noted that the description of activities often gave an impression that there was duplication. Several delegations noted that paragraph 6.47 suggested a welfare-oriented group-specific approach. They observed that the text seemed to group women within the category of "less advantaged group". The delegations pointed out that this distorted issues on women as they were being dealt with by the international community and stressed the need to separate women from the category of less advantaged groups in future budgets as well as in policy research and intergovernmental legislation.

115. Some delegations noted that the work in subprogramme 1 (Participation of the population in development) was frequently similar to that of specialized agencies and stressed that care must be exercised to avoid duplication. In subprogramme 1, one delegation noted that the output in programme element 1.1 (iii), the Social Development Newsletter, had been identified in the special review of ongoing activities (A/36/658) as ineffective and the delegation suggested that it be deleted for that reason. Several delegations observed that, although the subject of co-operatives and local-level action was of considerable importance, the proposed sales publication in programme element 1.2 on the role of co-operatives in the production, marketing and consumption of food was closely related to the work of FAO, seemed duplicative and might be unnecessary. In reply, a representative of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs noted that work on co-operatives in programme element 1.2 was co-ordinated through the Joint Committee on Aid to Co-operatives (COPAC), of which the ILO, FAO and United Nations were all members. It met twice a year, during which information about activities was exchanged and new initiatives planned. He noted that COPAC was mandated by a resolution of the Economic and Social Council. The output in question was a product of those consultations. The representative of FAO confirmed that the output did not duplicate work of that organization. With regard to programme element 1.1, a representative of the Secretariat pointed out that, while the output in question had been identified for termination, this step had been reviewed again and, as noted in the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/37/51), he had determined that the publication, after reformulation, served a useful function and should be continued.

116. In discussing subprogramme 5 (Participation of women in international affairs and strengthening of peace and security), the Committee pointed out that the title should conform to the reformulation of the proposed medium-term plan, as requested by the Committee, and was informed that output (i) in programme element 5.1 (Action taken in regard to the United Nations Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation) had been erroneously cited in the budget text, while another report relating to the situation of women and children in emergency and armed conflict, to be prepared in 1985, should have been mentioned in its place. One delegation questioned the mandate for the report under programme element 5.1 (ii) and suggested that it could be deleted. Several other delegations

stated that a legislative authority existed for the output and that it should be retained. One delegation suggested that the two outputs proposed in programme element 5.2 (Research and policy analysis) could be combined and reduced by incorporating output (i), the report on women in peace, in the sales publication on women's assumption of decision and policy-making positions and participation in international affairs. Another delegation asked for the mandates for output 5.2 (i) and the second sales publication in 5.2 (ii). In reply, a representative of the Centre noted that the mandate for output 5.2 (i) was Economic and Social Council resolution 1687 (LXII) and that it would be part of a more comprehensive report, but that the sales publication had no mandate. A number of delegations supported all of the mandated activities in the subprogramme as formulated by the Secretariat.

117. One delegation was of the opinion that the sales publications in programme element 6.2 (Youth policies and programmes) served no useful purpose and could be deleted. A representative of the Centre informed the Committee that the research publications were part of a research programme for International Youth Year (IYY), which had been formulated by the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year and endorsed by the General Assembly and, moreover, was part of an agreed inter-agency division of labour. On the basis of that explanation, a number of delegations supported retention of the outputs in question.

118. Concerning subprogramme 7 (Aging), a number of delegations were of the view that the terminology used in programme element 7.2 gave an erroneous impression of the activity. One delegation asked whether such critical issues as retirement were included in the work. Another delegation suggested that programme element 7.2 largely duplicated work in population and statistics and, on that basis, the second output in the programme element should be eliminated. In reply, representatives of the Secretariat, while agreeing that the terminology could be improved, pointed out that, within the broad inter-agency approach arising out of the World Assembly on Aging, research and analysis on retirement preparation were undertaken by the ILO and UNESCO. The work on policy analysis on aging drew on demographic and statistical work and was concerned with deriving policy implications from it.

119. One delegation noted that programme element 8.2 (Research policy analysis on disabled persons) did not mention disability prevention, which was an important subject. In reply, a representative of the Centre noted that all work on the subject of disabled persons dealt with three linked concepts: disability prevention, rehabilitation and equalization of opportunities.

120. Several delegations noted that, in considering the medium-term plan, several Committee members had been of the opinion that three subprogrammes dealing with crime (9, 10 and 11) were excessive and would lead to duplication. Some delegations suggested that programme element 9.3 was essentially the same as 10.3 and could be deleted. Other delegations, however, felt that programme element 9.3 was not duplicative and should be retained. It was noted that some streamlining of the subprogrammes was possible, but that a recommendation to that effect should properly emanate from the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control. One delegation questioned the mandate for programme element 9.2. In reply, a representative of the Centre noted that work in 9.2 derived from a mandate of the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, while element 9.3 was required by General Assembly resolution 36/21, which called for the formulation of new guiding principles for the future course of crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of development and a new international economic order, and was quite different from element 10.3, which was a survey.

121. Regarding consultants (para. 6.50), one delegation suggested that the consultant work for programme element 1.2 could be performed by FAO and the consultant provision deleted. Another delegation suggested that, since programme element 8.2 did not refer to the World Programme of Action whereas the description of task did, the consultancy could be deleted. In reply, representatives of the Secretariat pointed out that the budget for consultants had been in decline over three bienniums but that they were needed particularly to provide a regional dimension.

122. Several delegations questioned the purpose of some proposed travel, including that for programme elements 2.2, 11.1, 13.2 and 13.3. One delegation noted that fully one third of the travel was accounted for by the Assistant Secretary-General. In reply, representatives of the Centre pointed out that the travel in programme element 11.1 was required to co-ordinate preparation of reports to intergovernmental bodies in areas of inter-agency concern, while travel in programme element 2.2 was required because the subject of family policies was new and, accordingly, regular staff needed the opportunity to study the question through direct contact with national officials. It was noted that a main function of the Centre was advocacy and the promotion of the objectives and groups within its concern, and this implied that the Assistant Secretary-General had to attend many meetings at the international, regional and national levels on subjects related to the Centre's broad mandate, as well as to engage in fund-raising for the several trust funds related to the work of the Centre.

(f) World statistics

123. One delegation recalled that the Committee, in its report on the work of its twenty-first session, 4/ of the Committee recommended that the Statistical Commission should review the United Nations publication policy with a view to eliminating marginal statistical publications and questioned whether this had led to the cancellation of any publication. In reply, the Director of the Statistical Office informed the Committee that the Statistical Commission had taken up the question at its recent session and intended to review publication policy again at its next session in terms of individual publications.

124. Several delegations suggested postponement of outputs in programme elements which had been accorded lowest priority. In reply, the Director stated that lowest priority did not mean that the activities lacked value. Some were important; others were of less importance. Another delegation affirmed that the programme was well balanced, followed the medium-term plan closely and even the lowest priority elements were mentioned in the plan, so the delegation supported retention of all of programme elements proposed.

125. One delegation questioned the utility of programme elements 7.2 (Development of catalogues of economic and social statistics) and 7.3 (Review and co-ordination of statistical publications and assessment of the consistency and quality of the data) and suggested their deletion. Another delegation noted the relationships between 7.3 and the provision of information to the Committee on Contributions and supported its retention. A representative of the Statistical Office stated that programme element 7.3 had in the past been given lowest priority but that the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination itself had suggested that the programme element be given a higher priority since it was an important activity in ensuring the quality of statistical data produced by the United Nations system. Programme element 7.2 had been given a low priority because no output was due during the biennium, but postponing work would considerably delay producing the output in subsequent bienniums.

(g) Survey of the energy situation in its international context

126. With regard to subprogramme 1, one delegation suggested that there was considerable duplication in the programme elements and that these might be combined, and questioned whether under programme element 1.5 it was appropriate for the United Nations to finance expert groups on petroleum development agreements. Many delegations, however, stated that the work was important and was consistent with the medium-term plan and that the work on petroleum agreements was particularly useful in a period of decline of oil prices. One delegation questioned the relationship between the work on petroleum agreements and similar work in the Centre on Transnational Corporations. Several delegations stressed the importance and utility of programme element 2.2 on information on multilateral, bilateral and other programmes in the area of new and renewable sources of energy.

(h) Programme planning and co-ordination

127. With regard to subprogramme 2 (Evaluation of programmes in the economic and social sectors of the United Nations), several delegations noted that the programme and its resource requirements had not included the results of the Committee's discussion of strengthening evaluation and recalled the earlier decision to request the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to consider this matter on the basis of a statement of programme budget implications. Several programme elements in subprogramme 3 (Interorganizational co-operation) were queried because they showed no output. In reply, the Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination noted that those activities were concerned with servicing inter-agency bodies and, while they did not technically produce outputs for Governments, the inter-agency work itself produced such outputs.

128. One delegation questioned whether the report on cross-sectional analyses in programme element 1.5 was the same type as that which had been requested by the Committee for its current session but had not been received, and requested clarification about the cross-organizational programme analysis on energy activities for the Committee on Natural Resources included under programme element 1.1. In reply, the Assistant Secretary-General confirmed that the cross-sectional review would be prepared and informed the Committee that, subsequent to the preparation of the programme budget, the Committee on Natural Resources had decided to request for its next session a cross-organizational analysis of water rather than energy programmes.

129. A delegation requested clarification about the ACC Sub-Committee on Nutrition and another suggested that the Committee needed detailed information about the current structure of subsidiary bodies of ACC and recalled the Committee's recommendation to that effect, which it had adopted during the first part of the session. In reply, the Assistant Secretary-General explained the background to the Sub-Committee on Nutrition.

(i) Administration and common services

130. One delegation, while recognizing the differing mandates of the Committee and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, pointed out that the long-distance telephone charges envisaged in the programme budget totalled over \$100,000 for the biennium and suggested that less costly alternatives be sought to implement the programmes of work.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

(a) General

131. The Committee recommends that efforts should be made to ensure that duplication of tasks between sections and subsections is avoided and that closer attention should be paid to the intergovernmentally determined criteria for the use of consultants. The Committee recommends that the various studies should be carried out in conformity with section 8 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197.

(b) Executive direction and management

132. The Committee recommends that the last sentence in paragraph 6.15 should read:

"Such assistance is particularly required in work relating to the new international economic order, the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, global negotiations, and the Declaration on Social Progress and Development."

(c) Global development issues and policies

133. The Committee recommends that:

(a) The description of activity included in programme element 1.2 (ii) should be placed under programme element 6.4;

(b) The title of subprogramme 4 should be amended to match the approved medium-term plan, that is, "Developing countries: problems and prospects", the titles of programme elements 4.1 and 4.2 and related citations of output and of paragraph 6.23 should be amended by replacing the term "lagging countries" by the term "developing countries, especially the least developed among them". Similarly, in paragraph 6.23, an identical change should be made;

(c) The word "internal" should be deleted from the title of programme element 5.1;

(d) The output citation in programme element 6.1 should include the report on the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States called for in General Assembly resolution 37/203;

(e) Programme element 7.2 (Transport development) should be given highest priority;

(f) The consultants shown under programme elements 2.2 and 2.3 in paragraph 6.28 should be combined under programme element 2.1, and the consultants shown under programme element 3.2 should be combined under programme element 3.1;

(g) Greater clarity should be achieved in the use of terminology to ensure that the work being undertaken is clearly explained. Specifically, in paragraph 6.28:

(i) The citation in programme element 1.1 should read:

"To assist in the preparation of studies or methods for incorporation of the effects of changes in social variables on economic variables in prospective studies";

- (ii) The phrase "alternative desirable development paths" in the citation in programme element 1.2 should be replaced by "realistic policy variations";
- (iii) The phrase "and promote equity" should be deleted from the citation in programme element 2.1.

(d) Analysis of world population

134. The Committee recommends that:

(a) Programme elements 2.2 (Global estimation and projections of households by country) and 4.3 (Review, appraisal and elaboration of population and development models) should be deleted;

(b) The description of programme element 3.3 should read "Activity consists of preparation for the sixth population policy inquiry and providing intermediate output on the fifth inquiry as part of documentation for the International Conference on Population, 1984".

(e) Global social development issues

135. The Committee recommends that:

(a) Implementation of the programme should make maximum use of the related work of the specialized agencies while avoiding duplication;

(b) In the second sentence of paragraph 6.47, the word "these" should be deleted;

(c) The title of subprogramme 5 should be "Participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation" to conform with the reformulation in the medium-term plan;

(d) The first output in programme element 5.1 should be cited as "Report to the Commission on the Status of Women on conditions of women and children in emergency and armed conflict, in the struggle for peace, self-determination and independence (last quarter, 1985)";

(e) The second sales publication in programme element 5.2 (ii), entitled "mutual relationships ...", should be deleted;

(f) The title of programme element 7.2 should be "Research and policy analysis on aging" and the second output should be entitled "Aging: trends and policy implications";

(g) The output of programme element 11.2 should be a report to the Seventh Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.

(f) World statistics

136. The Committee recommends that programme element 7.2 should be deleted from the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 and the work under it postponed to a subsequent biennium.

(q) Survey of the energy situation in its international context

137. The Committee recommends that:

(a) The sales publication output of programme element 1.4 should be entitled "Financing of petroleum resource development";

(b) Programme element 2.2 (Information on multilateral, bilateral and other programmes in the area of new and renewable sources of energy) should be accorded highest priority;

(c) The title of the expert group mentioned in paragraph 6.75 should read:

"expert group on financing of exploration and development of energy in developing countries, including exploration and development agreements.";

(d) Secretariat studies should be guided by section 8 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197 and should be action-oriented.

138. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 6 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 7. Department of Technical Co-operation for Development

1. Introduction

139. At its 48th and 49th meetings, on 31 August, the Committee considered section 7 of the proposed programme budget. 5/

140. In her introductory statement, the Assistant Secretary-General for the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development provided a detailed account of the Department's situation, now that it had had a separate existence for five years. She pointed out that the Department's achievements during that period were a greatly improved delivery rate, the qualitative strengthening of the programme and a greatly increased demand by developing countries for services within the Department's mandate. Unfortunately, the Department's anniversary coincided with perhaps the most acute financial constraints in the 30-year history of technical co-operation through the United Nations, by which the Department had been particularly severely affected for a variety of reasons beyond its control. The remedial action taken consisted of a freeze on departmental staff recruitment, improved management procedures and the streamlining of the Department's functions and organization. Those actions had resulted in a reduction of a total of 155 Professional and General Service posts in the biennium 1984-1985 compared to the biennium 1982-1983. Notwithstanding those severe reductions in the extrabudgetary resources, the estimates before the Committee under the regular budget did not show any real growth, but rather a slight reduction. Staff reductions in the technical and substantive areas had been kept to a minimum and applied primarily to administrative units resulting in a significantly leaner administrative structure. In streamlining the organization of the Department, some of the recent recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit had also been implemented, in particular an increased accent on substantive aspects while maintaining a country focus. Consequently, the Division of Programming and Implementation had been discontinued and its functions, in turn, had been absorbed

by other divisions. The Department's budgetary proposals as presented in the document before the Committee were in compliance with the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989. Within the nine distinctive substantive areas in which the Department was involved, it was conducting three main sets of activities, notably advisory services to Governments, support of technical co-operation projects and research and analysis. In addition, and cutting across all substantive areas, there were the general support activities comprising not only executive direction and management and administration and common services, but also a rather substantial apparatus of support services to the technical co-operation activities. The Assistant Secretary-General concluded her statement by assuring the Committee that the organizational streamlining had resulted in a viable Department in the face of a difficult financial situation. The Department now needed a period of consolidation to continue the progress it had made since its inception.

2. Discussion

141. In the general discussion that ensued, some delegations deplored the extreme reductions in financial resources available to the Department and were concerned what effect that would have on its ability to deliver the much needed technical co-operation projects. Some delegations queried whether the Department had previously been overstaffed or would now be seriously understaffed and therefore would not be in a position to carry out its work programme at the previous level of activity. Other delegations noted that in absolute terms, the section showed an increase of resources and were satisfied with the budgetary provisions, insisting that technical co-operation should continue to be financed from extrabudgetary resources and pointed out that part of the resources for technical co-operation that had traditionally gone to, for example, UNDP, had now shifted to other areas.

142. Further clarification was sought regarding the growing duplication of technical co-operation activities among the various United Nations entities.

143. The Assistant Secretary-General of the Department assured the Committee that the Department, by effecting reductions primarily in the areas of general administration and management, was confident it would be able to continue a high rate and quality of delivery. The situation of possible over- or under-staffing was due in part to the difficulties of forecasting the volume of projects and corresponding earnings and resulted from the inherent time-lag of administrative actions in response to such fluctuations. The possible duplication of technical co-operation activities was due to various legislative mandates which resulted in a proliferation of executing agencies. As a result, projects that would traditionally have gone to the Department had been allotted to other agencies and thereby further eroded the Department's financial situation.

144. The Committee then turned to a discussion of the proposals by programme. The discussion centred, in particular, on the programmes set forth below.

(a) Policy and programming

145. A discussion ensued about reassigning priorities among the programme elements of the programme. Regarding programme element 6.1 (Systematic evaluation of technical co-operation programmes and projects), the Committee urged the Department to implement its evaluation activities as systematically and effectively as possible. The Committee agreed to accord programme element 2.5 (Substantive and

operational support of technical co-operation projects in the field of integrated rural development) the highest priority. Some delegations thought that the priority status of programme element 1.2 (Development of policies and co-ordination of new modalities for technical co-operation) should be changed from a lowest to a highest designation. After being informed by the Assistant Secretary-General of the Department that the activity was deemed very important by the Department and had been mistakenly identified as of the lowest priority, the Committee decided to accord highest priority designation to this programme element.

146. Queries were raised on the necessity to include programme element 4.1 (Preparation of procedures and manuals for improving work and implementing departmental streamlining), which seemed to concern an activity implicit in all operations, and also on the possible duplication between programme element 4.2 (Publications, information material and briefings on the Department's activities) and activities of the Department of Public Information. The Assistant Secretary-General explained that activities covered by programme element 4.1 were of a broader range than in other departments, since procedures and manuals had to be prepared not only for Headquarters, but also for the field. Regarding programme element 4.2, she stated that it was very important for the Department to increase its "visibility" and the limited activities envisaged would not duplicate the work of the Department of Public Information.

(b) Development issues and policies

147. In answer to a query, the Secretariat explained the meaning of references to section 24 (Regular programme of technical co-operation) under this and other programmes of the Department; the totality of the Department's programme budget proposals were included under section 7, irrespective of sources of funds, but, for ease of reference and better understanding, mention of section 24 had been included under subprogrammes in which the Department's advisory services were funded. Following further discussion, the Committee agreed to assign the highest priority to programme element 1.1 (Substantive and operational support of technical co-operation projects) and recommended that, in the case of subprogramme 5 (Programme formulation and direction), a reference to regular budget resources was superfluous and should be deleted.

(c) Natural resources

148. The Committee agreed to accord highest priority to programme element 4.1 (Substantive and operational support of technical co-operation projects in the fields of mineral resources, water resources and cartography).

149. One delegation questioned the legislative mandate for the inclusion of programme element 1.4 (Development of mineral resources within the exclusive economic zone). The Secretariat replied that paragraph 25.23 of the reformulations of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 (future A/37/6/Add.1) was the basis for the inclusion of this element. The delegation reiterated its objection, made at the time of those reformulations of the medium-term plan, to the inclusion of new programmes in the plan that resulted in additional proposals in the budget. He also stated his delegation's reservations regarding the holding of successive regional cartographic conferences, as described under programme element 3.2 (International co-operation in cartography) and explained that his delegation would prefer the holding of global conferences.

(d) Energy

150. The Committee agreed to accord the highest priority to programme element 4.1 (Substantive and operational support of technical co-operation projects in the field of energy). One delegation stated that, for the reason given above in relation to programme element 1.4 of the natural resources programme, he objected to the inclusion of programme element 1.2 (Development of energy resources in the exclusive economic zone) under this programme.

(e) Population

151. The Committee agreed to accord the highest priority to programme element 1.1 (Substantive and operational support of technical co-operational projects in the fields of population training, national research on population dynamics, and of national population policy programmes and offices).

(f) Public administration and finance

152. Some members of the Committee found the programme proposals contained under the public administration and finance programme to be not fully satisfactory, especially in the light of the considerable resources available under that programme. They objected to the large proportion of the proposed activities that were to be assisted by consultants, whose services were requested even for lowest priority activities.

153. The representative of the Department replied that, during the last biennium, the programme had achieved an excellent implementation rate (A/37/154). Regarding the issue of extensive use of consultants, he explained that those experts only provided specialized inputs towards the analysis carried out by the regular staff and that this management had proved to be both efficient and cost effective. He informed the Committee that the programme element 1.1 (Survey of changes and trends in public administration and finance for development) had been mistakenly identified as of the lowest priority and that that priority designation should be deleted.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

154. The Committee noted the far-reaching efforts undertaken by the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development in streamlining its functions and operations in the face of severe financial reductions. The Committee also noted the steps taken by the Department, in response to the intent of General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 on restructuring, to avoid duplication of the different programmes. The Committee noted the Department's efforts to promote its technical co-operation activities and to enhance the complementarity and co-ordination of its programmes with those of other entities in the system.

155. The Committee recommended that the highest priority be accorded to the Department's activities providing substantive and operational support of technical co-operation projects in the field of integrated rural development (Policy and programming, programme element 2.5), integrated development planning and policies (Development issues and policies, programme element 1.1), mineral resources, water resources and cartography (Natural resources, programme element 4.1), energy (Energy, programme element 4.1) and population (Population, programme element 1.1).

156. Regarding the setting of priorities, the Committee further recommended that the highest priority should be accorded to programme element 1.2 (Development of policies and co-ordination of new modalities for technical co-operation) under the policy and programming programme, and that the lowest priority designation be deleted from programme element 1.1 (Survey of changes and trends in public administration and finance for development) under the public administration and finance programme.

157. Regarding the development issues and policies programme, the Committee recommended that the reference to regular budget resources under subprogramme 5 (Programme formulation and direction) should be deleted.

158. Regarding the public administration and finance programme, the Committee recommended the deletion of the reference to subprogramme 3 (Management of sectoral development programmes) since no work is proposed for the biennium 1984-1985.

159. The Committee urges the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development to implement its evaluation activities as systematically and effectively as possible.

160. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 7 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 8. Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters

1. Introduction

161. At its 66th meeting on 9 September, the Committee considered section 8 of the Proposed Programme Budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

2. Discussion

162. In response to a question about the activity under programme element 3.1, (Editorial control), the representative of the Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters explained that, as indicated in paragraph 8.3 of the document, the element referred to the tasks undertaken by the Editorial Control Section of the Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters of editing all documentation for the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, the Second Committee of the General Assembly, the subsidiary bodies of the Assembly and other bodies and special conferences concerned with economic and social matters.

3. Conclusion and recommendation

163. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narratives of section 8 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 9. Transnational corporations

1. Introduction

164. At its 50th and 51st meetings on 31 August and 1 September 1983, the Committee considered section 9 of the proposed programme budget.

165. In his introductory statement, the Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination noted that the programme budget as submitted had been restructured in comparison with the 1982-1983 budget, in conformity with the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989. In the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985, however, the work of the joint units in the regional commissions was shown separately as a fourth subprogramme, since their budgetary allocations were separate. Those regional activities were contained in the plan under subprogrammes 1 to 3. The separation in the budget would facilitate programme performance reporting and, by showing the relevant activities being undertaken in the regional commissions under each joint unit, would permit the matching of the programme text and the budget presentation.

2. Discussion

166. In discussing programme element 1.1 (Code of conduct), the general consensus was that this programme element should be given the highest priority. One delegation pointed out, however, that the proposed work for consultants in this area (para. 9.8, programme element 1.1) should be changed to reflect more closely the narrative of programme element 1.1 under subprogramme 1.

167. As regards programme element 1.3 (International standards of accounting and reporting), one delegation noted that the Commission on Transnational Corporations had recommended that the report of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting should be issued as a sales publication.

168. In discussing programme element 2.2 (Impact of transnational corporations in selected host countries), one delegation questioned the words "on alternative government policies", and another felt that the word "appropriate" should be used instead. In addition, one delegation noted that this programme element appeared to overlap with programme element 2.12 (Activities and impact of transnational corporations in selected sectors), while another pointed out that this programme element appeared to overlap with the work of UNCTAD. With respect to programme element 2.4 (Transnational corporations and industrialization), a number of delegations felt that this programme element overlapped with the work of UNIDO and questioned whether there was any co-ordination with UNIDO. The representatives of the Centre on Transnational Corporations explained the separate focus of the mandates of the Centre in relation to those of UNCTAD and UNIDO and pointed out that the Commission on Transnational Corporations had issued firm instructions and had taken measures against duplication of the work of other United Nations agencies and departments.

169. With regard to programme element 2.5 (International financial transfers and the impact of transnational banks), one delegation was of the view that there was some overlapping with programme element 2.10 (Analysis of information on individual transnational corporations). The representative of the Centre for Transnational Corporations noted that programme element 2.5 dealt with transnational banks and

their impact on developing countries in general and that programme element 2.10 dealt specifically with assembling corporate profiles, based on information collected on individual transnational corporations, which were made available to Governments.

170. Regarding programme element 2.7 (Transnational corporations in southern Africa), it was pointed out that the wording should be changed to read South Africa and Namibia.

171. Under programme element 2.9 (Analysis of contracts and agreements between transnational corporations and host country entities), one delegation stated that there appeared to be an overlap between activities under that programme element and those undertaken by the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, under programme 6, "Survey of the energy situation in its international context", programme element 1.5 (Extent of effective participation of developing countries in the production, processing, marketing and distribution of energy resources) (see future A/38/6, section 6). It was further pointed out that there were provisions for consultancies under both programmes. The representative of the Centre pointed out that its special mandate for the strengthening of the negotiating position of developing countries required in-depth studies on the complex issues involved in negotiating petroleum agreements, and that this distinguished the Centre's reports in that area from the reports of other United Nations departments.

172. Concerning programme element 2.10 (Analysis of information on individual transnational corporations), one delegation suggested that this programme element should be deleted, since the corporate profiles were not being utilized by Governments. Other delegations stressed that this programme element was not only useful, but also was supported by an unequivocal mandate from the Commission on Transnational Corporations. The representative of the Centre replied that, while the cost effectiveness of the manual form of the in-depth corporate profiles was being reviewed, there was a clear mandate for the continuation of the analysis of information on individual corporations.

173. As regards programme element 2.11 (Analysis of financial and technological practices of transnational corporations), one delegation felt that the work undertaken under that programme element overlapped with that of UNCTAD.

174. In discussing toxic or hazardous products, under programme element 2.13 (Analysis of transnational corporations in the manufacture of toxic or hazardous products), one delegation considered that the Centre's mandate was limited in this area, and that a full study, as proposed, would not be justified. Given the legislative limitations, therefore, the Centre should only propose a list of toxic products. In view of the above, that delegation suggested that programme element 2.13 be deleted. Another delegation did not support this view. In reply, the representative of the Centre pointed out that, under General Assembly resolution 37/137, the Centre was required to assist the Secretary-General in the preparation of a publication on products, whose consumption and/or sale have been banned, withdrawn, severely restricted or, in the case of pharmaceuticals, not approved by Governments. The Centre was accordingly preparing a report as an input to that publication. Furthermore, the Centre had a previous mandate, under General Assembly resolutions 35/186 and 36/166, to assist in improving the exchange of information between Governments on banned hazardous chemicals and unsafe pharmaceuticals. The work in that area had not been superseded by General Assembly resolution 37/137.

