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FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST**

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SUPPLEMENT No. 2

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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.

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UNITED NATIONS
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OFFICIAL RECORDS
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SUPPLEMENT No. 2

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST
Annual report to the Economic and Social Council, covering the period
15 February 1956 — 28 March 1957

INTRODUCTION

1. This annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE), which covers the period 15 February 1956 to 28 March 1957, was adopted unanimously by the Commission at its 187th meeting on 28 March 1957. It is presented for the consideration of the Economic and Social Council at its

twenty-fourth session in accordance with paragraph 15 of the Commission's terms of reference, which states: "The Commission shall submit to the Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, once a year."¹

Part I

THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION

2. This account of the work of the Commission is divided into three main sections: A. Subsidiary bodies of the Commission; B. Secretariat activities, other than those directly connected with the work of the organs listed under A; and C. Relations with specialized agencies and other organizations.

A. Subsidiary bodies of the Commission

3. The following account summarizes the activities of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission during the period under review. In the development of their work they took into account the resolutions adopted and the decisions taken by the Commission at its twelfth session, in particular the decision to expand the Commission's work in the field of economic development and planning, resolution 16 (XII) on economic development and planning, resolution 17 (XII) on transmigration and land settlement, and resolution 15 (XII) on exchange of experience and information on scientific and technical matters. Attention was also given to Economic and Social Council resolutions 557 B (XVIII), 560 (XIX), 590 A I (XX), 597 A (XXI), and 630 A I (XXII), which stress the need for concerted action and concentration of effort on projects that directly contribute to the economic and social development of under-developed countries, particularly in the field of industrialization.

1. INDUSTRY AND TRADE

4. The following list gives the dates of the meetings, held in the period under review, of the Committee on Industry and Trade, and of bodies reporting to the Committee or to its subsidiaries,² together with the names of officers.

¹ The previous activities of the Commission and its subsidiary organs have been reported to the Economic and Social Council in the following documents: Report of the first session; 16-25 June 1947, and report of the Committee of the Whole, 10-17 July 1947 (*Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifth Session, Supplement No. 6* (E/452; E/491)); Report of the first and second sessions, 16-25 June 1947 and 24 November - 6 December 1947 (*Ibid., Sixth Session, Supplement No. 8* (E/606 and Corr.1)); Interim report of the third session, 1-12 June 1948 (*Ibid., Seventh Session, Supplement No. 12* (E/839)); Interim report of the fourth session, 29 November-11 December 1948 (*Ibid., Eighth Session, Supplement No. 3* (E/1088)); Report of the fourth session and the Committee of the Whole, 1 July 1948 - 5 April 1949 (*Ibid., Ninth Session, Supplement No. 13* (E/1329 and Add.1)); and in annual reports to the Economic and Social Council at its eleventh, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, seventeenth, twentieth and twenty-second sessions (*Ibid., Eleventh Session, No. 8* (E/1710); *Ibid., Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. 7* (E/1981); *Ibid., Fourteenth Session, Supplement No. 3* (E/2171); *Ibid., Fifteenth Session, Supplement No. 6* (E/2374); *Ibid., Seventeenth Session, Supplement No. 3* (E/2553); *Ibid., Twentieth Session, Supplement No. 5* (E/2712); *Ibid., Twenty-second Session, Supplement No. 2* (E/2821)).

² For the action taken by the Committee on the reports of these bodies, see paragraphs 58 to 88.

Sub-Committee on Electric Power (fifth session)	7-12 March 1956
<i>Chairman:</i> Mr. M. Hayath (India)	
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Mr. Filemon M. Zablan (Philippines)	
Mr. Masao Segawa (Japan)	
Working Party of Senior Geologists on the Preparation of a Regional Geological Map for Asia and the Far East (second meeting)	5-9 June 1956
<i>Chairman:</i> Mr. V. P. Sondhi (India)	
<i>Vice-Chairman:</i> Mr. K. Kaneko (Japan)	
Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (second session)	12-17 June 1956
<i>Chairman:</i> Mr. H. Kurashima (Japan)	
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Mr. K. H. Choi (Korea)	
U Ba Tun (Burma)	
Working Party on Housing and Building Materials (fourth meeting)	30 July- 6 August 1956
<i>Chairman:</i> Mr. Malai Huvanandana (Thailand)	
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Mr. C. R. W. de Silva (Ceylon)	
Sardar Sarup Singh (India)	
Sub-Committee on Trade (second session)	29 October- 5 November 1956
<i>Chairman:</i> Mr. I. Kawasaki (Japan)	
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Mr. Abas Ashraf Said (Pakistan)	
Mr. K. H. Choi (Korea)	
ECAFE/ILO/UNESCO Inter-Secretariat Working Party on Trained Personnel for Economic Development (sixth meeting)	7-12 January 1957
<i>Chairman:</i> U Nyun (ECAFE secretariat)	
<i>Members:</i> Mr. P. K. Das (ILO)	
Mr. J. D. N. Versluys (UNESCO)	
Mr. P. H. Prabhu (UNESCO)	
Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session)	7-15 March 1957
<i>Chairman:</i> Luang Thavil (Thailand)	
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Mr. K. B. Lall (India)	
Mr. Morio Aoki (Japan)	

SUB-COMMITTEE ON ELECTRIC POWER

5. At its fifth session, held at Bangalore in March 1956, the Sub-Committee on Electric Power devoted special attention to the standardization of plant, equipment and practices, the use of atomic energy for generating power, the development of demonstration centres for rural electrification and the assessment of the hydro-electric potentials of the countries of the region. It reviewed statistical data on the generation and utilization of electric power supplied by Governments to the secretariat for publication in the *Electric Power Bulletin for Asia and the Far East*, emphasizing the value of such data in planning and operating electric power systems.

Standardization

6. In reviewing the extent of standardization so far reached in the countries of the region, the Sub-Committee concluded that the standardization of power system voltages and frequencies was the first essential step

in standardizing electric plant, equipment and power system practices. It recommended that countries should take note of the work of the International Electrotechnical Commission and of institutions in the region which deal with problems of standardization. It suggested that a comparative study of standards and specifications used in various countries should be undertaken by the secretariat; this would initially cover (a) generators and motors, (b) distribution transformers, (c) power transformers and (d) switch-gear of 3.3 kilovolts and above.

Atomic energy

7. The delegations of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States of America furnished technical information to the Sub-Committee on their plans for constructing atomic power stations and, on behalf of their Governments, offered training facilities in this field to trainees from the ECAFE region. The Sub-Committee noted that a number of countries in the region were installing,

or were negotiating for construction of, nuclear reactors. It suggested that these countries should study current developments in the use of nuclear reactors for generating electricity in other countries and should avail themselves of the facilities provided by industrially advanced countries in regard to prospecting for radio-active minerals, including training facilities in this field. The Sub-Committee asked the secretariat, in co-operation with appropriate international agencies, to disseminate information on the availability of nuclear fuels and noted that the United States had announced its intention of making available about 20,000 kilogrammes of nuclear fuel, and possibly more, if necessary.

Rural electrification

8. The rural electrification demonstration centres being developed by the Governments of Ceylon and Thailand were discussed by the Sub-Committee, which suggested that economic aspects of the use of electric power in rural industries should be studied at these centres.

Statistics

9. The Sub-Committee recommended that the countries of the region should take appropriate steps towards the compilation and elaboration of electricity statistics on the basis of the forms given in the *Electric Power Bulletin for Asia and the Far East*, and should make these statistics available to the secretariat for use in future bulletins.

Assessment of hydro-electric potentials

10. The Sub-Committee decided to convene a working party of hydro-electric power experts to assemble available data and to pool experiences with a view to assisting the countries of the region in assessing the hydro-electric potential of their river basins, including their economic and technical limits. It also recommended that the countries of the region should simultaneously carry out periodic surveys of their short-term and long-term power requirements, since the results of such surveys of the demand for power would be extremely useful in planning the development of hydro-electric power resources.

STUDY TOUR OF ELECTRIC POWER EXPERTS

11. Under the joint sponsorship of the Commission and the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration (TAA), a group of ten electric power experts — from India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan and Thailand — visited the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Sweden, the United Kingdom, France, Western Germany, Czechoslovakia and the United States of America. The group studied technical developments in power plant design and operation with respect to: (i) thermal power stations utilizing low-grade coals, (ii) hydro-electric power stations, especially underground stations, (iii) relay protection systems, and (iv) high voltage transmission lines, particularly of 220 kilovolts and above. The group also visited atomic power stations, large installations and research establishments. It made a large number of recommendations and observations, including the following:

(a) Power systems in Asia should take advantage of the reliability of modern boiler plants and endeavour to obtain a much larger number of operating hours from their units.

(b) In planning extensions to power systems, considerable savings could be effected by taking account of the reliability of modern power system equipment; the installation of 100 per cent stand-by equipment is not always justified.

(c) The use of impregnated wood poles in transmission lines, particularly in smaller sub-stations, is economical, especially where steel is expensive and scarce.

(d) The need for installing expensive protection for overhead transmission lines against lightning, for example by overhead earthwires, should be carefully examined in the light of the successful operation of modern lightning arrestors and high-speed reclosing circuit breakers.

(e) In designing transmission lines, particularly for 110 kilovolts and above, careful attention should be paid to the problems of corona losses and the likelihood of interference with radio and telephone reception.

(f) Local generation of electric power with small units should be encouraged for rural areas to which transmission from large grids cannot be economically extended.

(g) The benefit of the study tour should be further enhanced by organizing seminars in the region on various specific aspects of electric power problems, for example, in respect of hydro-electric stations, thermal stations, transmission lines and rural electrification. These seminars should be attended by engineers of the region specializing in these fields, and ECAFE and TAA should invite specialists from industrially advanced countries to contribute the benefit of their experience.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON MINERAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

12. At its second session, held at Tokyo in June 1956, the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development selected for examination specific problems currently engaging the attention of countries in the region, particularly mining legislation, coal classification, fuel policies, aerial surveys and prospecting for radio-active minerals, as well as the report of the study group of geologists and mining engineers from the ECAFE region which visited western Europe and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in 1955 under the joint sponsorship of ECAFE and TAA.

Mining development in Asia and the Far East

13. On the basis of a report by the secretariat, *Mining Development in Asia and the Far East, 1954-1955* (E/CN.11/421),³ the Sub-Committee reviewed the progress achieved in developing the mineral resources of the region. It considered that information on certain major mining developments in other regions might be of value in planning for mineral expansion in the region, and recommended that the secretariat should take this factor into account in preparing future reports on the subject.

³ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1956.II.F.4.

Mining legislation

14. The Sub-Committee considered laws and regulations concerning mineral development in ten countries of the region, as described in the report, "Preliminary survey of legislation governing mineral development of the region" (ECAFE/I&T/Sub.3/8), prepared by the General Legal Division at United Nations Headquarters. It recommended that, in its final survey, the secretariat should furnish information on legislation adopted in countries outside the region and suggest alternative models for different aspects of mining legislation. It further recommended that the survey should include the following aspects of legislation: (a) proprietary rights in mineral areas, (b) prospecting and mining licences, mining leases, and methods of control over their issuance, (c), government supervision of mining operations, (d) government revenue from exploitation of mineral resources, (e) rules and regulations regarding safety and sanitation (in consultation with the appropriate specialized agencies) and (f) foreign investments in the exploitation of mineral resources.

Coal classification

15. The Sub-Committee reviewed the suggestions of the secretariat regarding a regional system of coal classification, which were based on classification systems currently in use in ECAFE countries, proposals submitted by various countries, and work by the Classification Working Party of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE). The Sub-Committee requested the secretariat to clear up certain points of detail, particularly the demarcation between high-grade and low-grade coals, and to submit its final proposals. It also asked the countries of the region to undertake the analysis of their coals without delay, and to attempt to classify them according to the proposed categories and groups. For this purpose, the secretariat was requested to continue to arrange for the exchange of samples of the principal categories of coal between the laboratories of countries within and outside the region.

Fuel policy

16. The Sub-Committee, in considering a secretariat paper on the fuel economy of the region (ECAFE/I&T/Sub.3/12), suggested that it was desirable for ECAFE countries to assess their fuel needs and frame fuel policy on the basis of the comparative advantages and disadvantages of various kinds of fuel. For this purpose, it stressed the need for exchanging information on fuel problems and on methods used for assessing fuel needs, and assembling comparable statistics.

STUDY GROUP OF GEOLOGISTS AND MINING ENGINEERS

17. The Sub-Committee examined in detail the report and recommendations of the Study Group which had visited western Europe and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics⁴ under the joint sponsorship of ECAFE and TAA. In generally endorsing the recommendations of the Study Group, the Sub-Committee made certain

⁴ France, the USSR, the United Kingdom, western and Eastern Germany.

observations. It concurred with the suggestion of the group that in some countries in Asia with vast areas, consideration should be given to the establishment of regional or provincial geological surveys, in addition to the central or federal one. While it was in general agreement with the recommendations of the Study Group concerning the development of the coal industry, it thought that, in large-scale mechanization of mines, due consideration should be given to the abundance of labour in many countries of the region and to the need for its technical and social improvement. In the opinion of the Sub-Committee, human labour would continue to be essential in the development of mineral resources. In view of the importance to the countries of the region of developing low-grade ore deposits, the Sub-Committee thought that increasing attention should be paid to prospecting for such deposits and to the study of beneficiation techniques for low-grade ores. The Sub-Committee endorsed the recommendations of the Study Group that a similar study tour of Asian geologists and mining engineers should be made to Canada and the United States in the near future, to obtain comprehensive knowledge of modern techniques and methods in industrially advanced countries and of their applicability to countries of the region.

Aerial surveys

18. To implement the project on the study of aerial survey methods and equipment recommended by the Committee on Industry and Trade at its eighth session, the Sub-Committee decided that, as a first step, a general information paper on photogrammetry and aerial survey methods and equipment currently in use, with clear indications as to their usefulness and limitations, might be prepared in co-operation with the Cartographic Section of the United Nations Bureau of Economic Affairs. The International Training Centre for Aerial Survey offered to co-operate with the ECAFE secretariat in ascertaining the needs of the countries of the region and the type of aerial photography available. For this purpose, a questionnaire was prepared.

Radio-active minerals

19. The Sub-Committee noted that the Committee on Industry and Trade, at its eighth session, had emphasized the importance of developing radio-active mineral deposits for peaceful uses of atomic energy and of constructing atomic power plants for generating electricity. It reviewed the work of the secretariat on the dissemination of information regarding prospecting for uranium and other radio-active minerals, and considered that this work should be included in the secretariat's work programme as a project of high priority. In response to the request of the secretariat, the Governments of British Territories in Borneo, Burma, India, New Zealand, Philippines, Thailand, United Kingdom and United States of America had made available to the secretariat various unpublished as well as published reports concerning the work done in their countries on radio-active minerals. An annotated bibliography on prospecting for uranium and other radio-active minerals is being prepared by the secretariat.

WORKING PARTY OF SENIOR GEOLOGISTS ON THE PREPARATION OF A REGIONAL GEOLOGICAL MAP FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

20. At its second meeting, at Tokyo in June 1956, the Working Party noted with satisfaction that country geological maps on a scale of 1 : 2,000,000, required as base maps for the compilation of the regional map, had been completed by several Governments, including British Territories in Borneo, Burma, Ceylon, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan and Korea. Under the sponsorship of the Government of Australia, a regional geological map of Oceania was also under preparation; this could be considered a sister map to that of Asia and the Far East. The Working Party recommended the end of 1957 as a target date for completing the country maps and proceeding to correlate them. It requested member countries to make qualified geologists to work on specific problems relating to the map available to the co-ordinator appointed by the Sub-Committee, the Director of the Geological Survey of India. It also recommended that geologists of neighbouring countries should meet among themselves and with the co-ordinator whenever necessary, to co-ordinate their work on specific problems. The Working Party recommended that the country geological maps sent to the co-ordinator should include an index map, showing the status of geological surveys, which would indicate the degree of accuracy of the maps.

21. While recognizing the scientific merit of the oblique azimuthal equidistant projection method, the Working Party, for practical reasons, favoured the use of the Lambert conical projection for the regional map. Since one of the primary objectives of the regional geological map was to assist countries in discovering mineral-bearing areas, the Working party recommended that regional mineral maps should attempt to show the mineralization epochs and provinces of the region. Although such a task would require considerable time and effort, it thought that at least a beginning in this direction should be made. The Working Party established an *ad hoc* committee, consisting of the directors of the geological surveys of India, Indonesia and Japan, to aid in carrying out the project and to prepare basic rules for the preparation of such a regional mineral map.

WORKING PARTY ON HOUSING AND BUILDING MATERIALS

22. At its fourth meeting, held at Bangkok in July and August 1956, the Working Party reviewed housing conditions and problems in the countries of the region on the basis of an information paper by the ECAFE secretariat on housing and building materials in Asia and the Far East, and data and statements submitted by experts from various countries.

The housing situation

23. The Working Party concluded that the housing shortage in Asia was the most acute in the world and that its solution was not yet in sight. In many countries the housing problem was aggravated by lack of town planning and was complicated by other factors, such as

the movements of refugees. The Working Party took note of the progress made in housing, especially since the end of the Second World War, and welcomed the fact that Governments were assuming increasing responsibilities in providing dwellings for lower income groups. Since more than three-quarters of the dwellings of the region were in essentially rural areas, the Working Party was particularly gratified to note the increasing attention being given to rural housing, in place of the past tendency to concentrate on urban housing requirements.

Measures to improve housing

24. The Working Party indicated a variety of measures for strengthening the housing effort in the countries of the region. It particularly emphasized the need for (a) national and co-ordinated housing programmes, (b) national housing finance institutions, (c) wider application of the technique of aided self-help, (d) revision of land acquisition legislation, of building codes and building legislation, and of rent control policy, (e) appropriate tax measures to promote housing, (f) measures for financing the acquisition and development of land for housing, and (g) measures to improve the productivity of the building industry.

25. The Working Party considered that the housing needs of lower income groups could be fully met only by the use of relatively uncomplicated methods and practices in construction, and while every effort should be made to encourage an increased industrial production of basic materials, such as cement, steel and milled timber, even greater emphasis should be given to improving local techniques and materials currently in general use.

Regional housing centres

26. The Working Party noted with satisfaction the progress made by the regional housing centres in India and Indonesia, particularly in the steps taken towards developing a number of national laboratories and institutions to assist the regional centres. The main functions of the regional centres were (a) to conduct research projects and studies of regional character and significance, (b) to collate and disseminate information on housing, building and planning of interest to the region, and (c) to undertake special projects on behalf of the Governments of the region, at their request.

27. In order to assist the regional housing centres, the Working Party established an Advisory Committee on the Regional Housing Centres, composed of the directors of the two regional housing centres; two members appointed from among the countries of the region so that each country would be represented for a period of two years; two other members co-opted from among ECAFE countries engaged in developing their own national institutions or otherwise interested in the problems studied by the centres; one representative from the ECAFE secretariat and one from the Bureau of Social Affairs at the United Nations Headquarters.

28. Under its terms of reference as defined by the Working Party, the Advisory Committee was empowered:

(a) To make broad recommendations regarding housing research programmes affecting the ECAFE region as a whole and, in general, to act as a co-ordinating agency for the activities of the two centres;

(b) To assist, as appropriate, in the procurement of experts, equipment and documentation for the regional housing centres;

(c) To seek the co-operation of the Governments of the region in the work of the two centres through contacts at the technical level;

(d) To establish methods of collecting comparable statistics and other data on subjects of regional interest in the fields of housing, building and planning;

(e) To deal with questions of payment for work done by the centres for the exclusive benefit of Governments other than the host Governments;

(f) To consider necessary arrangements to facilitate co-ordination of research, studies and documentation work in the ECAFE region; and

(g) To report to the annual sessions of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials, to the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, and to other competent organs of the United Nations.

Proposals for a study tour

29. The Working Party recommended that higher priority should be given to a study tour by Asian experts in the field of housing and building materials. It indicated that the tour should include the study of urban and rural design and construction, industrial and rural production of building materials, mechanization of the building industry, town planning, housing finance, training of housing workers, aided self-help projects and research projects.

Co-ordination of effort

30. The Working Party took note of the activities of the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs, the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the International Labour Organisation (ILO) the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO), in the field of housing and building materials and related subjects. It commended the continued co-operation and co-ordination of effort between the ECAFE secretariat and other agencies in this field.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON IRON AND STEEL

31. There was no session of the Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel in 1956. In carrying out recommendations made by the Sub-Committee at its sixth session, the ECAFE secretariat continued various studies and other activities relating to the convening of the next session, scheduled to be held in July 1957. These included (a) study of the problems of the iron and steel industry and trade in the region, (b) dissemination of technical information to the countries of the region on various processes for making iron without coking coal, continuous casting techniques and re-rolling mill practices, and (c) promo-

tion of interchange of experience and technical knowledge among member countries.

32. A detailed study of the existing and future demand for steel products in the countries of the ECAFE region has also been undertaken. It is planned to include in the first issue of the *Iron and Steel Bulletin for Asia and the Far East* material on the latest developments and practices in iron and steel processing techniques of interest to ECAFE countries, current activities and major developments in iron and steel and allied industries in the region, and production data on raw materials and finished products.

33. Work was also started on a study of possible methods of simplifying and standardizing specifications for the manufacture and use of iron and steel and their products. Ultimate adoption of standard simplified specifications is intended to facilitate increased international trade in iron and steel products.

WORKING PARTY ON SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES AND HANDICRAFT MARKETING

34. The Working Party did not meet in 1956. Its next meeting, to be held in June 1957, will devote its attention to the leather industry in countries of the region. The problems to be considered include the promotion and co-ordination of research, production and marketing techniques, common facilities and services, and other matters relating to the leather industry. The problems to be considered include the promotion and co-ordination of research, production and disseminate data on various aspects of cottage and small-scale industries, has promoted more frequent exchange of experience and information on scientific activities among member and associate member countries, and has intensified its contacts with TAA experts working in countries of the region in this field.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON TRADE

35. The Sub-Committee, at its second session, held at Tokyo in October and November 1956, reviewed current developments in trade and trade policies in the countries of the region and gave special attention, in accordance with resolution 614 A (XXII) of the Economic and Social Council, to "difficulties preventing expansion of international trade", and to related subjects, such as regulations, procedures and practices concerning the conduct of international trade, ocean freight rates and transit trade of land-locked countries. It also considered trade promotion measures, including international fairs and exhibitions, market surveys, trade promotion talks and training of trade promotion personnel.

Current developments in trade and trade policies

36. In the light of statements of delegations and the report of the ECAFE secretariat (E/CN.11/I&T/Sub.4/8), the Sub-Committee noted that generally favourable world economic conditions, measures taken by countries within and outside the region to liberalize trade, and the increased flow of economic aid from coun-

tries outside the region, had made possible an expansion in the trade of the countries of the region. Noting, however, that the foreign exchange resources of a number of countries were strained on account of the increasing volume of imports for development purposes, the Sub-Committee emphasized the need for a more rapid development of exports. It also recognized that external assistance to countries of the region in the form of agricultural surpluses contributed to economic development if due care was exercised to ensure that the normal channels of trade were not disturbed and that the long-term interests of countries exporting primary products were not adversely affected.

Regulations, procedure and practices in international trade

37. The Sub-Committee examined in detail the regulations, procedures and practices of the countries of the region in the conduct of international trade, with particular regard to import and export licensing, customs, quality control of exports, travel of businessmen, trade complaints, industrial property rights and government purchases, as analysed in the study of the secretariat (ECAFE/I&T/Sub.4/7). In order to provide a practical guide to business men in obtaining information regarding the trade regulations and procedures of countries in the ECAFE region, the Sub-Committee recommended that the study should be revised with the assistance of Governments and should be issued in printed form.

38. It took note of the recommendations of the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) on matters such as standard practices for documentary requirements for the importation of goods, standard practices for consular formalities, the International Convention to Facilitate the Importation of Commercial Samples and Advertising Materials, and standard practices for import and export restrictions and exchange controls. The Sub-Committee recommended that countries which had not adopted these practices might consider the desirability of doing so.

39. It reviewed steps taken by the countries of the region to simplify customs procedures and formalities. Since a number of matters in the field of customs administration warranted early attention, it recommended the convening of a working group to consider specific aspects of customs procedures and administration, with a view to exchanging experience and formulating practical recommendations.

Commercial arbitration

40. The Sub-Committee emphasized the importance of improving existing facilities for commercial arbitration, taking into account resolution 604 (XXI) of the Economic and Social Council. It suggested that, as a first step, the secretariat should collect and publish the texts of relevant provisions of laws, treaties and court decisions bearing on commercial arbitration. The Sub-Committee recommended that the next step should be to analyse the material with a view to identifying the main legal and practical problems and difficulties which affect the functioning of international commercial arbitration in the region. This might be followed by the

convening of a working party of experts on commercial arbitration, in which government representatives and representatives of national and international arbitral associations would participate.

Ocean freight rates

41. The Sub-Committee took note of the report of the secretariat on ocean freight rates (ECAFE/I&T/Sub.4/3) and suggested that it be transmitted to the United Nations Transport and Communications Commission. The Sub-Committee recommended that collection and dissemination of information on ocean freight rates by the secretariat, with the co-operation of member Governments, should be a continuing project of high priority. It also decided that the countries of the region should supply information to the secretariat, to the extent practicable, on their shipping requirements and their estimates of shipping availabilities, for presentation to the next session of the Sub-Committee.

42. In accordance with the recommendation of the Sub-Committee, the secretariat report on ocean freight rates was presented to the United Nations Transport and Communications Commission at its eighth session, in January 1957. This Commission took note of the report (E/2948)⁵ and several members of the Commission made extensive comments on it.

Facilities for transit trade of land-locked countries

43. The Sub-Committee noted with interest the information furnished by a number of countries in the region on the facilities for transit trade which they provided to their neighbouring countries. With a view to improving transit facilities for the trade of land-locked countries, the Sub-Committee generally endorsed recommendations in the report of the secretariat on the subject (ECAFE/I&T/Sub.4/2), to the effect that (a) the countries which had not so far acceded to the Barcelona Convention and Statute on Freedom of Transit should consider doing so, (b) the countries concerned should negotiate bilateral agreements in conformity with the principles laid down in the Barcelona Statute, the Havana Charter and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, (c) officials dealing with transit trade should be adequately trained, and (d) countries should improve their transport systems which would increase facilities for transit trade between neighbouring countries.

Inter-regional trade consultations

44. The Sub-Committee noted that certain member countries favoured inter-regional trade consultations on the grounds that these would provide supplementary machinery for trade promotion and enable under-developed countries to overcome organizational and financial limitations involved in the other means of promoting trade. It was recognized that participation in such trade consultations should not be compulsory.

45. The Sub-Committee further noted that certain other countries considered that inter-regional trade consultations would not provide effective means of pro-

⁵ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-third Session, Supplement No. 3.

moting trade and would involve an unwarrantable diversion of the resources of the Commission and the participating Governments. These countries suggested that before any decision in favour of these consultations was taken, an attempt should be made to define more precisely the particular problems with which they were intended to deal.

Intra-regional trade

46. The Sub-Committee noted that substantial scope for expansion of intra-regional trade in certain minerals and in marine products was indicated by statements of a number of delegations on the availability for export of various kinds of commodities in their countries. It recommended that the secretariat should continue to explore methods of expanding international trade and particularly of removing obstacles to trade.

47. A suggestion was made that, as an initial experiment, trade promotion talks among interested member countries might be convened on an intra-regional basis, and that the secretariat should explore the possibility of arranging for intra-regional trade promotion talks to take place during the next session of the Sub-Committee.

Market analysis

48. In conformity with the practice of carrying out market analysis of a selected commodity at each of its sessions, the Sub-Committee considered the secretariat report entitled "Development of the coconut industry and its problems in countries in the ECAFE region" (ECAFE/I&T/Sub.4/4) as well as reports by Governments. The Sub-Committee noted that stabilization of prices, quality stabilization of copra, increased production of coconut, greater utilization of by-products and improvement of warehousing facilities were among the pressing problems confronting the coconut industry, and it requested the secretariat to continue to co-operate with FAO in further studies on the subject. The secretariat accordingly participated in the FAO Working Party on coconut and coconut products, which met at Colombo in January 1957.

International fairs and exhibitions

49. The Sub-Committee endorsed the recommendations embodied in the secretariat study (ECAFE/I&T/Sub.4/5) and the note by the International Chamber of Commerce (ECAFE/I&T/Sub.4/NGO/1) on such specific subjects as the duration of fairs, the reservation of certain periods at fairs for the exclusive use of buyers, rentals for exhibition space and stands, treatment of fair grounds as bonded warehouses, accession to the International Convention to Facilitate the Importation of Commercial Samples and Advertising Materials, and affiliation with the Union of International Fairs. It noted that many countries of the region had held trade fairs and had actively participated in those held within and outside the region, and that most of the above recommendations were being implemented. Some delegations, however, made reservations regarding the recommendations concerning the allocation of special quotas for the sale of goods in favour of exhibitors, the presen-

tation of exhibits on the basis of trade section, rather than national sections, and the ultimate abolition of visas for business men attending international fairs.

Training courses for trade promotion personnel

50. The Sub-Committee endorsed the proposals submitted by the secretariat for training courses for trade promotion personnel and expressed its appreciation of the offers made by India and Japan to provide host facilities for the training scheme in 1958. It also recommended that TAA should be urged to make available the financial assistance required for implementing the scheme. The Sub-Committee noted with satisfaction the offers made by several countries outside the region to send lecturers and experts for the proposed training courses.

51. It recognized that the proposed training courses were modest and inadequate in relation to the needs of the ECAFE countries, and requested the secretariat to explore the possibility of establishing a training centre for trade promotion personnel on a long-term basis.

ECAFE/ILO/UNESCO INTER-SECRETARIAT WORKING PARTY ON TRAINED PERSONNEL FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

52. At its sixth meeting held at Calcutta in January 1957, the Working Party reviewed the progress made on manpower planning and budgeting in the countries of the region, and noted the preparation by the ILO of a guide for manpower surveys which could be used by administrators and technicians in developing their employment and information services. It hoped that the countries of the region would take full advantage of training courses sponsored by the ILO.

Training needs for developing mineral resources

53. The Working Party examined training needs for the development of mineral resources in the countries of the region and recommended that adequate training facilities should be provided to meet not only the current demand but also the long-term requirements. It emphasized that technical personnel required for developing mineral resources covered a wide range of activities and that lack of balance might often result if sufficient attention were not given to the entire range. While the training of young persons for mining professions was important, attention should also be given to retaining those already in the profession. The Working Party emphasized the importance of field work and surveying in training geologists. Since the universities in the region were generally short of necessary funds, the Working Party urged that the Governments should make more liberal provision for training programmes. Shortages in suitable teaching staff, it was considered, might be partly overcome by employing domestic and foreign experts for short periods or for part-time jobs.

Training needs for developing of electric power

54. The Working Party noted that the current acute shortage of trained personnel was slowing down many electric power projects in the countries of the region.

Over-all manpower surveys and forecasts in the context of proposed plans were considered essential. The Working Party stressed the need for establishing adequate vocational training schools and in-service training of technical personnel. Emphasis was laid on the usefulness of organizing meetings in each country to enable technicians to discuss their experiences in constructing, operating and maintaining power plants and transmission lines. The Working Party also recommended the exchange of visits by trained personnel in different fields within a country as well as between countries.

Management training

55. The Working Party reviewed the progress in the field of management training facilities in the countries of the region and recommended that greater efforts should be made to develop a widespread consciousness of the need for such training. It noted that existing training courses concentrated on general management, so that adequate attention was not being given to training personnel in specialized management fields such as production, sales and supply, personnel, finance and office management. An inquiry by UNESCO into facilities in management training offered by universities and institutions of higher learning showed that they were very limited and that practical training in industrial management was inadequate. The need to adapt teaching to the culture of different countries was not sufficiently recognized. The Working Party noted that in a number of ECAFE countries there was a pronounced tendency to expand industrial activities in the public sector where, in the absence of competition, inefficient management practices might continue unchecked, forcing up production costs and prices. Special attention should be given to training managers of public enterprises, both at the top and at intermediate levels. The Working Party considered that, in any programme for developing and expanding management training facilities in ECAFE countries, special attention should be devoted to improving management practices in small and medium-sized industries.

