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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

Annual report to the Economic and Social Council, covering the period 29 March 1957 to 15 March 1958 inclusive

INTRODUCTION

1. This annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE), which covers the period 29 March 1957 to 15 March 1958 inclusive, was adopted unanimously by the Commission at its 200th meeting on 15 March 1958. It is presented for the consideration of the Economic and Social Council

at its twenty-sixth 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

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE THIRTEENTH SESSION

2. This account of the work of the Commission is divided into three main sections: A. Activities of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission; B. Other activities; and C. Relations with specialized agencies and other organizations.

A. Activities of the subsidiary bodies

3. The subsidiary bodies of the Commission, in their work during the period under review, took into account the resolutions adopted, and the decisions taken, by the Commission at its thirteenth session, in particular the decision further to concentrate its activities on major economic problems, especially industrialization, the development of natural resources, productivity, and inter-

national trade and transport. In doing so, they gave preference to projects of regional importance, to work bearing directly on the formulation of policy and to those projects promising concrete results. Attention was also paid to Economic and Social resolutions 557 B (XVIII), 560 (XIX), 590 A I (XX), 597 A (XXI), 630 A I (XXII), and 664 (XXIV), which stress the need for concerted action and concentration of efforts on projects that contribute directly to the economic and social development of under-developed countries.

1. INDUSTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

4. The following list gives in chronological order the dates of the session (together with the names of officers) held in the period under review by the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources and by bodies reporting to that Committee.

Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel (seventh session), 3-8 June 1957

Chairman, Mr. Pravat Sukham (Thailand);

First Vice-Chairman, U Aung Khin (Burma);

Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. Albert Bureau (France).

Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing (fifth session), 17-24 June 1957

Chairman, Mr. Satish Chandra (India);

First Vice-Chairman, U Win Baw (Burma);

Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. K. A. Siddiqi (Pakistan).

Working Party on Assessment of Hydroelectric Potentials, 5-9 August 1957

Chairman, Mr. Kasame Chatikavanij (Thailand);

¹ The previous activities of the Commission and of its subsidiary bodies 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, twenty-second and twenty-fourth 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); *ibid.*, *Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 2* (E/2959)].

First Vice-Chairman, Mr. Masduki Umar (Indonesia);
Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. Cesar U. Sevilla (Philippines).

Working Party of Senior Geologists on the Preparation of Regional Geological and Mineral Maps for Asia and the Far East (third session), 4-10 November 1957

Chairman, Mr. Sultan Ahmed Popal (Afghanistan);
Vice-Chairman, U Ba Thi (Burma).

Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (third session), 11-16 November 1957

Chairman, Mr. V. P. Sondhi (India);
First Vice-Chairman, U Balwant Singh (Burma);
Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. Shigeru Nishio (Japan).

Sub-Committee on Electric Power (sixth session), 6-13 January 1958

Chairman, Mr. Boonrod Binson (Thailand);
First Vice-Chairman, Mr. S. S. Kumar (India);
Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. J. H. Sumner (Federation of Malaya).

Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (tenth session),² 24 February-3 March 1958

Chairman, Mr. Tan Siew Sin (Federation of Malaya);
First Vice-Chairman, Mr. S. S. Jafri (Pakistan);
Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. Oukeo Souvannavong (Laos).

SUB-COMMITTEE ON IRON AND STEEL

5. At its seventh session, held at Bangkok, Thailand, in June 1957, the Iron and Steel Sub-Committee reviewed the plans and problems of the iron and steel industry in the region, with particular reference to steel transforming industries, modernization of rolling mills, standardization and simplification of iron and steel specifications and the need for trained personnel. It studied the applicability in the region of such modern processes as the production of iron without coking coal and the continuous casting of steel. It devoted special attention to the study of consumption trends and future demand for steel in the region. It also decided upon the specific aspects to be studied, and on the countries, plants and organizations to be visited during the proposed study tour of iron and steel experts to Europe.

Iron and steel industry

6. The Sub-Committee noted with satisfaction the progress made in the countries of the region towards developing or expanding the iron and steel industry. Such development in some countries had been slowed down, however, by the absence of coking coal and the shortage of trained technical personnel, of capital and foreign exchange. Some member countries outside the region had continued to co-operate with, and render assistance to, many ECAFE countries in the development of the industry, and a beginning had been made in intraregional co-operation in the field of training.

² By resolution 19 (XIII) of the Commission adopted at its thirteenth session, the Committee on Industry and Trade was renamed the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, and the former Sub-Committee on Trade became the Committee on Trade.

Transforming industries

7. The Sub-Committee recommended that, to start with, most ECAFE countries should develop only light transforming industries, such as the manufacture of bicycles, agricultural implements, hurricane lanterns, sewing-machines, small machine tools, electric fans and pumps. The possibility of establishing plants for the assembly of parts of heavier products such as motor-cars might also be investigated.

Demand studies

8. The Sub-Committee felt that the study of consumption trends and future demand for steel products was important and urgent for most of the countries of the region. It considered that, of the approaches to that problem examined by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), those based on national income, net industrial output and end use might be investigated to see whether they could be applied to the ECAFE countries, but that, of those three, the end use approach might give the most realistic and reliable results for the region. The Sub-Committee recommended that the secretariat's study of steel demand should be continued, and that its scope should be widened to cover all the countries in greater detail.

9. The *Iron and Steel Bulletin* (I&NR/Sub.2/1) was considered to have met a long-felt need for a publication on the latest developments of iron and steel manufacturing techniques of interest to ECAFE countries, and on statistics, current activities and major developments in the iron and steel industry in and outside the region. The Sub-Committee recommended that the secretariat should continue to issue the *Bulletin* regularly.

Applicability of modern processes

10. As recommended by the Sub-Committee at its previous session, some countries in the region were studying the applicability of the techniques of producing iron without coking coal. There was discussion of the relative merits of electric smelting, the sponge iron processes, the Basset process, the low-shaft furnace and the charcoal blast furnace. The Sub-Committee emphasized that careful investigations would have to be made in order to ascertain which process was suited to the conditions in a particular country. The delegation of India offered to undertake tests on the raw materials of other ECAFE countries in a low-shaft furnace pilot plant which was being established in India for the production of iron without coking coal.

11. There were a number of machines in various parts of the world which were casting slabs and billets in continuous lengths on a commercial scale, and several more were in the experimental stage or under construction. In view of the several advantages of steel casting, the Sub-Committee asked the secretariat to continue the study of that process and to report from time to time on the latest developments.

Re-rolling industry

12. In reviewing the progress of the re-rolling industry in countries of the region, the Sub-Committee noted that, owing to low overhead and raw material costs, re-rollers in Japan were able to compete, in respect of small bars and shapes, with the large integrated plants, and that some of the re-rolling mills in India and the Philippines had improved their equip-

ment and facilities in accordance with the recommendations made by the Sub-Committee at its previous session. It was important to eliminate shortages of raw materials, and to provide technical assistance in order to improve the plants and train technicians.

Standardization

13. The Sub-Committee recognized the benefits, in the planning or installation of an iron and steel industry, of standardization and simplification of specification of specifications, and considered that, since markets in the countries of the region had many common characteristics, it was desirable to evolve, as early as possible, standard specifications for certain shapes and types of steel sections and to try to ensure the adoption of those standards in the region.

Trained personnel

14. The Sub-Committee noted that, for most countries in the region, with the exception of India and Japan, facilities for training did not exist, and that the problem of securing suitable technical personnel had become important and urgent. Some of the methods of training adopted in the industrially advanced countries might be applicable to the ECAFE countries. Noting with satisfaction that some member countries both within and outside the region were assisting a number of ECAFE countries to train technical personnel, the Sub-Committee recommended that such assistance should be continued and intensified.

STUDY TOUR OF IRON AND STEEL EXPERTS

15. The group study tour of iron and steel experts from ECAFE countries to Belgium, France, western Germany, Sweden and the United Kingdom was organized in October-November 1957 by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration (TAA) and ECAFE with the co-operation of ECE. Seventeen experts from nine countries—Burma, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand—participated in the tour. The group had consultations with the government departments, organizations and experts engaged in the investigation, planning and operation of iron and steel industries in those countries, and visited plants for making, shaping and treating iron and steel. Visits were also made to research and training institutes and to factories manufacturing equipment for the iron and steel industry. The group received advice and technical information, which was of great value particularly to small-scale operators. It studied a number of promising techniques, such as the beneficiation of low quality ores and manufacture of coke from inferior coals; the operation of small rolling-mills and rolling of special sections; the production of iron in charcoal blast, electric smelting and coke blast furnaces; sponge iron processes; the rotary kiln and low-shaft furnace processes; the manufacture of steel in open-hearth and electric furnaces; the making of alloy steels and the development of integrated iron and steel plants. The group's findings included the following:

(a) Many European countries were importing increasing quantities of raw materials for their iron and steel industry. It was not therefore always necessary to have all the raw materials in a country to build up that industry, provided there were other favourable factors. Further, even a country like Sweden with a

highly developed steel industry imported large quantities of heavy sections and plates. Some of the ECAFE countries thus need not include the manufacture of such sections and plates in their development programmes, particularly in the early stage.

(b) Offers were made by the various European countries to carry out laboratory and pilot plant tests on the raw materials from the region and to provide training facilities for Asian technicians. The countries of the region should avail themselves fully of these facilities.

(c) Individual ECAFE countries were asked to investigate the economic aspects of the application of the processes studied. The ECAFE countries should co-operate with one another in such matters as the exchange of raw materials, the training of technicians and the testing of raw materials. The secretariat was requested to promote co-operation in that respect.

(d) There had been a rapid development of new techniques in Europe. The ECAFE secretariat should keep in touch with those developments and publish relevant data and information in the *Iron and Steel Bulletin*.

(e) In view of the experience gained by the study tour in Europe, similar study tours should be organized to other countries. As certain Latin American countries with conditions similar to those of the ECAFE region in regard to raw material resources were already producing iron and steel, the ECAFE countries might benefit by studying the techniques adopted, or the plans contemplated, in Latin America.

WORKING PARTY ON SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES AND HANDICRAFT MARKETING

Leather industry

16. At its fifth session, held at Madras, India, in 1957, the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing examined the technical and economic aspects of the leather industry. It devoted special attention to the improvement of hides and skins and of the quality of leather and leather goods; to the intensification of research and experiments to increase the productivity of the leather industry; and to measures for meeting, within the region, the needs of the industry for local tanning materials. It stressed the importance of co-ordinated planning to achieve improvement in the three closely associated fields of animal husbandry, flaying and curing, and leather technology, and recommended that there should be co-operation to that end between government research institutes, animal husbandry and forestry departments, and manufacturers and traders in leather and leather products.

Research

17. The Working Party pointed to the important role played by organized research in advanced countries which contributed to the high quality of leather and leather products. It reviewed the programme and scope of the activities of leading research institutions in the region, such as the Central Leather Research Institute in Madras, India, and the Indonesian Leather Research Institute in Djakarta. It recommended an exchange of information on technical work and research programmes between various research institutes

in the countries of the region in order to avoid duplication of effort.

Problems of small units

18. The Working Party noted that, while medium and large-scale units had achieved outstanding results in quality and marketing, the small-scale and rural tanneries and manufacturing units which processed a substantial quantity of hides and skins faced serious difficulties. It recommended closer scrutiny of investment in order to avoid wasteful competition between the small-scale and the large-scale units. The leather manufacturing industry could be helped by strengthening auxiliary industries, such as those producing tanning extract and leather-fibre board, as well as by the utilization of leather scraps in tanneries and factories. The industry offered great scope for the promotion of labour intensive methods and thus for an increase in its employment potential. With respect to the marketing standards for raw stocks of hides and skins, the Working Party recommended that countries of the ECAFE region should work out suitable specifications with the advice of scientific institutions, and should establish recognized standards of grading based on agreements between producers, dealers and consumers. It emphasized that the large-scale sector and the small-scale sector of the industry could be so developed as to become complementary.

Marketing

19. During the session of the Working Party, a market clinic for leather products was organized in conjunction with an exhibition of tanning materials, leather and leather products. A panel of experts from the members of the Working Party examined and analysed representative samples of raw and finished products, and made specific suggestions for improvements. The panel also answered questions on production techniques and on marketing.

20. The Working Party recommended that, at its next session, it should be authorized to make a specific study of non-ferrous metals. It suggested as the object of subsequent studies other industries, namely, woollen, rubber and tobacco manufactures, and the canning and preserving of foods.

WORKING PARTY OF SENIOR GEOLOGISTS ON THE PREPARATION OF REGIONAL GEOLOGICAL AND MINERAL MAPS FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

21. At its third session, held at Calcutta, India, in November 1957, the Working Party of Senior Geologists on the Preparation of Regional Geological and Mineral Maps for Asia and the Far East examined the draft regional geological map prepared by the Director of the Geological Survey of India, who had been nominated as the co-ordinator of the project. The Working Party also reviewed the progress made by the geological survey departments of the countries in the region since its previous session, and suggested measures for the completion of the regional geological map and for the preparation of regional mineral and tectonic maps for Asia and the Far East.

New geological surveys

22. The Working Party noted that the project on the regional geological and mineral maps had yielded other concrete results apart from the maps themselves.

The Geological Survey of Afghanistan had been established after the first session of the Working Party, and considerable advance had been made towards the completion of a geological map for that country. The progress of geological survey departments of participating countries was now such that it might with advantage be reviewed at each future session of the Working Party.

23. In accordance with the earlier general recommendations of the first session of the Working Party, a geological survey of the Malaya-Thailand border areas had been undertaken jointly by the appropriate authorities of the two Governments concerned, with the result that progress had been significantly accelerated towards the solution of common problems in regard to geological history, structure and mineralization. The Working Party commended the co-operation between the two countries and the consequent enhancement of technical knowledge. It hoped that other countries of the region would also initiate joint geological surveys in their respective border areas.

Regional geological map

24. The Working Party congratulated the co-ordinator on the draft map, and the directors of the geological survey departments of countries of the region on their efforts to complete their country maps in time for the compilation of the regional geological map. It noted that country geological maps which had originally been on a scale of 1:2,000,000 had had to be reduced for the purposes of the regional map to a scale of 1:5,000,000. That adjustment entailed a certain degree of simplification of the map. The Working Party requested that those reduced maps, after scrutiny by the geological survey departments of the countries concerned, be returned to the co-ordinator before the end of February 1958.

25. The Working Party adopted the "Outline Pattern of the Brochure for the Geological Map of Asia and the Far East" prepared by the co-ordinator, and requested the countries of the region to supply the requisite information so that a composite brochure for the regional map might be compiled and published. It was desirable to group igneous rocks into six types: alkaline, acid, intermediate, basic, ultra-basic and unclassified, and to indicate the age in all cases by symbol or pattern. Henceforth the terms "Paleozoic" and "Mesozoic", instead of "Primary" and "Secondary", should be used in the stratigraphic scale for the map. Marine contours should be included in the regional geological map.

26. The Working Party, at its previous sessions, had recommended that the countries should make contributions towards the expenses for the regional map. Contributions had already been received from the Governments of British Borneo, the Republic of China, India, Japan, the Federation of Malaya, and Thailand. Since the map was nearing completion, the Working Party urged other countries of the region to send in their contributions at an early date. It also requested the secretariat to approach TAA for assistance in financing the publication of the regional geological map and the preparation and printing of regional mineral maps to be compiled later.

Co-ordination with other regional geological maps

27. The Working Party was informed that the western boundary of the geological map for Australia

and Oceania would be along longitude 108°E, but that, as the map approached the equator, the boundary would swing north-east to longitude 131°E and follow that meridian north to latitude 20°N. Since that map would constitute a sister map to the one for Asia and the Far East, the Working Party requested the co-ordinator for the latter map to maintain close contact with the co-ordinator for the map for Australia and Oceania, and to consult him on technical details, such as marine contours, topographic background and overlapping of sheets. In particular, it was felt desirable for the two co-ordinators to effect an exchange of the south-eastern sheets of the draft geological map for Asia and the Far East with the western sheets of the geological map for Australia and Oceania, in order to obtain some degree of uniformity.

Regional mineral maps

28. The Working Party considered that, since the regional geological map was nearing completion, the preparation of regional mineral maps should receive immediate attention. It nominated the Director of the Geological Survey of India to serve as co-ordinator of the project, and the Director of the Geological Survey of Japan as joint co-ordinator. It decided that the first objective should be the early completion of regional maps showing the distribution of known mineral deposits. Metallogenic maps (showing the mineralization epochs and provinces) and "prognosis" or "pre-visional" maps (showing the potential mineral areas) might be prepared at a later stage. The Working Party hoped that the draft regional maps showing the distribution of known mineral deposits in Asia and the Far East would be completed by the end of 1958.

Regional tectonic map

29. The Working Party recognized the need for a regional tectonic map for Asia and the Far East. Having regard to the limited technical staff, resources and facilities in countries of the region, it felt, however, that the preparation of such a map might be postponed until the regional mineral maps had been completed. It suggested that countries might prepare and transmit to the ECAFE secretariat tectonic maps of their respective territories, on a scale of 1:5,000,000 to 1:2,000,000.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON MINERAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

30. At its third session, held at Calcutta, India, in November 1957, the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development devoted special attention to problems of mining legislation, as well as to conservation, trade, exploration (aerial surveys in general, and prospecting for radio-active minerals in particular), the training of personnel to cover all aspects of mineral resources, and an integrated study of the fuel economy of the region. It also considered the question of classification and utilization of coals (particularly coals of low grades). It decided to convene a symposium on the development of petroleum resources in Asia and the Far East, and drew up a draft agenda.

Mining developments

31. The Sub-Committee reviewed progress in the development of mineral resources of the region in the light of the secretariat's report on *Mining Developments*

in Asia and the Far East, 1956 (I&NR/Sub.3/2).³ It felt that future reviews should include information on reserves, the state of exploration and development; the supply of, and demand for, minerals in each country of the region; current and future development programmes; and the availability of technical, especially laboratory, facilities.

Trade in minerals and mineral products

32. The Sub-Committee considered that the development of mineral resources of the region was closely related to trade in minerals and mineral products. The loss of markets for certain mineral commodities might be due to technological factors entailing substitution, or to changes in the grade products, in freight rates or in buying patterns, or to the emergence of new sources of supply. The secretariat should therefore undertake a study of trade in minerals and mineral products. In view of the need to improve transport and port facilities, reduce freight rates, and increase regional and inter-regional trade in minerals, the Committee on Trade should study those problems. Mineral products of the region were often shipped without upgrading or processing. The need for increased processing and smelting facilities in the region was stressed. Note was also taken of the fact that lack of firm data on long-term world requirements for minerals from the countries of the region had hindered the planning of production, transport or processing facilities.

Mineral statistics

33. The Sub-Committee recommended that the Conference of Asian Statisticians should consider the problems relating to the long-range development of statistical information on minerals, and ascertain to what extent it was necessary to obtain new forms of statistics, or to modify and improve existing ones.

Mining legislation

34. The Sub-Committee, in considering the *Survey of Mining Legislation* (I&NR/Sub.3/3)⁴ prepared by the office of Legal Affairs at the United Nations Headquarters, recommended the convening of a working group of experts on mining legislation in order that information and views could be exchanged between, and suitable recommendations made to, the countries of the region. It was also suggested that the co-operation of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) should be sought on the question of legislation on health and safety, and that the secretariat should obtain the assistance of the Office of Legal Affairs and of TAA.

Mineral conservation

35. Problems relating to the conservation of mineral resources should be studied by the secretariat, and various conservation measures, implemented or proposed, brought to the attention of the appropriate authorities of countries of the region. As a first step, the secretariat should collect and disseminate information on measures adopted by countries within and outside the region for the conservation of minerals.

Aerial surveys

36. The Sub-Committee examined the usefulness, as well as the limitations of aerial surveys as an aid to

³ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.4.

⁴ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.5.

mineral exploration, and recommended the convening of a seminar on that subject with the main objective of disseminating basic information on techniques and equipment currently used, on their applicability in the countries of the region in view of special local problems, and on the organization of such surveys.

Prospecting for radio-active minerals

37. As the countries of the region were short of financial resources and of personnel specialized in the prospecting for radio-active minerals, the Sub-Committee suggested the use of inexpensive light-weight rate-meters by field geologists or by trained prospectors operating under the direction of a qualified geologist, and the use of air-borne scintillometers in mountainous regions. It recognized that, in deeply dissected areas, systematic search by that method might not always be feasible. It desired the secretariat to continue to review developments in prospecting for radio-active minerals in the region.

Symposium on the development of petroleum resources

38. The Sub-Committee considered that the agenda of the proposed symposium on the development of petroleum resources should include petroleum production; geological setting; development possibilities; exploration (status and methods); development programmes (analyses of annual expenditure and over-all expenditure); legislation in respect of the oil industry; technical personnel and equipment for purposes of exploration; production and refining; and training facilities for the industry. Co-operation in the preparation of the symposium should be secured by the participating Governments from public and private organizations both within and outside the region.

Classification and utilization of coals

39. The Sub-Committee felt that further study of the international classification of hard coals by type, as proposed by ECE (E/ECE/247), was necessary in order to ascertain the applicability of that classification to the ECAFE region. It requested the secretariat to deal simultaneously with questions of classification and utilization of low-grade coals, including peat, within the region.

Fuel economy

40. The Sub-Committee considered that long-range plans for the development of the fuel and energy resources of the region were essential, and that the possibilities of developing all existing sources of energy (such as coal, lignite, hydroelectric power and atomic energy) should be carefully examined. It requested the secretariat to draw up a balance-sheet showing the energy needs of the countries of the region, and to study how those needs could be met. If possible, there should be a regular forecast of the fuel and energy needs of the region.

Training of technical personnel for mineral development

41. The Sub-Committee suggested that the secretariat should study the need for adequate technical personnel and technical training facilities (including literature). It was essential to undertake an appraisal of the technical personnel required for the development of the mineral resources of each country of the region for the next ten years.

Study tour of geologists and mining engineers to the United States of America and Canada

42. The Government of the United States of America invited a group of geologists and mining engineers from the region to visit that country in 1959. The Sub-Committee requested the Executive Secretary to consult TAA, the host Government, and the Governments of the countries of the region with a view to organizing the study tour.

WORKING PARTY ON ASSESSMENT OF HYDROELECTRIC POTENTIALS

43. The Working Party on assessment of Hydroelectric Potentials, which met at Bangkok, Thailand, in August 1957, discussed various methods for making such assessments. It also reviewed the surveys of hydroelectric potentials being carried out by various countries. It recommended that each country should formulate a policy for the development of its power resources, which should include both short-term plans to meet immediate needs and long-term plans, and prepare a programme for the investigation of its water power resources.

Assessment techniques

44. The Working Party formulated detailed recommendations regarding the methods to be employed in assessing various categories of hydroelectric potentials, such as theoretical, technical and economic potential. It recommended that countries should set up an organization to investigate, and report on, all aspects of the development of hydroelectric power. It emphasized the importance of allocating adequate funds for investigation in all fields of electric power and especially of hydroelectric power, as such investigations would make possible a judicious selection of projects and thus save investigation costs many times over.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON ELECTRIC POWER

45. At its sixth session, held at Bangkok, Thailand, in January 1958, the Sub-Committee on Electric Power reviewed the electric power situation in the region, and considered the problems of rural electrification and of standardization, and the training of personnel for the electric power industry. It endorsed the report and recommendations of the group of experts on their study tour to Europe and North America (ST/TAA/SER.C/18) and also the report of the Working Party on Assessment of Hydroelectric Potentials (E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.1/2). It noted the shortage of trained personnel in the countries of the region for studies relating to hydroelectric potentials, and suggested that countries might avail themselves of the offer to train personnel made by the Governments of Japan and of the Soviet Union at the Sub-Committee.

Electric power situation

46. The Sub-Committee reviewed the statistical data on the generation, transmission and utilization of electric power and the analysis of such data in the secretariat's report, *Electric Power in Asia and the Far East, 1951 to 1955 (Electric Power Bulletin)* (E/CN.11/458).⁵ It recommended that the future issues of the *Bulletin* should include statistical data on elec-

⁵ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.6.

trical accidents, rural electrification, energy consumption *per caput* and by category of consumers, and power generation of industry-owned plants; and names and addresses of electric power authorities in the countries of the region supplying material for the *Bulletin*.

Study tour of electric power experts to Europe and North America

47. The Sub-Committee endorsed the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the study group of electric power experts of the region to Europe and North America (E/CN.11/I&RN/ Sub.1/L.4). It considered that the adoption of large units of steam power plants with high pressure and high temperature steam should be considered by the countries of the region with due regard to the requirements of their power systems and to the possibility of training personnel in the operation and maintenance of such plants. The Sub-Committee recommended that the countries of the region should study recent literature on the subjects dealt with in the report and consider how the techniques and practices described therein could best be adopted to their needs and circumstances. The study tour should be supplemented by further studies by experts on advanced practices in various fields, for example, thermal power plants, hydroelectric power plants and transmission lines. In the first instance, the secretariat, in co-operation with country experts, might make an intensive study of steam boiler plant burning low-grade coal; the economies obtainable in steam power plants from larger units and from units with high pressure and high temperature; and improved practices of boiler maintenance enabling inspection of steam boilers to be carried out at intervals longer than twelve months.

Use of wood poles

48. The Sub-Committee noted that the region had to use indigenous wood poles owing to the difficulty of obtaining steel supports for overhead lines, and that it was necessary to use progressively larger quantities of indigenous materials as well as to reduce the cost of rural lines. The wood pole requirements in the next five years of some of the member countries would amount to over a million poles, which could be met largely from the region itself. A joint working party should be convened under the auspices of ECAFE and FAO, comprising representatives of forest departments, research laboratories, electric power systems and telecommunication departments. It should discuss the rational utilization of wood poles, suggest methods for regional co-operation in utilizing the testing facilities at existing laboratories as well as in drawing up standard specifications for wood poles made from the species of timber available in the region. In order to enable countries to plan their procurement programmes, it should take stock of the availability and approximate cost of wood poles.

Rural electrification

49. The Sub-Committee recommended that the problem of rural electrification should be discussed at its next meeting with a view to deciding how the techniques described in the studies on rural electrification by the Committee on Electric Power of ECE could best be adapted to conditions in the region.

Standardization

50. The Sub-Committee agreed to follow the recommendations of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) regarding various items of electrical plant and equipment. It suggested that the ECAFE secretariat should investigate the possibility of circulating draft specifications of the IEC to countries of the region which were not members of the IEC, with a view to keeping them informed of current developments in the field of standardization. It would, however, be even better if those countries were to join the IEC.

Training of technical personnel

51. The Sub-Committee recognized the importance of training technical personnel for electric power plant, particularly more advanced and complicated equipment. The countries of the region should avail themselves of the training facilities (including short refresher courses for civil, mechanical and electrical engineers) offered by the Water Resources Development Centre which had been organized by the University of Roorkee, India, with the help of TAA.

52. It noted that, in industrially advanced countries, apart from regular courses in technical schools, training courses were provided to enable technicians to augment their technical knowledge and that one-year refresher courses were organized for practising engineers working in power systems.

COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

53. The Committee on Industry and Natural Resources at its tenth session, held at Kuala Lumpur, Federation of Malaya, in February/March 1958, reviewed the progress and problems of industrialization in the region and the work of its subsidiary bodies since the preceding session. It also considered its programme of work and priorities.⁶

Industrialization

54. The Committee noted that substantial progress in industrial development had been achieved in several countries of the region and that industrial production in the region as a whole had increased by more than 100 per cent between 1950 and 1957. The major difficulties faced by them in their industrial development projects were the shortage of finance, and particularly foreign exchange, of technical and managerial personnel, and of basic facilities such as power, transport and communications. The measures taken by the countries of the region to overcome those difficulties were reviewed by the Committee. Priority had been given to the development of industries which would earn or save foreign exchange and to the greater utilization of domestic raw materials; conditions governing foreign private investment had been made more attractive; joint ventures with foreign capital had been established; external grants and loans (including deferred payments facilities) had been obtained; and various types of institutions had been set up to finance industrial enterprises. While recognizing the value of external assistance, several countries emphasized the need for more intensive mobilization of domestic financial resources.

⁶ For the action taken on the report of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources by the Commission at its fourteenth session, see paragraphs 303 to 315.

55. The facilities for the training of technical and managerial personnel in the countries of the region had been steadily expanded, and trainees were sent abroad by the countries at their own expense or under the Colombo Plan or United Nations programmes. The Committee suggested that a regional training centre for the "foreman class" of technicians be established, possibly with assistance from the proposed United Nations Special Projects Fund.

56. The Committee considered that since the domestic market in some countries was not sufficient to permit the establishment of large-scale industries for manufactured goods, it was not easy for most of them to develop export markets for such products. Attention was therefore drawn to the possibilities of regional co-operation with a view to establishing industries for a wider market enjoying the economies of large-scale production.

Small-scale industries and handicraft marketing

57. The Committee commended the report of the work done by the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing at its fifth session (E/CN.11/I&NR/2), at which problems of the leather industry were considered. The Committee reviewed the measures taken by various Governments to develop small-scale industries in their respective countries and noted that many recommendations of the Working Party at its earlier sessions were being steadily implemented. It emphasized the need to give greater attention to marketing problems of the small-scale industries in both domestic and foreign markets. There should be an exchange of information and research programmes between the various research institutes in the countries of the region. The ECAFE secretariat could be of assistance in the connection. The collection and dissemination of technical and economic data on small-scale industries should be intensified by the secretariat and also by the Working Party.

58. The Committee took note of the two resolutions adopted by the Fourth Asian Regional Conference of the International Labour Organisation in November 1957, namely the "General Resolution concerning Small-Scale and Handicraft Industries in Asian Countries" and the "Resolution concerning International Action regarding Small-Scale and Handicraft Industries".

59. It endorsed the proposal to consider, at the next session of the Working Party, the problems of the fruit and food canning and preserving industry.

Regional geological and mineral maps

60. The Committee expressed its satisfaction with the report of the Working Party of Senior Geologists on the Preparation of Regional Geological and Mineral Maps for Asia and the Far East (E/CN.11/I&NR/4). It noted that the regional geological map would be available in printed form before the end of 1958, and that the draft map showing the distribution of mineral resources of the region would also be completed within about the same time. It recommended that the preparation of the regional tectonic map should be commenced as soon as the preparation of regional mineral maps was well in hand.

61. Several Governments in the region, including those of British Borneo, Burma, the Republic of China, India, Japan, the Federation of Malaya and Thailand, had contributed over £7,000 to the preparation and

publication of the regional geological map. The Governments of Indonesia and Pakistan would also send their contributions shortly. The Committee commended, as excellent examples of co-operation between neighbouring countries, the joint surveys already undertaken in the Malaya-Thailand border areas, the proposed survey of the border areas between Indonesia and British Borneo and the correlation of sedimentary rocks northward from Malaya through Thailand into Burma.

