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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST**

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(22 March 1960 — 20 March 1961)

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS : THIRTY-SECOND SESSION
SUPPLEMENT No. 2**

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NOTE

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

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UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS
THIRTY-SECOND SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 2

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

Annual report to the Economic and Social Council, covering the period
22 March 1960 to 20 March 1961 inclusive

Introduction

1. This annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE), which covers the period 22 March 1960 to 20 March 1961, was adopted unanimously by the Commission at its 250th meeting on 20 March 1961. It is submitted for the consideration of the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-second 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 SIXTEENTH SESSION

2. During the period under review, the Commission concentrated on encouraging regional co-operation for the solution of the major problems of economic and social development, and, in particular, on promoting the formulation and implementation, by member Governments, of measures and policies which strengthen the economic and social relations of member countries, both among themselves and with other countries of the world.

3. 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

4. The subsidiary bodies of the Commission took into account Economic and Social Council resolutions 664 (XXIV), 693 (XXVI), 694 (XXVI), 742 (XXVIII), 751 (XXIX), 777 (XXX), 783 (XXX), 791 (XXX), 792 (XXX), 793 (XXX) and 801 (XXX), which emphasize the need for concerted action on major problems of the economic and social development of under-developed countries. In doing so, the subsidiary bodies continued to concentrate on projects of regional significance and on work likely to promote regional co-operation.

1. INDUSTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

5. The following list gives, in chronological order, the dates of the sessions (together with the names of officers) held during the period under review by the Committee

on Industry and Natural Resources and by bodies reporting to that Committee.

Working Party on Small-Scale Industries (sixth session),
24-31 March 1960

Chairman: Mr. H. S. Sen (Singapore);

First Vice-Chairman: Mr. I. S. Macaspac (Philippines);

Second Vice-Chairman: Mr. S. Izzan (Indonesia).

¹ The previous activities of the Commission and of its subsidiary organs have been reported to the Economic and Social Council in the following documents: Report of the first session, 16-25 June 1947, and report of the Committee of the Whole, 10-17 July 1947 (*Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifth Session, Supplement No. 6* (E/452; E/491)); report of the first and second sessions, 16-25 June 1947 and 24 November - 6 December 1947 (*ibid.*, *Sixth Session, Supplement No. 8* (E/606 and Corr.1)); interim report of the third session, 1-12 June 1948 (*ibid.*, *Seventh Session, Supplement No. 12* (E/839)); interim report of the fourth session, 29 November - 11 December 1948 (*ibid.*, *Eighth Session, Supplement No. 3* (E/1088)); report of the fourth session and the Committee of the Whole, 1 July 1948 - 5 April 1949 (*ibid.*, *Ninth Session, Supplement No. 13* (E/1329 and Add.1)); and in annual reports to the Economic and Social Council at its eleventh, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, seventeenth, twentieth, twenty-second, twenty-fourth, twenty-sixth, twenty-eighth and thirtieth sessions (*ibid.*, *Eleventh Session, Supplement 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); *ibid.*, *Twenty-Sixth Session, Supplement No. 2* (E/3102); *ibid.*, *Twenty-Eighth Session, Supplement No. 2* (E/3214); *ibid.*, *Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 2* (E/3340)).

Working Party of Senior Geologists (fourth session),
20-26 April 1960

Chairman: Mr. K. Kaneko (Japan);

First Vice-Chairman: Mr. D. N. Wadia (India);

Second Vice-Chairman: Mr. N. S. Fernandez (Philippines).

Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development
(fourth session), 26 April - 4 May 1960

Chairman: Mr. H. Kurushima (Japan);

First Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Siddiqui (Pakistan);

Second Vice-Chairman: Mr. S. Ranoekoesoemo (Indonesia).

Conference on Pulp and Paper Development in Asia
and the Far East, 17-31 October 1960

Chairman: Mr. T. Shimoda (Japan);

First Vice-Chairman: Mr. Anondo (Indonesia);

Second Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. P. Ramiro (Philippines).

Working Party on Housing and Building Materials
(sixth session), 21-29 November 1960

Chairman: Mr. P. Srichamara (Thailand);

First Vice-Chairman: Mr. R. P. Andal (Philippines);

Second Vice-Chairman: Mr. F. Hayakawa (Japan).

Sub-Committee on Metals and Engineering (ninth
session), 14-21 December 1960

Chairman: Mr. S. Bhoothalingam (India);

First Vice-Chairman: Mr. S. A. Shareef (Pakistan);

Second Vice-Chairman: Mr. T. Yasuhara (Japan).

Committee on Industry and Natural Resources
(thirteenth session), 26 January - 3 February 1961

Chairman: Mr. P. Srichamara (Thailand);

First Vice-Chairman: Mr. D. Sandilya (India);

Second Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. E. Buenafe (Philippines).

WORKING PARTY ON SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES

6. The Working Party on Small-scale Industries, at its sixth session, held at Singapore in March 1960, studied the economic and technical aspects of fruit and food canning, and reviewed the problems of the food preservation industries of the region with a view to mitigating the effects of seasonal surpluses and shortages in supplies of food and fruits.

Canning and bottling

7. The Working Party noted that the major difficulty encountered by the canning and bottling industries was the cost of containers. Tinplate was one of the key materials in the canning industry, but tinplate requirements in each country were so small that it would not be possible to establish a plant of an economic size on a national basis. The Working Party therefore recommended the establishment of a modern electrolytic or hot-dipped tinplate plant that could serve the common needs of the south-east Asian countries.

Food preservation

8. The Working Party noted that traditional methods of food preservation on a cottage scale (fermentation, smoking, sun-drying and salting) were still used in almost all countries. The families which engaged in food preservation lacked modern technical knowledge. Fruit and vegetables grew well throughout the region and offered scope for the development of preservation industries in a co-ordinated manner. The Working Party recommended that the secretariat should organize a panel of experts to assist the ECAFE countries in co-ordinating their national plans for the development of the food preservation industries.

Research and extension

9. The Working Party noted that, although applied research on processing of food and fruits was being conducted in many countries, very little research was being done on the traditional methods of drying, salting, fermentation and pickling. The co-ordination of research and its extension to industry was inadequate. The industry felt that research was not geared to the solution of its practical problems. The Working Party therefore recommended that a regional research co-ordination centre should be established to collect and disseminate information, co-ordinate research, and organize specialized technical seminars and exchanges of visits by plant executives and operatives.

WORKING PARTY OF SENIOR GEOLOGISTS

10. At its fourth session, held at Tokyo, Japan, in April 1960, the Working Party of Senior Geologists noted the increasing attention paid by countries to geological surveying and mineral prospecting work, the survey of underground water resources, and the application of geology in civil engineering projects. The staff of the geological survey departments in most countries of the region had been increased. However, for the region as a whole, the existing number of qualified geologists was still far from sufficient, and lack of adequate geological knowledge hampered the development of mineral industries in particular and industrial development in general.

Preparation of regional maps

11. The Working Party noted that the regional geological map of Asia and the Far East was being printed and suggested that, as soon as the printed copies became available, the geological survey departments of countries of the region should examine those portions of the map relating to their territories, and transmit to the ECAFE secretariat new information and modifications for incorporation in the second edition of the map. It also emphasized the importance of systematic nation-wide geological mapping by the countries of the region on a continuing basis. The Working Party expressed the hope that the Director of the Geological Survey of India would continue as the Co-ordinator for future revisions.

12. The Working Party expected that the oil and natural gas map for Asia and the Far East would be printed before 1962, in time for the second Symposium

on the Development of Petroleum Resources of Asia and the Far East, to be held in that year. As regards the regional mineral distribution map, the Co-ordinator (Director of the Geological Survey of India) and the Joint Co-ordinator (Director of the Geological Survey of Japan) hoped to complete it during 1961. The Working Party suggested that geological survey departments in the region should commence preparation of metallogenic maps of their respective countries, and send them to the Joint Co-ordinator. It recognized the need for a regional tectonic map and suggested that, resources permitting, countries should prepare and transmit to the ECAFE secretariat tectonic maps of their respective territories for incorporation in the regional map, which would be on a scale of 1 : 5,000,000. The Working Party appointed the Director of Geological Survey of the Federation of Malaya as Co-ordinator for the regional tectonic map.