Training needs for small-scale industries

56. The Working Party noted that, in spite of the growth of extension services and independent institutions for providing basic and long-term training for small-scale industries, certain deficiencies continued to exist in most Asian countries. It emphasized that training facilities should be related to existing or future employment opportunities in a given industry. The launching of training schemes in some countries of the region, without due regard for the capacity of an industry to absorb new trainees, had led to an imbalance in the development of particular skills. There was need for close co-ordination between extension services and research or training institutions, since the promotion and modernization of handicrafts and small-scale industries was dependent on the provision of training facilities. The Working Party considered that attention should be given not only to technological training but also to economic and organizational aspects. Among the various practical

problems involved in training schemes, the Working Party especially noted that training facilities tended to be concentrated in towns and urban areas although a large number of small undertakings were located in villages; it therefore recommended training on a geographically decentralized basis.

57. The Working Party reviewed schemes for the exchange of workers and for study and training abroad currently in operation under the sponsorship of the ILO and UNESCO. It noted that training in the use of small internal-combustion engines would greatly help in lessening manual drudgery and increasing productivity. It also considered training problems which arise from decentralized urban growth.

COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY AND TRADE

58. The Committee on Industry and Trade held its ninth session at Bangkok in March 1957 and considered the following agenda items: Report of the Sub-Committee on Trade; Report of the Sub-Committee on Electric Power; the findings of the Study Tour of Electric Power Experts of the ECAFE region to Europe and North America; Report of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development; Report of the Working Party of Senior Geologists on the Preparation of a Regional Geological Map for Asia and the Far East; Report of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials; Report of the ECAFE/ILO/UNESCO Inter-Secretariat Working Party on Trained Personnel for Economic Development; and the programme of work and priorities.⁶

Report of the Sub-Committee on Trade (E/CN.11/I&T/129 and Corr.1)

59. The Committee noted the statements of delegations on trade developments and trade policies in their countries. The Committee considered that a system of multilateral trade was preferable to bilateral and barter arrangements and that countries of the region would gain from trade on a global basis, with freedom to utilize their foreign exchange earnings in any market. The Committee noted that certain countries of the region had renewed existing, and entered into new bilateral trade or credit arrangements involving financial and technical co-operation. It recognized that, in the existing circumstances, a system of multilateral trade could not provide the answer to all the trading problems of economically under-developed countries, which were dependent on a limited number of export commodities and which experienced an almost chronic shortage of foreign exchange resources. It consequently appreciated that special, including bilateral and barter, arrangements could offer them an opportunity to dispose of their traditional exports and perhaps of some products which could not find an immediate market in a multilateral system as currently operated. These arrangements also enabled some countries to utilize additional sources of supply for certain essential requirements.

⁶ For the action taken on these agenda items by the Commission at its thirteenth session, see paragraphs 231 to 245.

Promotion of intra-regional trade

60. The Committee recognized that there was scope for the expansion of intra-regional trade without prejudice to world trade. Countries of the region would gain from freedom of choice to satisfy their requirements in the most competitive market on a global basis. At the same time an increase in intra-regional trade in harmony with existing international commitments, and the greater degree of regional economic co-operation which it would facilitate, could ultimately contribute to the expansion of world trade.

61. The Committee considered that the development of intra-regional trade in Europe and Latin America, and the plans for economic integration in these regions, might have an effect on the trade of the ECAFE region. It suggested that, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization (ICITO), the ECAFE secretariat should make a study at the appropriate time of the effects on the trade of countries of Asia and the Far East of any steps towards economic integration which may be taken in Europe.

62. With respect to a suggestion that the secretariat should explore the possibility of sponsoring trade promotion talks between interested member countries of the region, the Committee decided that the proposals of Japan to it on this matter should be transmitted to the Sub-Committee on Trade for its consideration.

Inter-regional trade consultations

63. It was the unanimous opinion of the Committee that inter-regional trade should be promoted to the maximum extent, and that positive measures should be taken to explore trading possibilities and to overcome practical difficulties in such expansion. The Committee noted that, while some countries favoured inter-regional trade consultations as a means of promoting such trade, many countries saw no advantage in them. The Committee therefore did not make any recommendations on the subject.

International trade fairs and exhibitions

64. The Committee noted with satisfaction the greater number of international fairs and exhibitions and increased participation in them by countries of the region. It recognized that in most countries in the ECAFE region a system of national pavilions was probably more appropriate than an arrangement by trade sections.

65. Interest was felt by the Committee in the successful organization by Japanese trading institutions, supported by the Government, of a floating fair which had recently visited the countries of the region. It considered that the feasibility of organizing a regional floating trade fair, in which interested member countries of the region would participate, deserved examination and that the experience of Japan would be useful. As a first step, it requested Japan to present a paper on its experience with the floating fair to the Sub-Committee on Trade for consideration at its next session.

Training courses for trade promotion personnel

66. The Committee supported the proposal to organize training courses for trade promotion personnel in India and Japan, and commended offers of assistance by the Governments of the two countries. It expressed the hope that necessary assistance would be made available through TAA.

67. The Committee recognized the usefulness of establishing a training centre for trade promotion personnel on a long-term basis, as proposed by some countries, and also noted the offer of the Government of Pakistan to provide facilities in the country for such a centre under the auspices of the United Nations. The Committee recognized, however, that substantial resources in terms of finance, personnel and organization would be required. It therefore requested the secretariat to examine such aspects of the proposals in the first instance.

Simplification of trade regulations and procedures

68. Note was taken of the progress achieved by several countries of the region in simplifying and relaxing regulations and procedures concerning the conduct of international trade and the Committee considered that a continuing review of progress in this field was desirable, particularly with a view to removing obstacles to trade which resulted from administrative practices. The Committee endorsed the proposal of the Sub-Committee on Trade to convene a working party of experts on specific aspects of customs procedures and formalities, and felt that in carrying out this work the secretariat should have the benefit of the experience of national and international organizations concerned with customs problems, in particular ICITO and the Customs Co-operation Council.

Shipping facilities and freight rates

69. The Committee had before it the views of the Sub-Committee on Trade and of the United Nations Transport and Communications Commission on the secretariat report on ocean freight rates (ECAFE/I&T/Sub. 4/3). The Committee noted statements by several delegations which expressed serious concern over continued increases in freight rates and the inadequacy of shipping facilities, which had been aggravated by the blocking of the Suez Canal. Payments for shipping services had imposed an increasing strain on the limited foreign exchange resources of the countries of the region. Inadequate port, railway and road clearing facilities and slow turn-round of ships resulted in congestion and delay at certain ports of the region, and contributed to the increase in the cost of shipping. Continued attention by countries of the region to improving such facilities would therefore contribute towards easing shipping difficulties.

70. It was noted that, in view of the acute shortage of shipping, the United States had already released a certain number of ships from its "mothball fleet" for commercial service, and it was hoped that the United States would consider further releases as occasion arose.

71. The Committee considered that the discussion had served a useful purpose in focusing attention on shipping

problems and difficulties faced by the countries of the region and that such review should be continued. The majority of members thought that this review should attempt to find ways of keeping freight rates at an equitable level. The Committee recommended that the secretariat, with the assistance of Governments, should continue to collect and disseminate information on the subject.

Transit problems of land-locked countries

72. The Committee recommended that land-locked countries should be given transit facilities in accordance with the provisions of the Barcelona Statute on Freedom of Transit, the Havana Charter and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, irrespective of membership. The Afghanistan and Laos delegations requested that the ECAFE secretariat should continue to study transit facilities of land-locked countries and explore regional and other approaches for removing transit obstacles and providing further facilities, in order to promote the economic development of land-locked countries.

Report of the Sub-Committee on Electric Power (E/CN.11/I&T/125)

73. The Committee endorsed the proposal of the Sub-Committee on Electric Power to convene a working group of experts on the assessment of hydro-electric power potentials of countries of the region. The Committee noted the progress in rural electrification made by several countries and considered that the secretariat should emphasize its future studies in the economic and financial aspects of rural electrification.

74. The Committee took note of developments in France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States of America in the production of electric power by nuclear reactors. It further noted that the use of atomic energy for generating electric power, though feasible, was not likely to be economical on a commercial basis in the immediate future in most countries of the region, and that the more immediate practical application of atomic energy in most parts of the region lay in the use of radio-active isotopes in medicine, agriculture and industry.

75. The hope was expressed that sufficient ratifications would be obtained in the near future to permit the early establishment of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and that the ECAFE secretariat would keep in touch with the Agency to ensure the dissemination of information relating to the use of nuclear energy for the generation of electric power and to training facilities for technicians to operate nuclear reactors.

Study Tour of Electric Power Experts

76. The Committee took note of the principal findings and recommendations of the Study Tour of Electric Power Experts to Europe and the United States of America and recommended that the final report of the group should be presented to the Sub-Committee on Electric Power, for detailed consideration at its next

session. The Committee expressed the view that the study tour had proved very instructive and useful.

Report of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (E/CN.11/I&T/128)

77. The Committee thought that the mineral development of the region would be substantially aided if exporting countries would liberalize their export regulations and importing countries would enter into long-term bulk transactions.

Mining legislation

78. Great importance was attached by the Committee to the study of mining legislation under preparation by the ECAFE secretariat and the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs at Headquarters. It expressed the hope that delegations to the next session of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, to which the study would be presented, would include persons concerned with the formulation and revision of mining laws in their countries. The Committee noted that the ILO had established a model safety code for mines, and that this and other relevant recommendations of the various industrial committees of the ILO would be made available to the secretariat.

Petroleum geology

79. The Committee endorsed a proposal that a symposium on petroleum geology for Asia and the Far East should be arranged to facilitate the exchange of information on oil-bearing areas of the region, on a survey of exploratory techniques, and on common problems. The Committee requested the Sub-Committee to consider this matter at its next session and to formulate the terms of reference of the symposium and the items to be included in the agenda.

Other sources of fuel

80. On the question of nuclear energy as a source of fuel, the Committee thought that the secretariat should continue to pay due consideration to conventional fuels and that petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas, in addition to solid fuels, should be included in its study. It also recommended that the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development should maintain close contact with the Sub-Committee on Electric Power in pursuing this project.

81. The Committee noted the importance attached by the Governments of India and Japan to the project on underground gasification of coal and also learnt of experiments conducted in the United Kingdom in this field. Since research work was still in an early stage, it thought, however, that ECAFE might not find it feasible to convene a working party on the subject at the present time.

Translation of technical literature

82. The Committee carefully examined the proposal, originally made by the Study Group of Geologists and

Mining Engineers which had visited western Europe and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in 1955, regarding the possibility of setting up a documentation centre to translate technical publications into English. The Committee thought that work of this nature might best be done by UNESCO. It considered, however, that the ECAFE secretariat could explore the possibility with UNESCO and meanwhile could usefully serve as a distribution centre. More advanced countries could make their important technical papers (either in English translation or in the original with an abstract in English) available to the ECAFE secretariat, for distribution in the region.

Report of the Working Party of Senior Geologists on the Preparation of a Regional Geological Map for Asia and the Far East (E/CN.11/I&T/126)

83. The Committee noted the progress achieved in the preparation of a regional geological map and expressed its appreciation to the Director of the Geological Survey of India, the co-ordinator of the project, and to the Government of India for making available the facilities of its Geological Survey. The Committee expressed its appreciation of the contributions made by China, India, Japan, Malaya and Thailand towards the expenses of the map and hoped that other countries would send in theirs at an early date. The Committee recommended that at a suitable stage the Working Party should also undertake the preparation of a regional tectonic map for Asia and the Far East.

Report of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials (E/CN.11/I&T/127 and Corr.1)

84. The Committee endorsed the report of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials and considered that its work should be further intensified. The recommendations of the Working Party that related to the financing of housing were particularly emphasized. While it was agreed that the recommendations of the Working Party deserved the prompt attention of the Governments of the region, some doubts were expressed as to the possibility of their early implementation in view of many other pressing problems calling for speedy solution, particularly those connected with accelerated economic development programmes. Among legislative provisions requiring revision at an early stage, the Committee attached importance to land acquisition laws, building codes and regulations, and taxation. It was agreed that greater attention should be given to the question of rent control but it was nevertheless considered that the possible relaxation or lifting of controls should not be allowed to contribute to an increase in rents beyond the ability of low-income groups to pay. The delegations of Pakistan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics were of the opinion that, in addition to the two regional housing centres already in operation, a third should be established under the auspices of the United Nations for countries in the dry tropical zone in the Asian region, and they requested that appropriate organizations take early action in this respect.

Report of the ECAFE/ILO/UNESCO Inter-Secretariat Working Party on Trained Personnel for Economic Development (E/CN.11/I&T/131)

85. The Committee generally endorsed the recommendations of the Working Party, which covered various technical fields. It laid special stress on the need to develop facilities for training in specialized aspects of management and on the personnel needs of small-scale industries. In the field of mineral resources, the Committee endorsed the recommendation that universities and technical institutions should be enabled to draw, to some extent, on technical personnel in geology and mining departments of Governments and on their laboratory facilities. In the field of electric power, the Committee stressed the need for forecasting future personnel requirements, for co-operative training arrangements for small power plants, for in-service training, and for detailed instruction books for employees concerning different items of plant operation and maintenance.

86. The Committee noted with satisfaction that a guide for the use of experts in conducting manpower surveys and employment information programmes had been prepared by the ILO and that it would be made available to the countries of the region. The Committee drew attention to the Asian regional employment information training course and the regional seminar on supervisory training courses to be conducted by the ILO in 1957 and recommended that the countries of the region should take advantage of them.

87. The Committee endorsed the suggestion of the Working Party that the training needs and problems of the countries of the region could be more effectively discussed by various technical sub-committees and working parties of ECAFE. It was thought that participation to the extent possible, by the ILO and UNESCO in these technical meetings, as well as in those of the Commission and the Committee on Industry and Trade, would result in a more effective contribution with respect to both policy and implementation. The Committee also noted that the Working Party would in future be convened on an *ad hoc* basis to discuss measures of co-ordination between the ECAFE secretariat, the ILO and UNESCO.

Programme of work and priorities

88. The Committee considered the notes presented by the Executive Secretary on the work programme and priorities (ECAFE/L.121, ECAFE/10, ECAFE/11), with particular reference to the need for concentration of effort and for "streamlining" the work programme. In the light of the criteria suggested by the Executive Secretary, the Committee recommended a revised work programme, omitting a number of projects, consolidating others and revising the priorities of a few.

INLAND TRANSPORT

89. The meetings of the Inland Transport Committee, and of related subsidiary bodies,⁷ held during the period under review, are shown below together with the names of officers:

⁷ For the action taken by the Committee on the reports of these bodies, see paragraphs 104 to 110.

Railway Sub-Committee (fourth session)	25 March - 1 April 1956
<i>Chairman:</i> Mr. G. Pande (India)	
<i>Vice-Chairman:</i> Mr. C. G. Harrison (Malaya and British Borneo)	
ECAFE/FAO Working Party on Railway Track (Wooden) Sleepers	13 - 19 December 1956
<i>Chairman:</i> Mr. Khid Suvarnnarsuddhi (Thailand)	
<i>Vice-Chairman:</i> Mr. E. F. Draper (Malaya)	
Inland Transport Committee (sixth session)	15 - 21 February 1957
<i>Chairman:</i> U Soe Maung (Burma)	
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i> Mr. C. G. Harrison (Malaya and British Borneo); Mr. Abdoelmoettalip Danoeningrat (Indonesia)	

RAILWAY SUB-COMMITTEE

90. At its fourth session, held at New Delhi in March and April 1956, the Railway Sub-Committee considered technical as well as economic aspects of rail transport, particularly with respect to diesel locomotives and railcars, and the economic utilization of carrying capacity.

Diesel locomotives and railcars

91. The Sub-Committee noted that diesel power was being used increasingly by the railways of the region and that technical studies would continue to be required, in view of plans for future development in this field. It emphasized the need for a freer flow of knowledge and experience from the more advanced countries for the benefit of the countries of the region. It noted the recommendations of the expert working group that had been appointed at its last session to consider various technical aspects of diesel locomotives and railcars and requested continuation of its studies, with a view to assisting small railways in the region to evaluate economic or technical factors determining the use of diesel power.

Economic use of carrying capacity

92. Problems relating to the economic utilization of available carrying capacity, including the turn-round of freight rolling-stock, were also considered by the Sub-Committee. Further problems faced by the region related to methods adopted for distributing freight cars so as to reduce haulage of empty wagons; operation of marshalling yards and terminals, from the point of view of train formation and type of switching, such as locomotive propulsion, gravitation, and mechanical wagon retarding; reduction of rolling-stock detention; and communication facilities. The Sub-Committee recommended certain studies to be undertaken by the secretariat. It also discussed the statistical evaluation of performance, considering it more realistic to use wagon-kilometres and net ton-kilometres per wagon-day as the true measure of performance than to compare turn-round data expressed in terms of days on different railways. The further studies recommended on specified aspects included repair and maintenance of rolling-stock, improvement in wagon design with special reference to the attainment of

higher speeds and increased capacity, prevention of hot axle-boxes, wagon control organization, terminal and yard operation, and telecommunication systems.

Prevention of railway accidents

93. The Sub-Committee attached great importance to the secretariat studies currently under way on the incidence of railway accidents and measures for their prevention. Since the problem of preventing accidents involves human factors, the co-operation of the ILO with the secretariat in this study was considered desirable, and the ILO agreed to provide this. The Sub-Committee stressed the importance of maintaining satisfactory accident statistics, based on compiling and reporting procedures standardized to ensure uniformity, comparability and precision, and emphasized the need for adequate train inspection teams and education of the staff concerned. Since adequate standards for inspecting trains are an essential element in accident prevention programmes, the Sub-Committee decided that the secretariat should give special attention to this aspect in its studies.

Locomotive boiler water treatment

94. On the basis of a draft report by the secretariat, the Sub-Committee discussed the action of impurities in raw water on locomotive boilers, and steps required for efficient operation. It surveyed present conditions, on a country-by-country basis, in regard to sources of water and raw water treatment specifications and discussed types of tractive rolling-stock. Important appliances currently available were also noted. The Sub-Committee concluded that specifications in water analysis in relation to choice of the quantity of units should include the determination of hardness, acidity and alkalinity, the chloride and silica content, and the electrical conductivity of the water. Various methods of treating raw water for control of scaling, corrosion, priming and caustic embrittlement were examined. The Sub-Committee also made recommendations regarding basic specifications for the treatment of water to obtain optimum results and the determination of treatment conditions, including the use of certain appliances for the purpose. The secretariat's draft study on the subject was revised

in the light of the discussions of the Sub-Committee and was issued in printed form.⁸

Railway training centre

95. The Sub-Committee noted that, during three years of operation, the United Nations Training Centre for Railway Operating and Signalling Officials at Lahore had achieved progress in regard to both governmental participation and instruction. From indications given by the countries, the Sub-Committee concluded that for the next three or four years there would be an assured number of trainees for an instructional course with two sessions a year. The Sub-Committee was of the opinion that the training centre was fulfilling the purpose for which it had been set up and that the Governments of the region were increasingly appreciative of its value. Although participation so far by governments of the Middle East, to which training facilities were open, had been rather limited, the Sub-Committee was hopeful that it would be greater in the future. The Sub-Committee appreciated the fact that thought was being given to the gradual transfer of responsibility for running the centre to the host government, thus relieving TAA of the greater part of the financial burden.

ECAFE/FAO WORKING PARTY ON RAILWAY TRACK (WOODEN) SLEEPERS

96. This joint Working Party, which met at Bangkok in December 1956, examined the question of the standardization of wooden track sleepers and the possible relaxation of specifications because of the increasing scarcity of acceptable types of durable wood for use as railway sleepers. It considered particularly the standardization of sizes and shapes to fit various railway gauges. Prolongation of the life of sleepers by treatment of sapwood, by better maintenance and use of hitherto unacceptable species after preservative treatment, and by higher efficiency in production, were considered essential for easing the difficult supply position. The Working Party made detailed recommendations for relaxing standard specifications of sleepers. Other important aspects of railway track structure recommended for study included sizes of track components such as rails, sleeper spacings, depth of ballast and soil pressure distribution below ballast.

HIGHWAY SUB-COMMITTEE

97. The Highway Sub-Committee did not meet during the period under review. The fourth session of the Sub-Committee, to be held in August 1957, will be preceded by a seminar at Tokyo on engineering and traffic aspects of highway safety. The national and international agencies interested in highway safety have responded favourably to the invitation of the ECAFE secretariat for their active participation. They are expected to submit technical studies for discussion at the seminar. The secretariat has been preparing a paper on highway safety terminology to assist in standardizing definitions.

⁸ *Locomotive boiler water treatment* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1956.II.F.6).

Bituminous construction

98. Bituminous construction, a widely adopted type of highway surfacing in the ECAFE region, has been the subject of study by the secretariat during the past two years. On the basis of such studies and of similar country studies instituted by some Governments in the region, the Highway Sub-Committee had recommended the preparation of a summary and analysis of the results of recent research and experiments carried out both within and outside the region. A glossary of technical terminology has also been in preparation to promote more precise understanding of techniques among the countries of the region.

Low-cost roads

99. In order to overcome the acute inadequacy of road networks to meet increasing demand arising from economic development in the region, most Governments have been actively studying the possibility of developing low-cost roads, taking into consideration budgetary and other limitations. In accordance with the emphasis placed by the Highway Sub-Committee on the need for such studies, the secretariat has undertaken comprehensive documentation for various technical aspects of the problem. In view of the wide regional interest in this project and the progress made in developing techniques, a seminar on low-cost roads and soil stabilization, as recommended by the Highway Sub-Committee, is to be held in 1958. The secretariat has been collecting information for this seminar on standards adopted and methods employed by Governments within the region for constructing and maintaining low-cost roads, including the results of laboratory and field experiments on soil stabilization.

Highway financing and administration

100. Other activities in the field of highways included study and review by the secretariat of current methods of highway financing and highway administration in the region, and standard designs and specifications for roads and bridges. Another study, on various aspects of national highway systems, is expected to aid directly in the construction of international highways to connect countries of the region for economic and social development.

INLAND WATERWAY SUB-COMMITTEE

101. The Inland Waterway Sub-Committee did not meet during the period under review; its next session is to be held in October 1957.

Convention regarding inland navigation vessels

102. The Convention regarding the Measurement and Registration of Vessels employed in Inland Navigation, the final text of which was agreed upon at the third session of the Sub-Committee in October 1955, was signed at Bangkok on 22 June 1956. The signatories were the Governments of Cambodia, the Republic of China, Indonesia, Laos, Thailand and the Republic of

Viet-Nam. The document has been deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and is open for accession by other States.

Training Centre for Diesel Marine Mechanics

103. The first course at the ILO/ECAFE Training Centre for Diesel Marine Mechanics opened in April 1956 with a full complement of 24—12 from Burma and 12 from other countries of the region. Donations of equipment, covering practically all items required, were received from member countries. An Advisory Board has been set up to make periodic recommendations concerning the work and development of the centre.

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

104. The Inland Transport Committee at its sixth session, held at Bangkok in February 1957, reviewed the work of the Sub-Committees and the secretariat relating to railways, highways and inland waterways. The Committee paid special attention to co-ordination of transport, statistics on the performance of transport systems, refrigeration, mechanization of accounts, library services, telecommunications and developments of international travel and tourism.⁹

Co-ordination of transport

105. On the basis of a secretariat report (TRANS/81), the Committee reached agreement on (a) general principles for calculating comparative costs to be taken into account in co-ordination studies of all means of transport, including coastal shipping; and (b) methods to be adopted for calculating costs for various means of transport: railways, roads, inland waterways, coastal shipping and pipelines. The Committee recommended that a working party should be convened in 1957 or early 1958, with a view to examining in detail the problem of comparative costs and other aspects of co-ordination of transport, such as (i) rates and tariffs in countries of the ECAFE region; (ii) value of the services to users; (iii) principles and methods for co-ordination of transport.

Refrigerator inland transport

106. The Committee considered a report by the secretariat (ECAFE/TRANS/11) on refrigerator inland transport and made recommendations on the classification of perishable foodstuffs and the optimum conditions for their storage and transport, pre-cooling, insulating materials, design of refrigerator vehicles, and choice of refrigerants and refrigerated containers. The Committee emphasized that the peculiarities of refrigerator inland transport in tropical climates like those in the ECAFE region demanded special attention to insulation, water-ice bunkers, refrigerating units, protection against wind-borne sand and humidity, outside painting and coatings, and protection against termites.

⁹ For the action taken on these agenda items by the Commission at its thirteenth session, see paragraphs 255 to 273.

Telecommunications

107. In pursuance of the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session, recommending the expansion of the terms of reference of the Inland Transport Committee, consultations were held by the secretariat with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) with a view to developing co-operation between ECAFE and ITU. A resolution adopted by the Administrative Council of ITU at its eleventh session instructed the Secretary-General of ITU to address a circular letter to the Governments of all members and associate members of ECAFE on the role of ITU and the extent to which it could assist them in the development of telecommunications.

108. The Committee noted that, as a result of consultations between the Executive Secretary of ECAFE and the Secretary-General of ITU, action had been initiated for undertaking studies on telecommunications and ITU might make the services of one of its experts available to the ECAFE secretariat for this purpose in 1958 under the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. The Committee emphasized the need for development of telecommunication systems in the region, and felt that the ECAFE secretariat could direct the attention of Governments to the telecommunication needs of the region, especially for means of speedy communication between member countries of the region and with the outside world. The useful role of ITU in promoting the development of telecommunications and the scope for fruitful co-operation between ECAFE and ITU were recognized as important factors in contributing towards economic development. In order to avoid overlapping, the respective roles of ECAFE and ITU were defined in the following resolution adopted by the Inland Transport Committee (E/CN.11/450) at its sixth session:

"The Inland Transport Committee,

"Considering the urgent need for improvement of telecommunications systems in the ECAFE region, especially those affecting regional telecommunications,

"Believing that the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East can play a useful role in focusing attention of Governments on the telecommunications needs of the region, especially as a means of providing speedy communications between member countries of the region and between the region and the outside world,

"Realizing that the International Telecommunication Union is the appropriate agency for promoting the development of telecommunications,

"Recognizing the scope for useful co-operation between the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East and the International Telecommunication Union in the development of telecommunications in the region in the promotion of economic development,

"1. Requests the Executive Secretary to approach the International Telecommunication Union and the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration

with a view to their providing expert technical assistance as early as possible under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance for the preparation of a study of regional and national telecommunication requirements in the ECAFE region, taking account of the economic development needs of the area generally and, specifically, of the need for regional telecommunication links, the urgent needs of transport and the possibility of establishing regional and national training centres for training personnel;

"2. *Suggests* that the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East and the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union convene jointly, as early as practicable, a conference of member and associate member Governments of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East with a view to considering the expert report and formulating recommendations for further action."

Travel and tourism

109. The Committee welcomed the increasing co-operation between the ECAFE secretariat and the East Asia Travel Commission, established in Tokyo in January 1956 as recommended by the International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO) at its tenth international Conference and General Assembly in October

Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (second meeting)

17 - 28 September 1956

Chairman: U Mo Myit (Burma)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. P. J. Lawler (Australia)

Mr. Bundit Kantabutra (Thailand)

112. During its second meeting, held at Bangkok, the Working Party gave special consideration to development policies and the means of implementing development programmes. For this purpose it examined, in addition to a comprehensive document prepared by the secretariat and a number of other papers, sixteen working papers submitted by participating Governments. The Working Party's discussion constituted a broad review of policies and means of implementation with respect to the following topics: (a) Major policy questions in economic development: resolving possible conflict between objectives; determining the general approach; deciding on the character and extent of planning and programming; (b) Direct means of implementation by Governments: the role of public investment; the magnitude and pattern of public investment; forms and problems of organization and administration in public and semi-public enterprise; (c) Indirect means of implementation: promoting or regulating private action; monetary and credit policy; fiscal policy and taxation; foreign trade, exchange and invest-

1955, and looked forward to the establishment of a second regional travel commission to be sponsored by the Government of India. The Committee noted that increasing information was being sought by Governments of the region on tourist and travel agency commissions and other matters relating to the development of the tourist trade and that IUOTO was co-operating with the ECAFE secretariat to meet these needs.

110. In view of the importance attached by the Economic and Social Council to the development of international travel as a major factor in promoting international understanding and cultural relationships, in fostering international trade and in furthering economic development, the Committee requested the ECAFE secretariat to continue to keep under review the support given by Governments to official travel organizations, including the measures adopted by them to simplify frontier formalities, to facilitate tourism and to promote the exchange between countries of technical advice on tourist travel.

RESEARCH AND PLANNING

WORKING PARTY ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

111. The dates of the meeting of the Working Party and its officers were as follows:

ment policy; direct controls over specific prices, quantities, and priorities; social and institutional policies; interrelation and co-ordination of these indirect means. The Working Party adopted a report (ECAFE/L.114) setting forth the views of the meeting on the wide range of topics discussed; this appeared in the November 1956 issue of the *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East* (vol. VII, No. 3). The Working Party recommended that its meeting in 1957 should be held in collaboration with FAO and should discuss problems and techniques of agricultural development planning and implementation in relation to economic development as a whole and particularly to industrialization. This recommendation was endorsed by the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Far East, held at Bandung in October 1956.

JOINT UN/UNESCO SEMINAR ON URBANIZATION

113. The dates of the seminar and its officers were as follows:

Joint UN/UNESCO Seminar on Urbanization 8-18 August 1956

Chairmen: Luang Chart Trakarnkosol (Thailand)

Mr. E. Soeparman (Indonesia)

Mr. Pham-Gia-Hien (Viet-Nam)

Mr. W. S. Barlingay (India)

Mr. A. F. Nabi Baksh (Pakistan)

General Rapporteur: Mr. Philip M. Hauser

(United States of America)

114. The Seminar on Urbanization in the ECAFE region, which met at Bangkok, was sponsored jointly by UNESCO, the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs and the ECAFE secretariat, in co-operation with the ILO. The purpose of the seminar was to throw light on problems arising from the rapid growth of cities in Asia and the Far East, and to consider possible approaches to the solution of such problems. Twenty-five participants designated by the Governments of members and associate members of the Commission were present, in addition to experts attending under the auspices of the agencies concerned, and observers. The economic, social and physical aspects of urbanization were considered. Among the documents prepared as a basis for discussion, the ECAFE secretariat contributed two papers,

"Economic causes and implications of urbanization in the recent experience of countries in Asia and the Far East" and "Economic development policies in relation to types, scale and location of industries as a factor likely to influence urbanization trends in ECAFE countries". The conclusions endorsed during the seminar, together with the general rapporteur's summary report, are included in document UNESCO/SS/19, published in Paris in December 1956.

FOURTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATISTICIANS

115. The dates of the meeting of the conference and its officers were as follows:

Fourth Regional Conference of Statisticians 29 March - 7 April 1956

Chairman: Mr. M. C. Athiporn P. Kasemsri
(Thailand)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. B. Ramamurti (India)

116. The 1960 world programme of population and related censuses was the main subject considered at the conference, which was conducted jointly with the Statistical Office of the United Nations and was held at Bangkok. The conference considered the draft international recommendation on the population census programme prepared by the Statistical Office of the United Nations; this included census organization, census schedules, types of data to be collected, definition and classification of data, tabulation of census data, interrelation of various censuses and the application of sampling techniques. It recommended that efforts should be made by all Governments of the region to take a population census during the decade 1956 to 1966, preferably in or about 1960. The question of a housing census was also discussed. The conference considered ways and means of intensifying activities directed towards the further development of statistical standards and the improvement of statistics, and recommended to the Statistical Commission and ECAFE that the Regional Conference of Statisticians should be reconstituted as the Conference of Asian Statisticians and its work programme organized on a regular and continuing basis.