62. Recognizing the continuing functions of the Working Party, the Committee recommended that it be renamed the "Working Party of Senior Geologists" and that its terms of reference be broadened.⁷ The Working Party should work closely with the other expert bodies of ECAFE, particularly in connexion with the promotion of mineral and water resources development.

Mineral resources development

63. The Committee adopted the report and recommendations of the third session of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (E/CN.11/I&NR/5). It endorsed the proposal to convene a working group of experts on mining legislation and a seminar on aerial surveys. In approving the agenda for the proposed Symposium on the Development of Petroleum Resources in Asia and the Far East, the Committee felt that the agenda should be broadly interpreted to take into account the large capital investment required, and the considerable risks run, in petroleum exploration and development. Other issues, such as safety in exploration and the role of private enterprise, should also be stressed.

64. The Committee recommended that priority be given in 1959 to the proposed study tour of mineral experts to the United States of America and to Canada, and noted that the Government of the former country has provided the necessary funds. It felt that information on the methods used and results obtained in one country by TAA experts would be useful to other countries, and asked for the dissemination of such information.

Iron and steel

65. The Committee endorsed the report of the seventh session of the Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel (E/CN.11/I&NR/1). It noted that many countries outside the region had offered assistance to countries of the region in developing their steel industries and that the delegation of the Soviet Union had invited steel experts of the ECAFE region to visit iron and steel plants in that country.

66. It recognized that, while it was not always necessary for a country to have all the raw materials for an iron and steel industry, provided other conditions were favourable, comparatively less developed countries might, as a first step, set up re-rolling mills, light engineering industries, and assembly industries before establishing an iron and steel industry. The question of priorities therefore deserved consideration. The Committee emphasized that, while recent technological developments had made it possible to produce iron without coking coal, careful investigations would have to be made to ascertain which process was best

⁷ The text of the terms of reference is reproduced in paragraph 308.

suited to a particular country. For that purpose, laboratory and pilot plant tests would be useful. There was considerable scope for intraregional trade in raw materials, semi-finished goods, and the products of light engineering industries. The importance of the foundry industry to ECAFE countries was stressed, and a periodic review by the Sub-Committee of that industry and of its problems was recommended. The study of consumption trends and future demand for steel products in the ECAFE countries was also essential and continuing attention should be paid to problems of technical personnel.

Electric power

67. The Committee approved the report of the sixth session of the Sub-Committee on Electric Power (E/CN.11/I&NR/6). The demand for power in the less developed countries had, in the last decade, always increased faster than generating and transmission capacity. The study of techniques of forecasting power demand should therefore be given priority, and if necessary a working party should be convened to examine the matter. The Committee decided that, in view of the need for an integrated study of both the fuel and power resources and the demands of the countries of the region, the project "Techniques of estimating future power demands" should be merged with the project, "Integrated study of the fuel economy of the region" (Project No. 31-04).

68. Endorsing the proposal to convene a working party on the use of wood poles for rural electrification, the Committee emphasized that the other important aspects of rural electrification should also be studied. Several countries stressed the need for assistance in obtaining topographical and hydrological survey equipment for the assessment of hydroelectric potential, and the Committee suggested that the secretariat should consider ways and means to assist them in obtaining such equipment.

69. The Committee commended the work of the study group of Asian electric power experts who visited the Soviet Union and the United States of America in 1956.

Sources of energy as a means of economic development

70. The Committee expressed appreciation of the Secretary-General's report on *Economic Applications of Atomic Energy—Power Generation and Industrial Agricultural Uses* (E/3005),⁸ and noted that the use of nuclear energy would become increasingly important in the future. The possibility of developing nuclear power in the countries of the region depended on the availability and costs of conventional fuels in relation to those of nuclear energy and on the future requirements for power of those countries. Even at the present stage, however, advantage should be taken of fellowship funds and technical assistance available from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the United Nations for the training of technical personnel. The Committee noted with satisfaction that close liaison had been maintained between the United Nations and IAEA and that the ECAFE secretariat would circulate information on the peaceful use of nuclear energy received from IAEA and other sources.

⁸ United Nations Publications, Sales No.: 1957.II.B.2.

2. INTERNATIONAL TRADE

71. During the period under review the following meeting was held: Committee on Trade (first session), 20-27 January 1958

Chairman, Luang Thavil Sethpanichkarn (Thailand);
First Vice-Chairman, Mr. Perfecto E. Laguio (Philippines);

Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. M. Nisibori (Japan).

At its first session, which was held at Bangkok, Thailand, the Committee reviewed current developments in trade, trade policies, and import and export licensing policies and procedures. It considered the possible implications for the countries of the region of the proposed European Common Market and the free trade area in Europe. The subjects discussed included the proposals for the holding of intraregional trade promotion talks; export promotion techniques and practices; a regional floating fair; and regional seminars on trade promotion.⁹

Current developments in trade and trade policies

72. The Committee noted that, while the value of imports of the region had shown a steady and substantial increase, reaching new high levels in 1956 and in the first half of 1957, the export earnings had tended to level off, resulting in several countries in an increased trade deficit and a reduction in foreign exchange reserves. The fluctuations in prices of primary commodities continued to constitute a major source of instability. In recent years, the relative share of exports of non-industrial areas (including the ECAFE region) in world exports had declined.

73. On the other hand, the increasing imports of capital goods and raw materials for industry by the countries of the region reflected their progress in economic development. A limited measure of success had been achieved by those countries in developing their industries and diversifying their exports. Note was taken, too, of the efforts by the countries of the region to mobilize their own resources. Nevertheless, external assistance was as vital as ever for the financing of economic development.

Import and export licensing policies and procedures

74. The Committee reviewed the progress achieved in the simplification of import and export licensing procedures. As a result of balance of payments difficulties, several countries had intensified their import restrictions, while others had been able to relax such restrictions. Despite foreign exchange difficulties, some countries had been able to simplify administrative formalities and procedures relating to import and export licensing. Consultative machinery had been set up to ensure closer liaison between Governments and trade and industry on licensing policies and procedures. The Committee noted the increased government participation in the foreign trade of some countries of the region. That trend was designed to meet the requirements of Governments' development projects, to promote exports for which there was no strong demand, to improve their bargaining power, and to diversify trade.

⁹ For the action taken on the report of the Committee on Trade by the Commission at its fourteenth session, see paragraphs 287 to 302.

The European Common Market and Free Trade Area in Europe

75. The Committee discussed the European Common Market and Free Trade Area in Europe on the basis of a factual note by the secretariat, a study by the secretariat of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), several papers by Governments, and statements by delegations, including those of France and the Netherlands—two of the six participants in the European Economic Community (EEC). The hope was expressed that the Common Market would promote, not only the economic co-operation and growth of the participants, but also world trade. Several countries, however, expressed concern at the possible consequences of the following features of the EEC: (a) the common tariff; (b) the introduction of quantitative restrictions and quotas on imports from countries which were not members of the Common Market; (c) the association of overseas territories with the EEC; (d) the establishment of a special fund for the economic and social development of the associated overseas territories; and (e) the treatment of agriculture and agricultural products.

76. Fears were also expressed that the trade of third countries, especially their exports to the European Common Market, might in the long run be unfavourably affected. Some delegations felt that it was necessary to reconcile the provisions of the Rome Treaty (which set up the Common Market) with existing international commitments in order to avoid the risk of disintegration of the multilateral trading system established under GATT. It was also pointed out that, since the Rome Treaty included few specific provisions relating to third countries and since all third countries were not members of GATT, it was essential for those countries to receive assurances that their legitimate trade and economic interests would be safeguarded. It was suggested that countries of the region would have to consider the problems which would arise when they had to reconcile the policies adopted to assist their industries with their obligations under GATT to Common Market countries.

77. The representatives of France and the Netherlands, in answer to the various points raised in the discussion, pointed out that the treaty establishing the EEC did not restrict trade but on the contrary harmonized with a system of multilateral trade, and would in time contribute to the expansion of international trade. They also pointed out that additional resources from the Common Market countries should become available for the financing of economic development in under-developed countries and that the Common Market would contribute to that result by bringing about higher levels of income and productivity in its member countries. They were convinced that the provisions of the treaty were fully consistent with the articles of GATT.

78. The Committee took note of articles 18 and 110 of the Rome Treaty, embodying obligations undertaken by the six European countries to liberalize and promote world trade. It welcomed the assurances that the legitimate economic interests of all third countries would be safeguarded in accordance with the above-mentioned articles.

79. The Committee recognized that it was not possible at that stage to express any firm opinion on the possible effects of the European Common Market on the economies of the ECAFE countries. It considered,

however, that the matter was highly important and should be kept under review. It endorsed the suggestion that member countries should prepare studies on the possible repercussions of the Common Market on their principal export products and forward those studies to the secretariat for circulation. It also requested the secretariat to follow pertinent developments closely.

80. As the proposal to establish a free trade area in Europe was still under negotiation, the Committee considered it premature to express any opinion on possible consequences, but requested the ECAFE secretariat to keep a watch on the matter.

Intraregional trade promotion talks

81. The Committee considered the proposal of the Government of Japan on intraregional trade promotion talks, which had initially been presented to the Committee on Industry and Trade at its ninth session. As several delegations favoured, and others opposed, the proposal, the Committee decided to submit the question to the Commission at its fourteenth session for a final decision.

Export promotion techniques and practices

82. The Committee reviewed the measures taken by the countries of the region to promote exports, namely, the strengthening of trade services in foreign countries, trade fairs and exhibitions, trade missions and the dissemination of trade information. It recognized the need for further improvements in promotional organizations. It also noted the fiscal and other incentives provided to exporters, which included rebates of import duties on raw materials, refunds of excise duties on local products used in the manufacture of export goods, the use of retention quotas, and the system of tying less saleable exports to profitable imports. The Committee recommended the use of the standard arbitration clause in export contracts and the organization of export risk insurance. It urged the countries to pay greater attention to better grading, quality control and standardization in respect of their traditional exports. It recognized the possible benefits to ECAFE countries of the export promotion techniques and methods adopted in advanced countries.

Regional floating fair

83. After taking note of the administrative, technical and financial problems encountered by the organizers of the Japan Machinery Floating Fair, the Committee decided that the time was not ripe for the countries of the region to organize a floating fair on a regional basis.

Training of trade promotion personnel

84. The Committee noted the offer of the Government of Japan and of the Government of India to hold regional seminars on trade promotion in 1959 and 1960 respectively in their countries with TAA assistance. The Committee also suggested that TAA might be requested to provide fellowships for participants from the countries of the region and that countries outside the region might at their own expense send trade promotion experts to participate in the seminars.

85. After considering the financial and other aspects of the proposal to establish a regional training centre for trade promotion personnel, the Committee agreed to defer the question of preparing a detailed

scheme until experience had been gained in organizing the two regional seminars on trade promotion in Japan and India and until the possibility could be explored of securing adequate financial support for such a centre.

Working Party on Customs Administration

86. The Committee felt that the proposed Working Party on Customs Administration, to be held in co-operation with the secretariats of GATT and the Customs Co-operation Council should review the measures for the simplification of customs procedures adopted or proposed by the countries of the region in the light of the work already done by international agencies. Recognizing the importance of the subject of nomenclature in customs administration, not only to customs experts, but also to statisticians, it endorsed the suggestion of the Executive Secretary to convene a meeting of experts on customs statistics under the auspices of the Conference of Asian Statisticians to consider the question.

Trade in minerals and mineral products

87. The Committee supported the recommendation of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development that a study be made of trade in minerals and mineral products. Minerals provided a significant source of foreign exchange to several countries of the region, and the fall in prices of certain mineral products (tin and tungsten, in particular) had already adversely affected the economy of the exporting countries. The Committee requested the ECAFE secretariat to present a preliminary report on the subject to it at its next session. That document might subsequently be supplemented by an analysis of: the market situation, mineral production and development programmes; the improvement of transport and port facilities; the possibilities of processing and smelting ores; the capital cost of establishing or expanding smelting and refining facilities; and competition on the world market to semi-fabricated or finished mineral products of the countries of the region. The Committee requested those countries to supply to the secretariat the data required for the study.

3. INLAND TRANSPORT

88. The meetings of the Inland Transport Committee and of the bodies reporting to it, held during the period under review, are given below, together with the names of officers:

Ad hoc Working Party on Inland Ports, 19-29 August 1957

Chairman, Mr. Prakob P. Boakarach (Thailand);

First Vice-Chairman, Mr. S. Masood Husain (Pakistan);

Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. Alan H. Laidlaw (United States of America).

Inland Waterway Sub-Committee (fourth session), 24-30 October 1957

Chairman, Mr. Soenar Soerapoetra (Indonesia);

First Vice-Chairman, Mr. Toshiro Yoshida (Japan);

Second Vice-Chairman, U Soe Maung (Burma).

Railway Sub-Committee (fifth session), 9-14 December 1957

Chairman, Luang Vidura Vidhikol (Thailand);

First Vice-Chairman, Mr. Salvador T. Villa (Philippines);

Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. Jiro Onogi (Japan).

Seminar on Engineering and Traffic Aspects of Highway Safety, 13-23 May 1957

Chairman, Mr. M. Yoneda (Japan);

First Vice-Chairman, Mr. L. D. Wylie (United States of America);

Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. M. M. Chudasama (India).

Seminar on Low-Cost Roads and Soil Stabilization, 10-21 January 1958

Chairman, Mr. H. P. Sinha (India);

First Vice-Chairman, Luang Videt Vontrakich (Thailand);

Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. T. Mori (Japan).

Inland Transport Committee (seventh session), 11-18 February 1958

Chairman, Mr. Saeng Chulacharitta (Thailand);

First Vice-Chairman, Mr. D. D. Suri (India);

Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. Hiroyasu Kunitomo (Japan).

Ad hoc WORKING PARTY ON INLAND PORTS

89. The *Ad hoc* Working Party on Inland Ports, which met at Bangkok, Thailand, in August 1957, studied the question of the design and construction, and also the administrative, organizational and financial problems of the operation and development, of inland ports. It examined the conditions in the region affecting the establishment of inland ports, and emphasized the need for adequate port facilities on important waterways, since fleet detention resulting from the absence of such facilities greatly slowed down the turn-round.

90. On the basis of studies and information on a number of inland ports and installations in certain western European countries, the USSR and the United States of America, as well as on inland ports in the region, the Working Party enunciated some of the main considerations which should govern the selection of sites for port development in the region. Subsequently, having examined a number of typical port situations in various countries of the region, it made recommendations as to the appropriate layout and type of installations.

91. The Working Party found that problems relating to deep-sea ports required also to be taken into account in a study of inland waterway transport questions, particularly when such ports were situated on rivers carrying considerable traffic from the *hinterland*. The Working Party considered that the Inland Waterway Sub-Committee should study the problems of deep-sea ports and ocean shipping as a part of the over-all transport pattern of the countries of the region. For that purpose the Sub-Committee's terms of reference might with advantage be widened.

INLAND WATERWAY SUB-COMMITTEE

92. At its fourth session held at Jogjakarta, Indonesia, the Inland Waterway Sub-Committee approved the report and recommendations of the *Ad hoc* Work-

ing Party on Inland Ports (E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.3/17). The Committee also considered a number of problems in inland water transport, and measures for the improvement of government organizations, for the modernization of craft and for the more efficient utilization of waterway transport equipment. It requested the secretariat to prepare a paper about the current studies on sea ports and ocean shipping in Asia and the Far East by various international agencies, including non-governmental organizations such as the Permanent International Association of Navigation Congresses and the International Ports and Harbours Association. In the light of that survey, the Sub-Committee could then delimit the range of the studies which it might profitably undertake.

Government organization

93. The Sub-Committee, having studied the information and data on governmental organizations dealing with inland waterway transport and river and canal conservancy in certain western European countries, in the Soviet Union and in the United States of America, drew the attention of the Governments of the region to the following points: the Governments in question had accepted the responsibility for maintaining and improving all navigable waterways of national importance with public funds and had enunciated a transport policy and established agencies to enforce it in matters such as the fixing of freight rates for all or part of the industry.

94. The Sub-Committee suggested that the secretariat continue to study governmental organizations dealing with inland waterway transport in the region, and that, when adequate material had been collected, a working party might be convened which should bring out any features of existing organizations suited for adaptation to the countries of the region. The working party should also make recommendations generally on the question of the structure and terms of reference of governmental organizations, whether existing or proposed, and on the pertinent legislation entailed in the implementation of its suggestions.

Classification of inland waterways

95. The Sub-Committee reviewed the available information on characteristic dimensions of waterways, installations and craft in Europe, the Soviet Union, the United States of America, and the region. It decided to continue its efforts to arrive at a classification of inland waterways in the region in spite of the obvious difficulties arising out of differences in characteristics. It recommended that the secretariat should collect and analyse further information from countries of the region and formulate recommendations on standard dimensions for at least one class of waterways, which would serve as a regional standard for navigable waterways of present or potential international importance.

Uniform system of shore marks

96. The Sub-Committee noted the progress made in the introduction of the uniform system of buoys and shore marks for inland waterways in Asia and the Far East. That system was being adopted by eleven countries in the region.

Regional Marine Diesel Training Centre

97. The Sub-Committee requested the ILO to arrange for an additional six months' course of practical training afloat and ashore (including marine engine maintenance and repair) at the Rangoon Regional Marine Diesel Training Centre now that the one year course was progressing satisfactorily. The Sub-Committee considered that increased attention should be paid to the selection of trainees who would be capable, on return to their home country, of serving as instructors. The Sub-Committee requested the secretariat at an early date to explore the possibility of obtaining the services of a bilingual instructor for the period of one year, in order that instruction in French could be organized as soon as possible, preferably in the third course.

Proposed Study Tour of Inland Waterway Transport Experts

98. The Sub-Committee recommended that the duration of the proposed study tour of inland waterway transport experts of the region should not exceed seven weeks, including the time required for travel and the drafting of the report. It therefore suggested that the tour be limited to the Soviet Union. It recommended a tentative itinerary and indicated a number of technical and economic aspects of inland waterway transport operation and of river and canal conservancy on which the group, within the framework of its general terms of reference, might concentrate its attention.

RAILWAY SUB-COMMITTEE

99. At the fifth session of the Railway Sub-Committee, held at Bangkok, Thailand, consideration was given to problems concerning technical and economic aspects of railway transportation, including the operation and maintenance of diesel locomotives, the economic utilization of rolling-stock; measures for improving railway workshop techniques and productivity; safety in railway working; the standardization and preservation of railway wooden sleepers; and training facilities for railway officials of the region.

Diesel locomotives and railcars

100. The Sub-Committee noted the increasing pace of dieselization of motive power and the growing volume of knowledge and experience in that field in the ECAFE region, and reviewed the problems of selection of types and specifications of diesel locomotives, their operation, and the use of high or low grade fuels. To promote an exchange of knowledge and experience, the Sub-Committee recommended that a meeting of railway mechanical engineers be convened in 1958. It suggested that the secretariat prepare a questionnaire for the collection and dissemination of information on aspects such as dimensions, locomotive performance, spare parts and training facilities. It felt that the railways of the region might require technical advice on other aspects from advanced countries. It recommended that Governments should inform the ECAFE secretariat of those problems on which it might provide advice and technical guidance.

Economical utilization of rolling-stock

101. As the problem of the efficient control and distribution of freight rolling-stock was a major factor in improving the utilization of available equipment and

augmenting carrying capacity, the Sub-Committee stressed the importance of developing adequate telecommunication systems to facilitate intercommunication between controlling centres and traffic operational points. The value of the over-all planning of the various aspects of railway operation was noted. Special attention was given to the problem of eliminating hot axle boxes, to the design of rolling-stock (including roller bearings) with a view to obtaining higher speeds, and dieselization of motive power. The Sub-Committee suggested that the secretariat should undertake further studies on the utilization of locomotives and on locomotive shed practices, as those had an important bearing on general efficiency.

Railway workshop techniques and productivity

102. On the problems of improving railway workshop techniques and productivity, the Sub-Committee pointed out that the retention in service of over-age rolling-stock had increased the cost of repairs and the "out of service time" and reduced the output of workshops. Those aspects might be specially examined by the secretariat. The Sub-Committee also considered other factors, namely, the standardization of rolling-stock and components; the introduction of fittings of modern design; preventive systems of maintenance; inspection, production control, reclamation of materials, cost accounting, layout, internal transport in workshops; recruitment, training and promotion of personnel, staff welfare, staff management, the relationship between management and staff, and safety measures. The Sub-Committee recommended that a questionnaire be prepared by the secretariat covering those points and circulated to member and associate member Governments within the region. The information received should be analysed and submitted with comments for consideration by the meeting of mechanical engineers scheduled for 1958.

Safety in railway working

103. The importance generally of an independent inspecting organization as a means of promoting safety in railway working was noted, although it was felt that, on most of the smaller railways, a separate organization might not always be justified. Improvements in the design of passenger rolling-stock such as all-welded tubular type passenger cars could reduce the risk of telescoping in the case of accidents. It was felt, that, wherever justified, the conventional wooden cars might be utilized on slow trains, and steel passenger cars on faster services. There would be great advantage in making available to staff "rule books" in local languages containing operational instructions. Special emphasis was laid on the need for adequate training of operating staff at all levels and for a wider dissemination of the results of investigations. The Sub-Committee felt that the current conditions in, and the actual needs of, individual countries' railways called for specific measures in each case to promote safety. The Sub-Committee suggested that a panel of experts, including experts from India, Japan and Pakistan and an expert from Europe, be set up which might visit countries upon the request of Governments and make on-the-spot recommendations.

Standardization and preservation of railway wooden sleepers

104. The Sub-Committee approved the report and recommendations of the ECAFE/FAO Working Party

on Railway Track (Wooden) Sleepers (E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.1/47), held in December 1956, in regard to standard sizes and specifications of wooden sleepers, preservative treatment, the classification and utilization of sleepers taken out of main lines, ballast, procurement policies, and the collection and maintenance of statistical information regarding sleeper failures. It noted with interest that, following those recommendations, the Malaya Railway had already adopted the revised standard sleeper size 9" x 4½" 6'6" for metre gauge railways, thereby achieving notable savings in the use of timber. The Sub-Committee also endorsed the suggestion for further co-operation between ECAFE and FAO put forward by the Asia Pacific Forestry Commission at its fourth session.

Training facilities for railway officials

105. The Sub-Committee noted that, following the negotiations between TAA and the Government of Pakistan, the responsibility for operating the Training Centre for Railway Operating and Signalling Officials had been transferred to that Government as of 1 January 1958. The Government gave assurances, however, that the Centre would continue to maintain its regional character, and that training facilities would continue to be available to all governments of the ECAFE region. Although the Centre possessed the essential demonstration equipment, the Sub-Committee felt that, in order to enable the trainees to familiarize themselves with modern techniques, it would be useful if the Centre could be provided with certain additional apparatus such as a teleprinter, multiple-channel telecommunication equipment, computing machines and hump yard retarders. The secretariat was requested to explore the possibility of obtaining from Governments or appropriate organizations donations of such equipment.

106. Recalling that at its previous session some Governments both within and outside the region had offered to provide training facilities to railway officials of the ECAFE region, the Sub-Committee recommended that the secretariat should compile data on the requirements of the railways of the region in that regard and make a comprehensive review of available training facilities both within and outside the region.

SEMINAR ON HIGHWAY SAFETY

107. The Seminar on Highway Safety, held at Tokyo, Japan, was attended by experts from member and associate member governments of the Commission and from technical institutions interested in highway safety. The Seminar considered the administrative structure and distribution of traffic safety responsibilities, the prediction of future increases in traffic and vehicle registration, the compilation and analysis of accident data, the capacity of roads and intersections, traffic operation, economic aspects of traffic design and operation, and training and education in, and public information on, traffic safety. It recommended the expansion of national highway safety programmes in the countries of the region and the periodic organization of traffic study weeks in the major cities of the ECAFE region with a view to training the personnel concerned with traffic safety. The first such week should be devoted to accident studies and traffic operations. The Seminar suggested that the ECAFE secretariat, in co-operation with the United Nations Educational, Sci-

entific and Cultural Organization UNESCO, should take steps to prepare manuals on highway safety, with suitable illustrations, for inclusion in the curriculum of schools and colleges.

SEMINAR ON LOW-COST ROADS AND SOIL STABILIZATION

108. The Seminar on Low Cost Roads and Soil Stabilization was organized in January 1958 at New Delhi, India, immediately after the annual session of the Indian Roads Congress in that city. Senior highway and railway experts from both within and outside the region, including a number of experts from specialized institutions, participated. The subjects discussed at the Seminar covered (a) technical issues, such as traffic capacity, route investigations, the testing of materials, structure of low-cost roads, stabilization techniques and the surfacing of roads and (b) economic and administrative problems such as the definition of low-cost roads, cost analysis, the execution and maintenance by mechanical methods and manual labour, the establishment of road funds and the training of engineering personnel.

109. The seminar emphasized the need, in order to increase the tempo of road construction, for each country to set up a separate non-lapsable national road fund fed from sources such as taxes on fuel, lubricants, tires, spare parts and vehicles, and tolls on roads and bridges; and from a certain percentage of revenues from other sources. It also felt that more attention should be given to the possibility of training highway engineering personnel in the investigation and construction of low-cost roads in the research centres both within and outside the region.

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

110. The Inland Transport Committee at its seventh session, held at Bangkok, Thailand, in February 1958, paid particular attention to the co-ordination of inland transport, the statistical evaluation of the performance of transport systems and to the mechanization of accounts in transport undertakings. It reviewed the progress of work by the secretariat in regard to the collection, analysis and dissemination of information on inland transport and on telecommunications.¹⁰

Co-ordination of transport

111. The Committee considered that the proposed working party on co-ordination of transport should concentrate on the analysis of the principles and methods of co-ordination of different forms of transport (statutory or otherwise) in the countries of the region, and should bear in mind the experience of some of the countries outside the region, and identify those issues which required further study.

Mechanization of accounts

112. The Committee noted that considerable savings had been reported in some countries of the region where mechanized methods of accounting and statistical compilation, particularly on the railways, had been introduced. It felt that a general scheme could not be laid down for all the countries of the region indicating the best way of introducing mechanized methods of accounting. Detailed studies were required in each case.

¹⁰ For the action taken on the report of the Inland Transport Committee by the Commission at its fourteenth session, see paragraphs 316 to 324.

Advice and assistance on the matter were available to Governments in the region from the manufacturers of the equipment in question.

Telecommunications

113. The Committee reviewed the progress made by the secretariat in co-operation with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in the field of telecommunications, and noted that funds had been allocated for two technical experts who would carry out the proposed studies. A questionnaire had been prepared by the secretariat in co-operation with ITU, and replies thereto had already been received from a number of Governments. Taking note of the offer of the Government of Japan to provide host facilities, the Committee suggested that the proposed ECAFE/ITU Working Party on Telecommunications be convened in that country in 1959.

114. Emphasizing the urgent need for developing telecommunications training programmes, the Committee recommended that the existing national training centres should be strengthened and their facilities made available to other countries of the region. Additional technical personnel required for the purpose might be provided in the country requests under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

115. In order to reflect its activities in the field of telecommunications, the Inland Transport Committee recommended that the Commission should give consideration to renaming it the "Transport and Communications Committee". It was, however, made clear that the change of title of the Committee would in no way imply any alteration in the scope of its present terms of reference.

Collection, analysis and dissemination of information

116. The Committee endorsed the activities of the secretariat in regard to the collection, analysis and dissemination of information through the quarterly *Transport Bulletin*. Owing to the absence of uniformity as regards the period for which statistical information was available from the countries and to the resultant delays in the compilation and analysis of such information, the Committee recommended that statistics relating to all forms of inland transport should be included from time to time in the *Bulletin* itself and that the publication of the annual *Railway Statistics Bulletin* should be discontinued.

Technical assistance

117. The Committee expressed appreciation of the technical assistance by TAA in inland transport during 1957 to the countries of the region. It noted that the countries which participated in the training programme of the Training Centre for Operating and Signalling Officials at Lahore had found that the new techniques acquired had been of practical benefit. It also noted the assistance given by the ILO to several countries in the region in the training of mechanics and drivers.

4. RESEARCH AND PLANNING

118. During the period under review, the following meetings were held: Working Party on Economic Planning (third session), 16-28 September 1957

Chairman, Mr. Bundhit Kantabutra (Thailand);

First Vice-Chairman, Mr. Kazushi Ohkawa (Japan);

Second Vice-Chairman, U Hpu (Burma).

Conference of Asian Statisticians (first session), 8-17 April 1957

Chairman, M. C. Athiporn P. Kasemsri (Thailand);
First Vice-Chairman, Mr. Ryokichi Minobe (Japan);
Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. S. P. Sinha (India).

Workshop on Problems of Budget Reclassification and Management (second session), 3-10 September 1957

Chairman, Mr. C. V. Narasimhan, Executive Secretary, ECAFE;

Vice-Chairman, Mr. John H. Pierson, Director of Research and Planning, ECAFE.

WORKING PARTY ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

119. At its third session, held at Bangkok, Thailand, in collaboration with FAO, the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning considered problems and techniques of agricultural development planning and implementation in relation to economic development as a whole, and particularly to industrialization. For that purpose, it examined a study prepared jointly by the ECAFE and FAO secretariats, together with working papers contributed by the Fiscal and Financial Branch of the Bureau of Economic Affairs at the United Nations Headquarters and by the International Labour Office, and twenty-two working papers submitted by participating Governments. The following topics were discussed: implications for agriculture of economic development, particularly industrialization; the objectives and targets of agricultural development plans in the ECAFE region, and their implementation; the demand outlook for the principal agricultural commodities; criteria and techniques for the selection of the best means for agricultural expansion, especially cost and benefit analysis; the allocation of investment resources in agricultural and non-agricultural development; and incentives and institutional factors, particularly producers' price policies, subsidies and taxation. The Working Party adopted a report (E/CN.11/L.52), published in the November 1957 issue of the *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East* (vol. VIII, No. 3), which set forth the views of the session.

120. Realizing that development programming on a country-wide basis was comparatively recent in the region, the Working Party placed emphasis on such requirements for agricultural planning as trained and experienced planning personnel, suitable organization for co-ordination, the integration of plans with national development objectives, and the creation of a firmer statistical basis, especially for the forecasting of demand for agricultural products and for the assessment of savings and underemployment in agriculture. The Working Party recommended measures designed to achieve greater precision in such aspects of agricultural planning as target-setting, resource-allocation and project-appraisal.

121. It drew the attention of the Conference of Asian Statisticians to the statistical aspects of agricultural planning, and urged all countries to support and carry out the proposed 1960 World Censuses of Agriculture. The Working Party also recommended that at its next session, in 1958, it should take up the subject of industrialization in relation to economic development as a whole.