Regional institutes

13. The Working Party took note of several proposals regarding the possible establishment of a regional geological survey centre, a regional petroleum institute, and a training centre for aerial survey personnel. The Governments of India, Iran and Pakistan offered to provide host facilities for the regional petroleum institute and the Government of Thailand expressed interest in having the regional geological survey centre established at Bangkok.

Joint geological survey of border areas

14. The Working Party noted that the joint geological survey of border areas between the Federation of Malaya and Thailand by the geologists of those two countries had been completed, that a survey of the lower Mekong basin would be undertaken by Cambodia, Laos, Republic of Viet-Nam and Thailand, and that a joint geological study of border areas between Burma and Thailand had been proposed. It recommended that, in the interest of developing regional co-operation, the ECAFE secretariat should continue to stimulate such surveys and, if required, assist the countries concerned. The Working Party also suggested the possibility of conducting a joint geological survey of underground water resources in arid and semi-arid areas of the region, using international and bilateral aid programmes, if necessary.

Training facilities

15. The countries of the region still suffered from shortages of geologists, hydrogeologists and other specialists in the field of geological survey and mineral prospecting. The Working Party therefore requested the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), in co-operation with ECAFE, to study the facilities available in the region for training such specialists.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON MINERAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

16. At its fourth session held at Tokyo, Japan, in April-May 1960, the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development devoted special attention to

mining developments in the region, especially those relating to exploration, aerial surveys, prospecting for radioactive minerals, trade in minerals, mineral statistics and training of personnel. It also examined the situation in regard to copper, lead and zinc ore resources. It considered the report of the Study Group of Geologists and Mining Engineers from Asia and the Far East on their visit to Canada and the United States (I&NR/34), and the report of the Seminar on Aerial Survey Methods and Equipment (E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.3/L.10). It decided to convene, and prepared an agenda for, a second Symposium on the Development of Petroleum Resources in Asia and the Far East in 1962.

Mining developments in the region

17. The Sub-Committee noted that all countries of the region were furnishing information for the annual review of *Mining Developments in Asia and the Far East* published by the secretariat. The Sub-Committee suggested inclusion in the review of information and data on production in terms of tonnage as well as value, production per square kilometre and *per caput*, total production value in relation to total national income, production in appropriate sub-units in each country, and estimates of reserves of each mineral deposit, indicating the basis used for computation purposes.

Report of the Study Group of Geologists and Mining Engineers from Asia and the Far East on their visit to Canada and the United States

18. Reviewing the report of the Study Group, the Sub-Committee recommended that a seminar on geochemical prospecting methods and equipment should be convened. Industrial countries, both in and outside the region, agreed to send senior experts to the seminar to serve as lecturers and discussion leaders. The Sub-Committee recommended that a study tour of petroleum geologists and geophysicists to some countries advanced in petroleum resources development should be organized in the future.

Trade in minerals and mineral products

19. The Sub-Committee realized that the problem of developing trade in minerals was a complicated one, calling for the co-operation of consumers and producers, and noted the efforts being made in other international forums to solve this problem. The value of regional co-operation and increasing intraregional trade were emphasized. In that connexion, the Sub-Committee was assured that Japan would import its requirements as much as possible from ECAFE countries. The Sub-Committee felt that the importing countries should import not only crude or raw minerals, but also processed minerals which could be supplied competitively. Long-term trade arrangements were considered to be one of the most helpful means of increasing and stabilizing trade in mineral products.

Mineral statistics

20. The Sub-Committee noted that the Conference of Asian Statisticians had considered the question of mineral

statistics at its second and third sessions and noted that, following the 1960-61 World Census of Population and the World Census of Agriculture, the United Nations would sponsor industrial censuses (which would include mining) in about 1963, which had been formally designated as the year of the World Programme of Basic Industrial Inquiries. The Statistical Office of the United Nations was engaged in the preparation of standards and definitions which would indicate the characteristics of individual commodities (including minerals) to be measured, as well as the units of measurement.

Report of the United Nations Seminar on Aerial Survey Methods and Equipment

21. The Sub-Committee noted that the United Nations Seminar on Aerial Survey Methods and Equipment, held in February 1960, sponsored jointly by ECAFE and the Cartography Section of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, had examined regional problems and international co-operation in this field. The Sub-Committee emphasized the importance of using aerial survey techniques in carrying out geological studies and mineral prospecting economically and speedily. Since the shortage of qualified technicians in the various branches of aerial survey constituted an acute problem for a number of countries in the region, the Sub-Committee suggested the provision of fellowships for advanced studies in countries where the technique had already been brought to a high level, and the establishment of a training centre within the region, primarily for the training of investigators already in service, but also of qualified students.

22. Since the Seminar had proved useful as a means of promoting broad exchanges of up-to-date technical information, not only to countries of the region, but also to the technically advanced countries which had participated in it, the Sub-Committee recommended that a second United Nations Seminar on Aerial Survey Methods and Equipment, accompanied by an exhibition and practical demonstrations of instruments and equipment, should be convened.

Uranium and other radioactive minerals

23. The Sub-Committee reviewed the activities of countries of the region in the exploration and development of uranium and other radioactive mineral deposits, and decided that information on the development of such deposits in the ECAFE region should be included in the secretariat's annual review of *Mining Developments in Asia and the Far East*.

Copper, lead and zinc resources

24. The Sub-Committee felt that, although the region as a whole had large deposits of these metal ores, the present level of production was low, owing largely to the insufficient attention paid in the past to the search for, and development of, these resources. It noted the considerable progress made by Japan, which was now the leading producer of copper, lead and zinc in the region, and the intensive efforts made by India in the exploration and development of non-ferrous mineral deposits.

Bauxite resources

25. The Sub-Committee considered a proposal to convene a symposium on the development of bauxite resources in the region. It requested the secretariat, in the first instance, to collect data on the geological conditions governing the formation of bauxite resources, on known reserves and possible bauxite-bearing areas, on the present state of development and on the technical and economic aspects of production, marketing and processing of bauxite in countries of the region.

Petroleum resources

26. The Sub-Committee suggested convening a second Symposium on the Development of Petroleum Resources in Asia and the Far East, which should review the implementation of the recommendations made by the first Symposium and the progress made by countries in the development of their petroleum resources since that time. The Symposium should also study the geology of petroleum deposits; petroleum exploration techniques and methods; the production, storage, transportation and utilization of natural gas; the economics of petroleum exploration, production and distribution; and technical training; it should likewise survey existing facilities and future needs in the ECAFE region. The Symposium should also review United Nations assistance in the field of petroleum resources development.

27. The Sub-Committee noted the offers by the Governments of India, Indonesia, Iran and Pakistan to provide host facilities for the regional petroleum institute proposed by the first Symposium. It recommended that the ECAFE secretariat should approach the Governments concerned to ascertain the exact nature of the facilities they could offer, make a survey of these facilities, suggest the scope of the institute or institutes, and report its findings and suggestions to member countries as soon as possible.

Regional co-operation

28. The Sub-Committee recognized that the question of regional co-operation required continuing attention on the part of the countries. It recommended that the desirability of establishing a regional geological survey institute should be examined, and that an aerial survey methods centre should be set up as soon as possible, at first on a temporary basis; the Centre should emphasize training in interpretation techniques and in compilation and research.

CONFERENCE ON PULP AND PAPER DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

29. The Conference on Pulp and Paper Development in Asia and the Far East was held at Tokyo in October 1960, under the joint sponsorship of ECAFE, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations (BTAO). It discussed trends in pulp and paper production, consumption and trade in the ECAFE region, recent technical advances, and future technology in pulp and paper manufacture. The Conference made an

appraisal of the region's fibrous raw materials resources, their economic availability and other prerequisites for pulp and paper production. Other subjects considered by the Conference included the technical and economic aspects of large-scale pulp, paper and newsprint production, collection and utilization of waste paper, the hand-made paper industry, small-scale industrial pulp and paper production, pulp and paper equipment manufacture in the region, development prospects and investment needs, and customs and tariff policies in the region.