B. Secretariat activities

117. This section of the report covers activities of the secretariat other than those directly connected with the work of the organs listed in section A above.

BUREAU OF FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

Flood control and development of international rivers

118. In accordance with the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session, the secretariat pooled its resources in this field and concentrated its efforts on a reconnaissance survey and field investigation of the lower Mekong basin, that is, the part of the basin which is located within Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and southern Viet-Nam. In addition to its own staff members, the

secretariat was able to secure from member countries the services of experts in the field of water resources to serve as consultants. The Governments of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and the Republic of Viet-Nam co-operated fully and furnished many facilities to the team. The investigation covered the main stream of the Mekong river from the Great Lake to upstream of Vientiane, over a distance of 1,300 kilometres, concentrating particularly on that part of the river which forms the common border of Laos and Thailand. Special studies were made of the sites which appeared to be most promising for the development of power and irrigation, the improvement of navigation, or the detention and storage of flood flow. Special problems, such as transportation and power requirements, were also examined.

119. The report by the team, entitled "Development of water resources in the lower Mekongbasin" (ECAFE/L.119), examines all phases of the use and control of water in the lower basin, including water power, navigation, irrigation and flood control, and discusses a number of multiple-purpose projects considered technically feasible and economically attractive. Expected economic benefits from these projects are assessed in their general order of magnitude. For example, these projects when completed might be expected to save over a million hectares of land from floods, to irrigate large tracts of cultivable land, to furnish about 32,000 million kilowatt-hours of electric power annually at a cost of only some 0.23 U.S. cents per kilowatt-hour and to provide exportable products to the value of about U.S. \$ 300 million a year. Each of the projects, even if located entirely within one country, would directly or indirectly benefit two or more of the countries through which the Mekong flows. The report also indicates in detail what additional basic data are required for further planning and suggests joint measures and common standards for securing basic data from all countries located in the lower Mekong basin. The team also recommended a series of stages in developing the sites and the steps to be taken in preparing detailed plans.

Multiple-purpose river basin development

120. Subsequent to the survey of water resources development in Ceylon, China (Taiwan), Japan and the Philippines which was published in 1956,¹⁰ a similar publication containing water resources surveys of Burma, India and Pakistan was issued in February 1957.¹¹

Dissemination of technical information

121. Four issues of the *Flood Control Journal* were published during the year under review. The primary objective of these was to keep flood control engineers of the region informed about flood conditions and flood problems, activities in control being carried out within and outside the region, and related problems. Since multiple-purpose river valley development projects have been undertaken in several countries of the region and there has been a gradual shift of emphasis from flood control to multiple-purpose river basin development, the scope of the journal is being expanded. Its distribution to technical organizations in the region has been increased, and more articles have been contributed by experts and technical organizations in member Governments.

122. As noted above, publication of the *Flood Control Series*, containing special studies of common interest in the field of flood control and water resources development, has continued. Besides the publications mentioned, several reports were distributed during the year under review to various national technical organizations in countries of the region, at their request. Data on specific subjects were also supplied. The *Manual of River Basin Planning*,¹² published by the Secretariat in 1955, has been translated by the Governments concerned into Chinese and Japanese.

Training Centre for Water Resources Development

123. The Training Centre for Water Resources Development, organized by the University of Roorkee in India, started its regular courses in April 1956. Six trainees from the region participated in the course, under fellowships from TAA. The ECAFE secretariat provided a staff member to deliver a course of lectures on selected economic and financial aspects of river basin development, and to render advisory services on the establishment of a suitable library in the centre.

Hydrologic observations and hydraulic research stations

124. The Economic and Social Council, when considering the subject of international co-operation with respect to water resources development, endorsed the recommendations of the Secretary-General that high priority should be given to remedying deficiencies in hydrologic data. In the light of the Council's resolution 599 (XXI), a joint study by the ECAFE secretariat and

the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) on major deficiencies in hydrologic data is being prepared for use as a background paper for the forthcoming third regional technical conference on water resources development, to be held late in 1957. The *Glossary of Hydrologic Terms used in Asia and the Far East*, prepared with the assistance of a working group of experts, has been issued.¹³

125. With a view to promoting facilities for research in hydraulic problems in the region, work was continued on the compilation and publication of information about the work of the research stations in the region and important changes in their equipment.

Improvement in flood control methods

126. In regard to the problem of sediment control, studies on the silting and scouring of rivers and canals, undertaken jointly with hydraulic research stations in India and Thailand, were continued. The secretariat study, *The Sediment Problem*,¹⁴ has been translated into German by a German author at the request of the Bavarian Department of Hydraulics, for its own use.

Organization for the development of river basins

127. A study has been undertaken on problems relating to the form of organization for planning, execution and operation of river basin projects in comprehensive river basin development. In the preparation of the country-by-country surveys of water resources development, information on organizational patterns in several countries has been collected, and a comparative study of various forms of organization has been initiated. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 599 (XXI) on international co-operation with respect to water resources development, requested the Secretary-General "to constitute a panel of world renowned experts for reviewing, with the assistance of the United Nations Secretariat, the administrative, economic and social implications of integrated river basin development". As the work of the panel, which has now been organized, is likely to have a bearing on this project, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at United Nations Headquarters is being consulted with a view to ensuring proper co-ordination.

RESEARCH AND PLANNING DIVISION

Review and analysis of the current economic situation

128. The *Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1956*¹⁵ consisted, as before, of two main parts, divided into nineteen chapters. Part I, devoted to the regional situation, opened with an account of current economic developments under the following headings: agricultural production, industrial production and transport, trade and payments, finance and prices, and development

¹⁰ *Flood Control Series No. 8*; United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1956.II.F.2.

¹¹ *Flood Control Series No. 11*; United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1956.II.F.8.

¹² *Flood Control Series No. 7*; United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1955.II.F.1.

¹³ *Flood Control Series No. 10*; United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1956.II.F.7.

¹⁴ *Flood Control Series No. 5*; United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1953.II.F.7.

¹⁵ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.1.

planning and implementation. Part I also contained a summary of the salient features of the economic development plans of countries of the region — the periods they cover, their scope and general character, their magnitude, composition and means of financing, and the planning and programming techniques employed. Part II presented seventeen country surveys, with emphasis on current developments so far as the available data permitted. Also included in the *Survey* as appendices were recent Asian economic statistics, and a summary of trade agreements concluded in 1956.

129. The quarterly *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East* was issued as usual in May, August and November 1956; the February 1957 number consisted of the *Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1956* described above. With the co-operation of statistical offices of the Governments of the region, current data have been obtained regularly, permitting compilation and publication in the *Economic Survey* and the *Economic Bulletin* of Asian economic statistics, including general tables on production, transport, external trade, prices, employment and wages, and currency and banking, as well as special annual tables on demography, agricultural production, transport, international payments, government budgets and national income. The May 1956 issue of the *Economic Bulletin* included articles on "Population and food supply in Asia and the Far East" and "Economic concepts of budget deficits"; there was also a new section containing abridgements or summaries of selected reports of ECAFE meetings. The August 1956 issue presented the customary semi-annual review of the economic situation in the region. The November 1956 issue, following the practice begun in 1955, was a special number entitled *Economic Development and Planning in Asia and the Far East: Policies and Means of Implementation*, which contained the "Report of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (second meeting) to the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (thirteenth session)" and a secretariat study entitled "Development policies and means of implementing development programmes, with special reference to ECAFE countries".

Foreign investment laws

130. A report entitled "Laws and regulations affecting foreign investment in Asia and the Far East" (ECAFE/L.122) was issued, which brought up to date, with an introductory analysis, the earlier secretariat study, *Foreign Investment Laws and Regulations of the countries of Asia and the Far East*.¹⁶ The question of its further revision, with a view to publication, is under consideration.

Statistical guide

131. The secretariat completed and published a "Guide to Asian economic statistics" (E/CN.11/447). This guide includes a brief description of most of the statistical series available in English or French for countries in Asia and the Far East, giving the name of the

compiler, the periodicity and time coverage of each series and the major publications in which the series appear. The series are grouped, wherever possible, according to the main categories of the International Standard Industrial Classification and the Standard International Trade Classification. The subjects include agriculture, forestry and fisheries; mining; manufacturing production, number of manufacturing establishments and installed capacity; building and construction; electricity and gas; transport; communications; labour; foreign trade; balance of payments; inventories and consumption of commodities; commodity prices and price indexes; public finance; currency and banking; and national income.

Methods of estimating capital formation

132. The first draft of a report on methods of estimating capital formation in the ECAFE region, completed in 1956, discusses the conceptual and practical problems involved in making such estimates in countries of Asia and the Far East by means of either the commodity-flow approach or the investment-expenditure approach. Special attention is paid to the social and economic background in the countries, and to the availability and reliability of basic statistics. Problems in estimating the provision to be made for consumption of fixed capital and the ways in which capital formation is financed are also discussed. The final report is expected to be completed and issued early in 1958.

Statistical organization

133. A third report, "Statistical organization and activities in countries of Asia and the Far East (1953-1956)" (E/CN.11/448), presents in summary form the data supplied by Governments on changes in statistical organization, new or more highly developed statistical activities, developments in statistical education and new statistical publications.

Special statistical compilations

134. In addition to the regular compilation and publication of the Asian economic statistics, and other statistical work in connexion with various secretariat studies, a number of special compilations were made in 1956. These included a regional index of industrial production, regional quantum and unit value indexes of all imports and exports, and regional quantum and unit value indexes of exports of primary products, which are to be published quarterly. Imports of all countries in the region were reclassified into four categories — consumption goods, materials chiefly for consumption goods, materials chiefly for capital goods, and capital goods — for a series to be published semi-annually. This work was carried out in collaboration with the Statistical Office of the United Nations and the specialized agencies concerned.

ECAFE/FAO DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE

135. In the period under review, this Division prepared sections relating to agricultural production for the semi-

¹⁶ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1951.II.F.1.

annual and annual economic surveys of ECAFE and contributed a section to the ECAFE study on multiple-purpose river basin development.

136. The Division participated in the Centre on Agricultural Financing and Credit sponsored by the Government of Pakistan, ECAFE and FAO, which was held at Lahore in October 1956. For this purpose, it prepared a study dealing with the agricultural credit problems of small farm-holders in the ECAFE region, and an officer of the Division served as Assistant Director of the Centre. The agenda of the Centre covered a wide range of subjects, including development finance in an underdeveloped rural economy, savings and capital formation in agriculture, agricultural credit systems, interrelation between agricultural credit and marketing, financial aspects of land settlement and land reform, survey of rural credit and training of personnel.

137. The Division has begun the collection and preliminary study of available statistics bearing on the relations between agricultural and industrial development. In this connexion, special attention is being paid to Economic and Social Council resolutions 560 (XIX) and 630 A I (XXII).

138. In the Division's studies of price and income elasticity of demand for rice and other cereals, emphasis was shifted from an attempt to arrive at definite elasticity estimates to an analysis of the suitability for nationwide elasticity calculations of the data available in various countries. The results of the study were presented in a paper which was made available to the first meeting of the Consultative Sub-Committee on Economic Aspects of Rice (a Sub-Committee of the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems).

139. Following the completion of a study of food and agricultural price policies in countries of the Far East (ECAFE/L.87), the Division has assembled and analysed more recent information country by country. Factors determining price policies, such as the general economy and the food situation, institutions for domestic and export marketing, price trends for food and other agricultural products, and the effects of price policies in relation to production, consumption, trade and farm income, are being analysed. It is proposed to hold a joint FAO/ECAFE seminar on agricultural price policies in 1958.

140. Collection of information relating to the marketing of agricultural products was continued, and advice was given to a number of national institutions interested in undertaking studies on the domestic marketing of major agricultural commodities. The Division also assisted in a secretariat study on coconut and coconut products. Sugar, rice and tobacco are among the products proposed for study in the future, with emphasis on domestic and intra-regional marketing.

141. Preparatory work has been done on a study of methods of agricultural planning in countries of the region.

DIVISION OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS

142. The work of the Division of Social Affairs followed the principles laid down in Economic and

Social Council resolution 630 A I (XXII), regarding further concentration of activities on major problems and more efficient co-ordination.

143. The Division concerned itself with social aspects of economic projects in the Commission's, programme of work. It participated in the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning and contributed a paper entitled "Social and institutional policies". For the joint UN/UNESCO Seminar on Urbanization in the ECAFE region, it prepared a paper on the relationship of urbanization to crime and delinquency in the region. The Division also participated in the preparatory work on the secretariat study entitled "The role of expanded self-help measures in economic development" and assisted in initial discussions with interested member Governments and in the preliminary collection of material.

OTHER WORK

144. The secretariat of the Commission, as part of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, maintained close and regular liaison and collaboration with the Headquarters Secretariat and the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA). Several projects, particularly those concerning urbanization, statistics, the development of water and mineral resources, housing and building materials, trade, transport, foreign investment and mining legislation, as well as a Workshop on Problems of Budget Reclassification, were carried out with the co-operation of the appropriate units of the Secretariat at Headquarters, and on a number of occasions papers or reports were contributed by the Headquarters Secretariat. As in the past, meetings of the executive secretaries of the three regional economic commissions were convened by the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs to consider the over-all programme of work in the economic and social field, particularly on industrialization, the development of natural resources including water, and the utilization of nuclear and other non-conventional sources of energy; and to implement Economic and Social Council resolution 630 (XXII). A foundation has been laid through these consultations for a co-ordinated approach to projects having high priority in the work programmes of the Economic and Social Council and of the regional commissions. Studies prepared by the ECE secretariat, particularly those on coal classification, underground gasification of coal, fuel economy, economic development of southern Europe, and transport, were used as working papers at ECAFE meetings. The ECE secretariat assisted in the inter-regional exchange of samples and laboratory investigations of low-grade coals, as well as in organizing the visit of the group of electric power experts from the ECAFE region to countries in Europe. The ECAFE secretariat prepared a paper, "The steel transforming industries in Asia and the Far East" for the ECLA meeting of experts on steel making and transforming industries, held at Sao Paulo in October 1956.

145. The ECAFE secretariat has continued to service the Commission, its committees and other subsidiary

organs, as well as special *ad hoc* meetings. A list of major publications and documents is given in annex III. The secretariat has been increasingly aided in its work by member and associate member Governments and their representatives and liaison officers,¹⁷ and through the services rendered by governmental experts and experts from non-governmental organizations.

Exchange of experience and information on scientific and technical matters

146. Pursuant to its resolution 15 (XII), the Commission has laid increasing emphasis on the collection, dissemination and exchange of scientific and technical knowledge through the various journals and publications of the secretariat, library services, exhibitions of technical, scientific and information films, and participation in fairs and exhibitions and organization of post-conference study tours.

147. The members and associate members of ECAFE, their national technical organizations and experts, as well as regional and international organizations, made special contributions to certain secretariat publications, including the *Flood Control Journal*, the *Industrial Development Series*, the *Electric Power Bulletin*, the *Transport Bulletin*, the annual *Railway Statistics Bulletin* and *Mining Development in Asia and the Far East*. Technical papers were also specially prepared by member and associate member Governments for meetings of subsidiary organs of the Commission. Delegations at such meetings offered to carry out special surveys, studies, research, laboratory tests and demonstrations for the use and benefit of other members in such fields as coal classification, building materials, house design, cottage and small-scale industries, rural electrification and construction; they also showed films and exhibits on a variety of subjects, including mineral and geological surveys, aerial surveys, electric power installations, atomic power plants, steel manufacturing processes, lignite utilization, industrial techniques in ceramics, textiles and other products, tools and machinery, road building, and transport and transport equipment. These visual aids have increasingly become a regular feature of ECAFE meetings. The secretariat also maintains a library of technical films, which it lends to Governments on request. Post-conference study tours of selected sites in relation to railways, signalling, marshalling, laboratories, manufacture of rolling-stock, electric power and mining installations, dams and irrigation works, iron and steel and cement factories, community development centres and laboratories were organized in conjunction with the Sub-Committee on Electric Power, the Railway Sub-Committee, the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, the Working Party on Housing and Building

Materials, the Sub-Committee on Trade and the Inland Transport Committee.

Advisory services

148. Pursuant to the decision of the Commission at its twelfth session, the secretariat strengthened and extended the advisory services furnished to Governments of the region at their request. These services are provided in connexion with the Commission's work programme and in co-operation with TAA and the specialized agencies. Such services were rendered: to the Government of the Philippines in connexion with general economic legislation; to the Government of the Republic of China on statistical methods, government statistical organization, the 1956 population census and other fields of economic statistics; to the Government of Thailand in regard to cottage and small-scale industries, electric power, and manufacture of iron and steel; to the Government of Burma in regard to iron and steel production and housing and building materials; and to the Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam on the possible development of coal deposits. Special memoranda were prepared and sent to Governments on questions such as organization for industrial development and improvement in statistical methods. Requests were met from the Governments of Cambodia, Laos and the Republic of Viet-Nam, for advice regarding a road rehabilitation programme, the enlargement of bridges and highways, the progressive use of mechanical equipment for maintenance work, and methods of negotiating contracts for large projects and of providing practical training. At the request of the Governments of Cambodia, Laos and Thailand, the secretariat provided assistance in appraising various methods suggested for an engineering river survey for the development of inland waterway transport. Visits by staff members to countries of the region, in connexion with projects in the Commission's work programme, were increasingly utilized by Governments to obtain suggestions and advice from the secretariat in different fields.

Co-operation with the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration

149. In accordance with the Secretary-General's policy that the Department of Economic and Social Affairs should undertake full responsibility for such substantive and advisory functions as TAA may require in support of economic and social projects, the secretariat has continued to furnish advice, at the request of TAA, on technical assistance projects and on the recruitment of experts, and to brief experts and fellows. The secretariat was also consulted by TAA in the definition of the terms of reference of experts requested by Governments. This work of the secretariat increased considerably during the period under review and covered a wide variety of subjects, such as planning for economic development, general economic surveys, water resources development, power production and distribution, tourism, merchant shipping, pre-stressed concrete and other building materials, the sugar industry, the leather industry, starch processing, the manufacture of gunny bags, cost accounting, the management of airways and personnel training.

¹⁷ Cambodia, France, Laos, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Republic of Viet-Nam have appointed permanent representatives to ECAFE; and the following Governments have representatives acting as liaison officers with ECAFE: Australia, Burma, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Thailand, the United Kingdom (also representing Malaya and British Borneo) and the United States of America.

The secretariat was associated in the work of the United Nations Economic Survey Mission to Viet-Nam, contributing the services of staff members in regard to general economic policy and the development of electric power, water resources, waterways and highways.

150. The secretariat continued to collaborate with TAA on regional projects recommended by the Commission and approved by the Technical Assistance Committee (TAC). The United Nations Training Centre for Railway Operating and Signalling Officials at Lahore will soon complete its third year of operation. The visit of the Study Tour of Electric Power Experts from the ECAFE region to Europe and the United States of America was organized jointly by TAA and ECAFE. The ECAFE secretariat co-operated with TAA and UNESCO in organizing a Seminar on Urbanization. Close co-operation was maintained between TAA and the newly established ECAFE Division of Social Affairs in rendering advisory social welfare services to the Governments of the region.

151. Certain TAA experts stationed in the countries of the region continued to participate in technical meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission. Increased visits by TAA experts to the ECAFE secretariat proved mutually beneficial. Close contact was maintained with the office of the Regional Representative of the Technical Assistance Board (TAB) at Bangkok. Co-operation is also being developed with resident representatives of TAB stationed in countries of the region, many of whom were able to visit Bangkok and consult with the secretariat on matters of common concern.

C. Relations with specialized agencies and other organizations

152. Specialized agencies of the United Nations and inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations continued to participate in a wide range of the Commission's activities, principally those of a technical character, and to maintain close working relations with the secretariat.

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

153. Co-operation with specialized agencies, in particular those mentioned below, was continued in accordance with the Commission's terms of reference and the resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly calling for the development of more effective co-ordination in the economic and social field between the United Nations and the specialized agencies. Joint efforts of the Commission and of the specialized agencies were applied to problems of common concern through co-sponsorship of regional meetings, joint planning and implementation of projects, participation of one organization in meetings sponsored by another and inter-secretariat discussions.

International Labour Organisation (ILO)

154. The secretariat has maintained its close contacts with the International Labour Office, particularly its Asian field office, on questions concerning manpower,

training and management problems. The ILO co-operated in the Seminar on Urbanization, jointly sponsored by UNESCO, the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs and ECAFE. The ILO and ECAFE continued to co-operate in developing the regional Training Centre for Diesel Marine Mechanics at Rangoon, Burma. The ILO is in charge of the Centre and provides instructors and scholarships for the trainees from outside Burma. ECAFE and the ILO are also represented on the Advisory Board for the Training Centre. The ILO co-operated with ECAFE in providing assistance to the two regional housing centres, one for humid and one for tropical zones in the region.

155. The ILO participated in the meetings of, and prepared papers for, the second meeting of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, the fourth meeting of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials, and the sixth meeting of the ECAFE/ILO/UNESCO Inter-Secretariat Working Party on Trained Personnel for Economic Development. It was also represented at the fourth session of the Railway Sub-Committee, the fifth session of the Sub-Committee on Electric Power, the second session of the Sub-Committee on Trade, the ninth session of the Committee on Industry and Trade and the thirteenth session of the Commission.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

156. Co-operation with FAO continued to increase in respect of many of the Commission's activities. Co-operation is facilitated by the joint ECAFE/FAO Division of Agriculture, by co-sponsorship of joint meetings, such as those of the Working Party on Railway Track (Wooden) Sleepers and the Centre on Agricultural Financing and Credit; by joint studies, such as that on timber trends; and by more frequent inter-secretariat consultations in Rome, Bangkok and countries of the region.

157. Regular exchange of statistics and other data for general economic research and studies was continued. FAO gave advice to the secretariat for the section on agricultural production for the *Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1956*, and also with respect to the study of coconuts and coconut products. It contributed a paper on population and food supplies in Asia and the Far East for the May 1956 issue of the *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East*. It participated in the fourth meeting of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials and the second meeting of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, preparing papers for both. It was also represented at the fourth Regional Conference of Statisticians, the sixth session of the Inland Transport Committee, the ninth session of the Committee on Industry and Trade and the thirteenth session of the Commission. ECAFE participated in the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Far East, the FAO Preparatory Working Party on Economic Aspects of Rice, the FAO Meeting on Index Numbers for Food and Agricultural Production, and the FAO Working Party on coconut and coconut products.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

158. UNESCO joined with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs and ECAFE in sponsoring and servicing the Seminar on Urbanization. It participated in and contributed papers to the fifth meeting of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials, the sixth meeting of the ECAFE/ILO/UNESCO Inter-Secretariat Working Party on Trained Personnel for Economic Development, the fourth Regional Conference of Statisticians and the thirteenth session of the Commission. Close liaison and working relations have been developed between the ECAFE secretariat and the UNESCO Research Centre on the Social Implications of Industrialization in Southern Asia at Calcutta; ECAFE participated in the meetings of its Advisory Committee. UNESCO assisted in collecting information on statistical education and training for the secretariat report entitled "Statistical organization and activities in countries of Asia and the Far East (1953-1956)" (E/CN.11/448). ECAFE participated in the United Nations delegation to the ninth session of the General Conference of UNESCO and the UNESCO Regional Study Conference on Science Teaching.

World Health Organization (WHO)

159. WHO participated in, and contributed papers to, the fourth meeting of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials, and the joint UN/UNESCO Seminar on Urbanization in the ECAFE region. It was represented at the second meeting of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning and the fourth Regional Conference of Statisticians, the ninth session of the Committee on Industry and Trade and the thirteenth session of the Commission.

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the Bank)

160. Consultations were held by the Executive Secretary of ECAFE with the Bank for the purpose of increasing the co-operation between the Commission and the Bank. The Bank appointed a Resident Representative in Bangkok to facilitate such co-operation at the working level. The Bank was represented at the ninth session of the Committee on Industry and Trade and the thirteenth session of the Commission.

International Monetary Fund (the Fund)

161. The Fund continued to supply information on trade, conversion rates, balance of payments and finance to the ECAFE secretariat and furnished comments and data on the balance of payments for the *Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1956*. The Fund contributed a working paper for the second meeting of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning. It was represented at the thirteenth session of the Commission.

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

162. Close co-operation was maintained with ICAO, particularly with its Far East and Pacific Regional

Office at Bangkok. ICAO provided material to the ECAFE secretariat in connexion with the latter's studies of refrigerator inland transport and co-ordination of transport, and furnished civil aviation and air transport data for the *Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1956*. ICAO was represented at the thirteenth session of the Commission.

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

163. ITU continued its co-operation with the ECAFE secretariat and the Inland Transport Committee in the study of technical and economic aspects of telecommunication systems. The Administrative Council of ITU, at its eleventh session, adopted resolution 345, concerning relations with ECAFE which provides for full and effective co-operation between the two bodies on all matters in this field. Consultations were held by the Executive Secretary of ECAFE with the Secretary-General of ITU regarding expert assistance in connexion with the proposed seminar on telecommunications included in the work programme of the Commission. ITU participated in the sixth session of the Inland Transport Committee.

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

164. WMO continued to assist the secretariat in the study pertaining to hydrologic data and terminology. It co-operated closely with the secretariat in the preparation of the report, "Major Deficiencies in Hydrologic Data".

Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization (ICITO)

165. The ECAFE secretariat continued to supply the secretariat of ICITO and GATT with advance copies of summaries of trade agreements concluded or negotiated by countries of the region. The GATT secretariat supplied information on agreements and conventions relating to transit trade for the secretariat study entitled "Problems of trade of land-locked countries in Asia and the Far East". It contributed a paper for the second meeting of the Working Party in Economic Development and Planning, and it was represented at the ninth session of the Committee on Industry and Trade, and the thirteenth session of the Commission.

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

166. Working relations between the ECAFE secretariat and the Consultative Committee for Co-operative Economic Development in South and South-East Asia (Colombo Plan) were maintained. Under its technical co-operation scheme, scholarship facilities were offered by the Government of Pakistan to trainees at the United Nations Training Centre for Railway Operating and Signalling Officials. Assistance in the form of equipment and other supplies has been given or promised under the Colombo Plan in the development of this training centre, as well as of the regional Training Centre for Diesel Marine Mechanics at Rangoon. The Director of the Bureau for Technical Co-operation, Council for Techni-

cal Co-operation in South and South-East Asia, participated in the second meeting of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning. The Executive Secretary of ECAFE attended, as an observer, the ministerial session of the Consultative Committee held at Wellington, New Zealand, in December 1956 and the ECAFE secretariat was consulted regarding the questionnaire issued to Governments in connexion with the preparation of the annual report of the Consultative Committee.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

167. The World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) continued to co-operate in the activities of the Commission. WFUNA was represented at the second meeting of the Working Party of Senior Geologists on the Preparation of a Regional Geological Map for Asia and the Far East, the second session of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, the second session of the Sub-Committee on Trade, the second meeting of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, the ninth session of the Committee on Industry and Trade, and the thirteenth session of the Commission.

168. The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) maintained close liaison with the ECAFE secretariat, prepared material and papers on such subjects as international trade fairs and commercial arbitration, and participated in the fifth session of the Sub-Committee on Electric Power, the fourth meeting of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials, the second session of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, the second session of the Sub-Committee on Trade, the second meeting of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, the sixth session of the Inland Transport Committee, the ninth session of the Committee on Industry and Trade, and the thirteenth session of the Commission. ICC also established an arbitration office in Bangkok, which maintained liaison with ECAFE on arbitration problems.

169. The International Organization of Employers (IOE) was represented at the fifth session of the Sub-

Committee on Electric Power, the ninth session of the Committee on Industry and Trade, and the thirteenth session of the Commission. The International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO) was represented at the second session of the Sub-Committee on Trade and the sixth session of the Inland Transport Committee; liaison between the ECAFE secretariat and the East Asia Travel Commission, IUOTO in Asia, was established with a view to intensifying work in promoting travel and tourism. The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the ECAFE secretariat frequently consulted each other on problems of standardization; ISO participated in, and prepared information for, the second session of the Sub-Committee on Trade, and supplied material on standards for various consumer, capital and engineering goods for publication in *Trade Promotion News*. The ECAFE secretariat was represented at the meeting of the Technical Committee on Measurement of Liquid Flow in Open Channels, organized by ISO. The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) was represented at the second meeting of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, the sixth session of the Inland Transport Committee and the thirteenth session of the Commission. The World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) was represented at the second meeting of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, the UN/UNESCO Seminar on Urbanization, the sixth session of the Inland Transport Committee, the ninth session of the Committee on Industry and Trade, and the thirteenth session of the Commission. The International Geological Congress (IGC) co-operated with the Cartographic Section of the United Nations Bureau of Economic Affairs and the ECAFE secretariat in the preparation of a regional geological map for Asia and the Far East. The International Federation for Housing and Town Planning (IFHTP) and its regional organization maintained close contact with the ECAFE secretariat on questions concerning housing, building materials, regional planning and urbanization. The International Union of Railways (UIC) co-operated with the ECAFE secretariat in preparing studies concerning co-ordination of transport, particularly methods of calculating the cost of rail transport.

Part II

THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

OPENING AND CLOSING MEETINGS

170. The thirteenth session of the Commission was held at Bangkok from 18 to 28 March 1957. The Chairman of the twelfth session, His Excellency Mr. D. P. Karmarkar (India), opened the session. The Chairman announced with deepest regret the death in a plane crash, on Sunday, 17 March 1957, of the President of the Republic of the Philippines, Mr. Ramon Magsaysay, and stated that this was a tragedy not only for the Philippines, but for the whole of Asia. The representative

of the Philippines paid a moving tribute to the late President and the Commission observed two minutes of silence in homage to his memory. The Chairman sent a telegram of condolences on behalf of the Commission to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines.

171. A message of welcome from His Excellency Field Marshal Pibulsonggram, the Prime Minister of Thailand, was read by His Excellency Dr. Rak Panyarachun, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand. A message from the Secretary-General was read and an address was delivered by Mr. Philippe de Seynes, Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations,

after which Mr. C. V. Narasimhan, the Executive Secretary of ECAFE, addressed the Commission. The Commission passed a vote of thanks to the Government of Thailand for inviting it to hold its thirteenth session and tenth anniversary in Bangkok, and for its hospitality. The Commission also passed a vote of thanks to His Excellency Field Marshal Pibulsonggram, for his gracious message.

172. The closing meeting of the session was held on 28 March 1957 when the Commission unanimously adopted its report to the Economic and Social Council.

Opening addresses

173. The Chairman, His Excellency Mr. D. P. Karmarkar, recalled the growth of the Commission, which had a great task to perform in creating a common platform for the exchange of ideas and experience for the economic development of the region as a whole. Recalling the meritorious leadership of Dr. P. S. Lokanathan, he welcomed the new Executive Secretary, Mr. C. V. Narasimhan, whose experience as an administrator and familiarity with problems relating to developmental planning and external aid programmes would be of special value to the Commission. There was already a greater consciousness of the advisability of strengthening the organization in the common interest of the region. There could be no sense of parochialism or narrow outlook in the desire of the ECAFE countries to come closer together and in a spirit of co-operation for their mutual benefit. Any abatement of interest on the part of any country of the region would be detrimental not only to the region as a whole but also to the country concerned. He expressed the hope that the ties which naturally bound the countries of the region would grow in strength. The Commission had to direct its efforts with a sense of realism. The need to achieve concrete economic development was most imperative, particularly in this area. It was obviously by frequent consultations, by re-orientation of policies and formulation of programmes suitable to the needs of the region, as well as by the fullest exchange of information on scientific and technical matters — not only among countries of the region but also between them and the more developed countries — that the correct approach to this problem could be discovered. There was no doubt that the ECAFE region, with its vast natural resources and manpower potential, had a great part to play in the future.