CONFERENCE OF ASIAN STATISTICIANS

122. The Fifth Regional Conference of Statisticians of Asia and the Far East, which reconstituted itself as the first session of the Conference of Asian Statisticians, met at Bangkok, Thailand, under the joint sponsorship of ECAFE, the Statistical Office of the United Nations, and FAO. It discussed the FAO draft programme for the 1960 World Censuses of Agriculture, suggested modifications of the programme for the region, and considered some aspects of the application of sampling methods to agricultural censuses. The terms of reference, work programme and methods of the Conference of Asian Statisticians were also considered. The Conference decided that the following topics should be included in the agenda of the second session, to be held in 1958; training of statisticians; unfinished business concerning the World Censuses of Agriculture and Population; the use of sampling methods; and the long term work programme.

WORKSHOP ON PROBLEMS OF BUDGET RECLASSIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT

123. The Second Workshop on Problems of Budget Reclassification and Management, sponsored jointly by ECAFE, TAA and the Fiscal and Financial Branch of the Bureau of Economic Affairs of the United Nations, which met at Bangkok, Thailand, reviewed the progress made and difficulties met in applying the simplified scheme of classification and accounts suggested by the first (1955) Workshop, and discussed the recommendations contained in the revised version of the *Manual for Economic and Functional Classification of Government Transactions* (E/CN.11/BRW.2/L.5). Programme and performance budgeting was also discussed. In view of the usefulness of the previous sessions, the Workshop recommended that another session be called within two years, the agenda of which should stress the problems of budget formulation, control and management. A questionnaire should be sent by the ECAFE secretariat to member countries before the next session, in order to obtain information on the progress of reclassification work and to provide a basis for a uniform system of reporting budgetary data. The Workshop further recommended the preparation of a manual or a working paper on performance budgeting and of a detailed alphabetical index of government activities. Technical assistance should be made available to countries desiring it either in the management, or for the reclassification, of their budget.

5. WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

124. During the period under review the following meeting was held:

Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, 4-10 December 1957

Chairman, Mr. Julian A. Buendia (Philippines);

First Vice-Chairman, Mr. A. E. C. de S. Gunasekera (Ceylon);

Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. A. F. Quraishi (Pakistan).

The Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, which met at Manila, Philippines, reviewed the development of the water resources of the countries in the region and made recommendations on the technical and organizational aspects of the planning and construction of projects.

Current programmes

125. The Conference recommended the adoption of more thorough plans for the development of water resources on financial capacity, and on the availability of technical personnel and of essential materials, and drew attention to the need to strike a balance between ideal requirements and practical possibilities. The Conference concluded that due weight should be given to the intangible or indirect benefits of a particular project. The Conference laid particular emphasis on the need to prevent floods and consequent damage to life, property, transport and communications; the importance of soil conservation; the scope for increased inland transportation; and the contribution that cheap hydro-electric power could make to rapid industrialization.

126. The Conference concluded that, in general, multiple-purpose river basin development should be given priority wherever practicable. However, the decision whether a particular project should be single-purpose or multiple-purpose would depend on the merits of the proposal.

Deficiencies in hydrologic data

127. The Conference emphasized the serious consequences of deficiencies in hydrologic data. There was an understandable tendency to concentrate the collection of data in those areas currently undergoing development, but areas to be developed later should not be neglected. It was not too early to give serious consideration to establishing base station networks in all countries.

128. Ground water investigations might provide information on available supplies of water. Either a reconnaissance or an intensive quantitative survey of the promising areas should be undertaken to that end. The need was recognized for a general policy on ground water supply, as was the scope for co-operation among the countries in matters such as the exchange of knowledge, technical information and experience, and the planning of the use of equipment and the services of technicians for ground water development. The Conference noted the importance of snow surveys and of investigations in those parts of the region where snow-fed discharge swelled the flood peaks.

129. The Conference felt that inadequate funds were being appropriated for the collection of basic and essential information and that, in consequence, practically all the countries of the region had been lagging in that respect.

130. With a view to keeping under review the efforts of Governments to improve hydrologic networks, the Conference suggested that one or more joint seminars be held by ECAFE and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Two important subjects "Design of basic networks" and "Hydrologic methods to be used in the absence of adequate basic data" were suggested for inclusion in the agenda of such seminars.

Manual labour for earthwork

131. The relative advantages of manual labour as against machines in various types of earthwork were examined on the basis of a study prepared by the secretariat (E/CN.11/WRD/Conf.3/L.1). It was generally agreed that not only technical and economic considerations but also social factors were relevant to the selection of methods. Thus, output of earthwork by manual

labour was affected by the types of soils to be handled, the availability of proper tools, wage payment methods, specialization of the work, and also by working conditions in the area, in particular housing, food, and recreational and medical facilities.

132. While additional data were still necessary on all types of work, it was felt that, in view of the abundance of manpower and the shortage of capital in most ECAFE countries, manual labour should be utilized whenever practicable in preference to machines and, in order to improve its efficiency, labour should be provided with proper tools and welfare services.

133. However, there was considerable evidence of a strong trend in almost all ECAFE countries towards mechanization. That should be introduced gradually, and timely provision should be made to train workers to repair and operate machinery. Other appropriate measures should be taken to improve conditions of operation and the rate of performance of the machines. Maintenance should be so conducted as to obviate deterioration. Studies should be made to select the machines best suited to the job.

Construction of water resources development projects

134. The Conference examined the relative merits of the two alternative methods of constructing water resources development projects. A variety of government agencies, as well as private contracting firms, were being used and tested in the countries of the region. The Conference recognized that no general rule could be laid down as to the choice to be made between those alternatives. However, the Conference emphasized that the main relevant factors in the selection of a construction agency were speed, cost and quality of construction, training facilities, labour management, and availability of construction materials, plant and machinery. Responsibility for quality control should not be in the hands of the construction organization, regardless of whether the work was done by force account or by contract.

Other matters

135. The Conference made recommendations as to the future work of the ECAFE secretariat in the fields of flood control and water resources development as well as on the questions to be studied during the proposed group visit of experts from the countries of the region to Europe and North America.

B. Other activities

136. This section of the report covers those activities of the secretariat which are not directly connected with the preparation of studies and documents, such as those listed in annex III, the Commission's subsidiary bodies mentioned in section A above and for the substantive servicing of those bodies.

BUREAU OF FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

137. During the period under review, the Bureau devoted special attention to projects having an important bearing on river basin development, such as the promotion of the collection of basic hydrologic data and the analysis of planning and execution of selected multiple-purpose projects in the region.

Multiple-purpose river basin development in the region

138. With a view to providing the national and regional organizations with the accumulated knowledge available in the region and elsewhere on the effective use and control of water resources, the Bureau, in co-operation with FAO and WMO as well as with appropriate units of the Secretariat at the United Nations Headquarters, continued to publish the *Flood Control Series*; so far twelve issues have been published, including country-by-country surveys of water resources.

The Mekong project

139. Following the field reconnaissance carried out by the secretariat in 1956,¹¹ significant progress was made on the Mekong project in 1957. A joint meeting of the experts of the four riparian countries was held at Bangkok in May. It expressed the desire that detailed investigations of the three most promising sites listed in the secretariat report¹¹ should begin as soon as possible and recommended the establishment of a Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin composed of representatives of the riparian countries, and serviced by the ECAFE secretariat. It further recommended that a joint request for technical assistance from the United Nations be made by the countries concerned, and requested the Executive Secretary to include the Mekong project in the list of the ECAFE regional projects requiring assistance from TAA. It asked him to investigate the possibility of obtaining technical assistance from specialized agencies and from interested Governments.

140. A Preparatory Committee of the four riparian countries met at Bangkok in September 1957, and framed the Statute of the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin. The Governments of those countries made a joint request to TAA to provide a Survey Mission charged with the task of drawing up a programme of studies and investigations for the orderly and speedy development of the lower Mekong basin, including the three best project sites.

141. The first session of the Committee for Co-ordination was held at Phnom-Penh, Cambodia, from 31 October to 1 November 1957. It adopted its own rules of procedure and made some amendments to the statute of the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin. The statute and the rules of procedure are reproduced in annex IV to the present report. The Committee accepted with gratitude the offer from the Government of France of the sum of 60 million French francs to finance further investigations, and also agreed upon a programme of field investigations to be undertaken by the United Nations Survey Mission.

142. The Mission¹² assembled at Bangkok about the middle of November 1957, and completed its assign-

ment by the end of January 1958 after making extensive field investigations. In its report,¹³ the Mission recommended a five-year programme of studies and investigations aiming at the initiation of preliminary planning of specific projects on the main river within about three years and on the major tributaries by the end of the five-year period. A comprehensive plan would then be prepared for the full development of water resources in the lower Mekong basin. The total cost of the five-year programme was estimated at \$US 5.7 million for the first priority operations and an additional \$3.5 million for second priority operations, giving a total of \$9.2 million over a five-year period.

143. The second session of the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin was held at Bangkok in February 1958. The Committee accepted the conclusions and recommendations of the United Nations Survey Mission, and considered that the five-year programme of investigations and planning constituted a practical approach to the development of the lower Mekong basin. In view of the need for external assistance in the implementation of the programme, the Committee requested the United Nations to give that programme the highest priority when the proposed United Nations Special Projects Fund commenced operation. It authorized the Executive Secretary to discuss with interested Governments, on its behalf, the extent, form and pattern of assistance which they could make available. The Committee decided, in the meanwhile, to concentrate its efforts on the establishment of hydrologic stations and on surveying and mapping, and to utilize the sum of \$200,000 expected in 1958 from the United Nations Technical Assistance Board (TAB) for the services of specialists from the United Nations and specialized agencies.¹⁴

Improvement of flood control methods

144. The preliminary study on manual labour in the ECAFE region was being revised and extended in the light of the discussions at the Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development.¹⁵

145. With a view to providing information on flood control and water resources development, the Bureau continued the publication of the quarterly *Flood Control Journal* giving up-to-date information on projects undertaken by various countries in the region and on recent technical developments. It also continued the distribution of project reports and technical publications (eleven in all in 1957) to appropriate technical organizations in countries of the region.

Hydrologic observations and hydraulic research stations

146. The Bureau, in co-operation with WMO, prepared a study on "Major deficiencies in hydrologic

Commissioner and General Manager, Quebec Hydroelectric Commission, Canada

Mr. Kanwar Sain, Chairman, Central Water and Power Commission, Government of India

Personal Assistant to Chairman of Mission—Mr. H. V. Darling, Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army

Technical Secretary—Mr. P. T. Tan, ECAFE secretariat.

¹³ United Nations Survey Mission, "Programme of studies and investigations for comprehensive development, lower Mekong basin", Bangkok, 23 January 1958 (TAA/AFE/3).

¹⁴ For the action taken on this project by the Commission at its fourteenth session, see paragraphs 326 to 332 and Commission resolution 25 (XIV).

¹⁵ See paragraph 131 above.

¹¹ See *Development of Water Resources in the Lower Mekong Basin*, Flood Control Series No. 12 (United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.8) originally issued as document ECAFE/L.119, dated 22 February 1957).

¹² The Survey Mission was composed of the following persons:

Chairman Lt. General Raymond A. Wheeler, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

Members: Mr. G. Duval, Société Grenobloise d'Etudes et d'Applications Hydrauliques, Consulting Engineers, France

Mr. Yutake Kubota, President, Nippon Koei K.K., Consulting Engineers, Japan

Mr. John W. McCammon, Consulting Engineer, formerly

data" (E/CN.11/WRD/Conf.3/L.3). The Bureau continued to survey the work of the various hydraulic experimental stations in the region, particularly in respect of the area covered, personnel, equipment and investigations.

Group visit of experts

147. Preparations were made to plan a group visit of experts in water resources development to Europe and North America in 1958 with the co-operation of TAA.

International co-operation

148. The Bureau continued to participate in the annual interagency meeting on international co-operation on the development and utilization of water resources established under Economic and Social Council resolution 417 (XIV).

149. The Bureau supplied information to, and was consulted on, the work of the panel of experts established under Council resolution 599 (XXI), which met in November 1957 to review the administrative, economic and social implications of integrated river basin development, and to advise on the proper action to be taken in order to ensure a world-wide exchange of experience and data in related fields.

RESEARCH AND PLANNING DIVISION

Review and analysis of the current economic situation

150. The 1957 issue of *The Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East*¹⁶ continued the practice of reviewing the economic situation in the region as a whole during as much of the latest calendar year as available data permitted. The balance of the 1957 *Economic Survey* contained analyses of development problems and progress in selected countries. Seven chapters dealt respectively with growth and structural change in a private enterprise economy (as in Japan); planned development in a mixed economy (as in India); industrialization in a centrally planned economy (as in mainland China); the external or balance-of-payments aspects of export instability in the countries exporting primary products (as British Borneo, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, China: Taiwan, Indonesia, the Federation of Malaya, Pakistan, Philippines and Thailand), and the effects of that export instability on the internal economies of those countries; rehabilitation and reconstruction (in southern Korea and southern Viet-Nam); and the problems of land-locked countries (Afghanistan, Laos and Nepal). As in previous issues, appendices covered recent Asian economic statistics and a summary of trade agreements concluded in 1957.

151. The quarterly *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East* was issued in May, August and November 1957 and in February 1958. The fourth number was the *Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1957*. The May 1957 issue of the *Economic Bulletin* included articles on "Laws and regulations affecting foreign investment in Asia and the Far East", "Trade policy as a means of implementing or promoting economic development, with special reference to ECAFE countries", and "A statistical note on changes in the terms of trade and their effects on national income and trade balance in ECAFE countries". The section containing abridgements or summaries of selected reports

of ECAFE meetings, initiated in the May 1956 issue, was also continued in that number. The August 1957 issue presented the customary semi-annual review of the economic situation in the region. The November 1957 issue, following the practice begun in 1955, was a special number which contained the "Report of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (third session) to the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (fourteenth session)". It was entitled *Economic Development and Planning in Asia and the Far East: The Agricultural Sector*. The number also contained a joint ECAFE/FAO secretariat study entitled "Agricultural development and planning in countries of Asia and the Far East", which had been specially prepared for consideration at that session of the Working Party.

Population growth and economic development

152. Following the decision of the Commission at its thirteenth session to transfer the project on population growth and economic development project No. 02-03 to group 1 (continuing projects of high priority), special staff was assigned to it from both the Division of Social Affairs and the Division of Research and Planning. A preliminary report (ECAFE/28) was prepared for the information of the Commission dealing with demographic trends and problems in relation to economic development in the ECAFE countries. That paper included a condensed analysis of the current demographic situation, future population trends, the economic implications of those trends and action pertinent to programmes adopted by various countries.

153. A note by the Executive Secretary (E/CN.11/L.57) was submitted to the Commission at its request outlining the further priorities of work recommended, which in the next two years would include a review and an evaluation of available demographic data and a study of the relation between population trends and manpower, employment, savings and investment.

Timber trends and prospects

154. On the basis of reports supplied by country correspondents using a questionnaire on production and consumption of timber and forest products distributed by FAO in 1956, work on timber trends and prospects, a joint FAO/ECAFE project, was started at Bangkok in September 1957. The study will cover all countries of the ECAFE region except Afghanistan (which is to be grouped with the Middle East in a separate FAO study), and will also include Australia and New Zealand. The final report will review the area's forest resources, the production of various forest products, trade in those products, and consumption classified by end use. It will contain projections to 1965 and 1975, based on estimated future population and income and anticipated changes in other factors. The study is expected to be completed towards the end of 1958.

Statistical compilation and analysis

155. The basic series of various types of statistics were maintained, and further series added, during the year. Major changes and additions in the series regularly presented in the *Economic Bulletin* included a complete revision of series on currency and banking, in order to bring them into conformity with the concepts applied by the International Monetary Fund, and new series on prices of important export commodities.

¹⁶ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1958.II.F.1.

With the co-operation of the statistical offices of the governments of the region, current data were obtained regularly, permitting the compilation and publication in the *Economic Survey* and the *Economic Bulletin* of Asian economic statistics, including general tables on industrial production, transport, external trade, prices, employment and wages, and currency and banking, as well as special tables of annual statistics on population, agricultural production, transport, international payments, government budgets and national income. Statistical assistance and background data were also provided for various studies of the secretariat.

Statistics development

156. On the basis of decisions at the inaugural session of the Conference of Asian Statisticians in April 1957, the secretariat has been developing plans for the next session of the Conference, to be held in November 1958. Visits have been paid to several governments in the region to discuss with them problems of statistical programmes, standards and organization. Relations have been established with several specialized agencies to stimulate their interest and co-operation in the work of the Conference.

Social expenditures

157. Arising out of current interest in the balance between economic and social development, an exploratory study of social expenditures in India was made by a staff member seconded for the purpose from the Fiscal and Financial Branch of the Bureau of Economic Affairs at the United Nations Headquarters. The central government budget of India for 1956/57 was analysed in detail, and expenditures on social services by the various ministries were identified and extracted. Estimates for state government and municipalities were added to complete the picture of public expenditures for social purposes in India. The study was undertaken in co-operation with the Bureau of Social Affairs at the United Nations Headquarters.

ECAFE/FAO AGRICULTURE DIVISION

158. The ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division continued to prepare the sections relating to the food and agricultural situation for the semi-annual and annual economic surveys of ECAFE. It met the requests from government agencies for information on agricultural credit systems and agricultural indebtedness in the region. The study *Credit Problems of Small Farmers in Asia and the Far East* prepared by the Division in 1956 was printed.¹⁷

159. The Division commenced work on the programme of case studies approved by the Commission on the utilization of agricultural surpluses for economic development in countries of the region. The programme covered, among other things, the factors relevant in the determination of types and quantities of products to be obtained on special terms, the procedures and arrangements in the recipient country for receiving, storing and distributing those products, information on their use, including the development projects or programmes aided, and relevant trends in prices, in domestic commodity production and consumption, and in imports and exports.

160. The Division prepared a paper entitled "Agricultural development plans of the countries of the

ECAFE region" (E/CN.11/DPWP.3/L.4) for the third session of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, which dealt specifically with the agricultural sector. The study of the methods of agricultural development planning is being continued.

161. In a preliminary study of the relation between agriculture and industry, evidence of structural change in the economies of the countries was sought in the degree of reduction in the proportion of the agricultural sector's contribution to the national income. Continuation of the study will include, in particular, shifts in employment between the agricultural and non-agricultural sectors, changes in productivity, the terms of trade of the agricultural sector and the marketed part of food production.

162. An outline of the proposed study on agricultural aspects of community development¹⁸ was prepared in consultation with the Social Affairs Division, the Research and Planning Division and the FAO secretariat, with two main objectives, namely, to assess, through field investigations in selected countries, the role of community programmes in agricultural development in the villages; and to provide some basic data on agriculture permitting a more general appraisal of the contribution of community development and similar programmes to economic development. The proposed country studies will be undertaken by local research institutes in close co-operation with the ECAFE secretariat. The first study is being conducted by the Planning, Research and Action Institute, Lucknow, India, in a district of eastern Uttar Pradesh where intensive community development programmes have been carried out for more than three years. Field investigations will be repeated in an adjacent district which has not been subjected to intensive community development; this study will be co-ordinated with the proposed study of the role of expanded self-help measures in economic development and a related project of the Bureau of Social Affairs of the United Nations Headquarters.

163. With regard to the review of agricultural economic research, country reports have been prepared by local consultants on the status and scope of agricultural economic studies and research in India, Japan and Pakistan in accordance with an outline prepared by the secretariat.

164. The re-emergence of food shortages in some countries during the past year has heightened the importance of a more accurate forecasting of consumers' reactions to changes in real incomes and in the relative prices of foodstuffs. The Division has maintained contact with the organizations in the region supplying relevant data on price and income elasticity of demand for rice and other cereals, and co-operated with the secretariat of FAO, which is preparing for publication a world-wide review of food consumption surveys.

165. Country studies on food and agricultural price policies were prepared in accordance with a standard outline, covering basic questions concerning food, agricultural and general economic developments, objectives of price policies and agricultural support measures, implementation of price policies, trends of prices and production, agricultural support policies other than price policies, and an assessment of the actual effects of price policies. This series of studies is to be made

¹⁷ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.2.

¹⁸ See projects Nos. 02-04 and 11-03(c) listed in part V of this report.

available at the FAO/ECAFE Centre on Policies to Support and Stabilize Agricultural Prices and Incomes in Asia and the Far East in New Delhi from 21 March to 3 April 1958.

166. The Division continued its normal work of collecting information on the marketing of agricultural products. In conjunction with the FAO secretariat, a project outline was prepared for, and reference material given to, the Institute for Economic and Social Research of the University of Indonesia in connexion with its study of the internal marketing of rice in that country.

OTHER ASPECTS OF WORK

167. The secretariat of the Commission, which forms part of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, maintained close collaboration with the Headquarters' Secretariat, the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA). 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 review the over-all programme of work in the economic and social fields, particularly on industrialization, development of natural resources including water, transport, trade and payments arrangements, and balanced economic and social development. Those consultations have resulted in the promotion of a co-ordinated approach in the projects in those fields undertaken under various resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and of the regional economic commissions. An exchange of staff between Headquarters and the Commission's secretariat was carried out with a view to increasing such collaboration.

168. Several meetings were sponsored jointly by ECAFE and the appropriate units of the Secretariat at Headquarters. The Statistical Office of the United Nations co-sponsored with ECAFE and FAO the first session of the Conference of Asian Statisticians. The Fiscal and Financial Branch of the Bureau of Economic Affairs sponsored jointly with TAA and ECAFE the Second Workshop on Problems of Budget Reclassification and Management, for which it presented three studies: "Reclassification of government expenditures and receipts in selected countries" (E/CN.11/BRW.2/L.3), "Programme and performance budgeting" (E/CN.11/BRW.2/L.4) and "A manual for economic and functional classification of government transactions" (E/CN.11/BRW.2/L.5 and Add.1). It also prepared a paper for the third session of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning entitled "Note on taxation and development of agriculture in under-developed countries with special reference to Asia and the Far East" (E/CN.11/DPWP.3/L.8).

169. A Seminar on Regional Planning is scheduled for August 1958 at Tokyo, in co-operation with TAA, the Bureau of Social Affairs at Headquarters, and UNESCO. The ECAFE secretariat has undertaken the preparatory work, including documentation, with particular reference to the location of industries, and housing and building materials.

170. The Bureau of Economic Affairs submitted a paper "A study of capital intensity in heavy engineering construction" (E/3051) to the Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Develop-

ment. Under Economic and Social Council resolutions 597 A (XXI) and 618 (XXII), it is proposed that a Working Party on Earth-Moving Operations in the ECAFE Area under the joint sponsorship of the ECAFE secretariat and the Bureau of Economic Affairs be convened in 1959. In the field of mineral resources development, the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations prepared a "Survey of Mining Legislation" (I&NR/Sub.3/3) for the third session of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development. The Cartographic Section of the Bureau of Economic Affairs co-operated with the ECAFE secretariat at the third session of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development and at the Working Party of Senior Geologists on the Preparation of a Regional Geological Map. That section agreed to supply relevant maps and information concerning marine contours. The Transport and Communications Division at the United Nations Headquarters prepared a paper on "United Nations conventions on customs facilities for tourism and temporary importation of private road vehicles" (TRADE/22) for the first session of the Committee on Trade.

171. During the period under review, co-operation with the secretariat of ECE was concentrated on iron and steel, electric power, mineral resources, transport and trade. For the third session of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, which was attended by an ECE expert, the ECAFE secretariat prepared two papers: "Activities of the Coal Committee of ECE" (E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.3/L.1) and "International classification of hard coals by type" (E/ECE/247). The Committee on Trade at its first session considered the chapter included in the *Economic Survey of Europe in 1956*,¹⁹ "Plans for freer trade in western Europe" (TRADE/2) and "Activities of ECE in respect of customs questions" (TRADE/21). The ECE secretariat assisted in the planning of visits by the ECAFE/TAA Study Group of Iron and Steel Experts from the ECAFE region. The group also received briefing and advice from the ECE secretariat before its study tour. The members of the Group participated in the nineteenth session of the ECE Steel Committee held in November 1957, particularly in respect of the agenda item on steel consumption trends.

172. The ECLA secretariat made three papers available to the first session of the Committee on Trade: "ECLA activities relating to a multilateral payments system" (TRADE/19), "ECLA activities relating to a regional market in Latin America" (TRADE/20) and "Summary of activities of the Central American Committee of Economic Co-operation regarding customs administration and related fields" (TRADE/26).

173. The secretariat has been increasingly aided in its work by the member and associate member Governments and their representatives, liaison officers and missions.²⁰ Valuable services have been rendered to

¹⁹ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.E.1.

²⁰ Cambodia, France, Laos, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Republic of Viet-Nam have appointed permanent representatives to ECAFE. The following Governments have representatives acting as liaison officers with ECAFE: Australia, Burma, the Republic of China, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Federation of Malaya, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also representing North Borneo, Brunei, Hong Kong, Sarawak and Singapore) and the United States of America.

the secretariat by government experts and by non-governmental organizations.

Exchange of experience and information on scientific, technical and economic matters

174. In accordance with the Commission's terms of reference and resolution 15 (XII) of the Commission, work was continued on the collection, dissemination and exchange of scientific, technical, economic and statistical knowledge through the various journals and publications of the secretariat, library and documentation services, exhibitions of technical, scientific and information films, participation in fairs and exhibitions, and the organization of post-conference study tours.

175. In that task, the secretariat received increasing co-operation from the members and associate members of ECAFE, from other States participating in a consultative capacity in accordance with the Commission's terms of reference, from the technical organizations and experts of those countries and from regional and international organizations. Technical papers were prepared by the governments for the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, particularly in the fields of economic development and planning, cottage and small-scale industries, electric power, flood control and water resources development, geological and mineral maps, highways, inland ports, waterways and railways. Delegations to meetings offered to carry out special surveys, studies, laboratory tests, pilot operations, demonstrations and training for the benefit of other members in such matters as the analysis of coal, beneficiation and other processing techniques of raw materials and ores, house design, cottage and small scale industries, rural electrification and construction, inland waterways craft and dieselization of railways. The delegations also organized film shows and exhibitions on subjects such as iron and steel, small and handicraft industries, railways, electric power generation and distribution, atomic power plants and lignite utilization. The library of technical films maintained in the secretariat has been substantially augmented by the donation of films by the countries. Technical meetings of ECAFE are often followed by study tours. Such tours were organized during the period under review in connexion with the Inland Waterway Sub-Committee, the Railway Sub-Committee, the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing, the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, the Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, the Sub-Committee on Electric Power and the Inland Transport Committee.

Advisory services

176. The secretariat continued to render advisory services to the member and associate member countries on their request through such means as on-the-spot study and consultations, and the supply of information in the fields for which the Commission is responsible, often in co-operation with TAA and the specialized agencies. Technical literature and information were also supplied on questions such as prospecting for radioactive mineral deposits, shipping freights, the use of wind in power generation, and the exploration and use of lignite and peat. At the request of the Government of Indonesia, a member of the secretariat was seconded to TAA to advise on the formulation of plans for the iron and steel industry of that country. Several gov-

ernments in the region consulted, and received advice from, the secretariat on their statistical programmes, standards and organization. The secretariat continued to advise on, and make arrangements for, the carrying out of laboratory tests and the analysis of coal samples from the countries of the region.

Co-operation with TAA

177. As in 1956, the secretariat continued to furnish advice at the request of TAA on technical assistance projects, and on the recruitment and briefing of experts, fellows and trainees. The secretariat was increasingly consulted by TAA in matters such as the definition of the job descriptions of experts requested by Governments, the review of the experts' reports, and the measures required to carry forward the experts' recommendations. The work covered a wide variety of subjects, such as general economic surveys, economic development planning techniques, statistical surveys, water resources development, ground-water surveys, training in the field of statistics, inland waterways, railways, demography, small-scale industries (particularly leather, starch and cement) and management problems of transport, industry and the public sector. The work of the secretariat on the lower Mekong basin and the United Nations Survey Mission is another example of co-operation with TAA (see paragraphs 139-143 above). The secretariat continued to collaborate closely with TAA on regional projects recommended by the Commission.

178. The secretariat, through its membership of the Advisory Board, continued to assist TAA in the work of the Training Centre for Railway Operating and Signalling Officials at Lahore, Pakistan. The group study tour of iron and steel experts from the region to Europe was organized jointly by TAA and ECAFE. The ECAFE secretariat co-sponsored with TAA and the Fiscal and Financial Branch of the Bureau of Economic Affairs the Second Workshop on Problems of Budget Reclassification and Management. A Seminar on Low Cost Roads and Soil Stabilization was organized jointly by ECAFE and TAA. The Technical Assistance Administration also provided the services of experts in connexion with the Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development and with the Working Party on Assessment of Hydroelectric Potentials of the Countries of the Region and the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development. It furnished, to the relevant subsidiary bodies, reports on its activities concerning small-scale industries, mineral resources development, and inland waterways.

179. As in the past, TAA experts stationed in the countries of the region participated in the technical meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission. Increased personal consultations and contacts between those experts and the ECAFE secretariat proved mutually beneficial. Close contacts were maintained with the Office of the Regional Representative of the Technical Assistance Board (TAB) in Bangkok, and with the resident representatives of TAB in the countries of the region, many of whom visited Bangkok and consulted the secretariat on matters of common interest. The secretariat participated in meetings of the resident representatives of TAB in the region and discussed specific matters involving co-operation between ECAFE and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance of the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

C. Relations with specialized agencies and other organizations

180. The specialized agencies of the United Nations and other inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations continued to participate in a wide range of the Commission's activities, and maintained close working relations with the secretariat. During the period under review, co-operation between the Commission and several of the specialized agencies was strengthened and further developed in accordance with the Commission's terms of reference and the resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and of the General Assembly calling for more effective co-ordination in the economic and social fields between the United Nations and the specialized agencies. The Commission and the specialized agencies co-operated through such means as the work of the joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division, the joint planning and implementation of projects, co-sponsorship of regional meetings, joint participation in the technical assistance missions and activities, participation in each other's meetings and inter-secretariat discussions and consultations.

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

International Labour Organisation (ILO)

181. Co-operation with the ILO, particularly its Asian field office, on problems affecting training and manpower continued to be close. The ILO contributed a paper on "Human and employment aspects of development in the agricultural sector" (DPWP.3/1) for the third meeting of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning. It was represented at the fifth session of the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing, to which it presented a report. At the fifth session of the Railway Sub-Committee, the ILO offered all possible assistance to improve safety conditions. The ILO and ECAFE continued to co-operate in the work of the Regional Centre for Diesel Marine Mechanics at Rangoon, Burma. The Advisory Board of the Centre, on which both the ILO and ECAFE are represented, held its first meeting and made recommendations on the curriculum, training courses and equipment.

182. ECAFE participated in the Fourth Asian Regional Conference of the ILO, and the ILO in the tenth session of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources and in the fourteenth session of the Commission.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

183. As in former years, the work of the joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division helped to strengthen the already close co-operation between the two organizations. The exchange of statistics and other data for general economic analysis has become a regular procedure. The two bodies continued to hold joint meetings. The Food and Agriculture Organization joined with the United Nations Statistical Office at Headquarters and with ECAFE in sponsoring the First Conference of Asian Statisticians, which was largely devoted to a discussion of the FAO proposals for the 1960 World Censuses of Agriculture. The third session of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, which discussed the planning and implementation of development programmes in the agricultural sector, was also co-sponsored by FAO and ECAFE,

and the two secretariats jointly prepared the documentation.