30. The Conference concluded that the region possessed adequate resources of fibrous raw materials, particularly bamboo, bagasse, conifers and broad-leaved trees, to sustain a substantial expansion of the region's paper industry. It emphasized the responsibility of governments in the region for the conservation and, where necessary, for the development of these resources. It urged all governments of the region to review their forest policies and to initiate measures to ensure an adequate supply of raw materials.

31. The Conference discussed two basic technical problems, namely, how to make fuller use of the region's resources of short-fibred raw materials, and the impact of modern techniques on the planning of new pulp and paper mills in the region. The Conference emphasized that quality standards and specifications should not, in all cases, be patterned on those which had been developed on the basis of long-fibred pulps and should not be enforced until considerable experience had been gained by a country. Modern techniques were stressed and it was felt that they should be employed in new mills. Small, but efficient, pulp and paper mills could be set up in the region.

32. The Conference examined the availability of wood, bamboo, bagasse, straw, grasses and other possible fibrous raw materials. Adequate resources of bamboo were available for large-scale expansion of pulp production in southern Asia and continental southeastern Asia. It felt that bamboo from artificial plantations might prove even cheaper than that from natural stands. Bagasse was likely to be the cheapest short-fibred material available in large quantities in most countries of the region. A considerable expansion of bagasse pulping was foreseen.

33. The Conference noted that most countries had sufficient supplies of the various chemicals required in the manufacture of pulp, paper and paperboard to meet their present and future requirements. The recovery of chemicals from spent liquors of digestion was discussed. Research work was at present under way with a view to the development of processes and small plants (of 10-15 tons daily capacity) for the recovery of chemicals and heat from spent liquors in small units. The installation of such small recovery plants was likely to be economically feasible. The Conference emphasized the possibility of producing groundwood-type and high-strength pulps.

34. The Conference noted that present consumption of newsprint in many of the countries was low, but rising rapidly. It discussed the possibility of using indigenous and non-conventional fibrous raw materials for the production of newsprint. Certain modern pulping

processes allowed the economic production of groundwood-type pulps from a wide variety of broad-leaved woods. The Conference further concluded that, in countries where the newsprint market was small, the aim of self-sufficiency in the domestic production of newsprint was not desirable from the point of view of the economic size of a newsprint plant.

35. The Conference noted the importance of waste recovery. The direct re-use of waste paper, without processing, for wrapping purposes should not be encouraged. The development of local manufacture of cardboard was feasible in countries which had an adequate supply of waste paper.

36. The Conference considered the role of the hand-made paper industry in providing part-time or full-time employment. Governments should assist this type of industry through research and financing. It emphasized that the tools and the techniques used in the hand-made paper industry should be rapidly improved.

37. The Conference noted that there were no hard and fast rules governing the economic size of a small-scale mill. The advantages of small-scale operations were utilization of local fibrous raw materials, sale of end products locally, lower distribution costs, ready adjustment to local market requirements, the need for only a small number of highly trained technical personnel and skilled labour, relatively small capital requirements, and the use of domestically made machinery. In areas where no pulp or paper mill existed, it would be well to start with a small-scale plant. Small pulp and paper mills were particularly suitable where raw materials such as straw, waste paper, rags and grasses were available in only limited quantities. The Conference took note of many technological developments which could make manufacture on a small scale both feasible and economic.

38. The Conference emphasized the possibility of establishing, in some countries of the region, plants to manufacture equipment for this industry. It recommended that countries of the region, where circumstances warranted, should start with simple items.

39. The Conference estimated that an investment of \$4,500 million would be needed up to 1975 to achieve an expansion in capacity sufficient to meet the rising paper needs of the region. This clearly warranted the early development of a pulp and paper equipment manufacturing industry in the region. The Conference believed that substantial participation by foreign capital would be required, since, as a growing industry, pulp and paper offered a steady and expanding market; foreign capital could also bring in the necessary knowledge and managerial skill.

40. The Conference considered that liberal tariff and trade policies should be adopted by the countries of the region in respect of certain categories of paper, such as newsprint, book paper and certain special industrial papers and boards, required for educational and cultural programmes. The expansion of domestic manufacture would be facilitated by low tariffs on equipment and on the imported key production items — namely, chemicals, mill stores and, in some cases, fibrous materials, including pulp. Assistance to new industry in the form of tariff

concessions, subsidies and tax exemptions, was desirable, but such measures should always be accompanied by vigorous and continuous government scrutiny of operating and marketing costs.

WORKING PARTY ON HOUSING AND BUILDING MATERIALS

41. At its sixth session, held at Bangkok, Thailand, in November 1960, the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials reviewed the current housing situation in the region, measures for reducing building costs, the report on the Study Tour of Housing and Building Materials Experts from Asia and the Far East to Europe in June-July 1960 (E/CN.11/I&NR/HBWP.6/L.4) and the activities of the two Regional Housing Centres. It decided to convene a Seminar on Community Facilities in relation to housing in 1962.

The housing situation

42. The Working Party noted that sufficiently high priority had not been given to housing by most of the countries in their national development plans. Countries had been unable to cope with the backlog and meet replacement needs in the housing field. At the same time, population growth and urbanization had created an additional demand for housing. Many countries did not have special housing departments or ministries, and there were very few financial institutions to help in financing housing for low and medium-income groups. Owing to the low level of incomes there was a large gap between social and economic rents and subsidies were necessary for the housing of low-income groups. Keeping in view the difficulties and the limited resources of governments, the Working Party recommended to the countries of the region that (a) special housing and town and country planning ministries or departments should be established in governments to deal with housing on a comprehensive basis; (b) in accelerating the construction programme, community facilities such as water supply, drainage and roads should be provided along with housing; (c) special consideration should be given to reducing housing densities in urban areas; (d) the cost of land should be reduced; (e) non-profit housing societies and financial institutions should be established; and (f) government guarantees or insurance for housing loans should be introduced to increase private construction by middle income groups.

Building costs

43. The Working Party considered a secretariat study on building costs in the ECAFE region (E/CN.11/I&NR/HBWP.6/L.2). It felt that similar studies on costs should be undertaken in individual countries of the region, and that there should be periodic reviews of the progress made in reducing building costs. The Regional Housing Centres should help in this work.

Report on the Study Tour of Housing and Building Materials Experts to Europe

44. The Working Party reviewed the report of the Study Tour of Housing and Building Materials Experts

to Europe, sponsored by BTAO and ECAFE, in co-operation with the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the host countries — namely, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. It specially commended the following recommendations of the Study Tour to the Governments in the region : (a) the early establishment, in Governments, of a housing and town and country planning ministry or department; (b) the organization of co-operatives, non-profit and free housing societies through private initiative; (c) the encouragement of small savings for housing construction; (d) the improvement in site organization and pre-planning; (e) the rationalization of building by-laws; (f) the better utilization of the results of research; and (g) the establishment of national centres for the collection, collation and dissemination of technical information, and for the exhibition of building materials and components.

Regional Housing Centres

45. The Working Party considered the reports of the second and third meetings of the Advisory Committee of the two Regional Housing Centres at New Delhi and Bandung (E/CN.11/I&NR/HBWP.6/L.1 and L.7) and the progress reports of the Directors of the Centres. It noted that sixteen member and associate member countries had appointed liaison officers, in compliance with a recommendation made at its fifth session, and that ten liaison officers had sent country reports to the Directors of the Centres. It endorsed the recommendation of the Advisory Committee that the secretariat should prepare and circulate a standard form for these reports by the liaison officers, in order to ensure uniformity and proper coverage of information. The Working Party suggested that the Directors of the two Centres should send out newsletters periodically to various technical authorities interested in housing, giving a brief account of their activities and of the technical literature published by the Centres.

Low-cost school buildings

46. The Working Party noted the activities of UNESCO in the field of low-cost school buildings, and endorsed a recommendation that a School Building Design Institute should be established by UNESCO at the Regional Housing Centre at Bandung. Since the region had two major climatic zones, the Working Party felt that a second institute might be required at a later date to design school buildings for dry and hot climates.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON METALS AND ENGINEERING

47. At its ninth session, held at Rourkela, India, in December 1960, the Sub-Committee reviewed trends in iron and steel production and consumption, and examined problems relating to the development of aluminium production and fabrication industries, foundries, machine tool industries, shipbuilding and repair industries, and general engineering industries in the region; it also considered the question of training technical personnel.