174. His Excellency Dr. Rak Panyarachun, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand, on behalf of His Excellency Field Marshal Pibulsonggram, Prime Minister of Thailand, read the following message of welcome to the participants in the session:

“I consider it both a great honour and a rare privilege for me to have this opportunity to extend to you my welcome to this thirteenth session of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East. For this session is indeed a memorable event. You are celebrating at this session your tenth anniversary. Allow me to be the first to offer you my heartiest and most sincere congratulations. I, for one, have a great admiration for the immense contributions ECAFE

has made to the cause of furthering economic development in the region. We miss today the personality who has had a large share in the successful development of this organization. We regret that Dr. Lokanathan has not found it possible to be with us on this occasion because of the pressure of his work.

“I have been told that when ECAFE was first officially established, with the terms of reference laid down at the Fourth Session of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, it was meant to be only a temporary organization to give effective aid to war-devastated countries in this region. Among other things, it was charged with the tasks of initiating and participating in measures for facilitating concerted action among member countries to undertake investigations and studies of economic problems. Who would have ventured to think that this organization would have grown to such an extent as it has done today! Your past record suggests that during the past ten years you have achieved substantial progress and made valuable contributions through your activities in the field of economic development and planning, flood control and water resources development, housing and building materials, and general statistics and economic research. This is to mention only a few of the more important of your activities which have come to my attention. Because of geographical proximity, my country, Thailand, has been particularly fortunate in profiting a great deal from the technical assistance provided by experts of the ECAFE, the most recent of which was in connexion with the building of our Chao Phya Dam. Your hydraulic experts assisted the officials of the Thai Government with hydraulic tests in a scale laboratory resulting in substantial saving to Thailand. With the completion of this dam, another 500,000 tons of rice will be available for export, and the foreign exchange thus obtained, we hope, will contribute substantially towards the improvement of material well-being of our people. For assistance in this as well as in many other activities I wish to express my sincere appreciation.

“Thailand is especially interested in the activities of ECAFE in the field of economic development and planning. All of us will agree, I am sure, that next to political independence which most of the countries in this region have now achieved, our pressing problem lies in the economic development of our respective countries. The life of a great majority of the people in Asian countries is characterized by the well-known pattern of low productivity and substandard level of living coupled with excessive pressure of population on resources as currently utilized, and malnutrition. In turn this prevailing condition of poor health among the labour force is responsible for low productivity. This vicious circle has to be broken. High level of productivity and full use of manpower as well as natural resources culminating in the increase of *per capita* real income should be our economic objectives. It is gratifying to note that the valuable guidance in this field of economic development has been received from ECAFE ever since

its establishment. The Thai Government has always been very conscious of the importance of economic well-being for its people and has devoted every effort to mobilize its financial and manpower resources in the attempt to develop the country as rapidly as possible, and any observer will, no doubt, notice the substantial economic progress which has taken place in Thailand since the conclusion of the Second World War. Our drive for a high level of economic development cannot be too strongly emphasized, for poverty is truly our mortal enemy, and permanent peace depends upon sustained economic prosperity, which we must all help promote.

"Before closing I wish to take this opportunity to welcome the new Executive Secretary of ECAFE, Mr. C. V. Narasimhan, who has had a most distinguished career with the Government of India prior to his assumption of office here. I have no doubt that under his guidance ECAFE will achieve increasing success in the years to come.

"On behalf of the Government of Thailand and on my own behalf, I wish to extend to all distinguished delegates from various countries assembled here this morning our warmest welcome and I wish you every success in your deliberations."

175. Mr. Philippe de Seynes, Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations, read a message from Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, Secretary-General of the United Nations:

"It is a cause of very deep regret to me that I cannot be present at this session when you are celebrating the tenth anniversary of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East. The occasion is indeed one for celebration. When your Commission was established, it faced great odds. Thanks to the wisdom and determination of its members, the initial difficulties have been overcome. The Commission has already some important achievements to its credit. Even more important, it is now recognized as an effective instrument of international co-operation. It is the principal organ of the United Nations in a region of the world which has rightly put much hope in the Organization. It is a source of pride to me that the United Nations Secretariat — and more specifically the devoted and able leadership of the two successive Executive Secretaries of the Commission — has been able to assist in this process of the Commission's growth. The future is very promising. May this tenth anniversary be the starting point of new and fruitful undertakings and of an even greater co-operation of the countries of the region in the framework of the Charter of the United Nations!"

176. Mr. de Seynes said that it was inspiring to discover on the spot how much the conception of regional co-operation could enrich the work of the United Nations. One of the main factors contributing to the strength of this Commission was its location at the crossroads of modern world trends, those towards emancipation and development. At the time of its inception the Commission dealt primarily with immediately practicable programmes of co-operation. Little by little, its activity

was oriented towards long-term fundamental problems. The Commission now reserved the central part of its activity to questions of economic planning or "programming". All countries of the ECAFE area had now introduced to a greater or lesser extent elements of planning into their economic policies. This had the great advantage of putting into focus problems of economic balance, which gained in importance with the accelerated rate of development. The major difficulty of all development policies was the necessity to ensure an appropriate balance between savings and investments. The desire to accelerate the rate of investment led to various stimulants offered both to small savings and to capital formation by large corporations. The results of this policy were however far from being uniformly successful, or even adequate; which was hardly surprising in an area where subsistence economy remained predominant in many large sectors. It was therefore inevitable that public savings were playing an increasingly important part which, in turn, raised the question of budgetary equilibrium. With military expenditure continuing on a large scale, never before did peace and security correspond so much, not only to the deepest aspirations of mankind, but also to economic necessity. Taxation was growing everywhere, but it was increasingly recognized that heavy taxes imposed by a developing economy were preferable to inflationary pressures brought about by unbalanced budgets. The general expansion of agriculture was necessary both for a balanced external trade and as an assurance against inadequate crops and calamities of nature, such as the droughts and floods which had scourged Pakistan and Indonesia in 1956.

177. In most countries of the region there was an unbalance between agricultural production and the rate of population growth which raised the vital problem of the optimum ratio between growth of production and increased employment.

178. It was not easy to provide a universal solution. In some cases, the situation was alleviated by raising the school age, and thus providing for better theoretical and practical training. Another method was to favour direct capital formation through community development programmes, which had a great psychological and human value. A third method followed by certain countries, e.g., India, was deliberately to support small-scale and cottage industry with a view to halting the exodus towards urban areas. A policy of this kind could limit unemployment until such time as a growing income resulting from general development had sufficiently increased savings to permit the next stage of economic expansion.

179. This question of the balance between industries working for the domestic market and for export was an element in the wider problem of the balance of trade. Throughout the area, inadequate gold and currency reserves had become a stumbling block to the rate of expansion. Basic investments, on which rested the whole future industrial development, were absorbing a large portion of available currency reserves without becoming an immediate direct source of currency receipts. Investments contributing to a growth of exports might present greater long-term advantages than investments liable to substitute domestic products for imports.

180. All these problems led to a recognition of the importance of the implications of national decisions on the economy of the whole region. In connexion with the new possibilities of co-operation among the countries of South and South-East Asia, the Commission might consider the experience of the experiment initiated by the Economic Commission for Latin America. Five Central American countries were in the final stage of considering a treaty creating a free trade zone in Central America and a regional "industrial régime" aiming at a significant degree of economic integration. Another illustration was provided by the latest efforts towards creating a Western European common market, which showed a similar trend.

181. The ECAFE region had many peculiar traits calling for an original solution of the problems of interaction between national stability and regional policies. It was worth pondering, however, whether the spirit animating the solution attempted in other parts of the world could not be usefully evoked in this area. He assured the Commission that, in his capacity as Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs, he had no greater wish or firmer intention than to assist and support with all means at his disposal the important work carried out by the Commission.

182. Mr. C. V. Narasimhan, the Executive Secretary, reviewed the last ten years, which were notable for the pioneering effort, progress and expansion of ECAFE. ECAFE had made steady progress, and the United Nations General Assembly had recently voted increased funds for ECAFE in 1957, representing an increase of some 25 per cent over the budget for 1956. He wished to record the deep debt that ECAFE owed to its first Executive Secretary, Dr. P. S. Lokanathan.

183. Recent years had seen a steady expansion in the membership of ECAFE among the countries in the region. Many had achieved their full political independence and emerged as sovereign nation States only in the post-war period. Having become masters of their own destinies, they could not afford to forget the urgent need for nation-building activities and for improvement of living standards. These countries had to deal with the problem of raising, from a population already close to the level of bare subsistence, domestic resources sufficient to undertake large programmes of economic development. As a result, they had to plan the utilization of their resources to the best advantage. A great change in the economic outlook of the region had been that, during the last ten years, practically every country had become plan-conscious and plan-minded.

184. This changed outlook had given special significance to the activities of ECAFE. The plans of one country affect that country's pattern of trade and its economic relations with other countries. Many of the problems of these countries were, in spite of different circumstances, fundamentally similar. ECAFE's contribution was to bring a regional approach to bear on the major problems of the member Governments.

185. One such problem was the steady increase in population, which had made economic development both more difficult and more urgent. Another was that of

raising both domestic and foreign exchange resources to finance planned programmes of economic development. Practically all countries suffered from fluctuations in the prices of primary commodities, which were their main sources of foreign exchange. The Commission should authorize the secretariat to take up, on a continuing basis, the study of these two major problems — population and resources.

186. The countries of the region had already benefited greatly from the many bilateral programmes of foreign aid and from the activities of international financial agencies such as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund. The latest *Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East* showed that in many countries foreign exchange had become a crucial problem, and it was to be hoped that member countries outside the region and the international financial institutions would take even more interest in the economic development of the region in the years to come.

187. At the present juncture ECAFE would benefit by a re-orientation of the character and direction of its work. The time had now come for it to increase the depth and penetration of its studies in key sectors. In the future, ECAFE should concentrate on major problems, problems of a truly regional and of a continuing nature, and take up those studies which would be of most assistance to member Governments in formulating policies. The need for such a concentration of effort had been recognized by the Commission itself in recent years as well as by the Economic and Social Council. This would tend to reduce the amount of time now being devoted to purely factual and technological studies, and to various types of clearing house activities. Such concentration would be possible, however, only with the co-operation of the member Governments. Also, ECAFE would continue to work in concert with the Secretariat at Headquarters, including TAA, with its sister regional commissions, and with the specialized agencies. He suggested concentration, co-operation and concerted action as watchwords in this regard.

188. The Executive Secretary took the opportunity to express his gratitude to the Chairman, the Prime Minister of Thailand and the Secretary-General for their good wishes and to pledge himself and the secretariat to the service of the Commission.

189. The Chairman, on behalf of all delegations present, wished the Executive Secretary, Mr. Narasimhan, every success for another decade of useful work by the Commission.

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

Attendance

190. The session was attended by representatives from all the member and associate member countries. In addition, by virtue of paragraph 9 of the terms of reference, representatives of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Hungary, Romania and Yugoslavia attended in a consultative capacity. Representatives of the Federal Republic of Germany also participated in a consultative

capacity under the Economic and Social Council's resolution 617 (XXII). Also in attendance were representatives of specialized agencies, namely, the International Labour Organisation; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; International Civil Aviation Organization; World Health Organization; International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and International Monetary Fund. Representatives of the United Nations Technical Assistance Board and of the Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization also attended as observers. Representatives of the following non-governmental organizations attended the session: International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), International Organization of Employers (IOE), Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA), World Veterans Federation (WVF), Catholic International Union for Social Service (CIUSS), International Federation of Women Lawyers (IFWL), International Law Association (ILA) and Pan Pacific South-East Asia Women's Association (PPSEAWA). A list of representatives and observers is attached as annex I.

Credentials

191. In accordance with rule 12 of the rules of procedure, the Chairman reported to the Commission that he and the Vice-Chairman had examined the credentials of the delegations to the thirteenth session and found them to be in order.

Representation of China

192. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics expressed the view that the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China was the only legal Government of China and that representation in ECAFE of that Government had already been unduly delayed. He hoped that other countries of the region would support this point of view and correct the present abnormal situation.

193. The representative of China stated that the Government of the Republic of China which he represented was the one and only legally constituted Government of China, and that the statement by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was out of order. The representative of the Republic of Korea supported this point of view.

194. The representatives of the USSR, India, Burma, Ceylon, Indonesia and Afghanistan expressed their views that the People's Republic of China should be represented on the Commission, and that the activities of the Commission would be more fruitful if the People's Republic of China participated in its work.

195. The representatives of China, Japan, Philippines and the Republic of Viet-Nam considered that it was not appropriate for the Commission to decide on the question of the admission of the People's Republic of China and recorded their disagreement with the views cited in paragraph 194.

Communication from the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic

196. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, quoting rule 8 of the rules of procedure, proposed that the request received by the Executive Secretary from the Mongolian People's Republic (E/CN.11/437 and Add.1) for admission to the membership of the Commission be included in the agenda of the thirteenth session. The Chairman noted that the matter was within the competence of the Economic and Social Council rather than the Commission. After debate, the Commission, by 10 votes to 6, with 3 abstentions, decided that the question of application of the Mongolian People's Republic should not be included in the agenda of the present session of the Commission.

Federation of Malaya

197. The Commission welcomed the early establishment of the Federation of Malaya as an independent State and looked forward to its becoming a full member of the Commission in the near future.

ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE THIRTEENTH SESSION

198. In accordance with rule 13 of its rules of procedure, the Commission, at its 169th meeting, elected His Excellency Mr. Rak Panyarachun (Thailand) as Chairman, and Mr. Perfecto E. Laguio (Philippines) and His Excellency Mr. A. Siddik (Indonesia) as first and second Vice-Chairman respectively.

199. The Commission appointed a Drafting Committee to draft its Annual Report, consisting of representatives from Afghanistan, Australia, Burma, China, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America. The Drafting Committee elected Mr. Kyu Hah Choi (Republic of Korea) as Chairman and Mr. S. N. Bilgrami (India) as Vice-Chairman. With a view to expediting its work the Commission asked the Drafting Committee to consider agenda items 12 (b): Report on the work of the Joint ECAFE/FAO Division of Agriculture; 12 (c): Report on the FAO/ECAFE Centre on Agricultural Financing and Credit; and 13: Question of reporting on the implementation of the Commission's recommendations; and to report back to the Commission. The Drafting Committee was also asked to consider agenda item 14: Programme of work and priorities, and to include its report on this item in the draft Annual Report. The Drafting Committee held eight meetings and submitted the draft Annual Report to the Commission at its 187th meeting.

B. Agenda and documentation

200. The Commission adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening addresses
2. Election of the Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen

3. Adoption of the agenda	Document No. E/CN.11/439/ Rev.4
4. Tenth anniversary review	ECAFE/12
5. Economic situation in Asia	<i>Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1956</i>
6. Report of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (second meeting)	ECAFE/L.114 <i>Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East, vol. VII, No. 3</i>
7. Report of the Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session)	E/CN.11/451
8. Committee structure of the Commission	E/CN.11/444 ECAFE/L.118
9. Report of the fourth Regional Conference of Statisticians	E/CN.11/433
10. Report of the Inland Transport Committee	E/CN.11/450
11. Activities in the field of flood control and water resources development	E/CN.11/440
12. Activities in the field of food and agriculture:	
(a) Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	E/CN.11/445
(b) Report on the work of the Joint ECAFE/FAO Division of Agriculture	ECAFE/L.117
(c) Report on the FAO/ECAFE Centre on Agricultural Financing and Credit	ECAFE/L.116
13. Question of reporting on the implementation of the Commission's recommendations	E/CN.11/441
14. Programme of work and priorities	ECAFE/L.121 ECAFE/10 ECAFE/11 ECAFE/14 ECAFE/18
15. Co-operation with other specialized agencies:	
(a) International Labour Organisation	E/CN.11/446
(b) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	E/CN.11/442
16. Technical assistance activities in the region	E/CN.11/443 E/CN.11/449
17. Date and place of the next session	
18. Annual report to the Economic and Social Council	

C. Account of Proceedings

TENTH ANNIVERSARY REVIEW

201. The Commission wished to put on record its appreciation of the considerable achievement of having promoted economic reconstruction, development and co-operation among member and associate member countries. It noted that during these ten years, its representative character had been enlarged by the widening of the geographical scope and of the membership of the

Commission. The transition from associate membership to full membership of a number of countries, as they gained self-government or otherwise became eligible for membership of the Commission, was considered a notable feature of this period. This process was bound to continue further. A number of countries of Asia had also become Members of the United Nations and at present, of 24 ECAFE members and associate members, 17 were Asian countries, 13 of them also Members of the United Nations. The Commission was thereby able to play a useful part in the United Nations as a whole. The Commission particularly noted that it had become more fully representative of the region while, at the same time, it had the advantage of the presence of member countries from outside. The Commission noted the increasing participation in its work, under article 9 of its terms of reference, of other United Nations Members which were not members of the Commission, as well as a non-member of the United Nations which had recently been enabled to participate in the Commission's meetings by resolution 617 (XXII) of the Economic and Social Council.

202. The Commission noted that its work had developed to meet the changing needs of the countries of the region — initially the urgent needs of reconstruction from war damage and subsequently the needs of economic development. Earlier efforts had been devoted mainly to fact-finding and analysis of the problems of reconstruction and development, in a very broad way. Solutions of technical and economic problems had been sought at the Commission's meetings, particularly through a number of subsidiary bodies which included two major committees, seven sub-committees, three continuing working parties and several *ad hoc* conferences.

203. The statements made by delegations made it clear that the work of the Commission had been of considerable value to the countries both within and outside the region. It had had an impact upon the policies of most Governments. It had promoted closer understanding, and also co-operative and concerted action among the member countries, often resulting in significant technical and economic assistance being made available to the countries of the region through international co-operation. The Commission had come to be looked upon as a valuable forum for discussions on development problems of the region, which was surging with new life, hope and a spirit of self-reliance. Thus, through the wisdom, the mutual co-operation and the determination of the members and associate members, the Commission had now developed to be a strong, healthy and favoured instrument of international co-operation. The Commission was particularly aware of the fact that it was the principal organ of the United Nations in the region, where there was such genuine faith in the United Nations.

204. The Commission once again put on record its appreciation of the efforts of its first Executive Secretary, Dr. P. S. Lokanathan, whose wise guidance had helped the work of the Commission, and its secretariat, to attain substantial results. The Commission also warmly welcomed its new Executive Secretary, Mr. C. V. Narasimhan, and offered him its best wishes.

205. The Commission was aware that it was now on the threshold of a new decade. Many countries of the region, having emerged as independent and sovereign nation States, were keenly alive to their responsibility for nation-building activities and for improving the living standard of their people through economic development. These countries, having become increasingly plan-conscious and plan-minded, were keenly desirous of developing their resources, expanding and diversifying their agricultural and industrial production, and improving their productive capacity.

206. The secretariat's studies of the problems of economic progress and the development of resources and transport had already focused attention on the major and continuing problems faced by the countries trying to develop their economies. The Commission placed new emphasis on the importance of promoting development of resources for economic growth, taking account of the problems of population growth in countries of the region.

207. The Commission desired that its future work should be geared to these growing needs of economic development of the countries of the region. The development programmes tended to require increasingly complex and difficult decisions in matters of policy. The Commission, therefore, was convinced that the character and direction of its work should be re-orientated to serve these new needs of the developing region; this required increasing intensity and depth of the Commission's work in key sectors. The studies needed greater analysis and penetration so as to offer clear guidance to countries in the formulation of policy, and should go into greater detail with regard to the specific problems facing countries of the region. The Commission recognized that special attention should be paid to concentration of effort on major economic and social problems and to more efficient co-ordination of activities.

208. The Commission was aware that a broad outlook was already developing among countries in the field of economic endeavour. Through frequent consultations and meetings under the auspices of the Commission, it was hoped that countries would avail themselves of the information and analyses of the plans, programmes and development in countries of the region and take account of their implications for the region as a whole.

209. The Commission therefore welcomed the suggestions made by the Executive Secretary that ECAFE should increase the depth and penetration of its studies in key sectors, and concentrate in future on the major problems of economic development, industrialization, population and resources — problems of particular importance to the region and of a continuing nature. In this way, the secretariat's studies on these problems would assist member Governments in the task of formulation of policy and suggest lines along which solutions to their problems might be found. The Commission noted with appreciation that this need for concentration of effort had been recognized and re-emphasized by the Economic and Social Council. Such concentration would, however, be possible only with the co-operation of the member Governments. This would also imply that the secretariat of the Commission should work in concert with the Secretariat at United Nations Headquarters and

the secretariats of other regional commissions, TAA and the specialized agencies. The Commission particularly emphasized that the experience of the secretariat would be of great value to the countries of the region in formulating their programmes for technical assistance. The Commission endorsed the suggestions of the Executive Secretary, towards concentrated co-operation and concerted action.

210. The Commission was gratified that the steady progress it had made during the past ten years had been appreciated by the General Assembly and that, in consonance with its wishes, the General Assembly had voted greater funds for the ECAFE secretariat, representing an increase of about 25 per cent over the budget for 1956. This would enable the secretariat to play an increasingly useful role in assisting the promotion of economic development in this region. The Commission desired that, in the recruitment of additional staff, the principle of equitable geographical distribution and the desirability of securing experienced staff from countries of the region should be particularly borne in mind by the Secretary-General.

211. The Commission wished to put on record its appreciation of the generous assistance and support given by the Government of Thailand and of the numerous facilities which it had provided for the secretariat in Bangkok.

212. All delegations joined in offering, on behalf of their Governments or organizations, felicitations on the commemorative occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East. The Commission received messages of congratulations and good wishes from the Prime Minister of Nepal, the President of the World Federation of United Nations Associations, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Directors-General of the International Labour Organisation and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the Chairman of the United Nations Technical Assistance Board. The Finance Minister of the Government of Pakistan, Mr. Syed Amjad Ali, addressed the Commission on this occasion at its special invitation.

213. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 18 (XIII) — the text reproduced in part III of this report — regarding the tenth anniversary of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East.

ECONOMIC SITUATION IN ASIA

214. The Commission considered the economic situation in the region with the help of the background information provided in the *Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1956*¹⁸ prepared by the secretariat under the able guidance of the Executive Secretary. The Commission commended the secretariat for the *Survey*, which was regarded as highly useful and as embodying several improvements over previous issues, notably a greater brevity of presentation, further development of regional statistical series, and the inclusion of a chapter on salient features of economic development plans. Some

¹⁸ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.1.

delegations objected to the inclusion of the section on mainland China on the grounds that the information used in its preparation was not comparable to that appearing in other country chapters, while some other delegations considered that this section served a useful purpose and should be continued.

215. The year 1956 was considered to be generally a favourable one, with increased production and trade, and progress in the implementation of development programmes. Yet signs of strains and stresses arising from development were also evident; these included, largely as the result of the usual time lag between investment and production, the emergence in some cases of inflationary tendencies and the growth of trade deficits.

216. What could be said was that Asia had begun the task of economic regeneration and firmly started along the road of development. In the year under review, India had completed its first Five-year Plan and started on its second, and the budgeted development expenditure of Pakistan had increased by about 50 per cent in 1957/58 as compared to the preceding year. China (Taiwan) had completed its first Four-year Economic Development Plan. Ceylon was reformulating its Six-year Programme of Investment for the period 1954-55 to 1959-60, to cover not only the public but also the private sector of its economy; Afghanistan, Cambodia, Japan and Nepal had started to give effect to their new plans; and Burma, Indonesia, southern Korea, Pakistan, the Philippines and southern Viet-Nam had executed parts of plans which were under consideration for formal adoption. In countries where comprehensive plans either had not been formulated or were not contemplated, individual development projects had been increasingly provided for in government budgets or had been carried out by the private sector with government encouragement. Almost all countries of the region stressed the necessity for substantial public investment, which was recognized as essential in order to provide basic economic and social facilities and, in some cases, to establish basic industries.

217. In several countries the formulation and implementation of plans had been made possible, or had been greatly facilitated, by the availability of substantial amounts of external aid. External aid had come in various forms, and frequently in increased volume, to many countries of the region, easing the balance of payments strain and helping where necessary to overcome actual shortages of food and other commodities, as well as to advance economic development projects. Bilateral aid from countries outside the region — capital grants and loans, commodities, technical assistance — had been substantial; this had been supplemented by loans from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and by technical assistance from the United Nations and the specialized agencies. Certain countries had also received some capital from within the region.

218. A somewhat greater inflow of private foreign capital was noted in the case of certain countries of the region. Several Governments had revised their laws and regulations on foreign investment in a genuine effort to create a favourable climate for increased participation of

private foreign capital in their economic development in the future.

219. The Commission, while appreciating the past and present importance of external aid in facilitating the implementation of development plans in many countries, still considered that it would be desirable for such aid to be accelerated. At the same time the Commission laid emphasis on the necessity for an increased mobilization of domestic resources for development purposes. As regards domestic financial resources, higher rates of saving would have to be achieved by various measures, especially improvements in present fiscal systems.

220. In considering the question of foreign exchange earnings — the basic source of payments for imports, including imports of capital goods necessary for developmental purposes — the Commission noted that many countries of the region which derived such earnings mainly from exports of primary products had experienced wide fluctuations in these earnings. In recent years there had been a downward trend in the relative share of the region's primary exports in the total of world trade. This had mainly resulted from the replacement of natural raw materials by manufactured and synthetic materials, and from the reduced use of raw materials in manufactured products, in advanced countries. The Commission also noted that the terms of trade had tended to worsen for most countries of the region during the past year. By reason of both price and volume factors, foreign exchange earnings had not expanded as rapidly as payments for imports of capital goods and, in some countries, for imports of food required to compensate for poor harvests. Thus many countries of Asia were encountering difficulties in financing the foreign exchange outlays involved in their economic development programmes.

221. The Commission welcomed the recent establishment of the International Finance Corporation, and several delegates urged the early creation of the Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development (SUNFED), both of which could place additional foreign exchange resources at the disposal of countries in the region for implementing their development plans.

222. The Commission noted that, although industrial production, starting from a relatively low base, had been growing at a rate higher than the world average, agricultural production — apart from fluctuations due largely to weather changes — had risen rather slowly. Because of the rapid post-war rise in population, food production on a per capita basis was still about one-tenth below the pre-war average. This disparity in the rates of growth for agricultural and for industrial production brought a growing awareness that the food problem in Asia remained as serious as ever — so that, all else aside, the inflationary risks of economic development programmes were higher in some countries than need otherwise be the case — and this awareness resulted in greater emphasis being placed on agriculture in the formulation or subsequent revision of economic development plans of a number of countries. At the same time the Commission emphasized that there should be increased efforts for industrialization — including small-scale industrial

enterprises — as being of key importance for economic progress.

223. Considering future prospects, the Commission agreed that stresses and strains must be accepted as the price of progress. It was easy enough to maintain financial stability on the basis of economic stagnation but, to a country determined to achieve economic development, the emergence of strains and stresses was a challenge to greater effort and not a signal for retreat.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

224. The Commission examined the report of the second meeting of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (ECAFE/L.114). The substance of the report was generally endorsed, subject to certain reservations by some delegations. It was recognized that the necessity for reconciling divergent views inevitably gave a somewhat general character to such a report. The secretariat was commended for a comprehensive stock-taking, in its documentation for this meeting, of the policies and means of implementing economic development plans of countries in the region.

225. While appreciating the over-all reconnaissance of the whole field of economic development problems, techniques, policies and means of implementation which had occupied the first two meetings of the Working Party, the Commission considered that the time had now come to deal with particular aspects of the subject.

226. The Commission considered the relative importance to be attached to the different sectors of the economy in national development plans, and generally agreed on the need for balanced growth. In view of the failure in postwar years of food production to catch up with population growth — a subject regarded as warranting a major study in itself — agricultural development would have to be accorded high priority. On the other hand, it was equally true that industrial development was essential to assure a balanced and diversified growth in the economies of the region.

227. The Commission noted that many member Governments, while conscious of the growing importance of the public sector in promoting development, particularly in the provision of economic and social infrastructure, felt that the private sector had — and would continue to have — a very important and useful part to play in the process of economic development.

228. The Commission recognized the necessity for higher rates of saving and capital formation in order to accelerate economic development. Labour-intensive projects were important both as a means of reducing unemployment and under-employment and as a means of economizing scarce capital, but capital-intensive projects could not be indefinitely postponed. While it was considered axiomatic that the countries of the region had to place main reliance on their own efforts for attaining higher levels of economic development, there was also a consensus of opinion on the necessity for an accelerated inflow of external aid and capital in the first instance. There was, however, no clear consensus on such questions as the degree to which immediate sacrifices were warranted for the sake of future gains (which was

recognized as involving perhaps the most important conflict of objectives that had to be faced); the extent to which the risks of inflation had to be incurred for the sake of expanding public investment; and the relative priorities to be accorded to expenditures for basic social needs, such as education and health, as against developmental expenditures directly in the economic field.

229. The Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Working Party that its third meeting should be in collaboration with FAO and deal with the problems and techniques of agricultural development planning and implementation in relation to economic development as a whole and, more particularly, to industrialization. Representatives of many member Governments expressed themselves in favour of having the Working Party deal with the problems and techniques of industrial development planning and implementation at its fourth meeting.

230. The Commission noted that the USSR was ready to invite, in 1958, experts from the ECAFE region to attend a seminar in Moscow under TAA/ECAFE auspices, at which Soviet experts would present their experience in planning and programming techniques. Some countries were against taking advantage of this proposal, while some reserved their comments till they knew the terms of the invitation. The Commission took no action at this session.

INDUSTRY AND TRADE

231. The Commission endorsed the report of the ninth session of the Committee on Industry and Trade and expressed its appreciation of the constructive work done by the Committee and its subsidiary bodies during the year.

232. The Commission noted with satisfaction the Committee's recognition that a system of multilateral trade was preferable to bilateral and barter arrangements. It also appreciated the Committee's view that, under the existing circumstances, special arrangements, including bilateral and barter trade, could be of advantage to under-developed countries by offering them immediate markets for their traditional exports and additional sources of supply of some of their essential requirements.

233. The Commission endorsed the Committee's view that there was scope for the expansion of intra-regional trade within the framework of increasing economic co-operation and expanding trade on a worldwide basis and in harmony with existing international obligations.

234. The Commission considered the question of sponsoring trade promotion talks between interested member countries of the region. Several delegations supported the Committee's recommendation that the proposals made to it by the Government of Japan on this subject be transmitted to and considered by the Committee on Trade¹⁹ at its forthcoming session. They considered that the proposals needed further careful consideration before the Commission could take any action on them and that results which could be achieved by such talks were not clear.

¹⁹ See resolution 19 (XIII), reproduced in part III of this report.

235. On the other hand, some delegations suggested that the secretariat be requested to transmit the proposals to member and associate member countries of the region and to ascertain from them whether they would be prepared to participate in trade promotion talks. It was further suggested that, on the basis of the replies received from them, arrangements should be made by the secretariat to convene trade promotion talks between the interested member countries of the region simultaneously with the next session of the Committee on Trade.

236. On the question of ocean freight rates, the Commission endorsed, with certain members dissenting, the view expressed in the Committee on Industry and Trade that the shipping problems and difficulties faced by the countries of the region should continue to be reviewed and that this review should aim at finding ways and means of keeping freight rates at an equitable level. It was pointed out that delays and congestion in ports were not confined to the ECAFE region, and that labour troubles and adverse weather conditions in ports in other regions also contributed to the increased cost of shipping. Some delegations felt that the recommendation of the Committee on this subject did not sufficiently recognize the worldwide nature of the problem of shipping and ocean freight rates. They felt that it could not be tackled on a regional basis and that the work of the secretariat should be limited for the present to collecting and disseminating data on the subject.