184. The Food and Agriculture Organization was represented at the fifth session of the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing, to which it submitted a report on its pertinent technical assistance activities and at the fifth session of the Railway Sub-Committee. It also participated in the sixth session of the Sub-Committee on Electric Power for which, jointly with ECAFE, it prepared a paper on "Rural electrification: rational utilization of wood poles: design and tests on fabricated wood poles" (I&NR/Sub.1/6). It was represented at the first session of the Committee on Trade, and at the fourteenth session of the Commission.

185. Work has progressed on a joint FAO/ECAFE project on the study of timber trends and prospects, and staff members of the two secretariats are collaborating closely in the preparation of the report. A joint FAO/ECAFE Centre on Policies to Support and Stabilize Agricultural Prices and Incomes in Asia and the Far East will be held in March 1958, and both secretariats have taken part in preparing the documentation. The Far Eastern meeting of experts on the pulp and paper industry projected for 1959 will be sponsored jointly with FAO.

186. The Commission prepared a working paper "The utilization of forest and agricultural waste and by-products for the production of new building materials in the Asian region for the fourth meeting of the FAO Asia Pacific Forestry Commission. The Commission also participated in an FAO mission to Viet-Nam to study the manufacture of building boards from local organic materials and wood wastes.

187. In pursuance of Commission resolution 22 (XIII) on land settlement, preparations are being made by FAO in co-operation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations and TAA to organize a training centre on principles and policies of land settlement for south-east Asia and the Far East.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

188. The Commission participated in the fourth session of the Advisory Committee of the UNESCO Centre on the Social Implications of Industrialization. Consultations were held between the secretariat and the Centre on the latter's research projects, particularly on productivity, electrification, small-scale industries and the growth of steel towns. Co-operation has been maintained between ECAFE and UNESCO in assisting the two Regional Housing Centres—one in India and the other in Indonesia. During the period under review, preparations were made for convening a joint UNITED NATIONS/ECAFE/UNESCO Seminar on Regional Planning. The agency was represented at the Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development.

World Health Organization (WHO)

189. Consultations continued between the ECAFE secretariat and the Regional Office of WHO on matters of common interest—particularly on the revision of the ECAFE study on "Guiding principles for housing standards".

190. The World Health Organization participated in the Third Regional Technical Conference on Water

Resources Development, and was represented at the fourteenth session of the Commission.

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the Bank)

191. Consultations were held by the Executive Secretary with the Bank for the purpose of increasing the co-operation between the Bank and the Commission. Frequent consultations were held between the secretariat and the members of the Bank Mission in Thailand. The Bank was represented at the fifth session of the Railway Sub-Committee, the first session of the Committee on Trade, the seventh session of the Inland Transport Committee and the fourteenth session of the Commission.

International Monetary Fund (the Fund)

192. As in the past, the Fund supplied information on trade, conversion rates, balance of payments and financial questions to the ECAFE secretariat. It was represented at the fourteenth session of the Commission.

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

193. The ECAFE secretariat continued its co-operation with ICAO, especially with its Far East and Pacific Regional Office in Bangkok. The agency assisted the secretariat in preparing a questionnaire on telecommunication projects in consultation with ITU. It was represented at the seventh session of the Inland Transport Committee and at the fifth session of the Railway Sub-Committee, in connexion with which it also helped the secretariat in the study of "Refrigerator inland transport" (ECAFE/TRANS/11).

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

194. The International Telecommunication Union continued its co-operation with the ECAFE secretariat and the Inland Transport Committee in connexion with the technical studies of telecommunication projects. It assisted the secretariat in preparing a questionnaire for the collection of data on the current situation in regard to the development of telecommunications, future needs, and the pertinent technical problems. Under its expanded technical assistance programme, ITU had agreed to provide two experts in connexion with the proposed Working Party on Telecommunications, which will be convened jointly by ECAFE and ITU. It has also sent the secretariat reports by its technical committees on the "General Inter-Connexion Plans".

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

195. The World Meteorological Organization participated in the Working Party on Assessment of Hydroelectric Potentials and in the Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, to which a joint ECAFE/WMO working paper on "Major deficiencies in hydrologic data" (E/CN.11/WRD/Conf.3/L.3) was submitted. At the conference, WMO offered the services of its technical assistance experts in improving hydrologic networks to ECAFE member countries in the region.

Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization (ICITO/GATT)

196. The ECAFE secretariat and the secretariats of the Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization (ICITO) and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) continued to consult each other and to exchange information on a wide range of

problems of international trade, including transit trade, trade of land-locked countries, and trade agreements concluded and negotiated by the countries of the region.

197. The secretariat of GATT agreed to have its paper on "The possible impact of the European Economic Community, in particular the Common Market, upon world trade" (TRADE/16) circulated to the first session of the Committee on Trade, the agenda of which included the subject. Further co-operation with GATT is being planned in connexion with the proposed ECAFE Working Party on Customs Administration. A representative of GATT was present at the fourteenth session of the Commission.

OTHER INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

198. Working relations between the ECAFE secretariat and the Consultative Committee for Co-operative Economic Development in South and South-East Asia (Colombo Plan) were strengthened during the period under review. Under the Plan's technical co-operation scheme, scholarships and other facilities were offered by the Government of Pakistan to trainees at the Training Centre for Railway Operating and Signalling Officials. Several other Governments expressed their willingness to offer similar facilities under the Plan.

199. The Director of the Bureau for Technical Co-operation, Council for Technical Co-operation in South-East Asia, participated in the third session of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning and in the fourteenth session of the Commission. He held consultations with the secretariat on matters of common interest. The Executive Secretary of ECAFE attended, as an observer, the ministerial session of the Consultative Committee held at Saigon, Viet-Nam, in October 1957. A member of the secretariat also participated in the preparatory meeting of the officials before the ministerial session. Data and information were supplied to the meeting in connexion with the preparation of the report of the Consultative Committee. Further consultations were held to explore the possibility of increased co-operation between the Commission and the Consultative Committee.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

200. Co-operation with the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) was facilitated by the appointment of a permanent representative in Bangkok, who also acts as liaison officer with ECAFE, and by the establishment of an arbitration office in Bangkok. The ICC participated in the third meeting of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, the third session of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, the first session of the Committee on Trade, and the seventh session of the Inland Transport Committee, the tenth session of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources and the fourteenth session of the Commission.

201. The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) participated in the fifth session of the Working Party on Small-Scale industries and Handicraft Marketing and in the fourteenth session of the Commission.

202. The International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) consulted the secretariat on matters relating to the development of co-operative movements in various fields, and was represented at the tenth session of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources and the fourteenth session of the Commission.

203. The International Organization of Employers (ICE) was represented by experts at the Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development and the sixth session of the Sub-Committee on Electric Power.

204. The World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) was represented at the first session of the Conference of Asian Statisticians, the seventh session of the Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel, the fifth meeting of the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing, the third meeting of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, the first session of the Committee on Trade, the seventh session of the Inland Transport Committee, the tenth session of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources and the fourteenth session of the Commission.

205. The World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) continued to co-operate in the activities of the Commission by bringing the work of ECAFE to the notice of the people. It was represented at the third session of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, the first session of the Committee on Trade and the fourteenth session of the Commission.

206. The World Veterans Federation (WVF) consulted the secretariat in connexion with the implementation of resolution 22 (XIII), on land settlement, adopted by the Commission at its thirteenth session. It was represented at the fourteenth session of the Commission.

207. The International Geological Congress (IGC) continued to co-operate with and assist ECAFE in the preparation of a regional geological map for Asia and the Far East. The President of the IGC Commission for the Geological Map of the World was present at the third session of the Working Party of Senior Geologists on the Preparation of a Regional Geological Map, to which he submitted a report (I&NR/GMWP.3/3). He also participated in the third session of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development.

208. A representative of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) attended the Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development.

209. The International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO) was represented at the seventh session of the Inland Transport Committee and the fourteenth session of the Commission.

Part II

FOURTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

OPENING AND CLOSING OF MEETINGS

210. The fourteenth session of the Commission was held at Kuala Lumpur, Federation of Malaya, from 5 to 15 March 1958 inclusive. At the opening meeting, Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya, delivered the inaugural address. Mr. de Seynes, Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs, read a message on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and subsequently opened the debate on the economic situation in Asia. Mr. Narasimhan, Executive Secretary, addressed the Commission. The Commission passed a vote of thanks to the Prime Minister and to the Government of the Federation of Malaya for inviting the Commission to hold its fourteenth session in Kuala Lumpur and for all the hospitality provided by the host Government.

211. At the closing meeting of the session, on 15 March 1958, the Commission unanimously adopted the text of its annual report to the Economic and Social Council.

OPENING AND CLOSING ADDRESSES

212. Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya, said that it was an honour for his country, which had just attained nationhood, to be host to the fourteenth session of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East. His Government was particularly gratified that so many countries represented at the session had chosen to send leaders of such distinction. The people of Malaya wholeheartedly welcomed the delegations to the conference.

213. Despite the growing population pressure, instability of prices, and insufficiency of capital and of

revenue for public and social services, the general pattern in the region since the end of the Second World War had been one of diversified industrial development, expanding trade and extensive international aid. It was obvious, however, that the massive expenditure on armaments all over the world was dissipating resources which should be redirected to economic objectives.

214. Despite substantial progress in economic diversification, the economic climate throughout Asia was powerfully affected by the price fluctuations of a handful of primary commodities and by the general economic conditions in North America and western Europe. It would be of the greatest service to the primary producing countries if the United Nations organizations and agencies concerned could explore ways of attaining international economic stability. It was important, for example, that national measures, such as the disposal of stocks of strategic materials, should always take into account the interest of the countries producing such materials. He noted, too, that a decline of, say, 10 per cent in the prices of any country's principal exports could do more damage to its economy than could ever be put right by international aid from all sources.

215. Such aid had played an important part in enabling the under-developed countries to reconstruct, expand and diversify their economies, and all Asian Governments were deeply grateful for it. In the immediate future, however, the need for assistance would grow. The countries of Asia were prepared to undertake sacrifices in order to do their part, but it would be many years before they could provide enough capital to finance the expansion of their economies without grave repercussions on consumption levels. When on a government-to-government basis, aid should be supplied without restrictive conditions and in convertible

currencies, so that the recipient countries could make use of it in the manner best suited to their needs.

216. He doubted, however, whether aid would ever be sufficient to meet all needs. More consideration should therefore be given to promoting the flow of private capital to Asian countries. Many countries already attached importance to creating conditions which would attract such capital. It would be a powerful incentive to the investment of private capital in Asia if the countries of the region were to come together under the auspices of the United Nations organizations and draw up, in consultation with representatives of potential lender countries an international charter to regulate the treatment of that capital. The charter would have the object of safeguarding the legitimate rights and interests of foreign lenders; it might also indicate the part which the latter would be expected to play in promoting the development of both human and natural resources in the receiving country; and it would allay any fears that private foreign investment might interfere with that country's sovereignty and national interests.

217. The Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs said that the Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, had intended to be present at that important session but that his current responsibilities had unfortunately made it impossible for him to do so. The Secretary-General had therefore asked him (Mr. de Seynes) to convey to the conference his regret at his unavoidable absence.

218. In his message, the Secretary-General stated that, since last he had been privileged to attend a session of the Commission, the Federation of Malaya, upon admission to the United Nations, had constituted a welcome addition to the Commission's membership. In that connexion, he extended his warmest congratulations to the Government and the people of the country and expressed his heartfelt thanks to its Prime Minister and Government for their gracious hospitality.

219. The holding of the conference of ECAFE in the Federation of Malaya in the first year of its independence brought out two of the most inspiring aspects of the United Nations' mandate embodied in its Charter—emancipation and development.

220. It was regrettable that, although amazing technical progress seemed to make possible a decisive attack on human poverty, the diversion of factors of production from constructive use to the manufacture of armaments with an exceedingly high rate of obsolescence significantly narrowed the limits of economic development. In spite of such limits, a remarkable rate of progress had been achieved in the region during the past decade. That testified to the intensive efforts of the peoples and to their readiness to make sacrifices in order to secure a better future. It was also a consequence of the great measure of international co-operation which, under programmes of mutual aid, had taken place in the past ten years in spite of the burden of armaments, in the form of transfers of capital and skill from industrialized to less developed countries. During that decade, in fact, organized transfers, supplementing the traditional movements of capital and skill, seemed to have emerged as a new and permanent feature of the world economy.

221. A large number of constructive activities were going on, in which the United Nations and its family of organizations had a growing share. The value of such

efforts could hardly be minimized, and would, he hoped, one day affect the approach to the crucial issues of the century. The praiseworthy and admirable work which the Commission, within its limited means, was patiently and unobtrusively performing to improve the well-being of the Asian peoples took its place among those fundamental advances.

222. Those activities of the United Nations and related organizations had made a modest start only ten years before and had since developed on a considerable scale. The year 1957 could be remembered as one in which new departures had been made in various directions.

223. He had repeatedly emphasized the valuable work and constructive activities of the regional economic commissions within the framework of the United Nations. At its last session, the General Assembly had shown its appreciation of that work by recommending the establishment of an economic commission for Africa.

224. During the past year, also, a new agency had been born under the auspices of the United Nations with the object of promoting international co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy. The pooling of experience in that field might in due course become a primary factor in the acceleration of economic growth, and help less fortunate countries to shorten the period required for the earlier stages of economic development. The new agency, significantly enough, had been conceived and set up to act in consonance with the broader international activities which had their centre in the United Nations.

225. At its last session, the General Assembly had recognized (Assembly resolution 1219 (XII)) that neither the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance nor other existing programmes of the United Nations or the specialized agencies could meet certain urgent needs which, if met, would advance the processes of technical, economic and social development of the less developed countries, and, in particular, would facilitate new capital investments of all types—private and public, national and international—by creating conditions which would make such investments either feasible or more effective. In order to fill that gap, the Assembly had decided to establish, as an expansion of the existing technical assistance and development activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, a separate special fund which would provide systematic and sustained assistance in fields essential to the integrated technical, economic and social development of the less developed countries.

226. With the setting up of that new instrument of international co-operation, it was all the more important that the often artificial barriers established between the United Nations' research and its operational activities be eliminated, so that all its efforts might be more directly concentrated on furthering economic progress.

227. Among the fields which, it was now clear, needed more intensive action was that of public administration. In view of the difficulties encountered by countries entering the industrial age in solving, without outside help, problems arising from the lack of a sufficient number of experienced officials, he had suggested the creation, within the United Nations, of an international administrative service to provide the under-developed countries, at their request, with ex-

perienced administrators to work in an executive capacity in the civil service, public enterprises and other economic organizations of those countries. The Economic and Social Council had encouraged him to make a start in that direction on an experimental basis. The United Nations was also surveying more thoroughly the needs and the desires of the Governments concerned with a view to taking more comprehensive and systematic action to assist them.

228. Fortunately, the development of the work of ECAFE in the past few years appeared to have kept pace with the progress achieved elsewhere. Particularly in the development and utilization of resources which were prerequisites of accelerated economic growth, the Commission seemed to be coming to grips with some of the vital problems of the region. It was, for example, under the auspices of ECAFE that Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and the Republic of Viet-Nam had joined forces in the exploration for development purposes of the lower Mekong basin. That important project had met with enthusiastic support not only in the Commission but in the Economic and Social Council and in the General Assembly. A United Nations mission had found that the lower Mekong had impressive potentialities for multiple-purpose development and had recommended a five-year programme of studies and investigations. He congratulated the four riparian countries on the creation within the United Nations of the co-ordinating machinery, which was indispensable for the intensive investigations required. He would continue to give personal attention and support to that co-operative effort.

229. He had welcomed two years previously the establishment of an ECAFE Working Party on Economic Development and Planning. After having reviewed the general problems of planning, that body was now concentrating on more detailed subjects: the agricultural sector in 1957, industrialization in 1958, and in 1959 it planned to examine programmes of balanced social and economic development, a problem which was assuming crucial importance in all types of economies. The special attention directed to balanced growth in the *World Economic Survey, 1956* had met with a gratifying reception from all shades of thought represented in the Economic and Social Council.

230. He hoped that the analyses of that Working Party might be the prelude to the gradual recognition of economic interdependence, to the discussion of actual policies and plans with a view to their harmonization and co-ordination, to continuing co-operation among Governments, and to mutually beneficial specialization.

231. There was a growing awareness of the fact that international co-operation had to be based on the harmonious development of all components of the world community, as illustrated by the numerous endeavours taking place in western Europe and Scandinavia, in the new efforts at co-ordination of plans in countries of eastern Europe, in Central America and in Latin America as a whole, and also in the new trends emerging in the Middle East. The motivations underlying those efforts included the recognition that industrialization was a necessity and the desire to overcome the handicaps imposed by limited markets. The initiation and promotion of such schemes could of course come only from the countries themselves, but the growing importance attached to intraregional trade in the ECAFE region was perhaps a sign that the time for similar developments there might not be too far off. However, that

might be, the United Nations offered adequate machinery for the development of such policies within the framework of world-wide co-operation.

232. Since in its resolution 665 C (XXIV) the Economic and Social Council had requested him to review the existing scope and machinery for such consultation leading to mutual adjustments and co-operation, he felt impelled to emphasize the importance of quiet consultations in the economic as well as in the political field.

233. Summing up, he observed that the Commission, fortified by ten years of experience, might serve not only as a forum for an exchange of views and experience and as an instrument for the provision of much needed services, but also as a centre for the harmonization of policies.

234. Mr. Narasimhan, the Executive Secretary, reviewed the current economic situation in the region. He observed that the gap between the level of economic development of the advanced countries and the under-developed countries was widening. While during the past year both the agricultural and industrial production of Asian countries had recorded satisfactory increases, it was clear from the growing inflationary pressure that the increase was not sufficient to meet effective demand. Many countries had been facing increasing difficulties in obtaining development capital and in particular foreign exchange, in spite of their efforts to raise domestic resources and of the continued flow of foreign aid. Export earnings had not kept pace with the increasing needs of developmental imports, and the situation had been made more difficult by price fluctuations of primary products. The share of the region in total world trade, moreover, had fallen. Simultaneously, the steady population growth with all its attendant consequences posed another grave problem.

235. Nevertheless, new vistas of prosperity had been opened up by the tremendous technological changes taking place in the world. In addition to the patient technical and administrative work being carried out by its various committees and sub-committees, the Commission, by providing a forum where advanced industrial countries could share their knowledge with the under-developed countries, was serving a valuable purpose. There was little doubt, too, that, in a rapidly changing world, the Commission was one of the most important instruments of international consultation and co-operation among Asian countries and that increasing and varied use would be found for it in the years to come.

236. In the *Economic Survey* for 1957 an attempt had been made to concentrate on analysis rather than on merely descriptive material. He hoped that the Commission would welcome that change. Studies on population trends in relation to economic development had already been initiated. The Conference of Asian Statisticians had commenced its work, and he hoped that in due course it would play an active role in remedying the lack of basic statistical data which hampered effective planning. The Working Party on Economic Development and Planning had passed from general considerations to the examination of specific problems.

237. In addition, the Commission was embarking on a long-range programme of work on industrialization. The development of mineral and hydroelectric resources had been considered by the respective expert groups. During the past twelve months, considerable progress had been made in the preparation of the pro-

gramme of investigation of the lower Mekong basin, and the Governments of the four riparian countries had set up a committee to co-ordinate the work. The United Nations mission, whose report had been adopted by that committee, had recommended a five-year programme of investigations estimated to cost \$US9.2 million.

238. He then reviewed the Commission's co-operative action with the specialized agencies, particularly with FAO, the ILO and UNESCO, and with the other regional economic commissions.

239. He hoped that the proposed new regional commission for Africa would soon be established and that ECAFE would be able to be of special assistance to it in view of the similarity of so many of their problems.

240. He also dwelt on the joint work with a number of sections of the Headquarters Secretariat: the Bureau of Economic Affairs, the Bureau of Social Affairs, the Statistical Office, the Office of Legal Affairs and TAA.

241. The Commission had put into practice the policy of using research institutions in the area to the greatest extent possible.

242. The changes in committee structure approved by the Commission had been most helpful in promoting concentration, co-operation and concerted action.

243. At its twenty-fourth session, the Economic and Social Council had particularly commended the "streamlining" and concentration of effort achieved in the ECAFE work programme. Changes on the scale achieved at the Commission's previous session could not, however, be expected every year. In the tentative work programme before the Commission, for example, there had been only some amalgamation of related activities and a slight reduction in the number of work projects. At its twenty-fourth session, the Council had asked for an appraisal of the scope, trend and cost of the Commission's work during the next five years (Council resolution 665 C (XXIV)). Special arrangements for that study would be approved by the Council in the summer of 1958, and the Commission would have a chance at its next session to formulate its views on the matter.

244. It was fortunate that the United Nations mission's report on the lower Mekong basin project had been published at the time when the General Assembly had decided that a special projects fund should be set up. He hoped that the fund would come into being very soon, so that the under-developed countries could receive additional support for various important projects in many fields. That fund, however, had an even deeper significance. It was a concrete expression of the growing spirit of global economic co-operation paralleled by the development of co-operation on a regional basis which was so noticeable a feature of the Commission's work. The day was perhaps not far off when that spirit would bring about the relaxation of tension and enable substantial progress to be made in the direction of disarmament, thus facilitating the diversion of much larger resources for the welfare of man. The world of today was increasingly interdependent, and the growing awareness of that interdependence and the consequent need for working together was a most hopeful sign of the times.

245. Mr. de Seynes, the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs, said that the current session was clouded by some apprehension of the effects and

duration of the recession in North America. In contrast to previous recessions, there was a levelling off of demand for new productive capacity in both North America and western Europe, and, in consequence, there was little likelihood of the situation in one area offsetting that in the other.

246. The current situation, therefore, represented a more serious challenge to economic statemanship than had existed in any other economic downturn since the Second World War. Although there was no general agreement as to the nature and degree of government intervention required, a repetition of the slump of the 1930's could virtually be ruled out owing to the existence of a large and stable public sector, the numerous built-in stabilizers in modern economies which served to slow down the rate of economic decline, and the determination of Governments not to permit their economies to collapse.

247. The impact of a recession on the developed countries, however, was not to be compared with the damage that might be caused in under-developed countries by a decline in external demand, since the latter countries did not have the reserves to ride out the storm. Prices of a number of commodities had already declined in 1957, even before the current recession began, owing partly to reductions in inventories by the industrial countries but partly, and even more, to the expansion of supplies from exporting countries. Commodity prices had weakened more generally as the recession in North America had developed during the second half of 1957, and it was too early to say whether the bulk of the price decline had passed. The right formula for international stabilization in under-developed countries similar to that for developed countries had not yet been found. It was therefore imperative for those countries to make the best use of their often inadequate reserves.

248. It was important to expand exports from under-developed countries and to avoid the imposition of artificial curbs on those products by importing countries. Means of achieving increases in exports had been explored by the Committee on Trade, but the prospects were not very encouraging. The growth in production of raw materials when they had been in short supply had changed the balance between world supply and demand, and it was by no means certain that a restrictive policy whereby the under-developed countries would withhold part of their supplies of primary products would increase or even maintain their receipts for any length of time.

249. Not only had the demand for those countries' exports been declining, but their own demand for imports had been rising, often because of mounting inflationary pressures. Those pressures might be due either to a reduction in the supply of essential consumer goods or to growing drains upon resources imposed by increases in investment for development purposes. The lack of elasticity in an under-developed economy, particularly in the agricultural sector, meant that even modest increases in investment might give rise to inflation.

250. It could not be too strongly emphasized that agriculture was a key to many of the problems of the less developed countries. Unless larger supplies of food could be provided from domestic cultivation, economic development was bound to put a strain on already insufficient foreign exchange resources.

251. The Working Party on Economic Development and Planning deserved to be congratulated on

having devoted its third session in September 1957 to the agricultural sector, while viewing the matter in the context of economic development as a whole, and more particularly in relation to the dynamic factor of industrialization. He hoped that the valuable report of the Working Party (E/CN.11/L.52) and its recommendations would be carefully studied.

252. The fiscal field was also of great importance. The commendable efforts of countries of the region to improve their fiscal and monetary policies appeared to foreshadow new developments over the whole field of public finance designed to accelerate economic growth. In that connexion, due attention should be paid to the report of the Second Workshop on Problems of Budget Reclassification and Management (E/CN.11/L.51).

253. Turning to the widespread concern voiced in the Committee on Trade regarding certain aspects of the European Economic Community (EEC), he said that it would generally be agreed that regional arrangements in the economic sphere should not operate to the detriment of the world community. The fullest possible economic development of all countries was, in the long run, in the interest of the world as a whole, and should not operate to the ultimate disadvantage of any country. It was admitted, too, that industrial countries could not claim privileges in the way of tariff protection as extensive as those afforded to under-developed countries facing problems of initial growth. He was glad to observe that the existing international machinery, including the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), had already been called into play and that the problem was being closely watched by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the regional economic commissions.

254. Each Government, while free to interpret the welfare of its people as it chose, should bear in mind that other countries were bound to be affected by the consequences of its policy. Measures which might seem natural and harmless when viewed in the limited setting of a national economy might take on a completely different appearance when examined in an international context. Only if countries were prepared to take one another's situation into account could a coherent international economy be constructed.

255. In winding up the session, the Chairman of the Commission, the Deputy Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya summarized the achievements of the fourteenth session in the following terms. An atmosphere of good will and harmony had prevailed throughout the session. The standard of the debate had been high, the views expressed constructive. The session had made a noteworthy contribution to the economic development of the countries of the region. It had come to an historic decision to convene for the first time intra-regional trade promotion talks. The Mekong River project had been an outstanding example, not only of multi-national co-operation, but also of the role that the United Nations could play in the development of an international river. The application of Iran to be included in the membership and geographical scope of the Commission was further evidence of the value of the assistance that ECAFE could give to the countries of the region. The suggestion made by the Prime Minister of the Federation of Malaya to work out a charter for foreign investment in the countries of the region would, he was glad to note, be carefully studied by the secretariat and the Commission. Finally, he commended the spirit evinced by the member countries from outside the

region in choosing to abstain from voting on purely intraregional matters. He was sure that the Commission would effectively fulfil its objectives of assisting and promoting the economic development of the region.

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE

256. The session was attended by representatives of the following member and associate member countries: Afghanistan, Australia, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, China, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Federation of Malaya, Nepal, Netherlands, Thailand, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and North Ireland, United States of America, and Viet-Nam, and Hong Kong and Singapore and British Borneo. By virtue of paragraph 9 of the terms of reference of the Commission, representatives of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Hungary, Italy and Poland, and, under the Economic and Social Council's resolution 617 (XXII), a representative of the Federal Republic of Germany attended in a consultative capacity. Observers were sent by the following specialized agencies: the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the Bank), and the International Monetary Fund (the Fund); and also by the United Nations Technical Assistance Board and by the Interim Commission of the International Trade Organization/General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (ICITO/GATT) and by the Colombo Plan Bureau for Technical Co-operation. Observers from the following non-governmental organizations attended the session: the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA), the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA), the World Veterans Federation (WVF), and the International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO). A list of representatives and observers is attached in annex I.

CREDENTIALS

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

TERMS OF REFERENCE

258. The Commission was gratified to note that the General Assembly, by its resolution 1134 (XII) of 17 September 1957, had admitted the Federation of Malaya as a Member of the United Nations, and that, in accordance with article 3 of the terms of reference of the Commission, the Federation of Malaya had become a member of the Commission. It also noted that, as a consequence, the designation of the associate membership of "Malaya and British Borneo (i.e. North Borneo, Brunei, the Federation of Malaya, Sarawak and Singapore)" was changed to that of "Singapore and British Borneo (i.e. Singapore, North Borneo, Brunei and Sarawak)". The terms of reference of the

Commission, as revised in consequence of General Assembly resolution 1134 (XII), are given as annex V.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN

259. The Commission, having considered the communications from the Government of Iran dated 11 and 12 February 1958 (E/CN.11/474 and Add.1), unanimously decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it approve the admission of Iran as a member of the Commission and include that country within its geographical scope, and adopted a resolution, resolution 26 (XIV), to that effect (see part III of the present report).

260. Several members of the Commission felt, however, that any further extension of the geographical scope of the Commission would require most careful consideration, having regard to the need for efficiency in the work of the Commission and to other criteria. In that connexion, the Commission also noted the statement of the Executive Secretary on the financial implications of the proposal. He said that, while he would not seek any additional allotment of funds for that purpose in the budget of the Commission for 1959, two new senior substantive posts in the secretariat might be required in future years.

AMENDMENT OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

261. The Commission decided to amend its rules of procedure concerning conduct during the actual voting, since, in the present rules, there was an important gap in that regard. It decided to add as rule 41 the following:

"After the voting has commenced, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connexion with the actual conduct of the voting. Brief statements by members consisting solely of explanations of their votes may be permitted by the Chairman, if he deems it necessary, before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed"

and to re-number the subsequent paragraphs. It also amended rule 56 (old rule 55) to read as follows:

"Sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and committees, sub-committees and working parties shall adopt their own rules of procedure unless otherwise decided by the Commission."

The rules of procedure as amended are given as annex VI of the present report.

262. In the light of General Assembly resolution 1203 (XII) on the control and limitation of documentation, the Commission considered the Executive Secretary's proposal (E/CN.11/464) to dispense with summary records for the meetings of its committees. It noted that its sub-committees and working parties continued to dispense with summary records of their meetings. However, several delegations felt that summary records of meetings of committees were useful to the Governments, enabling their representatives to follow discussions at previous sessions, especially when it was not possible to send the same representatives in successive years. Summary records also made it possible to include individual views, whereas reports of the committees recorded mainly the consensus and the main trends in the proceedings. If summary records were not available, representatives would have to keep notes of all discussions, which would place a great

strain on small delegations. The Commission therefore decided that, in accordance with rule 44 of the rules of procedure of the Commission, summary records of the committees' discussions should continue to be prepared. It did, however, appreciate the efforts of the secretariat to keep those records short, and hoped that it might be possible to condense them still further.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

263. In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the Commission, at its 188th meeting, elected Dato Abdul Razak bin Dato Hussein (Federation of Malaya) as Chairman, and Mr. de Silva (Ceylon) and Mr. Shibusawa (Japan) as First and Second Vice-Chairmen respectively.

264. The Commission appointed a Drafting Committee to prepare its annual report. It consisted of representatives from Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Federation of Malaya, Pakistan, 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. Wignaraja (Ceylon) as Chairman and Mr. Soenartadirdja (Indonesia) as Vice-Chairman. It was also asked to consider agenda item 18 (Programme of work and priorities), and to include its report on that item in the draft annual report. The Drafting Committee held four meetings and submitted the draft annual report to the Commission at its 200th meeting.