175. As far as programme element 2.15 (Periodic review) was concerned, one delegation felt that the CTC Reporter had a marginal usefulness and that it should be discontinued. Another delegation did not agree with that proposal. The representative of the Centre for Transnational Corporations pointed out that the CTC Reporter was one of the most popular publications issued by the Centre.

176. As regards programme element 3.6 (Information on contracts and agreements, on individual transnational corporations and other aspects of transnational corporations), one delegation felt that there was an overlap with UNIDO.

177. Concerning the consultancy requirements in general, many delegations found them excessive. In that regard, one delegation pointed out that 12 per cent of the Centre's budget was spent on consultants. One delegation, however, was of the view that the consultancy request was adequate. The representative of the Centre noted that it had been charged with carrying out work that required highly specialized knowledge, which was most efficiently provided by short-term consultancy services.

178. In reviewing subprogramme 4 (Regional activities), a number of delegations had questions concerning the role of the joint units. One delegation noted that, since there were tasks being carried out by the regional units, of which the Centre was in charge, the structure of subprogramme 4 should be altered in order to distinguish more clearly those tasks carried out by the regional units and those carried out by the Centre.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

179. The Committee recommends that the Centre on Transnational Corporations should implement programme elements as contained in section 9, in full co-ordination with UNIDO, UNCTAD, DIESA and other organizations of the United Nations and should make every effort to avoid duplication with activities carried out by those organizations.

180. The Committee recommended that the following revisions should be made in section 9:

(a) Under subprogramme 1 (b), after "medium-term plan 1984-1989" add (A/37/6), paras. 23.7-23.14;

(b) The title of programme element 1.2 "Corrupt practices" should be changed to "Illicit payments" and the lowest priority designation deleted. In addition, the citation of output should be deleted and replaced by the following:

"No final output; assistance to intergovernmental bodies in formulating and adopting an international agreement on illicit payments";

(c) Under programme element 1.3, add (iii) Sales publication: Report of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting (1984);

(d) The title of subprogramme 2 should be changed to read: "Minimizing the negative effects of transnational corporations and enhancing their contribution to development"; 6/

(e) Under programme element 2.1, output (ii), the citation should read:

"Technical publication: trends in foreign direct investment, including capital inflows and outflows, and in other forms of participation by transnational corporations in host countries, particularly developing countries, including their contribution by way of the supply of technology and services, including management and marketing";

(f) Under programme element 2.2, the citation of output should read:

"Technical publication for the use of Governments on policies concerning the role and economic, political, social and cultural impact of transnational corporations in developing countries, including matters relating to industrialization, raw materials production and processing through linkages with the domestic economy";

(g) Under programme element 2.3, the citation of output should read:

"Report to the Commission and technical publication for the use of Governments on selected aspects of the role of transnational corporations in international trade including intra-firm transactions and transfer pricing, and on the balance of payments of host countries, including an analysis of the role of transnational corporations in the exporting activities of developing countries";

(h) Under programme element 2.5, the date under output should be changed to "1984";

(i) The title of programme 2.7 should read:

"Transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia". Under output, after the words "transnational corporations" replace the words "in southern Africa" with the words "in South Africa and Namibia";

(j) Under programme element 2.7, output (i), change the word "Report" to "Reports";

(k) Under programme element 2.10, after the words "No final output ... profiles on", replace the word "selected" with "individual";

(l) In the title of programme element 2.13, after the words "Analysis of" insert the words "information on"; and under output, replace the words "Sales publication" with "A report";

(m) In paragraph 9.8, delete the words "and implementation" from the description of work for programme element 1.1;

(n) The text of paragraph 9.12 under section B.2 (Joint Units with the regional commissions) should read as follows:

"9.12. The joint units essentially perform liaison and support functions for the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations. Therefore, although the regional activities are designated as a subprogramme, the details of the programme elements indicated below are the same as those described in the preceding programme narrative for the Centre".

181. The Committee also recommended that the following revisions should be made in subprogramme 4 (Regional activities):

(a) The references to the medium-term plan 1984-1989 (A/37/6) should read paras. 23.14, 23.19, 23.25 and 23.26;

(b) The text under "(c) Programme elements:" should be replaced by the text in paragraphs 182 and 183 below.

182. The following programme elements will involve the implementation at the regional level of support functions for work mandated for the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations:

(a) 4.1 Reports on regional co-operation as it relates to the code of conduct and other international arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations in Africa.

No final output; intermediate reports on regional co-operation with respect to matters relating to transnational corporations and on the code of conduct at the national and regional levels;

(b) 4.2 Research on the operations of transnational corporations in Africa.

No final output; intermediate reports on the role of transnational corporations in the development process of Africa and on aspects of the economic, social, political, cultural and legal impact of transnational corporations on various sectors of selected African countries, including linkages with the domestic economy and on the activities of transnational corporations operating in selected countries of the region;

(c) 4.3 Research on the operations of transnational corporations in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).

No final output; intermediate reports on various non-equity relationships between transnational corporations and public enterprises in selected countries of ECE, on new types of arrangements between European-based transnational corporations and ECE member countries with different economic and social systems and at different levels of development; and on aspects of the economic, social, political, cultural and legal impact of transnational corporations on various sectors of selected European countries, including linkages with the domestic economy;

(d) 4.4 Reports on regional co-operation as it relates to the code of conduct and of other international arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations in Latin America.

No final output; intermediate reports on regional co-operation with respect to matters relating to transnational corporations and on the code of conduct at the national and regional levels;

(e) 4.5 Research on the operations of transnational corporations in Latin America.

No final output; intermediate reports on the role of transnational corporations in the development process of Latin America and on aspects of the economic, social, political, cultural and legal impact of transnational corporations on various sectors of selected Latin American countries, including linkages with the domestic economy, and on the activities of transnational corporations operating in selected countries of the region;

(f) 4.6 Reports on regional co-operation as it relates to the code of conduct and other international arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations in Western Asia.

No final output; intermediate reports on regional co-operation with respect to matters relating to transnational corporations, and on the code of conduct at the national and at regional levels;

(g) 4.7 Research on the operations of transnational corporations in Western Asia.

No final output; intermediate reports on the role of transnational corporations in the development process of West Asia and on aspects of economic, social, political, cultural and legal impact of transnational corporations on the various sectors, including linkages with the domestic economy, as well as on the transfer of technology, in selected West Asian countries;

(h) 4.8 Reports on regional co-operation as it relates to the code of conduct and other international arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations in Asia and the Pacific.

No final output; intermediate reports on regional co-operation with respect to matters relating to transnational corporations, and reports on the code of conduct at the national and regional levels;

(i) 4.9 Research on the operations of transnational corporations in Asia and the Pacific.

No final output; intermediate reports on the role of transnational corporations in the development process of Asia and the Pacific and on aspects of the economic, social, political, cultural and legal impact of transnational corporations on various sectors, including linkages with the domestic economy, in selected countries of the ESCAP region.

183. The following programme elements will involve response in the regions to requests made at the national and regional levels:

(a) 4.10 Advisory and training services for the African region, on matters relating to transnational corporations.

Output: Assistance to the Centre on Transnational Corporations in the provision of technical assistance to countries of the region through advisory projects and training workshops designed to assist middle-level and senior government officials in their dealings with transnational corporations;

(b) 4.11 Advisory and training services for the region of ECE on matters relating to transnational corporations.

Output: Assistance to the Centre on Transnational Corporations in the provision of technical assistance to countries of the region through advisory projects and training workshops designed to assist middle-level and senior government officials in their dealings with transnational corporations;

(c) 4.12 Advisory and training services for the Latin American region on matters relating to transnational corporations.

Output: Assistance to the Centre on Transnational Corporations in the provision of technical assistance to countries of the region through advisory projects and training workshops designed to assist middle-level and senior government officials in their dealings with transnational corporations;

(d) 4.13 Advisory and training services for the region of the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) on matters relating to transnational corporations.

Output: Assistance to the Centre on Transnational Corporations in the provision of technical assistance to countries of the region through advisory projects and training workshops designed to assist middle-level and senior government officials in their dealings with transnational corporations;

(e) 4.14 Advisory and training services for countries in Asia and the Pacific on matters relating to transnational corporations.

Output: Assistance to the Centre on Transnational Corporations in the provision of technical assistance to countries of the region through advisory projects and training workshops designed to assist middle-level and senior government officials in their dealings with transnational corporations.

184. The Committee, referring to its general comment on the question of consultancies in paragraph 378 of the present report, recommended that the Centre, in view of the particularly large number of consultancies initiated by it and the length of such consultancies, to be especially vigilant in limiting the use of consultancies, where possible merging consultancies and/or restricting their duration.

185. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 9 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 11. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

1. Introduction

186. At its 61st and 62nd meetings, on 7 September, the Committee considered section 11 of the proposed programme budget.

187. In his introductory statement, the representative of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific described to the Committee the thorough process through which the preparation of the document had gone, including its review by the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives of ESCAP, as well as several other intergovernmental bodies including the Commission itself. The budgetary proposals had been prepared in conformity with the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 and accordingly contained a new separate programme on energy issues and a subprogramme on health and development under the "Social development" programme. A large part of the proposed activities were to be carried out with support from extrabudgetary funds. The programme proposals as contained in the document before the Committee were wide-ranging and reflected the growing mandates given to ESCAP by its member countries. Highest and lowest priorities had been designated throughout the document as required by the General Assembly. However, ESCAP had devised its own comprehensive priority-setting mechanism in order to assist the

Secretariat to match programme needs with scarce resources. All activities considered as of low priority had been excluded from the programme, and of the remaining activities approximately 60 per cent had been designated as of a priority nature; the remainder being non-priority.

2. Discussion

188. In the general discussion that ensued on the section, some delegations pointed out that ESCAP showed the highest rate of real growth among the regional commissions. They hoped that increases in funds for temporary assistance, consultants and hospitality could be contained. They also were of the opinion that the strengthening of the regional commissions should be effected through the decentralization of activities and resources from Headquarters. It was further suggested that a review on rationalization especially of the organizational structure might be necessary.

189. The representatives of the Secretariat replied that the Commission had exercised maximum restraint considering the significantly expanded mandates given to the Commission, which served the region with the most numerous population. In particular, the requested increases of resources under consultancy funds reflected the increasingly technical nature of activities to be carried out owing to the expanded scope of the Commission's programme.

190. Regarding the queries on the decentralization of activities and resources from Headquarter units to the regional commissions, it was explained that, when the budget proposals had been reviewed by the Office of Financial Services, the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination and the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board, it had been felt that further redeployment from the central units to the regional commissions was not possible, but the regional commissions had been given higher growth rates than most Headquarters units and numerous redeployments within sections had been effected. A Secretariat working group was currently re-examining the question of possible further decentralization.

191. Regarding the establishment of an evaluation unit within ESCAP, the representative of the Secretariat informed the Committee that a separate statement of programme and financial and administrative implications on the matter was under preparation and would be presented to the General Assembly at the forthcoming session.

192. Replying to a query on the accuracy and method of estimating extrabudgetary resources, the representative of the Secretariat explained that, based on past experience, the same or a slightly increased level of extrabudgetary resources had been assumed for the biennium 1984-1985 as compared with the present biennium.

193. The Committee then turned to a discussion of the proposals by programme.

(a) Policy-making organs

194. Some delegations objected to the inclusion of additional non-recurrent resources in conjunction with the holding of the fortieth session of the Commission in Tokyo rather than in Bangkok. They were of the opinion that additional costs resulting from the change of venue should be borne by the host Government in accordance with General Assembly resolution 31/140, paragraph 5. Other delegations thought that the Secretariat proposals were acceptable and in conformity with

General Assembly resolution 31/140, paragraph 4 (f), which stipulated the special provisions applicable for the holding of commission sessions and pointed out that the Committee had not objected to the provision of such resources included under the budgetary proposals of ECA and ECLA. In reply, the representative of the Secretariat explained that this inclusion has been an established practice and the opinion of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations supported it.

(b) Executive direction and management

195. Some delegations thought that the programme "Executive Direction and Management" was excessively staffed and top-heavy. They felt that the Executive Secretary should be requested to review the administrative structure of ESCAP. Different opinions were voiced regarding a proposal to incorporate the section on management of technical co-operation activities, currently shown under programme support, under this programme. The representative of the Secretariat explained that two Professional posts under this programme related to the Integrated Rural Development Unit, which was not included under the "Food and Agriculture" programme since its work was not of a substantive nature but serviced a large inter-agency committee and task force. It was further pointed out that the Technical Co-operation Division of ESCAP was responsible for administering extrabudgetary funds of an amount considerably in excess of the regular budget of the Commission.

(c) Regional Commissions Liaison Office

196. One delegation raised a question regarding the inclusion of the Regional Commissions Liaison Office under ESCAP. While acknowledging the presentational difficulties, he considered its inclusion in any of the sections on regional commissions as inappropriate. An alternative might be to attach this office to either the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Affairs (section 5A) or to the Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters (section 8).

(d) Food and agriculture

197. The Committee requested clarifications concerning possible duplication and overlapping between ESCAP and FAO activities in regard to several programme elements. The representative of ESCAP assured the Committee that a maximum degree of co-ordination had been achieved in the carrying out of their activities, many of which were joint. It was also suggested that joint consultations between ESCAP and FAO be held at an earlier stage.

198. One delegation proposed to accord the lowest priority to programme elements 1.1 (Review of agricultural development policies, strategies and plans) and 1.2 (Food supply and distribution) and highest priority to programme elements 3.1 (Integrated rural development planning) and 3.2 (Improving the socio-economic condition of rural disadvantaged groups).

199. The proposal by one delegation to reduce the number of outputs under programme elements 3.1 and 3.2 on budgetary grounds was opposed by other delegations.

200. In response to a question for the period 1984-1989 by one delegation regarding the lack of reference in the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 to some of the activities proposed under programme element 3.2, the Secretariat explained that, while the medium-term plan described objectives and strategy it could not include details of all outputs to be carried out by the Secretariat during the plan period.

(e) Development issues and policies

201. One delegation proposed the deletion of programme element 2.1 (Strengthening of development planning methods and capabilities) on the grounds that the proposed activities did not enjoy the full support of the regional Governments. Several other delegations, however, considered that the activities should be carried out on a lowest priority basis, as indicated in the document.

202. Regarding the use of consultants and experts in the preparation of the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific (paras. 11.24 and 11.25), the Secretariat explained that this procedure had been a longstanding practice that had proven to be efficient.

203. One delegation pointed out that output (ii) under programme element 1.1 (Analysis and assistance on special economic and social policy issues of major concern to the region) inappropriately referred to the service sector, while paragraph 10.165 of the medium-term plan for 1984-1989 cited the public sector. The Committee agreed to recommend the appropriate change.

(f) Environment

204. One delegation was of the opinion that the programmatic aspects under this programme did not justify the request for increased resources. Another delegation sought clarification regarding the administrative arrangements pertaining to this programme as described in paragraph 11.28.

205. The representative of ESCAP replied that the Environment Unit had originally been part of the Executive Secretary's Office but that as the co-ordinating functions of the Unit grew and included substantive aspects it had become a separate unit. To carry out its expanding functions, a modest increase in resources was requested, which seemed a large increase because of the small resource base.

(g) Human settlements

206. Some members of the Committee reiterated their request that the Executive Secretary review the organizational structure of the Human Settlements Unit. The ESCAP representative explained that the Secretariat was aware of a need to review the existing arrangements.

207. One delegation questioned the inclusion of part of output (ii) under programme element 1.1 (Settlements policies, programmes and strategies) rather than under the energy programme, since it related to energy matters. The ESCAP representative replied that, owing to the interdisciplinary nature of some activities, it was difficult to decide under what programme they should be listed.

208. Some delegations inquired about the usefulness of programme element 3.1 (Strengthening of institutional capabilities). The ESCAP representative explained that the activities envisaged concerned primarily support to various institutions.

(h) Industrial development

209. The Committee agreed that programme element 1.4 (Agro-industry and allied industries) should be designated as low priority. After clarifications by the Secretariat regarding paragraph 11.38 the Committee decided to delete the first sentence of the paragraph.

210. One delegation stated that the activities under subprogramme 4 (Enhancing the role and efficiency of industrial undertakings in the public sector) should be carried out with extrabudgetary resources only.

(i) International trade

211. In response to queries, the ESCAP representative explained that the Secretariat's involvement in the substantive servicing of two sessions of the Board of Directors of the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) was requested by the member countries but would be minimal in resource terms.

212. Considerable discussion ensued regarding subprogramme 5 (Economic co-operation among developing countries in trade-related areas), in particular on the proposed servicing of two intergovernmental meetings of developing countries (programme element 5.1 output (i)). Some members proposed the deletion of the proposed meetings since these activities were in contradiction to the principle of universality as contained in the United Nations Charter. The Committee could not reach a consensus on the deletion of the proposed meetings.

(j) Population

213. Some delegations expressed their reservations regarding the Secretary-General's interpretation of General Assembly resolution 37/136 and in relation to the proposed additions to regular budget resources in this programme, the ESCAP representative pointed out the very substantial drop in staff resources available to this programme over the past several bienniums.

214. Some delegations thought that a merger of the "Population" programme with the "Social development" programme might strengthen both programmes and invited the Executive Secretary of ESCAP to consider such a possibility.

215. Although some delegations proposed to delete programme element 1.3 (Promotion of exchange of experience in integrated population and development programmes) the Committee decided to retain the element along with the lowest priority designation already accorded to it.

(k) Science and technology

216. Several members thought that the programme was inflated and of low quality. There was disagreement among the members of the Committee regarding the priority designation of a number of programme elements. One delegation was also concerned with the possible duplication between activities proposed by ESCAP under this programme and activities carried out by other United Nations units and specialized agencies.

217. The Committee agreed that, although it understood the multidisciplinary nature of the proposed activity as pointed out by the ESCAP representative, programme element 1.4 (Energy conservation and conversion policy) should be included under the "Energy issues" programme. It also decided that the activities proposed under programme element 3.1 (Assessment of new technologies) should properly be carried out under subprogramme 2.

(l) Statistics

218. In response to a query as to why two programme elements had been included under subprogramme 2 (Statistical information services) when previously only one programme element had been cited, the ESCAP representative replied that programme element 2.1 absorbed considerable resources, although it did not lead to any final output. The Committee decided that subprogramme 2 should continue to be presented as a single programme element.

(m) Transport I: Transport communications and tourism

219. The Committee decided that output items (a) and (b) under programme element 2.4 (Optimizing the operational efficiency of road transportation) were peripheral and should be deleted. In order to stress the regional nature of ESCAP activities, the Committee also agreed to insert "in the ESCAP region" after "land-locked countries" in the second last output cited under 1.1 (ii) (Formulation of national, subregional and regional strategies for integrated transport development).

(n) Transport II: Shipping, ports and inland waterways

220. In reply to a query concerning apparent duplication between output (i) of programme element 3.4 (Containerization and multimodal transport systems) and a proposed study on development of containerization and multimodal transport systems listed under output (ii) of programme element 1.1 (Formulation of national, subregional and regional strategies for integrated transport development) under the Transport I programme, the ESCAP representative explained that they were complementary and were to be parts of one major study concerning both land and marine aspects of containerization.

(o) Social development

221. Following a discussion about possible duplication between ESCAP and other agencies active in the field such as WHO and UNICEF, and the relative priorities to be assigned to various proposed activities, the ESCAP representative assured the Committee that co-operation would prevail in the implementation of all activities, especially since ESCAP was heavily dependent on WHO and UNICEF for a large part of the necessary funding. Notwithstanding these assurances, the Committee recommended that full co-operation should take place between WHO and ESCAP and other bodies, as appropriate, in the implementation of subprogramme 3 (Health and development).

3. Conclusions and recommendations

222. The Committee agreed on the following conclusions and recommendations under section 11:

(a) The Committee recommends that the Secretary-General should review the Commission's organizational structure with a view to further rationalizing its structure and activities.

(b) Regional Commissions Liaison Office: The Committee concluded that the appropriations for the Regional Commissions Liaison Office should not be a part of the programme budget section of a regional commission and decided to request the Secretary-General to review this question and to include appropriate

recommendations in his report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, to be submitted pursuant to Assembly resolution 37/214.

(c) Development issues and policies: The Committee recommended replacing the word "service" by "public" in programme element 1.1, output (ii).

(d) Industrial development: The Committee agreed to recommend the lowest priority designation for programme element 1.4 (Agro-industry and allied industries). It further recommended deleting the first sentence of paragraph 11.38.

(e) Science and technology: The Committee recommended that programme element 1.4 (Energy conservation and conversion policy) should be included under the "Energy issues" programme. It also decided that programme element 3.1 (Assessment of new technologies) should be included under subprogramme 2 (Strengthening technological capabilities of member countries) and that subprogrammes 3 should be deleted.

(f) Statistics: The Committee recommended that programme elements 2.1 and 2.2 under subprogramme 2 (Statistical information services) should be combined.

(g) Transport I: Transport, communications and tourism: The Committee recommended the deletion of output items (a) and (b) under programme element 2.4 (Optimizing the operational efficiency of road transportation). It also recommended inserting "in the ESCAP region" after the term "land-locked and transit countries" in the second last output under programme element 1.1 (ii) (Formulation of national, subregional and regional strategies for integrated transport development).

(h) Social development: The Committee recommended that full co-ordination should take place between WHO and ESCAP and other bodies, as appropriate, in the implementation of subprogramme 3 (Health and development) and other health-related activities, in accordance with the views expressed in the Committee.

223. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 11 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 12. Economic Commission for Latin America

1. Introduction

224. At its 51st and 52nd meetings, on 1 September 1983, and its 53rd meeting, on 2 September, the Committee considered section 12 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 introducing the proposed programme budget for the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) for the biennium 1984-1985, the representative of the ECLA secretariat recalled that the current world economic crisis was having a serious impact on the developing countries. In the Latin American and Caribbean region, this was reflected in increased external debt, unemployment, poverty and an inequitable distribution of income. It was the role of ECLA to study the main areas of concern for the region and to present its conclusions to Governments. In addition, the international community had expanded the activities of the United Nations to include new areas, such as the integration of women into development, youth, the environment and energy. At a time of

financial constraints; this had obliged ECLA to keep under constant review the competing claims of individual activities and to decide which activities had to be retained or terminated and which new activities could be initiated.

225. A large part of those activities fell within the framework of horizontal co-operation. ECLA would continue its systematic study of the economies of Latin American and Caribbean countries and the social repercussions of their development strategies. The Santo Domingo Compromise, reached among representatives of Latin American heads of State in August 1983, called for a multilateral Latin American approach to the international crisis and its negative effects on the region, with particular reference to such areas as trade, finance, integration and the adequate provision of essential commodities. The renewed political impulse given to the regional approach will enable ECLA to intensify its role of supporting intergovernmental initiatives.

226. After reviewing the objectives of the individual programmes, the representative of ECLA noted that several programme elements that had been completed during the biennium 1982-1983 would be discontinued. In addition, in section 12 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 (see future A/38/6) the programme elements that had low and high priority had been designated, each category accounting for approximately 10 per cent of resources. Moreover, the resources allocated to the ECLA Caribbean Office were identified in annex II to section 12. The proposals contained in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 had been approved by the Committee of the Whole of ECLA, which had met at United Nations Headquarters in December 1982, and their detailed implementation would continue to be the subject of discussion in ECLA at the intergovernmental level and within the secretariat.

227. The representative of the Office of Financial Services stated that in the course of the biennium 1984-1985 it might be necessary to request additional resources relating to the rental of premises for the Port-of-Spain Office, resulting from the increase in its staff over the years, and should it be determined that the additional resources would be needed to take into account all the recommendations made by the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee at its sixth and seventh sessions.

2. Discussion

(a) Executive direction and management

228. In response to a query, it was stated that the consultant funds provided for in paragraph 12.12 would be utilized for activities for which there was a mandate falling under more than one of the programmes of activity.

(b) Development issues and policies

229. In response to the question whether programme element 3.2 (Economic development and energy) could not be given low priority in view of the fact that an intermediate output only was envisaged in the biennium 1984-1985 and a final output in the following biennium, it was stated that many energy programme elements had been given high priority but that programme element 3.2 had been given no priority because of the nature of its output.

230. As regards programme element 5.1 (Advisory assistance in planning), it was remarked that the 22 missions under output (i) gave rise to 44 reports under output (ii). It was proposed that the reports should be reduced to 22 to conform to the number of missions.

(c) Industrial development

231. One delegation, recalling that during the first part of the twenty-third session of the Committee, the representative of UNIDO had pointed out that, with respect to industrial development, there was a process of consultation with the regional commissions (see A/38/38 (Part I), para. 284), asked what this process of consultation was in the case of ECLA and how the activities of the two bodies were co-ordinated. The representative of ECLA replied that the joint industry division of UNIDO and ECLA ensured a detailed and continuous exchange of information between the two bodies. Two UNIDO staff members were assigned to Santiago for the implementation of the tasks assigned to the Division.

(d) International trade and development finance

232. One delegation stated that output (ii) of programme element 2.1 (Relations with developed market-economy countries) and some of the outputs under programme elements 3.1 (Special studies on the international monetary and financial situation) and 3.3 (Regional and interregional financial co-operation) appeared to be global and not regional in nature and should perhaps be undertaken by UNCTAD. Furthermore, the outputs on the international monetary system under programme element 3.1 and the output on the global system of trade preferences among developing countries under programme element 4.3 (Latin American economic relations with other developing areas) seemed identical to some outputs included in the programme budget for the biennium 1982-1983. 7/ With reference to subprogramme 5, (Economic integration and co-operation among Caribbean countries) it was remarked that several programme elements were not related to international trade and development finance and that programme element 5.11 (Support to East Caribbean countries) did not envisage any output at all. Other delegations asked whether the outputs consisting of reports to assist participation in meetings of governors of Latin American central banks under programme element 3.1 were merely speeches and whether the consultant activities envisaged under programme element 1.2 (see para. 12.40 of section 12) would not be more appropriately included under programme element 1.4 (Economy of some commodities of interest to Latin America).

233. The representative of ECLA stated that global aspects were of overriding importance for regional development and that, wherever an output seemed, prima facie, to deal with a global issue, it was to be understood that it dealt with that issue in so far as it affected the Latin American region. He was not in a position to say in detail which reports had actually been concluded during the biennium 1982-1983 but recalled that in past bienniums the programme entitled "International trade and development finance" had a "B" level of implementation. As regards subprogramme 5, the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, unlike that for the previous biennium, did not include a programme entitled "Economic co-operation among developing countries" and the activities relating to economic integration and co-operation among Caribbean countries had to be included as a whole in the programme entitled "International trade and development finance in Latin America" to avoid their fragmentation among several programmes. Programme element 5.11 was a new activity and the ECLA secretariat had not yet been able to define its output. As regards the output under programme element 3.1 relating to

reports to assist participation in meetings of governors of Latin American central banks, the representative of ECLA stated that they were technical reports, which were highly appreciated by the participants.

(e) Natural resources

234. Some delegations commented that the establishment of the information system, output (ii) of programme element 1.3 (Information system on the mining sector of Latin America) was a final output; that the meetings envisaged as output (iii) of programme element 3.1 (Support for the formulation of national ocean policies) were not output; and that the output envisaged in programme element 3.1 (vi) was overambitious. The representative of ECLA agreed with those comments.