Iron and steel

48. The Sub-Committee recommended that steps should be taken to increase the range and volume of trade in raw materials among the countries of the ECAFE region, with a view to the development of this industry. As the demand for steel products consisted principally of light merchant sections, the Sub-Committee recommended that a beginning should be made with the installation of small merchant mills if an integrated iron and steel plant was not immediately feasible. However, larger mills could be put up jointly by two or more countries for the production of light structurals which were necessary for the industrial development of these countries.

Standardization: adoption of metric system

49. The Sub-Committee felt that standard specifications and sections would greatly facilitate intraregional trade. It recommended that all countries in the region should have national standards institutions. It also recommended that the countries of the ECAFE region should adopt the metric system for weights and measures in connexion with standards, specifications and trade.

Aluminium production and fabrication industries

50. The Sub-Committee felt that the bauxite-producing countries of the region should explore the economic possibilities of establishing alumina plants after making the necessary surveys of market and other local conditions, and taking into account the availability of power. It might be possible for countries of the region having cheap electric power to start aluminium smelting, in co-operation with countries which possessed the bauxite and alumina but not adequate resources for the production of cheap power. The Sub-Committee further considered that those countries which had no bauxite resources or did not produce any aluminium metal might begin with a fabrication industry based on imported aluminium.

Foundry industry

51. The Sub-Committee suggested that those countries in the region which were at present planning to produce pig iron on a small scale should take into consideration the pig iron required not only for the manufacture of steel, but also that needed for such consumer goods as cast iron pipes and builders' supplies. Since foundry workers took a relatively long time to train, the Sub-Committee recommended that a special training course should be arranged for a group of workers from several countries. Offers were made by several developed countries to assist in setting up a central demonstration and training centre which could undertake research, train skilled workers and provide instructions in quality control.

Machine tool industry

52. The Sub-Committee noted that the present capacity for manufacturing machine tools in most of the countries of the region was limited. It recommended that a group of experts from industrialized countries should visit the ECAFE countries at their request to

assist in the planning and development of machine tool industries.

Shipbuilding industries

53. The Sub-Committee emphasized that the establishment and development of shipbuilding and ship-repairing activities in the countries should be compatible with the growth of general engineering industries, and that shipbuilding and ship-repairing activities should develop in stages. Too rapid a development might lead to difficulties. It recommended that a survey should be made of the existing shipbuilding yards and information collected in respect of their capacities for building wooden and steel ships. Since the requirements of ECAFE countries were similar, it would be desirable to standardize the types and sizes of barges, river vessels, fishing vessels and coastal ships. ECAFE countries requiring financial and technical assistance for the establishment of shipbuilding yards might explore possibilities of collaboration with advanced shipbuilding countries in order to obtain technical assistance, equipment, and training facilities for engineers, managers, foremen and other personnel.

COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

54. The Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, at its thirteenth session, held at Bangkok, Thailand, in January-February 1961, reviewed the progress and problems of industrialization including industrial productivity and research and the manufacture of industrial machinery and equipment in the region. It considered the work of its subsidiary bodies and of the secretariat and the programme of work and priorities; it also examined, in the light of Commission resolution 31 (XVI), methods of promoting regional and international co-operation in industrial development.²

Industrialization

55. The Committee noted that, for the region as a whole, industrial development in 1959-60 had recorded a high rate of growth. In most ECAFE countries, the range of production had been diversified. Mining industries had benefited from the expanding demand for mineral raw materials in world markets. The greatest progress had been made in basic metals and in industries manufacturing metal products and machinery, chemicals, fertilizers, cement, paper and paper products. However, there remained a great disparity in the region between a few industrially advanced countries and others, particularly the smaller ones, which had just embarked on industrialization. The contribution of the region as a whole to world output of manufactured goods remained small, and *per caput* production very low. In view of the rapid population growth and the urgent need to raise levels of living, the Committee stressed the desirability of national and international efforts to accelerate industrial development in the countries of the region.

² For action taken by the Commission on the report of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources at its seventeenth session, see paragraphs 342-352.

56. The Committee noted the emphasis being placed by countries on perspective planning, which involved difficult policy decisions in respect of dispersal of industries and selection of industrial sites, the choice between labour-intensive and capital-intensive industries, the integration of large and small enterprises, and the co-ordination of the public and private sectors. The Committee stressed the need for co-ordinated industrial and agricultural (including forestry) development, as emphasized in the joint "ECAFE/FAO Study of Timber Trends and Prospects in the Asia-Pacific Region" (E/CN.11/I&NR/L.23 and Add.1). It suggested that future secretariat studies should analyse the administrative and operational problems of industrial development, including those relating to the organization of investment institutes, technical advisory services, technological and research facilities and machinery for co-ordinating foreign assistance. The secretariat should follow up such studies by rendering direct advice to countries at their request.

57. The Committee stressed the importance, for both public and private enterprises, of ploughing back profits into industry, of improving the general investment climate through foreign investment guaranty systems and international tax agreements, and of formulating long-term policies to facilitate joint venture arrangements between domestic and foreign manufacturers. Member countries outside the region and Japan, which had recently established an Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund to promote the economic development of overseas countries, offered to extend long-term credits and technical assistance to the countries of the region.

58. The Committee expressed its appreciation of the assistance provided by BTAO and the Special Fund to the countries of the region in the development of their industries and natural resources. Several countries acknowledged the advisory services rendered by the secretariat in connexion with their project evaluation and industrial possibilities surveys. The Committee felt that, in the light of General Assembly resolution 1518 (XV) on the decentralization of United Nations social and economic activities, the secretariat should continue to provide such advisory services to countries at their request to the fullest extent within available staff resources. It noted that an expert group was preparing a report on techniques of industrial planning with particular reference to cost data, and suggested that a symposium on location of industries and a seminar on chemical industries should be organized by ECAFE.

Industrial productivity

59. The Committee stressed the need to raise productivity in large-scale industries as well as in small workshops and agriculture and noted the technical and financial assistance provided by the United Nations, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and other agencies in this field. It recommended that those countries which had not established national productivity centres should do so, with the help of ECAFE, the ILO, and the Special Fund, as necessary. ECAFE might co-ordinate the work done in this field by various national institutions. In the light of experience gained with such national centres, the countries could formulate proposals

for the establishment of a regional organization which would tackle problems of a regional nature. The Committee noted that an Asian Productivity Organization was being formed. It decided to consider problems of productivity at each of its future sessions.

Industrial research

60. The Committee noted that industrial research in most countries of the region suffered from lack of funds, qualified personnel, and laboratory equipment and facilities. It welcomed the offers made by several countries, particularly Australia, France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, to assist the countries of the region in the development of industrial research.

61. The Committee requested the secretariat to compile, in co-operation with UNESCO, directories of research institutes serving medium and large-scale industries, with a view to facilitating the interchange of the results of research between the countries and avoiding duplication of effort. It further requested the secretariat to disseminate technical information and the results of research, to convene a seminar of research workers, to organize exchanges of visits between scientists in the region, to promote the regional use of national research training facilities, and to organize associations of research institutes of countries of the region.

Geological survey and prospecting

62. The Committee noted that a joint geological survey of the Malayan-Thai border areas had been carried out by the Federation of Malaya and Thailand and that Indonesia proposed to conduct similar surveys with neighbouring countries. Such joint aerial and geological surveys, in addition to promoting international co-operation, were economical, particularly as they ensured maximum utilization of the limited technical facilities and personnel at the disposal of the countries concerned.

63. The Committee appreciated the offer of the Government of Thailand to serve as host and to provide land for a proposed geological survey centre for southeastern Asia. The Governments of India and Japan had offered assistance in the establishment of such a centre. The Committee requested the secretariat to prepare a draft scheme for the centre. It noted that pilot courses in aerial survey methods for ECAFE countries would be organized in 1961, and recommended that a seminar on geochemical prospecting methods and equipment should be convened.

64. The Committee noted the publication of the geological map of Asia and the Far East and the arrangements being made for other regional maps, and requested the United Nations to assist in financing the preparation and printing of such maps.