237. It was also suggested that Governments of ship-owning countries might use their good offices with the shipping lines to keep ocean freight rates at an equitable level and to meet the shipping requirements of the countries of the region.

238. In view of the fact that rises in ocean freight rates impose an increasing burden on the limited foreign exchange resources of the countries of the region, the opinion was expressed that the attention of the Economic and Social Council should be drawn to the vital interest of those countries in the availability of adequate shipping services at equitable rates.

239. The Commission endorsed the view expressed by the Committee that inter-regional trade should be promoted to the maximum extent, and that positive measures should be taken to explore trading possibilities and to overcome practical difficulties in the expansion of inter-regional trade. The Commission noted that while some countries favoured inter-regional trade consultations as a means of promoting such trade, many countries saw no special advantage in them. It approved a proposal to omit this subject from the work programme. The representative of the USSR considered this omission was not in accordance with the previous decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the twelfth session of the Commission.

240. The Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that landlocked countries should be given transit facilities in accordance with the Barcelona Convention and GATT, irrespective of membership, and recognized that this was a constructive step forward. In this connexion the Commission took note of resolution 1028 (XI) adopted by the General Assembly at its 656th plenary meeting on 20 February 1957, which "*Invites*

the Governments of Member States to give full recognition to the needs of land-locked Member States in the matter of transit trade and, therefore, to accord them adequate facilities in terms of international law and practice in this regard, bearing in mind the future requirements resulting from the economic development of the land-locked countries." The Afghanistan and Laos delegations requested that, because of the importance of transit facilities, the ECAFE secretariat continue to study transit facilities of land-locked countries and explore regional formulas and other approaches to remove transit obstacles and provide further facilities, having in mind the economic development of land-locked countries.

241. The Commission considered a proposal, jointly sponsored by Korea, Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand, recommending that the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs and TAA, should take early steps for the establishment of a regional housing centre for the countries of the dry tropical zone in Asia. The Commission did not adopt the proposal, there being 5 votes in favour, 5 against and 10 abstentions.

242. The Commission noted that the Committee had omitted the project on underground gasification of coal from the work programme. It felt that since a number of countries, including the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union, had already done considerable work in this field with promising results, it might be useful, if secretariat resources permitted, to convene an expert working party on underground coal gasification in order to examine its possible application to the countries of the region. In making this suggestion, the Commission took into consideration the fact that a number of coal deposits in the region occur in natural conditions such that it would not be possible to exploit them by ordinary mining methods.

243. The Commission endorsed the importance which the Committee attached to the projects on geological and mineral maps, mining legislation, symposium on petroleum geology, survey of hydro-electric potentials, atomic energy, rural electrification, and trained personnel. It emphasized the usefulness of the Study Tour of Electric Power Experts which had been completed during 1956 and stressed the desirability of organizing a study tour of geologists and mining engineers from the ECAFE region to the United States of America and Canada as soon as practicable.

244. The Commission considered that group study tours of technical experts were of great value to the countries of the region, and expressed its appreciation of the facilities offered by the industrially advanced countries. It noted with appreciation that the United States Government had allocated a special fund amounting to \$50,000 to meet the expenses of any study group visiting the United States.

245. The Commission endorsed the recommendations of the Committee in regard to the work programme in the field of industry and trade and considered that the resulting streamlining would contribute to greater concentration of effort on the most fruitful projects.

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE OF THE COMMISSION

246. The Commission considered the views of member and associate member Governments, as well as the recommendations of the Executive Secretary, on the committee structure of the Commission (E/CN.11/444), and unanimously adopted resolution 19 (XIII) — the text is reproduced in part III of this report — establishing separately a Committee on Industry and Natural Resources and a Committee on Trade in place of the existing Committee on Industry and Trade, with the following terms of reference:

(i) Terms of reference of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources:

(a) To review the plans and problems of industrial development of countries of the region with reference to organization, management and training, productivity and efficiency, and other technical and economic aspects relating to specific industries, groups of industries and over-all industrial development, and generally to promote the industrial development of the countries of the region;

(b) To review the plans and problems relative to the survey, exploitation, development and utilization of mineral, energy and other resources for industry of the countries of the region, with reference to their technical and economic aspects including those of organization, management, training, productivity and efficiency of the industries and activities in these fields;

(c) To have due regard to the work being done in these fields by the United Nations and other international agencies;

(d) To review and co-ordinate the activities of its subsidiary bodies in the field of industrial development, development of mineral and energy resources, including those of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, the Sub-Committee on Electric Power, the Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel, the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing, the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials and other subsidiary bodies which it may set up to consider specific problems; and

(e) To transmit its findings and recommendations to the member and associate member Governments, and to report on its activities to the Commission.

(ii) Terms of reference of the Committee on Trade:

(a) To review the trade and commercial policies of the countries of the region and to promote the development of trade, both between the countries of the region and between the region and the rest of the world, with a view to assisting the economic development of the countries of the region;

(b) To review the progress made by the countries of the region in, and promote the development of techniques and methods for, trade promotion, including the training of trade promotion personnel;

(c) To consider other problems affecting international trade, including price stabilization of commodities, financial institutions and financing of trade, standardization of commodities, commercial arbitration, market research, shipping facilities and freight rates, transit facilities for land-locked countries, and organization and

machinery for trade and commerce, having due regard to the work being done in these fields by the United Nations and other international agencies; and

(d) To transmit its findings and recommendations to the member and associate member Governments, and to report on its activities to the Commission.

247. Certain delegations supported the following two additional proposals of the Indian delegation:

(a) As far as feasible the Committees on Trade, Industry and Natural Resources, and Inland Transport should break up into expert working groups for discussion of specific items on the agenda after preliminary discussion in plenary session.

(b) There be convened prior to the session of the Commission, and immediately preceding it, a preparatory committee representing the members and associate members of the Commission, with a view to shortening the duration of the session of the Commission.

248. After some discussions these proposals were withdrawn by the Indian delegation on the understanding that they would be referred, with the relevant documents, to the member countries and that any comments by the member countries would be made available to the Commission.

249. As regards the timing of the meetings of the Committees, the Commission decided that it should be left to the Executive Secretary to decide this matter after due consideration of all relevant factors. In this connexion, the Commission recommended that, in arranging the time schedule of the Committee meetings and in convening the meetings of sub-committees and working parties, the Executive Secretary should take into consideration the additional burden which the meetings might impose on Governments.

STATISTICS

250. The Commission endorsed the report of the fourth Regional Conference of Statisticians (E/CN.11/433) which recommended *inter alia* that efforts be made by all Governments of the region to take a population census during the decade 1956-1965, preferably in or around 1960. It considered that for countries which lacked experience of a population census, the first one should be made simple. It recognized that certain items and concepts generally adopted by western countries in their population censuses might have to be modified for many countries of the region, e.g., the concepts of working population, occupation and industry, industrial classification, what items to be included under housing, etc. It felt that sampling methods should be more extensively used, although in certain cases and for certain purposes they could not take the place of complete enumeration.

251. The Commission endorsed the proposal to establish the Conference of Asian Statisticians as a forum for the discussion of common problems in the field of statistics at a technical level and on a continuing basis. A resolution to that effect, sponsored by the delegations of Burma and Ceylon, was unanimously adopted. The text is given in part III of this report as resolution 21 (XIII).

252. The Commission noted that membership in the Conference would be limited to the members and associate members of the Commission. Through the Conference, the priority of work to be undertaken by the Conference itself and by its various working groups would be reviewed by the Commission from year to year.

253. The Commission favoured the proposal that the fifth Regional Conference of Statisticians, to be held in April 1957, be constituted as the first meeting of the Conference of Asian Statisticians and that its work programme be organized on a continuing basis.

254. The Commission noted with concern the shortage of technical and administrative personnel in the field of statistics and the inadequacy of the facilities provided to satisfy the most pressing needs in the countries of the region in this field. It urged TAA to step up the training programme in statistics for the region. It recommended that the following function be added to the responsibilities of the Conference of Asian Statisticians as set out in Document E/CN.II/433, para. 74:

(f) Arrangements, in co-operation with the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration, for training in the field of statistics, with emphasis on sampling and census methods, to government officials of countries in the region.

INLAND TRANSPORT

255. Considering general transport problems, the Commission noted with satisfaction the progress made in the study of co-ordination of transport and considered that the adoption of the general principles and methods for the calculation of costs for various means of transport recommended by the Inland Transport Committee would be very helpful to countries of the region in planning the development of their transport systems. The Commission approved the recommendation made by the Inland Transport Committee to convene a working party early in 1958 to discuss some specific aspects of co-ordination of transport such as cost calculation, rate tariffs, value of service to users, principles and methods (statutory or otherwise) of co-ordination of different forms of transport, co-ordination of investments, relationship between transport policy and economic development, taxation of transport, and state investments and subsidies.

256. As regards refrigerator inland transport, which was considered as an important factor in economic development and in the improvement of living standards, the Commission unanimously agreed that the secretariat should report to the next session of the Committee on the progress made in implementing the recommendations contained in the secretariat's study on the subject. A complementary study of coastal and inland waterway refrigerator transport was also considered very desirable.

257. The Commission endorsed the views expressed by the Committee concerning the usefulness of carrying out a study on mechanization of accounts in transport undertakings. However, it was generally agreed that, in view of the conditions prevailing in the region, mechanization should be introduced gradually.

258. The Commission took note of the work already done by the secretariat on the various technical projects concerning highways and observed that greater attention should be paid to the study of problems relating to highway transportation which, from the economic point of view, is as important to the countries of the region as studies on highway construction and related engineering problems. Noting the progress made in highway projects, it felt that the secretariat might usefully undertake special studies in collaboration with Governments of the region on:

- (a) Long-distance movement of goods;
- (b) Regulation of traffic on inter-state roads;
- (c) Road-rail co-ordination;
- (d) Taxation policy;
- (e) Development of transport on own account;
- (f) State-aid in buying vehicles;
- (g) Financing of a major road system from taxation.

259. Regarding international highways, the Commission noted that some Governments were endeavouring to classify and describe certain highway sections which in their opinion might be considered for inclusion in a network of international highways linking the countries of the region. The proposed seminars on engineering and traffic aspects of highway safety and on low-cost roads and soil stabilization, it was felt, would be extremely useful in providing a forum for the discussion of the latest techniques developed both within and outside the region and also a means of exchanging experience and knowledge. The Government of India, it was noted, was actively considering the question of offering host facilities for the seminar on low-cost road and soil stabilization immediately following the annual session of the Indian Roads Congress in January 1958, and a final decision would be taken very soon. As regards the Seminar on Highway Safety, which was to be convened at Tokyo on 13-23 May 1957, it was hoped that useful and practical recommendations would be made. In view of the fact that in certain parts of the region special problems of highway construction were encountered, such as building roads in mountainous and hilly areas, the Commission felt that in addition to the studies under way on road construction and maintenance, special attention should be paid to those problems.

260. The urgent need for developing adequate training programmes for highway technical personnel was also stressed and it was felt that the possibility might usefully be explored of utilizing the highway research organizations in existence in some countries of the region for training technicians.

261. With regard to inland waterways, the Commission noted with satisfaction that the Convention regarding the Measurement and Registration of Vessels employed in Inland Navigation had been signed on 22 June 1956 at Bangkok by six countries of the region, and that other countries were actively considering early accession. It also noted with satisfaction that the uniform system of buoys and shore marks for Asia and the Far East was gradually being introduced in member countries.

262. As regards the ILO/ECAFE Training Centre for Diesel Marine Mechanics at Rangoon, the Commission commended the successful organization of the first training course which had started on 18 April 1956 and the establishment of an Advisory Board including representatives of certain member countries.

263. The Commission took note of the progress made in organizing a demonstration/pilot project on the improved design and operation of craft in India, where the necessary craft was under construction and actual operations would probably start before the end of the current year. As regards the project to be organized in Pakistan, it noted that the Governments of France and the United States of America continued to be interested in participating in the undertaking, and it expressed the hope that substantial progress would be made shortly.

264. The Commission took note of the work done on the subject of inland ports. It emphasized the desirability that the consultant for the working party on the subject should familiarize himself with conditions in some of the countries of the region. It also felt that, in order not to aggravate the unemployment problem, recommendations of the working party, whilst aiming at rationalization and mechanization, should not envisage unduly rapid change-over.

265. The Commission was of the opinion that the proposed study tour of inland waterway transport experts to eastern Europe and Africa would serve a useful purpose and expressed the wish that it be organized as soon as feasible. It noted with satisfaction that Soviet organizations would welcome experts from the countries of the region to visit the USSR for studying inland waterways.

266. With regard to the study on dredging of inland waterways, the Commission took note of the offer made by the Government of Indonesia to supply information based on its extensive experience with dredging operations in ports.

267. On the subject of railways, the Commission noted with satisfaction the good progress made in the operation of the United Nations Training Centre for Railway Operating and Signalling Officials in Lahore. The Commission also noted that the Government of Pakistan had agreed to waive the charges for the rental of premises and the use of utilities, thus reducing to some extent the financial burden, so far borne by TAA.

268. Many delegations reaffirmed their continued support as regards participation in the work of the Training Centre and felt that, provided accommodation was available, training facilities should be extended to railway personnel from the Middle East and Africa.

269. The offers of some Governments, made at the last session of the Railway Sub-Committee, to provide training facilities, subject to examination of financial and other implications, and the follow-up action taken up by the secretariat, were noted with interest and it was hoped that railways of the region would take full advantage of these offers.

270. The progress made in the finalization of the report by the expert group on diesel locomotives and

railcars was noted and it was felt that, in view of the large-scale programming of dieselization by many railways of the region, every endeavour should be made to complete the report as early as possible. A suggestion was made that, in order to increase the practical value of the report to the railways of the region, it would be advantageous to include a few actual case studies. For instance, the Malayan and Indonesian railways, which were both embarking on ambitious dieselization programmes, had chosen different types of diesel units: diesel electric on the Malayan railways and diesel hydraulic on the Indonesian railways. A comparative study of the operation of these two types under prevailing conditions in the region would provide a useful guide to other railways which had similar plans of development.

271. The Commission noted with interest that certain of the purely technological projects, requiring field investigations and research, would be studied in co-operation with the research institutions of some of the railways of the region, and would therefore be deleted from the work programme. It was however emphasized that, although the field and other investigations would be carried out by the research centres, the secretariat would continue to shoulder the main responsibilities for all the preliminary work, such as preparing outlines of projects, keeping in touch with the progress of the studies, analysing results and presenting the studies to the technical sub-committee concerned.

272. The Commission noted with satisfaction the progress made by the secretariat in implementing its recommendations regarding studies in the field of telecommunications. In particular, the Commission wished to place on record its appreciation of the offer of co-operation made by ITU in connexion with these studies and felt that full advantage should be taken of the work being done by specialized agencies of the United Nations which were interested in telecommunications, so as to avoid overlapping of activities. The offer of technical advice and material by one Government was noted. The Commission fully endorsed the views of the Inland Transport Committee in regard to the respective roles of the ECAFE secretariat and ITU in the proposed studies and approved the resolution adopted 20 February 1957 by the Inland Transport Committee (TRANS/92). It also approved the suggestion that the Executive Secretary of ECAFE and the Secretary-General of ITU should, on completion of the preliminary studies, convene a working party of telecommunication experts from member and associate member States to consider the report and formulate recommendations for further action.

273. With respect to tourism, the Commission noted the continued co-operation which the secretariat had maintained with IUOTO and its regional commissions. The importance of tourism as a major factor in promoting international understanding and cultural relationships, in fostering international trade and in furthering economic development was recognized and it was felt that the secretariat should continue to co-operate, to the extent that its resources permitted, with IUOTO and its regional organizations for the promotion of international travel and tourism.

FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

274. The Commission noted the report on "Activities in the field of flood control and water resources development" (E/CN.11/440) and the report on "Development of water resources in the lower Mekong basin" (ECAFE/L.119). It commended the constructive and useful work performed by the Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development and expressed appreciation of the Bureau's efforts to concentrate its resources on major projects.

275. With respect to the promotion of multiple-purpose river basin development the Commission noted the completion of a number of country surveys on water resources development and approved the continuation of this project, laying greater emphasis on analysis of problems and difficulties encountered in each country. Certain delegations reserved their comments on these studies, pending further consideration. The Commission considered the studies on methods employed in earth-work construction and on deficiencies in hydrologic data most useful and expressed the hope that they would be completed at an early date.

276. The Commission reaffirmed its approval of the convening of the third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development late in 1957 and endorsed the subjects for discussion recommended by the secretariat. It attached importance to the group visit of water resources experts to Europe and North America and noted the postponement of this visit from 1957 to 1958. The Commission thought that work relating to the dissemination of information, including the printing of the *Flood Control Journal*, should be intensified.

277. With respect to the study on the development of water resources in the lower Mekong basin, the Commission endorsed the following statement presented by the delegation of Laos jointly with the delegations of Cambodia, Thailand and the Republic of Viet-Nam:

"The delegations of the lower Mekong riparian countries,

"Having studied document ECAFE/L.119, entitled 'Development of Water Resources in the Lower Mekong Basin',

"Congratulate the Commission secretariat for this work and particularly its Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development,

"Consider that this study is of real usefulness for their economic development,

"Express the wish that such studies be continued jointly with the four countries concerned in order to determine with more detail in what measure the various projects concerning hydro-electric power, navigation, irrigation, drainage and flood control can be of use to several countries."

278. The delegations of France, India, Japan and the United States of America expressed the willingness of their respective Governments to provide technical assistance in connexion with further studies, and the delegation of the United States of America further indicated that its Government remained prepared to give consideration, within the limitations of its Asian Economic Development Fund, to co-ordinated proposals from

these riparian countries for sound lower Mekong projects.

279. Regarding the designation of the Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development, the Commission was of the opinion that its name should not be changed. The Executive Secretary assured the Commission that the present designation would be retained.

AGRICULTURE

280. The Commission took note of the report on the work of the Joint ECAFE/FAO Division of Agriculture (ECAFE/L.117), the note on the FAO/ECAFE Centre on Agricultural Financing and Credit (ECAFE/L.116) and the tentative programme of work and priorities in the field of agriculture for 1957/58 (ECAFE/L.120/Rev.1).

281. The Commission noted the activities of the Division of Agriculture in 1956, and the satisfactory working relations between ECAFE and FAO. In particular, it expressed satisfaction at the success of the joint FAO/ECAFE Centre on Agricultural Financing and Credit held at Lahore in 1956. The Commission also noted with appreciation the arrangements made for the joint sponsorship by FAO of the forthcoming session of the Conference of Asian Statisticians for discussion of the draft programme of the 1960 World Census of Agriculture, and of the third meeting of the ECAFE Working Party on Economic Development and Planning scheduled for September 1957, at which attention should be concentrated on the agricultural sector.

282. The Commission hoped that the Governments of the region would continue to develop institutions for making credit readily available for agricultural improvement, and approved the suggestion that the secretariat should maintain a review of Government activities in this sphere and promote the exchange of experience among countries of the region. It was generally agreed that co-operatives linking credit and marketing were well suited to the needs of farmers in the region. It was suggested that cheap credit facilities be provided to livestock and dairy farmers to raise their production and extended to fisheries as they were to agriculture.

283. The Commission considered that high priority should continue to be given by the secretariat to the regular regional review of developments in the field of food and agriculture. Certain delegations agreed with the view expressed by the secretariat that further progress in the study of elasticity of demand for rice and other cereals depended largely on Governments. It was understood that work in this sphere, as also any case studies in the use of agricultural surpluses for economic development, would be conducted in liaison with national and other international agencies concerned.

284. The Commission expressed its interest in the studies being undertaken on food and agricultural price policies with reference to rice. It was considered that increased emphasis should be given by the secretariat and by the countries of the region to the techniques of marketing agricultural products, since there was promise of rapid and practical progress from work in this field. The list of products to be studied might with advantage be extended gradually to include livestock products.

285. The Commission endorsed the proposal of the secretariat to undertake studies to assess and assist the growth of agricultural economic enquiry and research relevant to the planning by Governments of agricultural development.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS

286. The Commission recalled its resolution of 7 March 1951 (E/CN.11/301), requesting the Executive Secretary, with the co-operation of member Governments, to submit a report at intervals of three years on the implementation of the Commission's recommendations, and reviewed the question in the light of the experience of both the Economic and Social Council and itself. It recognized the importance of following the actions taken by the member Governments on the various recommendations and resolutions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies. This would enable it to assess the effectiveness of its work. However, the Commission was aware that in recent years its recommendations, and particularly those of its subsidiary bodies, had grown in number and that they covered a very wide field relating to both economic and technical aspects. In order to prepare an up-to-date report on the implementation of recommendations, a comprehensive questionnaire would be necessary to obtain the information from Governments, and this would be a burden on them. The Commission therefore decided that the practice of periodically making a report on the implementation of its recommendations should be discontinued. Instead, it felt that the substantive reports of the secretariat should be prepared on the basis of information supplied by member Governments so as to reflect as far possible the action taken by Governments towards implementing the recommendations and resolutions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies in various fields. The Commission also requested its subsidiary bodies — the committees, sub-committees and working parties — to review how far and in what manner member Governments give effect to the recommendations and decisions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, on the basis of information supplied by Governments. It further felt that it would be possible to include in its report a summary of the information supplied by member Governments on action taken by them to give effect to the Commission's recommendations.

287. The Commission also considered that, in future, whenever specific information was required on the action taken by Governments, the resolution concerned should include a clause requesting the member Governments to submit reports on action taken by them under that resolution.

288. The representative of the Soviet Union felt that, taking into consideration the absolute importance of analysing the results achieved in implementing the Commission's recommendations, for the further fruitful work of the Commission in the interest of the countries of the region, a report should be submitted by the secretariat, in accordance with the above-mentioned resolution, at the next session of the Commission.

REPORTS OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

289. The Commission noted the report on "Activities of the International Labour Organisation of special interest to Asia" (E/CN.11/446), the report on "UNESCO activities in 1956 and work plans for 1957 of interest to the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East" (E/CN.11/442), the "Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations" (E/CN.11/445) and the statements made by the representatives of these specialized agencies, as well as of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund.

290. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the wide and expanding range of activities of the specialized agencies, in particular their contribution in the field of technical assistance in national and regional programmes in the countries of the ECAFE region.

291. The Commission recognized the value to countries of the region of FAO activities in the spheres of agriculture, economics, fisheries, forestry and nutrition. The Commission noted that Governments of the region had reviewed these activities and discussed the future lines of FAO's work at the third FAO Regional Conference held at Bandung, Indonesia, in October 1956. In view of the predominant position of agriculture in the economies of most of the Asian countries and the importance that had to be attached to agricultural development in the context of general economic development, the Commission noted with interest the prospect of FAO strengthening its permanent staff in the region.

292. The Commission noted the close integration of activities between FAO and ECAFE in subjects of common interest through the Joint Division of Agriculture and the joint sponsorship of working parties and seminars. In this connexion, with regard to 1956, the Commission took note of the FAO/ECAFE Centre on Agricultural Financing and Credit, the ECAFE/FAO Working Party on Railway Track Wooden Sleepers and the participation of ECAFE in the FAO meeting on crop and livestock insurance. The Commission viewed favourably the proposals to hold joint FAO/ECAFE meetings in 1957 on the 1960 World Census of Agriculture and on development and planning in the agricultural sector, and early in 1958 on agricultural price policies.

293. The Commission took note of the views of FAO and the Executive Secretary (ECAFE/16) on the growing demand for pulp and paper in the region. The Commission considered that, with the increase in literacy and the expected growth in population, the import requirements of the region for these products would become a serious problem for countries unless measures were taken to increase local production from indigenous material. The Commission therefore endorsed the Executive Secretary's proposal for ECAFE participation in a Far Eastern meeting of economic and technical experts on the pulp and paper industry to be convened jointly by ECAFE and FAO in mid-1959.

294. The Commission noted the substantial technical assistance activities of the ILO in countries of the region which also involved several regional training

programmes. It noted that the Asian Regional Conference and the Asian Advisory Committee, of the ILO were actively concerned with a variety of vocational and industrial problems in the countries of the region.

295. The Commission noted that the activities of UNESCO in the countries of the ECAFE region covered a variety of fields, including education, research and teaching in natural and social sciences, cultural activities, mass communication and exchange of personnel. It noted the establishment of the UNESCO Research Centre on the Social Implications of Industrialization in Southern Asia at Calcutta, and hoped that its work would be of benefit to ECAFE countries which were embarking on projects of industrial development. It also noted that a joint UN/UNESCO Seminar on Urbanization in the ECAFE region was held at Bangkok in August 1956, to discuss the problems caused by the rapid growth of cities in the ECAFE region, and possible solutions.

296. The Commission noted that the assistance rendered by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund to their member countries in the ECAFE region was steadily expanding in volume and scope, and that such assistance included not only loans from the Bank and drawing facilities from the Fund, but also technical assistance and advice on problems of economic development and policy, through survey missions, consultations and other means.

297. The Commission commended the close co-operation which had continued between the ECAFE secretariat and the specialized agencies in various work projects of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, and the active participation of the specialized agencies in the Commission's activities.

298. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 22 (XIII) regarding land settlement, reproduced in part III of this report.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION

299. The Commission noted with appreciation the report by TAA on "United Nations Technical Assistance in Asia and the Far East 1956" (E/CN.11/443) and the information paper presented by the secretariat of TAB on "Technical assistance provided to countries and territories in the ECAFE region under the Expanded Programme" (E/CN.11/449). The Commission also heard statements by the Director-General of TAA and the representative of TAB.

300. The Commission considered that the technical assistance programme of the United Nations was making a distinctive contribution to the economic development of the countries of the region and represented a most fruitful form of international co-operation. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the total value of the technical assistance furnished to the countries of the ECAFE region during 1956 showed an appreciable rise over the level of the previous year, although this was due more to the quicker implementation of approved projects than to the relatively small increase of the total funds. However, there existed a considerable gap between the limited financial resources of the Expanded

Programme and the increased volume of requests for assistance from Governments. The commission expressed the hope that Members of the United Nations would increase their contributions to the Expanded Programme and provide a growing and assured basis for its operation.

301. The Commission welcomed the growing interest evinced by the countries of the ECAFE region in the Expanded Programme as reflected in the increased contributions made by them as well as in the larger number of experts recruited from the region. The Commission expressed the hope that the participation by the countries of the region in the programme would become even more active and that an increasing number of experts would be recruited from the ECAFE region.

302. The Commission noted that the procedure of country programming had been proving its effectiveness increasingly and considered it desirable for Governments to continue to have effective participation in country programming; some delegations felt it might be desirable not to specify beforehand the allocation of funds to the various participating agencies.

303. The Commission considered a suggestion that the contribution of the more advanced countries to the Expanded Programme should be made available in convertible currencies. It felt that, so far as the under-developed countries were concerned, such a provision might impose a strain on their already limited foreign exchange resources. Certain delegations favoured the application, for the time being, of the Economic and Social Council's resolution 623 B III (XXII) on this subject. Some other delegations considered that the formerly existing practice sanctioned by resolution 222 A (IX) of the Council, of making contributions in home currencies, should remain unchanged.

304. The Commission emphasized, in view of the growing awareness of the necessity for development planning in the region and the urgency of industrial development, the increasing need for technical assistance to Governments in the fields of development planning, surveys of resources, improvement of administrative machinery, industrial development and research in the field of social sciences. The Commission pointed out that the experience acquired by the subsidiary bodies of ECAFE and resulting from studies of the ECAFE secretariat would prove useful in this connexion.

305. The Commission was gratified to note that there were a number of useful regional projects in operation during the past year. The Commission stressed that, where a particular subject was of common interest to several countries of the region, regional projects such as training centres, institutes, seminars or study tours provided an effective form of technical assistance. Such projects would have the added value of promoting economic co-operation within the region. The Commission also considered the desirability of organizing study tours not only in purely technical fields but also in the fields of the economic and social sciences.

306. The Commission was impressed with the urgent necessity to provide adequate training facilities at all levels in the various countries of the region. It suggested

that Governments receiving experts should continue to provide home personnel to work with them in preparation for following up the technical assistance programme. The Commission drew the attention of the Governments of the region to the need for the proper placement of the technical assistance fellows on completion of their training.

307. The Commission was gratified to note that several countries were ready to continue to provide, and in some cases to increase, technical assistance facilities to the countries of the region.

308. The Commission noted that TAC had laid special stress on the need for periodic evaluation of the results obtained under the Expanded Programme and considered that such evaluation could be undertaken in co-operation with ECAFE.

309. The Commission noted that the ECAFE secretariat was maintaining an effective liaison with TAA. In this connexion, the Commission was awaiting with interest the results of the experiment in the decentralization of the activities of TAA in co-operation with the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA).

DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION

310. The Commission welcomed the invitation of the Government of the Federation of Malaya to hold its fourteenth session at Kuala Lumpur in 1958. The Commission unanimously decided that, subject to the approval of the appropriate United Nations bodies, the invitation of the Government of the Federation of Malaya should be accepted and that the date of the meeting should be determined by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Government of the Federation of Malaya. The Commission also authorized the Executive Secretary to determine the dates of the first session of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources and the seventh session of the Inland Transport Committee, in the light of the dates fixed for the fourteenth session of the Commission.

311. The Commission noted the statement of the representative of Pakistan that his Government had also wished to invite the Commission to hold its session in Pakistan but that, having regard to the invitation of the Government of the Federation of Malaya, his Government hoped that it would be possible for the Commission to hold its session in Pakistan in a subsequent year.

Part III

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS THIRTEENTH SESSION

18 (XIII). Tenth anniversary of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,
Expressing its appreciation to the United Nations for having established the Commission ten years ago,

Considering that the Commission has, during this period, rendered useful services to the countries of the region,

1. *Requests* the member and associate member States of the Commission and others participating in its work to continue their co-operation with the Commission with a view to fulfilling further the Commission's purposes and objectives;

2. *Requests* that member States co-operate with the United Nations in making known to the public the aims and activities of the Commission;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to arrange for the early publication of a history of the first decade of the Commission which may include the statements of delegations on the tenth anniversary of ECAFE.

*187th meeting,
28 March 1957.*

19 (XIII). Committee structure of the Commission

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Bearing in mind that the present committee structure of the Commission was developed gradually, in the course of years, to meet the growing requirements of the member countries,

Bearing in mind that the Commission's activities in the field of industry and natural resources and in the field of trade have considerably developed and grown in size and importance,

Having considered the Executive Secretary's note on the committee structure of the Commission²⁰ which transmitted to the Commission an account of the views of the member and associate member Governments on this subject,

Decides:

(1) That the Committee on Industry and Trade shall be renamed the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, with the following terms of reference:

(a) To review the plans and problems of industrial development of countries of the region with reference to organization, management and training, productivity and efficiency, and other technical and economic aspects relating to specific industries, groups of industries and over-all industrial development, and generally to promote the industrial development of the countries of the region;

(b) To review the plans and problems relative to the survey, exploitation, development and utilization of mineral, energy and other resources for industry of the countries of the region, with reference to their technical and economic aspects including those of organization, management, training, productivity and efficiency of the industries and activities in these fields;

²⁰ E/CN.11/444.

(c) To have due regard to the work being done in these fields by the United Nations and other international agencies;

(d) To review and co-ordinate the activities of its subsidiary bodies in the field of industrial development, development of mineral and energy resources, including those of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, the Sub-Committee on Electric Power, the Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel, the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing, the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials and other subsidiary bodies which it may set up to consider specific problems; and

(e) To transmit its findings and recommendations to the member and associate member Governments, and to report on its activities to the Commission;

(2) That the Sub-Committee on Trade shall be renamed the Committee on Trade, with the following terms of reference:

(a) To review the trade and commercial policies of the countries of the region and to promote the development of trade, both between the countries of the region and between the region and the rest of the world, with a view to assisting the economic development of the countries of the region;

(b) To review the progress made by the countries of the region in, and promote the development of techniques and methods for, trade promotion, including the training of trade promotion personnel;

(c) To consider other problems affecting international trade, including price stabilization of commodities, financial institutions and financing of trade, standardization of commodities, commercial arbitration, market research, shipping facilities and freight rates, transit facilities for land-locked countries, and organization and machinery for trade and commerce, having due regard to the work being done in these fields by the United Nations and other international agencies;

(d) To transmit its findings and recommendations to the member and associate member Governments, and to report on its activities to the Commission.