(f) Energy issues

235. One delegation, noting the designation (XB) after the output of programme element 1.4 (Time series analysis and energy forecasting) remarked that such a designation was often absent from programme elements that were financed by extrabudgetary resources and expressed the view that the (XB) designation should be consistently included where applicable.

236. The representative of the Office of Financial Services stated in reply that in this particular case the (XB) designation was included as the result of an error. If the Committee wanted the designation to be consistently included, this would be done for the next biennium. However, such a practice would have to deal with the difficulty arising from the fact that many programme elements were only partially financed by extrabudgetary resources.

(g) Population

237. One delegation remarked that in programme element 1.2 (Evaluation of the demographic effects of family planning in Latin America) both in the title and in the narrative, the words "family planning" had been replaced by "socio-economic conditions" during the meetings of the Committee of the Whole of ECLA in December 1982. The representative of the ECLA secretariat agreed that such was the case.

(h) Science and technology

238. One delegation recalled that at the first part of the twenty-third session of CPC, the representative of the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs had said that the area of science and technology was a potential problem area and that the Office "had initiated a study on the distribution of activities relating to science and technology" (see A/38/38 (Part I), para. 285), and asked whether the study referred to had thrown any light on the distribution of work between ECLA and the Centre for Science and Technology for Development. It was remarked, in particular, that programme elements 1.1 (Evaluation and repercussions of recent technological advances) and 1.4 (Evaluation of the process of application of science and technology to development) envisaged technical publications on global rather than regional issues. Another delegation remarked that there would be some duplication between the outputs envisaged under those two programme elements.

239. The representative of ECLA replied that the individual outputs were distinct and specific and they all related to subject-matter affecting the Latin American

region. None of them was being dealt with simultaneously by the Centre. The participation of ECLA in the meetings of the Centre ensured that there would be no duplication.

(i) Statistics

240. One delegation observed that subprogramme 1 (Regional framework of statistical information) absorbed 48.1 per cent of the resources available to the whole programme, whereas subprogramme 3 (Statistical development and regional statistical co-operation), which in its view was more important, attracted only 19 per cent. It felt that this area of regional statistical activity was one that all regional commissions should review very carefully in order to remove all duplication with other material published by organizations both inside and outside the United Nations system and to identify any irrelevant material. Any savings thus achieved could be redeployed to more important activities. The same delegation felt that there was no justification for the proposal to upgrade the Chief of the Statistics and Quantitative Analysis Division; there was no indication in the proposed work programme that there was to be an increase in duties which would justify the regrading.

241. The representative of ECLA stated that the increase in responsibility of the Chief of the Statistics and Quantitative Analysis Division justified his having the same rank as other directors. The programme did not publish any statistics that were already published by other international organizations and the outputs included in the programme budget of ECLA were not mentioned in other parts.

(j) ECLA offices in Mexico and Washington

242. In reply to questions, it was stated that (a) the new post envisaged in paragraph 12.98 was necessary because security in the Mexico Office had to be upgraded to the United Nations level, and that (b) the existence of the Washington Office was justified by the need for maintaining two-way communication with international organizations located in Washington, namely, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Organization of American States; in addition, the Washington Office monitored the activities of those organizations that could be of interest to the other regional commissions.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

243. The Committee recommended that in programme element 5.1 of the programme entitled "Development issues and policies in Latin America", output (ii) should read "Twenty-two technical reports" instead of "Forty-four technical reports".

244. The Committee recommended that whenever an output appeared to be global in nature, it should be emphasized that the output should be considered in relation to its impact on the region.

245. The Committee recommended that in paragraph 12.40, the task for which consultants were required under programme element 1.2 should be attached to programme element 1.4 instead.

246. The Committee recommended that under the programme entitled "Natural resources in Latin America":

(a) In programme element 1.3, output (ii), the words "intermediate output" should be deleted;

(b) Output (iii) of programme element 3.1 should be eliminated;

(c) Output (vi) of programme element 3.1 should be described as "Technical publication to study the design and implementation ...".

247. The Committee recommended that the designation (XB) after the output of programme element 1.4 of the programme entitled "Energy issues in Latin America" should be deleted. 6/

248. The Committee recommended that in programme element 1.2 of the programme entitled "Population in Latin America", the words "family planning" in the title and in the narrative should be replaced by "socio-economic conditions".

249. The Committee recommended that in paragraph 12.65 the programme element citations should be revised as follows: for 2.1 read 1.4; and for 3.1 read 2.1. 6/

250. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 12 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 15. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

1. Introduction

251. At its 59th and 60th meetings, on 6 September 1983, the Committee considered section 15 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General submitting the revised estimates (A/C.5/38/4).

252. The representative of UNCTAD introduced the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985, which took into account the conclusions of the sixth session of the Conference held from 2 June-3 July 1983. The Trade and Development Board and its Working Party on the Medium-Term Plan and the Programme Budget had not yet had the opportunity to examine the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985; the Working Party itself was scheduled to meet in October 1983. On the current occasion, CPC, therefore, did not have the benefit of the reports of the Trade and Development Board and its Working Party. The representative of UNCTAD further recalled that the budget submission had been prepared within two weeks of the termination of the Conference and was based on a very preliminary assessment of the results of that Conference.

2. Discussion

253. A number of delegations regretted that CPC was examining the proposed programme budget of UNCTAD before the specialized intergovernmental organs had had the opportunity to analyse it in detail. In this context, several delegations strongly regretted that the UNCTAD Working Party on the Medium-Term Plan and the Programme Budget had not arranged to meet in time to submit comments to CPC despite being aware that CPC was to hold a resumed session from 27 August to 9 September; this meant that only a preliminary discussion was possible at this stage in CPC.

Some delegations argued that the reports of the Trade and Development Board and of its Working Party on the Medium-Term Plan and the Programme Budget on the subject of the proposed programme budget from 1984-1985 could be sent directly to the General Assembly. One delegation was of the view that that situation was all the more regrettable since, at the sixth session of UNCTAD, there had been a very lengthy discussion, under agenda item 13, of the revitalization of the programme budget. Some delegations expressed the view that, in a general way, the proposed programme budget gave a very extensive interpretation to the mandates given in the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 and the decision of the sixth session of the Conference. However, several other delegations argued that all the activities proposed in the programme budget had been properly authorized by the appropriate intergovernmental bodies.

254. One delegation remarked that the programme "Executive direction and management" was the third largest in UNCTAD and expressed doubts as to whether this was justified; in its view, the new posts proposed could be provided through redeployment from other areas. In reply to questions, the representative of UNCTAD said that the United Nations Office at Geneva did not provide information services to UNCTAD; that the Trade and Development Board would decide on whether the publication of the review Trade and Development should be continued; that the consultant funds would be utilized when the Secretary-General of UNCTAD required expert advice of a cross-sectoral nature; and that the two posts at the Assistant-Secretary-General and D-1 levels would be redeployed to the Office of the Secretary-General because the work had become cross-sectoral in nature, and the pcsts had been functioning from that office.

255. Commenting on the programme "Money, finance and development", some delegations said that certain legislative mandates had been given too wide an interpretation. One delegation expressed the view that some activities envisaged under subprogramme 1 were already being undertaken by other intergovernmental organizations. Another asked, as it was proposed to redeploy one post to programme element 3.2 (Quantitative analysis relating to debt problems), which had no final output, why consultant services were required. The representative of UNCTAD stated in reply that all the proposed activities had been authorized by mandates of the Conference, the Trade and Development Board or the Committee on Invisibles and Financing relating to Trade; the mandates predating 1982 had been identified in the medium-term plan 1984-1989. Replying to a question asked by one delegation concerning the nature of the mandate for convening a session of the ad hoc group of experts on the elements of the interrelationships among trade, money and finance, he said in clarification that while intergovernmental decisions sometimes provided specifically for the convening of a group of experts, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD could convene a group of experts on his own initiative if he considered that the work of UNCTAD required expert advice of a specialized nature. As regards programme element 3.1 (Short- and medium-term economic prospects of developing countries and regions and commodity market prospects), the representative of UNCTAD explained that it supported an econometric modelling base, which was available to the whole of UNCTAD. Regarding programme element 3.2, he explained that it supported the preparations for the participation of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD in debt reorganization meetings, and that the provision for consultant services was for highly specialized technical expertise relating to private capital markets.

256. As regards the programme "Commodities", one delegation commented on the imprecise description of some outputs, especially when an approximate number of meetings was envisaged, and on the uncertain mandate for the consultants' services required under programme element 1.1 (Consultations, negotiations and follow-up

action on commodities not covered by existing international commodity agreements) and the group of experts under output (i) of programme element 2.1 (Stabilization of commodity export earnings). Another delegation inquired whether programme element 2.5 (International food trade duplicated the work of the World Food Council. The representative of UNCTAD stated in reply that it was impossible to specify in advance the number of meetings required during a process of negotiations; that the Group of Experts mentioned in output (i) of programme element 2.1 had been requested in resolution 157 (VI); and that the Secretary-General of UNCTAD considered that the secretariat required expert advice for the production of the corresponding output of programme element 1.1. The activities of programme element 2.5 had been mandated at the fifth session of the Conference, which had requested UNCTAD to submit reports on world food trade to the World Food Council.

257. Turning to the programme "Manufactures and semi-manufactures", some delegations expressed disagreement with the statement contained in paragraph 38 that Conference resolution 159 (VI) had "created a corresponding expansion in the mandate of UNCTAD"; as regards the consultants' services proposed for programme elements 1.1, 1.2 and 1.4, it argued that they were unnecessary because Governments could submit the information directly to the UNCTAD secretariat. Another delegation remarked that there were a number of instances (such as programme element 2.1) where the activities of the programme could potentially duplicate the work of UNIDO; it further inquired about the mandate for the quarterly publications of output (i) of programme element 1.5 (Implementation and improvement of the Set of Principles and Rules on Restrictive Business Practices). The representative of UNCTAD stated that resolution 159 (VI) had indeed expanded the mandate of UNCTAD and that the information for which consultant services had been proposed could not be obtained through a questionnaire sent to Governments because it involved substantive analyses of data. The publications under output (i) of programme element 1.5 had been envisaged by the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Restrictive Business Practices.

258. One delegation remarked that in the programme "Shipping, ports and multimodal transport", programme element 5.1 (Feasibility studies for ship acquisition) had been accorded low priority but its output included four studies to be done by consultants. On the same programme element, another delegation inquired whether the feasibility studies were technical assistance and, if so, whether they should not be financed by extrabudgetary resources. Another delegation asked why no intergovernmental body had determined priorities. The representative of UNCTAD replied that UNCTAD resolution 121 (V) on ship financing and technical assistance had called for the setting-up of an ad hoc unit within UNCTAD: temporary assistance had been made available for the bienniums 1980-1981 and 1982-1983 and it was proposed to reduce this for 1984-1985 to compensate for the consultants' services proposed under programme element 5.1. The Working Party of the Trade and Development Board, in the context of its examination of the proposed programme budget for 1982-1983 had not been able to recommend priorities. The priorities figuring in the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985 had been assigned by the Secretariat; no intergovernmental body of UNCTAD had yet considered the proposals.

259. As regards the programme "Transfer of technology", several delegations argued that a number of outputs went beyond the legislative mandate of intergovernmental organs, whereas other delegations stated that the mandates covered all the outputs envisaged in the proposed programme budget. In answer to queries, the representative of UNCTAD said that the request contained in paragraph 20 of UNCTAD resolution 143 (VI) would be implemented under subprogramme 3 (Advisory Service on

Transfer of Technology (ASTT)) and related to joint activities with the Centre for Science and Technology for Development, and that General Assembly resolution 37/207 had requested the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to convene the meetings envisaged in output (ii) of programme element 1.4 (Development aspects of reverse transfer of technology).

260. Divergent views were expressed on the adequacy of the existing legislative mandates for several outputs of the programme "Economic co-operation among developing countries". One delegation, in particular, commenting on programme element 3.2 (Substantive support to meetings of economic integration and co-operation groups), said that activities serviced by the United Nations but excluding all developed and some developing countries were against the principle of universality of the Organization. Some delegations and the representative of UNCTAD stated that resolution 127 (V), paragraph 15, had requested the Trade and Development Board to provide for such meetings on economic co-operation among developing countries as would be necessary. The delegation reiterated its concern over the UNCTAD interpretation and implementation of this mandate and maintained its position on the matter.

261. Regarding the programme "Trade among countries having different economic and social systems", questions were asked as to whether research project (a) of programme element 2.5 (Co-ordination with the United Nations regional commissions and specialized agencies) was the same as the one that had been terminated under the proposed programme budget for ECLA, and as to the mandate of the Group of Experts envisaged in output (iii) of programme element 1.2 (Ways and means of promoting trade). One delegation asked whether programme element 1.5 (Developments in payments arrangements with the socialist countries of Eastern Europe) derived from an interpretation of the medium-term plan or from a more specific mandate and remarked that outputs 1.2 (i) and 2.2 (i), though distinct, were described in a way that created the impression of duplication. Another delegation felt that several subprogrammes exceeded the mandate of the sixth session of UNCTAD.

262. The representative of the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination said that the programme element in the proposed programme budget for ECLA that had been terminated related to different work to that described in UNCTAD output 2.5 (a). The representative of UNCTAD stated that the Secretary-General of UNCTAD had decided to convene the Group of Experts envisaged in output 1.2 (iii) pursuant to resolution 95 (IV). He added that programme element 1.5 derived from the secretariat's interpretation of the medium-term plan and agreed that outputs 1.2 (i) and 2.2 (i) could be reworded to increase clarity.

263. As regards the programme "Least-developed, land-locked and island developing countries", the representative of UNCTAD said in reply to questions that the convening of the Third Meeting of the Multilateral and Bilateral Financial and Technical Assistance Institutions with the Representatives of the Least Developed Countries still awaited consideration by the Trade and Development Board and that, in the event of a favourable decision, it would be held in 1985 (and not in 1984 as stated in programme element 1.1, output (i)). Under programme element 3.1 (Substantive support of technical co-operation activities), the word "elaboration" was to be replaced by the word "implementation" because the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries had already been finalized.

264. One delegation, speaking on the programme "Insurance", remarked that, on average, less than one report per year was envisaged for the Professional staff of

the programme, and that it was therefore not justified to provide for an increase in consultant services. The representative of UNCTAD stated that the reports mentioned accounted for only about half the output of the programme, which provided substantive support for a large volume of technical co-operation services, as well as the annual review of insurance in developing countries. It was not proposed that the consultants should produce the reports themselves but only specialized inputs thereto.

265. On the programme "Administration and common services" one delegation opposed the allocations for a word-processing system on the grounds that the case for such expenditure had not been made out and, in any case, should be fully offset by staff and other equipment savings.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

266. The Committee recommended that the report on the proposed programme budget of UNCTAD for 1984-1985, though only examined in a preliminary manner, should be drawn to the attention of the Trade and Development Board and to its Working Party on the Medium-Term Plan and the Programme Budget.

267. The Committee recommended that the Trade and Development Board and its Working Party should take measures to ensure that, in future, the proposed programme budget of UNCTAD and the relevant sections of the medium-term plan were reviewed by them before the Committee's regular scheduled sessions. The Committee regretted that, currently, it was not possible for it to undertake that examination.

Section 16. International Trade Centre

1. Introduction

268. At its 60th meeting, on 6 September 1983, the Committee considered section 16 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. Introducing the proposed programme budget of the International Trade Centre (ITC) for the biennium 1984-1985, the representative of ITC said that the document was imperfect because it was the first attempt by the Centre to present a budget with a programmatic narrative. The Centre was a unique institution because it was under the joint direction of a United Nations body, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and a non-United Nations body, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The two organizations had different procedures and cycles for preparing their budgets and medium-term plans. The Joint Advisory Group (JAG) overviewed the activities of ITC and reported to both the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD and the Council of GATT.

269. In practice, ITC was financed through three sources to about the same extent: the regular budget of the United Nations, the regular budget of GATT and extrabudgetary resources. ITC was exclusively concerned with technical assistance and had to take into account the desires of both receiving and donor countries, as well as the general guidelines laid down by JAG. The representative of ITC further remarked that the Centre's activities would be intensified in the biennium 1984-1985 as a result of additional resources from the United Nations Development Programme and of UNCTAD resolution 158 (VI) on the strengthening of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT, particularly in relation to commodities.

2. Discussion

270. One delegation remarked that owing to the unsuitable presentation in 1981 of the programme budget of ITC for 1982-1983, CPC had found it impossible to make any comments on the programme aspects. Furthermore, in 1982, ITC had presented its medium-term plan for 1984-1989 in a form that did not conform with the requirements because it consisted of a list of the nine subprogrammes without any description of their objectives, the problems they addressed or strategies for the period 1984-1989, thus making it impossible for the Committee to judge whether the programme elements and outputs envisaged were consistent or not with the plan. The delegation recognized that the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985 represented an improvement on previous attempts. However, the text was still inadequate. Each subprogramme was divided into only one programme element having the same title as the subprogramme itself and no attempt had been made to set out explicitly the component elements of each subprogramme to enable the Committee to at least guess the objectives and strategies that were not specified in the plan. As regards the outputs cited, all the subprogrammes included technical assistance activities but described them in a way that was not informative; the anticipated number of missions was provided but their purpose merely paraphrased the title of the subprogramme itself. As ITC was concerned almost exclusively with technical assistance, it followed that the Committee was unable to examine effectively most of the programme. In addition, six subprogrammes envisaged technical publications among their output, but only one provided the subject-matter of the publications; the remaining five subprogrammes laid down the number of publications envisaged, but not their title or their subject-matter. The delegation concluded by saying that in 1981 the Committee had recommended that the ITC proposed programme budget be resubmitted "in a proper manner for review by the General Assembly" and regretted that it was impractical to make a similar recommendation on the present occasion because the Assembly was convening within a short time.

271. Another delegation stated that, while the proposed programme budget presented by ITC did not meet the required standards, it was well known that the Centre's work was very useful and that many developing countries were appreciative of the technical assistance they received from it. It seemed, therefore, that the proposed programme budget, as presented, did not do justice to the activities of the Centre.

272. The representative of ITC thanked the delegations that had recognized the improvements in the Proposed Programme Budget and reiterated that the special nature of the Centre created a number of difficulties. He took note of the comments made during the discussion and stated that they would be taken fully into consideration in the preparation of the programme budget for 1986-1987.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

273. The Committee took note of the proposed programme budget submitted for 1984-1985 and of the comments made thereon by a number of delegations and recommended that in future the programme budget of ITC should be drawn up in accordance with the standard requirements and, in particular, give a full description of the programme elements and outputs envisaged.

274. With the above reservation, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 16 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 18. United Nations Environment Programme

1. Introduction

275. At its 56th meeting, on 3 September 1983, the Committee considered section 18, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

276. In introducing the section the representative of UNEP summarized briefly the background situation on extrabudgetary transfers to the regular budget. The request for the transfer of a number of posts from extrabudgetary funds to the regular budget had been considered in the last four bienniums. Although the request was partially granted in the biennium 1978-1979, further requests had not been put forward since then owing to the existing policy of maximum restraint. The same strict standards had been applied in the case of transfer of posts from extrabudgetary sources to the regular budget as in the case of the establishment of new posts. The UNEP representative also pointed out that the Executive Director of UNEP was particularly concerned at the continuous postponement of further transfers of posts from the Environment Fund to the regular budget since it perpetuated the anomaly whereby the Environment Fund subsidized the regular budget. That is, the Environment Fund had been, all these years, bearing a part of the cost that should normally be financed from the regular budget. In view of that, and of the existing need to maintain a proper balance between those programme areas financed by extrabudgetary sources and those by the regular budget, it was now recommended that a number of the additional posts be transferred to the regular budget in the biennium 1984-1985. Based on programme justification three substantive areas that would benefit from the transfer had been selected: environmental assessment, terrestrial and coastal ecosystems, and environmental management and environmental law.

2. Discussion

277. In the general discussion of this section, many delegations expressed satisfaction with the "Environment" programme, underlining the importance the subject matter had for their Governments.

278. In reviewing the transfer of posts from extrabudgetary resources to the regular budget, while many delegations gave support to the proposed transfer, one delegation did not agree with the transfer of one post and another delegation opposed in principle all such transfers. Both delegations asked that their views be reflected in the present report as follows.

279. In the first case, the delegation questioned the transfer of a P-3 post for a programme officer under programme element 3.2 (Tropical woodlands and forest ecosystems) of subprogramme 3 (Terrestrial and coastal ecosystems). The delegation pointed out that the World Charter for Nature is not the only base for the work on forest ecosystems. The Amazon countries have dissociated themselves from the principles and objectives of the charter and under those conditions, it did not seem adequate in the delegation's view to transfer a P-3 post to the regular budget with the objective of implementing the World Charter.

280. In the second case, the delegation felt that such transfers are becoming customary in the United Nations, and that this situation should not continue.

281. In order to bring output (i) under programme element 3.5 (Water) into line with the medium-term plan, it was noted that the words "large-scale" should be deleted.

282. With regard to priorities, although many delegations supported in general the assignment of high and low priorities in the "Environment" programme, one delegation felt that programme element 2.2 (Health of the people and the environment) should be assigned a low priority. The representative of the Secretariat reported the views of the Governing Council of UNEP that programme element 2.1 (Environmental aspects of human settlements planning) should be accorded a high priority; that programme element 5.1 (Marine pollution) should be given lowest priority; and that programme element 3.6 (Genetic resources) should not have any priority at all assigned to it.

283. Concerning the functions of the regional offices, one delegation noted that the role of the representatives at the regional offices is larger than the one expressed in the document and that the co-ordination functions of these offices should be included when describing their functions (see para. 18.35).

284. Concerning programme element 5.2 (Living marine resources), output (iii), one delegation noted that the World Conservation Strategy should refer to all living marine resources and not only to the incidental killing of marine mammals and that the development of national law to protect marine mammals should be undertaken upon the request of the Governments concerned.

285. As regards technical assistance provided by UNEP under programme element 6.1 (Energy), output (iii), many delegations felt that there was not enough emphasis in the text on the environmental implications of the energy projects.

286. When discussing subprogramme 10 (Arms race and the environment), delegations had opposing views concerning this programme area. While a number of delegations felt that UNEP should not deal with the issue of the arms race at all, and if at all it should be given the lowest priority, other delegations felt that there was a strong link between the arms race and its impact on the environment. One of the delegations in particular requested that its views in support of this programme area be recorded. Another delegation, noting that the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs is the lead department on the issue of disarmament, requested that this should be recorded.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

287. The Committee recommended that the following revisions should be made in the proposed programme budget for UNEP:

(a) In the first sentence of paragraph 18.35, the words "and co-ordinate" should be added after the word "communicate".

(b) Under subprogramme 1 (Environmental assessment), (a) Resource requirements, the existing text should be replaced by the following:

"Regular budget: \$405,000 (15.6 per cent of programme total);

"Extrabudgetary resources: \$1,651,000 (27.7 per cent of programme total)." 6/

(c) Under programme element 1.6 (Research, evaluation and review), output (ii), the words "and of the economic and ecological impact of acid rains" should be added after the word "sulphur".

(d) Under programme element 2.1 (Environmental aspects of human settlements planning) output (i), the last phrase "and on criteria for indoor climate comfort (fourth quarter, 1984)" should be deleted.

(e) Programme element 2.2 (Health of the people and the environment) should be assigned lowest priority.

(f) Under programme element 3.4 (Soils), output (i) the last publication should be deleted and instead the following should be inserted "and methodologies for the assessment of available or potentially available land and soil resources and loss of cropland (fourth quarter, 1985)".

(g) Under programme element 3.5 (Water), output (i), the words "large-scale" should be deleted. The sentence should read "... environmental impacts of water development projects ...".

(h) Under programme element 3.6 (Genetic resources), lowest priority should be deleted.

(i) Programme element 5.1 (Marine pollution), should be assigned lowest priority.

(j) Programme element 5.2 (Living marine resources), output (iii), should read:

"Periodic review of the World Conservation Strategy with respect to all living marine resources and the development of national and international law relating to marine mammals".

(k) Under programme element 5.3 (Regional seas), output (ii), the words "South West Atlantic (end 1984)" should be deleted.

(l) Programme element 6.1 (Energy), output (iii), should read:

"Technical assistance: three pilot demonstration projects on the utilization of new and renewable sources of energy in rural areas, with particular emphasis on new technologies and their environmental impact."

(m) Under subprogramme 8 (Supporting measures), (a) Resource requirements, the existing text should be replaced by the following:

"Regular budget: \$324,500 (12.5 per cent of programme total);

"Extrabudgetary resources: \$1,519,900 (25.5 per cent of programme total)." 6/

288. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 18 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 19. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

1. Introduction

289. At its 53rd and 54th meetings, on 2 August 1983, the Committee considered section 19 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

290. In introducing the section, the representative of the Centre noted that there had been a restructuring of the human settlements programme since the last programme budget, as reflected in the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989. The former subprogramme 3 on shelter, infrastructure and services had been subdivided into four subprogrammes, namely, subprogramme 3 (Shelter and community services); subprogramme 4 (Development of the indigenous construction sector); subprogramme 5 (Low-cost infrastructures for human settlements) and subprogramme 7 (Mobilization of finance for human settlements development). In addition, the former subprogramme 5 on public participation had been deleted as a separate subprogramme, since it was regarded as an integral part of all other aspects of human settlements development, and activities concerning promotion of public participation had been included as part of several of the subprogrammes, particularly those related to shelter and community services, the development of the indigenous construction sector, low-cost infrastructures for human settlements and human settlements institutions and management. In regard to the above restructuring it was brought to the Committee's attention that, at its twenty-second session, it had noted that, although the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 had been subdivided into eight subprogrammes instead of six as in the previous plan, the rearrangement was intended to provide a more logical and balanced structure and did not imply any extension of the mandate of the Centre for Human Settlements or any expansion of resource requirements. 8/

291. The Habitat representative further pointed out that, although subprogramme 8 appeared to be the largest, that perception was somewhat misleading as activities such as training and documentation, although concentrated mainly under subprogramme 8, were to be considered implicitly under the other subprogrammes as well.

292. Finally, it was noted that, in addition to carrying out its normal programme of work, the Centre would implement, during the next biennium, programme activities associated with the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless (1987) proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/221 of 20 December 1982.

2. Discussion

293. A number of delegations felt that it was not clear why programme element 1.4, (Resource allocation for balanced development), should be kept as a separate programme element. It was noted that this programme element does not have a final output and has the lowest priority. Since activities under programme element 1.4 are closely related to those under programme element 1.2 (Global analysis and system-wide policy formulation), the Committee agreed that the activities cited under programme element 1.4 should be added to programme element 1.2, output (iii) and that the execution of other activities under programme element 1.4 should be postponed to the next biennium. Concerning programme element 1.2, output (iii), the representative of the Centre noted that the Commission on Human Settlements had now selected the theme of the report under that programme element; it was entitled "Planning and management of human settlements with special reference to intermediate cities and growth centres".

294. Concerning programme element 2.6 (Internal evaluation of the Centre's projects), some delegations questioned the lack of final output during 1984-1985. The representative of the Centre noted that internal evaluation is a specialized task requiring professional staff with appropriate expert qualifications not available under existing posts in the Centre. The Secretariat further stated that

the entire issue of resources for evaluation concerning different programmes would be dealt with separately at a later date.