B. Agenda

265. The Commission adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening addresses
2. Election of the Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen
3. Adoption of the agenda (E/CN.11/463/Rev.4)
4. Economic situation in Asia (*Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1957*, E/CN.11/L.55 and Add.1)
5. Report of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (third session) (E/CN.11/L.52)
6. Report of the Committee on Trade (first session) (E/CN.11/472)
7. Industry and natural resources:
 - (a) Report of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (tenth session) (E/CN.11/477)
 - (b) Sources of energy as a means of economic development (Economic and Social Council resolution 653 (XXIV)) (ST/ECA/48—E/3005; I&NR/1, I&NR/2)
8. Report of the Inland Transport Committee (seventh session) (E/CN.11/476 and Corr.1)
9. Activities in the field of water resources development:
 - (a) Report of the Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development (E/CN.11/471 and Corr.1);
 - (b) Report of the Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development (E/CN.11/465);
 - (c) Report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin (E/CN.11/475)
10. Report of the Conference of Asian Statisticians (first session) (E/CN.11/456)
11. Report of the Second Workshop on Problems of Budget Reclassification and Management (ECN.11/L.51, E/CN.11/L.58)
12. Maintenance of family levels of living: economic implications (Economic and Social Council resolution 663B (XXIV)) (E/CN.11/468 and Add.1)
13. Report on the work of the Joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division (E/CN.11/L.56)

14. Co-operation with specialized agencies:
 - (a) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (E/CN.11/466);
 - (b) International Labour Organisation (E/CN.11/473);
 - (c) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (E/CN.11/467)
15. Technical assistance activities in the region (E/CN.11/469, E/CN.11/470)
16. Amendment of rules of procedure (E/CN.11/464)
17. Amendment of the terms of reference of the Commission to include Iran in the geographical scope of the Commission and to admit Iran as a member of the Commission (recommendation to the Economic and Social Council) (E/CN.11/478, E/CN.11/474 and Add.1)
18. Programme of work and priorities (E/CN.11/L.54/Rev.1, E/CN.11/L.57)
19. Date and place of the next session
20. Annual report to the Economic and Social Council

C. Account of proceedings

ECONOMIC SITUATION IN ASIA

266. The Commission considered the economic situation in the region with the help of the background information in the *Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1957*²¹ prepared by the secretariat. It commended the secretariat on the *Survey*, especially on the more analytical approach used in it. While some delegations regretted the absence of the former country chapters, the general view favoured the new pattern in which a regional review of the current economic situation was followed by an analysis of certain major economic problems or subjects of importance to the countries of the region. It was understood that brief country summaries would be provided in a future issue of the quarterly *Bulletin*, and that selected country studies on a more detailed basis than previously would be prepared from time to time for the *Survey* or the *Bulletin* or both.

267. The year 1957 had witnessed a continued expansion of production in the countries of the region. Food and agricultural production had risen in the aggregate, but, owing to the rapid growth of population, was still substantially below the prewar level on a *per caput* basis. Industrial production had increased considerably, though at a slower rate than in 1956. The countries of the region were, however, confronted with a serious problem of increasing deficits in trade and payments, resulting largely from a higher rate of increase in imports than in exports. Worsening terms of trade were another aspect of the problem. Falling prices for several major primary exports of the region, particularly towards the end of the year, had accentuated the continuing decline in the region's percentage share of world export proceeds, while higher prices for some of the regions imports of capital goods, essential consumer goods and foodstuffs had combined with increased import volume to cause a sharp rise in aggregate expenditure for imports. The increased import demand was partly for capital equipment for development plans and partly for consumer goods as a result of increased purchasing power generated by developmental expenditures. Since that enlarged effective demand was in many cases not fully matched by domestic supply, inflationary pressures, already latent in many countries of the region, had tended to become more severe, and

to find expression in rising prices and worsening trade balances.

268. The Commission noted with concern the above developments, and centred its deliberations on the various measures which could be undertaken, by the individual Governments concerned or within the framework of international co-operation, to continue the development effort while at the same time maintaining a reasonable degree of economic stability.

269. It noted that economic instability in many countries of the region was attributable mainly to the concentration of production on a few agricultural and mineral exports which were subject to considerable demand and price fluctuations on the world market. Those exports were responsible for a very significant share—ranging from one-tenth to one-half—of the gross domestic product of the exporting countries. While diversification of production appeared to offer at least a partial solution in the long run, the Commission felt that in the short run much would depend on the adoption of domestic and international measures of price stabilization.

270. The Commission noted with satisfaction the existence of international commodity agreements to regulate the volume or prices of exports of tea, sugar and tin, and some delegations suggested the extension of those, or similar, arrangements to other exports of the region. It considered additional methods of international co-operation such as the consultations which had taken place on rice, coconut and abaca, and endorsed the principle of such consultations as a desirable minimum step. If commodity agreements were to be effective, the countries of the region and other producers would have to adopt domestic measures to stabilize production and prices; major consumer countries would have to take part in them; and they would have to take account of the interests of consumers generally.

271. The indivisibility of peace and prosperity was stressed, with particular reference to the need for the industrial countries to maintain high and stable levels of employment, income and demand if the primary exporting countries in the region were to secure steady and growing markets for their agricultural and mineral products. In that connexion, several delegations noted with concern the emergence of a recession in North America and the levelling off of production in western Europe in the latter half of 1957 and the beginning of 1958. The impact of those developments on the region's primary exports had already become evident.

272. The Commission noted the recent establishment of the European Economic Community. A number of delegations viewed with concern the possible impact thereof on the economies of countries in the region.

273. Most delegations from those countries attached special importance to an expansion of intraregional trade in view not only of the foregoing difficulties but also of the positive advantages which might flow from closer integration of the economies of the countries of the region.

274. The Commission gave particular attention to the heavy strain on the limited and fluctuating foreign exchange reserves of the countries in the region, a strain which resulted in part from their need to finance imports for development purposes. As in former years, emphasis was laid on the desirability of an increased flow of external capital into countries of the region and

²¹ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1958.II.F.1.

on the need to intensify the mobilization of domestic savings as the main basis for economic growth.

275. The Commission noted that several countries within the region recognized the importance of taking suitable measures to attract private foreign investment and the technical knowledge associated therewith. Several delegations welcomed the steps in that direction taken by certain countries within the region, and noted with interest the tentative suggestions for the study of an international charter to encourage such investment. A suggestion was also made that the secretariat should, in due course, consider the principles governing economic relations between the member countries of the Commission.

276. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the continued inflow, which in some cases was at higher rates than before, of external capital and technical assistance. Such capital and assistance came from many sources, in particular from individual Governments, sometimes on a bilateral basis, and frequently under the auspices of the Colombo Plan; from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development; and under the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

277. The Commission welcomed the proposed establishment in 1959 of a United Nations special projects fund which "would provide systematic and sustained assistance in fields essential to the integrated technical, economic and social development of the less developed countries" (General Assembly resolution 1219 (XII)). The Fund, when set up, could, for example, finance the five-year programme of studies and investigations of the lower Mekong basin which had been approved by the four riparian countries. The Commission expressed appreciation of the offers of assistance from certain States Members of the United Nations to make the initiation of the programme possible.

278. The Commission noted with concern the high rate of growth of population in relation to domestic product in many countries of the region, which was partly responsible for the widening of the gap in living standards between the more developed and the less developed countries. In most countries of Asia, population tended to press heavily on the available resources, and particularly on food supplies, for which the income elasticity of demand was high.

279. The Commission therefore stressed the need to increase the production of food as well as other agricultural commodities, and to give that objective a high priority in the development programmes of the countries of the region. Programmes for national economic development should, however, aim at a balanced growth of agriculture and industry. Diversification of production was essential in order to increase employment opportunities and to reduce both the dependence of primary exporting countries in the region on a few agricultural and mineral products and export instability, which had hampered their development efforts.

280. The Commission took encouragement from the fact that many of the difficulties noted in its deliberations on the economic situation in Asia and the Far East were inseparable from growth and expansion. However, it anticipated a difficult year ahead, and urged all member countries to take appropriate measures to counteract the recession and stimulate development.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

281. The Commission examined and unanimously endorsed the report of the third session of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (E/CN.11/L.52). In view of the fact that the slow tempo of agricultural development was impeding economic progress (in particular by unfavourably affecting the balance of payments) in many countries of the region, it was recognized that agriculture was still vital for economic development in general. The secretariats of FAO and ECAFE were commended for the comprehensive documentation which had enabled the Working Party to give thorough consideration to the practical problems of agricultural development and planning in relation to the economy as a whole, and especially to industrialization. The report itself constituted an important step forward in the analysis of development and planning.

282. The Commission endorsed the view of the Working Party that the major limiting factors in planning for, an implementing, agricultural development in the region were the shortage of trained personnel, the inadequacy of techniques of production and the frequent lack of essential statistics. It was suggested that those obstacles might be partly overcome by increased international co-operation in technical assistance programmes whereby countries of the region would exchange the temporary solutions which they had worked out.

283. The Commission stressed the importance of paying attention to the opinion of, and obtaining willing co-operation from, the individual farmer when agricultural policies and plans were being formed and carried out. Particular note was taken, in that connexion, of the desirability of institutional reforms, including land tenure legislation, provision of rural credit and better marketing facilities.

284. The Commission noted that the stabilization of the prices of major agricultural products, particularly on export markets, was one of the most pressing objectives for the countries of the region. Though the ultimate solution of the problem would require long-term measures on a broad international scale, more attention should be given to the immediate problems of storage of food grains and to agricultural price and income support policies.

285. The Commission approved the recommendation of the Working Party that its fourth session, planned for September 1958, should deal with the problems of industrialization in relation to economic development and planning as a whole. It endorsed the proposal of the Executive Secretary that the Working Party at its fifth session in 1959 should consider the problems of balanced economic and social development, the importance of which had been emphasized in resolution 1161 (XII) adopted by the General Assembly. Note was taken in that connexion of the "Exploratory study of social expenditures in India" (E/CN.11/L.58) which had been prepared by the secretariat with the co-operation of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at the United Nations Headquarters.

286. The Commission approved the suggestion of the Executive Secretary that the Working Party should constitute a sub-group of experts in the near future to consider some specific aspects of the techniques of programming economic development. Since the deliberations of the Working Party were being increasingly

focused on the broader policy aspects of development planning in particular fields, the more technical aspects of programming might more suitably be dealt with by smaller expert groups which would report their findings to the Working Party. At the same time, it was the consensus of the Commission that the Working Party itself should seek to progress further from the general consideration of objectives commonly agreed upon to the concrete analysis of selected problems of economic development, of approaches to those problems and of new solutions, if any, that might promise better results.

TRADE

287. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the work done by the Committee on Trade, and considered that the decision to raise the status of the Sub-Committee on Trade to that of a committee had been fully justified. It endorsed the report and the recommendations of the Committee (E/CN.11/472), and expressed the hope that the activities of that body would play an increasingly important part in the work of the Commission.

288. The Committee on Trade had expressed concern at the decline in recent years in the share of the ECAFE region in total world exports and had drawn special attention to the instability of primary commodity prices and to the insufficiency of export earnings of the countries of the region in relation to their increasing import requirements. In the discussion on the economic situation in Asia (item 4 of the agenda), those problems had also been emphasized.

289. The Commission also noted various national and international measures taken to achieve greater stability of primary commodity prices, and considered that the objective had not yet been attained. Continuing and urgent attention to that problem was required. It noted with interest the readiness of some industrialized countries and financial institutions to grant organizations and private firms of the countries of the region long-term development credits for the purchase, among other things, of machinery and equipment.

290. The question of the stability of primary commodity prices was under continuing consideration by the Commission on International Commodity Trade of the Economic and Social Council and, on the basis of the decision of the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the Executive Secretary of that body had appointed a panel of independent experts to study those problems with particular reference to the trade of the primary producing countries. The Committee requested the secretariat to continue to follow closely the developments in that field.

291. The Commission noted with satisfaction the steps taken by countries of the region to simplify the formalities or eliminate any unnecessary restrictions in import and export licensing procedures. It endorsed the view that such efforts were of continuing importance, and requested the secretariat to keep the problem under review and submit progress reports to the Committee on Trade.

292. It endorsed the proposal to convene a Working Party on Customs Administration in 1958. It hoped that the Working Party would formulate practical recommendations for the simplification of customs formalities and procedures. It further hoped that meas-

ures would be taken to secure increased co-operation among the countries in customs administration.

293. It approved the recommendation of the Committee on Trade that a study be undertaken on trade in minerals and mineral products of the countries of the region. It considered that the problem was both important and urgent in view of the fall in the prices of certain mineral products, and hoped that the results of the study would be available at an early date.

294. The Commission noted with satisfaction the progress made towards the holding of regional seminars on trade promotion in Japan in 1959 and in India in 1960, and expressed its appreciation to the two Governments for their offer of host facilities and to TAA for including the seminars among its regional projects.

The European common market

295. The Commission discussed extensively the possible repercussions of the European Common Market on the countries of the ECAFE region. The presence at the Commission's session of five members of the European Economic Community (EEC), namely, France and the Netherlands which are members of the Commission, and Belgium, Italy and the Federal Republic of Germany which participated in a consultative capacity, as well as of the representative of GATT, provided an opportunity for an exchange of views and the clarification of certain obscure points. Several countries of the region expressed concern at the possible repercussions of the European Common Market on their trade and economies, in particular, at the association of the overseas territories with the EEC. Fears were expressed that, although the possible consequences of the European Common Market could not yet be forecast, that association might develop into a preferential and restrictive trading system and adversely affect the exports of third countries.

296. The Commission heard statements by representatives and observers from the five members of the EEC, and noted their assurances that the legitimate trade of third countries (including countries of the region) would be duly safeguarded in accordance with articles 18 and 110 of the Rome Treaty. The Commission noted that GATT provided machinery for appropriate consultations for third countries members of GATT and that the members of the EEC had undertaken definite commitments under the General Agreement towards those third countries. If the common tariff adopted by the EEC contained a change in the tariff rates already included in the General Agreement, the members of the EEC were under an obligation to negotiate with the countries affected and to give them suitable compensation. The establishment of the Common Market would be a gradual process, spread over a period of twelve to fifteen years, and the common tariff would only begin to be introduced after the first stage of four years. Time was therefore afforded to third countries to conduct appropriate negotiations with the members of the Common Market.

297. The Commission took note of the work undertaken in 1957 by GATT at the twelfth session of that organization and by its intersessional committee and other subsidiary bodies. Four important points had been examined by GATT, namely, the establishment of the common tariff, the introduction of quantitative restrictions and quotas on imports from third countries, the treatment of agriculture and agricultural

products, and the association of overseas territories with the Common Market. It was noted that, while the general incidence of the common tariff was not likely to be higher than that of the individual tariffs levied, before the coming into force of the Common Market, the tariff rates on a number of commodities were still to be determined under the Rome Treaty. However, the members of the Common Market, in determining the future rates of tariffs on those products, would have to observe their commitments under the General Agreement.

298. The Commission also noted that the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the other regional economic commissions had clearly indicated their intention to follow the various developments resulting from the establishment of the European Common Market.

299. It endorsed the suggestion that member Governments of the region should prepare studies on the possible repercussions of the Common Market on their principal export products and forward those studies to the secretariat for analysis and circulation. It also asked the secretariat to keep itself informed of the question and to prepare and circulate to the Committee on Trade analytical reviews of important studies undertaken by other international agencies. It decided that the question should be kept under review by the Committee on Trade.

Intraregional trade promotion talks

300. The Commission took up the proposal to discuss intraregional trade promotion talks. Most delegations of the countries of the region supported the proposal. They considered it desirable to exploit every opportunity for expanding trade between the countries of the region, and suggested that the talks might, to begin with, be on an experimental basis, and that, in the light of the results, the Commission could decide whether to continue or discontinue them, or to modify procedures. The talks would be held within the framework of the United Nations resolutions and without prejudice to the international obligations of the member countries concerned. They would provide a valuable opportunity to the countries of the region to discuss and resolve their mutual trading problems and to explore trading opportunities; they would afford scope for bilateral negotiations in a multilateral framework and could lead to the discovery of valuable trade opportunities. The conduct of those talks would be adapted to the conditions and problems of the ECAFE countries and could be modified in the light of experience. For those reasons, the proposal merited favourable consideration.

301. Some delegations expressed the view that, even though the promotion of intraregional trade and of trade co-operation among the countries of the region was desirable, the proposed talks would not contribute to the achievement of that objective. They considered that the techniques which had proved successful in the special conditions of Europe might not yield good results in the ECAFE region. Furthermore, other facilities for trade promotion were available. The convening of such talks might detract from the value of the work of the Committee on Trade. Several points pertaining to the proposal required clarification. Some delegations suggested that the matter be referred to a working group and that the report thereof be submitted to the Committee on Trade at its next session. Some other

delegations expressed the view that all interested member countries outside the region should be allowed to participate in the talks. The view was also expressed that some member countries outside the region which claimed a special position because they did not participate in the work of any other regional economic commission should be given the opportunity to participate.

302. The Commission approved the proposal to convene intraregional trade promotion talks and adopted the pertinent resolution, resolution 23 (XIV), included in part III.

INDUSTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

303. The Commission commended the work and approved the report of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (E/CN.11/477).

Industrialization

304. The Commission considered that the discussion on the progress and problems of industrialization in the region by the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources had proved fruitful, and endorsed the proposal of the Committee to review the subject at its future sessions. It endorsed the view that industrialization should be planned to achieve a balanced over-all economic development, keeping in mind the conditions of each country, in particular, markets, transport, raw material resources, capital and foreign exchange, technical personnel, the desirability of diversification of industries, use of manpower in rural areas, and the importance of agriculture. The desirability of promoting small-scale industries and handicrafts was emphasized in view of their labour extensive nature.

305. The Commission endorsed the view of the Committee that, in some countries, the domestic market was often not large enough to permit the establishment of an economic industry and that it was possible to some extent to overcome that obstacle to development by regional co-operation, which could provide a larger market. In view of the shortage of managerial personnel in industrial enterprises in the public sector, it was suggested that high priority should be given to the proposed seminar on administrative and other aspects of such enterprises. While the need for external assistance was recognized, particular importance was laid on the need to mobilize domestic financial resources.

Small-scale industries and handicraft marketing

306. The Commission took note of the proposal for interchange of information among the countries of the region on research and on measures for assistance to small-scale industries. It approved the proposal to select, as the subject for the next session of the Working Party, the fruit and food canning and preserving industry, and noted with appreciation the invitation of the Government of Singapore to hold the next session of the Working Party of Small-Scale Industry and Handicraft Marketing in Singapore in the second half of 1959.

Regional geological and mineral maps

307. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the regional geological map for Asia and the Far East would be completed during 1958. It expressed the hope that the preparation of mineral and other regional maps would also be undertaken soon. Such maps would be of value not only in the development of mineral resources but also in the scientific selection of suitable

soils for agricultural development, the development of water supplies, and the search for minerals and choice of sites for construction and industrial purposes.

308. The Commission recognized the growing usefulness of the Working Party of Senior Geologists on the Preparation of Regional Geological and Mineral Maps for Asia and the Far East and approved the recommendation of the Committee that it be renamed the "Working Party of Senior Geologists" with the following terms of reference:

(a) To prepare, review and revise the various regional geological, mineral, metallogenic, prognosis and tectonic maps;

(b) To provide a forum for discussion and exchange of information on problems relating to basic geological work in the region;

(c) To collect, correlate and co-ordinate geological information which is being gathered year by year in the countries of the region;

(d) To review the progress in geological surveying made by the countries of the region, and to study and make recommendations regarding the problems, both technical and economic, which might be handicapping the execution of this work; and

(e) To review and guide the work of the secretariat on geological and related economic matters in order to ensure maximum practical value to the countries of the region.

The Commission hoped that member Governments would continue to support the activities of the Working Party.

309. The Commission considered that joint studies and geological surveys already undertaken or proposed by neighbouring countries were excellent examples of international co-operation. It was hoped that, through such surveys and studies, mineral deposits might be discovered which would lead to the development of new industries.

Mineral resources development

310. The Commission attached importance to the proposal to convene a Symposium on the Development of Petroleum Resources for Asia and the Far East during 1958. It recorded its appreciation to the Government of the United States of America for its invitation to a study group of Asian geologists and mining engineers to visit that country, and endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the study tour should be accorded sufficiently high priority in the work programme to permit the trip to be made early in 1959.

311. As long-range plans for the development of fuel and energy resources were essential for the industrial development of countries of the region, the Commission considered that the project on "integrated study of fuel and power resources and demands of countries of the ECAFE region" was of great significance. It expressed the hope that the secretariat would make an estimate of the fuel and energy needs of the region not only for the next five or ten years but also, if possible, for a longer period.

Iron and steel

312. The Commission approved the proposal to survey the foundry industry in the region, as it was the basis for the development of engineering and machine-building industries. It also took note of the recommendation that countries of the region could pave the way for a basic iron and steel industry by setting up, as a

first step, re-rolling mills, steel-fabricating plants, light engineering industries, as assembly plants for heavier products such as cars. The Commission approved the proposal to refer the report of the Group Study Tour of Asian Iron and Steel Experts to Europe to the Iron and Steel Sub-Committee for detailed technical examination.

Electric power

313. The Commission felt that the Sub-Committee on Electric Power should study not only short-term plans for harnessing hydroelectric power from easily implementable projects, but also long-term plans for the assessment of hydroelectric potentials of the countries of the region. The proposal to hold a working party to be convened by ECAFE in conjunction with FAO on the use of wood poles for rural electrification was approved. It was felt that the secretariat should give appropriate assistance to countries of the region in their plans for rural electrification.

Economic applications of atomic energy

314. The Commission expressed its great appreciation of the Secretary-General's report on *Economic Applications of Atomic Energy—Power Generation and Industrial and Agricultural Uses* (E/3005). It expressed the view that the adoption of nuclear energy for the generation of electric power in the region, particularly where cheap hydroelectric power was available, would depend on relative costs. Where the cost of conventional fuels was high or the haulages of fuel were long, the generation of electric power from nuclear energy might be worth considering. It was recommended that, as timely training of technical personnel was necessary for the establishment of atomic power stations, the countries of the region should take steps to send personnel abroad for training.

315. The Commission noted that liaison arrangements already existed between the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and that the ECAFE secretariat would be disseminating to the countries of the region further information on progress in the economic application of atomic energy. Some delegations suggested that a body should be set up within ECAFE to deal with the economic aspects of peaceful applications of atomic energy. The Commission noted, however, the statement of the Executive Secretary that its main concern was with the industrial and power aspects of atomic energy and that the Electric Power Sub-Committee and the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources would continue to review developments in that field.

INLAND TRANSPORT

316. The Commission approved the recommendation of the Inland Transport Committee that the Working Party on Co-ordination of Transport, to be convened in September 1958, should as far as possible concentrate on the analysis of the principles, methods and economic aspects of the co-ordination of different forms of transport, statutory or otherwise, in the countries of the region and outside. The Commission hoped that various aspects of the problem would subsequently be dealt with through similar working parties.

317. It took note of the progress made by the secretariat in implementing the various technical projects relating to highways, and endorsed the suggestion that, in view of the rapid growth of automobile transporta-

tion in the ECAFE region during the past few years, greater attention should be paid to the study of highway transport, particularly its organizational, operational and economic aspects, which were increasingly influencing economic development. With that object in mind, the Commission felt that the Highway Sub-Committee at its next session should give special consideration to the suggestion that a seminar be convened on road transport development with special reference to motor transport. It considered that the Highway Sub-Committee at its next session should examine the suggestion for a study of experts on road transport development in certain countries and make detailed recommendations in regard to the tour.

318. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the Seminar on Low-Cost Roads and Soil Stabilization and the Seminar on Highway Safety had been convened in New Delhi and Tokyo respectively, and that important recommendations had been made on both occasions. The recommendations of the Seminar on Low-Cost Roads and Soil Stabilization were considered practical and helpful. The Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Seminar that greater use should be made of training facilities in the ECAFE region for highway engineers such as the research centres in India, the Philippines and elsewhere, in order to try to overcome the shortage of technical personnel. It approved the recommendations of the Seminar on Highway Safety that manuals on highway safety should be prepared, in co-operation with UNESCO, for use in schools and colleges. It also approved the recommendation of the Seminar that study weeks on highway safety be convened on the lines of those conducted in Europe, and noted with satisfaction that the Government of India was making the necessary arrangements for such a study week to be held at Bombay in the latter part of 1958.

319. The Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Inland Transport Committee that the group visit of international waterway transport experts proposed for 1959 be extended if possible to cover the Danube River basin. In view of the increasing importance of passenger traffic and congestion on roads and railways, the Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the project concerning hydrofoil-supported craft (wing boats) be regarded as important and urgent. The Government of Pakistan had offered to provide facilities for trials with that type of craft on rivers in their country.

320. It placed on record its appreciation of the action of the Government of Pakistan in taking over responsibility for the Railway Training Centre, now renamed the Pakistan Regional Training Centre, as of 1 January 1958. It noted the assurances given by that Government that it would endeavour to maintain the international character of the Centre. It welcomed the appointment by the Government of an Advisory Board for the Centre similar to the one which had been functioning up to the end of 1957. It expressed the hope that the countries of the region would continue to take advantage of the training facilities of the Centre.

321. The Commission noted the rapid progress in the introduction of diesel traction on the railways of the region and the resultant economies. It approved the recommendation that a meeting of railway mechanical engineers be convened at a place in the region possessing a fully equipped repair and maintenance workshop for diesel locomotives in order that experts

might have the opportunity to study operation and maintenance. The Commission placed special emphasis on the need to take urgent action on the training of railway personnel, and approved the recommendation that the secretariat should collect available information on training facilities both within and outside the region, relate those data to the actual requirements of the countries of the region, and prepare a document on that subject.

322. The Commission noted the progress made by the secretariat in implementing projects on telecommunications in co-operation with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) which would shortly be providing two experts to carry out those studies. It expressed appreciation of the offer of host facilities by the Government of Japan for the proposed Working Party of Telecommunication Experts which would be convened jointly by ECAFE and ITU, and approved the suggestion of the Inland Transport Committee that the Working Party might meet in Tokyo in 1959.

323. Since the secretariat had now embarked on activities relating to telecommunications, the Commission adopted a resolution to change the name of the Committee to "Inland Transport and Communications Committee". The resolution, resolution 24 (XIV), is given in part III of the present report.

324. In approving the report of the Committee, the Commission felt that greater emphasis should be given to problems of transport economics and hoped that the work of the Committee would be gradually re-oriented in that direction. It noted that the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning intended to study the planning of transport development at one of its annual sessions. The establishment in ECAFE countries of regional technical institutes for research on technological problems relating to railways, highways, inland waterways and telecommunications might help the Committee and its subsidiary bodies to devote more attention to major economic problems of transport and communications.

WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

325. The Commission considered the report of the Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development (E/CN.11/471 and Corr.1), the report of the Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development (E/CN.11/465) and the report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin (E/CN.11/475). The report of the United Nations Survey Mission on the lower Mekong basin was also made available to the Commission.²²

Development of the lower Mekong basin

326. The Chairman of the Committee for Co-ordination of the Lower Mekong Basin (the representative of Cambodia) gave a brief account of the work leading to the establishment of the Committee. He referred to the initiation of the project by the Commission in 1951 and to the presentation of a secretariat report²³ to the Commission at its thirteenth session in March 1957. Realizing the need for co-

²² "Programme of Studies and Investigations for Comprehensive Development, Lower Mekong Basin" (TAA/AFE/3, dated 23 January 1958).

²³ "Development of Water Resources of the Lower Mekong Basin" (ECAFE/L.119, dated 22 February 1957).

operative and co-ordinated action, the Governments of the four riparian countries had in October 1957 established a Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin. Thanks to the spirit of international co-operation and mutual understanding among the four Governments, to the efforts of the Executive Secretary, and to the co-operation of TAA, substantial progress had been achieved within a short period of time.

327. The representative of Laos, Thailand and the Republic of Viet-Nam joined with the Chairman of the Committee in stressing the importance of the development of the Mekong River for the economic and social development of their countries. Their joint effort was intended not only to share the benefits from the control and use of the water of the river, but also to promote international co-operation in the spirit of the United Nations Charter. They expressed their appreciation of the work done by the secretariat and thanked TAA for having organized the Survey Mission in November 1957. That mission had prepared an excellent programme of studies and investigations, which had been adopted by the Committee for Co-ordination.

328. In the course of the deliberations of the Commission on the economic situation in Asia and the Far East, the representative of New Zealand, on behalf of his Government, made an offer of the equivalent of \$US 100,000 to assist in financing the studies and investigations. The representative of the United States of America offered a contribution by his Government of \$2 million for the collection of basic data and for the provision of the equipment and engineering services to enable the Committee to undertake studies and investigations in 1958, since the funds from the United Nations special projects fund could not be supplied until 1959. The representatives of the four riparian countries accepted those offers gratefully as a token of the spirit of international co-operation. They also thanked the Government of France for the sum of 60 million francs already made available to the Committee for Co-ordination, and the Technical Assistance Board for the assistance of the order of \$200,000 which it would finish in 1958.

329. The representatives of Burma and Japan expressed their readiness to assist by providing technical experts or by making contributions to the special projects fund. The representative of the Soviet Union expressed the readiness of his Government to assist in the design and construction of engineering works and to provide specialists for the purpose. The representative of Burma also pointed out that his country was close to the upper reaches of the Mekong and would therefore like to be kept informed of the progress of investigations.

330. The Commission commended the four riparian countries on the extent of their co-operation and expressed the belief that the development of the Mekong would make a substantial contribution to the welfare of the people in the area. The joint efforts of the four riparian countries and the support given by other member Governments were an outstanding example of international solidarity which might be followed by other countries with similar problems.

331. The Commission attached great importance to the early implementation of the programme of studies and investigations, and urged the United Nations to give the highest priority to the project when the

special projects fund came into existence. It noted that the Executive Secretary was authorized by the Committee for Co-ordination to discuss with the Governments of the donor countries the details and procedures for making use of the offers of assistance.

332. The Commission unanimously adopted a resolution submitted jointly by India, Japan and the Federation of Malaya. The text of the resolution appears as resolution 25 (XIV) in part III of the present report.

Other activities

333. The Commission endorsed the report of the Third Regional Conference on Water Resources Development (E/CN.11/465). It thought the subjects considered well chosen and the conclusions and recommendations useful.

334. In view of the importance of hydrological data to water resources development, the Commission was of the opinion that consideration might be given to the organization of a joint ECAFE/WMO seminar on the subject as proposed by the Conference (E/CN.11/465, para. 36).

335. In reviewing the activities of the Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development, the Commission noted with satisfaction the usefulness and high professional standard of the Bureau's work. It considered that the project on "Manual labour and its more effective use in competition with machines for earthwork" (project No. 21-06) was of great significance to the region, and endorsed the proposal to convene a working party on earth-moving operations in 1959.