Mineral resources development

65. The Committee, in reviewing the report of the fourth session of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (E/CN.11/I&NR/25), noted the desire of the countries of the region to develop their

petroleum resources speedily and recommended that the United Nations should assist them in this task. The Committee accepted the invitation of the Government of Iran to hold the second Symposium on the Development of Petroleum Resources of Asia and the Far East in 1962 at Teheran. It endorsed the proposed agenda and suggested that the Symposium need not be precluded from considering the economic aspects of recent petroleum refining techniques, the industrial aspects of petroleum production and petroleum mining legislation.

66. The Committee requested the secretariat to make a survey of the facilities offered by the Governments of India, Indonesia, Iran and Pakistan, for a regional petroleum institute for Asia and the Far East, and to report its findings to member governments. It noted that existing research and training facilities in Iran could be used immediately for regional purposes.

Metal and engineering industries

67. The Committee endorsed the recommendations contained in the report of the ninth session of the Sub-Committee on Metals and Engineering (E/CN.11/I&NR/30) and, in particular, supported the proposal to convene a seminar on iron and steel manufacturing techniques and their economic implications. It further emphasized that the bauxite-exporting countries of the region should undertake a careful investigation of all the technical and economic aspects before deciding on the establishment of alumina plants, as recommended by the Sub-Committee.

68. The Committee recommended that countries should start by installing small merchant mills based on imported billets. While recognizing the importance of general engineering industries to economic development, the Committee suggested that countries should adopt a policy of progressive or phased manufacture, and endorsed the recommendation for the formation of a panel of experts to make a comprehensive survey and to assist the ECAFE countries in drawing up a co-ordinated programme for the development of engineering industries in the region. The Committee considered that, in the early stages of industrial development, considerable possibilities existed in most ECAFE countries for the manufacture of general-purpose metal and wood-working machines, machines for processing agricultural products, machinery for other consumer goods industries and replacement parts for industrial machinery. It expressed appreciation of the offer made by the United Kingdom to provide assistance in this field.

69. The Committee endorsed the recommendation of the Sub-Committee that the countries should adopt the metric system, and evolve uniform regional standards, within the framework of global standards, for the metal and engineering industries.

Pulp and paper industry

70. The Committee endorsed the report and recommendations of the Conference on Pulp and Paper Development in Asia and the Far East (E/CN.11/I&NR/28), held at Tokyo, Japan, in October 1960, and sponsored jointly by ECAFE, BTAO and FAO. It observed that paper

requirements in Asia and the Far East, which were likely to rise by 11 million tons by 1975, would call for a considerable expansion of the paper industry in the region, and that such expansion could be supported by the large resources of fibrous raw materials, particularly bamboo, bagasse, conifers and broad-leaved wood species, available locally. The Committee noted that bamboo from artificial plantations and sugar cane bagasse were the cheapest raw materials. Several countries offered to provide technical assistance in the development of fast-growing wood species suitable for the production of newsprint. The Committee also suggested that the possibility of increasing newsprint production by using indigenous non-conventional fibrous raw materials should be explored. Small pulp and paper mills were particularly suited to areas having limited supplies of raw materials, such as straw, waste paper, rags and grasses. Some countries could also manufacture the equipment for such small units.

71. Several paper and pulp manufacturing countries offered assistance in implementing the pulp and paper projects which required participation of foreign capital. The Committee requested the secretariat, in co-operation with FAO and UNESCO, to strengthen and co-ordinate the pulp and paper programmes of the countries of the region.

Small-scale industries

72. The Committee endorsed the recommendations contained in the report of the sixth session of the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries (E/CN.11/I&NR/23), concerning the development of food preservation industries in the countries of the region. It stressed that small units should adopt mechanization and improve their manufacturing techniques and processes, and that production as between small- and large-scale units should be of a complementary nature. It welcomed the offers of assistance by Japan, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States of America to the countries of the region in the development of small-scale industries, including the food preservation industry.

Housing and building materials

73. The Committee endorsed the report of the sixth session of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials (E/CN.11/I&NR/29), and stressed the need for integrated planning in rural and urban areas to meet the increasing demand for housing. It recommended that the private sector should be encouraged by governments through tax concessions and the provision of developed land. In order to avoid wasteful use of resources, national authorities should establish suitable structural and architectural norms. It endorsed a proposal to hold a seminar on community facilities in relation to housing in 1962. It requested the secretariat to continue its studies on building costs.

74. The Committee took note of the report of the Study Tour of Housing and Building Materials Experts to Europe (E/CN.11/HBWP.6/L.4) and stressed the need for a proper evaluation of the benefits derived by the participating countries from such group visits.

75. The Committee noted the work done by the two Regional Housing Centres, and the plans of UNESCO to establish, in 1961, a School Building Design Institute at Bandung. The Committee noted that a United Nations mission, consisting of representatives of the ILO, FAO, UNESCO and WHO, would evaluate self-help methods and practices in the ECAFE region.

Regional co-operation

76. The Committee reviewed the joint industrial and mineral resources development projects which had been, or were being, implemented by the countries of the region, or the feasibility of which was under study. It stressed that well-conceived joint projects could ensure better utilization of raw materials and financial resources and achieve economies of larger-scale production and specialization. Such joint projects would be of particular benefit to the smaller countries of the region. Promotion of co-operation among the countries of the region in the industrial field would also expand intraregional trade. The Committee stressed that regional projects should supplement, and not supersede, national projects, particularly in the case of consumer goods or simpler types of producer goods industries. However, in the case of basic industries, such as iron and steel, industrial machinery, heavy chemicals, and pulp and paper, for which economies of scale were important, two or more countries should establish joint projects after thorough economic and technical investigations. The establishment of such joint industries would require agreement between the countries concerned on investments, management control, pricing policy and market-sharing. As a first step towards promoting co-operation in industrial development, the countries should exchange information on their national industrial projects and plans, pool their technical services and develop joint training facilities.

77. The Committee noted the co-operation already achieved between countries of the region in the preparation of regional geological and other related maps, in carrying out joint geological surveys of border areas (such as those between the Federation of Malaya and Thailand, between Burma and Thailand, and between British Borneo and Indonesia), in co-ordinating aerial survey programmes, in implementing electric power supply projects (such as those between the Federation of Malaya and Singapore, between North Borneo and Sarawak, and between India and Nepal), and in the work of the Regional Housing Centres in India and Indonesia. It noted the proposals for a study of the integrated industrial and mineral resources development of the lower Mekong basin, a joint geological survey of underground water resources, and the establishment of regional training and research institutes, and welcomed the offer of technical assistance from countries both within and outside the region for the implementation of these projects.

78. The Committee noted that long-term contracts between producers and consumers of minerals, such as those concluded between India and Japan, and between the Federation of Malaya and Japan, helped producers to modernize their mining equipment and to make long-

term production plans, and assured consumers of a steady supply of raw materials. It noted the offer of Japan to extend further such forms of co-operation with other countries of the region.

79. The Committee felt that, in carrying out regional projects, the governments concerned should give priority to industrial possibility studies and surveys of their natural resources as well as to pre-investment surveys, and should then undertake a joint examination of specific forms of co-operation. For this purpose, the secretariat, in co-operation with the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, the Special Fund and other appropriate international agencies, should provide the necessary assistance.

80. The Committee considered that the technical "know-how" needed for industrialization could be acquired by the countries through inter-governmental or private joint venture agreements. It noted that, in the case of private enterprise, most agreements for transferring foreign technical "know-how" provided for equity participation and managerial services. The Committee stressed that equity participation by foreign capital should be such that it served national interests, and that countries desiring to attract foreign capital and technical assistance should adopt non-discriminatory policies, and flexible regulations on, for example, renewal of contracts.

2. INTERNATIONAL TRADE

81. During the period under review, the following meetings were held at Bangkok, Thailand :

Working Party on Customs Administration (second session), 10-18 November 1960

Chairman: Luang Bisuchana Banijlak (Thailand);

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

Second Vice-Chairman: Mr. Lam-Van-Hai (Republic of Viet-Nam).