295. Some delegations expressed the view that programme element 2.7 (Techniques for reduction of disaster risks through pre-disaster planning) might duplicate the work of the United Nations Disaster Relief Organization. The representative of the Centre explained that the role of the Centre in that area was unique and that no other United Nations organization dealt specifically with activities contained in the output under programme element 2.7, which was intended to meet a very specific training need in the construction sector.

296. In reviewing programme element 3.6 (Execution of programme for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless), a number of delegations questioned why this programme element was included only under subprogramme 3 (Shelter and community services) and not under other programme areas that dealt directly with housing for the homeless. The representative of the Centre for Human Settlements pointed out that the programme for the International Year would be developed in detail during the biennium 1984-1985 and, once this was accomplished, it would be subdivided among different subprogrammes, which would be reflected in the programme budget for the next biennium. That position had already been accepted by the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session. One delegation noted that, according to the existing guidelines for international years, international years should be entirely funded from extrabudgetary resources. The representative of the Centre pointed out that the Secretary-General had recommended that the guidelines for the international years required that those years be in principle funded from extrabudgetary resources without excluding the possibility of certain functions to be covered from the regular budget (A/37/527/Add.1).

297. In regard to programme element 8.7 (Dissemination of information on human settlements), one delegation said that the journalists hired to write articles on various human settlements subjects should not come exclusively from developing countries as was suggested in the report. It was agreed by the Committee that any reference to countries should be deleted. In addition, it was considered necessary to indicate that the regional information networks belonged to the Centre for Human Settlements.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

298. The Committee recommended that the following revisions should be made in the proposed programme budget for human settlements:

(a) Programme element 1.2, output (iii) should be revised to read as follows:

"(iii) Report to the Commission on planning and management of human settlements with special reference to intermediate cities and growth centres (1985)."

(b) An additional output should be added to programme element 1.2, reading as follows:

"(v) The Centre will collect information on and analyse methods and criteria for locating investments in infrastructure and social services within the context of national development, leading to the formulation of national policies integrating issues of population location, land utilization, economic activities and social improvement."

(c) Programme element 1.4 should be postponed.

(d) In programme element 8.7, under output, the words "from developing countries" should be deleted; and, after the words "information networks" the words "of the Centre for Human Settlements" should be added.

299. The Committee expressed its continued interest in evaluation activities as described under programme element 2.6.

300. The Committee concluded that, regarding programme element 3.6, the financing of the activities of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless would be, in principle, in conformity with the criteria set out in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67.

301. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 19 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 20. International drug control

1. Introduction

302. At its 55th meeting, on 3 September 1983, the Committee considered section 20 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. It also had before it a statement by the Secretary-General on programme, financial and administrative implications (E/AC.51/1983/L.6).

303. In introducing the section, the representative of the Division of Narcotic Drugs of the United Nations Secretariat explained that drug control had been a matter of international concern since the turn of the century. He cited various conventions that had entered into force since 1909 and stated that there were also regional agreements and bilateral treaties between certain countries. Nevertheless, the international community had not been able to resolve the drug problem and the estimated value of the illicit drug trade in the previous year was more than \$200 billion. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs was the principal policy-making organ of the programme and the Economic and Social Council had recently decided to increase the size of that Commission to 40 members. 9/ In addition, the International Narcotics Control Board performed administrative and quasi-legal functions in connection with the drug treaties. In 1971, recognizing the need to supplement regular budget funds, the General Assembly had established the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC) in order to raise extrabudgetary voluntary contributions. He identified the six basic aims of the international drug control strategy, noting that the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 followed those aims and was based on the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989.

2. Discussion

304. Support was expressed for the international drug control programme and it was noted that the grave problems faced were universal and getting progressively worse both in developed and developing countries. Some delegations believed that the United Nations should attach greater importance to drug control in the future and that section 20 of the programme budget should be given at least the same importance as the sections in the economic and social area.

305. It was noted, however, that there was room for improved co-operation among the three units of the Secretariat concerned with drug control (the Division of Narcotic Drugs and the secretariats of the International Narcotics Control Board and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control), which should lead to greater efficiency and better utilization of resources. It was noted that the administrative management survey of those units, which had been undertaken in 1980, had not yet been approved by the Secretary-General. Such a delay was regrettable and did not enhance efficiency. In this connection, the evaluation of the international drug control programme, which was called for in the CPC timetable for consideration by the Committee in 1985, was awaited with anticipation. One delegation expressed the opinion that the administrative costs of operational projects seemed high and, therefore, a solution should be found in order that more resources could be spent on operational projects rather than on staff costs.

306. The representative of the Division of Narcotic Drugs replied to the observations of delegations, stating that efforts would be made to improve co-ordination and requesting delegations not to lose sight of the fact that treaty provisions were a basis for many aspects of the programme and that the available resources for the programme were very meagre.

307. A request was made to delete the word "annual" from output (ii) of programme element 1.2 (Commission secretariat services) and also the intermediate output from that programme element.

308. In response to questions about the mandate for the intermediate output of programme element 1.3 (Legal advice on treaty implementation) it was explained that the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its seventh special session had all expressed desires to see more States parties to the Conventions and that consequently the Division of Narcotic Drugs was actively campaigning to that end.

309. With regard to subprogramme 2 (Scientific research by the United Nations Narcotics Laboratory), some delegations were not convinced of the usefulness of all the activities of the laboratory and felt that one or two elements of that subprogramme might be given a low priority. In the view of another delegation, however, the functions of the laboratory were viable although no priority designation should be allocated to it. The representative of the Division of Narcotic Drugs stated that the laboratory was a unique entity in the United Nations system and had a number of functions that were supportive of law enforcement and drug identification. The Division was strengthening the laboratory in co-operation with national laboratories and would continue to do research although without extensive resources from the regular budget. Programme element 2.5 (Heroin signature), had been given special attention in co-operation with countries which had provided samples of seized drugs in order to determine the country of origin of the heroin. In response to a question on programme element 2.7, it was explained that the multilingual dictionary was virtually ready for printing in 1983 and that the supplement shown as an output was intended to be an update to be published every two years.

310. In a discussion about the assignment of priorities, the representative of the Budget Division explained that although only one programme element had been designated as highest priority, element 1.1 (Implementation of treaties, decisions and resolutions), it represented about 10 per cent of the total resources for the programme in accordance with the established guidelines. Similarly, the four programme elements shown as lowest priority together totalled about 10 per cent.

The representative of the Division of Narcotic Drugs later added that the Division had established priorities with reluctance since with such small resources everything had priority. He went on to say that programme element 1.1 had been given highest priority since it was a treaty obligation. One delegation stated that the General Assembly had not asked CPC to restrict priorities to 10 per cent of resources and it was a useful function of CPC to recommend priorities.

311. In answer to various questions, it was explained that both regular budget and extrabudgetary resources were involved in providing assistance to Member States under programme element 3.2. The regular budget paid salaries, while most travel costs and all other requirements were met from extrabudgetary resources. Under programme element 3.3 (Advice to UNFDAC and implementation of technical co-operation activities), every effort was being directed against smuggling, particularly maritime smuggling, in co-operation with other agencies. As an example of co-operation, the representative of the Division of Narcotic Drugs said that the last co-ordination meeting at Geneva was attended by representatives of UNCTAD, the World Food Programme, FAO, WHO, the International Telecommunication Union and the International Trade Centre, among others.

312. In examining subprogramme 4 (Programme planning, co-ordination and information) one delegation stated that programme co-ordination (element 4.2) was very important for the best utilization of resources, and the representative of the Division of Narcotic Drugs agreed. He said that General Assembly resolution 34/177 of 17 December 1979 had called for co-ordination between agencies and that in 1983 the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session would include reports of all those agencies.

313. One delegation referred to programme element 4.3 (Information services) and called for Arabic to be added to the other five languages in which output (i) was to be published. The representative of the Division of Narcotic Drugs assured him that if funds were provided it could be done.

314. The Committee then turned its attention to the programme of activity of the International Narcotics Control Board secretariat. Several delegations pointed out the similarity of programme elements 1.4, 2.3, and 3.3.

315. With regard to the part of section 20 dealing with the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (part D), two delegations thought that it could be omitted since it was the only extrabudgetary organ to be explained in such detail in the entire budget document. Most delegations, however, thought that it helped to present a complete picture of the drug control programme.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

316. The Committee decided to recommend:

Under the programme of activity of the Division of Narcotic Drugs

(a) The deletion, in programme element 1.2, of the word "annual" from output (ii) and deletion of the intermediate output of the programme element;

(b) The redesignation of the intermediate output of programme element 1.3 as final output (iii);

(c) The revision of programme element 2.5 by inserting the word "Output" on the line below the title of the element and by replacing the word "Procurement" at the beginning of the second sentence of the output by the word "Gathering";

(d) According highest priority to programme elements 3.1 and 3.2 while retaining the same designation for element 1.1;

(e) The revision of the title of programme element 3.3 to read "Advice to UNFDAC, co-operation with other agencies and implementation of technical co-operation activities";

(f) In element 3.3, output (i), the deletion of the second sentence, replacing it by the following:

"(i) To determine the viability and cost effectiveness of these projects; the analysis of proposals may include consultancy/expert missions in co-operation with or arranged by the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control."

(g) Issuing in Arabic the publication in output (i) of programme element 4.3;

Under the programme of activity of the International Narcotics Control Board

(h) The merger of programme elements 2.3 and 3.3 with programme element 1.4;

(i) Combining outputs (ii) and (iii) of programme element 1.2;

(j) The replacement of the words "Diplomatic contacts" with the words "Local inquiries" under programme element 1.3.

317. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 20 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 21. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

1. Introduction

318. At its 64th meeting, on 8 September, the Committee considered section 21 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

319. In introducing the section, the representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees enumerated the increasing and varied activities of the Office to obtain durable solutions to the problem of assistance and settlement of refugees. He said that the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985 was designed to emphasize the resolution of this problem. He explained that it was not possible to follow the subprogramme structure of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 in the presentation of the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985 in view of the indivisible nature of the assistance and protection functions specified in the Office's mandate. The current organizational structure, which had been approved by the Executive Committee for the Programme of the High Commissioner and which reflected the integrated approach to the implementation of the mandate set out in the budget for the voluntary funds, would require the express approval of the Executive Committee to be changed. It was also not

possible to assign highest and lowest priority designations to individual activities since the level of funds available was never adequate to finance all refugee needs. Also, at any given time, the immediate needs of refugees were variable - which therefore made the problem more complex to deal with. Setting priorities might be applicable in other United Nations activities of a more predictable nature, but was not practical in the context of the dynamic programme of UNHCR.

320. The representative of the Budget Division, in clarifying paragraph 21.5, stated that the proposal to phase out seven Professional and seven General Service posts would await the finalization of the review by the Administrative and Management Service of the staffing of the Office. He noted that ACABQ, in its first report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, 10/ had consequently recommended the reinstatement of these posts in the proposed budget.

2. Discussion

321. General support was given to the important humanitarian assistance and protection programme of the Office. Concern was expressed, however, regarding the rate of growth of the costs of these activities, particularly in the last few years. Two delegations stated their Governments' opposition to the proposed transfer of posts from extrabudgetary resources to the regular budget. Some other delegations indicated that they considered the transfer of posts to the regular budget as acceptable but that this increase in posts should be offset by redeployment from other non-post resources in section 21 and/or by redeployment of resources from other budget sections.

322. Some members of the Committee expressed disappointment at the inability of the Office to present the proposed programme budget according to the subprogramme structure of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989, and to designate highest and lowest priority programme elements. However, other delegations acknowledged that the designation of highest and lowest priority of programme elements is not applicable to some programmes such as that of UNHCR. The hope was also expressed that the phasing out of the seven Professional and seven General Service posts would be carried out as soon as possible in the biennium 1984-1985. One delegation suggested that the description of some of the outputs of programme element 1.3 (Effective implementation of refugee rights) under subprogramme on direction and co-ordination of protection be improved so as to indicate that the actions to be taken by the Secretariat would not be contrary to internationally accepted national policies.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

323. The Committee decided to recommend that, as indicated in paragraph 21.3 of section 21 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, the presentation of the proposed programme budget for the next biennium should conform, as far as possible, to the prescribed format and to the subprogramme structure of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989.

324. The Committee also expressed the hope that, given the organizational changes taking place, the seven Professional and seven General Service posts, that were to have been phased out as indicated in paragraph 21.5 of budget section 21, would be discontinued in the near future.

325. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 21 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 22. Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator

1. Introduction

326. At its 58th meeting, on 5 September 1983, the Committee considered section 22, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. It also had before it a statement by the Secretary-General on programme, financial and administrative implications (E/AC.51/1983/L.6). In his introduction, the representative of the Budget Division stated that the programme budget of UNDRO was organized in accordance with the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989. He pointed out that the bulk of the growth related to the establishment of two temporary posts approved by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session. He also indicated a number of corrections to the document.

2. Discussion

327. The view was expressed that the proposed programme budget of UNDRO lacked clarity. The programme was vague, and insufficient information had been provided on the technical publications mentioned in the output of some programme elements. It was suggested that greater efforts should be made to improve the presentation of outputs.

328. Some delegations considered that the rate of growth of 3.5 per cent proposed for UNDRO was not warranted and that the regular budget resources available to UNDRO should remain static. Reservations were therefore expressed on the requested conversion of two temporary posts to established posts. One delegation indicated that UNDRO as a whole was of low priority, while another delegation thought that the proposed programme budget for UNDRO did not reflect the priorities of Governments. On the other hand, one delegation stated for the record that it was against any a priori determination of budget growth rates and therefore could not agree with the views expressed regarding a zero or other rates of growth for UNDRO or any other body of the United Nations. Concern was expressed by a delegation over the possible duplication of the activities of UNDRO with those of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and of the specialized agencies.

329. A number of delegations inquired as to the reasons for designating programme element 3.2 (Use of satellite technology for remote sensing of the earth for disaster prevention, preparedness and relief purposes) as being of the lowest priority. It was explained by one delegation that the use of satellite technology for the type of work described in the programme was in its infancy and felt that less emphasis should be placed by UNDRO on this highly sophisticated field. In that delegation's view, the designation of lowest priority for the programme element was therefore appropriate. A number of delegations asked for an explanation on how the use of sophisticated satellite technology could be utilized by developing countries.

330. With respect to subprogramme 4 (Disaster information), one delegation was of the view that the servicing of information meetings under programme element 4.2 (Collection, processing and provision of information for UNDRO's data base) was not

an appropriate output and called on the Secretariat to give an explanation of these meetings. The discussion also dealt with programme element 4.3 (Promotion of public education and information relevant to all aspects of disaster management). It was generally felt that programme element 4.3 should be designated as being of the lowest priority instead of programme element 3.2. A number of delegations also expressed the view that programme element 4.3 should be deleted.

331. In his response to the comments and questions raised in the Committee, the representative of UNDRRO indicated that there was no duplication between the work of UNDRRO and that of the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees or the specialized agencies. UNDRRO worked closely with those organizations and, therefore, no duplication occurred. Unlike those organizations, UNDRRO had a catalytic role in mobilizing relief efforts. On the conversion into established posts of two temporary posts, the representative of the Budget Division indicated that the posts had been authorized by the General Assembly on the basis of its recognition that its resolution 37/144 would generate the additional activities contained in the proposed programme budget of UNDRRO. These posts were temporary only because the Assembly wanted to review their status at its thirty-eighth session.

332. Concerning the use of satellite technology, the representative of UNDRRO explained that that was already applied in the meteorological field. UNDRRO also made use of satellite technology in the area of communications. The representative of UNDRRO also explained that the designation of lowest priority to programme element 3.2 did not mean that the activities were not important. Such indications were required in the budget instructions and programme element 3.2 was determined as being of the lowest priority.

333. The representative of UNDRRO provided additional information on the technical publications and public information materials envisaged in the outputs for programme elements in subprogramme 4 (Disaster information), and explained to the Committee that the purpose of having information meetings for diplomatic missions, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations was to facilitate co-ordination of multilateral and bilateral assistance to disaster-stricken countries.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

334. The Committee recommended that programme element 4.3 should be deleted. It concluded that the lowest priority assigned to programme element 3.2 was inappropriate and recommended that programme element 3.3 (Use of warning devices) should be assigned the lowest priority.

335. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 22 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 23. Human rights

1. Introduction

336. At its 54th meeting, on 2 September 1983, the Committee considered section 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

337. The representative of the Centre for Human Rights made an introductory statement in which he noted recent organizational changes. The former Division of Human Rights had been redesignated the Centre for Human Rights and was now headed by an Assistant-Secretary-General. In addition, one P-5 post had been transferred to the Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters. The proposed programme budget was based on the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 and, in addition to mandates flowing from the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, received mandates for many of its activities from the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the Commission on Human Rights. He went on to say that there had been a considerable increase in the work-load, but that this was not paralleled by an increase in the work-force; thus it might be necessary to inform human rights organs that there could be delays in the implementation of some mandates.

2. Discussion

338. Several delegations stated that they attached great importance to the human rights programme and one delegation recognized the difficulty of the Centre in carrying out its work-load because of the number of bodies serviced. That delegation noted that many mandates were renewed each year without any regard to their performance and stated that perhaps the time had come to start evaluating the usefulness of some of them.

339. When asked to explain the programme elements of a less pressing nature to which reference was made in paragraph 23.5, the representative of the Centre thought that those might involve theoretical studies, which were often quite time-consuming. In response to questions about paragraph 23.13, the representative of the Budget Division said that mandates were renewed annually in the spring and that the Secretariat then requested ACABQ to authorize expenditures, which were later reported to the General Assembly in the context of the revised estimates resulting from decisions of the Economic and Social Council and of the budget performance report. It was not possible, he said, to list the current mandates in paragraph 23.13, as one delegation had suggested, since they had not been renewed at the time the budget was prepared.

340. One delegation mentioned the costs of travel and questioned the payment of honoraria to members of the Human Rights Committee. It was explained that the authorized payment of honoraria was mandated by article 35 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The transfer of a P-5 post was the concern of another delegation, which pointed out that the incumbent of the post had performed a number of other duties in addition to being the Secretary of the Third Committee. The speaker understood that a temporary replacement had come from Geneva but that this arrangement would come to an end shortly. He went on to say that his and some other delegations were disappointed that the redeployment would result in a reduction of the Human Rights staff. The representative of the Centre confirmed that it would be very difficult for the Liaison Office to function with the reduction in work-months, but the delegation later said that the point would not be pressed if other delegations were satisfied.

341. Another delegation thought that two sessions per year of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) was excessive but that if they were necessary they should be held at Geneva to save travel costs. The representative of the Centre replied that CERD could not manage with only one meeting per year because of the volume of reports with which it had to deal. The Convention stated

that meetings of CERD should normally be held at United Nations Headquarters but a compromise arrangement allows half of the meetings to be held at Geneva.

342. A delegation raised the point that output (i) of programme element 1.2 (Implementing procedures for dealing with alleged violations of human rights) should be given lowest priority since the Commission on Human Rights at its last session had decided to delete from its work programme the agenda item entitled "Communications concerning human rights". He also asked how many of the communications referred to in output (iii) had been received in the previous biennium. The speaker also thought that output (xii) of programme element 1.2 was premature because he did not believe that CERD had decided how to deal with it. In reply, the representative of the Centre pointed out that output (i) pertained to the work of the Human Rights Committee and had no relation to the work of the Commission on Human Rights. He said it was difficult to say precisely how many communications a year had been received since, over the years, there had been as few as 7,000 and as many as 50,000. He estimated that the average would be about 40,000 in recent years. It was true, he said, that the Commission on Human Rights had decided to delete the item entitled "Communications concerning human rights" from its agenda, but that had been a procedural item. Instead, the Commission now deals with communications in a substantive way under the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII). So far as output (xii) of programme element 1.2 was concerned, he said article 14 of the Convention had come into effect in 1982 and new rules of procedure spelt out the mandate. In response to other questions, he stated that the legislative mandate for output (x) of programme element 1.2 was a decision of the Committee on Human Rights, which would be placed before the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session.

343. One delegation said that output (x) of programme element 1.2 was a duplication since it believed there was already a Human Rights Committee publication. Another delegation recommended that output (x) be included in the report of the Human Rights Committee to the General Assembly. A third delegation was of the opinion that output (x) should not be deleted and the representative of the Centre said that there was no other Human Rights Committee publication of this nature. He explained that the idea had been to publish a volume showing the interpretation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol by the Human Rights Committee after six years of consideration of individual communications.

344. According to one delegation, CPC should recommend the abolition of the Working Group on Slavery (see subprogramme 2 (Elimination and prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities and vulnerable groups), programme element 2.1). The same delegation doubted the usefulness of the open-ended Working Group on the drafting of an International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families because it concerned a field of activities pertaining to the ILO. The speaker went on to say that the work of the working groups on the rights of the child and of the rights of persons belonging to ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities was being done very slowly and their meetings could be spaced out over a longer period. Furthermore, he went on, output (ix) of programme element 2.1 was a duplication of work being done by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations.

345. The discussion of subprogramme 3 centred on programme element 3.2 (Advisory services) and it was noted that the reference to paragraph 24.40 should be corrected to read 24.41. Questions were asked about the seminars listed as output and the representative of the Centre indicated that one seminar had already been

approved by the Economic and Social Council and that others would no doubt be held on the recommendation of the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, which had just taken place at Geneva. In reply to a question on the role of the Centre in the production of the United Nations Yearbook on Human Rights (programme element 3.1, output (i)), the representative of the Centre said that it involved considerable writing and editorial work by the staff of the Centre.

346. In response to other questions, the representative of the Centre for Human Rights stated that outputs (iv) and (v) of programme element 4.2 (Research and studies) were not identical because they were prepared for two different bodies at different times, thus the second one was more up-to-date. They could, however, be combined in one output as one delegation had recommended.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

347. The Committee decided to recommend:

(a) That the Centre for Human Rights should establish a system of evaluating each of its activities;

(b) That the word "supervision" in the title of programme element 1.1 should be changed to "supervisory";

(c) That the text of output (ix) of programme element 2.1 should read "... racist minority régime in southern Africa ...";

(d) That outputs (iv) and (v) of programme element 4.2 should be combined in one output; intermediate output (i) should become final output (xi); and intermediate output (ii) should be deleted.

(e) That, under programme element 2.1, output (iii) should be deleted; and that under outputs (vii) and (viii) the meeting schedules of these working groups should be spaced out at greater intervals than currently planned. As to output (v), the Committee drew attention to the possible duplication of activities of the working group with activities undertaken by the International Labour Organisation.

348. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 24. Regular programme of technical co-operation

1. Introduction

349. At its 49th meeting, on 31 August, the Committee considered section 24 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

350. The Assistant Secretary-General for Technical Co-operation for Development, in her introductory remarks, outlined the programme of work under sectoral advisory services as it pertained to the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development. The representative of the Budget Division explained that advisory services in human rights, international trade, human settlements and advancement of women were undertaken by the Centre for Human Rights, UNCTAD, the United Nations

Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (DIESA) respectively, and that activities in the other components, that is, regional advisory services and industrial development, were carried out by the regional commissions and UNIDO.

2. Discussion

351. One delegation asked whether the activities shown for section 24 could be included in the respective sections of expenditure pertaining to those departments charged with substantive support of the regular programme of technical co-operation. The representative of the Budget Division explained that the programming and budgetary procedures applicable to the regular programme of technical co-operation were set out in General Assembly resolution 2514 (XXIV) of 21 November 1969, which endorsed the proposals contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1434 (XLVII). Over the past several bienniums, the activities and resources that were devoted to the regular programme of technical co-operation had been shown together under one section of the programme budget.

352. In recalling recommendation (q) under paragraph 507 of the report of CPC on the work of its twenty-first session, 11/ one delegation inquired why the material on the percentage of time that interregional and regional/subregional advisers spent in the field was not part of the submission. In response, it was explained that while some of the information was available, additional time would be needed to compile all the information and present it to CPC before the conclusion of its resumed twenty-third session.

353. Another delegation inquired about the mandates for activities relating to the advancement of women. In reply, it was explained that this was established by General Assembly resolution 926 (X) as a component of the field of human rights and that substantive support of these activities rested now with the Branch for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (DIESA), which was formerly the Status of Women Section when it formed a part of the Division of Human Rights.

354. With regard to the training component under human rights (para. 24.41), it was noted that no specific subject had been identified for the seminars envisaged. A question was also asked about the meaning of the term "most affected countries" in paragraph 24.42 (b). It was explained that since the nature of the whole programme of technical co-operation was that its activities were dependent on the wishes of either the relevant intergovernmental organs or the Governments requesting assistance, the determination of the specific subjects of the seminars in question would be made on the basis of decisions taken by the Commission on Human Rights, the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly, or other relevant bodies, after the proposed programme budget had been prepared. The number of seminars envisaged was based strictly on the experience on this matter during the past several bienniums. With regard to the use of the term "most affected countries", it was meant to refer to those developing countries who were most involved with the subject of the seminars.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

355. The Committee concluded that the presentation of this section should remain in the present format. However, additional information and cross references were required in the appropriate sections of the programme budget.

356. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narratives of section 24 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 25. International Court of Justice

1. Introduction

357. At its 66th meeting, on 9 September, the Committee considered section 25 of the proposed programme budget 1984-1985. It also had before it a statement by the Secretary-General on programme, financial and administrative implications (E/AC.51/1983/L.6).

358. In his introduction, the representative of the Budget Division remarked that the estimates contained in section 25 of the proposed programme budget (future A/38/6) were provisional and that the programme budget proposals of the Court for the 1984-1985 biennium were set forth in document A/C.5/38/3.

2. Discussion

359. During the discussion, reservations were expressed about the proposed liaison functions at the United Nations Headquarters, New York for which the creation of a D-1 level post at New York had been included.

360. The Court should abide, in preparing its budget, by the regulations and timetable set out by the Secretary-General.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

361. The Committee recommended that the proposal for the establishment of the liaison function should not be approved by the General Assembly.

362. With the above change, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narratives of section 25 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 26. Legal activities

1. Introduction

363. At its 64th meeting, on 8 September, the Committee considered section 26 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

364. In his introduction, the representative of the Budget Division remarked that the proposals contained in section 26 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 were formulated in accordance with the objectives, activities and strategies as described in chapter 3 of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989. While there were a number of new subprogrammes as compared with those in the 1982-1983 programme budget, they were basically a reformulation of activities that were previously carried out under other headings but in strict conformity with the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989. He invited the

Committee's attention to the table in paragraph 26.2 which contained a reconciliation of the various programmes and subprogrammes in conformity with the medium-term plan and the respective units within the Office of Legal Affairs carrying out these activities.

2. Discussion

365. During the discussion, one delegate observed that all sessions of UNCITRAL should be held in Vienna, which is the seat of the substantive secretariat unit concerned.

366. As regards subprogramme 3 (Legal research) of programme 3 (Progressive development and codification of international law) (see para. 26.36), one delegate questioned the inclusion of output (iii) of programme element 3.1 in the document since the General Assembly has some doubts about continuing the work. A question was also raised about the inclusion of outputs (v) and (vi) of programme element 3.2 as it appears that the problems addressed could be dealt with by the Centre for Human Rights as the work required human rights expertise.

367. Another delegation further inquired about the inclusion of programme element 3.3 (Research and studies for plenipotentiary conferences convened by the General Assembly) as the General Assembly had not yet decided to convene the conferences mentioned therein.