182nd meeting,
26 March 1957.

20 (XIII). Regional studies of demographic trends and economic development

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Having considered the note by the Executive Secretary entitled "Tentative programme of work and priorities: regional demographic studies",²¹

Keeping in view the high rate of growth of population in most of the countries of the region,

Recognizing the importance of the problems of the growth of population in economic development, particularly in relation to the demand for goods and services, the creation of employment opportunities and the requirements of capital for investments,

²¹ ECAFE/14.

*Noting that the project entitled "Relationship between population growth and economic development" (02-03), included in the programme of work approved by the Commission at its twelfth session, is now classified under Group 2 as an *ad hoc* project of high priority,*

Noting further the fact that the Population Commission at its ninth session considered that the study of population trends in relation to economic development required a large amount of work and that it proposed to regard such study in the ECAFE region as a field of continuing work,

1. *Decides to reclassify the project in its work programme under group 1 as a continuing project of high priority;*

2. *Requests the Executive Secretary (a) to provide the necessary resources for the project, (b) to establish initial priorities within this field of work, and (c) to report on progress and on the further programme of work at the next session of the Commission;*

3. *Welcomes the assistance of the Population Branch of the Bureau of Social Affairs of the United Nations to the ECAFE secretariat;*

4. *Requests member and associate member Governments of the Commission to supply available material and information and extend other assistance to the secretariat in these studies.*

187th meeting,
28 March 1957.

21 (XIII). Conference of Asian Statisticians

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Having considered the report of the fourth Regional Conference of Statisticians,²²

Noting with satisfaction the progress made in the direction of improving statistical methods in the ECAFE countries through the statistical conferences and working parties held to date,

Realizing, however, the need for further strengthening the co-operation among government statisticians in the development of statistical standards and the improvement of statistics,

Taking note of the approval by the Statistical Commission of the United Nations at its ninth session of the establishment of the Conference of Asian Statisticians,

1. *Approves the proposal of the fourth Regional Conference of Statisticians to establish the Conference of Asian Statisticians,*

2. *Requests the Conference of Asian Statisticians to report to the Commission at its next session the proposed work programme of the Conference.*

181st meeting,
25 March 1957.

22 (XIII). Land settlement

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recalling its resolution 17 (XII) adopted unanimously at its twelfth session,

²² E/CN.11/433.

Believing that the implementation of that resolution will contribute substantially to the economic and social advancement of the region,

Believing further that a study tour of government officials responsible for land settlement activities in the countries of the ECAFE region will constitute an important step in the implementation of the above-mentioned resolution,

1. *Considers* that this study tour deserves the priority accorded to important regional technical assistance projects;

2. *Invites* the ECAFE secretariat, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to explore the possibility of carrying out this project in 1958 and to avail themselves of the offer of co-operation contained in the statement by the World Veterans Federation.²³

187th meeting,
28 March 1957.

²³ E/CN.11/NGO/18.

Part IV

DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East for the period 15 February 1956 to 28 March 1957, of the recommendations contained in the account of proceedings of the thirteenth session of the Commission and of the programme of work and priorities contained therein.

187th meeting,
28 March 1957.

Part V

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES

312. At its 187th meeting held on 28 March 1957, the Commission unanimously approved the programme of work and priorities set forth below. The programme of work and priorities was adopted in the light of the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session) (E/CN.11/451), the report of the Inland Transport Committee (sixth session) (E/CN.11/450), the report of the second meeting of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (ECAFE/L.114, *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East*, vol. VII, No. 3), and the programme of work of the joint ECAFE/FAO Division of Agriculture as agreed between the Executive Secretary and the Director-General of FAO; and also in the light of inter-secretariat consultations with the ILO, UNESCO, WHO, WMO and the International Monetary Fund on projects having a bearing on their respective fields of interest.

313. As in the past, in preparing the programme of work and priorities, the Commission continued to follow a series of basic directives and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and of the General Assembly, as well as recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, regarding programmes and priorities in the economic and social fields, concentration and co-ordination of efforts and resources, control and limitation of documentation and related questions. Particular attention has been given to the recommendations contained in Economic and Social

Council resolutions 324 (XI), 362 B (XII), 402 B (XIII), 451 A (XIV), 497 C (XVI), 553 (XVIII), 557 (XVIII), 590 (XX), 597 (XXI), 604 (XXI) and 630 (XXII).

314. Economic and Social Council resolution 597 A (XXI) "Economic development of under-developed countries Industrialization", in paragraph 8:

"*Requests* the regional economic commissions, in order to achieve a co-ordinated approach in the work in this field, to take due account, in planning and formulating their future activities, of the work programme in the field of industrialization and productivity."

315. Economic and Social Council resolution 630 A I (XXII), "General review of the development and co-ordination of the economic, social and human rights programmes and activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies as a whole",

"4. *Reiterates* the appeal made by the General Assembly in its resolution 125 (II) of 20 November 1947 and *calls upon* the States members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies to take urgent measures to ensure on the national level a co-ordinated policy in regard to the activities of the United Nations and of the various specialized agencies, in order that greater concentration on major projects and fuller co-ordination may be achieved between the United Nations and the specialized agencies in the economic, social and human rights fields;

" 5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to produce a further report on the lines of the document entitled *Observations on the Work Programme of the Council and on the Financial Implications of the Council's Actions*, including comments on work in the social field as mentioned in paragraph 4 of that document and on the work programmes of the regional economic commissions and the functional commissions;

" 8. *Recommends* to the specialized agencies and *requests* the regional economic commissions and the functional commissions to pay special attention to further concentration of their activities on major economic, social and human rights problems, as may be appropriate, and to the more efficient co-ordination of the said activities, and to include a special section thereon in their next reports to the Council;"

REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAMME

316. During its last two or three sessions the Commission has given increasing attention to concentration of effort, the importance and urgency of which have been emphasized in the above-quoted recommendations of the Economic and Social Council to the Secretary-General and the regional economic commissions.

317. It will be recalled that the Commission, at its twelfth session in 1956, decided to consider at its next session how "quicker and greater results" could be ensured "by a further concentration of its efforts" and requested "the considered comments of subsidiary bodies meeting during the forthcoming year" on this subject.²⁴

318. The Commission noted that the Executive Secretary had duly conveyed this request to the subsidiary bodies which met in 1956, which had taken into account the need for concentration of efforts in the work programmes recommended by them in their respective fields. The Commission also noted that the Executive Secretary had reviewed the programme of work and priorities as a whole, analysed the implications of the individual projects, and clarified the criteria and principles to be taken into account when formulating the work programme of the Commission. At the meeting attended by the Under-Secretary of Economic and Social Affairs and the Executive Secretaries of the three regional commissions, the work programmes of the commissions, including projects on industrialization and productivity under way or contemplated at United Nations Headquarters and in the regional commissions, had recently been reviewed. The considered views of the Secretariat were placed before the Commission in the notes by the Executive Secretary on the tentative programme of work and priorities (ECAFE/L.121), and on Industrialization (ECAFE/10).

319. The Commission fully endorsed the following criteria, suggested by the Executive Secretary, which should be applied by it and its subordinate bodies when considering the work programme:

(a) In general, projects should be of regional im-

portance, or at least of importance to a number of countries in the region;

(b) Preference should be given to work directly bearing upon the formulation and application of policy;

(c) There should be increased concentration on larger, and continuing, problems of major or long-term importance. (Even here, of course, aspects of these problems could be studied year by year, so that the results could be made available to the Commission annually, and the Commission's guidance sought in regard to the future lines of work.)

(d) Preference should also be given to those projects which promise practical results in the short term.

The Commission also generally endorsed the over-all approach recommended by the Executive Secretary.

320. The Commission took note of the observations of the United States delegation (ECAFE/19), which elaborated the criteria suggested by the Executive Secretary and were based on criteria and priorities already approved by the Economic and Social Council at its eleventh session held in 1950.

321. The Commission was glad to note that the Inland Transport Committee and the Committee on Industry and Trade had taken special note of the request of the Commission, made at its twelfth session, as well as of resolution 630 A I (XXII) of the Economic and Social Council, in regard to the need, on the part of the regional economic commissions, to pay special attention to further concentration of their activities on major economic problems. The Committee on Inland Transport had recommended certain deletions and amalgamations of projects. The Committee on Industry and Trade had examined the programme of work in its field of activity and had recommended a revised work programme which reflected the above considerations and the criteria suggested by the Executive Secretary.

322. The Commission reviewed the entire work programme recommended by the subordinate bodies, in the light of the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council, and taking into account the approach recommended by the Executive Secretary. It generally approved the work programme as recommended by the subordinate bodies, but decided that certain deletions and regroupings of projects recommended by the Inland Transport Committee be given effect immediately without any further reference to the subordinate bodies of that Committee.

323. The Commission recognized that the "streamlining" of the work programme and concentration of effort on major problems was necessarily a long-term process, but was satisfied that the programme of work and priorities adopted by it at its present session represented a major step in this direction. The Commission wished to point out that, whereas the work programme adopted at its twelfth session comprised 126 projects, the present programme consists of 93 projects. The Commission looks forward to the publication of the report of the Secretary-General in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 630 A I (XXII).

²⁴ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-second session, supplement No. 2 (E/2821, para 329).

CHANGES IN THE PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES

324. A detailed statement of the changes in the programme of work and priorities is given below.

A. *New projects resulting from the emphasis given to continuing and long-term aspects of economic developments*²⁵

- 02-02 Mobilization of financial resources for economic development
- 11-02 Agricultural surplus for economic development
- 31-02 Seminar on regional planning
- 31-03 Far Eastern Meeting of Experts on Pulp and Paper Industry
- 44-07 Railway signalling in relation to speed, safety and increase in line capacity
- 44-08 Comparative study of railway administrative set-ups
- 45-01 Special telecommunications studies
- 45-02 Training of telecommunications personnel

B. *Projects completed*²⁶

- 02-02 Agricultural financing and credit seminar
- 02-04 Economic and legal aspects of foreign investments
- 03-06 Index of Asian economic statistics
- 11-03 Agricultural development financing and agricultural credit
- 21-07 Training centre for water resources development
- 33-04 Group visit of electric power experts from the region to manufacturers' plants and power-stations in Europe and North America
- 34-03 Study of building materials in the ECAFE region
- 41-03 Statistical study of performance of transport systems
- 41-04 Refrigerator inland transport
- 43-03 Training centre for inland waterway transport personnel
- 44-01 Railway training centre for operating and signalling officials
- 44-04 Railway track sleepers

D. *Projects incorporated in major projects on application of criteria approved by the Commission at its thirteenth session*

*Original projects*²⁶

- 35-01 Survey of iron and steel industry and trade in ECAFE countries
- 35-02 *Iron and Steel Bulletin*
- 37-03 Intra-regional trade
- 37-04 Trade in selected commodities
- 37-13 Study of the problems of trade of land-locked countries
- 32-04 Common-facility services for cottage and small-scale industries
- 32-06 Standardization
- 42-01 Road construction and maintenance
- 42-04 Uniform design standards and specifications for roads and bridges
- 43-05 Model government organization to deal with inland waterway transport and river and canal conservancy
- 43-09 Model IWT legislation

*New major project*²⁷

- 35-01 Survey of iron and steel industry and trade in ECAFE countries
- 37-03 Methods of expanding international trade
- 32-04 Common-facility services for cottage and small-scale industries, including methods of standardization
- 42-01 Road construction and maintenance
- 43-04 Model government organization to deal with IWT and river and canal conservancy

C. *Projects deleted on application of criteria approved by the Commission at its thirteenth session*

- 02-06 Dissemination of data on foreign investments
- 31-02 Trained personnel for economic development
- 31-03 National management institutes and training centres
- 31-04 Study of productivity and efficiency in industrial enterprises
- 31-05 Study of training facilities available in the countries of the region on rural electrification
- 32-07 Short training course for workers and mobile units for training purposes
- 33-06 Economic loading of power systems and power apparatus
- 33-07 Electricity in mining
- 33-08 Regulation and control of public-utility electricity industry
- 35-05 Pilot plants making iron without coke
- 35-07 Scrap-collection drive
- 35-08 Uniform standards of terminology in the iron and steel industry
- 36-10 Underground gasification of coal
- 36-11 Basic types of mining equipment
- 36-12 *Ad hoc* working group on expansion of the aluminium industry in the region
- 36-13 Documentation centre
- 36-14 Compilation and publication of a map showing the distribution of mineral resources in the region
- 37-05 Inter-regional trade consultations
- 37-12 Standardization
- 42-05 Mechanization of road construction and maintenance
- 42-06 Road life studies and control sections
- 42-07 Uniform standards of specifications for machinery for road projects
- 43-06 Siltation in small ports
- 44-07 Study of railway freight rates affecting the trade of land-locked countries
- 44-09 Hot axles of wagons

²⁵ Project numbers refer to the programme of work and priorities approved by the Commission at its thirteenth session, as included in Part V of the present report.

²⁶ Project numbers refer to the programme of work and

priorities approved by the Commission at its twelfth session. See the Annual Report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-second Session, Supplement No. 2* (E/2821).

²⁷ See note 25.

CONTROL AND LIMITATION OF DOCUMENTATION

325. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 789 (VIII), the Executive Secretary has taken further steps to limit the number and length of documents. Summary records of all subsidiary bodies, except the two main Committees, have been eliminated. A strict control has continued to be enforced on the size and quality of secretariat studies and reports. By a comparative sampling and examination of material produced during the year, it was found that a reduction of about 8 per cent in the number of documents and of about 10 per cent in the total volume had been achieved as compared with the previous year. Studies and material available from such bodies as universities, national, private or public institutions, and non-governmental organizations were utilized whenever possible instead of such studies being undertaken by the secretariat itself. The Executive Secretary, with the concurrence of the Governments, has deferred the sessions of two Sub-Committees, one Working Party and one Seminar. He proposes to continue this policy of not convening such meetings unless justified by the stage of the work.

REGIONAL PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION

326. As in the past, TAA has co-operated with the secretariat in implementing various projects. Most of these projects such as training, research and demonstration centres, seminars, study tours and pilot plants, are initiated by the Commission in accordance with Council resolution 222 (IX). In addition, at some ECAFE conferences and meetings of experts, TAA has agreed to provide assistance in the form of services of experts from outside the region.

327. The Commission noted that, although the importance of regional projects is well recognized, TAA is not able to finance all such projects. As a result, a certain number of projects has to be carried forward in the Commission's work programme from year to year. The Commission also noted that this problem had been reviewed by the Executive Secretary in consultation with TAA and the result reported in his note on regional projects in co-operation with the Technical Assistance Administration (ECAFE/11). In view of the financial and other implications of this question to TAA as well as to Governments, the Commission decided that the Executive Secretary should consult TAA and seek the views of member Governments on this matter and formulate specific proposals for the consideration of the Commission at the next session. The Commission also noted, on the basis of statements in the course of the session, that certain host countries would be willing to bear a greater part of the expenses of study tours.

CO-OPERATION WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

328. The Commission noted that a number of projects in the work programme were to be carried out jointly or in co-operation with specialized agencies. Overlapping with the work of the specialized agencies has been avoided by taking note of their work in related fields and

by planning work with them well in advance, so that co-operation with appropriate agencies can take place wherever a co-operative approach promises better results and better utilization of international funds. The Commission has strictly adhered to the principle that no request should be addressed to specialized agencies for a new study of a project unless the groundwork has been laid and agreed upon by the respective secretariats. In the present programme there are no projects which would require specialized agencies to undertake any new studies or projects necessitating substantial changes in their work programmes or additional budgetary provisions.

SOCIAL ASPECTS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

329. The Commission recalled that the Secretary-General had taken steps in 1956 to establish a Division of Social Affairs in the ECAFE secretariat. The programme of work of the Division is determined by the Under-Secretary for the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in close consultation with the Executive Secretary. In 1956 its work was concerned with community development, social defence, and family and child welfare services. There was increasing co-operation of the staff of the Division with other Divisions of the ECAFE secretariat, particularly in fields such as urbanization, industrialization, community development and economic development and planning. It is expected that the full complement of the staff of this Division (five professional officers) will be at work early in 1957 and that, in addition to increased services to Governments in their respective social fields, it will make an increasing contribution to the implementation of the social policies of the United Nations in the countries of the region and to an improved understanding of the inter-dependence of economic and social policies.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME

330. As in the past, the Commission authorized the Executive Secretary, in dealing with the work projects, to convene, within the available resources, such conferences, expert working parties, meetings or panels of specialists as he might deem necessary, provided that prior approval from the Governments concerned had been obtained and appropriate consultations with specialized agencies had taken place.

331. It was appreciated that while it was desirable to have as firm a programme as possible, unforeseeable factors might later make it necessary to alter or abandon certain projects or to establish different priorities. For this reason, the Commission, as in the past, left it to the discretion of the Executive Secretary to modify or defer projects, or establish different priorities, should developments not foreseen make this necessary in his opinion, provided such alterations would remain within the framework of the approved programme.

332. The Commission noted the statement of the Executive Secretary that the resources of the secretariat would remain during 1958 at approximately the level approved for 1957 by the General Assembly at its eleventh session and that the present work programme

could be implemented within the staff resources available to it during the year. The Commission felt that, having regard to the increase in budget appropriations approved by the General Assembly as well as the adjustments made in the work programme for achieving greater concentration of effort, the relation between the work programme and the secretariat staff resources was now more satisfactory.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

333. The proposed programme of work is divided into five broad divisions:

- I. General projects (including research and planning, and technical assistance and advisory services);
- II. Agriculture;
- III. Flood control and water resources development;
- IV. Industry and Trade; and
- V. Inland Transport.

It has not been found practicable or useful to attempt a determination of priorities as between these broad divisions or between their sections.²⁸

334. Within each division or section projects are listed, in accordance with Council resolution 402 B (XIII), in three groups as follows:

Group 1. Continuing projects and activities of high priority

This group consists of projects and activities in which the responsibility of the Commission and its secretariat, pursuant to the Commission's terms of reference and resolutions, is of a continuing character. The studies and reports it contemplates are to be presented from time to time. Each study may differ from and supplement the others in scope (country coverage), substance (different aspects of major problems), and time (developments during a given period). No relative priorities are assigned to projects within this group, or as between group 1 and group 2.

Group 2. Ad hoc projects of high priority

This group consists of non-recurrent projects, for which an approximate duration can be estimated. It includes projects outside the broad scope of the continuing projects (group 1) as well as occasional topics within the scope of such continuing projects. Pursuant to the recommendations of the Council and its Co-ordination Committee, an estimate of the probable duration of virtually all projects in group 2 is indicated. No relative priorities are assigned to projects within this group, or as between group 1 and group 2.

²⁸ Apart from technical assistance and advisory services, these broad divisions of projects correspond to work assigned to the five substantive divisions of the secretariat, namely, the Research and Planning Division, the joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division, the Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development, the Industry and Trade Division and the Transport Division.

Group 3. Other projects

This group consists of projects which, in view of staff and budget limitations, will have to be deferred for the present and probably cannot be undertaken in 1957 or 1958. An estimated duration of work or date for completion is shown for virtually every *ad hoc* project in this group. Within this group, projects are listed in order of priority so that, if and as resources become available, they may be taken up, in each division or section in the order listed.

335. The criteria used in proposing the distribution of projects in the above three groups include, among other factors, an estimate of the basic importance of each project concerned, as well as an estimate of the most effective way to utilize available resources.

Annotated list of projects for 1957 and 1958

Note: The letter "s" indicates projects involving co-operation with one or more of the specialized agencies; the letter "t" indicates projects on which the co-operation of the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration has been agreed to or is to be sought.

I. GENERAL PROJECTS

A. RESEARCH AND PLANNING

1. Review and analysis of the current economic situation

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

01-01 *Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East* (annual)
Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission and Commission resolutions E/CN.11/63, 8 December 1947, and E/CN.11/222, 28 October 1949. Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

01-02 *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East* (quarterly)
Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission and Commission resolutions E/CN.11/63, 8 December 1947, and E/CN.11/222, 28 October 1949; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Bulletin to include periodic reviews of the economic situation in Asia and the Far East, current economic statistics, studies and reports from meetings on economic development and related subjects, and special articles.

2. Economic development

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

02-01 *Economic development and planning*²⁹
Authority: Commission resolution 16 (XII); Commission, thirteenth session, 1957. Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, second meeting, 1956.

Description:

- (a) Analytical survey of economic development and of economic development planning in the countries of the ECAFE region, in agreement and co-operation with the Governments concerned;

²⁹ In co-ordination with projects 11-03 and 31-01.

- (b) Studies of basic economic development problems and policies, including financial aspects, with special reference to the ECAFE region;
- (c) Development of a body of techniques of programming economic development, including methods of economic projection, adapted to the conditions of the countries in the ECAFE region;
- (d) Working Party on Economic Development and Planning: the first meeting, November 1955, considered problems and techniques of economic development planning and programming; the second meeting, September 1956, considered development policies and means of implementing development programmes; the third meeting is to be held in September 1957 jointly with FAO to consider the agricultural sector.

02-02 *Mobilization of financial resources for economic development*

Authority: (See project 02-01)

Description: Analysis of the means of achieving an adequate and steady flow of domestic and international financial resources for the economic development of the countries of the ECAFE region, including studies of methods of raising the rate of domestic saving by private and by governmental action, increasing and stabilizing foreign exchange earnings, and enlarging the inflow of capital from both public and private sources.

02-03 *Relationship between population growth and economic development*
(s)

Authority: Commission, resolution 20 (XIII).

Description: Analysis of the inter-relationship between population growth and economic development in the ECAFE region. With the assistance of the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs.

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

02-04 *Role of expanded self-help measures in economic development*
(s)

Authority: Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Analysis of the actual and potential contribution to economic development of community development and other similar measures of co-operation. With the assistance of the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs. Date of completion, 1958.³⁰

3. Statistics

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS
AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

03-01 *Statistical compilation*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission. Commission resolution E/CN.11/223/Rev.1, fifth session, 1949. Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description:

- (a) Maintenance of basic statistical series on population, national income, production, transport, trade, labour, prices, finance, etc. in ECAFE countries including those regularly published in the *Economic Bulletin*;
- (b) Compilation of statistics for special analyses required for various projects of the secretariat.

03-02 *Statistical methods*

(s,t)

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission. Commission resolution E/CN.11/223/Rev.1, fifth session, 1949. Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description:

- (a) Study of methods used in the collection and compilation of statistics in ECAFE countries, and evaluation of statistics, with special reference to comparability and conformity to international standards. Close liaison with statisticians in the region with a view to effecting methodological improvements. The above activities to be carried out in collaboration with the United Nations Statistical Office and other units of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, as well as with specialized agencies. The fields of statistics to be covered include production, prices, trade and balance of payments, currency and banking, public finance, national income, labour and population;
- (b) Clearing house for exchange of information on statistical techniques. Collection and dissemination of information on statistical methods in various fields, especially those already developed in countries of the region. Dissemination of information on statistical techniques used in countries outside the region to ECAFE countries may also be undertaken, in co-operation with the United Nations Statistical Office, the ECE and ECLA secretariats and specialized agencies.

03-03 *Statistical organization and activities*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission. Commission resolution E/CN.11/223/Rev.1, fifth session, 1949. Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Survey of changes in statistical organization and activities in ECAFE countries with special reference to improvements in the availability of statistics, in methods of collection and in coverage. First report issued in 1951, second in 1953, third in 1956. Fourth report to be issued in 1960.

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

03-04 *Conference of Asian Statisticians*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission. Commission resolution E/CN.11/223/Rev.1, fifth session, 1949. Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Four regional conferences of statisticians have been held, in co-operation with the United Nations Statistical Office: on trade and payments statistics in 1951; on price and production statistics in 1952; on national income statistics in 1954; and in March 1956, on the proposed 1960 world programme of population and related censuses with reference to countries of Asia and the Far East. The Conference of Asian Statisticians is to replace the regional conferences. Organization meeting and discussion of future work programme, together with joint meeting with FAO to discuss FAO agricultural census plans, to be held in 1957. Working groups to be held at intervals on subjects to be selected by the Conference.

03-05 *Budget reclassification workshop*

(t)

Authority: Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: A workshop on budget reclassification was convened in August 1955 in co-operation with the Fiscal Branch of the United Nations Bureau of

³⁰ In co-ordination with project 11-03.

Economic Affairs and TAA; a second workshop on the same subject will be convened in September 1957.

03-06 *Methods for the estimation of capital formation*

Authority: Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Study of problems and techniques of the estimation of capital formation in countries of the ECAFE region, in co-operation with the United Nations Statistical Office. A working party or a meeting of statisticians may be convened after completion of the study. Date of completion, 1957.

B. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND ADVISORY SERVICES

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

04-01 *Advisory services*

(s,f)

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission, and Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: The secretariat, within available resources and in consultation with TAB, TAA and the specialized agencies, will upon request of Governments and in connexion with projects in the work programme, provide expert advisory services to countries of the region. At the request of a country, a team may make a visit to render advisory services especially on the formulation and implementation of the economic development programme.

04-02 *Co-operation in the technical assistance programme*

(f)

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission, and Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description:

- (a) Assistance in the development of the technical assistance activities of the United Nations upon request of the competent bodies, as appropriate;
- (b) Co-operation with TAA on the planning and implementation of regional technical assistance projects recommended by the Commission;
- (c) Assistance to Governments, at their request, in the preparation or formulation of their applications for technical assistance.

II. AGRICULTURE ³¹

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

11-01 *Continuing review of current developments in the field of food and agriculture in Asia and the Far East*

(s)

Authority: Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Supply of information on food and agricultural matters required for:

- (a) All ECAFE studies with food and agriculture implications, particularly the annual *Economic Survey* and the quarterly *Economic Bulletin*;
- (b) FAO Regional Office and Headquarters, including material for *State of Food and Agriculture* and regional conferences;
- (c) Occasional reports on significant developments in agrarian reforms in individual countries of the region;
- (d) Studies on agricultural financing and agricultural credit.

11-02 *Agricultural surpluses for economic development*

(s)

Authority: Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Studies on the disposal of agricultural surpluses, with special reference to the procedures and problems involved in the utilization in the region of agricultural surpluses for economic development (in co-ordination with projects on trade).

11-03 *Agricultural development and planning ³²*

(s)

Authority: Commission, thirteenth session, 1957. Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (second meeting), 1956.

Description: Studies of agricultural development and plans, including:

- (a) Study of methods of agricultural planning being followed at present in countries of the region. Joint FAO/ECAFE Working Party on Agricultural Development and Planning in 1957;
- (b) Relation between agriculture and industry, taking into account the necessity for rapid development of the countries of the region;
- (c) The role of the village community in agricultural development and economic aspects of community development;
- (d) The status and scope of relevant agricultural economic studies and research in countries of the region.

11-04 *Price and income elasticity of demand for rice and other cereals*

(s)

Authority: Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Collection and analysis of information available in relation to countries of the region.

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

11-05 *Food and agricultural price policies in Far Eastern countries*

(s)

Authority: Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Supplement to document ECAFE/L.87. Joint FAO/ECAFE seminar in 1958. Date of completion, 1958.

11-06 *Study of timber trends and prospects*

(s)

Authority: Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Study of production and consumption of timber in Asia and the Far East and working out of probable trends for 1960-1970 in the light of anticipated economic development, increase of population, etc. Joint FAO/ECAFE project commenced in 1956. Main ECAFE contribution commencing in 1957. Date of completion, 1958.

11-07 *Marketing of agricultural products ³³*

(s)

Authority: Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Studies of marketing problems and methods in relation to selected products, such as sugar, rice, tobacco. National studies to be undertaken, as far as possible by national institutions, with possible Expanded Technical Assistance Programme or other assistance, and regional aspects to be dealt with by the secretariat.

³¹ This work programme on agriculture is based on the decisions of the Commission at its twelfth session and on the proposals agreed between the Director-General of FAO and the Executive Secretary of ECAFE in the light of developments since the twelfth session of the Commission.

³² In co-ordination with projects 02-01 and 31-01.

³³ In co-ordination with project 37-05.

III. FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

- 21-01 *Multiple-purpose river basin development*³⁴
(s) Authority: Commission, seventh session, 1951; thirteenth session, 1957.
Description: Investigation and promotion of multiple-purpose river basin development in the region.
(a) Country-by-country survey of water resources, present status of utilization and future plans of development; and study and analysis of problems and difficulties encountered;
(b) Preparation of detailed reports on various specific subjects;
(c) Analysis of planning and execution of selected multiple-purpose projects in the region.
- 21-02 *Flood control and water resources development of international rivers*³⁴
Authority: Commission, sixth session, 1950, thirteenth session, 1957.
Description: Study of technical problems of flood control and water resources development of international rivers in the region and promotion of co-operation among the countries concerned.
- 21-03 *Flood control methods*
Authority: Commission, sixth session, 1950; thirteenth session, 1957.
Description: Improvement of flood control methods, including a joint study with technical organizations of the region on various specific problems. The 1957 work programme will be a continuation of the study, initiated in 1954, of methods employed for earthwork construction with particular emphasis on the use of labour with a view to increasing efficiency and reducing costs.
- 21-04 *Hydrologic observations and hydraulic research stations*
(s) Authority: Commission, seventh session, 1951; thirteenth session, 1957.
Description:
(a) Study of major deficiencies in hydrologic data (Joint ECAFE/WMO project);
(b) Promotion of existing facilities in hydraulic research work and programmes of hydraulic research stations.
- 21-05 *Dissemination of technical information on flood control works and water resources development*
Authority: Commission, sixth session, 1950; thirteenth session, 1957.
Description: Publication of "Flood Control Series" and "Flood Control Journal", and distribution of technical reports and publications.

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

- 21-06 *Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development*
(t) Authority: Commission, twelfth session, 1956; thirteenth session, 1957.
Description: To be convened in late 1957. Subjects selected for discussion include:

- (a) Current programmes for water resources development;
(b) Construction of water resources development projects — government agency versus private contractor;
(c) Basic hydrologic data; and
(d) Improving the efficient use of manual labour in earthwork construction.
In co-operation with TAA.

- 21-07 *Organizations for the execution of river basin development in different countries of the region*³⁵
Authority: Commission, eleventh session, 1955; thirteenth session, 1957.
Description: Study of existing organizations for the planning of river basin development and administrations for the construction and operation of river valley projects in the region. Work started in 1955. (Related to project 21-01.)
- 21-08 *Group visits of experts to water resources development schemes in Europe and North America*
(t) Authority: Commission, tenth session, 1954; thirteenth session, 1957.
Description: To organize a visit by a team of experts to water resources development schemes in Europe and America. Co-operation with TAA has been sought. Duration of work, four months.

IV. INDUSTRY AND TRADE

A. INDUSTRY AND MINING

1. General

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

- 31-01 *Industrial development and planning*³⁶
Authority: Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.
Description:
(a) Study of the problems and techniques of industrial planning and development, including problems relating to specific industries of major importance to the region, to cover metal and engineering industries, chemical industries, cement, etc.;
(b) Study of the problems of location of industries in the countries of the region. The first report to be prepared for the Seminar on Regional Planning to be convened in co-operation with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs and of the specialized agencies concerned (see project 31-02);
(c) Dissemination of technical information on organization and administration of industrial establishments.³⁷

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

- 31-02 *Seminar on Regional Planning*
(t) Authority: Joint UN/UNESCO Seminar on Urbanization, 1956; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.
Description: Project jointly planned by the Bureau of Social Affairs and the ECAFE secretariat. Agenda to

³⁴ In co-ordination with projects 33-03 and 43-01.