Intraregional Trade Promotion Talks (third series),³ 5-14 January 1961

Committee on Trade (fourth session), 17-25 January 1961

Chairman: Luang Bisuchana Banijlak (Thailand);

First Vice-Chairman: Mr. I. A. Khan (Pakistan);

Second Vice-Chairman: Mr. T. Urabe (Japan).

WORKING PARTY ON CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION

82. At its second session held in November 1960, the Working Party on Customs Administration considered the question of preparing an ECAFE code of recommended customs procedures, as well as problems concerning the role of customs brokers and customs clearing agents, and measures to promote co-operation among countries of the region in the field of customs administration. It also reviewed the steps taken by member governments to implement the recommendations formulated at

³ The Executive Secretary acted as Chairman at the opening and closing plenary meetings; no officers were required during the talks.

its first session relating to : (a) administration of import, export and exchange control procedures, and measures for simplifying these, (b) documentary requirements and scope for their simplification, (c) customs procedures relating to the examination, testing, classification, detention and bonding of goods, and (d) customs formalities and procedures in respect of business men and tourists. A photographic exhibition of ingenious methods of smuggling was held simultaneously with the session.

ECAFE Code of Recommended Customs Procedures

83. The Working Party formulated its specific recommendations in the form of a Code containing forty-one provisions. This procedure was adopted in order to give these recommendations a permanent character, to enable the Working Party periodically to review the progress made in their implementation, and to enable governments of the region to simplify and improve their customs administrations and harmonize their customs procedures. The Working Party stressed that the ECAFE Code of Recommended Customs Procedures was not mandatory; however, a member government which accepted the recommendations contained in the Code undertook an obligation to give effect to them and, while the Code was not intended to replace or supersede any existing code of national customs, laws and regulations, those recommendations in the Code that were accepted by member governments should be implemented through the revision of their existing laws and regulations.

84. The Working Party requested member governments to notify the Executive Secretary, within six months, of their acceptance of, including their reservations, if any, on any specific provisions of the Code. Amendments or additional provisions to the Code could be made by general agreement of the member countries.

Customs brokers and customs clearing agents

85. The useful services rendered by customs brokers and clearing agents in facilitating the clearance of goods were recognized by the Working Party. However, it was not necessary to confine the clearance of all goods to customs brokers and clearing agents and, in fact, no such provision existed in any customs regulations of the countries of the region. The Working Party also adopted a number of recommendations on general procedures relating to applications and fees for licences; place of validity, renewal and other aspects of licences; on customs brokers and clearing agents, and various aspects of their operations and on the obligations of customs authorities concerning the protection of customs clearing agents.

Co-operation between countries of the region in customs administration

86. The Working Party considered measures for co-operation between countries of the region under four categories—namely, (a) possibilities of agreement between groups of countries, especially contiguous countries, on freer movement of goods and passengers, (b) possibilities of agreement on co-operation in preventing smuggling

and in law enforcement, (c) possibilities of agreement concerning frontier facilities, and (d) possibilities of co-operation in the exchange and training of staff.

87. The Working Party recommended that the countries of the region should adopt co-operative measures to prevent smuggling, under-invoicing, false statements and the suppression of facts in customs documents as well as the violation of import, export and exchange control regulations, as such practices were harmful to the economy of countries and obstructed the smooth flow of trade.

88. The Working Party requested the secretariat to compile a list of existing multilateral international conventions and agreements on freer movement of goods and passengers and to circulate it, together with the texts, to member countries. It emphasized that the countries of the region should adopt : (i) the International Convention to Facilitate the Importation of Commercial Samples and Advertising Material, which came into force on 20 November 1955, (ii) the code of Standard Practices for Consular Formalities signed in December 1952 at Geneva and (iii) the GATT recommendation regarding Standard Practices for Documentary Requirements for the Importation of Goods, of December 1952.

89. The Working Party made recommendations concerning regulations on transit trade that might be included in bilateral agreements between contiguous countries, and requested the countries of the region to adopt measures designed to facilitate transit trade and the freer movement of passengers.

90. The Working Party noted that the Convention and Statute on Freedom of Transit, signed at Barcelona on 20 April 1921, formed the basis of most transit agreements; it therefore suggested that countries which were not signatories of that Statute should bear in mind, when negotiating bilateral agreements, the principles it set forth, as well as the principles of the Havana Charter (which reaffirmed the provisions of the Barcelona Statute), and article V of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which followed closely the provisions of the Barcelona Convention.

91. The Working Party requested the secretariat to examine the way in which the suggestion of the United Nations Division for Public Administration for the establishment of a regional research and training centre in customs administration should be implemented. As a first step, it suggested that a survey should be undertaken of existing facilities for the training of staff in customs administration in the countries of the region.

INTRAREGIONAL TRADE PROMOTION TALKS

92. The third series of Intraregional Trade Promotion Talks was held in January 1961. Thirteen member countries of the region, namely, Burma, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Pakistan, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Republic of Viet-Nam, Sarawak and Thailand participated in the Talks. The Talks consisted of one opening plenary session, seventy-six bilateral talks, five group discussions, one meeting of heads of

delegations and a closing plenary session. As in the past, no records were kept, and all bilateral talks were held *in camera*. Each delegation submitted an oral report to the Executive Secretary on the results achieved.

93. The secretariat, apart from preparing the agenda and schedules for the bilateral talks and group discussions, circulated in advance a number of documents containing background information on stabilization of commodity prices, regional co-operation, long-term trade agreements and intraregional trade statistics. Most delegations were headed by officials at the policy-making level, and included representatives of trade and industry.

94. Group discussions were held on the following subjects: co-operation between ECAFE countries for the promotion of tourism; measures for the stabilization of pepper prices; possibilities of regional trade co-operation, including reduction of trade restrictions and holding of trade fairs; measures for the stabilization of markets and the prices of primary commodities; and establishment of joint industries and joint mineral development projects. As a result of the group discussion on pepper prices, the Executive Secretary was requested to convene, at an early date, a meeting of experts from producing countries of the ECAFE region to consider measures for the stabilization of pepper prices.

95. Some governments reported on the specific results achieved as a direct consequence of the previous series of Talks; trade in some commodities had been expanded, certain impediments to intraregional trade had been reduced or eliminated, a number of trade missions had been sent by ECAFE countries to others, and a better understanding had been achieved of each other's trade problems. During the Talks, the participants explored, on an informal basis, ways and means of promoting regional co-operation in the field of trade and joint ventures among the countries of the region. The participants recognized the need for follow-up action in this respect.

COMMITTEE ON TRADE

96. The Committee on Trade, at its fourth session, held at Bangkok in January 1961, discussed the trade and trade policies of the countries of the region, developments relating to the European Economic Community (EEC), the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), and problems of commercial arbitration, international trade fairs, marketing of jute and jute products and customs administration. In particular it examined the scope for greater trade co-operation amongst the countries of the ECAFE region.⁴

97. The Committee noted the upward trend in the trade of the ECAFE region in 1959-1960. The decline in the unit value of imports combined with a moderate rise in the unit price of exports contributed to an improvement in the region's terms of trade. Basic difficulties, such as long-term stagnation in export earnings, shortage of

foreign exchange and fluctuations in the export prices of primary products still remained the major concern of the countries of the region. The Committee noted the measures taken by various countries to liberalize trade controls, although many countries had to gear import policy to development requirements.

98. The Committee endorsed the report of the second session of the Working Party on Customs Administration (E/CN.11/TRADE/L.40). In adopting the ECAFE Code of Recommended Customs Procedures drawn up by the Working Party, the Committee noted that the Code was neither mandatory nor intended to replace existing national customs laws and regulations. Member countries might stipulate that their acceptance excluded one or more specific provisions in the Code.

99. The Committee considered that the recommendations of the Working Party on mutual administrative assistance relating to law enforcement and to the prevention of smuggling, to customs brokers and clearing agents, to transit facilities for the trade of land-locked countries, and to exchange and training of staff, would considerably advance regional co-operation in the field of customs administration. The question of establishing a regional training and research centre in customs administration deserved careful examination, taking into account the facilities already available in individual countries and under bilateral and international programmes of assistance, as well as geographical factors bearing on the site of such a centre.