368. In response, the representative of the Office of Legal Affairs stated that the more recent mandates for programme element 3.2, outputs (v) and (vi) were contained in General Assembly decisions 36/426, 37/427 and 37/115, respectively; for programme element 3.3, output (i), General Assembly resolution 36/111; and for programme element 3.3, output (ii), General Assembly resolution 37/112.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

369. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 26 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 27. Department of Public Information

1. Introduction

370. At the 64th and 65th meetings, on 8 and 9 September, the Committee considered section 27 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. It also had before it a statement by the Secretary-General on programme, financial and administrative implications (E/AC.51/1983/L.6).

371. In his introductory statement, the representative of the Department of Public Information pointed out that the proposed programme budget was based on the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989. He drew the Committee's attention to the new format that had been adopted for the presentation of the programme budget in order to take into account previous recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Committee on Information. He also indicated that high and low priorities had been identified.

2. Discussion

372. The Committee noted that the new format was an improvement and at the same time sought clarifications regarding the status of two subprogrammes that were included in the medium-term plan but not referred to in the proposed programme budget. It was explained that these two subprogrammes had been subsumed under subprogramme 2 (Information in depth). The Committee inquired as to whether the findings contained in the in-depth evaluation of the work of the Department of Public Information (E/AC.51/1983/7) had been taken into consideration when formulating the proposed programme budget and was informed that that had not been possible inasmuch as the proposed budget had been formulated prior to the completion of the evaluation, but that the recommendations of the Committee would be taken into consideration in the implementation of the budget. As regards programme element 1.6 (Photo coverage) of subprogramme 1, the view was expressed that, in the light of the results of the in-depth evaluation of the work of the Department of Public Information, greater restraint should be exercised in determining which activities should be covered. The usefulness of publishing a fortnightly newsletter entitled "International Review" geared to a specialized audience (output (x) of programme element 2.12, subprogramme 2) was questioned, as was the proposal for the production of a 30-minute film on the United Nations role in the registration and publication of treaties and as the depository for multilateral agreements (output (i) of programme element 2.14).

373. One delegation observed that no information services in the German language were being provided.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

374. The Committee recommended that in subprogramme 1 (Coverage), low priority be assigned to programme element 1.6 (Photo coverage) and that in respect of output (i) of that programme element, the word "and" should be inserted before the words "meetings of the Security Council"; and the words "and inter alia" before the words "the Special Committee on Apartheid". In respect of subprogramme 2 (Information in depth), the Committee recommended that: (a) the paragraph references to the medium-term plan should be amended to read "paras. 9.9-9.40"; (b) in respect of programme element 2.12 (Development: economic and social), output (x) (Fortnightly newsletter entitled "International Review") be deleted; and (c) in respect of programme element 2.14 (International law and treaties), output (i) (A 30-minute film on the United Nations role in the registration and publication of treaties and as the depository for multilateral agreements) be deleted and that the subject of the proposed film be covered in one of the six short films proposed under output (iii) of programme element 2.15 (General information about the United Nations).

375. The Committee also recommended that the distribution of radio tapes should be reviewed in the light of the in-depth evaluation of the work of the Department of Public Information and that the results of the review should be reflected in the progress report that will be submitted to the Committee at its twenty-sixth session.

376. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narrative of section 27 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Sections 28 to 32 and income sections 1 to 3

377. With regard to sections 28 (Administration and management), 29 (Conference and library services), 30 (United Nations bond issue), 31 (Staff assessment) and 32 (Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance of premises) and income sections 1 (Income from staff assessment), 2 (General income) and 3 (Revenue-producing activities), the Committee decided that, owing to lack of time and since the above-mentioned sections did not have substantive programmatic content, not to consider them.

* * *

GENERAL RECOMMENDATION

378. In their comments on various sections of the proposed programme budget, members of the Committee observed that the proposed use of consultant services appeared to be excessive and not conducive to an optimum utilization of regular staff resources. Furthermore, there appeared to be no standards for consultants' remuneration.

379. Noting the complexity of questions relating to the use of consultants, and the relevance of these questions to the mandate of ACABQ, the Committee decided to call the attention of the General Assembly to this issue in the context of its conclusions and recommendations.

B. Methods, procedures and timetable followed in the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985

1. Introduction

380. Under the terms of paragraph 3 (c) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/51, the Secretary-General was requested to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its resumed twenty-third session, an analytical report on the methods, procedures and timetable followed in the preparation of the proposed programme budget with a view to identifying deficiencies and shortcomings. The report by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/38/7) was considered by CPC at its 56th meeting, on 3 September 1983, and at its 57th and 58th meetings, on 5 September 1983.

381. In introducing the report, the Controller indicated that he had heard the views expressed by the members of the Committee regarding delays in the issuance of the programme budget documentation and acknowledged the need for the Secretariat to make meaningful improvements in the future.

382. Concerning the methodology applied in the preparation of the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985, the Controller called attention to the large volume of data that had to be processed for analysis and to the relative complexity of this operation. This complexity remained, notwithstanding the computerization of most of the operation. He noted that the computerization process, which started 10 years ago, and the programmes required thorough review through which there was the possibility to effect greater efficiency and effectiveness.

383. On extrabudgetary resources, he pointed out that determined efforts had been made to improve the quality and accuracy of the information provided. He noted that this was a difficult undertaking but that greater efforts at making improvements were being contemplated.

384. With regard to the procedures followed in preparing the proposed programme budget, he felt that they reflected the Secretary-General's determination to further integrate the programmatic and financial aspects of the programme budget which involved the establishment of the Programme Planning and Budgetary Board (PPBB). New procedures were put into effect for the first time, which were the cause for some delays. However, he expressed confidence that such delays could be overcome in the future in the light of the experience gained this year.

385. He then turned to the difficulty encountered in ensuring that adequate consultations were carried out with programme managers before the Secretary-General's programme budget proposals could be finalized. However, this difficulty did not, in his view, lend itself to easy solutions and the Secretariat had yet to devise appropriate measures to deal with it.

386. Turning to the timetable for the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, the Controller indicated that a timetable covering nine months, from the period between the issuance of the instructions for the preparation of the budget on 30 July 1982 and the target date of 29 April 1983 for the distribution of the documents in all languages, was very constrained and that delays at any stage in the process were bound to affect the date of issuance of the proposed programme budget fascicles.

387. The Controller concluded his introductory statement by informing the Committee that a review of possible improvements that could be brought to each stage in the process of budget preparation had begun and expressed the belief that the outcome of the review, which would extend into 1984, would meet the expectations of all concerned.

2. Discussion

388. While a number of delegations found the report to be useful, others did not feel that the substance of the issue had been addressed. Most delegations felt that final judgement could not yet be made. They noted that problems encountered in the revaluation of the base, on the provision of data relating to extrabudgetary resources as well as the late submission from departments were not new. While the report contained considerable technical details, the real cause for the delays were, in their view, not evident. Some delegations questioned the potential of the new machinery that had been established by the Secretary-General.

389. A number of delegations wondered why negotiations with programme managers were necessary after the PPBB had made the decisions on the departmental submissions. In addition, one delegation inquired as to the nature of the information provided to PPBB. In particular, that delegation asked whether the notes submitted to PPBB were in the form of draft fascicles. Two delegations were concerned with the problems encountered on the revaluation of the base and inquired as to whether these problems had resulted in any inaccuracy in the amounts requested in the proposed programme budget.

390. On the timetable, one delegation stated that the steps outlined in section IV of the report did not contain all the steps mentioned in the report. For example, the delegation wanted to know at what stage the proposed programme budget was finalized for approval by the Secretary-General. Another delegation indicated that it saw merit in starting the process of preparing the budget a month earlier and asked the Secretariat to indicate if this was possible.

391. A number of delegations expressed doubts that the measures foreseen were adequate. It was also suggested that in order to keep deadlines, discipline was required; a prime element of which would be that the Secretariat take the requirements for the timely submission of the proposed programme budget and other documents more seriously. It was proposed that a report on the subject should be submitted to CPC at its twenty-fourth session on the progress concerning the deficiencies and shortcomings that have been identified.

392. In response to the comments and questions raised during the discussion, the Controller indicated that the Secretary-General had the matter under review and that therefore the report before the Committee should be considered as being preliminary in nature. In response to the concerns expressed by delegations on the errors made in the revaluation of the base, he explained that these errors did not affect the accuracy of the final amount requested. A full explanation of the required adjustment had been given by the Secretariat to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. He also informed the Committee that the proposed programme budget would be subject to further changes during the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly in order to take into account the most up-to-date assumptions for exchange rates and inflation.

393. On the question of whether or not the process of preparing the budget could be started a month earlier as suggested by one delegation, the Controller indicated that this was possible. With regard to the timetable contained in section IV of the report, the Controller pointed out that the timetable was not intended to cover every step of the process. On the point raised by one delegation regarding the stage at which the Secretary-General approved the final proposals, he indicated that the Secretary-General had been kept fully advised on all the decisions taken by the PPBB at all stages of the budget formulation process.

394. In response to the question on the information provided to PPBB, the Controller indicated that this was done in two stages. Initially, the Board received a summary table containing mainly financial data for each departmental submission. Thereafter a detailed programmatic and financial analysis was submitted to the Board so that it could formulate its recommendations to the Secretary-General. These analyses did not take the form of draft fascicles.

395. Turning to the question raised by two delegations on the "real" cause of the delays in the issuance of the budget fascicles, the Controller indicated that he did not have a single or simple answer but he believed that the delays resulted from a combination of most, if not all of the deficiencies outlined in the report. He also compared the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985 with the proposed programme budget for 1982-1983 and pointed out that for 1984-1985, there was no pre-determined rate of real growth as was the case in 1982-1983. In fact, the rate of real growth for 1984-1985 emerged only after the review on all submissions by PPBB. Furthermore, in the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985, greater efforts were made to improve the programmatic content in the document.

396. The Controller informed the Committee that he had noted the suggestions made by various speakers during the discussion to improve the situation and indicated that these suggestions would be taken into account.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

397. The Committee took note of the report by the Secretary-General and requested the Secretary-General to keep each phase in the preparation of the proposed programme budget under constant review in order to avoid delays in the issuance of documents in the future and to report thereon to the Committee at its twenty-fourth session.

C. Integration of the programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation functions in the Secretariat of the United Nations

1. Introduction

398. At its 56th and 57th meetings, on 3 and 5 September, the Committee considered the question of the integration of the programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation functions in the Secretariat of the United Nations. The Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the subject prepared in response to section II, paragraph 9, of General Assembly resolution 37/234 (A/C.5/38/6 and Corr.1).

399. In his introductory statement, the Controller stressed that the report before the Committee comprised three parts. First, an account was given of the measures taken in the period immediately preceding the adoption of General Assembly resolution 37/234, namely, the preparation of the regulations and rules governing programme planning; the establishment of the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board (PPBB); and the establishment of the Central Monitoring Unit. Secondly, the report analysed the operation in 1983 of the integrated machinery and procedures already set in place. This covered the preparation of the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985; the beginning of the operations of the Central Monitoring Unit and the role played by PPBB in the preparation of evaluation studies. Lastly, additional steps taken to further the integration of the programme planning and budgeting functions were described, namely, the finalization of the rules on programme planning and the determination of methods and procedures for the preparation of statements of programme implications.

400. The Controller noted that at the time of the adoption of resolution 37/234 a number of delegations in the Fifth Committee had expressed the view that it was within the responsibilities of the Secretary-General to decide on the most appropriate means of furthering the integration of programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation functions. That view was reflected in the report. The Controller also recalled that the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management had mentioned to the Fifth Committee when resolution 37/234 was being discussed that the Secretary-General would exercise caution in this matter and that it should be understood that the Secretariat would be occupied during the earlier months of 1983 in the preparation of the proposed programme budget, with the result that the report might not be as informative as the sponsors of the resolution would have wished. The question of the integration of the programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation functions would be kept under continuous review, taking into account, inter alia, the views of the Committee.

2. Discussion

401. Several delegations welcomed the report and the introductory remarks made by the Controller. While they were not fully satisfied with the integrated implementation of all the functions to date these delegations recognized that the operation was still in an evolutionary stage and that some time should be given to the Secretary-General before a judgement could be passed. In this regard, one delegation stressed that the final decision as to which steps had to be taken belonged to the Secretary-General as had been stressed by the Committee of Governmental Experts to Evaluate the Present Structure of the Secretariat in the Administrative, Finance and Personnel Areas. Another delegation noted that the integration process, which had been relatively slow up to 1982, had recently been marked by the establishment of PPBB and of the Central Monitoring Unit, as well as the recent proposals to provide the General Assembly with programme implications statements along with administrative and financial implications statements. The question was now to see how these innovations would develop over the years.

402. With regard to the conclusions that could be drawn from the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, a number of delegations remarked that they were now in a position to acknowledge that there had been an improvement in the quality of the presentation, although certain sections of the budget, in particular the political field, were still lacking with regard to the implementation of the guidelines set forth in the regulations governing programme planning and the programme aspects of the budget. A number of delegations felt, however, that the credit for such improvements was not necessarily entirely attributable to the establishment of PPBB. One delegation noted that the proliferation of institutional structures in the Secretariat could not become a goal per se. That delegation also felt that there had been sufficient co-ordination between the Secretariat and intergovernmental bodies in the determination of priorities in the proposed programme budget. Some delegations expressed the view that a basic conflict of interest, in the budget preparation process, between programme managers and the central review units had to be faced, whatever institutional arrangements were made; it was not clear that the new arrangements, such as the establishment of PPBB, would remedy this conflict of interest.

403. With regard to the role of PPBB, that same delegation stressed that it was difficult to comment on its real impact because little was known about its procedures and methods of work. One delegation asked how many meetings of PPBB had been chaired by the Secretary-General; whether in the Secretary-General's absence the chairmanship had always been held by the Director-General; and, in more general terms, what the personal involvement of the Secretary-General was in the proceedings of the Board. Several delegations asked what was the role of PPBB as a steering committee for all evaluation studies. A number of these delegations stressed the need to avoid any overlapping between the functions of PPBB and the central evaluation units of the Secretariat.

404. On the question of the Central Monitoring Unit, one delegation remarked that, while the Unit had been established in October 1982, it had not informed programme managers officially of its establishment and functioning until now. Another delegation sought reassurance from the Secretariat as to the effective operation of that Unit since the Committee had not been informed on its progress since its establishment.

405. With regard to the finalization of the rules governing programme planning, the programme aspects of the budget, the monitoring of implementation and methods of evaluation, one delegation questioned the absence in the report of any reference to the relevant actions taken by the Committee at the first part of its twenty-third session. On the subject of the harmonization of the programme planning and financial regulations and rules, one delegation indicated that, while it was in favour of harmonization, it could not support a merger as recommended by JIU. Another delegation requested clarification of the intentions of the Secretariat in that respect.

406. On the question of the implementation of the General Assembly decision to request the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to provide the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session with programme implications of draft resolutions being considered by the Assembly, a number of delegations felt that procedures should be flexible enough to leave room for adjustments. One delegation felt that the programmatic aspect of the new statements should be the subject of a separate report by the Committee, just as the administrative and financial aspects would be the subject of a report by ACABQ. For that purpose, that delegation proposed that, on an experimental basis, a session of CPC should be held concurrently with the session of the General Assembly. Several delegations shared that view, while a number of other delegations expressed reservations as to the practicality of such a measure. A number of delegations stressed, in particular, the fact that it would be difficult for the smaller delegations that were members of CPC to participate effectively in both the Committee and the General Assembly debates. One delegation felt that alternative solutions, such as holding the implementation of most of the General Assembly resolutions concerned in abeyance for one year, thus allowing a review by the Committee of the relevant statements at its regular sessions, should be considered. Another delegation felt that the immediacy of the need for review of the financial, on the one hand, and programme implications on the other, was not exactly comparable. Furthermore, the substantive Committees of the General Assembly were in a good position to review the programme implications of their own proposals. It should be sufficient therefore for the Committee to review these programme implications at its regular sessions.

407. It was stated that there was an increasing need for a better harmonization and co-ordination of the substantive and other contributions to be made to the Committee by the various offices and departments concerned and for improved interactions between the work of CPC and the other bodies dealing with matters relating to programme budgeting and inter-agency co-ordination.

408. The Committee expressed its appreciation of the substantive support provided to it by the secretariat offices and departments concerned in the field of programme planning and co-ordination.

409. In response to queries from the members of the Committee, the Controller gave a number of clarifications. With regard to the harmonization of programming and financial regulations, he indicated that it was intended to keep those separate. A review of the financial regulations would be undertaken with a view to ensuring compatibility with the recently adopted programming regulations and rules. With respect to the methods of work of PPBB, the Controller provided additional information on the notes submitted to the Board following joint analysis by the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination and the Office of Financial Services and the synthesizing function of that body, which was in contrast with the more bureaucratic approach of the past whereby decisions taken at one level could

be infirmed at the level immediately above. Based on his recollection, the Secretary-General had not personally chaired more than three or four meetings of the Board, the Director-General acting as Chairman in practically all other meetings. The Secretary-General, however, had been constantly involved, directly or indirectly, in the proceedings of the Board. In response to the comment made by one delegation on the inherent conflict between programme managers and central reviewing bodies, he indicated that reductions in initial budget proposals were a fact of life; in the United Nations, as in other organizations, programme managers should be prepared to co-operate fully in the exercise. In the context of the decentralization endeavour, the Secretary-General was actively seeking ways to increase the participation in the central review process of those programme managers stationed away from Headquarters.

410. The Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning and Co-ordination indicated, on the subject of the procedures of the Board, that because of time pressure, in several instances, matters related to the budget review exercise had been left for the Programme Planning and Co-ordination Office and the Office of Financial Services to decide upon jointly. With regard to the activities of the Central Monitoring Unit, it was acknowledged that actual operations had started only very recently with the preparation of instructions for the next programme performance report. As to the role of PPBB in evaluation, its functions as a steering committee stemmed from the need to give weight to the actions taken by programme officers in their various evaluation assignments. There was no duplication with the work of the central evaluation units since the Board intervened only at the outset of each exercise by approving the general design of the evaluation and at the end by acting as an impartial party in discussing the results of the evaluation with programme managers. In very concrete terms, the Committee was informed that the Board had spent eight to nine hours on the evaluation on manufactures and also reviewed the report on public information activities. The usefulness of its role in that field would be judged, in the final analysis, by the intergovernmental bodies concerned.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

411. The Committee took note with interest of the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/38/6). The Committee agreed that the integration of the programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation functions was an evolving process and that judgement of the success or otherwise of the new institutional arrangements should be reserved for the time being. The Committee expressed the wish to be kept informed regularly of the development of the process, and of any possible difficulties faced by the Secretariat in preparing programme implication statements for the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly. The Committee also urged the speedy transmission to CPC of decisions taken by PPBB.

412. The Committee recommended that co-ordination between the Secretariat and intergovernmental bodies in the determination of priorities in the preparation of the proposed programme budget should be improved.

413. The Committee identified the need to maximize and improve secretariat support to CPC for:

(a) Substantive servicing to promote effective follow-up to the Committee's decisions as well as to the recommendations resulting from the Joint Meetings;

(b) The provision of assistance in fostering relations of mutual support between the work of CPC and that of secretariat and other bodies dealing with programme budgeting and co-ordination matters.

414. The Committee recommended that a solution to the problems, including, inter alia, the possibility of rationalizing the present support structure or the setting-up of a small separate secretariat of the Committee composed of staff drawn from the offices and departments most directly concerned with the work of CPC, should be considered by the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session.

415. The Committee requests the Secretary-General to report on the subject to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, taking into account the views expressed during the discussion in CPC at its twenty-third session.

CHAPTER III

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL REGARDING THE JOINT MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON CO-ORDINATION

1. Introduction

416. The Committee considered the question of recommendations to the Economic and Social Council regarding the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee of Co-ordination at its 58th meeting, on 5 September 1983.

2. Discussion

417. The attention of the Committee was drawn by the Chairman to paragraphs 40 to 64 of the report on the July 1983 Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (E/1983/98), containing a summary of the discussion at the Meetings on the subject of "Improved Effectiveness of the Joint Meetings", and to decision 1983/173 adopted at the second regular session of 1983 of the Economic and Social Council, in which the Council, inter alia, "decided to review, at its organizational session for 1984, the functioning of the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, and to request the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, at its resumed twenty-third session, and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, at its second regular session of 1983, to submit their comments in this regard to the Council at its organizational session for 1984".

418. Some delegations expressed doubts as to whether it was realistic to expect more than exchanges of information and views at the Joint Meetings, and whether such exchanges constituted a sufficient justification for the continuation of these Meetings. One delegation, while reiterating the importance it attached to the respective roles of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at the intergovernmental level and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination at the secretariat level in the promotion of inter-agency co-ordination, recalled its longstanding reservations concerning the mechanism of joint meetings between these two bodies, given the different nature of their respective memberships and bearing in mind that the Executive Heads participating in ACC were in the first instance responsible to their Governing Bodies. That delegation further noted that, if the joint meetings were to be continued, their agendas should be related more closely to the agendas of CPC, particularly its programme for the consideration of Cross-Organizational Programme Analysis (COPA), and the timing and venue of such meetings should be reviewed.

419. Other members of the Committee expressed the hope that improvements could be derived from a better selection of the items to be included in the agenda of the Joint Meetings; better and more extended preparations for such Meetings; changes in the conduct of the Meetings; and more systematic monitoring of the follow-up given to their conclusions.

420. Several members considered that the subject-matters selected by CPC for the cross-organizational programme analyses would normally provide the most suitable topics for discussion at the ACC/CPC Joint Meetings. The CPC programme for

consideration of these analyses was known in advance and this would therefore ensure adequate and timely preparations for the corresponding discussions at the Joint Meetings. Consideration of these topics at the Joint Meetings should take place after the CPC review of the relevant COPA, so that the Meetings might benefit from the results of the CPC review.

421. Members of CPC stressed the importance of establishing a real dialogue among participants at the Joint Meetings; to this end, statements reviewing the activities of individual organizations should, to the extent possible, be avoided and the length of each series of Meetings be extended, so that on each occasion at least five Meetings are held. The view was also expressed that the opening statements on behalf of the two Committees might be dispensed with and replaced by a brief statement by one of the co-chairmen aimed at orienting the discussions. In the same general context, the view was expressed by many members that the focus of interventions and of the recommendations and conclusions of the Joint Meetings should be on overall issues of co-ordination and co-operation, cutting across the responsibilities of individual organizations and reflecting the collective concerns of the Executive Heads represented in ACC and the system-wide aspects of the mandate of CPC.

422. With regard to the timing and venue of the meetings, while the view was expressed that meetings should be held in New York in October, many members stated that they would be opposed in view, inter alia, of the pressure on delegations arising from the work of the General Assembly. One delegation suggested that the meetings might be held in the spring in New York, possibly at the time of the organizational session of CPC and the spring session of ACC. It was noted, however, that the spring session of ACC usually took place in Europe at the headquarters of one of the specialized agencies located there. In addition, that would prevent CPC from having prior discussions at its regular sessions on the topic to be considered at the Joint Meetings. On balance, members of the Committee felt that the present timing and venue of the Joint Meetings should be retained, at least for the time being.

423. Members of the Committee reiterated the importance they attached to ensuring that the results of the Joint Meetings were followed up and translated into concrete action by the organizations of the system. They urged that an item on follow-up actions taken should appear regularly on the agenda of the Joint Meetings.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

424. The following conclusions were reached with regard to the CPC/ACC Joint Meetings:

(a) The agenda for these Meetings should be agreed upon at least six months in advance and, if possible, decided on at the previous series of Joint Meetings;

(b) In those years when the Cross-Organizational Programme Analysis on the agenda of a regular session of CPC relates to an economic and social activity of system-wide concern, the subject of such analysis should, in principle, be selected for inclusion in the agenda of the Joint Meeting to be held in that year;

(c) At each series of Joint Meetings, ACC should report on measures taken by the organizations of the system in response to the conclusions and recommendations adopted at the Joint Meetings in the previous year;

(d) Adequate meeting time should be provided to complete the discussion of the item in the context of subparagraph (c) above.

425. CPC further welcomed the statement of the Secretary-General as contained in paragraph 55 of the report of the 1983 Joint Meetings (E/1983/98) about availability to Member States of all ACC documents, and recommended that such documents, including the documents of all ACC subsidiary bodies, be available to all interested Member States, on request, and to that end a complete list of ACC documents should be made available to them.

A. Technical co-operation activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the field of manufactures financed by the United Nations Development Programme

426. At its 58th meeting, on 5 September 1983, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the evaluation of UNDP-financed technical co-operation activities of UNIDO in the field of manufactures (E/AC.51/1983/12), which had been prepared in accordance with section II of Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/49 of 28 July 1983.

427. The Committee noted the formal submission of the document as a report of the Secretary-General in compliance with paragraph 5 of section II of Council resolution 1983/49. The Committee regretted, however, that the document did not refer to the points made in paragraphs 3, 4 and 6 of the same section of the resolution, which covered substantive issues regarding the past and future performance of the Secretariat.

428. A drafting error was noted in paragraph 2, line 3, of the report (E/AC.51/1983/12) where a full stop should have been placed after the word "conducted", and a new sentence should begin with the words "A summary ...".

B. Strengthening the capacity of United Nations evaluation units and systems and timetable for review of evaluation programmes requested under General Assembly resolutions 36/228 B and 37/234, section II

1. Introduction

429. At the first part of its twenty-third session, held in New York from 9 May to 4 June 1983, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination reviewed the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the capacity of the United Nations evaluation units and systems and timetable for review of evaluation programmes (A/38/133 and Corr.1) and decided, *inter alia*, to call the attention of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in the light of its mandate and in the context of considering relevant sections of the proposed programme budget, to the Committee's views on this question, contained in the report on the first part of its twenty-third session. To that end, the Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare the necessary statement of programme and financial implications (A/38/38 (Part I), para. 191).

430. At its summer session, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1983/49, on 28 July 1983, in section III of which it requested ACABQ to transmit to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session its review of the report on strengthening the capacity of United Nations evaluation units and systems (A/38/133 and Corr.1), pursuant to paragraph 191 of the Committee's report.

2. Conclusion

431. In relation to these two decisions, questions were raised at the resumed session as to whether the statement of programme and financial implications had been prepared and presented for consideration by ACABQ and if so, whether its views were as yet available.

432. At its 52nd meeting, on 1 September 1983, the Chairman of the Committee made a statement in response to these questions. He indicated that, at the request of the Secretariat, he had held a meeting of the Bureau in order to clarify for the Secretariat the intentions of the Committee in relation to paragraphs 176 to 191 of its report and particularly in relation to paragraphs 186 and 189 to 191 where strengthened functions and corresponding resources were mentioned. At that meeting it had been reaffirmed that the Committee had recommended that the reinforcement proposed for strengthening evaluation units and systems would be required.

433. As a result of the meeting, the Committee confirmed its decision that the Secretariat should proceed to finalize the aforementioned statement of programme and financial implications for the consideration of ACABQ. ACABQ would then be able to examine the statement together with the Committee's recommendations on evaluation (paras. 189-197) so as to enable the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session to consider simultaneously the Committee's recommendations, the corresponding programme and financial implications and the pertinent report of ACABQ.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

434. Pursuant to paragraph 2 (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/41 of 10 May 1979, and paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 34/50 of 23 November 1979, the Committee shall submit to the Council and to the Assembly for their review the provisional agenda for its twenty-fourth session, together with the requested documentation.