³⁵ In co-ordination with project 31-01 (b).

³⁶ In co-ordination with projects 02-01 and 11-03.

³⁷ In co-ordination with project 21-07.

include, *inter alia*, current trends and policies governing physical, regional or environmental planning; case studies on regional land-use planning, location of industrial, agricultural and residential areas, and related subjects. ECAFE secretariat to undertake study of location of industry in industrial, agricultural and residential areas in countries of the region. Other aspects to be taken up by the Bureau of Social Affairs and UNESCO. Co-operation of TAA to be sought.

31-03 *Far Eastern Meeting of Experts on Pulp and Paper Industry*
(t)

Authority: Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Meeting to be convened in mid-1959 jointly by ECAFE and FAO: attendance to include leading specialists from countries outside the region. Co-operation of TAA to be sought.

2. Cottage and small-scale industries

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

32-01 *Dissemination of technical information*

Authority: Resolution of the Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Dissemination of technical information concerning methods of production, equipment, layouts, processes and standards used in various industries. Emphasis to be given to pilot plants and research centres.

32-02 *Promotion and co-ordination of research and experiments by countries of the region*

Authority: Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing (fourth meeting), 1955; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Reports on manufacturing and marketing aspects of the tanning and leather industry to be submitted by countries to the next meeting of the Working Party, 1957.

32-03 *Economic aspects of cottage and small-scale industries*
(s)

Authority: Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing (fourth meeting), 1955; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Studies of the economic aspects of the tanning and leather industry, including the problem of organization and management, protection from imports, and studies of competitive relations with large-scale domestic manufactures; in co-operation with the ILO. Statistical data, information and memoranda to be furnished by Governments.

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

32-04 *Common-facility services for cottage and small-scale industries, including methods of standardization*

Authority: Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing (fourth meeting), 1955; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: The report covering the potentialities of common-facility services for groups of independent producers as a technique for the improvement of

quality, standardization, expansion of production and reduction of cost of selected cottage industries, was completed in 1955. Further report to include studies of experience gained and difficulties encountered in selected small-scale industries, in 1957.

32-05 *Studies on production and marketing techniques*
(t)

Authority: Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing (fourth meeting), 1955; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Studies on production and marketing techniques of selected handicrafts and small-scale industries. With the assistance of TAA. Report on the tanning and leather industry to be undertaken in 1957.³⁸

3. Electric power

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

33-01 *Review of progress of electric power development in Asia and the Far East*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Electric Power (fifth session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Bulletin to include comparable statistics and data on generation and capacity by types of plants, transmission lines by length and voltage, consumption of fuels by types and quantities, efficiencies and load factors attained, and utilization by heavy and light industries. Progress in construction of projects for generation and transmission of electric power and significant details of projects whose construction is to commence next year. To be published annually in the *Electric Power Bulletin for Asia and the Far East*. Progress of rural electrification to be covered by population, area and use of power for agricultural pumping, farm use and industries and special articles of regional interest to be included from time to time in the *Bulletin*. Dissemination of information on developments in the use of atomic energy for generation of electricity.

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

33-02 *Rural electrification*
(t)

Authority: Sub-Committee on Electric Power (fifth session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Follow-up action on the secretariat's reports on technical and economic aspects of rural electrification. Assistance to countries in preparing programmes of rural electrification with particular reference to the application of electricity in rural industries. TAA co-operation on specific schemes to be sought by the countries concerned.

33-03 *Hydro-electric potential of each country of the region and its gross, technical and economic limits*
(t)

Authority: Sub-Committee on Electric Power (fifth session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Study of the basic principles and methods for assessing "theoretical gross potential", "technical potential" and "economic potential". Assistance to

³⁸ In co-ordination with project 37-08.

countries of the region in assessment of the hydro-electric potential. A preliminary report setting forth the principles and methods of assessing the hydro-power potential was discussed at the fifth session of the Sub-Committee on Electric Power. In the second stage, these principles and methods to be applied to basic data collected by the countries with a view to determining the hydro-electric power potentials of the countries of the region; this work to be carried out by a working party of experts of the region. Estimated duration of work, three years.³⁹

33-04 *Standards for electric plant and equipment and standardization of system practices*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Electric Power (fifth session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: In continuation of last year's work, a comparative survey of the present practices in the region would be made and suggestions for appropriate general standards for equipment, methods and practices would be formulated, taking into account developments in the industrially advanced countries; a comparative study of the standard specifications of manufacturing countries to be undertaken for the following subjects in the first instance: (a) generators and motors, (b) distribution transformers, (c) power transformers, and (d) switchgear 3.3 kV and above. Estimated duration, two years.

4. Housing and building materials

**GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS
AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY**

34-01 *Housing and town and country planning and building*
(s,t)

Authority: Working Party on Housing and Building Materials (fourth meeting), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description:

- (a) Convening periodic working parties of experts from member countries to review the technical and economic problems on housing and building materials, to recommend measures for the promotion of housing and building materials industries and to promote international co-operation in this regard in co-operation with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs, TAA, FAO, the ILO, UNESCO and WHO;
- (b) Co-ordination at the regional level of the work of various agencies on the basis of work projects and programmes of the Social Commission and the Economic and Social Council;
- (c) Collection and dissemination of information on technical problems of housing and building materials, results of research, experimentation and demonstration on building materials, construction methods, types of houses, designs of community facilities, standardization, aided self-help methods, capital cost and other details concerning manufacture of new building materials. In co-operation with the United Nations agencies referred to in (a) and the Governments concerned.

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

34-02 *Guiding principles for housing standards and building codes for ECAFE countries*

Authority: Working Party on Housing and Building Materials (fourth meeting), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Completion of the regional study related to the global study being undertaken by the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs at the request of the Social Commission. Preliminary ECAFE study completed in 1955. Estimated date for completion of the ECAFE study, December 1957.

34-03 *Regional housing centres*
(s,t)

Authority: Working Party on Housing and Building Materials (fourth meeting), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description:

- (a) Follow-up action and reporting on the regional housing centres for the arid and humid tropical zones of the region. Further TAA co-operation to be sought if required by the countries concerned. Co-operation of other agencies also to be sought;
- (b) Work in consultation with the Governments concerned on the regional housing centre advisory committee, including provision for participation in programming and use of research by various sectors of private industries.

34-04 *Study tour by housing and building materials experts from countries of the region*
(t)

Authority: Working Party on Housing and Building Materials (fourth meeting), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: To observe and study the latest development in countries visited in respect of methods and techniques of programming for housing and newly industrialized areas, methods and techniques of building constructions on a mass scale, progress in the building materials industries and in the organizational administrative and research aspects of building development.

34-05 *Periodic review of the housing situation and housing and building programmes in the region, in relation to economic and social developments*

Authority: Working Party on Housing and Building Materials (fourth meeting), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Periodic review of the housing situation and housing and building programmes in the region, in relation to economic and social development. First report, December 1957.

GROUP 3. OTHER PROJECTS

34-06 *Development of building materials*

Authority: Working Party on Housing and Building Materials (fourth meeting), 1956.

Description: The studies of the plans and the possibilities of development of specific building materials from conventional and non-conventional indigenous

³⁹ In co-ordination with projects 21-01 and 21-02.

resources. Emphasis to be given in the studies of new sources of supply of and techniques in using raw materials and resources required for manufacturing conventional and non-conventional building and construction materials. Duration of work: three years.

5. Iron and Steel

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

35-01 *Survey of iron and steel industry and trade in ECAFE countries*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel (fourth session), 1952; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Continuing study of plans and problems of the iron and steel industry and trade in ECAFE countries, including dissemination of technical and economic information relating to such problems, and periodic publication of the *Iron and Steel Bulletin*.

35-02 *Dissemination of information on technical and economic aspects of selected techniques in the iron, steel and allied industries of interest to ECAFE countries*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel (sixth session), 1955; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: This will include ore beneficiation, new processes of iron and steel making, refractories manufacture and techniques of scrap collection and preparation.

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

35-03 (r) *Technical study of iron and steel manufacturing processes*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel (sixth session), 1955; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Processes of iron manufacture without coking coal, steel manufacture, ore beneficiation and training of technicians. The second report of the secretariat will be submitted to the seventh session of the Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel. A group visit to be organized in 1957 in co-operation with TAA.

35-04 *Iron and steel specifications*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel (sixth session), 1955; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Study of possible methods of simplification and/or standardization of specifications for manufacture and use of iron and steel and their products. Duration of study, two years.

35-05 *Market research*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel (sixth session), 1955; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Study of existing market research and possibilities of applying systems used in more advanced countries. Co-operation between the steel industry and other consuming industries. Efficiency in steel utilization, etc. Duration, two years.

6. Mineral Resources Development

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

36-01 *Regional mining development review*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Periodic review of current mining activities in the region including discoveries of new mineral deposits, development of new mines including small mines, installation and expansion of mineral processing plants, and economic aspects of mineral production including its co-ordination with electric power developments. Earlier secretariat reports have reviewed progress from 1945 to 1956.

Report on organization and methods of compiling mineral statistics of the region to be prepared in conjunction with the mining development reviews.

36-02 *Technical studies and dissemination of information on selected mineral resources and mineral discovery and extraction methods*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Studies of resources basic to the industrial development of the region or in short supply in the world market. Reports so far completed covered coal, iron ore, aluminium, sulphur, kaolin and ilmenite ore. Studies of copper, lead, zinc and tin to be undertaken. Report on coal and iron-ore resources including data on coking coal resources, to be brought up to date. Dissemination of information on the planning, prospecting, and development of uranium and other radioactive mineral deposits.

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

36-03 *Study of aerial survey methods and equipment*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: First report to cover general information on photogrammetry and aerial survey methods and equipment indicating their limitations and usefulness. In co-operation with United Nations Cartographic Section and International Training Centre for Aerial Survey.

36-04 *Exploration, exploitation and utilization of low-grade coals in the region*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Comprehensive study covering exploration, availability and extraction, including distribution, quantity, quality, mining beneficiation, and utilization, and economic aspects; country studies, including recommendations for development in each country. Study of lignite exploitation and utilization completed in 1956. Study of exploitation and utilization of peat and other low-grade coals to follow.

- 36-05 *Integrated study of the fuel economy of the region*
 Authority: Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.
 Description: Study to cover current and potential production and consumption of fuels of countries of the region, cost of production and market prices, comparison of advantages and disadvantages of utilization of various kinds of fuels and best methods to utilize known fuel resources. Review of the fuel policies of countries of the region. First report completed in 1955. Second report to be compiled in 1957.
- 36-06 *Compilation of existing regulations governing the mineral development of the region*
 Authority: Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.
 Description: Compilation started in 1954. First report completed in 1955. To be revised and brought up to date in 1957.
- 36-07 *Regional geological and mineral maps*
 Authority: Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.
 Description: Follow-up action arising from the conclusions and recommendations of the Working Party of Senior Geologists, in co-operation with the International Geological Congress and the United Nations Cartographic Section.
- 36-08 *Standard classification of coal for regional use*
 Authority: Committee on Industry and Trade (third session), 1951; Commission (seventh session), 1951; Regional Conference on Mineral Resources Development, 1953; Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (second session), 1956; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.
 Description: Preliminary report completed in 1951. Second report completed in 1956. Date of completion of third report, 1957/58. International exchange and laboratory investigation of coal samples to be promoted in co-operation with ECE.
- 36-09 *Study tour of geologists and mining experts from Asia (t) and the Far East*
 Authority: Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (second session), 1956; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.
 Description: To explore the possibilities in co-operation with TAA and host countries concerned, and to organize a study tour to Canada and the United States of America.

B. TRADE

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

- 37-01 *Development of trade and trade promotion services*
 Authority: Sub-Committee on Trade (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.
 Description: Review of trade and commercial policies of ECAFE countries, assistance to national trade

promotion agencies by furnishing them with information and advice on problems confronting them, namely, organization of training courses in trade promotion techniques and services; organization and arrangement of international trade fairs and exchange of trade visits between countries; and development of improved commercial intelligence services and marketing research activities.

Report presented to the Sub-Committee on Trade on current developments of trade and trade policies in October-November 1956; next report to be presented to first session of the Committee on Trade. Report submitted on techniques and facilities for the organization on international fairs and exhibitions; work to be continued.

- 37-02 *Clearing house for collection and dissemination of commercial information not generally available to the countries of the region*

Authority: Commission, sixth session, 1950; Sub-Committee on Trade (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Publication of "Trade Promotion News"; collection and dissemination of information on commercial arbitration, standardization of commodities and products, certification and marketing procedure, and shipping rates and availabilities.

- 37-03 *Methods of expanding international trade*

Authority: Commission, tenth session, 1954; Sub-Committee on Trade (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Study on methods of expanding international trade with a view to removing obstacles to trade including those relating to transit trade of landlocked countries. Reports on iron ore, coal, salt, fish and fish products submitted to the Sub-Committee on Trade in October-November 1956. Further work to include study on trade in selected commodities and capital goods.

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

- 37-04 *Regulations, procedures and practices concerning the conduct of international trade*

Authority: Commission, eleventh session, 1955; Sub-Committee on Trade (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: A study, in co-operation with Governments and interested commercial and inter-governmental organizations, of the regulations, procedures and practices concerning the conduct of international trade with a view to their simplification. Practical suggestions to be formulated for the consideration of Governments. First report completed and presented to the Sub-Committee on Trade in October-November 1956.

The next phase of the work to include (a) report to be revised and issued, in 1957 or 1958; (b) periodic review of import and export licensing procedures and practices; and (c) convening in 1958 of working party of experts on customs procedures and formalities, in co-operation with interested international organizations.

37-05 *Market analysis*⁴⁰

- (s) Authority: Commission, seventh session, 1951; Sub-Committee on Trade (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Surveys of selected products of countries of the ECAFE region. Report on coconut and coconut products completed and submitted to the Sub-Committee on Trade in October-November 1956. Report on spices to be completed in 1957.

37-06 *Organization of training courses in trade promotion*

- (s) Authority: Sub-Committee on Trade (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Secretariat proposals for organization of training courses in trade promotion submitted to the Sub-Committee on Trade in October-November 1956. Further work to be undertaken for organization of training courses in trade promotion in India and in Japan in 1958. Assistance to the host Governments in organizing the training courses. Co-operation of TAA to be sought. Also exploration of the possibility of establishing a regional training centre for trade promotion on a long-term basis.

37-07 *Commercial arbitration facilities*

Authority: Commission, ninth session, 1953; Sub-Committee on Trade (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Promotion, in co-operation with the national and appropriate international organizations concerned, of arbitral facilities in the region, and assistance to countries in the formulation of laws, rules and regulations on arbitral procedure, incorporation of standard arbitral clause in trade contracts and enforcement of international arbitral awards. Work to include (a) collection and dissemination of information about laws, regulations and court decisions and similar documents bearing on commercial arbitration; and (b) analysis and preparation of recommendations and comments on the information obtained.

37-08 *Domestic and export marketing of handicrafts*⁴¹

- (t) Authority: Commission, eleventh session, 1955; Sub-Committee on Trade (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Assistance to countries in the development of domestic and export marketing. In co-operation with TAA. Report on marketing of leather products to be completed in 1957.

37-09 *Study of ocean freight rates*

Authority: Commission, eleventh session, 1955; Sub-Committee on Trade (second session), 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Study of ocean freight rates affecting the countries of the region, including consideration of the possibilities of increasing the availability of shipping

facilities in co-operation with national and international agencies, particularly the United Nations Transport and Communications Commission. Report presented by the secretariat to the Sub-Committee on Trade in October-November 1956. Continuing review by the Committee of problems of ocean freight rates and availability of shipping. Collection and dissemination of information by the secretariat to continue. Further work by the secretariat to be defined in the light of progress made by the countries of the region in this field.

V. INLAND TRANSPORT

A. GENERAL

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

- 41-01 *Collection, analysis and dissemination of information*
Authority: *Ad hoc* Committee of Experts on Inland Transport, 1950; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description:

- (a) Collection, analysis and dissemination of information with regard to general transport problems, railways, highways and inland waterways;
- (b) Library and film service;
- (c) Publication of a quarterly "Transport Bulletin";
- (d) Publication of an annual "Railways Statistics Bulletin".

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

- 41-02 *Co-ordination of transport*
(s) Authority: Inland Transport Committee (first session), 1951; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Working party to be convened early in 1958. In co-operation with ICAO as necessary. Duration 1957-58.

- 41-03 *Mechanization of accounts in transport undertakings*
Authority: Inland Transport Committee (third session), 1954; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Having noted that any transport undertaking has to depend for success on sound financial and accounting system, that the efficiency of accounting depends, in turn, upon the means employed, and that mechanization increases efficiency and economy in time and money, the Inland Transport Committee requested the secretariat to study mechanization of accounts in transport undertakings and make recommendations regarding the introduction of mechanized systems.

Preliminary report 1956; final report 1957.

B. HIGHWAYS

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

(see also project 41-01)

- 42-01 *Road construction and maintenance*
(a) *Bituminous construction*

Authority: Highway Sub-Committee (third session), resolution 43 (1955); Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

⁴⁰ In co-ordination with project 11-07.

⁴¹ In co-ordination with project 32-05.

Description:

- (i) Collection from countries outside and within the ECAFE region of information regarding results of research and experiments on bituminous road construction and maintenance.
- (ii) Formulation of recommendations suitable to conditions prevailing in the countries of the region bearing in mind such factors as traffic volume, climatic conditions, local material available, use of rock asphalt, use of natural rubber, relative costs and the use of cheap labour as compared to that of mechanized equipment.
- (iii) Establishment of a uniform terminology.

Final report 1957.

(b) Techniques of construction and maintenance

Authority: Highway Sub-Committee (third session), resolution 32, 1955; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description:

- (i) Collection from the countries of the region of detailed information regarding the construction and maintenance of low-cost roads and experience gained from experiments made in soil stabilization within and outside the region.
- (ii) Study of methods and materials used for the construction of required type of roads at minimum cost through stabilizing sub-base soil and/or base course material by (1) mechanical means, (2) cement, (3) bituminous material, (4) chemicals, (5) resinous material, etc.
- (i) (iii) A seminar on low-cost roads and soil stabilization to be convened in 1958. In co-operation with TAA.
- (iv) Study of the possibility of affording facilities for practical training to personnel of the less advanced countries of the region on the subject of soil stabilization.

(c) Current methods of highway financing and administration

Authority: Highway Sub-Committee (second session), resolutions 23 and 31, 1953; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Detailed studies of current methods of highway financing and administration both within and outside the ECAFE region, with a view to formulating recommendations for adoption by the countries of the region.

Preliminary report 1957; final report 1958.

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

42-02 International highways

Authority: Highway Sub-Committee (third session), resolution 32, 1955; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Study, review and recommendations regarding national systems of highways for promotion of the development of international highways connecting the countries of the region for economic development. The study will include uniform designs, standards and specifications for roads and bridges. Date of completion of interim report, 1956; final report 1957.

42-03 Highway Safety

Authority: Highway Sub-Committee (thirteenth session), 1955; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description:

- (a) Studies and recommendations with particular reference to traffic congestion and road accidents. Preliminary report to be discussed at the 1957 Seminar on Highway Safety and the final recommendations to be submitted for approval by the Highway Sub-Committee at its fourth session in December 1957.
- (b) Seminar on both engineering and traffic aspects of highway safety to be held with a view to pooling information on current practices and providing a basis for formulating recommendations for adoption by governments of the region, May 1957.
- (c) Preparation of a uniform terminology of technical terms with a view to help avoiding confusion and promoting better understanding. Final report to be produced for the 1957 Seminar.

C. INLAND WATERWAYS

**GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS
AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY**

(see also project 41-01)

41-01 Improvement of inland waterway transport⁴²

Authority: Inland Transport Committee (first session), 1951; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description:

- (a) Examination of improved methods of river and canal conservancy for navigation;
- (b) Dissemination of information regarding methods of improving efficiency of inland waterway transport. Reports and information papers on different aspects being issued from time to time. Next report, on current inland waterway developments, to be issued in 1957.

Co-operation of TAA to be sought, if necessary.

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

43-02 Improved design and operation of craft

- (i) Authority: *Ad hoc* Committee of Experts on Inland Transport, 1950; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Demonstration/pilot projects in India and Pakistan covering craft design and operation, including use of pusher craft and towing methods;

- (a) For India: study and analysis of operating results and publication of such data as may be of interest to other countries of the region;
- (b) For Pakistan: assistance in obtaining aid from member countries and in co-ordinating various offers.

In co-operation with TAA.

Proposed duration: 1957-58.

43-03 Inland ports

Authority: Third session of the Inland Transport Committee (third session), 1954; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Recommendations regarding financing,

⁴² In co-ordination with projects 21-01 and 21-02.

construction, organization and management of inland ports in the region, on the basis of studies of inland ports in Europe and the United States of America. Working Party to be convened in 1957.

43-04 *Model government organization to deal with inland waterway transport and river and canal conservancy*

Authority: Inland Waterway Sub-Committee (second session), 1954; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Study of advantages and disadvantages of existing systems; recommendations of suitable structure and terms of reference for government organization, including the legislative aspect.

Date of completion of report: 1957.

43-05 *Study tour*

(t)

Authority: Inland Waterway Sub-Committee (third session), 1955; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Exploration of the possibilities of arranging for a team of experts from countries of the region to study modern methods and techniques in inland waterway transport in eastern Europe and Africa. Co-operation of TAA to be sought.

Tour to take place in 1958.

43-06 *Dredging of inland waterways*

Authority: Inland Waterway Sub-Committee (third session), 1955; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Study of dredging methods and equipment suitable for use in inland waterways and inland ports.

Proposed duration: 1957-58.

GROUP 3. OTHER PROJECTS

43-07 *Classification of inland waterways*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee (third session), 1954; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Study of the possibility of establishing standards for classification of waterways and determination of suitable standard dimensions of waterways, structures and craft for each class.

Duration: two years.

D. RAILWAYS

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS
AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

(see project 41-01)

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

44-01 *Diesel locomotives and railcars*

Authority: Railway Sub-Committee (first session), 1953; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: An expert group appointed by the Sub-Committee to finalize the report in 1957 in the light of the recommendations of the Sub-Committee; to prepare a typical example or examples showing how the various factors are assessed and how the selection of suitable sizes and numbers of locomotives could be made; and to assist the railways of the region to evaluate the economic and technical factors determining the use of diesel locomotives. The subject of railcars to be further studied by the group and a final report prepared.

Duration: 1957.

44-02 *Improved turn-round of rolling stock*

Authority: Railway Sub-Committee (third session), 1954; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Circulation to Governments of a questionnaire embodying all the points suggested at the fourth session of the Railway Sub-Committee and preparation of a comprehensive study.

Duration: 1957.

44-03 (s) *Incidence of railway accidents and measures for prevention*

Authority: Railway Sub-Committee (fourth session), 1956; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: On receipt of replies to the questionnaire already circulated to the countries both within and outside the region, the information to be analysed and summarized and recommendations made.

Duration: 1957.

In co-operation with the ILO.

44-04 *Repairs and maintenance of rolling stock in workshops*

Authority: Railway Sub-Committee (second session), 1953; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Comparative study of workshop procedures and practices with a view to improving workshop productivity and quality of output.

Duration: 1957.

GROUP 3. OTHER PROJECTS

44-05 *Standardization of rolling stock*

Authority: Railway Sub-Committee (third session), 1954; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Study of the existing practices with a view to recommendations being submitted for improving production and availability, reducing costs per unit and facilitating interchange of rolling stock between railways.

Duration: one year.

44-06 *Study on the feasibility of introducing container transport on railways, with special reference to operating costs and financial aspects*

Authority: Railway Sub-Committee (fourth session), 1956; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Study with a view to ascertaining the type of traffic dealt with by the railways of the region as regards suitability for container transport, including its financial and operational implications.

Duration: two years.

44-07 *Railway signalling in relation to speed, safety and increase in line capacity*

Authority: Railway Sub-Committee (fourth session), 1956; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Study and recommendation for improvement of signalling and operational methods with a view to enhancing speed, ensuring safety and increasing line capacity without incurring the heavy costs involved in doubling of track.

Duration: one year.

44-08 *Comparative studies on railway administrative set-ups*

Authority: Railway Sub-Committee (fourth session), 1956; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: A comparative study to be undertaken and recommendations to be made as to the types of organi-

zation most suitable for the railways of the ECAFE region keeping in mind governmental policies and with a view to achieving more efficient management. Duration: one year.

E. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

45-01 *Special telecommunications studies*

(s) Authority: Inland Transport Committee (sixth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957.

Description: Study of regional and national telecommunications requirements in relation to economic development generally, and specifically to meet the urgent needs for regional telecommunications links, with special reference to those of transport.

45-02 *Training of telecommunications personnel*

(s) Authority: Inland Transport Committee (sixth session), 1957; Commission, thirteenth session, 1957

Description: Exploration of the possibilities of establishing regional or national training centres for training telecommunications personnel.

ANNEXES

ANNEX I

List of representatives and observers at the thirteenth session of the Commission

MEMBERS

Afghanistan

Representative: H.E. Mr. Abdul Hai Aziz

Alternates: Mr. Mohamed Sarwar, Mr. Hamidullah Tarzi, Mr. Abdul Baqui Yusufzai, Mr. Gholam Dastagir Azizi

Australia

Representative: Mr. T. K. Critchley

Alternates: Mr. Harold William Bullock, Mr. Leslie Carter Holmes, Mr. William Lawrence Morrison

Burma

Representative: Thiri Pyanchi U Pa Aung

Alternates: U Saw Tun, U Wan Tin

Cambodia

Representative: H.E. Mr. Ty Kim Sour

Alternates: Mr. Ing Kieth, Mr. Heng Long, Mr. Nou-Hach

Ceylon

Representative: H.E. Mr. P. H. William de Silva

Alternates: Mr. R. A. Wijeyekoon, Mr. C. Abeysekera, Mr. P. Wignaraja

China

Representative: Mr. C. T. Chien

Alternates: Mr. Ching-Men Chen, Mr. William Shih-Chi Wang, Mr. Chang Shen-Fu, Mr. W. H. Fei, Mr. Wilfred Ling

Adviser: Mr. Kuo Ko-tung

Secretaries: Mr. Yang Shu-chin, Mr. Loh Ho-sang

France

Representative: H.E. Mr. P. Abelin

Alternates: Mr. R. Jeudi, Mr. J. P. Brunet, Mr. F. Geoffroy-Dechaume

Advisers: Mr. E. Mayolle, Mr. M. Debeauvais, Mr. R. Corson, Mr. R. Kleinpeter, Mr. M. Bochet, Mr. J. Geronimi

Secretary: Miss J. Montagne

India

Representative: H.E. Mr. D. P. Karmarkar

Alternates: Mr. S. N. Bilgrami, Mr. P. K. Banerjee, Mr. H. C. Kalra, Mr. F. C. Dhaun, Mr. R. K. Balbir, Mr. N. P. Jain
Public Relations Officer: Mr. K. L. Panjabi

Indonesia

Representative: H.E. Mr. Siddik

Alternates: Mr. O. Kosasih, Mr. R. Soedjarwoko Danusastro, Mr. A. Soenatadirdja, Mr. A. B. Astrawinata, Mr. Godjali, Mr. G. Soejono

Secretaries: Mr. R. Tjahjana Natadiningrat, Mr. R. Soegondo

Japan

Representative: H.E. Koichiro Asakai

Alternates: Mr. Morio Aoki, Mr. Seifu Aburatani, Mr. Rokuro Sase, Mr. Shunichi Kurosawa

Advisers: Mr. Heiji Ogawa, Mr. Sadanobu Oda, Mr. Tatsuji Nanri, Mr. Koichi Ito, Mr. Buhei Miyashita

Experts: Mr. Yujiro Hayashi, Mr. Wataru Owada, Mr. Shunzo Kawai, Mr. Koremoto Takahashi, Mr. Takehiko Honda, Mr. Yoshiya Kato, Mr. Yasushi Murazumi

Korea

Representative: H.E. Mr. Pyo Wook Han

Alternates: Mr. Kyu Hah Choi, Mr. Shang Woon Park, Mr. Pum Joon Koh

Secretary: Mr. Lee Chun Soo

Laos

Representative: H.E. Phagna Nith Singharaj

Alternates: H.H. Princess Souvanna Phouma, Mr. Khamtan Ratanavong

Secretary: Mr. Houmphanh Simasing

Nepal

Representative: Mr. Ram Chandra Malhotra

Netherlands

Representative: H.E. Mr. H. Jonker

Alternates: Mr. J. C. van den Berg, Mr. Bernard van Eldik, Mr. E. J. Korthals Altes

Secretary: Miss Aurora na Pombejra

New Zealand

Representative: Mr. R. L. G. Challis

Alternates: Mr. L. V. Castle, Mr. R. de Lambert, Mr. W. B. Harland

Pakistan

Representative: Mr. G. A. Faruqi

Alternates: Mr. Akbar Adil, Mr. Abdus Salam, Mr. Khalid Qasim

Philippines

Representative: The Hon. Mr. Perfecto E. Laguio

Alternates: Mr. Miguel G. Luna, Mr. Engracio D. Guerzon

Adviser: Mr. Pedro M. Quilino

Thailand

Representative: H.E. Mr. Rak Panyarachun

Alternates: Luang Thavil Sethapanijkarn, Luang Ach Bisalkich, Mr. Sa-ard Hongsayonta, Mr. Boonrod Binson, Mr. Somchai Anuman Rajadhon, Mr. Bhusana Abhorn Krairiksh, Mr. Yuad Loesrit, Mr. Sawaeng Kulthongkham, Mr. Amphorn Sunananta, Mr. Bundhit Kantabutra, Mr. Banyat Kulananan, Mr. Prok Amarananda, Mr. Vicharn Nivatvongs, Mr. Charas Chaturas

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Representative: Mr. P. A. Maletin

Alternates: Mr. Gafar U. Aliev, Mr. K. N. Plotnikov, Mr. G. P. Veliky

Advisers: Mr. V. P. Goryunov, Mr. K. M. Popov, Mr. A. A. Polyak, Mr. N. S. Vasilenko, Mr. G. M. Prokhorov

Experts: Mr. A. N. Mamin, Mr. V. M. Lessiovsky, Mr. A. I. Korolyov, Mr. B. M. Zinoviev, Mr. A. P. Mikhailov, Mr. N. A. Smirnov

Secretary: Mr. D. A. Sokolov

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Representative: H.E. Sir Berkeley E. F. Gage

Alternates: Mr. G. J. MacMahon, Mr. A. C. S. Adams, Mr. I. M. Hurrell, Mr. A. F. Maddocks, Mr. John Hammond, Mr. A. M. Houghton, Mr. J. H. G. Leahy

Secretaries: Miss J. E. Turner, Miss A. Wills

United States of America

Representative: Mr. Walter M. Kotschnig

Principal Advisers: Mr. Eugene M. Braderman, Mr. Merrill C. Gay

Advisers: Miss Ruth Bacon, Mr. William W. Diehl, Mr. George R. Jacobs, Mr. John R. O'Brien, Mr. William C. Ockey, Mr. Rufus Bur Smith, Mr. Stokes M. Tolbert

Viet-Nam

Representative: H.E. Mr. Tran-Le-Quang

Alternate: Mr. Vu-Van-Thai

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Hong Kong

Representative: Mr. E. S. Kirby

Alternate: Mr. Bunnan Tong

Alternate and Secretary: Mr. G. T. Hole

Malaya and British Borneo

Representative: The Hon. Dr. Ismail bin Dato Abdul Rahman

Alternates: The Hon. Mr. Mohamed Khir bin Johari, The Hon. Mr. A. N. Goode, Pehin Dato Perdana Menteri Ibrahim bin Mohamed Ja'afar, The Hon. Mr. Khoo Siak Chiew, Mr. E. R.