100. The Committee suggested that each member government should designate a customs expert with whom the ECAFE secretariat could maintain liaison.

101. Concern was expressed by several countries of the ECAFE region over the possible effects on third countries of the tariff policy of EEC, despite assurances from the latter. The common tariff rates on certain export items of the ECAFE region entailed increases and probable adverse effects. The refusal to negotiate regarding the high internal and fiscal charges levied on some items by members of EEC, despite the admission of their negotiability by the Contracting Parties of GATT, was also commented upon.

102. The Committee's attention was also drawn to the fact that, in establishing the common external tariff, the EEC Council had decided in respect of a few products to replace the *ad valorem* rates which had specific minima, by composite duties; this would have adverse effects on the exports of a number of manufactured products from the Asian countries.

103. The Committee noted that the representative of France, on behalf of the EEC, had drawn attention to the willingness of the EEC member states to offer the countries participating in the negotiations a general overall reduction of 20 per cent of the common tariff on a reciprocal basis. Several countries of the region emphasized that strict reciprocity would not yield benefits, in view of the importance of customs duties in their financial systems and the limited concessions they would be able to offer. They therefore urged that EEC member countries should not strictly apply the criterion of reciprocity in the tariff negotiations.

⁴ For action taken by the Commission on the report of the Committee on Trade at its seventeenth session, see paragraphs 332-341.

104. Several countries of the region expressed concern over the proposals for a common agricultural policy which were being examined by a special committee of the EEC. Reference was made to some features of the proposed policy, namely, price equalization for agricultural products within the EEC, and levies on and licensing of the imports of such products from non-member countries.

105. The Committee noted that, although some concern had been felt about the possible long-term adverse effects of EFTA on the countries of the region, no apprehensions of serious immediate consequences had been expressed. It further noted that EFTA had a vital interest in expanding world trade, since the countries concerned exported six times as much to non-member countries as to one another, and twice as much to countries outside, as to countries inside Europe. The Convention establishing the European Free Trade Association, signed at Stockholm in January 1960, did not entail a common external tariff for EFTA members. A large number of primary commodities and materials, many of which were important items in the export trade of ECAFE countries, were included in the "Basic Materials List" annexed to the Convention, and were treated as if they were of area origin. However, special bilateral and other arrangements concluded by EFTA members between themselves concerning trade in agricultural products could affect some ECAFE exports. Furthermore, the reduction in tariffs introduced by EFTA on 1 July 1960 benefited only the members of EFTA.

106. The Committee considered that developments relating to these two regional trade groupings should continue to be studied closely by the ECAFE secretariat. In preparing its studies, the ECAFE secretariat could avail itself of the data supplied by the secretariats of the EEC and EFTA.

107. The Committee noted with satisfaction the keen desire of the countries of the region to intensify their efforts to promote regional trade co-operation as well as to expand their trade with the rest of the world. Their trade with countries outside the region was more important than intraregional trade. At present, intraregional trade was complementary only to a limited degree. Moreover, financial and technical assistance from the countries outside the region, which was vital to the economic development of the ECAFE countries, was an important factor in the expansion of trade.

108. The Committee considered that regional co-operation could play a dynamic role in further accelerating the economic development of the region. It noted that, in the Latin American economic integration schemes, the urge to achieve a more rapid rate of economic, and particularly industrial, development, and to obtain large-scale economies in a common market, was the dominant motivation. The Latin American arrangements should, therefore, be of particular interest to countries of the ECAFE region.

109. The Committee considered that, in the long run, the implementation of development plans, the diversification of economies, the establishment of industries and the growth in *per caput* incomes in countries of the region would generate dynamic forces in their economies which would further increase the scope for intraregional trade.

An increasing variety and volume of manufactured goods, including capital and engineering goods, would then become available within the region on a competitive basis.

110. The Committee considered that, if the ECAFE countries adopted measures to co-ordinate their national economic plans, a greater degree of industrial and agricultural specialization among them on the basis of comparative costs could be achieved. It emphasized that constructive opportunities existed in several other fields for co-operative action, for example, in connection with the stabilization of prices and markets for primary commodities, improvement in quality and standardization, market research and sales publicity and promotion of tourism.

111. On the question of economic co-operation, such as economic unions, customs unions and free trade areas, several delegations expressed the view that a comprehensive study of various aspects of the economy of the ECAFE countries should be undertaken, and that more practical and modest forms of co-operation should be explored and worked out. Economic integration was difficult to achieve even under favourable political and economic conditions, as illustrated by European experience. The technical and other difficulties in working out any scheme of integration were recognized. The Committee considered that a fuller investigation of the practical possibilities of various forms of co-operation would be desirable, in order to assist the countries of the region in reaching conclusions regarding the advantages and disadvantages of those forms of co-operation, and endorsed a proposal to set up an expert working group to undertake such a detailed study.

112. The Committee endorsed the suggestion made in the report entitled "Commercial Arbitration in the ECAFE Region" (E/CN.11/TRADE/L.38), prepared by the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations, to convene a Working Party of Experts on Commercial Arbitration. It considered that the Working Party should, if possible, meet at the same time as the fifth session of the Committee. However, since the matters to be examined by the Working Party would involve questions of a highly technical, specialized and legal character, the Working Party should conduct its deliberations and meet independently during the fifth session of the Committee. It recommended that not only the representatives of member governments, but also those of national and international arbitral organizations and other non-governmental organizations actively engaged in international trade, including non-official experts, should participate in the Working Party.

113. The Committee welcomed the proposal to hold an Asian trade fair in 1964 or thereafter. It requested the secretariat, assisted by a committee composed of representatives of member governments, to undertake a survey of facilities for holding the fair.

114. The Committee considered the report on Trends in World Demand for Jute Manufactures (TRADE/65) prepared by FAO. Concern was expressed by consumers as well as producers that the recent high prices of jute and their instability would further encourage recourse to substitute materials by the consuming countries.

3. INLAND TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

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

Zonal Meetings of Working Groups of Experts on International Highways

Second series

(i) *Working Group for Zone 3* — 14-16 June 1960
Chairman: Mr. M. I. Khan (Pakistan).

(ii) *Working Group for Zone 2* — 20-22 June 1960
Chairman: Mr. S. Rahman (Pakistan).

(iii) *Working Group for Zone 1* — 4-6 July 1960
Chairman: Mr. S. Chandransu (Thailand).

Third series

(i) *Working Group for Zone 1* — 16-18 November 1960
Chairman: Mr. S. Chandransu (Thailand).

(ii) *Working Group for Zone 2* — 25-28 November 1960
Chairman: Mr. B. B. Karki (Nepal).

(iii) *Working Group for Zone 3* — 13-15 December 1960
Chairman: Mr. R. Mashayekhi (Iran).

Highways and Highway Transport Sub-Committee (fifth session), 30 November to 7 December 1960

Chairman: Mr. Y. P. Upadhyaya (Nepal);

First Vice-Chairman: Mr. G. Lal (India);

Second Vice-Chairman: Mr. C. Kyon Sone (Burma).

Inland Transport and Communications Committee (thirteenth session), 9-15 February 1961

Chairman: Mr. A. Sunananta (Thailand);

First Vice-Chairman: Mr. S. N. Chib (India);

Second Vice-Chairman: Mr. R. S. Prodjosukanto (Indonesia).

ZONAL MEETINGS OF WORKING GROUPS OF EXPERTS ON INTERNATIONAL HIGHWAYS

116. The three Working Groups each held two meetings (second and third series) : for zone 1, both meetings were held at Bangkok; for zone 2, at Dacca and at Kathmandu; and for zone 3, at Karachi and at Teheran.

117. During the second series of sessions, the Groups reviewed the proposed international routes and agreed on the final network in the light of the following principles :

(a) The routes, as far as possible, should follow existing roads;

(b) Adjoining countries, wherever possible, should be independently connected with each other by two routes, of which one would be the priority route; and

(c) Highest priority should be given to bringing the main route at least up to the minimum standards recommended for international highways.

The Groups reviewed the progress made with the proposed international network since their last session in 1959. The Saigon-Bangkok link was an all-weather road; the Bangkok-Rangoon link was suitable for traffic only during the dry season; a section under construction on the Singapore-Bangkok link would be completed in 1962. Because of gaps, transit from Burma to East Pakistan and India was at present impossible. The route from Calcutta through India to West Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran could be used during all seasons.