435. The Committee, at its 69th meeting, on 12 September 1983, considered the provisional agenda and documentation for its twenty-fourth session on the basis of a draft prepared by the Secretariat (E/AC.51/1983/L.1). The Committee recommended the approval of the following provisional agenda and documentation:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by intergovernmental organs or international conferences.

Documentation:

Report of the Secretary-General on proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989;

Report of the Secretary-General on the operation of the new system of setting priorities, highlighting any problems encountered;

Report of the Secretary-General on improvements in all phases of the preparation of the proposed programme budget documentation;

Report of the Secretary-General on the cross-sectional programme analysis of the programme budget for the period 1984-1985;

Report of the Secretary-General on the location of the Information Systems Unit within the Secretariat.

4. Programme performance report for the period 1982-1983.

Documentation:

Report of the Secretary-General on the biennial programme performance for the period 1982-1983.

5. Evaluation.

Documentation:

Comprehensive report of the Secretary-General: In-depth evaluation of United Nations Development Programme-financed technical co-operation activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the field of manufactures;

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "In-depth evaluation of the work of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development";

Report of the Secretary-General on the document dissemination system;

Progress report on the activities of the Joint United Nations Information Committee;

Note by the Secretary-General on the tentative timetable for intergovernmental review of in-depth and triennial evaluation studies scheduled for 1986 to 1992, including proposals for a linkage between themes of in-depth evaluation studies and of cross-organizational programme analyses.

6. Cross-organizational programme analysis.

Documentation:

Report of the Secretary-General on areas for future cross-organizational programme analyses;

Report of the Secretary-General on cross-organizational programme analysis in the area of human settlements;

Follow-up report of the Secretary-General on the cross-organizational programme analysis in marine affairs;

Analysis of the mandate and problems addressed within the United Nations system in the field of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

7. Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination.

Documentation:

Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination;

Report of the Secretary-General on rationalizing the work of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination;

Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on progress achieved by the ACC Task Force on Rural Development.

8. Provisional agenda for the twenty-fifth session of the Committee.

9. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/38/6).

2/ Ibid., Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/37/38), para. 314.

3/ Ibid., para. 349 (r).

Notes (continued)

- 4/ Ibid., Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/36/38), para. 484 (a).
- 5/ See also A/C.5/38/2.
- 6/ This revision was incorporated in the final printed version of the proposed programme budget for 1983-1984 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/38/6).
- 7/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 A (A/36/6/Add.1).
- 8/ Ibid., Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/37/38), para. 142.
- 9/ Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/5 of 24 May 1983.
- 10/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/38/7), para. 21.8.
- 11/ Ibid., Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/36/38).

Programme, financial and administrative implications of the
recommendations of the Committee for Programme and
Co-ordination concerning various sections of the proposed
programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with
regulation 4.8 of the Programme Planning Regulations

Section 6. Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

1. The deletion of programme element 2.2 (Global estimation and projections of households by country) of the programme "Analysis of world population" would result in programme changes. The work to be carried out under programme element 2.2 was intended to provide input to work to be carried out under the rubric of other programme elements, most notably, programme elements 2.1 and 2.3. Moreover, the substantive work that would be carried out under programme element 2.2 will have to be done in order to provide the outputs under programme elements 2.1 and 2.3 in any case. In order to prepare estimates and projections of population size, rate of growth, mortality and fertility, it is essential to carefully evaluate expected patterns of demographic behaviour in forthcoming years. This cannot be done without taking into account as one of the essential elements the changing patterns of household composition of the population. Thus, if the analysis of patterns of change in household composition is not done under 2.2, the same work must simply be shifted to 2.1.

2. The consideration is the same in reference to the preparation of comprehensive demographic projections (programme element 2.3), an activity carried out jointly with ILO, FAO and UNESCO. The final output is a system-wide set of projections of population and also of school enrolment, labour force, agricultural populations and so on, for each country and region of the world. Such projections of sectoral substantive concern cannot be effectively carried out if household composition is ignored. Thus, another part of the work not done under programme element 2.2 will simply have to be added to what is currently planned for 2.3.

3. Finally, the role of the family, particularly in the development of operational programmes, is becoming more and more important and the revised projections of households are a major aspect of any study of this role besides their utility for housing and consumer-oriented forecasts.

4. The deletion of programme element 4.3 (Review, appraisal and elaboration of population and development models) would involve programme adjustments. The review and appraisal of population and development models is a major input to the final output for programme element 4.4 (Demographic studies needed for development planning). The output of 4.4 consists of part II of the Manual on Integrating Population Variables into Development Planning: Population and Sectoral Planning. Inasmuch as modelling is an integral part of development planning as it is carried out in a great many countries, it would not be possible to prepare a useful manual without the review and appraisal of population and development models as an additional input to 4.4, if not as the work of a separate programme element 4.3. The consultants required under programme element 4.4 continue to be needed. Since the work of both programme elements 4.3 and 4.4 is concerned explicitly with sectoral planning, a range of expertise in areas such as population and educational planning, population and employment, population and housing, population and health

service planning and so on is essential. Naturally, such a broad range of expertise cannot be found within a single unit and, indeed, is unlikely to be found in any single institution working in the population field. Therefore, if programme element 4.4 is to be carried out in a useful and responsible manner, it will have to incorporate the functions (and hence the budgetary resources) of not only the regular staff originally allocated to programme element 4.4, but the work of the consultants referred in paragraph 6.41 as well.

5. The various programme elements, although separated for managerial and budgeting convenience, are in fact all part of a closely integrated work programme at the substantive level. Thus, the work done under 4.3 is an essential input to 4.4, although the work was set forth as a separate programme element and had its own final output scheduled for subsequent publication.

6. Based on the above, the deletion of programme elements 2.2 and 4.3 would have the indicated programme adjustments but would not effectively release any resources (either staffing or consultancy) from section 6 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Section 20. International drug control

7. The addition of Arabic to the other five languages in which output (i) of programme element 4.3 (Programme of activity of the Division of Narcotic Drugs), the quarterly Bulletin on Narcotics, was to be published would entail the additional cost of \$14,000 per biennium. That amount would provide 500 copies of the four issues each year in offset printing with hard cover. Translation and editing could be accomplished within the resources already available to the Secretariat.

Section 22. Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator

8. The deletion of programme element 4.3 (Promotion of public education and information relevant to all aspects of disaster management), would result in a reduction of \$4,800 under external printing and binding in section 22 of the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985.

Section 25. International Court of Justice

9. The deletion of the liaison function, at New York, would entail a reduction of \$80,400 corresponding to the proposed D-1 post in section 25 of the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985.

Section 27. Public information

10. The deletion in subprogramme 2 of output (x) of programme element 2.12, the fortnightly newsletter entitled "International Review" and of output (i) of programme element 2.14, a 30-minute film on the United Nations role in the registration and publication of treaties and as the depository for multilateral agreements, would result in a reduction of \$83,000 in section 27 of the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985.

List of documents before the Committee at the second part
of its twenty-third session

E/AC.51/1983/L.1	Draft provisional agenda for the twenty-fourth session
E/AC.51/1983/L.3/Add.19-43	Draft report of the Committee on its resumed twenty-third session
E/AC.51/1983/L.4	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: note by the Secretariat
E/AC.51/1983/L.5	Programme budget implications of holding a two-day second resumed session of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination: statement submitted by the Secretary-General
E/AC.51/1983/L.6 and Corr.1	Programme, financial and administrative implication of the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination concerning various sections of the proposed programme budget: statement submitted by the Secretary-General
E/AC.51/1983/9	Review of the United Nations Supply Depot at Pisa, Italy: report of the Secretary-General
E/AC.51/1983/12	Evaluation of the United Nations Development Programme - financed technical co-operation activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the field of manufactures: report of the Secretary-General
E/AC.51/1983/13	Note by the Secretariat on advisory services provided under the regular programme of technical co-operation in 1982-1983
Future A/38/6	Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985
A/C.5/38/2	Revised programme budget proposals under section 7: Department of Technical Co-operation for Development: report of the Secretary-General
A/C.5/38/3	Revised estimates under section 25, International Court of Justice, section 31, Staff assessment, and income section 1, Income from staff assessment: report of the Secretary-General

A/C.5/38/4

Revised estimates under section 15, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, section 31, Staff assessment, and income section 1, Income from staff assessment: report of the Secretary-General

A/C.5/38/6 and Corr.1

Integration of the programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation functions in the Secretariat of the United Nations: report by the Secretary-General

A/C.5/38/7

Methods, procedures and timetable followed in the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985: report by the Secretary-General

Part Three

**CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE FOR
PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION AT ITS TWENTY-THIRD SESSION***

**Held at United Nations Headquarters from 9 May to
4 June and from 29 August to 12 September 1983**

* Originally contained in the mimeographed version of the report of the Committee (A/38/38 (Parts I and II)).

I. PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985

A. Foreword and Introduction 1/

1. The Committee requested the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures in order to ensure that complete and final texts of all sections of the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985 were submitted to the members of the Committee before its resumed twenty-third session. In this connection, the Committee specifically mentioned sections 7, 15 and 25.

B. General observations

2. The view was expressed that the programme outputs set out in the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985 2/ could and should be implemented within existing resources, through more effective and rational utilization of these resources and through elimination of duplication and overlapping.

3. Other delegations were of the firm opinion that discussion of the subject of the level of resource requirements was not within the mandate of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination. Furthermore, they believed that the setting of any pre-determined level of resources was detrimental to the proper functioning of the United Nations; and that the use of the concept of implementation of programmes from existing resources constituted a pre-judgement of the level of activity mandated by the relevant legislative bodies of the United Nations.

C. Consideration of sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985

1. Section 1. Overall policy-making, direction and co-ordination 3/

4. The Committee decided to recommend that succeeding programme budget proposals should be formulated in the same generally accepted programmatic format wherever possible.

5. The Committee further agreed that the reference to output (v) in programme element 1.2 (Policy development and economic analysis) of the World Food Council would be deleted and accommodated in output (ii) of programme element 1.1 (Policy co-ordination).

6. In connection with paragraph 1.82, the Committee drew attention to the desirability of adhering to the principle set forth in General Assembly resolution 31/140.

7. The Committee also recommended deleting the words "the Security Council or the General Assembly" in the first sentence of paragraph 1.120 and replacing them by the words "a relevant body of the United Nations".

8. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 1 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

2. Section 2A. Political and Security Council affairs,
peace-keeping activities 4/

9. On the question of the provision of information to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (para. 2A.12) the Committee felt that there was a possible duplication between the activities in this section and those indicated in paragraph 1.49 of section 1 of the proposed programme budget.

10. With reference to programme element 1.6, the Committee expressed its interest in seeing a streamlining of the programme of work of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations.

11. Regarding programme element 1.9 (Peace Observation Commission) of subprogramme 1, the Committee decided that this matter should be specifically brought to the attention of the General Assembly, recalling the recommendation contained in its report on the work of its twenty-second session. 5/

12. The Committee recommended the deletion of the word "intermediate" regarding outputs under programme elements 2.2 and 2.4 of subprogramme 2 under the Political Affairs Division.

13. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 2A of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

3. Section 2B. Department for Disarmament Affairs 6/

14. The Committee noted the growing importance of the United Nations in strengthening international activities in the field of disarmament.

15. As the views of delegations diverged on the question of merging subprogrammes 2 and 5, it was decided to reflect that point in the conclusions of the Committee.

16. The Committee recommended that programme element 2.2 (Disarmament Reference Library) of subprogramme 2 (Information on Disarmament) should be given a normal priority instead of highest priority.

17. With the above change, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 2B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

4. Section 3. Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization 7/

18. References to "national liberation movements" should be followed by the words "recognized by the Organization of African Unity".

19. In paragraph 3.1, the first sentence should read as follows: "The Trusteeship Council, composed of five Member States, is a principal organ of the United Nations, established under Article 7 of the Charter. Its function is to assist the General Assembly and the Security Council in carrying out their functions with respect to the international trusteeship system."

20. In paragraph 3.10, the words "still remaining to be decolonized" should be replaced by the words "on the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories."

21. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve outputs in the programme narratives of section 3 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

5. Section 4. Policy-making organs (economic and social activities) 8/

22. The Committee decided that the programme budget on the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination should be transferred to section 1 of the programme budget.

23. The Committee decided also to delete the third sentence of paragraph 4.1 of the document, which read "The Ad Hoc Committee ... regrouped".

24. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narratives of section 4 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

6. Section 5A. Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation 9/

25. The Committee noted with appreciation the efforts made to improve the allocation of resources within section 5A.

26. The Committee noted the progress made in the format of the programmatic content of section 5A as compared to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1982-1983. Nevertheless, while bearing in mind a special need for flexibility in view of the unique functions carried out by the Office of the Director-General, the Committee recommended that further efforts should be made to improve the presentation by making it more specific, in conformity with the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on programme planning and the presentation of the programme budget.

27. The Committee recommended that in paragraph 5A.10 (c) the second sentence should read as follows:

"In this connection, the Office, inter alia, assists the Director-General in preparing the introduction of the medium-term plan and in carrying out his responsibility relating to the PPBB, which is chaired by the Secretary-General or, in his absence, by the Director-General."

28. The Committee recommended that the Secretary-General's bulletin and the section of the United Nations organization manual devoted to the Office of the Director-General should be issued urgently.

29. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narratives of section 5A of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

7. Section 5B. Centre for Science and Technology for Development 10/

30. The Committee made the following recommendations:

Under subprogramme 3. Financing for science and technology for development:

(a) The reference under (b) to General Assembly resolution 37/244 of 21 December 1982 should be expanded to include the following:

section II A, paragraph 11 and section II C, paragraph 14.

(b) The title of programme element 3.1 should be changed to read as follows:

"3.1 Assistance to the Director-General in providing the necessary substantive support to the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development in its work relating to the Financing System."

(c) The title of programme element 3.2 should be changed to read as follows:

"3.2 Promotion and assistance in the elaboration of mechanisms of financing of science and technology at the national, subregional and regional levels as an integral part of national capacity building in the context of the Vienna Programme of Action."

31. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 5B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

8. Section 6. Department of International Economic and Social Affairs 11/

(a) General

32. The Committee recommends that efforts should be made to ensure that duplication of tasks between sections and subsections is avoided and that closer attention should be paid to the intergovernmentally determined criteria for the use of consultants. The Committee recommends that the various studies should be carried out in conformity with section 8 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197.

(b) Executive direction and management

33. The Committee recommends that the last sentence in paragraph 6.15 should read:

"Such assistance is particularly required in work relating to the new international economic order, the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, global negotiations, and the Declaration on Social Progress and Development."

(c) Global development issues and policies

34. The Committee recommends that:

(a) The description of activity included in programme element 1.2 (ii) should be placed under programme element 6.4;

(b) The title of subprogramme 4 should be amended to match the approved medium-term plan, that is, "Developing countries: problems and prospects", the titles of programme elements 4.1 and 4.2 and related citations of output and of

paragraph 6.23 should be amended by replacing the term "lagging countries" by the term "developing countries, especially the least developed among them". Similarly, in paragraph 6.23, an identical change should be made;

(c) The word "internal" should be deleted from the title of programme element 5.1;

(d) The output citation in programme element 6.1 should include the report on the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States called for in General Assembly resolution 37/203;

(e) Programme element 7.2 (Transport development) should be given highest priority;

(f) The consultants shown under programme elements 2.2 and 2.3 in paragraph 6.28 should be combined under programme element 2.1, and the consultants shown under programme element 3.2 should be combined under programme element 3.1;

(g) Greater clarity should be achieved in the use of terminology to ensure that the work being undertaken is clearly explained. Specifically, in paragraph 6.28:

(i) The citation in programme element 1.1 should read:

"To assist in the preparation of studies or methods for incorporation of the effects of changes in social variables on economic variables in prospective studies";

(ii) The phrase "alternative desirable development paths" in the citation in programme element 1.2 should be replaced by "realistic policy variations";

(iii) The phrase "and promote equity" should be deleted from the citation in programme element 2.1.

(d) Analysis of world population

35. The Committee recommends that:

(a) Programme elements 2.2 (Global estimation and projections of households by country) and 4.3 (Review, appraisal and elaboration of population and development models) should be deleted;

(b) The description of programme element 3.3 should read "Activity consists of preparation for the sixth population policy inquiry and providing intermediate output on the fifth inquiry as part of documentation for the International Conference on Population, 1984".

(e) Global social development issues

36. The Committee recommends that:

(a) Implementation of the programme should make maximum use of the related work of the specialized agencies while avoiding duplication;

(b) In the second sentence of paragraph 6.47, the word "these" should be deleted;

(c) The title of subprogramme 5 should be "Participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation" to conform with the reformulation in the medium-term plan;

(d) The first output in programme element 5.1 should be cited as "Report to the Commission on the Status of Women on conditions of women and children in emergency and armed conflict, in the struggle for peace, self-determination and independence (last quarter, 1985)";

(e) The second sales publication in programme element 5.2 (ii), entitled "mutual relationships ...", should be deleted;

(f) The title of programme element 7.2 should be "Research and policy analysis on aging" and the second output should be entitled "Aging: trends and policy implications";

(g) The output of programme element 11.2 should be a report to the Seventh Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.

(f) World statistics

37. The Committee recommends that programme element 7.2 should be deleted from the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 and the work under it postponed to a subsequent biennium.

(g) Survey of the energy situation in its international context

38. The Committee recommends that:

(a) The sales publication output of programme element 1.4 should be entitled "Financing of petroleum resource development";

(b) Programme element 2.2 (Information on multilateral, bilateral and other programmes in the area of new and renewable sources of energy) should be accorded highest priority;

(c) The title of the expert group mentioned in paragraph 6.75 should read:

"expert group on financing of exploration and development of energy in developing countries, including exploration and development agreements.";

(d) Secretariat studies should be guided by section 8 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197 and should be action-oriented.

39. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 6 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

9. Section 7. Department of Technical Co-operation for Development 12/

40. The Committee noted the far-reaching efforts undertaken by the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development in streamlining its functions and operations in the face of severe financial reductions. The Committee also noted the steps taken by the Department, in response to the intent of General Assembly resolution

32/197 of 20 December 1977 on restructuring, to avoid duplication of the different programmes. The Committee noted the Department's efforts to promote its technical co-operation activities and to enhance the complementarity and co-ordination of its programmes with those of other entities in the system.

41. The Committee recommended that the highest priority be accorded to the Department's activities providing substantive and operational support of technical co-operation projects in the field of integrated rural development (Policy and programming, programme element 2.5), integrated development planning and policies (Development issues and policies, programme element 1.1), mineral resources, water resources and cartography (Natural resources, programme element 4.1), energy (Energy, programme element 4.1) and population (Population, programme element 1.1).

42. Regarding the setting of priorities, the Committee further recommended that the highest priority should be accorded to programme element 1.2 (Development of policies and co-ordination of new modalities for technical co-operation) under the policy and programming programme, and that the lowest priority designation be deleted from programme element 1.1 (Survey of changes and trends in public administration and finance for development) under the public administration and finance programme.

43. Regarding the development issues and policies programme, the Committee recommended that the reference to regular budget resources under subprogramme 5 (Programme formulation and direction) should be deleted.

44. Regarding the public administration and finance programme, the Committee recommended the deletion of the reference to subprogramme 3 (Management of sectoral development programmes) since no work is proposed for the biennium 1984-1985.

45. The Committee urges the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development to implement its evaluation activities as systematically and effectively as possible.

46. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 7 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

10. Section 8. Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters 13/

47. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narratives of section 8 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

11. Section 9. Transnational corporations 14/

48. The Committee recommends that the Centre on Transnational Corporations should implement programme elements as contained in section 9, in full co-ordination with UNIDO, UNCTAD, DIESA and other organizations of the United Nations and should make every effort to avoid duplication with activities carried out by those organizations.

49. The Committee recommended that the following revisions should be made in section 9:

(a) Under subprogramme 1 (b), after "medium-term plan 1984-1989" add (A/37/6), paras. 23.7-23.14;

(b) The title of programme element 1.2 "Corrupt practices" should be changed to "Illicit payments" and the lowest priority designation deleted. In addition, the citation of output should be deleted and replaced by the following:

"No final output; assistance to intergovernmental bodies in formulating and adopting an international agreement on illicit payments";

(c) Under programme element 1.3, add (iii) Sales publication: Report of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting (1984);

(d) The title of subprogramme 2 should be changed to read: "Minimizing the negative effects of transnational corporations and enhancing their contribution to development"; 15/

(e) Under programme element 2.1, output (ii), the citation should read:

"Technical publication: trends in foreign direct investment, including capital inflows and outflows, and in other forms of participation by transnational corporations in host countries, particularly developing countries, including their contribution by way of the supply of technology and services, including management and marketing";

(f) Under programme element 2.2, the citation of output should read:

"Technical publication for the use of Governments on policies concerning the role and economic, political, social and cultural impact of transnational corporations in developing countries, including matters relating to industrialization, raw materials production and processing through linkages with the domestic economy";

(g) Under programme element 2.3, the citation of output should read:

"Report to the Commission and technical publication for the use of Governments on selected aspects of the role of transnational corporations in international trade including intra-firm transactions and transfer pricing, and on the balance of payments of host countries, including an analysis of the role of transnational corporations in the exporting activities of developing countries";

(h) Under programme element 2.5, the date under output should be changed to "1984";

(i) The title of programme 2.7 should read:

"Transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia". Under output, after the words "transnational corporations" replace the words "in southern Africa" with the words "in South Africa and Namibia";

(j) Under programme element 2.7, output (i), change the word "Report" to "Reports";

(k) Under programme element 2.10, after the words "No final output ... profiles on", replace the word "selected" with "individual";

(l) In the title of programme element 2.13, after the words "Analysis of" insert the words "information on"; and under output, replace the words "Sales publication" with "A report";

(m) In paragraph 9.8, delete the words "and implementation" from the description of work for programme element 1.1;

(n) The text of paragraph 9.12 under section B.2 (Joint Units with the regional commissions) should read as follows:

"9.12. The joint units essentially perform liaison and support functions for the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations. Therefore, although the regional activities are designated as a subprogramme, the details of the programme elements indicated below are the same as those described in the preceding programme narrative for the Centre".

50. The Committee also recommended that the following revisions should be made in subprogramme 4 (Regional activities):

(a) The references to the medium-term plan 1984-1989 (A/37/6) should read paras. 23.14, 23.19, 23.25 and 23.26;

(b) The text under "(c) Programme elements:" should be replaced by the text in paragraphs 182 and 183 below.

51. The following programme elements will involve the implementation at the regional level of support functions for work mandated for the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations:

(a) 4.1 Reports on regional co-operation as it relates to the code of conduct and other international arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations in Africa.

No final output; intermediate reports on regional co-operation with respect to matters relating to transnational corporations and on the code of conduct at the national and regional levels;

(b) 4.2 Research on the operations of transnational corporations in Africa.

No final output; intermediate reports on the role of transnational corporations in the development process of Africa and on aspects of the economic, social, political, cultural and legal impact of transnational corporations on various sectors of selected African countries, including linkages with the domestic economy and on the activities of transnational corporations operating in selected countries of the region;

(c) 4.3 Research on the operations of transnational corporations in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).

No final output; intermediate reports on various non-equity relationships between transnational corporations and public enterprises in selected countries of ECE, on new types of arrangements between European-based transnational corporations and ECE

member countries with different economic and social systems and at different levels of development; and on aspects of the economic, social, political, cultural and legal impact of transnational corporations on various sectors of selected European countries, including linkages with the domestic economy;

(d) 4.4 Reports on regional co-operation as it relates to the code of conduct and of other international arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations in Latin America.

No final output; intermediate reports on regional co-operation with respect to matters relating to transnational corporations and on the code of conduct at the national and regional levels;

(e) 4.5 Research on the operations of transnational corporations in Latin America.

No final output; intermediate reports on the role of transnational corporations in the development process of Latin America and on aspects of the economic, social, political, cultural and legal impact of transnational corporations on various sectors of selected Latin American countries, including linkages with the domestic economy, and on the activities of transnational corporations operating in selected countries of the region;

(f) 4.6 Reports on regional co-operation as it relates to the code of conduct and other international arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations in Western Asia.

No final output; intermediate reports on regional co-operation with respect to matters relating to transnational corporations, and on the code of conduct at the national and at regional levels;

(g) 4.7 Research on the operations of transnational corporations in Western Asia.

No final output; intermediate reports on the role of transnational corporations in the development process of West Asia and on aspects of economic, social, political, cultural and legal impact of transnational corporations on the various sectors, including linkages with the domestic economy, as well as on the transfer of technology, in selected West Asian countries;

(h) 4.8 Reports on regional co-operation as it relates to the code of conduct and other international arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations in Asia and the Pacific.

No final output; intermediate reports on regional co-operation with respect to matters relating to transnational corporations, and reports on the code of conduct at the national and regional levels;

(i) 4.9 Research on the operations of transnational corporations in Asia and the Pacific.

No final output; intermediate reports on the role of transnational corporations in the development process of Asia and the Pacific and on aspects of the economic, social, political, cultural and legal impact of transnational corporations on various sectors, including linkages with the domestic economy, in selected countries of the ESCAP region.

52. The following programme elements will involve response in the regions to requests made at the national and regional levels:

(a) 4.10 Advisory and training services for the African region, on matters relating to transnational corporations.

Output: Assistance to the Centre on Transnational Corporations in the provision of technical assistance to countries of the region through advisory projects and training workshops designed to assist middle-level and senior government officials in their dealings with transnational corporations;

(b) 4.11 Advisory and training services for the region of ECE on matters relating to transnational corporations.

Output: Assistance to the Centre on Transnational Corporations in the provision of technical assistance to countries of the region through advisory projects and training workshops designed to assist middle-level and senior government officials in their dealings with transnational corporations;

(c) 4.12 Advisory and training services for the Latin American region on matters relating to transnational corporations.

Output: Assistance to the Centre on Transnational Corporations in the provision of technical assistance to countries of the region through advisory projects and training workshops designed to assist middle-level and senior government officials in their dealings with transnational corporations;

(d) 4.13 Advisory and training services for the region of the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) on matters relating to transnational corporations.

Output: Assistance to the Centre on Transnational Corporations in the provision of technical assistance to countries of the region through advisory projects and training workshops designed to assist middle-level and senior government officials in their dealings with transnational corporations;

(e) 4.14 Advisory and training services for countries in Asia and the Pacific on matters relating to transnational corporations.

Output: Assistance to the Centre on Transnational Corporations in the provision of technical assistance to countries of the region through advisory projects and training workshops designed to assist middle-level and senior government officials in their dealings with transnational corporations.

53. The Committee, referring to its general comment on the question of consultancies in paragraph 378 of the present report, recommended that the Centre, in view of the particularly large number of consultancies initiated by it and the length of such consultancies, to be especially vigilant in limiting the use of consultancies, where possible merging consultancies and/or restricting their duration.

54. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 9 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

12. Section 10. Economic Commission for Europe 16/

55. The Committee recommended that, in programme 7, Energy issues in Europe, programme element 1.1, the word "annual" in output (i) and the dates in output (ii) should be deleted.