336. It also endorsed the proposed programme of the group study tour of water resources experts to Europe and the United States of America.

STATISTICS

337. The Commission approved the report of the first session of the Conference of Asian Statisticians held in April 1957 (E/CN.11/456) and took note of the secretariat statement (ECAFE/39) setting out the progress made since then and the immediate programme of work.

338. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the excellent beginning made by the Conference of Asian Statisticians.

339. It noted that a co-ordinated programme of World Censuses of Population (including housing) and of Agriculture for 1960 was being developed jointly by the United Nations and FAO. The Commission recommended that, in view of the importance of the World Censuses for social and economic development, the Governments of the region should all participate in them and follow the United Nations/FAO programme as closely as conditions permitted.

340. The Commission welcomed the programme of technical assistance of those two organizations in regard to the 1960 World Censuses in Asia and the Far East. It noted that, under that programme, a training centre for census officials was to be conducted in the second half of 1958 in Tokyo with the co-operation of the Government of Japan, and that, in addition, two teams of experts, one English-speaking and one French-speaking, were to be formed to provide direct advice to Governments of the region on the planning, organization and administration of the censuses. The Commission recommended that Governments should take

full advantage of those facilities, and thus contribute to the success of the world census programme.

341. The Commission noted with appreciation that the above project was made possible through funds supplied to the United Nations by the Ford Foundation and by the Technical Assistance Board.

342. The Commission approved the immediate work programme elaborated in the secretariat statement (ECAFE/39), and in particular the high priority given to sampling methods, training, and statistics for planning and development. It felt that in due course the Conference should also give attention to some other statistical projects of direct importance to economic development, such as statistics on capital formation and balance of payments.

343. The Commission hoped that the Conference of Asian Statisticians and the working groups thereof would provide a forum for discussion of, and exchange of experience on, all statistical problems relating to the area.

344. Training in that field should emphasize the practical aspects of the work of professional statisticians. Note was taken of the offer of the representative from India to make available training facilities in his country to statisticians from other countries of the region.

345. The Commission desired the Conference of Asian Statisticians to devote special attention to providing the necessary statistical advice and assistance to countries in the region where statistics were less developed.

BUDGET RECLASSIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT

346. The Commission took note of the report of the Second Workshop on Problems of Budget Reclassification and Management (E/CN.11/L.51) and commended the progress in that field. Stress was laid on the practical significance of the work both for the formulation of governmental policy and for the information of the public on how governments were raising and spending money. Experience with that type of analysis was accumulating, and step-by-step progress was possible. The Commission gave general endorsement to the recommendations of the Second Workshop, including the proposal to shift the emphasis towards performance budgeting and related problems. It agreed that, in order to maintain the desired standard of documentation and to provide time for preliminary study, the Third Workshop should be deferred until 1960.

CO-ORDINATED POLICY REGARDING THE MAINTENANCE OF FAMILY LEVELS OF LIVING

347. As requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 663 B (XXIV), the Commission considered the *Report on a Co-ordinated Policy Regarding Family Levels of Living* (ST/SOA/34)²⁴ with special reference to its economic implications.

348. There was general recognition that the report dealt with all facets of social policy and brought out the close relationship between social and economic development. However, since the document merely enumerated certain general principles, the countries of the region could profitably study the subject in greater detail with a view to the application of those principles in their respective areas.

349. There was unanimous support for the recommendation that there should be co-ordination of both economic and social policy at all levels both in planning and execution. However, plans should be flexible enough to suit changing circumstances; they should be based on an understanding of the people among whom they were to be implemented; they should cover the needs of the individual in the broadest sense; the maximum number of people should benefit from them; they should be framed in association with the people, whose active co-operation and help should be enlisted; and care should be taken to ensure that the existing cohesion of under-developed societies was not unnecessarily weakened.

350. In many Asian countries, social development would necessarily be rather slow because the resources of the community were on a very low level. One major difficulty was that of creating new employment opportunities for the rapidly expanding population. Since resources were scanty in relation to the requirements of economic development, many countries had begun to consider the need for family planning. The expansion of social welfare programmes, too, was often hampered by administrative and financial limitations. Community development programmes offered promising scope for betterment: considerable work in that direction had already been done in the rural areas of many countries, and a beginning was being made in urban community development in connexion with problems arising from rapid urbanization. Improved agricultural practices which would raise the farmers' levels of living could be regarded as indirect social measures. The improvement of standards of housing as well as the position of women were also regarded as important.

351. Governments should give full consideration to the report under discussion and send their comments to the Secretary-General at an early date as requested by him in a communication he had addressed to Governments on 12 February 1958. The report should also be referred to the next Working Party on Economic Development and Planning in 1959 when it considered the question of balanced economic and social development.

AGRICULTURE

352. The Commission took note of the activities in 1957 of the joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division (E/CN.11/L.56) and approved the programme of work proposed for the Division in 1958/1959. The Commission expressed appreciation of the extensive and effective co-operation between ECAFE and FAO, in particular through the joint Division.

353. The Commission noted that steps were being taken in a number of countries to improve the financing of the development of agriculture, and hoped that Governments would continue to expand and develop institutions and facilities for that purpose. Studies of rural indebtedness might be necessary in some cases. The importance was emphasized of extension services in farm planning and management to assist farmers to make the best use of credit.

354. The exchange of experience in agricultural development planning among countries was considered useful, and the continuation of secretariat studies and reviews of national plans endorsed. It was hoped that those studies would help to identify various problems in agricultural planning and would suggest solutions to

²⁴ United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.IV.7.

them. Interest was expressed in the study being undertaken of the agricultural aspects of community development activities in order to provide data for the proposed integrated secretariat study of the role of such self-help activities in general economic development. The connexion between agricultural and industrial development was recognized as significant for over-all economic development, and the Commission agreed that the examination of such relationships should be continued, possibly by means of case studies. It was understood that the work on agricultural development planning and on the studies of the utilization of agricultural surpluses for economic development would be carried out in consultation with other international agencies concerned. The importance of agricultural economic research was recognized, and it was thought that governments would need to devote more attention to such research.

355. The Commission agreed with the suggestion of the Executive Secretary that more general economic studies of the factors influencing demand for foodstuffs be studied, as an alternative to specialized investigations of price and income elasticities of demand for rice and other cereals.

356. The Commission noted that, in accordance with the work programme approved at its thirteenth session, a joint FAO/ECAFE Seminar on Policies to Support and Stabilize Agricultural Prices and Incomes in Asia and the Far East would be held at New Delhi in March 1958. The proposal to hold, jointly with FAO, a technical meeting on marketing of agricultural products in 1959 was endorsed.

CO-OPERATION WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

357. The Commission noted the report on the "Activities of the International Labour Organisation during 1957 of special interest to Asia" (E/CN.11/473), the report of FAO (E/CN.11/466), the report on UNESCO activities in 1957 and work plans for 1958 of interest to the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (E/CN.11/467), and the statements made by the representatives of FAO, the ILO, WHO, the Bank, the Fund and ICITO/GATT.

358. The Commission recognized the value to the countries of the region of the activities of the specialized agencies in their respective fields of operation. Those activities contributed a great deal to the efforts of the countries of the region towards the promotion of economic development and the raising of the standard of living. The Committee was gratified to note that there was growing co-operation and concerted action between the ECAFE secretariat and the specialized agencies as evidenced by the steady increase in the number of joint projects in the work programme of the Commission, the joint servicing of, and participation in, meetings as well as the more frequent consultations by the secretariats of the agencies and ECAFE at the working level.

359. The Commission welcomed the regional approach which was being developed by the agencies in order to meet special needs of the countries of the region in several fields, for example, in the techniques of planning, training for, and carrying out, the 1960 World Censuses of Agriculture, the surveying and development of forest resources, marketing, statistics, community development, productivity, housing, building, and the planning and utilization of water resources.

360. The Commission welcomed the decision of FAO to strengthen its Regional Office for Asia and the Far East, which would provide further opportunities for co-operative work in fields such as marketing and agricultural statistics. The Commission noted that its resolution 22 (XIII) on land settlement was being implemented by FAO in co-operation with TAA and the World Veterans Federation, and that a seminar on that matter was to be convened in November 1958 in Ceylon. Having regard to the importance of land settlement in increasing agricultural output and promoting economic development, and particularly to the role which community development could play in promoting land settlement, it endorsed a suggestion that the report of the seminar be taken up at its next session.

361. The Commission noted that FAO would be ready, within its technical competence, to play a part in the surveys which might be required in connexion with the development of the lower Mekong basin; it also noted the interest of WHO in that project, particularly in respect of the provision of adequate water supply, the promotion of health, and the eradication of malaria and other diseases.

362. It took note of the technical assistance and other activities of the ILO in the countries of the region, especially the projects of that agency concerning vocational training and the training of skilled personnel in various fields, and measures to promote small-scale industries and to increase productivity, particularly through the teaching of modern production methods. It welcomed the growing co-operation between ECAFE and the ILO Asian Regional Office in those fields, and hoped that further efforts would be directed to finding ways and means whereby countries of the region could obtain greater productivity from their equipment.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION

363. The Commission noted with appreciation the report by TAA on "United Nations technical assistance in Asia and the Far East, 1957" (E/CN.11/470) 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.11/469). The Commission heard statements by the Director-General of TAA and the Regional Representative of TAB. The Commission also heard the representative of the Colombo Plan Bureau for Technical Co-operation on the assistance rendered to the countries under the Plan.

364. The Commission noted that the technical assistance provided to the countries of the region had shown a steady increase and was making an increasingly effective contribution to their economic development. The Commission emphasized that, as the development programmes of the countries gathered momentum and their implementation progressed, the need for technical assistance would increase considerably rather than diminish in the coming years. It noted that the gap between the limited financial resources of the Expanded Programme and the increasing volume of requests from Governments could not be eliminated unless there was a marked rise in contributions. The Commission hoped that members of the United Nations would continue to supply funds to the Expanded Programme on a growing and steady basis with a view to meeting those increasing needs.

365. The Commission looked forward to the establishment, under resolution 7219 (XII) of the General

Assembly, of a special projects fund, which would provide systematic and sustained assistance in fields essential to the integrated technical, economic and social development to the less developed countries. It hoped that the special requirements of the region, such as the survey of resources, and the establishment of training, research and servicing institutions, pilot plants and projects of a regional character, would benefit from the fund. Concern was expressed by some delegations that the contributions by donor countries to the Fund might perhaps reduce the contribution to the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. The Commission was hopeful that the contributing countries would make every effort to prevent such a contingency.

366. The Commission appreciated the statement by the Director-General of TAA indicating the increasing co-operation between it and the secretariat, and noted that TAA and the ECAFE secretariat were working together effectively on a number of regional projects of the Commission. It particularly welcomed the possibility that, in 1959, TAA would be able to implement two study tours. The Commission was also gratified to note that the experience of the ECAFE secretariat was being increasingly utilized by TAA in its activities in the region. It believed that the Commission and its secretariat, with their experience and knowledge of the conditions of the countries of the region, would be able effectively to assist TAA in the planning and implementation of its programmes in the region, and thereby promote co-ordination of effort and the pooling of resources.

367. The Commission noted that the technical assistance programmes of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies provided a multilateral approach for assisting the Governments in their development effort, and that, through the programmes, the countries were able to secure the services of experts from a large number of countries. In particular, experts with an intimate knowledge of the conditions and problems of under-developed countries were being secured by TAA from countries within and outside the region where conditions were not too dissimilar from those prevailing in the region. The Commission noted also that the Government of Pakistan had generously assumed the responsibility for the United Nations Railway Training Centre for Railway Operating and Signalling Officials at Lahore, which would continue to serve the needs of the region. It also noted that several receiving countries in the region were able not only to provide experts but also to offer training and other facilities to the other countries of the region. The Commission welcomed that trend and urged that increased technical assistance be provided to enable existing national institutions to meet the growing needs of the countries, or to facilitate the establishment of new regional training and research institutions, particularly as the facilities available in advanced countries were being called upon to meet their own increasing needs.

368. The Commission noted that the Colombo Plan Bureau was collecting information on training facilities available or likely to become available to the countries of the Colombo Plan. That information would be valu-

able to the United Nations as well as to the specialized agencies in assessing the potential of training facilities in relation to the needs of the region and in planning the expansion and development of training facilities.

369. The Commission noted that there was a growing interchange of technical knowledge and of experts between the countries of the region. It believed that study tours within the region would promote such interchange of experience and skill. It also noted that, in some cases, the countries were able to replace outside technical experts by trained personnel who had received training through fellowships awarded under the technical assistance programmes. In that connexion, it felt that, in order to enable fellows to replace outside experts, longer duration of fellowships and more intensive training were necessary.

370. The Commission noted with appreciation that the Technical Assistance Board had financed the United Nations Mission for the survey and investigation of the lower Mekong basin from the contingency fund of the Executive Chairman of the Board, and that a further amount of \$200,000 was reserved to meet any request which might be received in 1958. It congratulated TAA on the speed with which the Mission had been organized and on the outstanding quality of its members.

371. The Commission emphasized the importance of co-operation and co-ordination among the technical assistance programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and with the programmes under the Colombo Plan and under bilateral and other arrangements. It noted many instances of fruitful collaboration between the various agencies and Governments in that regard. Such co-operative and co-ordinated action tended to increase the effectiveness of the technical assistance services.

DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION

372. The Commission welcomed the invitation of the Government of Australia to hold its fifteenth session in Australia in 1959. Recalling that Australia had been a host country for the fourth session of the Commission in 1948, it appreciated the continuing special interest of Australia in the work of the Commission. The Commission unanimously decided that, subject to the approval of the Economic and Social Council and of the General Assembly, the invitation of the Government of Australia be accepted and that the date and place in Australia of the session be determined by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Government of Australia.

373. The Commission noted the statement of the representative of Pakistan that his Government had also wished to invite the Commission to hold its fifteenth session in Pakistan but that, having regard to the invitation of the Government of Australia, his Government did not wish to press for its invitation to be considered at the current session. The Commission appreciated the generous gesture of the Government of Pakistan in that regard and hoped that it would be possible to hold its session in Pakistan in a subsequent year.

Part III

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS FOURTEENTH SESSION

23 (XIV). Intraregional trade promotion talks

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Taking note of the report of the first session of the Committee on Trade on intraregional trade promotion talks,²⁵

Considering it desirable to exploit every opportunity of further expanding trade between the countries of the region,

1. *Decides* to hold intraregional trade promotion talks, on an experimental basis, under the following terms:

(a) The trade promotion talks shall be held within the framework of the United Nations resolutions and without prejudice to the international obligations of the countries concerned;

(b) The trade promotion talks shall be held among experts in trade nominated by those Governments of members and associate members of the Commission which desire to participate therein and which are located in the territories of Asia and the Far East as defined in its terms of reference;

(c) The trade promotion talks shall be held in camera, and without any formal record of proceedings;

(d) After some experience has been gathered about the progress and results of these talks the Commission shall consider whether it is advisable to continue or discontinue such talks, or modify the procedures thereof;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To arrange for the holding of the trade promotion talks as early as practicable;

(b) To obtain such general information as may be required on the subjects which each expert may wish to take up in the course of the trade promotion talks, and provide such information to the Government concerned;

(c) To make such other arrangements as may be required.

*196th meeting,
11 March 1958.*

24 (XIV). Transport and communications

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Having taken due note of the recommendation made in paragraph 71 of the report of the Inland Transport Committee (seventh session),²⁶

Decides that the title of the Inland Transport Committee be changed to the "Inland Transport and Communications Committee".

*196 meeting,
11 March 1958.*

25 (XIV). Development of the lower Mekong basin

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Having considered the report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin,²⁷

1. *Commends* the extent of international co-operation already achieved and the concerted action taken by the Governments of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and the Republic of Viet-Nam for the development of the lower Mekong basin;

2. *Expresses* its belief that the development of that basin would make a substantial contribution to the improvement of economic development and human welfare in this area;

3. *Notes* with appreciation the offer of assistance already made by the Governments of several States Members of the United Nations for the implementation of the programme of studies and investigations of the lower Mekong basin as recommended by the United Nations Survey Mission;

4. *Urges* the United Nations to give the highest priority to this project when the special projects fund is set up;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to render such assistance as may be necessary to the Committee for Co-ordination to facilitate the implementation of the programme of investigations.

*197th meeting,
12 March 1958.*

26 (XIV). Inclusion of Iran in the geographical scope of the Commission and admission of Iran as a member

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Having considered the communications of the Government of Iran dated 11 and 12 February 1958²⁸ applying for membership of the Commission and for the inclusion of Iran within the geographical scope thereof,

Recognizing that the association of Iran in the work of the Commission will further the objectives with which the Commission was established,

1. *Recommends* to the Economic and Social Council that it approve the inclusion of Iran within the geographical scope of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East and the admission of Iran as a member of the Commission,

2. *Recommends further* to the Economic and Social Council that it amend the terms of reference of the Commission as follows:

(a) In paragraph 2 of the terms of reference describing the territories of Asia and the Far East, insert the word "Iran" after "Indonesia";

(b) In paragraph 3 of the terms of reference giving the list of members of the Commission, insert the word "Iran" after "Indonesia".

*199th meeting,
14 March 1958.*

²⁵ E/CN.11/472.

²⁶ E/CN.11/476.

²⁷ E/CN.11/475.

²⁸ E/CN.11/474 and Add.1.

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 29 March 1957 to 15 March 1958 inclusive,²⁹ and of the recommendations, resolutions, and the programme of work and priorities contained in parts II, III and V respectively of that report.

*200th meeting,
15 March 1958.*

²⁹ E/3102.

Part V

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES

374. At its 200th meeting held on 15 March 1958, the Commission unanimously approved the programme of work and priorities set forth below.

375. This programme was adopted in the light of the recommendations made by the subsidiary bodies of the Commission which had met since the last session of the Commission, namely the Conference of Asian Statisticians (first session), the Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel (seventh session), the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing (fifth session), the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (third session), the Inland Waterway Sub-Committee (fourth session), the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (third session), the Railways Sub-Committee (fifth session), the Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, the Committee on Trade (first session), the Sub-Committee on Electric Power (sixth session), the Inland Transport Committee (seventh session) and the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (tenth session).

376. The programme of work includes that of the Joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division as approved by the Executive Secretary and the Director-General of FAO. The Executive Secretary held consultations with the ILO, UNESCO, WHO, WMO, the Fund and ITU on projects which had a bearing on their respective fields of interest.

BASIC DIRECTIVES

377. As in the past, in preparing the programmes of work and priorities, the Commission followed a series of basic directives and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and of the General Assembly as well as the 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, pattern of conferences and other 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), 630 (XXII) and 664 (XXIV).

378. The Economic and Social Council, at its twenty-fourth session, in resolution 664 (XXIV), noted with satisfaction the efforts made by each of the regional economic commissions to co-ordinate its activities and to "streamline" its work programme in accordance with Council resolutions 630 A I (XXII). The General Assembly of the United Nations, at its twelfth session, in its resolution 1158 (XII), also noted with satisfaction the efforts being made by each of the regional economic commissions to further co-ordination of its activities and to "streamline" its work programme, especially in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 630 A I (XXII), and expressed its belief that those efforts would result in a more effective exchange of information and experience in matters of common interest. The General Assembly further expressed the hope that the regional economic commissions would continue, within their respective terms of reference and in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, their valuable services and efforts. The Commission expressed its appreciation of those resolutions.

379. The Commission's particular attention was drawn to resolution 664 (XXIV) of the Economic and Social Council on the "Concentration of activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies in the economic, social and human rights fields". The annex to that resolution, which was attached to the report of the Committee of Co-ordination of the Council, and particularly the introduction and section IV (Regional economic activities) of the annex, was of special concern to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies. The Executive Secretary had already drawn the attention of the subsidiary bodies to the resolution and to the annex to it. The Commission bore in mind paragraphs 1 (c), 3, 12 and 13 of that annex, as they reaffirmed general principles in the field of co-ordination as guides to future work, and were of particular relevance to its programme of work and priorities.

380. The Commission noted that the following matters would be further studied by the Economic and Social Council at one of its sessions on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General: (a) the relationship between the work of the regional economic commissions and the work done under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, (b) the balance between primarily economic and mainly technological projects, and

(c) the relationship between the work of the regional economic commissions and the United Nations programmes in the social field. The Commission hoped to formulate its views on those matters at its next session with a view to facilitating the preparation of the report by the Secretary-General.

REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAMME

381. The Commission noted that the Committee on Trade, the Inland Transport Committee and the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources had reviewed the work programme in their respective fields in the light of the criteria adopted by the Commission at its thirteenth session.⁸⁰ The Commission, in that connexion, also noted the account given by the Executive Secretary in his opening statement on the procedures, progress and results achieved in regard to the concentration on major problems and on co-operation and concerted action with other units of the United Nations Secretariat, specialized agencies and TAA, the need for which had been continuously kept in mind since the last session. The Commission endorsed the statement of the Executive Secretary at the twenty-fourth session of the Economic and Social Council, in which he emphasized that "streamlining" on such a scale as had been achieved at its thirteenth session could not be expected every year, and that, while the Commission's policy would be to keep "streamlining" as its objective throughout the year at the meetings of its various subsidiary bodies and gradual progress would be made in that direction, there was unlikely to be any spectacular change in the work programme.

382. A detailed statement of the changes in the programme of work and priorities resulting from the application, during the period under review, of the above-mentioned criteria is given below. The total number of projects in the work programme for 1958-1959 is 85 as compared with 90 in the previous one.

⁸⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 2*, para. 319.

D. Projects incorporated in major projects

Old projects ⁸¹	
02-04	Role of expanded self-help measures in economic development
11-03(c)	The role of the village community in agricultural development and economic aspects of community development
03-01	Statistical compilation
03-02	Statistical methods
03-06	Methods for the estimation of capital formation
32-01	Dissemination of technical information
32-02	Promotion and co-ordination of research and experiments by countries of the region
32-05	Studies on production and marketing techniques
33-01	Review of progress of electric power development in Asia and the Far East
33-03	Hydroelectric potential of each country of the region and its gross, technical and economic limits
33-04	Standards for electric plant and equipment and standardization of system practices
	Techniques of estimating future power demand (new project suggested by the Sub-Committee on Electric Power)

A. New projects ⁸¹	
21-06	Working Party on earth-moving operations
33-03	Study of thermal electric power plant
34-04	Study of costs in building industry
35-03	Study of steel demand
36-04	Symposium on the development of petroleum resources in the ECAFE region
41-03	Comparative studies of freight-rate structure in transport undertakings
44-06	Engine utilization and running shed practices

B. Projects completed ⁸²	
21-06	Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development ⁸³
33-03	Hydroelectric potential of each country of the region and its gross, technical and economic limits
34-02	Guiding principles for housing standards and building codes for ECAFE countries

C. Projects deleted ⁸²	
34-06	Development of building materials
35-05	Market research
41-01	(d) Publication of annual <i>Railway Statistics Bulletin</i>
41-03	Mechanization of accounts in transport undertakings
42-01	(b) Techniques of construction and maintenance
42-03	Highway safety
44-01	Diesel locomotives and diesel railcars
44-02	Improved turnround of rolling-stock
44-03	Incidence of railway accidents and measures for prevention
44-05	Standardization of rolling-stock

⁸¹ Project numbers refer to the programme of work and priorities included in this document.

⁸² Project numbers refer to the programme of work and priorities as given in the Commission's previous report (*Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 2*).

⁸³ Proceedings of the conference to be published in 1958.

Amalgamated with major projects ⁸¹	
02-04	Role of expanded self-help measures in economic development with particular reference to industrialization and village agriculture ⁸⁴
03-01	Statistical compilation and methods
03-03	Conference of Asian Statisticians
32-01	Promotion and co-ordination of research experiments and dissemination of technical information
32-02	Economic aspects, production and marketing techniques of cottage and small-scale industries
33-01	Dissemination of technical information and data
31-04	Integrated study of fuel and power resources and demands of the countries of the ECAFE region

⁸⁴ In co-operation with the project of the Bureau of Social Affairs of the United Nations on "Relation of community development to the industrialization process".

Old projects

- 34-05 Periodic review of the housing situation and housing and building programmes in the region, in relation to economic and social developments
- 36-03 Study of aerial survey methods and equipment
- 36-04 Exploration, exploitation and utilization of low-grade coals in the region
- 36-06 Compilation of existing regulations governing the mineral development of the region

Amalgamated with major projects

- 34-01 Housing and town and country planning and building
- 36-03 Dissemination of information relating to methods of exploration, exploitation and processing of minerals, and technical studies of selected minerals
- 36-07 Classification and utilization of coals in the region
- 36-05 Working Group of Experts on Mining Legislation

E. Projects priority of which was up-graded⁸¹

- 03-03 Conference of Asian Statisticians—from group 2 to group 1
- 11-02 Agricultural financing and credit—as independent project 11-01 (d) in the 1957-1958 programme
- 11-08 Agricultural economic research—as independent project from project 11-03 (d) in the 1957-1958 programme
- 36-01 Regional geological mineral and tectonic maps and related activities—from group 2 to group 1
- 44-01 Railway signalling in relation to speed, safety and increase in line capacity—from group 3 to group 2
- 44-03 Study on the feasibility of introducing container transport on railways, with special reference to operating costs and financial aspects—from group 3 to group 2

F. Project priority of which was down-graded⁸²

- 43-06 Dredging of inland waterways—from group 2 to group 3 (43-08)⁸¹

FUTURE SCOPE AND TREND OF THE WORK PROGRAMME

383. The Commission took note of Economic and Social Council resolution 665 C (XXIV) in which the Council "requests the Secretary-General, in the light of the principles set forth in the annex to its resolution 664 (XXIV) of 1 August 1957, to make an appraisal of the scope, trend and cost of the regular United Nations programmes in these [i.e., economic, social and human rights] fields for the period 1959-1964 for consideration by the Council at its twenty-eighth session". The Executive Secretary was requested to continue to follow the decisions which might be taken by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination as to the implementation of Council resolution 665 C (XXIV) and by the Economic and Social Council itself and to report to the Commission at its next session. The Commission hoped to formulate its considered views on the orientation, character, scope and trend of its future work at its next session in the light of the needs of the countries of the region.

CONTROL AND LIMITATION OF DOCUMENTATION

384. The Commission noted that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 789 (VIII), the Executive Secretary had taken steps to limit the number and length of documents. Those efforts had been reviewed with the object of further reducing the length and amount of documentation to be produced in 1958, having regard to General Assembly resolution 1203 (XII). The summary records of the meetings of the Commission and the Committees had been condensed in order to comply with the resolution. Strict control has been enforced regarding the size and quality of the secretariat's studies and reports. Editing of publications had been improved with the establishment during the year of an Editorial Services Unit within the secretariat. As a result, a significant reduction in the volume of

documentation had been achieved as compared to the previous year. Universities, national, private and public institutions or non-governmental organizations in the region had been utilized to relieve the secretariat of studies whenever possible. The Commission noted that the Executive Secretary proposed to continue that policy.

PATTERN OF CONFERENCES

385. At its thirteenth session the Commission adopted a tentative calendar of conferences based on the principle that no session of the subsidiary bodies should be convened unless adequate participation by Governments was assured and adequate documentation could be made ready in time. The total number of sessions convened in 1957 was eighteen as compared to nineteen approved by the Commission. The Commission proposed to exercise an even stricter control in coming years. In the choice of places for meetings, preference had been given as far as possible to the Headquarters of the ECAFE secretariat. Exceptions could be justified only if there was a firm invitation from a host Government or overriding substantive and technical considerations, such as the provision of facilities for on-the-spot studies of sites and installations. The Commission intended to follow that policy, bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 1202 (XII) on Pattern of Conferences.

REGIONAL PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN CO-OPERATION WITH TAA

386. As in the past, TAA and the ECAFE secretariat had co-operated in implementing various projects. Most of those projects, such as those concerning training, research and demonstration centres, seminars, study tours and pilot plants, were usually initiated by the Commission, in accordance with Council resolution 222 (IX). In addition, at some ECAFE conferences and meetings of experts, TAA had agreed to provide assistance in the form of services of experts from outside the region. It had also provided assistance in the form of a mission for a survey of the lower Mekong basin.

387. The Commission noted that, although the importance of regional projects had been recognized, TAA was unable to provide finance for all such projects. The Commission hoped that it would be possible in future to achieve greater flexibility in implementing regional projects included by the Commission in its work programme.

CO-OPERATION WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

388. 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 had been avoided by taking note of their work in related fields and by planning work with them well in advance, so that there could be co-operation with appropriate agencies wherever such an approach promised better results and utilization of international funds. The Executive Secretary had strictly adhered to the principle that no request should be addressed to specialized agencies for a new study or project unless the groundwork has been laid and agreed upon by the respective secretariats. In the current programme there were no projects which would call for new studies by the specialized agencies or substantial changes in their work programmes or additional budgetary provisions.

SOCIAL ASPECTS OF ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

389. The Commission recalled that the Secretary-General had taken steps to establish, in 1956, a Division of Social Affairs in the ECAFE secretariat. The programme of work of that Division was determined by the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs in close consultation with the Executive Secretary. In 1957, its work had covered community development, demography, social defence and general social services. Steps were being taken to improve co-operation of the staff of the Division, as also of the Bureau of Social Affairs at Headquarters, with other divisions of the ECAFE secretariat, in particular, in fields such as the study of regional planning, industrialization, community development, demographic trends, and economic development. In 1957, the Division had received its full complement of staff. In addition to rendering services to Governments, the Division was making a contribution to the implementation of social policies of the United Nations in the countries of the region and to an improved understanding of the relationship between economic and social policies.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME

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

391. While it was desirable to have as firm a programme as possible, unforeseeable factors might make it necessary to alter or abandon certain projects or to establish different priorities. For that reason, the Commission, as in the past, left it to the discretion of the Executive Secretary to modify or defer projects, establish different priorities within the framework of the approved programme, should he feel that unforeseen developments made that necessary.

392. The Commission noted the statement of the Executive Secretary that the proposed work programme could be implemented within the staff resources available in the secretariat in 1958/59 as provided for in the 1958 budget approved by the General Assembly at its twelfth session and on the assumption that the staff resources would be maintained at approximately the same level in 1959/60. The Commission felt that there was now a satisfactory relation between the secre-

tariat staff resources in general and the proposed work programme, which followed the principles and criteria adopted by the Commission at its thirteenth session and the directives of the Economic and Social Council, particularly resolution 664 (XXIV). The Commission also noted the statement of the Executive Secretary (paragraph 260) on the financial implications of the proposal to admit Iran as a member of the Commission and to include that country within the geographical scope of the Commission. While the Executive Secretary would not seek any additional allotment of funds for that purpose in the Commission's budget for 1959, the addition of two senior substantive posts in the secretariat might be required in future years.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

393. The proposed programme of work is divided into five broad divisions, namely: 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 between these broad divisions or between the sections thereof.⁸⁵

394. Within each division (I, II, III etc.) or within each section (A, B, C etc. or 1, 2, 3 etc.) 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

395. 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 contemplated are to be presented from time to time. Each study may differ from and supplement the others in respect of the countries, substance, problem and time covered. 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

396. 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 is given of the probable duration of virtually all projects in group 2. No relative priorities are assigned to projects within this group, or as between group 1 and group 2.