Bevington, Mr. E. R. Reeves, Mr. Ismail bin Mohamed Ali, Mr. Oh Sui Hong

Secretary: Mr. Choi Siew Hong

OTHER STATES

Belgium ^a

Representative: Mr. R. Fenaux

Czechoslovakia ^a

Representatives: H.E. Mr. Jiri Nosek, Mr. Ladislav Maly

Denmark ^a

Representatives: H.E. Mr. Gunnar Seidenfaden, Mr. Jorgen Holm

Federal Republic of Germany ^b

Representatives: H.E. Mr. H. Bohling, H.E. Mr. Von Bargen, Mr. H. Michelsen

Hungary ^a

Representatives: Mr. Odon Kallos, Mr. Emil Hosonyi

Romania ^a

Representative: H.E. Mr. Pavel Silard

Yugoslavia ^a

Representative: Mr. Marjan Smole

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

International Labour Organisation (ILO)

Mr. R. Livchen

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Mr. W. H. Cummings, Mr. P. G. H. Barter

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Mr. A. Establier

World Health Organization (WHO)

Dr. L. W. Fitzmaurice

International Monetary Fund (The Fund)

Mr. Ching-Chun Liang

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

Mr. N. Richardson

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (The Bank)

Mr. William M. Gilmartin

Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization/General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (ICITO/GATT)

Mr. J. Royer

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

Sir Alexander MacFarquhar

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Category A

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

Mr. K. Mahai Sombatsiri, Mr. Jote Gunakasem, Mr. Thonglaw Punyanitya, Mr. Seri Kupkitbhundu, Mr. Hyakuri Kano, Mr. Tokizo Okuhara, Mr. Shingo Ushiki

^a Member of the United Nations, participating in a consultative capacity under paragraph 9 of the terms of reference of the Commission.

^b Participating in a consultative capacity under Economic and Social Council resolution 617 (XXII) of 27 July 1956.

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU)

Mr. V. B. Karnik, Mr. C. H. Millard, Mr. Mapara

International Organisation of Employers (IOE)

Mr. Y. S. Pandit

Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)

Lt. General Jiem Yanothai

World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU)

Mr. K. B. Panikkar, Mr. Liu Ming, Mr. Nguyen Duy Tinh,
Mr. Do Trong Hop, Mr. Chin Fu Yao

World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA)

Mr. Joseph S. Gould

World Veterans Federation (WVF)

Mr. Jacques Katel

Category B

Catholic International Union for Social Service (CIUSS)

Rev. Father A. Bonningue

International Federation of Women Lawyers (IFWL)

Mrs. Nandaka Suprabhatananda

International Law Association (ILA)

Mr. Samuel K. C. Kopper

Pan Pacific South-East Asia Women's Association (PPSEAWA)

Miss Jit-Kasem Sibunrueng, Miss Ladda Smithinant, Miss
Napa Bhongbhibhat

ANNEX II

Tentative calendar of meeting in 1957 and 1958

1957 *

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Site</i>
1. Conference of Asian Statisticians (first meeting) in co-operation with the Statistical Office of the United Nations and FAO	8-20 April	Bangkok
2. Seminar on Highway Safety	13-23 May	Tokyo
3. Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel (seventh session)	3-10 June	Bangkok
4. Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing (fifth meeting)	17-24 June	Madras
5. Working Party on Assessment of Hydro-Electric Potential ^a	29 July-3 August	Bangkok
6. Sub-Committee on Electric Power (sixth session)	5-12 August	Bangkok
7. Working Party on Inland Ports ^a	19-29 August	Bangkok
8. Workshop on Problems of Budget Reclassification and Management (second meeting), in co-operation with Fiscal and Financial Branch, Bureau of Economic Affairs ^a	3-10 September	Bangkok
9. Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (third meeting) in co-operation with FAO	16-28 September	Bangkok
10. Inland Waterway Sub-Committee (fourth session)	1-8 October	Indonesia
11. Study Tour of Iron and Steel Experts ^a	October-November	
12. Highway Sub-Committee (fourth session)	14-21 October	Bangkok
13. Working Party of Senior Geologists on the Preparation of a Regional Geological Map for Asia and the Far East (third meeting)	4-9 November	Calcutta
14. Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (third session)	11-18 November	Calcutta
15. Sub-Committee on Railways (fifth session)	25-30 November	Open
16. Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development ^a	4-10 December	Manila
17. Working Group of Experts on Earthwork Construction ^a	During the conference	Manila
18. Committee on Trade (first session)	11-18 December	Bangkok
19. Working Group of Statisticians	Open	Bangkok

1958

1. Committee on Industry and Natural Resources	Open	Open
2. Inland Transport Committee (seventh session)	Open	Open
3. Seminar on Road-Bed Stabilization	January	India
4. Working Party on Co-ordination of Transport	Open	Open
5. FAO/ECAFE Working Party on Food and Agricultural Price Policies	February	Out of Bangkok
6. Commission (fourteenth session)	Open	Kuala Lumpur
7. Working Party on Housing and Building Materials (fifth meeting)	March	Open

* Meetings to be held after the Commission's thirteenth session.

^a Regional projects for which the assistance or co-operation of the Technical Assistance Administration is expected.

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Site</i>
8. Conference of Asian Statisticians (second meeting)	Open	Bangkok
9. Working Group of Statisticians	April	Bangkok
10. Study Tour on Water Resources Development	April-May	
11. Working Party on Community Development	May	Bangkok
12. Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing (sixth meeting)	May	Open
13. Working Party on Customs Administration	June	Open
14. Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (fourth meeting)	September	Bangkok
15. Seminar on Regional Planning in Relation to Urbanization and Industrialization	September	Open
16. Study Tour on Inland Water Transport	Open	—
17. Highway Sub-Committee (fifth session)	November	Out of Bangkok

ANNEX III

List of publications and principal documents issued since the twelfth session

A. PUBLICATIONS

MAJOR STUDIES (*printed*)

- Economic Survey for Asia and the Far East*, vol VIII, Nos. 1-3 (May, August and November 1956)
- Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1956* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.1) (Vol. VII, No. 4 of the *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East*, February 1957)
- Survey of Housing and Building Materials in Asia and the Far East, 1956* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1956.II.F.9) (E/CN.11/432)
- Locomotive Boiler Water Treatment* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1956.II.F.6) (E/CN.11/436)
- Lignite Resources of Asia and the Far East, their Exploration, Exploitation and Utilization* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.3)
- Proceedings of the Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development in Asia and the Far East* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1956.II.F.3) (ST/ECAFE/SER.F/9)
- Glossary of Hydrologic Terms used in Asia and the Far East* (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1956.II.F.7) (ST/ECAFE/SER.F/10)
- Multiple-Purpose River Basin Development — Part 2 B —* (Water Resources Development in Burma, India and Pakistan (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1956.II.F.8) (ST/ECAFE/SER.F/11)

PERIODICALS (*Mimeographed*)

- Flood Control Journal*, ST/TCAFE/SER.C/26-30, March 1956 - March 1957 inclusive
- Trade Promotion News*, ST/ECAFE/SER.H/48-59, January 1956 - January 1957 inclusive
- Transport Bulletin*, ST/ECAFE/SER.E/20-30, April 1956 - January 1957 inclusive
- Railway Statistics Bulletin*, ST/ECAFE/SER.K/5, June 1956
- Industrial Development Series*, ST/ECAFE/SER.L/3, February-November 1956 inclusive
- Electric Power Bulletin*, ST/ECAFE/SER.L/3, February 1956

B. PRINCIPAL DOCUMENTS

COMMISSION

- E/CN.11/431 Official records of the twelfth session

Thirteenth session

- E/CN.11/433 Report of the Regional Conference of Statisticians
- E/CN.11/439 and Rev.1, 2 and 3 Provisional agenda
- E/CN.11/440 (E/CN.11/FLOOD/16) Activities in the field of flood control and water resources development
- E/CN.11/441 Question of reporting on the implementation of the Commission's recommendations
- E/CN.11/442 UNESCO activities in 1956 and work plans for 1957 of interest to the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East
- E/CN.11/443 United Nations Technical Assistance in Asia and the Far East, 1956
- E/CN.11/444 Committee structure of the Commission: note by the Executive Secretary
- E/CN.11/445 Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- E/CN.11/446 Activities of the International Labour Organisation of special interest to Asia
- E/CN.11/447 Guide to Asian economic statistics
- E/CN.11/448 Statistical organization and activities in countries of Asia and the Far East (1953-1956)
- E/CN.11/449 Information paper on technical assistance provided to countries and territories in the ECAFE region under the Expanded Programme
- E/CN.11/450 (E/CN.11/TRANS/128) Report of the Inland Transport Committee (sixth session)
- E/CN.11/451 (E/CN.11/I&T/182) Report of the Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session)

E/CN.11/452	Resolution on the Committee structure of the Commission	E/CN.11/I&T/127 and Corr.1	Report of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials (fourth meeting)
ECAFE/10	Tentative programme of work and priorities: note by the Executive Secretary on industrialization	E/CN.11/I&T/128 (E/CN.11/I&T/Sub.3/4)	Report of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (second session)
ECAFE/11	Tentative programme of work and priorities: note by the Executive Secretary on regional projects in co-operation with the Technical Assistance Administration	E/CN.11/I&T/129 and Corr.1 (E/CN.11/I&T/Sub.4/9)	Report of the Sub-Committee on Trade (second session)
		E/CN.11/I&T/130 and Rev.1	Provisional agenda
ECAFE/14	Tentative programme of work and priorities: regional demographic studies: note by the Executive Secretary	E/CN.11/I&T/131	Report of the Inter-Secretariat Working Party on Trained Personnel for Economic Development (sixth meeting)
ECAFE/18	Work programme in the field of industry and trade	E/CN.11/I&T/132 (E/CN.11/451)	Report of the Committee on Industry and Trade (ninth session)
ECAFE/L.113	Agricultural credit problems of small farmers in the ECAFE region	ECAFE/I&T/30	Ocean freight rates: views of the Transport and Communications Commission on the ECAFE report (ECAFE/I&T/Sub.4/3)
ECAFE/L.114	Report of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (second meeting)	ECAFE/I&T/31	Group Study Tour of Electric Power Experts of the ECAFE region to Europe and North America
ECAFE/L.116	Activities in the field of food and agriculture: note on the FAO/ECAFE Centre on Agricultural Financing and Credit	ECAFE/I&T/32	Programme of work and priorities: note by the Executive Secretary
ECAFE/L.117	Report by the Executive Secretary on the work of the Joint ECAFE/FAO Division of Agriculture		
		SUB-COMMITTEE ON ELECTRIC POWER	
		<i>Fifth session</i>	
ECAFE/L.118	Committee structure of the Commission: note submitted by the United States Government	E/CN.11/I&T/Sub.1/6 and Rev.1	Provisional agenda
ECAFE/L.119	Development of water resources in the lower Mekong basin	E/CN.11/I&T/Sub.1/7	Observations of the Committee on Industry and Trade (eighth session) and of the Commission (twelfth session) on the report of the Sub-Committee on Electric Power (fourth session) and activities of the secretariat in the field of electric power during 1955
ECAFE/L.120 and Revs. 1 and 2, ECAFE/L.120/Rev.2/Corr.1	Programme of work and priorities	E/CN.11/I&T/Sub.1/8 (E/CN.11/I&T/125)	Report of the Sub-Committee on Electric Power (fifth session)
ECAFE/L.121	Tentative programme of work and priorities	ECAFE/I&T/Sub.1/2	Techniques to be studied during the proposed study tour of Asian electric power experts to Europe
ECAFE/L.122	Laws and regulations affecting foreign investment in Asia and the Far East: report by the secretariat	ECAFE/I&T/Sub.1/3 and Corr.1	Small hydro-electric plant and its utilization for rural electrification
ECAFE/L.123	An annual review of the economic situation of the mainland provinces of the Republic of China, July 1955 - June 1956	ECAFE/I&T/Sub.1/4	The use of atomic power for generating electricity: present status and possibilities
ECAFE/L.124	Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1956: note by the Executive Secretary	ECAFE/I&T/Sub.1/5 and Corr.1	Standards for electrical plant and equipment and standardization of system practices
		ECAFE/I&T/Sub.1/6	Some important aspects of statistical data in planning and operation of electric power systems
		ECAFE/I&T/Sub.1/7 and Corr.1	Rural electrification demonstration centres
COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY AND TRADE			
E/CN.11/I&T/124	Official records of the eighth session		
	<i>Ninth session</i>		
E/CN.11/I&T/125 (E/CN.11/I&T/Sub.1/8)	Report of the Sub-Committee on Electric Power (fifth session)		
E/CN.11/I&T/126	Report of the Working Party of Senior Geologists on the Preparation of a Regional Geological Map for Asia and the Far East (second meeting)		

ECAFE/I&T/Sub.1/9	Assesment of hydro-electric potentials of countries of the region and their gross, technical and economic limits	ECAFE/I&T/Sub.4/11	Programme of work and priorities
ECAFE/I&T/Sub.1/10	Possible programme of work and priorities	ECAFE/I&T/Sub.4/NGO/1	Topical problems in the field of international fairs and shows: note by the International Chamber of Commerce
SUB-COMMITTEE ON MINERAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT		ECAFE/I&T/Sub.4/NGO/2	Commercial arbitration: note by the International Chamber of Commerce
E/CN.11/I&T/Sub.3/3 and Rev.1	Provisional agenda	WORKING PARTY ON HOUSING AND BUILDING MATERIALS IN ASIA AND THE FAR EAST	
E/CN.11/I&T/Sub.3/4 (E/CN.11/I&T/128)	Report of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (second session)	<i>Fourth meeting</i>	
ECAFE/I&T/Sub.3/8	Preliminary survey of legislation governing the mineral development of the region	ECAFE/I&T/HBWP.4/1 and Rev. 1 and 2	Provisional agenda
ECAFE/I&T/Sub.3/9	Standard coal classification for regional use	ECAFE/I&T/HBWP.4/2 and Ad..1	The financing of housing in Asia and the Far East
ECAFE/I&T/Sub.3/10	Observations of the Committee on Industry and Trade (seventh, eighth sessions) and of the Commission (eleventh, twelfth sessions) on the report of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (first session) and activities of the secretariat in the field of mineral resources development during 1955	WORKING PARTY OF SENIOR GEOLOGISTS ON THE PREPARATION OF A REGIONAL GEOLOGICAL MAP FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST	
ECAFE/I&T/Sub.3/11	Work programme and priorities	<i>Second meeting</i>	
ECAFE/I&T/Sub.3/12	Fuel economy of the ECAFE region	ECAFE/I&T/GMWP.2/1	Provisional agenda
ECAFE/I&T/Sub.3/13	Report of TAA on assistance provided to the ECAFE region in the field of mineral resources	ECAFE/I&T/GMWP.2/2	Report on the consultations with national cartographic agencies regarding the projection to be adopted for the regional geological map for Asia and the Far East
SUB-COMMITTEE ON TRADE		ECAFE/I&T/GMWP.2/3	Progress report on regional geological maps
<i>Second session</i>		FOURTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATISTICIANS	
E/CN.11/I&T/Sub.4/7	Provisional agenda	E/CN.11/STAT/Conf.4/1 and Rev.1	Provisional agenda
E/CN.11/I&T/Sub.4/8 and Corr.1	Current developments of trade and trade policy	E/CN.11/STAT/Conf.4/2 (E/CN.11/433)	Report of the Fourth Regional Conference of Statisticians
E/CN.11/I&T/Sub.4/9 and Corr.1 (E/CN.11/I&T/129)	Report of the Sub-Committee on Trade (second session)	ECAFE/STAT/Conf.4/1 and Add.1	Population census programme: draft international recommendations
ECAFE/I&T/Sub.4/2 and Add.1	Problems of trade of land-locked countries in Asia and the Far East	ECAFE/STAT/Conf.4/2	Population census programme: 1945-54 experience: types of data collected
ECAFE/I&T/Sub.4/3	Ocean freight rates	ECAFE/STAT/Conf.4/3	Population census programme: 1945-54 experience: total population
ECAFE/I&T/Sub.4/4	Development of the coconut industry and its problems in countries of the ECAFE region	ECAFE/STAT/Conf.4/4	Population census programme: 1945-54 experience: sex and age characteristics
ECAFE/I&T/Sub.4/5	Techniques and facilities for the organization of international fairs and exhibitions	ECAFE/STAT/Conf.4/5	Population census programme: 1945-54 experience: marital status
ECAFE/I&T/Sub.4/6	Activities of the secretariat in the field of standardization in the ECAFE region	ECAFE/STAT/Conf.4/6	Population census programme: 1945-54 experience: place of birth
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UNESCO/SS/ CONF.URB/9	Demographic aspects of urbanization in the ECARE region (prepared by the Population Branch, United Nations bureau of Social Affairs)
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UNESCO/SS CONF.URB/11	Urbanization in Japan (prepared by Professor E. Isomura, Metropolitan University of Tokyo)
UNESCO/SS/ CONF.URB/12	Urbanization and crime and delinquency in Asia and the Far East (prepared by the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs)

ANNEX IV

Terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East

as adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its fourth session and amended by the Council at its fifth, seventh, eighth, ninth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth and seventeenth sessions (E/CN.11/29/Rev.7)

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered General Assembly resolution 46 (I) of 11 December 1946, in which the General Assembly "recommends that, in order to give effective aid to the countries devastated by war, the Economic and Social Council, at its next session, give prompt and favourable consideration to the establishment of . . . an Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East", and

Having noted the report of the Working Group for Asia and the Far East of the Temporary Sub-Commission on Economic Reconstruction of Devastated Areas,

Establishes an Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East with terms of reference as follows:

1. The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, acting within the framework of the policies of the United Nations and subject to the general supervision of the Council, shall, provided that the Commission takes no action in respect to any country without the agreement of the Government of that country:

(a) Initiate and participate in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic reconstruction and development of Asia and the Far East, for raising the level of economic activity in Asia and the Far East and for maintaining and strengthening the economic relations of these areas both among themselves and with other countries of the world;

(b) Make or sponsor such investigations and studies of economic and technological problems and developments within territories of Asia and the Far East as the Commission deems appropriate;

(c) Undertake or sponsor the collection, evaluation and dissemination of such economic, technological and statistical information as the Commission deems appropriate;

(d) Perform such advisory services, within the available resources of its secretariat, as the countries of the region may desire, provided that such services do not overlap with those rendered by the specialized agencies or the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration;

(e) Assist the Economic and Social Council, at its request,

in discharging its functions within the region in connexion with any economic problems, including problems in the field of technical assistance.

2. The territories of Asia and the Far East referred to in paragraph 1 shall include Afghanistan, Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, China, the Federation of Malaya, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Nepal, North Borneo, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sarawak, Singapore, Thailand and Viet-Nam.

3. The members of the Commission shall consist of Afghanistan, Australia, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, China, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Viet-Nam, provided that any State in the area which may hereafter become a Member of the United Nations shall be thereupon admitted as a member of the Commission.

4. The associate members shall include Hong Kong and Malaya and British Borneo (i.e., North Borneo, Brunei, the Federation of Malaya, Sarawak and Singapore).

5. Any territory, part or group of territories within the geographical scope of the Commission as defined in paragraph 2 may, on presentation of its application to the Commission by the member responsible for the international relations of such territory, part or group of territories, be admitted by the Commission as an associate member of the Commission. If it has become responsible for its own international relations, such territory, part or group of territories may be admitted as an associate member of the Commission on itself presenting its application to the Commission.

6. Representatives of associate members shall be entitled to participate without vote in all meetings of the Commission, whether sitting as Commission or as Committee of the Whole.

7. Representatives of associate members shall be eligible to be appointed as members of any committee, or other subordinate body, which may be set up by the Commission and shall be eligible to vote and hold office in such body.

8. The Commission is empowered to make recommendations on any matters within its competence directly to the Governments of members or associate members concerned, Governments admitted in consultative capacity, and the specialized agencies concerned. The Commission shall submit for the Council's prior consideration any of its proposals for activities that would have important effects on the economy of the world as a whole.

9. The Commission shall invite any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that non-member.

10. The Commission shall invite representatives of specialized agencies and may invite representatives of any inter-governmental organizations to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that agency or organization following the practice of the Economic and Social Council.

11. The Commission shall make arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organization which have been granted consultative status by the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with the principles approved by the Council for this purpose and contained in Council resolution 288 (X), parts I and II.

12. The Commission shall take measures to ensure that the necessary liaison is maintained with other organs of the United Nations and with the specialized agencies.

13. The Commission may, after discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same general field, and with the

approval of the Council, establish such subsidiary bodies as it deems appropriate, for facilitating the carrying out of its responsibilities.

14. The Commission shall adopt its own rules of procedure, including the method of selecting its Chairman.

15. The Commission shall submit to the Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, once a year.

16. The administrative budget of the Commission shall be financed from the funds of the United Nations.

17. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall appoint the staff of the Commission, which shall form part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

18. The headquarters of the Commission shall be located at the seat of the office of the United Nations in Asia and the Far East. Until such time as the site of the office of the United Nations in Asia and the Far East shall be determined, the working site of the Commission shall remain in Bangkok.

19. The Council shall, from time to time, make special reviews of the work of the Commission.

ANNEX V

Rules of Procedure of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East

as drawn up at the first session, confirmed and adopted at the second session, and amended at the third, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth and eleventh sessions of the Commission (E/CN.11/2/Rev.11)

CHAPTER I. SESSIONS

Rule 1

The following principles shall apply as regards date and place for the sessions of the Commission:

(a) The Commission shall at each session recommend the date and place for its next session subject to the approval of the Council and in consultation with the Secretary-General. Sessions of the Commission shall also be held within forty-five days of the communication to the Executive Secretary of a request to that effect by the Economic and Social Council, and in that case, the Secretary-General shall establish the place of such sessions in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission;

(b) In special cases the date and place of the session may be altered by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission and the Council's Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences. At the request of the majority of the members of the Commission, the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission and the Council's Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences, may also alter the date and place of the session;

(c) Sessions shall ordinarily be held at the office of the United Nations in Asia and the Far East. The Commission may recommend holding a particular session elsewhere.

Rule 2

The Executive Secretary shall, at least thirty-five days before the commencement of a session, distribute a notice of the opening date of the session, together with three copies of the provisional agenda and of the basic documents relating to each item appearing on the provisional agenda. Distribution shall be similar to that under rule 46.

Rule 3

The Commission shall invite any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission to participate in a con-

sultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that Member.

CHAPTER II. AGENDA

Rule 4

The provisional agenda for each session shall be drawn up by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chairman.

Rule 5

The provisional agenda for any session shall include:

- (a) Items arising from previous sessions of the Commission;
- (b) Items proposed by the Economic and Social Council;
- (c) Items proposed by any member or associate member of the Commission;
- (d) Items proposed by a specialized agency in accordance with the agreements of relationship concluded between the United Nations and such agencies;
- (e) Items proposed by non-governmental organizations in category A, subject to the provisions of rule 6; and
- (f) Any other items which the Chairman or the Executive Secretary sees fit to include.

Rule 6

Non-governmental organizations in category A may propose items on matters within their competence for the provisional agenda of the Commission, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) An organization which intends to propose such an item shall inform the Executive Secretary at least sixty-three days before the commencement of the session, and before formally proposing an item shall give due consideration to any comments he may make;
- (b) The proposal shall be formally submitted with the relevant basic documentation not less than forty-nine days before the commencement of the session.

Rule 7

The first item upon the provisional agenda for each session shall be the adoption of the agenda.

Rule 8

The Commission may amend the agenda at any time.

CHAPTER III. REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Rule 9

Each member shall be represented on the Commission by an accredited representative.

Rule 10

A representative may be accompanied to the sessions of the Commission by alternate representatives and advisers and, when absent, he may be replaced by an alternate representative.

Rule 11

The credentials of each representative appointed to the Commission, together with a designation of alternate representatives, shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary without delay.

Rule 12

The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman shall examine the credentials and report upon them to the Commission.

CHAPTER IV. OFFICERS

Rule 13

The Commission shall, at its first meeting of each year, elect from among its representatives a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen, designated as First and Second Vice-Chairmen, who

shall hold office until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election.

Rule 14

If the Chairman is absent from a meeting, or any part thereof, the Vice-Chairman designated by the Chairman shall preside.

Rule 15

If the Chairman ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the First Vice-Chairman shall become Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term. If the First Vice-Chairman also ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the second Vice-Chairman shall become Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term.

Rule 16

The Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairman.

Rule 17

The Chairman or the Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman shall participate in the meetings of the Commission as such and not as the representative of the member by whom he was accredited. The Commission shall admit an alternate representative to represent that member in the meetings of the Commission and to exercise its right to vote.

CHAPTER V. SECRETARIAT

Rule 18

The Executive Secretary shall act in that capacity at all meetings of the Commission and of its sub-commissions, other subsidiary bodies and committees. He may appoint another member of the staff to take his place at any meeting.

Rule 19

The Executive Secretary or his representative may at any meeting make either oral or written statements concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 20

The Executive Secretary shall direct the staff provided by the Secretary-General and required by the Commission, its sub-commissions, and any other subsidiary bodies and committees.

Rule 21

The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for the necessary arrangements being made for meetings.

Rule 22

The Executive Secretary in carrying out his functions shall act on behalf of the Secretary-General.

CHAPTER VI. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 23

A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

Rule 24

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him elsewhere by these rules, the Chairman shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Commission, shall direct the discussion, ensure the observance of these rules, and shall accord

the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The Chairman may also call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Rule 25

During the discussion of any matter a representative may raise a point of order. In this case the Chairman shall immediately state his ruling. If it is challenged, the Chairman shall forthwith submit his ruling to the Commission for decision and it shall stand unless overruled.

Rule 26

During the discussion of any matter a representative may move the adjournment of the debate. Any such motion shall have priority. In addition to the proposer of the motion, one representative shall be allowed to speak in favour of, and one representative against, the motion.

Rule 27

A representative may at any time move the closure of the debate whether or not any other representative has signified his wish to speak. Not more than two representatives may be granted permission to speak against the closure.

Rule 28

The Chairman shall take the sense of the Commission on a motion for closure. If the Commission is in favour of the closure, the Chairman shall declare the debate closed.

Rule 29

The Commission may limit the time allowed to each speaker.

Rule 30

Upon the request of any member, any motion and amendment thereto made by any speaker shall be given to the Chairman in writing and shall be read by him before any further speaker is called upon and also immediately before a vote is taken on such motion or amendment. The Chairman may direct that any motion or amendment be circulated to the members present before a vote is taken.

This rule shall not apply to formal motions such as one for closure or adjournment.

Rule 31

Principal motions and resolutions shall be put to the vote in the order of their submission unless the Commission decides otherwise.

Rule 32

When an amendment revises, adds to or deletes from a proposal, the amendment shall be put to the vote first, and if it is adopted, the amended proposal shall then be put to the vote.

Rule 33

If two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Commission shall vote first on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal, then, if necessary, on the amendment next furthest removed and so on, until all the amendments have been put to the vote.

Rule 34

The Commission may, at the request of a representative, decide to put a motion or resolution to the vote in parts. If this is done, the text resulting from the series of votes shall be put to the vote as a whole.

CHAPTER VII. VOTING

Rule 35

Each member of the Commission shall have one vote

Rule 36

Decisions of the Commission shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.

Rule 37

The Commission shall take no action in respect of any country without the agreement of the government of that country.

Rule 38

The Commission shall normally vote by show of hands. If any representative request a roll-call, a roll-call shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members.

Rule 39

All elections shall be decided by secret ballot.

Rule 40

If a vote is equally divided upon matters other than elections, a second vote shall be taken at the next meeting. If this vote also results in equality, the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

CHAPTER VIII. LANGUAGES

Rule 41

English and French shall be the working languages of the Commission.

Rule 42

Speeches made in one of the working languages shall be interpreted into the other working language.

CHAPTER IX. RECORDS

Rule 43

Summary records of the meetings of the Commission shall be kept by the secretariat. They shall be sent as soon as possible to the representatives of members and to the representatives of any other Government agency or organization which participated in the meeting concerned. Such representatives shall inform the secretariat not later than seventy-two hours after the circulation of any summary of any changes they wish to have made. Any disagreement concerning such changes shall be referred to the Chairman, whose decision shall be final.

Rule 44

The corrected version of the summary records of public meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible in accordance with the usual practice of the United Nations. This shall include distribution to non-governmental organizations in category A and to the appropriate non-governmental organizations in category B and on the register, and on appropriate occasions to consultative members.

Rule 45

The corrected version of the summary records of private meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible to the members of the Commission, to any consultative member participating in the meeting concerned, and to the specialized agencies. They shall be distributed to all the Members of the United Nations if and when the Commission so decides.

Rule 46

As soon as possible the text of all reports, resolutions, recom-

mendations and other formal decisions made by the Commission, its sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and its committees shall be communicated to the members of the Commission, to the consultative members concerned, to all other Members of the United Nations, to the specialized agencies, and to the non-governmental organizations in category A and to the appropriate non-governmental organizations in category B and on the register.

CHAPTER X. PUBLICITY OF MEETINGS

Rule 47

The meetings of the Commission shall ordinarily be held in public. The Commission may decide that a particular meeting or meetings shall be held in private.

CHAPTER XI. RELATIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rule 48

Non-governmental organizations in categories A and B and on the register may designate authorized representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Commission.

Rule 49

Written statements relevant to the work of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies may be submitted by organizations in categories A and B on subjects for which these organizations have a special competence. Such statements shall be circulated by the Executive Secretary to the members and associate members of the Commission except those statements which have become obsolete — e.g., those dealing with matters already disposed of.

Rule 50

The following conditions shall be observed regarding the submission and circulation of such written statements:

(a) The written statement shall be submitted in one of the official languages;

(b) It shall be submitted in sufficient time for appropriate consultation to take place between the Executive Secretary and the organization before circulation;

(c) The organization shall give due consideration to any comments which the Executive Secretary may make in the course of such consultation before transmitting the statement in final form;

(d) A written statement submitted by an organization in category A or B will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 2,000 words. Where a statement is in excess of 2,000 words, the organization shall submit a summary, which will be circulated, or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the two working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon the specific request of the Commission or of one of its subsidiary bodies;

(e) The Executive Secretary may invite organizations on the register to submit written statements. The provisions of paragraphs (a), (c) and (d) above shall apply to such statements;

(f) A written statement or summary, as the case may be, will be circulated by the Executive Secretary in the working languages and, upon the request of a member or associate member of the Commission, in any of the official languages.

Rule 51

(a) The Commission and its subsidiary bodies may consult with organization in category A or B either directly or through a committee or committees established for the purpose. In all cases, such consultations may be arranged on the invitation of the Commission or the subsidiary body or on the request of the organization;

(b) On the recommendation of the Executive Secretary and at the request of the Commission or one of its subsidiary bodies, organizations on the register may also be heard by the Commission or its subsidiary bodies.

Rule 52

The Commission may recommend that an organization which has special competence in a particular field should undertake specific studies or investigations or prepare specific papers for the Commission. The limitations of rule 50 (d) shall not apply in this case.

CHAPTER XII. SUB-COMMISSIONS, SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND COMMITTEES

Rule 53

After discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same field, and with the approval of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission may establish such continually acting sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions and shall define the powers and composition of each of them. Such autonomy as may be necessary for the effective discharge of the technical responsibilities laid upon them may be delegated to them.

Rule 54

The Commission may establish such committees and sub-committees as it deems necessary to assist it in carrying out its tasks.

Rule 55

Sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and committees and sub-committees shall adopt their own rules of procedure unless otherwise decided by the Commission.

CHAPTER XIII. REPORTS

Rule 56

The Commission shall submit to the Economic and Social Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, once a year.

CHAPTER XIV. AMENDMENTS AND SUSPENSIONS

Rule 57

Any of these rules of procedure may be amended or suspended by the Commission provided that the proposed amendments or suspensions do not attempt to set aside the terms of reference laid down by the Economic and Social Council.

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