56. With the above changes, the Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it should approve the commitments contained in the programme narratives of section 10 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

13. Section 11. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific 17/

57. The Committee agreed on the following conclusions and recommendations under section 11:

(a) The Committee recommends that the Secretary-General should review the Commission's organizational structure with a view to further rationalizing its structure and activities.

(b) Regional Commissions Liaison Office: The Committee concluded that the appropriations for the Regional Commissions Liaison Office should not be a part of the programme budget section of a regional commission and decided to request the Secretary-General to review this question and to include appropriate recommendations in his report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, to be submitted pursuant to Assembly resolution 37/214.

(c) Development issues and policies: The Committee recommended replacing the word "service" by "public" in programme element 1.1, output (ii).

(d) Industrial development: The Committee agreed to recommend the lowest priority designation for programme element 1.4 (Agro-industry and allied industries). It further recommended deleting the first sentence of paragraph 11.38.

(e) Science and technology: The Committee recommended that programme element 1.4 (Energy conservation and conversion policy) should be included under the "Energy issues" programme. It also decided that programme element 3.1 (Assessment of new technologies) should be included under subprogramme 2 (Strengthening technological capabilities of member countries) and that subprogrammes 3 should be deleted.

(f) Statistics: The Committee recommended that programme elements 2.1 and 2.2 under subprogramme 2 (Statistical information services) should be combined.

(g) Transport I: Transport, communications and tourism: The Committee recommended the deletion of output items (a) and (b) under programme element 2.4 (Optimizing the operational efficiency of road transportation). It also recommended inserting "in the ESCAP region" after the term "land-locked and transit countries" in the second last output under programme element 1.1 (ii) (Formulation of national, subregional and regional strategies for integrated transport development).

(h) Social development: The Committee recommended that full co-ordination should take place between WHO and ESCAP and other bodies, as appropriate, in the implementation of subprogramme 3 (Health and development) and other health-related activities, in accordance with the views expressed in the Committee.

58. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 11 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

14. Section 12. Economic Commission for Latin America 18/

59. The Committee recommended that in programme element 5.1 of the programme entitled "Development issues and policies in Latin America", output (ii) should read "Twenty-two technical reports" instead of "Forty-four technical reports".

60. The Committee recommended that whenever an output appeared to be global in nature, it should be emphasized that the output should be considered in relation to its impact on the region.

61. The Committee recommended that in paragraph 12.40, the task for which consultants were required under programme element 1.2 should be attached to programme element 1.4 instead.

62. The Committee recommended that under the programme entitled "Natural resources in Latin America":

(a) In programme element 1.3, output (ii), the words "intermediate output" should be deleted;

(b) Output (iii) of programme element 3.1 should be eliminated;

(c) Output (vi) of programme element 3.1 should be described as "Technical publication to study the design and implementation ...".

63. The Committee recommended that the designation (XB) after the output of programme element 1.4 of the programme entitled "Energy issues in Latin America" should be deleted. 15/

64. The Committee recommended that in programme element 1.2 of the programme entitled "Population in Latin America", the words "family planning" in the title and in the narrative should be replaced by "socio-economic conditions".

65. The Committee recommended that in paragraph 12.65 the programme element citations should be revised as follows: for 2.1 read 1.4; and for 3.1 read 2.1. 15/

66. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 12 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

15. Section 13. Economic Commission for Africa 19/

67. The Committee noted with appreciation the efforts made to improve the programme presentation and the adjustment of programmes and resources to reflect decisions taken in connection with the medium-term plan for 1984-1989.

68. The Committee considered that monitoring and evaluation functions in the Commission should be reinforced.

69. The Committee recommended that the words "existing obstacles to" in the output citation of programme element 3.3 of programme 7 (International trade and development finance in Africa) should be deleted.

70. In the absence of an approved medium-term plan in marine affairs, the Committee was not in a position to review the resources of the sea subprogramme in the natural resources programme.

71. With the above change, the Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it should approve the commitments contained in the programme narratives of section 13 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

16. Section 14. Economic Commission for Western Asia 20/

72. The Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it should approve the commitments contained in the programme narratives of section 14 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

73. The Committee requested that it be informed of the results of the negotiations on a new agreement on the relations and co-operation between FAO and ECWA.

17. Section 15. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development 21/

74. The Committee recommended that the report on the proposed programme budget of UNCTAD for 1984-1985, though only examined in a preliminary manner, should be drawn to the attention of the Trade and Development Board and to its Working Party on the Medium-Term Plan and the Programme Budget.

75. The Committee recommended that the Trade and Development Board and its Working Party should take measures to ensure that, in future, the proposed programme budget of UNCTAD and the relevant sections of the medium-term plan were reviewed by them before the Committee's regular scheduled sessions. The Committee regretted that, currently, it was not possible for it to undertake that examination.

18. Section 16. International Trade Centre 22/

76. The Committee took note of the proposed programme budget submitted for 1984-1985 and of the comments made thereon by a number of delegations and recommended that in future the programme budget of ITC should be drawn up in accordance with the standard requirements and, in particular, give a full description of the programme elements and outputs envisaged.

77. With the above reservation, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 16 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

19. Section 17. United Nations Industrial Development Organization 23/

78. The Committee recommended that, in view of conclusion 1983/4 of the Industrial Development Board, the programme elements under subprogramme 4 (System of consultations) of programme 1 (Policy co-ordination) and under subprogramme 3

(Sectoral studies and research) of programme 2 (Industrial studies and research) should be revised as follows:

(a) In programme 1 (Policy co-ordination) subprogramme 4 (System of consultations) in the light of the decision of the Industrial Development Board the following consultations shall have the highest priority:

- Food processing
- Fertilizer
- Leather
- Building materials
- Petrochemicals
- Capital goods with special emphasis on energy-related equipment and technology;

(b) The following consultations shall have neither highest nor lowest priority (since they will not be taken up until the 1986-1987 biennium and will be given appropriate priority designation when considering the programme budget during that biennium):

- Fisheries
- Industrial manpower
- Agricultural machinery
- Non-ferrous metals
- Iron and steel
- Pharmaceuticals;

(c) Programme element 4.4 (Wood and wood products industry) shall be deleted since it will be completed during the 1982-1983 biennium;

(d) Programme elements 4.10 (Consultations on industrial financing) and 4.12 (Trade and trade-related aspects of industrial collaboration arrangements) shall be deleted since no consultations are scheduled during the next two bienniums (and, in the latter instance, the Industrial Development Board considered that the ad hoc group working in this area had completed its task);

(e) Programme element 4.13 (Programme management and supporting activities) shall be amended to reflect the operation and organization of the system of consultations along the lines proposed by the Industrial Development Board;

(f) In subprogramme 3 (Sectoral studies and research):

(i) Programme element 3.4 (Study on the wood and wood processing industry) shall be given lowest priority, since no consultations on this subject are scheduled during the next two bienniums;

(ii) Programme element 3.11 (Study on the capital goods industry) shall be amended to conform with the subject for consultations.

79. The Committee recommended that in paragraph 17.37 the second entry under the heading Programme element should read 4.1-4.17 instead of 4.17 and that, in paragraph 17.46, subprogramme 4, programme element 4.5, (Monitoring implementation of recommendations of the International Forum on Appropriate Industrial Technology) should be deleted, in accordance with annex XI to the introduction to the proposed programme budget, and the subsequent programme elements should be renumbered accordingly.

80. The Committee recommended that, as regards the activities relating to narcotics and plants envisaged in programme element 3.22, (Formulation, packaging, quality control and production of pharmaceuticals) of programme 3, UNIDO should maintain close co-ordination with the International Narcotics Control Board and other related bodies.

81. The Committee also endorsed the request of the Industrial Development Board that, in anticipation of the transformation of UNIDO into a specialized agency, JIU should undertake a study of the necessary co-ordination among the United Nations agencies located at Vienna with a view to avoiding duplication.

82. The Committee recommended in the light of the discussion in the Industrial Development Board and its conclusions, that the establishment of industrial training infrastructure and individual group training and inter-agency co-ordination and the liaison offices in New York and at Geneva should be upgraded from low priority to none.

83. With the above change, the Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it should approve the commitments contained in the programme narratives of section 17 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

20. Section 18. United Nations Environment Programme 24/

84. The Committee recommended that the following revisions should be made in the proposed programme budget for UNEP:

(a) In the first sentence of paragraph 18.35, the words "and co-ordinate" should be added after the word "communicate".

(b) Under subprogramme 1 (Environmental assessment), (a) Resource requirements, the existing text should be replaced by the following:

"Regular budget: \$405,000 (15.6 per cent of programme total);

"Extrabudgetary resources: \$1,651,000 (27.7 per cent of programme total)." 15/

(c) Under programme element 1.6 (Research, evaluation and review), output (ii), the words "and of the economic and ecological impact of acid rains" should be added after the word "sulphur".

(d) Under programme element 2.1 (Environmental aspects of human settlements planning) output (i), the last phrase "and on criteria for indoor climate comfort (fourth quarter, 1984)" should be deleted.

(e) Programme element 2.2 (Health of the people and the environment) should be assigned lowest priority.

(f) Under programme element 3.4 (Soils), output (i) the last publication should be deleted and instead the following should be inserted "and methodologies for the assessment of available or potentially available land and soil resources and loss of cropland (fourth quarter, 1985)".

(g) Under programme element 3.5 (Water), output (i), the words "large-scale" should be deleted. The sentence should read "... environmental impacts of water development projects ...".

(h) Under programme element 3.6 (Genetic resources), lowest priority should be deleted.

(i) Programme element 5.1 (Marine pollution), should be assigned lowest priority.

(j) Programme element 5.2 (Living marine resources), output (iii), should read:

"Periodic review of the World Conservation Strategy with respect to all living marine resources and the development of national and international law relating to marine mammals".

(k) Under programme element 5.3 (Regional seas), output (ii), the words "South West Atlantic (end 1984)" should be deleted.

(l) Programme element 6.1 (Energy), output (iii), should read:

"Technical assistance: three pilot demonstration projects on the utilization of new and renewable sources of energy in rural areas, with particular emphasis on new technologies and their environmental impact."

(m) Under subprogramme 8 (Supporting measures), (a) Resource requirements, the existing text should be replaced by the following:

"Regular budget: \$324,500 (12.5 per cent of programme total);

"Extrabudgetary resources: \$1,519,900 (25.5 per cent of programme total)." 15/

85. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 18 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

21. Section 19. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements
(Habitat) 25/

86. The Committee recommended that the following revisions should be made in the proposed programme budget for human settlements:

(a) Programme element 1.2, output (iii) should be revised to read as follows:

"(iii) Report to the Commission on planning and management of human settlements with special reference to intermediate cities and growth centres (1985)."

(b) An additional output should be added to programme element 1.2, reading as follows:

- "(v) The Centre will collect information on and analyse methods and criteria for locating investments in infrastructure and social services within the context of national development, leading to the formulation of national policies integrating issues of population location, land utilization, economic activities and social improvement."

(c) Programme element 1.4 should be postponed.

(d) In programme element 8.7, under output, the words "from developing countries" should be deleted; and, after the words "information networks" the words "of the Centre for Human Settlements" should be added.

87. The Committee expressed its continued interest in evaluation activities as described under programme element 2.6.

88. The Committee concluded that, regarding programme element 3.6, the financing of the activities of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless would be, in principle, in conformity with the criteria set out in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67.

89. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 19 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

22. Section 20. International drug control 26/

90. The Committee decided to recommend:

Under the programme of activity of the Division of Narcotic Drugs

(a) The deletion, in programme element 1.2, of the word "annual" from output (ii) and deletion of the intermediate output of the programme element;

(b) The redesignation of the intermediate output of programme element 1.3 as final output (iii);

(c) The revision of programme element 2.5 by inserting the word "Output" on the line below the title of the element and by replacing the word "Procurement" at the beginning of the second sentence of the output by the word "Gathering";

(d) According highest priority to programme elements 3.1 and 3.2 while retaining the same designation for element 1.1;

(e) The revision of the title of programme element 3.3 to read "Advice to UNFDAC, co-operation with other agencies and implementation of technical co-operation activities";

(f) In element 3.3, output (i), the deletion of the second sentence, replacing it by the following:

- "(i) To determine the viability and cost effectiveness of these projects; the analysis of proposals may include consultancy/expert missions in co-operation with or arranged by the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control."

(g) Issuing in Arabic the publication in output (i) of programme element 4.3;

Under the programme of activity of the International Narcotics Control Board

(h) The merger of programme elements 2.3 and 3.3 with programme element 1.4;

(i) Combining outputs (ii) and (iii) of programme element 1.2;

(j) The replacement of the words "Diplomatic contacts" with the words "Local inquiries" under programme element 1.3;

91. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 20 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

23. Section 21. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees 27/

92. The Committee decided to recommend that, as indicated in paragraph 21.3 of section 21 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, the presentation of the proposed programme budget for the next biennium should conform, as far as possible, to the prescribed format and to the subprogramme structure of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989.

93. The Committee also expressed the hope that, given the organizational changes taking place, the seven Professional and seven General Service posts, that were to have been phased out as indicated in paragraph 21.5 of budget section 21, would be discontinued in the near future.

94. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 21 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

24. Section 22. Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator 28/

95. The Committee recommended that programme element 4.3 should be deleted. It concluded that the lowest priority assigned to programme element 3.2 was inappropriate and recommended that programme element 3.3 (Use of warning devices) should be assigned the lowest priority.

96. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 22 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

25. Section 23. Human rights 29/

97. The Committee decided to recommend:

(a) That the Centre for Human Rights should establish a system of evaluating each of its activities;

(b) That the word "supervision" in the title of programme element 1.1 should be changed to "supervisory";

(c) That the text of output (ix) of programme element 2.1 should read "... racist minority régime in southern Africa ...";

(d) That outputs (iv) and (v) of programme element 4.2 should be combined in one output; intermediate output (i) should become final output (xi); and intermediate output (ii) should be deleted;

(e) That, under programme element 2.1, output (iii) should be deleted; and that under outputs (vii) and (viii) the meeting schedules of these working groups should be spaced out at greater intervals than currently planned. As to output (v), the Committee drew attention to the possible duplication of activities of the working group with activities undertaken by the International Labour Organisation.

98. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 23 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

26. Section 24. Regular programme of technical co-operation 30/

99. The Committee concluded that the presentation of this section should remain in the present format. However, additional information and cross references were required in the appropriate sections of the programme budget.

100. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narratives of section 24 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

27. Section 25. International Court of Justice 31/

101. The Committee recommended that the proposal for the establishment of the liaison function should not be approved by the General Assembly.

102. With the above change, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narratives of section 25 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

28. Section 26. Legal activities 32/

103. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narratives of section 26 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

29. Section 27. Department of Public Information 33/

104. The Committee recommended that in subprogramme 1 (Coverage), low priority be assigned to programme element 1.6 (Photo coverage) and that in respect of output (i) of that programme element, the word "and" should be inserted before the

words "meetings of the Security Council"; and the words "and inter alia" before the words "the Special Committee on Apartheid". In respect of subprogramme 2 (Information in depth), the Committee recommended that: (a) the paragraph references to the medium-term plan should be amended to read "paras. 9.9-9.40"; (b) in respect of programme element 2.12 (Development: economic and social), output (x) (Fortnightly newsletter entitled "International Review") be deleted; and (c) in respect of programme element 2.14 (International law and treaties), output (i) (A 30-minute film on the United Nations role in the registration and publication of treaties and as the depository for multilateral agreements) be deleted and that the subject of the proposed film be covered in one of the six short films proposed under output (iii) of programme element 2.15 (General information about the United Nations).

105. The Committee also recommended that the distribution of radio tapes should be reviewed in the light of the in-depth evaluation of the work of the Department of Public Information and that the results of the review should be reflected in the progress report that will be submitted to the Committee at its twenty-sixth session.

106. With the above changes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the outputs in the programme narrative of section 27 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

* * *

GENERAL RECOMMENDATION

107. In their comments on various sections of the proposed programme budget, members of the Committee observed that the proposed use of consultant services appeared to be excessive and not conducive to an optimum utilization of regular staff resources. Furthermore, there appeared to be no standards for consultants' remuneration.

108. Noting the complexity of questions relating to the use of consultants, and the relevance of these questions to the mandate of ACABQ, the Committee decided to call the attention of the General Assembly to this issue in the context of its conclusions and recommendations.

II. ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INFORMATION SYSTEMS UNIT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS 34/

109. The Committee took note with satisfaction of the progress made by the Information Systems Unit in increasing its productivity and advancing its work.

110. It was felt that care should be taken that merging data bases of the regional commissions and distributing the resulting products to the Commissions should contribute to proper co-ordination, information dissemination and the strengthening of the information systems of the regional commissions. The importance of the Unit continuing to systematically collect unpublished material of value and to co-operate with other information systems was recognized.

111. The Committee suggested that the Information Systems Unit should be given an institutional base in which to locate its activities and accordingly proposed that

the integration of the Unit within the Dag Hammarskjöld Library should be examined by the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General should report to CPC on his decision.

III. CO-ORDINATION OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES IN ASIA
AND THE PACIFIC BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC AND THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS 35/

112. The Committee recommended that:

(a) As intergovernmental bodies consider new legislative mandates on food and agricultural affairs, the servicing secretariat should advise member States about possible conflict with the mandates of other organizations. If conflicting mandates were approved, they should be implemented by the secretariat on the basis of a careful review of existing programmes in other organizations and with close co-operation with other relevant entities, keeping the appropriate intergovernmental bodies informed;

(b) FAO and ESCAP should, through their mechanisms for co-operation and co-ordination, make every effort to avoid overlap at the secretariat levels by clarifying respective roles, highlighting complementary areas of action and promoting joint planning and programming as far as possible;

(c) In view of the volume of extrabudgetary resources available to ESCAP for its activities, the joint FAO/ESCAP programme review meetings should include operational activities in their review;

(d) The executive heads of FAO and ESCAP should forward the report of the Secretary-General, the text of their joint statement, and the comments of the Committee, to their respective intergovernmental bodies at their earliest sessions for their review and comments, which should be brought to the attention of CPC at its twenty-fifth session, along with a progress report on the new phase of co-operation and co-ordination, including joint planning and programming, between the two organizations.

IV. REFORMULATION OF THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE
PERIOD 1984-1989 36/

Chapter 21. Social development and humanitarian affairs

113. The Committee recommended to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly the adoption of subprogramme 5 of programme 1 of chapter 21 (Social development and humanitarian affairs) with the following revisions:

(a) The title of the subprogramme should be "Participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation".

(b) In paragraph 21.27, the following mandates should also be cited: General Assembly resolution 34/180 and resolutions 7, 28, 40 and 47 of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women. Resolution 11 of the World Conference should not be cited.

(c) Paragraph 21.29. The text of the paragraph should read: "Despite progress towards the achievement of equality between men and women, considerable discrimination against women continues to exist, thereby impeding the active participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation".

Chapter 25. Marine affairs

114. The Committee recommended to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly the adoption of chapter 25 (Marine affairs) of the proposed medium-term plan, with the following revisions:

(a) 1. GENERAL ORIENTATION OF THE MAJOR PROGRAMME. The section should begin with the following new paragraph:

"25. The purpose of this major programme in marine affairs is to provide a focus for United Nations efforts concerning the seas and oceans through inclusion within a single chapter of the plan the major activities of the United Nations which deal specifically with the subject. It is intended thereby to help ensure effective co-ordination and careful delineation of tasks among the organizations included in the plan and other organizations of the United Nations system. On the basis of this plan, the evolving priorities of the United Nations in the field can be considered, reviewed and implemented. In the course of reviewing the responsibilities of the Secretary-General as a consequence of the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, it was recognized that there were responsibilities which were not of an economic and technical nature but which should be covered by the approved medium-term plan. Accordingly, these other activities, many of which are already being carried out, are included with those of an economic or technical nature in a single chapter of the plan."

(b) Paragraph 25.4. In the last sentence, replace the words "section V" with the words "the annex".

(c) Paragraph 25.6. The first sentence should read: "The comprehensive nature of the Convention which was carefully negotiated and delicately balanced throughout since the inception of preparatory work needs to be maintained as a whole in implementing the Convention." The beginning of the fourth sentence should read "This information would assist Governments in the process of acceptance ...".

(d) Paragraph 25.7. In the third sentence, the words "especially marine minerals and ocean energy" should be deleted. The last sentence should read: "This research and analysis is intended to respond to the increasing needs of Member States for the efficient management and utilization of marine and coastal resources in the light of the adoption of the Convention on the Law of the Sea."

(e) After paragraph 25.7, the following new paragraph should be added:

"The requirements for work at the regional level in marine affairs will be reviewed as regional intergovernmental bodies define new needs arising out of the adoption of the Convention. As these deliberations unfold, it is expected that all regions will address the issues. At the present time, two regions have defined objectives against which activities can be planned. Both ECA and ECLA seek to encourage regional co-operation in the exploration and development of marine resources within the limits of national jurisdiction and in the application of other provisions of the Convention. There will be an effort to assist states in the region both directly and in co-operation with

other organizations of the United Nations system working at the regional level. In addition, the related activities of regional commissions which are not yet included under this chapter of the plan, because they are part of other plan chapters, have been cross-referenced where appropriate as the result of consultations."

(f) II. CENTRAL PROGRAMMES (PERMANENT FUNCTIONS). The heading should read: "II. CENTRAL PROGRAMMES".

(g) PROGRAMME 1. The first subheading should read "A. Subprogrammes (permanent functions)".

(h) Paragraphs 25.8, 25.17 and 25.24. Replace the words "paragraphs 6 and 7" with "paragraph 7".

(i) Paragraph 25.9. The intergovernmental objective should read: "to facilitate decision-making about acceptance and consistent application of the Convention by States".

(j) Paragraph 25.10. The paragraph should read: "Since the Conference did not establish official travaux préparatoires, it is necessary to continue the work commenced by the Secretariat of the Conference in cataloguing and indexing the documentation of the Conference, including documentation used in the process of the harmonization and concordance in the Convention of the official languages of the United Nations, in order to help Governments analyse the provisions of the Convention and their interrelationship and trace the development of succeeding formulations in the documentation of the Conference, in particular those provisions that have a major impact on the development of international law and relations among States."

(k) Paragraph 25.11. In the second sentence replace the words "nor are they able to" with "nor are they always in a position to".

(l) Paragraph 25.13. In the first sentence, replace the words "monitoring of" with "maintaining of information on". In the last sentence, replace the word "registry" with "registration".

(m) Paragraph 25.14. In the second sentence, replace the words "each of the areas such as" with "such areas of broad interest to Governments as"; delete the words "development and transfer of"; replace the words "the relevant elements of" with "developments reflected in evolving"; and replace the words "the interrelationship between the provisions of the Convention" with "the impact of other provisions of the Convention".

(n) SUBPROGRAMME 2. The first subheading should read "(a) Legislative authority".

(o) Paragraph 25.18. In the intergovernmental objective, replace the word "enable" with "assist".

(p) Paragraph 25.21. Replace the word "analysis" with "study".

(q) Paragraph 25.22. Replace the words "development of legislative guidelines as needs determine" with "development of model legislation or guidelines as needs determine".

(r) Paragraph 25.23. Delete the paragraph.

(s) Paragraph 25.27. In the second sentence, replace the words "highly effective system" with the words "highly effective co-operation" and add at the end of the last sentence the phrase "in order to improve co-ordination, reduce or eliminate overlapping and establish a clear division of labour for activities in the light of the Convention".

(t) Paragraph 25.28. After the paragraph insert the following heading: "B. Subprogramme (transitional functions)" and place after it the text of paragraph 25.47, the heading "SUEPROGRAMME 4. SERVICING THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SEA-BED AUTHORITY AND FOR THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA" and the text of paragraphs 25.48-25.51, deleting the headings "III. CENTRAL PROGRAMME (TRANSITIONAL FUNCTIONS)", "PROGRAMME 1. LAW OF THE SEA AFFAIRS" and "Subprogramme".

(u) Paragraph 25.51. After the paragraph, add the heading "C. Organization" and the following text "Secretariat: pending a decision on the matter by the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 37/66, the work included under this programme is currently the responsibility of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea. In 1982, this office had 18 Professional posts assigned to it on a temporary basis. For 1983, the General Assembly approved a total of 24 Professional posts on a temporary basis."

(v) PROGRAMME 2. ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF MARINE AFFAIRS. The first subheading should read "A. Subprogrammes".

(w) Paragraph 25.35. The subsidiary objective of the Secretariat should read: "to complete the initial collection of and make available technical information on the occurrence of marine resources and the economic feasibility of exploiting marine resources and ocean energy in relation to global economic developments".

(x) Paragraph 25.37. The first sentence should read: "Development of marine resources cannot be viewed in isolation from general development processes but has to take into account the interdependence between the various factors." In the second sentence, the words "and global mineral production" should read "including global mineral production".

(y) Paragraph 25.42. The last sentence under the heading "(ii) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development" should be replaced by the phrase "such as the impact of the production of marine and other minerals on future levels of commodity prices and of the export earnings of the developing producing countries", which should be added to the preceding sentence.

(z) Paragraph 25.44. The intergovernmental objectives should read: "to develop an effective capability among Governments for identifying, assessing, developing, acquiring and establishing technologies and processes required for the development of coastal and marine resources and uses based on full information about available technologies".

(aa) Paragraph 25.46. After the paragraph add the subheading "B. Organization" and the following text: "Secretariat: the Secretariat unit responsible for this programme is the Ocean Economics and Technology Branch of the Office of Development Research and Policy Analysis of the Department of

International Economic and Social Affairs, which had 11 established Professional posts as at 1 January 1982."

(bb) IV. REGIONAL PROGRAMMES. The heading should read "III. REGIONAL PROGRAMMES".

(cc) PROGRAMME 3. The first subheading should read "A. Subprogramme".

(dd) Paragraph 25.59. After the paragraph add the subheading "B. Organization" and the following text "Secretariat: the Secretariat unit responsible for this programme is the Resources of the Sea Unit of the Natural Resources Division of the Economic Commission for Africa which had no established posts as of 1 January 1982".

(ee) PROGRAMME 4. The first subheading should read "A. Subprogramme".

(ff) Paragraph 25.63. After the paragraph add the subheading "B. Organization" and the following text: "Secretariat: the Secretariat unit responsible for this programme is the Natural Resources and Environment Division of the Economic Commission for Latin America which had 11 established posts as at 1 January 1982".

(gg) V. ACTIVITIES RELATED ... The heading should read: "ANNEX. ACTIVITIES RELATED TO MARINE AFFAIRS IN THE PLANS AND PROGRAMMES OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES" after which the following new paragraph should be added: "In order to provide an easy reference to activities of the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, the following are the activities contained in the plans and programmes of the specialized agencies which relate specifically to the proposed activities of the United Nations in marine affairs".

115. The Committee also recommended:

(a) That the major programme should be revised as part of the normal revision of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 and that the revisions should be presented to the Committee at its twenty-fourth session and should (i) give a stronger justification for a major programme on marine affairs, based on an analysis of the present state of affairs, the proposed activities of the United Nations at the central and at the regional levels and the activities being carried out, and to be carried out, by the specialized agencies; and (ii) include all relevant regional commissions.

(b) That, in implementing programme 3 of the plan, ECA and UNESCO should undertake to ensure that duplication and overlap of activities were avoided and joint efforts were encouraged.