Group 3. Other projects

397. 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 1958 or 1959. An estimated duration of work or date for completion is shown for virtually every *ad hoc* pro-

⁸⁵ Apart from advisory services and technical assistance, 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.

ject in this group. Within the group, projects are listed in the order of priority. Thus, if and when resources become available, the projects may be taken up in each division or section in the order listed.

398. The criteria used in proposing the distribution of projects in the above three groups include an estimate of the basic importance of each project concerned and an estimate of the most effective way to utilize available resources.

Annotated list of projects for 1958 and 1959

(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 TAA has been accorded 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, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Publication annually of the *Economic Survey for Asia and the Far East*. Survey and analysis of the current economic situation and problems in the region.

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, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Contents 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*³⁶
 Authority: Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, third session, 1957; Commission resolution 16 (XII); Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

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;

(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 de-

velopment, including methods of economic projection, adapted to the conditions of the countries in the ECAFE region;

(s) (d) Working Party on Economic Development and Planning: the fourth session is proposed to be held in September 1958 on the subject of industrialization in relation to economic development. (Previous sessions: 1955, on problems and techniques of economic development planning and programming; 1956, on development policies and means of implementing development programmes; 1957, jointly with FAO, on 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 (s) *Population growth and economic development*

Authority: Commission resolution 20 (XIII); Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Analysis of the interrelationship 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 (s) *Role of expanded self-help measures in economic development with particular reference to industrialization and village agriculture*

Authority: Commission, eleventh session, 1955; twelfth session, 1956; thirteenth session, 1957; fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Analysis of the actual and potential contribution to economic development of community development and other similar measures of co-operation with particular reference to industrialization and village agriculture. With the assistance of the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs, in co-operation with FAO. Date of completion, 1959.³⁷

02-05 (s) *Timber trends and prospects*

Authority: Commission, eleventh session, 1955; twelfth session, 1956; thirteenth session, 1957; fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Study of production and consumption of timber in Asia and the Far East, and of probable trends to 1965 and 1975 in the light of anticipated economic development, increase of population etc. Joint FAO/ECAFE project. Date of completion, 1959.

³⁶ In co-ordination with projects 11-03 and 31-01.

³⁷ In co-ordination with projects 11-03 and 31-01.

3. Statistics

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

03-01 *Statistical compilation and methods*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission; Commission resolution E/CN.11/223/Rev.1, fifth session, 1949; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: (a) Maintenance of basic statistical series for ECAFE countries, including series regularly published in the *Economic Bulletin*;
(b) Compilation of statistics for special analyses required for various projects of the secretariat.
(c) 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.
(d) 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.

03-02 *Statistical organization and activities*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission; Commission resolution E/CN.11/223/Rev.1, fifth session, 1949; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

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. Fourth report to be issued in 1960. (Previous reports in 1951, 1953 and 1956.)

03-03 *Conference of Asian Statisticians*

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission; Commission resolution E/CN.11/223/Rev.1, fifth session, 1949; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: (a) Second session of the Conference to be held in November 1958, to consider long-term programme, training needs, uses of sampling, and census and other matters. (Organization meeting was held in April 1957. Previous regional conferences of statisticians were held in 1951, 1952, 1954 and 1956.)

(b) Working parties or groups of experts to be convened from time to time on selected statistical problems.

First expert group, on sampling, expected to be organized in 1958.

(c) Continuing study, in collaboration with the United Nations Statistical Office, of statistical methods and standards applicable to the ECAFE region, with a view to improving and enlarging the existing statistical basis. In this connexion, a study of problems and techniques in estimating capital formation is under way.

GROUP 2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

03-04 *Budget reclassification workshop* (t)

Authority: Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Third workshop on budget reclassification and management to be convened in 1960, in co-operation with the Fiscal and Financial Branch of the United Nations Bureau of Economic Affairs and TAA. (Previous workshops in 1955 and 1957.)

B. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND ADVISORY SERVICES

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

04-01 *Advisory services* (s,t)

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission; and Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

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 its economic development programme.

04-02 *Co-operation in the technical assistance programme* (t)

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission; and Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

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. AGRICULTURE³⁸

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, eleventh session, 1955; twelfth session, 1956; thirteenth session, 1957; fourteenth session, 1958.

³⁸ This work programme on agriculture is based on the decisions of the Commission at its thirteenth session and on the proposals agreed upon between the Director-General of FAO and the Executive Secretary of ECAFE in the light of developments since the thirteenth session of the Commission.

- Description: Supply of information on food and agricultural matters required for:
- (a) All ECAFE studies with food and agricultural implications, particularly the annual and semi-annual economic surveys;
 - (b) FAO Regional Office and Headquarters and FAO Regional Conferences for Asia and the Far East.
- 11-02 (s) *Agricultural financing and credit*
- Authority: Commission, eleventh session, 1955; twelfth session, 1956; thirteenth session, 1957; fourteenth session, 1958.
- Description: Collection, analysis and dissemination of information regarding institutions and methods being developed in countries of the region for the provision of finance and credit for agricultural development.
- 11-03 (s) *Agricultural development and planning*³⁹
- Authority: Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, third session, September 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.
- Description: Studies of agricultural development and plans, including:
- (a) Study and review of agricultural development plans of countries of the region, with special attention to the methods of agricultural planning being followed;
 - (b) Relation between agriculture and industry, taking into account the necessity for rapid development of the countries of the region;
 - (c) Impact on village agriculture of community development (studies integrated with project 02-04).
- 11-04 (s) *Factors influencing demand for foodstuffs*
- Authority: Commission, eleventh session, 1955; twelfth session, 1956; thirteenth session, 1957; fourteenth session, 1958.
- Description: Collection and analysis of consumption data available for countries of the region, with reference to methods of analysing food consumption trends and forecasting food demand for purposes of economic development planning.
- 11-05 (s) *Food and agricultural price policies*
- Authority: Commission, twelfth session, 1956; thirteenth session, 1957; fourteenth session, 1958.
- Description: (a) Collection, analysis and dissemination of information, regarding food and agricultural price policies and agricultural support policies in countries of the region;
- (b) Joint ECAFE/FAO Centre on Policies to Support and Stabilize Agricultural Price and Income in Asia and the Far East, March 1958.
- 11-06 (s) *Agricultural surpluses for economic development*
- Authority: Commission, thirteenth session, 1957; fourteenth session, 1958.
- Description: Studies on the disposal of agricultural surpluses, with special reference to the procedure and problems involved in the utilization in the region of agricultural surpluses for economic development (in co-ordination with projects on trade).
- 11-07 (s,t) *Marketing of agricultural products*⁴⁰
- Authority: Commission, eleventh session, 1955; twelfth session, 1956; thirteenth session, 1957; fourteenth session, 1958.
- Description: (a) Studies of marketing problems and methods in relation to selected products, such as sugar, rice, tobacco, dairy products, meat. National studies to be undertaken as far as possible by national institutions, with possible Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance or other assistance, and regional aspects to be dealt with by the secretariat;
- (b) Joint ECAFE/FAO Technical Meeting on Agricultural Marketing to be held in 1959.
- 11-08 (s) *Agricultural economic research*
- Authority: Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.
- Description: A review of the status and scope of agricultural economic studies and research in countries of the region. Date of completion: 1958.
- ### III. FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
- #### GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY
- 21-01 (s) *Multiple-purpose river basin development*⁴¹
- Authority: Commission, seventh session, 1951; fourteenth session, 1958.
- 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*⁴¹
- Authority: Commission, sixth session, 1950; fourteenth session, 1958.
- 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. Servicing and advising the Committee on Co-ordination of Investigation of the Lower Mekong Basin.
- 21-03 *Flood control methods*
- Authority: Commission, sixth session, 1950; Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.
- Description: Improvement of flood control methods, including a joint study with technical organizations of the region on various specific problems. The 1958 work programme

³⁹ In co-ordination with projects 02-01, 02-04 and 31-01.

⁴⁰ In co-ordination with project 37-05.

⁴¹ In co-ordination with project 43-01.

will be a continuation of the study, initiated in 1954, of methods employed for earthwork construction with particular emphasis on the effective use of manual labour and/or combination of manual labour and machines in earthwork construction. When practicable, the scope of the study to be expanded to include steps appropriate to the sound use and maintenance of mechanical construction equipment. The various aspects as above to be studied by the Working Party proposed in 21-06.

21-04 (s) *Hydrologic observations and hydraulic research stations*

Authority: Commission, seventh session, 1951; Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: (a) Study of major deficiencies in hydrologic data (joint ECAFE/WMO project). Attention of the countries of the region to be drawn to the importance of their initiating studies concerning the extent and nature of their ground-water resources;

(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; fourteenth session, 1958.

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 (s,t) *Convening of a Working Party on Earth-Moving Operations in the ECAFE Region*

Authority: Economic and Social Council resolutions 597 A (XXI) and 618 (XXII); and Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: The object of the meeting is to consider the problems of improving the efficiency and performance and reducing the cost of earth-moving operations in various types of heavy engineering construction projects (multiple-purpose water development projects, canals, highways and railroads, etc.)⁴² and certain types of mining operations (e.g. opencast mining)⁴³ carried out in the region, as regards manual labour, mechanized operations and combinations of both. The Working Party will deal with such problems as appropriate combinations of labour and equipment, taking into account the relevant conditions in the countries of the region; selection of equipment; problems of repair, maintenance and spare parts; training of labour for operation and maintenance, and improvement of cost accounting records. Co-operation of the ILO will be sought as regards the problems of training of labour. Co-operation of TAA to be requested for the implementation of the project. The Working Party is to be convened in the second half of 1959 under the joint sponsorship of ECAFE and

the United Nations Bureau of Economic Affairs.

21-07 *Organizations for the execution of river basin development in different countries of the region*⁴⁴

Authority: Commission, eleventh session, 1955; fourteenth session, 1958.

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 (t) *Group visits of experts to water resources development schemes in Europe and North America*

Authority: Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: To organize in 1958 a visit by a team of experts to water resources development schemes in Europe and North America. Co-operation of UN TAA has been sought. Duration of the tour, about nine weeks. Subsequent finalization of the report and its publication in 1959.

IV. INDUSTRY AND TRADE

A. INDUSTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

1. General

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

31-01 *Industrial development and planning*⁴⁵

Authority: Committee on Industry and Trade, ninth session, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

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, such as metal and engineering industries, chemical industries and cement.

Report on "Problems and progress of industrial development in the countries of the region" submitted to the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources at its tenth session. Continuing review by the Committee of problems of industrial development.

(s,t) (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 the specialized agencies concerned (see project 31-02);

(c) Dissemination of technical information on organization and administration of industrial establishments.⁴⁶

GROUP 2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

31-02 (s,t) *Seminar on Regional Planning*⁴⁷

Authority: Joint United Nations/UNESCO Seminar on Urbanization, 1956; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

⁴⁴ In co-ordination with project 31-02.

⁴⁵ In co-ordination with projects 02-01 and 11-03.

⁴⁶ In co-ordination with project 21-07.

⁴⁷ In co-ordination with project 21-07.

⁴² In co-ordination with projects 42-01, 43-01 and 44-04.

⁴³ In co-ordination with project 36-02.

Description: To be convened in 1958 jointly by the Bureau of Social Affairs and the ECAFE secretariat. Agenda to include 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. In co-operation with TAA and UNESCO.

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

Authority: Commission, thirteenth session, 1957; fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Meeting to be convened in 1959 jointly by ECAFE and FAO: attendance to include leading specialists from countries outside the region. Co-operation of TAA to be sought. Agenda to include manufacture of newsprint from raw materials available in the region, and manufacture of pulp and paper from bamboo.

31-04 *Integrated study of fuel and power resources and demands of countries of the ECAFE region*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, second session, 1956; Sub-Committee on Electric Power, sixth session, 1958; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Study to cover current and potential resources, production, and requirements of power and fuels in countries of the region, techniques of forecasting demand for power and fuels, costs of production, marketing and prices, comparison of advantages and disadvantages of various sources of power and kinds of fuels and the best methods of utilizing them.

2. Cottage and small-scale industries

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

32-01 *Promotion and co-ordination of research and experiments and dissemination of technical information*

Authority: Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Reports of research, experiments, new processes and techniques in selected industries to be furnished by countries to the Working Party. Emphasis in disseminating technical information by the secretariat to be given to pilot plants and research centres.

32-02 *Economic aspects, production and marketing techniques of cottage and small-scale industries*
(s)

Authority: Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing, fifth session, 1957; Committee on Industry and Trade, ninth session, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Studies of economic aspects of selected industries, including problems of organization and management, financing, training, protection from imports, and studies of competitive relations with large-scale domestic manufacturing, including pro-

duction and marketing,⁴⁸ in co-operation with the ILO. Statistical data, information and memoranda to be furnished by Governments at an early date. Next study, which will be on fruit and food canning and bottling industries, to be completed in 1958.

GROUP 2. Ad hoc PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

32-03 *Common-facility services for cottage and small-scale industries, including methods of standardization*

Authority: Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing, fifth session, 1957; Committee on Industry and Trade, ninth session, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Reports 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 in selected cottage industries, have been completed. Next report to include studies of experience gained and difficulties encountered in selected small-scale industries and a review of progress and problems of small-scale industries in the region to be completed in 1958.

3. Electric Power

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

33-01 *Dissemination of technical information and data*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Electric Power, sixth session, 1958; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: (a) Special articles of regional interest to be circulated from time to time including (i) data and details of recently constructed power stations, transmission systems etc. in the region and outside the region; (ii) technical reports regarding progress of assessment of hydroelectric potentials in the countries of the region; (iii) reports describing difficulties encountered in the surveys of assessment of hydroelectric potentials in the countries of the region; (iv) publications of international and national standards institutes; (v) information regarding estimates of future demands for power prepared by countries of the region including trends relating to demands of power by different categories of consumption; and (vi) information on tariffs for electric power supply.

(b) Publication of *Electric Power Bulletin* annually. The bulletin to include (i) statistics and other data on generation and capacity by types of plants; (ii) transmission lines by length and voltage; (iii) consumption of fuels by types and quantities; (iv) efficiencies and load factors attained; (v) utilization by heavy and light industries and other categories of consumers; (vi) progress in rural electrification; (vii) accidents to life and property.

(c) Technical data relating to specific projects for generation and transmis-

⁴⁸ In co-ordination with project 37-08.

sion of electric power and significant details of projects, on request from interested countries.

GROUP 2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

33-02 *Rural electrification*

(s,t)

Authority: Committee on Industry and Trade, ninth session, 1957; Sub-Committee on Electric Power, sixth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Convening of a working party in conjunction with FAO on the use of wood poles for rural electrification. Assistance to the countries of the region in preparing their programmes of rural electrification with particular reference to the application of electricity in rural industries and farm use. TAA co-operation on specific schemes to be sought by the countries concerned.

33-03 *Study on thermal electric power plant*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Electric Power, sixth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: As a follow-up of the recommendation of the study group of electric power experts of the region who visited Europe, the United States and the Soviet Union in 1956, detailed studies will be undertaken on (i) steam boiler plant burning low-grade coal; (ii) economy resulting from the use of larger units and with high pressure and high temperature in steam power plants; (iii) improved practices of boiler maintenance.

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 Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: (a) Convening periodic working parties of experts from member countries to review the technical, economic and social problems of housing including basic problems of building materials; to recommend measures for the promotion of housing and the development of building and building materials industries; and to promote international co-operation in this regard in close collaboration 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, including the preparation of studies and other information media on technical, economic, and social problems of housing, basic problems of building materials, results of research, experimentation and pilot projects to develop build-

ing materials and construction techniques, designs of houses and community facilities, standardization of building components and aided self-help methods.

(d) Periodic review of the housing situation and housing and building programmes in the region, in relation to economic and social development.

34-02 *Regional housing centres*

(s,t)

Authority: Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: (a) Follow-up action to assist, as appropriate, the regional housing centres for the arid and humid tropical zones of the region in their various activities. To seek further TAA co-operation if required by the countries concerned and to co-operate with other interested agencies.

(b) To assist the regional housing centres' advisory committee with a view to strengthening the regional activities of the centres.

34-03 *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, fourteenth session, 1958.

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.

GROUP 3. OTHER PROJECTS

34-04 *The study of costs in building industry⁴⁹*

Authority: Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: A survey of building costs in the countries of the region. The study to include a comparative analysis of costs in the building industry in various countries of the region. The other aspects to be covered include:

- (a) Administrative and organizational arrangements;
- (b) Standards of accommodation;
- (c) Architectural design;
- (d) Structural design;
- (e) Cost of materials;
- (f) Rates of wages for labour in the building industry;
- (g) Capital and running cost of builders' equipment.

Preliminary study to be completed by December 1959 for the sixth session of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials.

⁴⁹ The previous title of the project "Development of building materials" has been changed in order to focus attention on the economic and related aspects of building industry.

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, and seventh session, 1957; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: (a) Iron and steel manufacturing industry—Continuing study of plans and problems of iron and steel industry and trade in ECAFE countries; dissemination of technical and economic information relating to such problems and training of personnel; promotion of intraregional and international co-operation and periodic publication of the *Iron and Steel Bulletin*. First Bulletin completed in June 1957. Next Bulletin to be issued in 1959.

(b) Engineering industries—Periodic review of the plans and problems of the light, medium and heavy engineering industries including foundries in the ECAFE region.

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, and seventh session, 1957; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: This will include information and material on ore beneficiation, new processes of iron and steel making, manufacture of electrodes and refractories, foundry techniques and techniques of scrap collection and preparation. First report completed in June 1957. Second report to be completed in 1959.

35-03 *Study of steel demand*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel, seventh session, 1957; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Periodic study of consumption trends and future demand for steel in countries of the ECAFE region. First report completed in June 1957. Second report to be completed in 1959.

GROUP 2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

35-04 (i) *Follow-up action on the study tour of iron and steel experts to Europe*

Authority: Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Report of the study tour to be considered by the Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel at its eighth session.

35-05 *Iron and steel specifications*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel, sixth session, 1955, and seventh session, 1957; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Study of possible methods of simplification and/or standardization of specifica-

tions for manufacture and use of iron and steel and their products. First report completed in June 1957. Next report to be completed in 1959.

6. Mineral resources development

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

36-01 *Regional geological, mineral and tectonic maps and related activities*

Authority: Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Preparation, review and revision of regional maps in co-operation with the International Geological Congress and the United Nations Cartographic Office and other expert working bodies of ECAFE. Follow-up action arising from the conclusions and recommendations of the Working Party of Senior Geologists with its broadened terms of reference.

36-02 *Regional mining development review*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, second session, 1956, and third session, 1957; Committee on Industry and Trade, ninth session, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Periodic review of current mining activities in the region including discoveries of new mineral deposits, development of new mines, installation and expansion of mineral processing plants, and economic aspects of mineral production. The review is to include statistics on mineral production both in quantity and value; also salient features such as better production methods developed in other regions. Earlier reports have reviewed progress from 1945 to 1956. The next report for 1957 to include a chapter on mineral trade.

36-03 (i) *Dissemination of information relating to methods of exploration, exploitation and processing of minerals, and technical studies on selected minerals*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, second session, 1956, and third session, 1957; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: (a) Dissemination of information on radio-active minerals, aerial survey methods, use of helicopters, and improvements in existing methods of exploration, exploitation and extraction of all minerals; and equipment used therefor. To hold a seminar on aerial survey methods and equipment, if required. Co-operation of TAA to be sought.

(b) Technical studies so far completed covered coal, iron ore, aluminium, sulphur, kaolin and ilmenite ore. Studies in respect of copper, lead, zinc to be undertaken in 1958-59. Studies on tungsten, tin and rare elements to follow.

(c) Dissemination of information and study on mineral conservation measures.

GROUP 2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

36-04 *Symposium on the Development of Petroleum Resources in the ECAFE Region*
(t)

Authority: Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, third session, 1957; Committee on Industry and Trade, ninth session, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Symposium to cover production, reserves, geologic setting, development possibilities, exploration status and methods, development programmes, oil mining legislation and technical manpower and equipment. Symposium to be held in 1958, proceedings to be published in 1959.

36-05 *Working Group of Experts on Mining Legislation*
(s,t)

Authority: Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: The report of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs is now before the countries of the region. The working group will pool experience in papers and discussions seeking to make a record of the effectiveness of various forms of legislation in promoting the further development and conservation of mineral resources. Co-operation of the ILO to be sought in regard to legislation on health and safety. Assistance of TAA and United Nations Office of Legal Affairs required.

36-06 *Study tour of geologists and mining experts from ECAFE region to the United States of America and Canada*
(t)

Authority: Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, second session, 1956; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: To arrange in co-operation with TAA and host countries concerned a tour for the study of current practices and processes and equipment used in the United States and Canada for prospecting, mining and extraction of minerals. Study tour to be undertaken in early 1959.

36-07 *Classification and utilization of coals of the region*

Authority: Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, third session, 1957; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, tenth session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Framing a draft classification of coals mined in the countries of the region, and their proper utilization. International exchange and laboratory investigation of coal samples to be promoted in co-operation with ECE.

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; Committee on Trade, first session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Review of trade and commercial policies of ECAFE countries, assistance to national trade promotion agencies by fur-

nishing 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 on export promotion techniques and practices of the countries of the region, presented to the Committee on Trade at its first session.

Report on current developments in trade and trade policies, presented to the Committee on Trade in January 1958; next report to be presented to the Committee on Trade at its second session.

Work on fairs and exhibitions 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; Committee on Trade, first session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

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; Committee on Trade, first session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Study on methods of expanding international trade with a view to removing obstacles to trade including those relating to transit trade of land-locked countries. Work to include study on trade in selected commodities and capital goods. Report on trade in minerals and mineral products to be undertaken as recommended by the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (third session), and to be submitted to the Committee on Trade at its second session.

Intra-regional trade: intra-regional trade promotion talks among interested member countries of the region to be convened as recommended by the Commission at its fourteenth session.

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; Committee on Trade, first session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

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.

First report, issued in November 1956; to be revised in 1958.

Report issued on the progress in simplification of import and export licensing procedures to the Committee on Trade, December 1957. Further report to be issued to the Committee on Trade at its second session.

Working Party of Experts on Customs Administration to be convened in 1958, with the assistance of interested international organizations, to formulate recommendations for the simplification of customs procedures and formalities affecting international trade.

37-05 *Market analysis*⁵⁰
(s)

Authority: Commission, seventh session, 1951; Sub-Committee on Trade, second session, 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade, ninth session, 1957; Committee on Trade, first session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Survey 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 and spice products to be completed early in 1958 and distributed to Governments for consideration by the Committee on Trade at its second session. Next study to deal with marketing of mineral products in conjunction with project 37-03.

37-06 *Organization of training courses in trade promotion*
(t)

Authority: Sub-Committee on Trade, second session, 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade, ninth session, 1957; Committee on Trade, first session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Secretariat proposals for organization of training courses in trade promotion submitted to the Sub-Committee on Trade in October-November 1956, and endorsed by the Commission at its thirteenth session in March 1957. In co-operation with TAA, regional seminars on trade promotion proposed to be organized in Japan in 1959, and in India in 1960, with host facilities to be provided by the two Governments.

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; Committee on Trade, first session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Promotion, in co-operation with the appropriate national and 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 in-

formation 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. In co-operation with the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs. Material being collected from Governments. Report to be submitted to the Committee on Trade at its second session.

37-08 *Domestic and export marketing of handicrafts*⁵¹
(t)

Authority: Commission, eleventh session, 1955; Sub-Committee on Trade, second session, 1956; Committee on Industry and Trade, ninth session, 1957; Committee on Trade, first session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Assistance to countries in the development of domestic and export marketing. In co-operation with TAA. Report on leather products completed and submitted to the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing (fifth meeting), 1957.

Report on marketing of products of canning and food preservation industry proposed to be submitted to the sixth session of the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing in 1959.

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; Committee on Trade, first session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

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 defined in the light of progress made by the countries of the region in this field. Material being collected from Governments. Report to be submitted to the Committee on Trade at its second session.

V. INLAND TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

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, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: (a) Collection, analysis and dissemination of information with regard to general transport problems, railways, highways and inland waterways;
(b) Library and film service;

⁵⁰ In co-ordination with project 11-07.

⁵¹ In co-ordination with project 32-02.

(c) Publication of a quarterly *Transport Bulletin*.

GROUP 2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

41-02 (f) *Co-ordination of transport*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee, first session, 1951; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Working Party to concentrate on the analysis of the principles and methods of co-operation of different forms of transport, statutorily or otherwise, in the countries of the region and in some outside the region. To be convened in September 1958.

Duration: 1958-1959.

In co-operation with TAA.

GROUP 3. OTHER PROJECTS

41-03 *Comparative studies of freight-rate structures in transport undertakings*

Authority: Inland Transport Committee, seventh session, 1958; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Studies of principles and methods of preparation of freight rates for different types of inland transport with special reference to cost of transport, adequate returns on capitalization and quality of service.

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, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: (i) Collection of information regarding results of research and experiments on bituminous road construction and maintenance from countries outside and within the ECAFE region.

(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 completed and to be considered by the Highway Sub-Committee at its fourth session.

(b) *Current methods of highway financing and administration*

Authority: Highway Sub-Committee, second session, resolutions 23 and 31, 1953; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

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.
Final report 1958.

GROUP 3. OTHER PROJECTS

42-02 *International highways*

Authority: Highway Sub-Committee, third session, resolution 32, 1955; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Study, review and recommendation 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.

C. INLAND WATERWAYS

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY
(see also project 41-01)

43-01 (f) *Improvement of inland waterway transport*

Authority: Inland Waterway Sub-Committee, fourth session, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: (a) Collection and dissemination of information regarding improved methods of river and canal conservancy for navigation, and 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 1959.

(b) Assistance to Governments, upon request, on their inland waterway transport projects, taking into account the need for a regionally co-ordinated approach.

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

GROUP 2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

43-02 (f) *Improved design and operation of craft*

Authority: Inland Waterway Sub-Committee, fourth session, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Demonstration projects on fast passenger craft;

(a) Wing boats;

Trials with hydrofoil-supported passenger craft in interested countries of the region, to demonstrate the feasibility and to determine the economy of passenger transport with this type of vessels on various waterways connecting important population centres.

(b) Other types of fast passenger craft.
Co-operation of TAA to be sought.

Proposed duration: 1958-1959.

43-03 *Model government organisation to deal with inland waterway transport and river and canal conservancy*

Authority: Inland Waterway Sub-Committee, second session, 1954; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

Description: Study of advantages and disadvantages of existing systems; recommendations of suitable structure and terms of reference for government organization, including the legislative aspects. A working party to be convened in 1958.

43-04 *Study tour*
(t)
Authority: Inland Waterway Sub-Committee, third session, 1955; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.
Description: Arranging for a team of experts from countries of the region to study modern methods and techniques in inland waterway transport and river and canal conservancy in the Soviet Union and, if possible, in the Danube basin.
Co-operation of TAA to be sought.
Tour to take place in 1959.

43-05 *Prototype coasting vessel*
(t)
Authority: Inland Waterway Sub-Committee, fourth session, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.
Description: Arrangement for formulation of specifications, design and tank-testing of coasting vessel suitable for countries of the region.
Proposed duration: 1958-1959.
Co-operation of TAA to be sought.

GROUP 3. OTHER PROJECTS

43-06 *Classification of inland waterways*
Authority: Inland Transport Committee, third session, 1954; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.
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.

43-07 *Water weed clearance*
(s)
Authority: Inland Waterway Sub-Committee, fourth session, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.
Description: Study of the possibilities of combating water weed, especially water hyacinth, in navigable waterways by various means including mechanical means, chemicals and herbivorous water animals; organization of a demonstration project to show the usefulness of the most promising methods.
Duration: two years.
Co-operation of TAA and/or FAO to be sought.

43-08 *Dredging of inland waterways*
Authority: Inland Waterway Sub-Committee, third session, 1955; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.
Description: Study of dredging methods and equipment suitable for use in inland waterways and inland ports.
Proposed 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 *Railway signalling in relation to speed, safety and increase in line capacity*
Authority: Railway Sub-Committee, fourth session, 1956; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

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 heavy costs involved in doubling of track.
Duration: two years.

44-02 *Repair and maintenance of rolling-stock in workshops* (s)

Authority: Railway Sub-Committee, second session, 1953; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.
Description: Comparative study of workshop procedures and practices with a view to improving workshop productivity and quality of output. Interim report completed. Further report to be considered by the Working Party of Mechanical Engineers proposed to be convened in 1958.
In co-operation with the ILO.
Duration: 1958-1959.

44-03 *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, fourteenth session, 1958.
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: 1958-1959.

44-04 *Design and maintenance of railway track with a view to introducing long welded rails and review of methods of welding and maintenance of long welded track*

Authority: Railway Sub-Committee, fifth session, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.
Description: Study of current methods of permanent way design and maintenance with a view to future installation of long welded rails, and review of techniques of welding and maintenance of long welded track.
Duration: 1958-1959.

GROUP 3. OTHER PROJECTS

44-05 *Comparative studies of railway administrations*

Authority: Railway Sub-Committee, fourth session, 1956; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.
Description: (a) Comparative study of the types of organization most suitable for the railways of the ECAFE region.
(b) To disseminate information on the management techniques in the field of railways.
Duration: 1958-1959.

44-06 *Engine utilization and running shed practices*

Authority: Railway Sub-Committee, fifth session, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.
Description: A comparative study of locomotive utilization and running shed practices and procedures with a view to making recommendations for improving locomotive utilization and availability and efficient working of running sheds.
Duration: two years.

E. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

GROUP 2. *Ad hoc* PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

45-01 *Special telecommunications studies* (s,t)

Authority: Inland Transport Committee, sixth session, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

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

A Working Party to be convened in co-operation with ITU and TAA, in 1959.

45-02 *Training of telecommunications personnel* (s)

Authority: Inland Transport Committee, sixth session, 1957; Commission, fourteenth session, 1958.

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

In co-operation with ITU.

Duration: 1958-1959.