V. RULES GOVERNING PROGRAMME PLANNING, THE PROGRAMME ASPECTS OF THE BUDGET, THE MONITORING OF IMPLEMENTATION AND METHODS OF EVALUATION 37/

116. In order to ensure that the rules to be promulgated by the Secretary-General in the implementation of the regulations adopted in resolution 37/234 were in conformity with those regulations and with the recommendations of CPC at its twenty-second session, and that consideration was taken of the comments made in the Fifth Committee during its review of the draft regulations, the Committee recommended that the rules that the Secretary-General intended to promulgate, as proposed in document A/38/126, should be amended along the following lines:

Article 1. Applicability

117. In rule 101.1, a phrase should be added at the end of the first sentence of paragraph (a): "and are intended to govern the Secretariat activities in implementation of the United Nations programme and of the Planning and Programming Regulations".

118. Under the same rule, add the following new sentence at the end of the second sentence of subparagraph (a): "These special cases shall be brought to the attention of the General Assembly".

Article 2. Instruments of integrated management

119. A rule 102.2 should be added, which could read as follows:

"The Secretariat procedure for the preparation of the medium-term plan and its revisions and of the programme budget shall consist of the following stages:

- (a) Formulation of policy guidelines;
- (b) Issuance of instructions incorporating those policy guidelines;
- (c) Submission of proposals by the heads of organizational units;
- (d) Revisions of original submissions within the overall concept of the medium-term plan or the programme budget;
- (e) Finalization and approval of the proposed medium-term plan or programme budget by the Secretary-General."

120. The Secretary-General shall establish the timetable for consistent implementation of each sequence of this procedure and ensure strict adherence to such a timetable in order to guarantee the submission of the proposed medium-term plan and its revisions to CPC in accordance with the six-week rule and the submission of the proposed programme budget to CPC and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) not later than by the end of April of the year preceding the budgetary period.

Article 3. Medium-term plan

121. In rule 103.2, paragraph (c) should indicate that such proposals of the Secretary-General should be reviewed by CPC which, in turn, would make recommendations on them before they are submitted to the General Assembly.

122. In rule 103.3, paragraph (b) should provide for achievement indicators.

123. Rule 103.6, on substantive activities, should indicate that each major programme or programme should contain an introductory narrative presenting an analysis of the rationale for selecting the objectives and the subprogrammes intended to attain them. Such an analysis could take into account the situation in the sector in question, the problems which had been identified, the progress made by the international community towards solving those problems and the reasons for choosing (in the framework of the existing mandates) to have the United Nations make a given type of contribution towards the solution of those problems in preference to others.

124. Rule 103.7, on the Introduction to the medium-term plan, should describe it in a more detailed fashion as a policy document and should elaborate on the co-ordination aspect as provided in regulation 3.7 (a).

125. Rule 103.12 should indicate that the formulation of the draft medium-term plan shall be supervised by the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board.

126. Rule 103.16 should make it clearer that the Secretary-General has also a responsibility for recommending priorities among the subprogrammes of the medium-term plan.

Article 4. Programme aspects of the budget

127. The text of rule 104.2 should be strengthened so as to include explicitly the treatment of new activities.

128. In rule 104.4, the definition of a programme element should be identical to that given in the annexed glossary, by amending either of the two.

129. In rule 104.6, the following paragraph should be inserted at the beginning:

"In the context of the preparation of the proposed programme budget, the Secretary-General shall submit to the General Assembly, through CPC, information on activities considered by him to be obsolete, of marginal usefulness or ineffective and on an estimate of the resources which might be released as a result of termination or curtailment of those activities."

130. In rule 104.6, revise (a) (i) and (iii) as follows:

"(i) Programme elements derived from mandates at least five years old, unless a relevant intergovernmental body has reaffirmed the continuing validity of the mandate";

"(iii) Programme elements which were programmed as new elements in the budget for the previous biennium but not begun in that biennium; if such elements are to be included in the budget, justification must be provided."

131. In rule 104.9, the programme budget statement referred to under regulation 4.9 should be an integrated report merging programme, financial and administrative implications of draft resolutions.

Article 5. Monitoring of programme implementation

132. In rule 105.1, paragraph (a) (i) should instruct Central Monitoring Unit to actually monitor the delivery of output.

133. Rule 105.2 should be more restrictive regarding the flexibility left to programme managers to modify the commitments on output delivery approved in the budget.

Article 6. Evaluation

134. Rules in article 6 should take into account the Committee's recommendations on strengthening the capacity of the United Nations evaluation units and evaluation systems (see paras. 136-144 below) as well as the recommendation 3 of the JIU report contained in document A/38/160, in particular the suggestions concerning:

(a) The evaluation system (para. 35), including the establishment of a calendar and a programme of evaluation (in-depth policy-oriented evaluation studies and internal management-oriented evaluation), the processing of evaluation reports and the responsibility of the central evaluation unit; however, references to a six-year cycle should be replaced by "on a regular periodical basis";

(b) The design of evaluation reports (para. 37); however, the timing recommended in subparagraph (g) of paragraph 37 should be made more flexible;

(c) The feedback of evaluation and its integration in the planning and programming cycle (para. 39); however, the role recommended for CPC in the second paragraph of paragraph 39 should not include proposals for administrative reorganization of units.

* * *

135. The Committee also recommended that the Secretary-General should provide, in the context of budget performance reports, information on resources not utilized in the biennium.

VI. STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF THE UNITED NATIONS EVALUATION
UNITS AND SYSTEMS AND TIMETABLE FOR REVIEW OF EVALUATION
PROGRAMMES, REQUESTED UNDER GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS
36/228 B AND 37/234 38/

Strengthening evaluation capacity

136. The Committee recommended that the Secretary-General should continue to strengthen the evaluation capacity of units and systems by:

(a) Further clarifying, rationalizing and studying the possibility of merging central evaluation functions and units and by preparing a report taking into account the Committee's views on measures for integrating the programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation functions as requested by the General Assembly in paragraph 9 of section II of resolution 37/234;

(b) Ensuring that sectoral and regional evaluation entities drew on the work and experience of the appropriate central unit and that their respective functions were further rationalized;

(c) Developing effective feedback mechanisms for disseminating evaluation findings to intergovernmental bodies and to programme managers;

(d) Emphasizing to programme managers the significance of incorporating evaluation findings into the decision-making process;

(e) Monitoring the implementation of evaluation findings.

Responsibilities of the central evaluation unit

137. In partial pursuance of the recommendation in paragraph 189 above, the Committee further recommended that the central evaluation unit's responsibilities should include the following nine functions:

- (a) Establishing evaluation policies, concepts and objectives;
- (b) Defining coverage of the evaluation system and setting standards of quality;
- (c) Providing methodological guidance;
- (d) Providing procedural guidance, checklists and formats;
- (e) Monitoring quality and compliance and supervising systematic implementation of management-oriented evaluation carried out by programme managers;
- (f) Co-ordinating evaluation planning;
- (g) Providing training and orientation;
- (h) Providing central evaluation information services;
- (i) Carrying out in-depth evaluations for intergovernmental bodies.

Resource considerations

138. In submitting its report to the General Assembly, the Committee calls the attention of the ACABQ, in the light of its mandate and in the context of considering the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget, to the Committee's views on this question in the present report. To that end, the Committee requests the Secretariat to prepare the necessary statement of programme and financial implications.

Functions of evaluation units

139. The Committee expressed appreciation for the evaluation functions and responsibilities outlined in paragraphs 57-61 of the Secretary-General's report (A/38/133 and Corr.1). The Committee recommended that, in addition to the basic ad hoc tasks for an evaluation unit set out in paragraph 57, procedures for follow-up activities should also be included as follows:

"(e) Preparation of an outline of procedures for follow-up exercises and guidance to the substantive unit concerned in conducting implementation studies and for transmittal of information on the status of follow-up activities to the appropriate intergovernmental body."

Similarly, the Committee also recommended that additional evaluation tasks proposed in paragraph 58 of the report should include the follow-up on implementation of previous evaluation studies.

Triennial evaluation reviews

140. In view of the Committee's decision at its twenty-second session 39/ to establish triennial reviews of the implementation of decisions taken by the Committee on the basis of the in-depth evaluations conducted three years previously, and in order to enable the Secretariat to review and deal comprehensively with recommendations of a short-term as well as long-term nature, the Committee recommended that:

(a) Triennial reviews should be presented to the Committee every year starting with 1985. The first review would include an examination of the implementation of the Committee's recommendations on all in-depth evaluations reviewed by the Committee in 1979 and subsequently (that is, of the programmes on transnational corporations (E/AC.51/98 and Add.1 and 2), manufactures (E/AC.51/1980/2 and Add.1) and mineral resources (E/AC.51/1982/5));

(b) In 1986, the topic would be the Department of Public Information, together with any points which the Committee might consider requiring further examination from the 1985 review. Subsequent triennial reviews would follow a similar format.

In-depth evaluation studies

141. In order to permit the central evaluation unit to concentrate on developing and managing an evaluation system as a first priority and to give a two-year lead time for the thorough preparation of in-depth evaluation studies, the Committee adopted two central principles governing the conduct of intergovernmental evaluation reviews. First, only one in-depth topic should be reviewed each session and, secondly, in order to maintain the two-year lead time for preparation of a study, subjects in the economic and social sectors should be reviewed in every other year alternating with those in the political, legal, humanitarian and other sectors.

Timetable for intergovernmental review of in-depth and triennial evaluation studies

142. The Committee therefore decided on the following timetable for in-depth evaluations and triennial evaluation reviews at its twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth sessions, in 1984 and 1985, respectively:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Session</u>	<u>Evaluation topic</u>	<u>Triennial review</u>
1984	Twenty-fourth	Technical co-operation and activities of UNIDO in manufactures funded by UNDP; and activities of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (JIU study)	-
1985	Twenty-fifth	Drug control	1980 manufactures study; transnational corporations; and mineral resources

Tentative timetable

143. The Committee also agreed to review the following tentative timetable at its twenty-fourth session in 1984:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Session</u>	<u>Evaluation topic</u>	<u>Triennial review</u>
1986	Twenty-sixth	Population	Department of Public Information
1987	Twenty-seventh	Electronic data processing and information systems	Technical co-operation and activities of UNIDO in manufactures; and activities of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development

<u>Year</u>	<u>Session</u>	<u>Evaluation topic</u>	<u>Triennial review</u>
1988	Twenty-eighth	Development issues and policies	Drug control
1989	Twenty-ninth	Human rights	Population
1990	Thirtieth	Human settlements	Electronic data processing and information systems
1991	Thirty-first	Political and Security Council affairs	Development issues and policies
1992	Thirty-second	Science and technology for development	Human rights

Linkage with cross-organizational programme analyses

144. The Committee welcomed the suggestion that work on in-depth evaluation studies should be more closely linked with that on cross-organizational programme analyses. The Committee therefore decided to request the Secretary-General to prepare specific proposals for this linkage at its twenty-fourth session in connection with the Committee's review of the timetable for evaluations and triennial reviews tentatively scheduled to be carried out between 1985 and 1991.

New statement of programme, financial and administrative implications

145. At its summer session, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 1983/49, on 28 July 1983, in section III of which it requested ACABQ to transmit to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session its review of the report on strengthening the capacity of United Nations evaluation units and systems (A/38/133 and Corr.1), pursuant to paragraph 191 of the Committee's report.

146. In relation to the decision taken by the Committee during the first part of its session to call the attention of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in the light of its mandate and in the context of considering relevant sections of the proposed programme budget, to the Committee's views on this question, contained in its report, and to the Committee's request to the Secretariat to prepare the necessary statement of programme and financial implications, questions were raised at the resumed session as to whether the statement of programme and financial implications had been prepared and presented for consideration by ACABQ and if so, whether its views were as yet available.

147. At its 52nd meeting, on 1 September 1983, the Chairman of the Committee made a statement in response to these questions. He indicated that, at the request of the Secretariat, he had held a meeting of the Bureau in order to clarify for the Secretariat the intentions of the Committee in relation to paragraphs 176 to 191 of its report and particularly in relation to paragraphs 186 and 189 to 191 where strengthened functions and corresponding resources were mentioned. At that meeting it had been reaffirmed that the Committee had recommended that the reinforcement proposed for strengthening evaluation units and systems would be required.

148. As a result of the meeting, the Committee confirmed its decision that the Secretariat should proceed to finalize the aforementioned statement of programme and financial implications for the consideration of ACABQ. ACABQ would then be able to examine the statement together with the Committee's recommendations on

evaluation (paras. 136-144) so as to enable the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session to consider simultaneously the Committee's recommendations, the corresponding programme and financial implications and the pertinent report of ACABO.

VII. METHODS AND PROCEDURES FOR THE PROVISION OF STATEMENTS
OF PROGRAMME IMPLICATIONS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 40/

149. The Committee took note of the report of the Secretary-General on methods and procedures for the provision of statements of programme implications to the General Assembly (E/A.2.51/1983/11).

VIII. METHODS, PROCEDURE AND TIMETABLE FOLLOWED IN THE
PREPARATION OF THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR
THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985 41/

150. The Committee took note of the report by the Secretary-General and requested the Secretary-General to keep each phase in the preparation of the proposed programme budget under constant review in order to avoid delays in the issuance of documents in the future and to report thereon to the Committee at its twenty-fourth session.

IX. INTEGRATION OF THE PROGRAMME PLANNING, BUDGETING,
MONITORING AND EVALUATION FUNCTIONS IN THE
SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS 42/

151. The Committee took note with interest of the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/38/6). The Committee agreed that the integration of the programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation functions was an evolving process and that judgement of the success or otherwise of the new institutional arrangements should be reserved for the time being. The Committee expressed the wish to be kept informed regularly of the development of the process, and of any possible difficulties faced by the Secretariat in preparing programme implication statements for the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly. The Committee also urged the speedy transmission to CPC of decisions taken by PPBB.

152. The Committee recommended that co-ordination between the Secretariat and intergovernmental bodies in the determination of priorities in the preparation of the proposed programme budget should be improved.

153. The Committee identified the need to maximize and improve secretariat support to CPC for:

(a) Substantive servicing to promote effective follow-up to the Committee's decisions as well as to the recommendations resulting from the Joint Meetings;

(b) The provision of assistance in fostering relations of mutual support between the work of CPC and that of secretariat and other bodies dealing with programme budgeting and co-ordination matters.

154. The Committee recommended that a solution to the problems, including, inter alia, the possibility of rationalizing the present support structure or the setting-up of a small separate secretariat of the Committee composed of staff drawn

from the offices and departments most directly concerned with the work of CPC, should be considered by the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session.

155. The Committee requests the Secretary-General to report on the subject to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, taking into account the views expressed during the discussion in CPC at its twenty-third session.

X. CROSS-ORGANIZATIONAL PROGRAMME ANALYSIS IN MARINE AFFAIRS 43/

156. The Committee recommended that:

Marine affairs

(a) In view of the complexity of this field, ACC should review the work of the system in marine affairs on a periodic basis through existing co-ordination mechanisms, with a view to ensuring that the consistent and co-ordinated approach demonstrated in the cross-organizational programme and analyses should continue;

(b) IMO and UNCTAD should increase their level of co-operation in the field of maritime transport which should be based on compliance with existing agreements and ensure that duplication and overlap of activities will be avoided, and they should report to CPC at its twenty-fourth session on their joint efforts;

(c) The organizations of the system should co-operate closely in the follow-up to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, using existing ACC mechanisms, with particular emphasis on joint approaches and co-operative arrangements for assisting developing countries in the fields of marine science, technology and ocean service infrastructures as well as the need to ensure a continuous flow of information on national and international action to implement the Convention and report on results to the Committee at its twenty-fourth session;

(d) As intergovernmental bodies consider new legislative mandates on marine affairs, the servicing secretariat should advise Member States about possible conflict with the mandates of other organizations. If conflicting mandates are approved, these should be implemented by the responsible secretariat on the basis of a careful review of existing programmes in other organizations and with close co-operation with other relevant secretariat entities, keeping the appropriate intergovernmental bodies informed;

Future cross-organizational programme analysis

(e) Future cross-organizational programme analyses should include an analysis of the broad problems towards which the activities of the system are directed and against which the pattern of activities should be compared, and for this purpose an analysis of the mandate and problems addressed in economic and technical co-operation among developing countries should be presented to the Committee at its twenty-fourth session, on the basis of which the analysis can be prepared for the twenty-fifth session;

(f) Future cross-organizational programme analyses should, to the extent possible, have a closer relationship with programme planning, monitoring and evaluation. Suggested areas for future analyses to be presented to the Committee at its twenty-fourth session should, therefore, take into account the feasibility of scheduling simultaneous consideration of evaluations, analyses and plan reviews on the same subject;

(g) The Secretariat should continue to seek the views of Member States on priorities for action when undertaking a cross-organizational programme analysis.

XI. EVALUATION

A. Technical co-operation activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the field of manufactures financed by the United Nations Development Programme 44/

157. The Committee took note with great interest of the report of the evaluation team and the observations presented by UNDP and UNIDO in the Secretary-General's report and during the discussion. It noted the extensive work done and the scope of the evaluation study's conclusions, which should serve as a basis for consideration by the Governing Council of UNDP and the Industrial Development Board of how technical co-operation was being conducted, particularly in the field of manufactures.

158. The Committee noted that future reports of this nature should be accompanied by a comprehensive report from the Secretary-General. However, under the circumstances, it decided to accept paragraph 7 of the Secretary-General's report and to transmit the report (E/AC.51/1983/5 and Add.1), together with the comments of the Committee at its present session, to the Governing Council of UNDP and the Permanent Committee of the Industrial Development Board of UNIDO for their careful consideration at their next sessions in June 1983 and November 1983, respectively. The Committee would review the comments of those bodies, together with the report of the Secretary-General, at its twenty-fourth session in 1984.

159. The Committee recommended that copies of the complete evaluation be made available to Member States, on request.

B. In-depth evaluation of the work of the Department of Public Information 45/

160. The Committee noted the areas for improvement as identified in the report of the Secretary-General (E/AC.51/1983/7).

161. The Committee requested that further work be done on the question of impact as well as on the identification and reaction of end-users. The Committee recommended that all future evaluations should deal fully with those two aspects.

162. The Committee recommended that, within the Department of Public Information:

(a) The imbalance between the concern with production and the concern with dissemination should be corrected;

(b) Efforts should be devoted to the refinement and expansion of an active feedback system, including the analysis of the data collected;

(c) There should be a better definition and clearer identification of target audiences;

(d) Every effort should be made to improve the timeliness of publication of the Yearbook of the United Nations and to remedy the decline in paid circulation of the UN Chronicle through proper targeting of the output.

163. The Committee recommended that the distribution of photo materials and radio tapes should be included in paragraph 12 of document A/AC.198/60.

164. The Committee requested that the relevant recommendations at its seventeenth 46/ session should be taken fully into account.

165. Having taken note that the Secretary-General intended to take appropriate action on the issues raised by the present evaluation, the Committee decided to consider a progress report on the action taken by the Secretary-General at the twenty-sixth session (1986).

C. Programme and plan of activities of the Joint
United Nations Information Committee 47/

166. The Committee recommended that a progress report of JUNIC, including a draft plan of action for 1984-1985, should be presented to CPC at its twenty-fourth session.

167. The Committee recommended that JUNIC, together with UNESCO, should study ways and means of strengthening co-operation in the field of development education.

D. Implementation of the recommendations made on the mineral
resources programme by the Committee for Programme and
Co-ordination at its twenty-second session 48/

168. The Committee noted with appreciation the note by the Secretariat on the implementation of the recommendations made on the mineral resources programme by the Committee at its twenty-second session (E/AC.51/1983/4). However, in connection with its discussion of this question, the Committee requested the Secretariat to provide a more objective analysis of the responses from the participating entities in the future. 49/

XII. REPORTS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON CO-ORDINATION

A. Annual report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination
for 1982-1983 50/

169. The Committee recommended that:

- (a) Future ACC annual overview reports should:
 - (i) Put more emphasis on the action required from the organizations of the United Nations system, in line with the decisions taken at intergovernmental level, than on the action required from member States;
 - (ii) When addressing the management of programme activities and programme issues, contain more information as to the nature of the problems, the concrete output of the work of ACC in co-ordinating the activities of the system, and the proposed solutions;
 - (iii) Contain a list of the various reports of ACC and its subsidiary bodies, which should be made more easily accessible to member States.

(b) The contributions by the organizations of the United Nations system to the process of review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade should, to the extent possible, take the form of a consolidated, synthesized analysis, rather than of individual organizations' sectoral contributions;

(c) Real progress in joint planning should be actively pursued by ACC, which should report on the matter to CPC at its twenty-fourth session;

(d) The United Nations Secretariat should make available an overview of the objectives and plans of the organizations of the United Nations system and ACC should prepare an abstract of it for submission to the Economic and Social Council through CPC at its twenty-fourth session.

170. The Committee welcomed the intention of the Secretary-General to rationalize the work of ACC and to prevent the proliferation of its subsidiary machinery and requested the Secretary-General to report to CPC at its twenty-fourth session on the measures taken to that effect.

B. Joint meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination 51/

171. At the first part of its session the Committee decided to recommend to ACC that the topic for discussion at the joint meetings of CPC and ACC should be that of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

172. The Committee further decided that an annotated list of the major existing documents on the subject should be made available and that those documents might be a basis of the discussions in the joint meetings.

173. The Committee also stressed the necessity of adopting measures to improve the effectiveness of the joint meetings, in particular regarding the need for an earlier decision on the topics for discussion and for a better structuring of the preparation for the joint meetings and with respect to the follow-up of their conclusions. The Committee suggested that the joint meetings review this matter at its session in 1983.

C. Recommendations to the Economic and Social Council regarding the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination 52/

174. The following conclusions were reached with regard to the CPC/ACC Joint Meetings:

(a) The agenda for these Meetings should be agreed upon at least six months in advance and, if possible, decided on at the previous series of Joint Meetings;

(b) In those years when the Cross-Organizational Programme Analysis on the agenda of a regular session of CPC relates to an economic and social activity of system-wide concern, the subject of such analysis should, in principle, be selected for inclusion in the agenda of the Joint Meeting to be held in that year;

(c) At each series of Joint Meetings, ACC should report on measures taken by the organizations of the system in response to the conclusions and recommendations adopted at the Joint Meetings in the previous year;

(d) Adequate meeting time should be provided to complete the discussion of the item in the context of subparagraph (c) above.

175. CPC further welcomed the statement of the Secretary-General as contained in paragraph 55 of the report of the 1983 Joint Meetings (E/1983/98) about availability to Member States of all ACC documents, and recommended that such documents, including the documents of all ACC subsidiary bodies, be available to all interested Member States, on request, and to that end a complete list of ACC documents should be made available to them.

D. Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination
on the strengthening of the co-ordination of information
systems in the United Nations system 53/

176. The Committee noted with satisfaction the report of ACC on co-ordination of information systems (E/1983/48) and recommended that ACC continue its work in this direction in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/71. It decided to keep under close review the progress made by the Advisory Committee for Co-ordination of Information Systems.

XIII. PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by intergovernmental organs or international conferences.

Documentation:

Report of the Secretary-General on proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989;

Report of the Secretary-General on the operation of the new system of setting priorities, highlighting any problems encountered;

Report of the Secretary-General on improvements in all phases of the preparation of the proposed programme budget documentation;

Report of the Secretary-General on the cross-sectional programme analysis of the programme budget for the period 1984-1985;

Report of the Secretary-General on the location of the Information Systems Unit within the Secretariat.

4. Programme performance report for the period 1982-1983.

Documentation:

Report of the Secretary-General on the biennial programme performance for the period 1982-1983.

5. Evaluation.

Documentation:

Comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on in-depth evaluation of United Nations Development Programme-financed technical co-operation activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the field of manufactures;

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "In-depth evaluation of the work of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development";

Report of the Secretary-General on the document dissemination system;

Progress report on the activities of the Joint United Nations Information Committee;

Note by the Secretary-General on the tentative timetable for intergovernmental review of in-depth and triennial evaluation studies scheduled for 1986 to 1992, including proposals for a linkage between themes of in-depth evaluation studies and of cross-organizational programme analyses.

6. Cross-organizational programme analysis.

Documentation:

Report of the Secretary-General on areas for future cross-organizational programme analyses;

Report of the Secretary-General on cross-organizational programme analysis in the area of human settlements;

Follow-up report of the Secretary-General on the cross-organizational programme analysis in marine affairs;

Analysis of the mandate and problems addressed within the United Nations system in the field of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

7. Reports of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination.

Documentation:

Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination;

Report of the Secretary-General on rationalizing the work of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination;

Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination on progress achieved by the ACC Task Force on Rural Development.

8. Provisional agenda for the twenty-fifth session of the Committee.
9. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

Notes

1/ For the Committee's discussion of the subject, see part one, chap. V, sect. G, paras. 204-220.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/38/6).

3/ For the Committee's discussion of the subject, see part two, chap. II, sect. A, paras. 8-15.

4/ See also paras. 21-27.

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/37/38), para. 314.

6/ For the Committee's discussion of the subject, see part two, chap. II, sect. A, paras. 33-45.

7/ See also paras. 50-56.

8/ See also paras. 61-66.

9/ See also paras. 70-84.

10/ See also paras. 90-97.

11/ See also paras. 100-130.

12/ See also paras. 139-153.

13/ See also paras. 161-162.

14/ See also paras. 164-178.

15/ This revision was incorporated in the final printed version of the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985 (Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/38/6)).

16/ For the Committee's discussion of the subject, see part one, chap. V, sect. G, paras. 222-228.

17/ See part two, chap. II, sect. A, paras. 186-221.

18/ See also paras. 224-242.

19/ See part one, chap. V, sect. G, paras. 231-247.

- 20/ See also paras. 253-269.
- 21/ See part two, chap. II, sect. A, paras. 251-265.
- 22/ See also paras. 268-272.
- 23/ See part one, chap. V, sect. G, paras. 272-285.
- 24/ See part two, chap. II, sect. A, paras. 275-286.
- 25/ See also paras. 289-297.
- 26/ See also paras. 302-315.
- 27/ See also paras. 318-323.
- 28/ See also paras. 326-333.
- 29/ See also paras. 336-346.
- 30/ See also paras. 349-354.
- 31/ See also paras. 357-360.
- 32/ See also paras. 363-368.
- 33/ See also paras. 370-373.
- 34/ See part one, chap. V, sect. A, paras. 109-113.
- 35/ See also sect. B, paras. 117-123.
- 36/ See also sect. C, paras. 125-136.
- 37/ See also sect. D, paras. 140-150.
- 38/ See also sect. E, paras. 171-188.
- 39/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session,
Supplement No. 6 (A/37/6).
- 40/ For the Committee's discussion of the subject, see part one, chap. V,
sect. F, 198-202.
- 41/ See part two, chap. II, sect. B, paras. 380-396.
- 42/ See also sect. C, paras. 398-410.
- 43/ See part one, chap. II, paras. 14-18.
- 44/ See also chap. III, sect. A, paras. 20-33.
- 45/ See also sect. B, paras. 37-49.

Notes (continued)

46/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/32/38).

47/ For the Committee's discussion of the subject, see part one, chap. III, sect. C, paras. 56-71.

48/ See also sect. D, paras. 74-78.

49/ See also part one, chap. V, sect. E.

50/ For the Committee's discussion of the subject, see part one, chap. IV, sect. A, paras. 80-88.

51/ Ibid., para. 89.

52/ See part two, chap. III, paras. 416-423.

53/ See part one, chap. IV, sect. B, paras. 95-107.

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