ANNEXES

ANNEX I

List of representatives and observers at the fourteenth session of the commission

MEMBERS

Afghanistan

Representative: Mr. Abdul Hai Aziz

Alternates: Mr. Baqui Yusufzai, Mr. Ghulam D. Azizi

Australia

Representative: Mr. R. G. Casey

Deputy Representative: Mr. T. K. Critchley

Alternates: Mr. J. Plimsol, Mr. D. L. Anderson, Mr. W. Cairns, Mr. W. L. Morrison

Advisers: Mr. L. Barsdell, Mr. D. J. Horne, Mr. R. W. Law-Smith

Burma

Representative: U Sao Htun E

Alternates: Mr. James Barrington, U Zan Yin

Cambodia

Representative: Mr. Ty Kim Sour

Alternates: Mr. Sonn Voensai, Mr. Srin Samy, Mr. Nou Hach

Ceylon

Representative: Mr. P. W. William de Silva

Alternates: Mr. C. Abeysekera, Mr. J. R. Samaranayake, Mr. P. Wignaraja, Mr. W. T. I. Alagaratnam, Mr. D. B. Ellepola

China

Representative: Mr. Ching-men Chen

Alternates: Mr. William Shih-chi Wang, Mr. Shen-fu Chang, Mr. Walter Hwa Fei, Mr. Sherman Wang, Mr. Hsien-tsiu Chang, Mr. R. C. Chen, Mr. Min-jen Pu, Mr. Ko-tung Kuo, Mr. Shu-chin Yang

France

Representative: Mr. P. Abelin

Alternates: Mr. J. Negrier, Mr. E. Mayelle, Mr. J. Massenet, Mr. de la Bruchollerie, Mr. A. Savornin, Mr. Edin, Mr. J. Gruot, Mr. H. Fauville, Mr. Lemarechal, Mr. Lesel Cointet

India

Representative: Mr. Manubhai Shah

Alternates: Mr. P. R. Ramakrishnan, Mr. N. Subramanyam, Mr. A. C. Ramalingam

Members: Mr. B. K. Kochar, Mr. A. K. Dar, Mr. B. C. Roy, Mr. B. N. Swarup

Indonesia

Representative: Mr. Ismael M. Thajeb

Alternates: Mr. A. Soenartadirdja, Mr. Ph. J. Sigar, Mr. Suwondo Budiardjo, Mr. Godjali, Mr. Sudarno, Mr. Anwar Sonda

Secretary: Mr. T. Wasposito

Japan

Representative: Mr. Shinichi Shibusawa

Alternates: Mr. Masahiro Nisibori, Mr. Rokuro Sase, Mr. Junnosuke Hidaka

Advisers: Mr. Kenzo Sasamori, Mr. Kiichiro Kiriyama, Mr. Sadanobu Oda, Mr. Shigeo Higuchi, Mr. Minoru Hata, Mr. Teruhiko Egami

Experts: Mr. Shunzo Kawai, Mr. Shigeru Tokuhisa, Mr. Minoru Takeda, Mr. Koremoto Takahashi, Mr. Yoshinao Odaka, Mr. Yoshinobu Nagashima, Miss Miyoko Iida

Korea

Representative: Mr. Duk Shin Choi

Alternates: Mr. Tong Jin Park, Mr. Yong Ok Kang, Mr. Myung Won Paik

Laos

Representative: Mr. Phouvong Phimmason

Alternates: Mr. Oukeo Souvannavong, Mr. Tianethone Chantharasy, Mr. Say Vongsouthi, Mr. Khamtan Ratanavong

Malaya

Representative: Dato Abdul Razak bin Dato Hussein

Deputy Representative: Mr. Henry Hau-Shik Lee

Alternate: Mr. O. A. Spencer

Advisers: Mr. H. Fell, Inche Mohd. Ghazali b. Shafie, Inche Zaiton bin Ibrahim, Mr. I. D. Irvine, Mr. G. K. Rama Iyer, Mr. R. L. Akers, Mr. A. I. G. S. Robertson, Mr. Ow-Yang Hong Chiew, Che Mohamed bin Jamel, Che Abdul Rahman bin Hamidon, Mr. R. E. Pitt, Mr. W. Stubbs, Mr. A. J. D. C. Loch, Mr. W. D. Drysdale, Y. M. Raja Mohar bin Raja Badiozaman, Inche Ahmad bin Perang, Mr. J. H. Sumner, Y. M. Raja Zainal bin Raja Sulaiman, Mr. J. B. Alexander, Mr. Leong Pak Cheong, Mr. J. H. Harris, Inche Abdullah bin Mohd. Jussof, Mr. D. D. Bartlett

Nepal

Representative: Mr. Neera Raja Rajabhandary

Alternate: Mr. Vishnu Prasad Dhital

Netherlands

Representative: Mr. J. Vixseboxse

Alternate: Mr. B. van Eldik

Member: Mr. L. van Gorkom

New Zealand

Representative: Mr. Walter Nash

Alternates: Mr. R. G. Hampton, Mr. W. A. E. Green, Mr. W. B. Harland

Pakistan

Representative: Mr. G. A. Faruqi

Alternates: Mr. S. Saeed Jafri, Major A. A. Khan, Mr. S. Ibrahim

Thailand

Representative: His Excellency Mr. Sukich Nimmanheminda

Alternates: Mr. Sa-ard Hongsayonta, Mr. Boonrod Binson, Mr. Banyat Kulananan, Mr. Bundhit Kantabutra, Mr. Prasert Seni Wongse, Mr. Muang Seni Wongse Na Ayudhya

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Representative: Mr. Nikolai M. Firubin

Alternates: Mr. Boris M. Volkov, Mr. Alexander A. Okhotin, Mr. Kirill N. Plotnikov, Mr. Georgy P. Veliky, Mr. Sergaly E. Tolibekov, Mr. Grigoriy M. Prokhorov

Advisers: Mr. Andrey M. Timoshenko, Mr. Youri V. Filippov,
Mr. Evgueni V. Novikov
Experts: Mr. Alexei N. Mamine, Mr. Victor M. Lessiovski,
Mr. Dmitry A. Sokolov, Mr. Anatoly P. Mikchailov, Mr.
Vladimir A. Zharov, Mr. Ivan S. Andrienko

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Representative: Lord Carrington
Alternates: Mr. G. J. MacMahon, Mr. D. O. Henley, Mr. A. F.
Maddocks
Advisers: Mr. L. Bevan, Mr. W. R. George

United States of America

Representative: Mr. Homer Morrison Byington, Jr.
Alternate: Mr. Walter M. Kotschnig
Advisers: Mr. William W. Copeland, Mr. Walter King Davis,
Mr. William W. Diehl, Mr. Edward R. Fried, Mr. George
R. Jacobs, Mr. Davis A. Kearns-Preston, Mr. Francis L.
Mayer, Mr. Clyde R. McAvoy, Mr. Rufus Burr Smith

Viet-Nam

Representative: Mr. Tran-le-Quang
Alternates: Mr. Nguyen-Van-Khai, Mr. Ha-Duong-Buu

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Hong Kong

Representative: Mr. U. Tat Chee
Alternate: Mr. R. M. Hetherington

Singapore and British Borneo

Representative: Mr. J. M. Jumabhoy
Deputy Representative: Mr. O. H. R. Beadles
Alternates: Mr. A. R. G. Morrison, Mr. Orang Kaya Kaya
Datu Mustapha bin Datu Harun, Mr. Harry Chan Keng
Howe, Mr. S. Ramdas
Alternate Secretary: Mr. Lim Chong Yah

OTHER STATES

Belgium^a

Representative: Mr. R. Fenaux
Alternate: Mr. G. Jenebelly

Czechoslovakia^a

Representative: Mr. Jiri Nosek
Alternate: Mr. S. Dvorak

Denmark^a

Representative: Mr. Gunnar Seidenfaden

Hungary^a

Representative: Mr. Gyula Czigany
Alternate: Mr. Janos Loerincz

Italy^a

Representative: Mr. Guelfo Zamboni

^a Member of the United Nations, participating in a consultative capacity under paragraph 9 of the terms of reference of the Commission.

Poland^a

Representative: Mr. J. Katz-Suchy

Federal Republic of Germany^b

Representative: Mr. Max Spandau

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

World Health Organization (WHO)

Dr. W. W. Yung

International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (the Bank)

Mr. Martin Rosen

International Monetary Fund (the Fund)

Mr. Henry C. Murphy

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

Sir Alexander MacFarquhar

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Interim Commission of the International Trade Organization/General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (ICITO/GATT)

Mr. J. Royer

Colombo Plan Bureau for Technical Co-operation

Mr. R. H. Wade

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Category A

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

Mr. R. L. Parker, Mr. N. C. Mazumdar, Mr. Hideo Sato,
Mr. P. Maruthai Pillai

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU)

Inche Mohd. Yusuf bin Mohd. Noor, Mr. K. V. Thaver,
Mr. G. Mapara, Mr. M. P. Rajagopal, Mr. S. J. H. Zaidi,
Mr. V. M. N. Menon

International Co-operative Alliance (ICA)

Mr. K. Subramaniam, Mr. M. I. Nayar

World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU)

Mr. K. B. Panikkar, Mr. Nguyen Minh, Mr. Lam Nhut
Truong, Mr. Choi Hak Sen, Mr. Kim Yeng Ken

World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA)

Mr. T. Sivapragasam

World Veterans Federation (WVF)

Mr. Jacques Katel, Mr. Eligio Tavanlar

Category B

International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO)

Mr. A. K. Dar

^b Participating in a consultative capacity under Economic and Social Council resolution 617 (XXII) of 27 July 1956.

ANNEX II

Tentative calendar of meetings in 1958 and 1959

<i>1958*</i>		
<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Site</i>
1. FAO/ECAFE Centre on Policies to Support and Stabilize Agricultural Prices and Incomes in Asia and the Far East	21 March-3 April	New Delhi
2. Seminar on Regional Planning in Relation to Urbanization and Industrialization ^a	28 July-8 August	Tokyo
3. Working Party on Housing and Building Materials (fifth session)	13-19 August	Bangkok
4. Study Tour on Water Resources Development ^a	Open	—
5. Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (fourth session)	2-13 September	Bangkok
6. Working Party on Co-ordination of Transport ^a	23-30 September	Bangkok
7. Conference of Asian Statisticians (second session)	October-November	Bangkok
8. Highway Sub-Committee (fourth session)	18-24 November	Bangkok
9. Working Party on Customs Administration	25 November-1 December	Bangkok
10. Symposium on Development of Petroleum Resources in Asia and the Far East ^a	December	India
11. Working Party of Railway Mechanical Engineers	9-18 December	Open
12. Intraregional trade promotion talks	Open	Open
<i>1959</i>		
13. Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel (eighth session)	January	Open
14. Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (eleventh session)	22-29 January	Bangkok
15. Committee on Trade	3-10 February	Bangkok
16. Commission (fifteenth session)	9-20 March	Australia
17. FAO/ECAFE Technical Meeting on Agricultural Marketing	March	Open
18. Working Group of Experts on Techniques of Development Programming	April	Open
19. Study Tour of Asian Mining Experts to North America ^a	Open	—
20. ECAFE-TAA Regional Seminar on Trade Promotion ^a	April to May	Tokyo
21. Working Party on Telecommunications ^a	June	Tokyo
22. Inland Waterway Experts Study Tour ^a	June/July	Eastern Europe and USSR
23. ECAFE/FAO Working Party on Utilization of Wood Poles	July	Bangkok
24. Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing—Canning and Bottling of Fruits and Food—in co-operation with FAO	July	Open
25. Working Party of Senior Geologists on the Preparation of Regional Geological and Mineral Maps	August	Open
26. Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development	August	Open
27. ECAFE/FAO Meeting of Experts on Pulp and Paper Industry in the Far East ^a	September	Open
28. Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (fifth session)	September	Bangkok
29. ECAFE/BEA Working Party on Earth-Moving Operations ^a	October	Open
30. Joint ECAFE/TAA Seminar on Administrative and Financial Aspects of Industrial and Commercial Enterprises in the Public Sector ^a	October	Open
31. Conference of Asian Statisticians (third session)	November	Open
(a) Working Group of Experts on Survey Techniques and Sampling;		
(b) Working Group of Experts on Definition and Estimation of Capital Formation;		
(c) Working Group of Experts on Customs Nomenclature.		
32. Inland Waterway Sub-Committee (fifth session)	November	Open
33. Railway Sub-Committee (sixth session)	December	Open

* Meeting to be held after the Commission's fourteenth session.

^a Regional projects for which the assistance or co-operation of the Technical Assistance Administration is expected.

ANNEX III

List of publications and principal documents issued since the thirteenth session

A. PUBLICATIONS

MAJOR STUDIES (*printed*)

- Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East*, vol. VIII, Nos. 1-3 (May, August and November 1957) [English]
- Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1957*. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 58.II.F.1 [English] (vol. VIII, No. 4, of the *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East*, March 1958)
- Credit Problems of Small Farmers in Asia and the Far East*. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.2 (E/CN.11/455) [English/French]
- Mining Developments in Asia and the Far East, 1956*. Mineral Resources Development Series No. 8. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.4 (E/CN.11/459) [English]
- Survey of Mining Legislation, with Special Reference to Asia and the Far East*. Mineral Resources Development Series No. 9. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.5 (E/CN.11/462) [English]
- Electric Power in Asia and the Far East, 1951 to 1955*. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.6 (E/CN.11/458) [English]
- Uniform System of Buoys and Shore Marks for Inland Waterways in Asia and the Far East*. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.7 (E/CN.11/460) [English/French]
- Development of Water Resources in the Lower Mekong Basin*. Flood Control Series No. 12. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.8 (E/CN.11/457) [English/French]
- Convention Regarding the Measurement and Registration of Vessels Employed in Inland Navigation*. United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1957.II.F.9 (E/CN.11/461) [English/French]

PERIODICALS (*mimeographed*)

- Flood Control Journal, ST/ECAFE/SER.C/31-34
June 1957-March 1958 inclusive
- Trade Promotion News, ST/ECAFE/SER.H/60-64
February-December 1957 inclusive
- Transport Bulletin, ST/ECAFE/SER.E/24 and 25
June 1957 and October 1957
- Railway Statistics Bulletin, ST/ECAFE/SER.K/6, July 1957

B. PRINCIPAL DOCUMENTS

COMMISSION

- E/CN.11/453 Official records of the thirteenth session
- Fourteenth session*
- E/CN.11/456 Report of the Conference of Asian Statisticians (first session)
- E/CN.11/463/Rev.4 Agenda (fourteenth session)
- E/CN.11/464 Rules of procedure: note by the Executive Secretary
- E/CN.11/465 and Corr.1 Report of the Third Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development
- E/CN.11/466 Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- E/CN.11/467 UNESCO activities in 1957 and work plans for 1958 of interest to the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East

- E/CN.11/468 and Add.1 Maintenance of family levels of living: economic implications—Economic and Social Council resolution 663 (XXIV)
- E/CN.11/469 Information paper on technical assistance provided to countries and territories in the ECAFE region under the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance in Asia and the Far East, 1957
- E/CN.11/470 United Nations technical assistance in Asia and the Far East, 1957
- E/CN.11/471 and Corr.1 Activities in the field of flood control and water resources development
- TAA/AFE/3 United Nations Survey Mission: programme of studies and investigation for comprehensive development, lower Mekong basin
- E/CN.11/472 and Corr.1 Report of the Committee on Trade (first session) to the Commission (fourteenth session)
- E/CN.11/473 Activities of the International Labour Organisation during 1957 of special interest to Asia
- E/CN.11/474 and Add.1 Communication from the Government of Iran
- E/CN.11/475 Report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigation of the Lower Mekong Basin
- E/CN.11/476 and Corr.1 Report of the Inland Transport Committee (seventh session) to the Commission (fourteenth session)
- E/CN.11/477
(E/CN.11/I&NR/7) Report of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (tenth session) to the Commission (fourteenth session)
- E/CN.11/478 Communication from the Government of Pakistan
- E/CN.11/NGO/20 Statement of the World Federation of Trade Unions on the report of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (third session)
- E/CN.11/NGO/21
and Corr.1 Statement by the World Veterans Federation on the question of the economic situation in Asia
- E/CN.11/NGO/22 Statement of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions on the economic situation in Asia
- E/CN.11/NGO/23 Memorandum of the World Federation of Trade Unions on the economic situation in Asia
- E/CN.11/L.51 Report of the Second Workshop on Problems of Budget Re-classification and Management
- E/CN.11/L.52 Report of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (third session) to the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (fourteenth session)

^a Published in the *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East*, vol. VIII, No. 3, November 1957.

E/CN.11/L.56	Activities of the ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division in 1957
E/CN.11/L.57	Tentative programme of work and priorities—Studies on population growth and economic development
E/CN.11/L.58	An exploratory study of social expenditures in India
E/CN.11/L.54/Rev.1	Programme of work and priorities

COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Tenth session

E/CN.11/I&NR/1 (E/CN.11/I&NR/ Sub.2/2)	Report of the Sub-Committee on Iron and Steel (seventh session) to the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (tenth session)
E/CN.11/I&NR/2	Report of the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing (fifth session) to the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (tenth session)
E/CN.11/I&NR/4	Report of the Working Party of Senior Geologists on the preparation of regional geological and mineral maps for Asia and the Far East
E/CN.11/I&NR/5 (E/CN.11/I&NR/ Sub.3/5)	Report of the third session of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development
E/CN.11/I&NR/6 and Corr.1 (E/CN.11/I&NR/ Sub.1/3)	Report of the Sub-Committee on Electric Power (sixth session) to the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (tenth session)
E/CN.11/I&NR/L.2 and Corr.1	Progress and problems of industrialization in the region
E/CN.11/I&NR/L.3	Group study tour of Asian iron and steel experts to Europe (Summary of main findings and recommendations of the study group)

SUB-COMMITTEE ON ELECTRIC POWER

Sixth session

E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.1/2 and Corr.1	Report of the Working Party on Assessment of Hydroelectric Potentials
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.1/L.2	Training of technical personnel for development and operation of electric power systems
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.1/L.3	Type of trained personnel necessary for assessment of hydroelectric potentials
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.1/L.4	Report of the ECAFE/TAA Study Tour of Electric Power Experts of the ECAFE region to Europe and North America ^b

WORKING PARTY OF EXPERTS ON ASSESSMENT OF HYDROELECTRIC POTENTIALS

I&NR/Sub.1/HPWP/1	Methods of assessment of hydroelectric potentials
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I&NR/Sub.1/HPWP/5	Topics suggested for discussion on methods of assessment of hydroelectric potentials
I&NR/Sub.1/HPWP/16	Points for consideration in formulating recommendations for the methods of assessment of four categories of hydroelectric potentials

SUB-COMMITTEE ON IRON AND STEEL

Seventh session

E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.1	Review of the plans and problems of the iron and steel industry and allied industries in the ECAFE region
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.2	Steel transforming industries in the ECAFE region
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.3	Asian steel consumption trends and future demands
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.4	Re-rolling mills
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.5	Iron and steel specifications—standardization and simplification
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.6	Processes of iron manufacture without coking coal and their applicability in ECAFE countries
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.7	Continuous casting of steel
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.8	Training of technical personnel for the iron and steel industry
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.9	Techniques to be studied during the proposed group visit of Asian iron and steel experts to Europe

SUB-COMMITTEE ON MINERAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

Third session

E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.3/2	Proposal for convening of a symposium on the development of petroleum resources of Asia and the Far East
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.3/3	Training of technical personnel for the development of mineral resources in countries of the ECAFE region
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.3/4	Radio-active mineral deposits in Asia and the Far East
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.3/L.1	Activities of the Coal Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.3/L.2	Aerial surveys as an aid to mineral exploration—their usefulness and limitations
E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.3/L.3	Assistance provided by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration in the field of mineral resources development in the ECAFE region

WORKING PARTY ON SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES AND HANDICRAFT MARKETING

Fifth session

E/CN.11/I&NR/CIWP.5/L.2 and Add.1 and Corr.1	Promotion and co-ordination of research and experiments in the leather industry in the ECAFE region
E/CN.11/I&NR/CIWP.5/L.3	Some economic aspects of the tanning and leather industry

^b This report is published by TAA as ST/TAA/SER.C/18 and addendum under the title "The Electric Power Industry in Europe, the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics".

- E/CN.11/I&NR/CIWP.5/L.4 Needs and problems of trained personnel in the field of small-scale industries
- E/CN.11/I&NR/CIWP.5/L.5 Productivity in the leather industry and Corr.1
- E/CN.11/I&NR/CIWP.5/L.7 Technical assistance activities of the United Nations and specialized agencies in the field of small-scale industries in Asia and the Far East in 1956
- E/CN.11/I&NR/CIWP.5/L.9 Marketing of hides and skins, leather and leather products and Corr.1

WORKING PARTY OF SENIOR GEOLOGISTS ON THE PREPARATION OF REGIONAL AND MINERAL MAPS FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

Third meeting

- I&NR/GMWP.3/1 Report of the Director of the Geological Survey Department, British Territories in Borneo, on experience gained from the application of air photographs to geological mapping
- I&NR/GMWP.3/2 Report of the Director of the Geological Survey of Japan on the ground rules for the preparation of regional mineral maps
- I&NR/GMWP.3/3 Report of the President, Commission for the Geological Map of the World, International Geological Congress
- I&NR/GMWP.3/8 Report of the co-ordinator on the preparation of the regional geological map for Asia and the Far East
- I&NR/GMWP.3/9 Preparation of oil and natural gas map for the region

COMMITTEE ON TRADE

First session

- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.1 Regional Seminars on Trade Promotion
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.2 Intraregional trade promotion talks: proposals of the Government of Japan
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.3 The proposed European Common Market and the free trade area in Europe
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.4 Regional Training Centre for trade promotion personnel
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.5 Working Party on Customs Administration
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.6 and Corr.1 Review of import and export licensing policies and procedures
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.7 Export promotion techniques and practices
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.8 Intraregional trade promotion talks: Experience of the Economic Commission for Europe
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.9 Multilateral compensation procedures organized under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Europe
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.10 and Corr.1 Current developments in trade and trade policies
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.11 Trade in minerals and mineral products

TRADE/16

The possible impact of the European Economic Community, in particular the Common Market, upon world trade

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Seventh session

- E/CN.11/TRANS/131 Library service
- E/CN.11/TRANS/132 Report of the Inland Waterway Sub-Committee (fourth session) to the Inland Transport Committee (seventh session)
- E/CN.11/TRANS/133 Report of the Railway Sub-Committee (fifth session) to the Inland Transport Committee (seventh session)
- E/CN.11/TRANS/L.10 Refrigerator inland transport (progress report)
- E/CN.11/TRANS/L.11 Co-ordination of transport (progress report)
- E/CN.11/TRANS/L.12 Assistance provided by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration in the field of inland transport in 1957
- E/CN.11/TRANS/L.13 Statistical study of performance of transport systems with a view to obtaining maximum efficiency and full utilization of all available resources (progress report)
- E/CN.11/TRANS/L.14 Telecommunications: progress report
- E/CN.11/TRANS/L.15 Activities in the field of highways: progress report
- E/CN.11/TRANS/L.17 Mechanization of accounts in transport undertakings: preliminary report
- TRANS/98 Telecommunications: memorandum submitted by the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union
- TRANS/102 Labour aspects of mechanization of accounts in transport undertakings
- TRANS/NGO/1 Statement by the International Union of Official Travel Organizations on co-operation with ECAFE secretariat in the development of tourist and international traffic

RAILWAY SUB-COMMITTEE

Fifth session

- E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.1/47 Report of the joint ECAFE/FAO Working Party on Railway Track (Wooden) Sleepers
- E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.1/L.5 Incidence of railway accidents and measures for prevention
- E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.1/L.6 Diesel railcars: final report by the Expert Group
- E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.1/L.7 Diesel locomotives: final report by the Expert Group
- E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.1/L.8 Railway track sleepers: wooden sleepers
- TRANS/Sub.1/9 Training facilities for railway officials of the region: progress report
- TRANS/Sub.1/10 Training Centre for Railway Operating and Signalling Officials: progress report
- TRANS/Sub.1/11 Improved turn-round of rolling-stock

TRANS/Sub.1/13 Repairs and maintenance of rolling-stock in workshops

HIGHWAY SUB-COMMITTEE

E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/28 Bituminous construction terminology
 E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/29 Report of Seminar on Highway Safety
 E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/30 Report of Seminar on Low-cost Road
 E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/HS/L.1 Engineering and traffic aspects of highway safety: highway terminology

INLAND WATERWAY SUB-COMMITTEE

Fourth session

E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.3/17 Report of the Working Party on Inland Ports
 E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.3/L.2 Current inland waterway developments
 E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.3/L.3 Classification of inland waterways and Corr.1
 E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.3/L.4 Progress report on the Regional Marine Diesel Training Centre
 E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.3/L.5 Government organization to deal with inland waterway transport and river and canal conservancy

ANNEX IV

Statute and rules of procedure of the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin

STATUTE

as adopted at the meeting on 17 September 1957 of the Preparatory Committee of the four Governments and amended on 31 October 1957 at the first session of the Committee for Co-ordination and approved by the participating Governments

CHAPTER I. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin (hereinafter called the Committee) is established by the Governments of Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and the Republic of Viet-Nam (hereinafter called the participating Governments), in response to the decision taken by the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (hereinafter called the Commission) at its thirteenth session. By this decision, reported in paragraph 277 of the Commission's annual report for the period 15 February 1956 to 28 March 1957, the Commission endorsed the wish of the participating Governments that secretariat studies relating to the development of the lower Mekong basin, namely, the area of the drainage basin of the Mekong river situated in the territory of the participating Governments, be continued jointly with the participating Governments. The participating Governments have set up the Committee to perform the functions contained in the present Statute.

CHAPTER II. ORGANIZATION

Article 1

1. The Committee shall be composed of four members.
2. Each participating Government will appoint one member with plenipotentiary authority and such alternates, experts and advisers as it desires.

Article 2

The chairmanship of the Committee shall be held in turn by the members of the Committee, in the alphabetical order of the member countries. Each member shall hold office for one year.

E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.3/L.6 Dredging of inland waterways
 E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.3/L.7 Progress report on introduction of the uniform system of buoys and shore marks
 E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.3/L.8 Progress report on demonstration pilot projects for improved design and operation of craft, including towing methods and use of pusher craft
 TRANS/Sub.3/IPWP/1 Some data on inland ports in the USSR
 TRANS/Sub.3/IPWP/2 Inland ports in certain countries of the ECAFE region
 TRANS/Sub.3/IPWP/3 Inland ports in Nigeria

THIRD REGIONAL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE ON WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

E/CN.11/WRD/Conf.3/L.1 Manual labour and its more effective use in competition with machines for earthwork in the ECAFE region
 E/CN.11/WRD/Conf.3/L.2 Construction of water resources development projects: government agency versus private contractor
 E/CN.11/WRD/Conf.3/L.3 Major deficiencies in hydrologic data and Corr.1
 E/CN.11/WRD/Conf.3/L.4 Current programmes for water resources development

CHAPTER III. CO-OPERATION WITH THE SECRETARIAT OF THE COMMISSION

Article 3

In accordance with the decision of the Commission at its thirteenth session, the secretariat of the Commission shall co-operate with the Committee in the performance of the latter's functions.

CHAPTER IV. FUNCTIONS

Article 4

The functions of the Committee are to promote, co-ordinate, supervise and control the planning and investigation of water resources development projects in the lower Mekong basin. To these ends the Committee may:

- (a) Prepare and submit to participating Governments plans for carrying out co-ordinated research, study and investigation;
- (b) Make requests on behalf of the participating Governments for special financial and technical assistance and receive and administer separately such financial and technical assistance as may be offered under the technical assistance programme of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and friendly Governments;^a
- (c) Draw up and recommend to participating Governments criteria for the use of the water of the main river for the purpose of water resources development.

CHAPTER V. SESSIONS

Article 5

1. Subject to the provisions of this Statute, the Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure.
2. Meetings of the Committee shall be attended by all participating countries.

^a It is understood that this paragraph will become operative as soon as all of the four Governments concerned have individually notified the Executive Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board that they have expressly authorized the Committee to make requests on their behalf for technical assistance relating to the development of the lower Mekong basin.

3. Decisions of the Committee shall be unanimous.

4. The Executive Secretary of the Commission or his representative may at any meeting make either oral or written statements concerning any questions under consideration.

CHAPTER VI. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 6

The Committee shall submit reports to participating Governments and annually to the Commission. Such report, or summaries thereof, may be made available to other Governments and international organizations on the recommendations of the Committee.

Article 7

The Committee may invite representatives of Governments and of specialized agencies to attend meetings of the Committee in the capacity of observers.

Article 8

1. It is understood that, while in all technical matters which are within the competence of this Committee, the participating Governments shall act through this Committee, the stipulations contained in this Statute shall not in any way affect, supersede or modify any of the agreements which are presently in force or which may be hereafter concluded between any of the interested Governments relating to the Mekong river.

2. Amendments to the present Statute which may be proposed by any participating Government shall be examined by the Committee and shall take effect when approved by all participating Governments.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

as adopted by the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin at its first session

CHAPTER I. SESSIONS

Rule 1

The ordinary sessions of the Committee shall be held regularly three times a year. In addition, special meetings may be convened at any time on the request of any one or more of the members of the Committee or of the Executive Secretary of the Commission.

Rule 2

The Executive Secretary of the Commission shall, at least four weeks before the commencement of a meeting, send out invitations to the meeting, together with copies of the provisional agenda and of the basic relevant documents.

Rule 3

All meetings shall be closed meetings unless the Committee decides otherwise.

CHAPTER II. CO-OPERATION WITH THE SECRETARIAT OF THE COMMISSION

Rule 4

The Committee may request the Executive Secretary of the Commission to make the necessary arrangements for consultation, including the preparation of documents, the holding of meetings and the drafting of records.

CHAPTER III. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Rule 5

In the event of any matter arising which has not been foreseen by the present rules, the pertinent rules of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East shall be applied, provided they are deemed suitable for the purposes of the Committee.

ANNEX V

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), and revised in consequence of General Assembly resolution 1134 (XII) of 17 September 1957

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, Hong Kong, the Federation of Malaya, 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, the Federation of Malaya, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United 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 Singapore and British Borneo (i.e., Singapore, North Borneo, Brunei and Sarawak).

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 organizations 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 B (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 VI

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, eleventh and fourteenth sessions of the Commission (E/CN.11/2/Rev.13)

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 consultative 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 requests 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.

Rule 41

After the voting has commenced, no representative shall interrupt voting except on a point of order in connexion with the actual conduct of the voting. Brief statements by members consisting solely of explanations of their votes may be permitted by the Chairman, if he deems it necessary, before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed.

CHAPTER VIII. LANGUAGES

Rule 42

English and French shall be the working languages of the Commission.

Rule 43

Speeches made in one of the working languages shall be interpreted into the other working language.

CHAPTER IX. RECORDS

Rule 44

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 45

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 46

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 47

As soon as possible the text of all reports, resolutions, recommendations 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 48

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 49

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 50

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 51

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 52

(a) The Commission and its subsidiary bodies may consult with organizations 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 53

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 51 (d) shall not apply in this case.

CHAPTER XII. SUB-COMMISSIONS, SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND COMMITTEES

Rule 54

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 55

The Commission may establish such committees and sub-committees as it deems necessary to assist it in carrying out its tasks.

Rule 56

Sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and committees, sub-committees and working parties shall adopt their own rules of procedure unless otherwise decided by the Commission.

CHAPTER XIII. REPORTS

Rule 57

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 58

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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