118. The Groups drafted a code on a uniform system of road signs and signals, pavement markings and signs for road works, based on the Protocol on Road Signs and Signals, signed at Geneva in 1949, the draft convention on a uniform system of road signs and signals and the recommendations made by the 1957 Seminar on Engineering and Traffic Aspects of Highway Safety in the ECAFE Region.⁵

119. At the third series of meetings, the Groups decided to number the network according to an agreed formula. An additional route in Iran, from Zanzan via Divandarreh to Rezaieh and the Turkish border, was included in the network. The Groups made recommendations regarding the type of kilometre/mile posts and route marker signs to be adopted for the routes. They recommended that the relevant articles of the Protocol on Road Signs and Signals should be adopted with all respective annexes in regard to (a) rules of the road, (b) drivers of motor vehicles in international traffic, and (c) provisions applicable to cycles in international traffic.

120. The Groups discussed ways and means of carrying out improvements on those sections of the international network which required upgrading, and drew attention to the need for financial and technical assistance felt by several countries in developing even the priority routes.

121. The Groups recommended a programme of future work which included a study of problems relating to passport and frontier formalities (such as rules and regulations governing the entry of vehicles, health regulations, etc.), ribbon development, ancillary services and facilities along the international route (service stations, hotels, rest houses, first aid posts, telecommunications etc.).

HIGHWAYS AND HIGHWAY TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE

122. At its fifth session held at Kathmandu, Nepal, in November/December 1960, the Highways and Highway Transport Sub-Committee reviewed the reports of the first and second series of sessions of the three Working Groups on International Highways (E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/L.6 and/L.9), and the draft reports of the third sessions of Groups 1 and 2. It also considered current methods of highway administration and highway financing; the recommendations of the First ECAFE Study Week in Traffic Engineering and Highway Safety; the terminology used in bituminous construction; highway transport; and measures for expanding training and research facilities for the countries of the region.

⁵ See *Engineering and traffic aspects of highway safety* (United Nations publication, Sales No. : 58.II.F.3).

123. The Sub-Committee noted the progress made by the Working Groups in determining the routes of the international highway network into two categories, namely, (a) main arterial routes joining capitals, and (b) other main roads joining principal cities and ports with the main arterial routes. It also took note of the progress made in evolving standards for roads and bridges; in preparing a code on a uniform system of road signs and signals, pavement markings and signs for road works; in reaching agreement on provisions applicable to motor vehicles and trailers in international traffic, registration numbers, distinguishing signs and identification marks of vehicles; technical details relating to the equipment of motor vehicles, dimensions and weights of vehicles; conditions to be fulfilled by drivers; driving permits and provisions applicable to cycles in international traffic.

124. The Sub-Committee recognized the financial and technical difficulties faced by some of the countries in the region and approved a standard form prepared by the Working Groups of Experts for the collection of data on those sections of the priority routes which were at present incomplete. The Sub-Committee was of opinion that the Working Groups should suggest ways and means of completing the road links and should assess, classify and correlate the technical and financial aspects of aid requirements.

125. The Sub-Committee endorsed, in principle, a request by Indonesia that the highways of Indonesia should be included in the international highway network, and requested the Working Group for Zone 1 to consider the proposal in detail.

126. The Sub-Committee took note of the experience gained in Europe in the establishment of the European international highway network. It recommended that a meeting at ministerial level should be convened to examine the broad policy matters involved in the implementation of the project.

Current methods of highway administration and highway financing

127. The Sub-Committee noted that, although road transport in the region had developed rapidly, *per caput* investment in roads was still less than US\$1, which represented one-eleventh of the world average.

128. The Sub-Committee took note of the trend towards the unification and simplification of highway administration, increasing participation by central governments in financial and technical control, and the training of technical personnel. The Sub-Committee emphasized the importance of well-organized road maintenance and the related financial problems. It felt that no model of highway administration suitable for all countries of the region could be prescribed but recommended that, where resources permitted, a highway department should have divisions for planning and programming; traffic engineering and safety; survey and design; materials research and testing; construction; maintenance; mechanical equipment; stores and administrative services.

129. The Sub-Committee noted that funds made available in most countries of the region for road construction and maintenance were less than 1 per cent of the national income and under 4 per cent (in 1958) of total budget expenditure. It endorsed the recommendation that, in financing highway projects, economic soundness must be the guiding principle, and recommended that the secretariat should prepare a report on methods of determining the economic benefits to be derived from the construction and improvement of highways. Since funds for road work were obtained mainly by appropriation from general revenue, the Sub-Committee suggested that road funds for integrated long-term programmes should be created on a non-lapsable basis. Governments should also consider other means of raising money, such as public loans, and taxes on vehicles, spare parts, gasoline and on roadside public amenities. It felt that while, in general, the levy of traffic tolls would provide only limited revenues, such tolls might be a useful source of supplementary funds when extensive capital investment was required, as in the case of a large bridge or construction of a highway link as an alternative route.

130. The Sub-Committee recommended that animal-drawn carts should be taxed and that, where possible, rubber tyres should replace iron tyres. It also stressed the importance of collecting statistics, and requested the secretariat to assemble basic data along the lines recommended by the first Study Week on Traffic Engineering and Highway Safety.

Study Week on Traffic Engineering and Highway Safety

131. The Sub-Committee reviewed the results of the Study Week on Traffic Engineering and Highway Safety, organized in October 1959, by the Government of India under the auspices of ECAFE, at Bombay, India, and commended the following recommendations for the attention of member governments: (a) each country of the ECAFE region should consider the establishment of a permanent body in its administration to deal with road traffic and accidents; (b) governments should actively encourage the collection and analysis of road accident statistics, and should compile basic statistics yearly in respect of their road transport systems; and (c) the ECAFE secretariat should prepare an annual report on the subject.

132. The Sub-Committee also recommended that a single department should be responsible for road construction, maintenance, regulation of traffic and traffic safety. It re-emphasized the need for adequate education in traffic safety, and noted that the secretariat, in co-operation with the Governments of Australia, India and the United Kingdom, was engaged in the preparation of a highway safety manual for schools and colleges.

133. The Sub-Committee noted the offer of the Government of the Philippines to organize a second Study Week at Manila in 1961, and recommended that the problems of administration, training, public education in traffic safety and the control and regulation of traffic should be discussed during that Study Week.

Highway transport

134. The Sub-Committee approved an outline for the study by the secretariat of the general characteristics, organizational structure and the operational economic and financial aspects of passenger motor road transport of the region. It suggested that, in conjunction with the Seminar on Road Transport in India in 1961, an observation tour over the proposed international highway routes in Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan might be arranged. It further recommended that a study tour of highway transport officials in advanced countries should be organized in co-operation with BTAO.

Bituminous construction terminology

135. The Sub-Committee suggested that, pending the revision of the 1951 Technical Dictionary of Road Terms in six languages, published by the Permanent International Association of Road Congresses (PIARC), work on the ECAFE project "Terminology used in Bituminous Construction" should be postponed.

Regional road research institutes

136. The Sub-Committee felt that countries should have their own laboratories for the routine testing of materials, but considered that, in respect of fundamental research, one or two regional laboratories could service all the countries. The Sub-Committee urged countries of the region having road research laboratories to continue to extend their facilities and make their publications available to other countries, and recommended that the secretariat should make available to member countries information on research carried out by various countries in the world on problems of roads and road transport.

Training facilities for highway officials

137. The Sub-Committee emphasized the importance of training technical personnel at all levels, and suggested that each country should try to organize national training centres. The Sub-Committee recommended that, if training for junior engineers, supervisors and other skilled workers could not be given in any particular country, use should be made of suitable training centres elsewhere in the region. The Sub-Committee also welcomed the offer of training facilities by advanced countries, particularly for senior engineers. It requested the secretariat to study the possibility of organizing, in co-operation with advanced countries, regional training centres for engineers, senior technicians and foremen, in one or more countries of the region.

INLAND TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

138. At its ninth session, held at Bangkok, Thailand, in February 1961, the Inland Transport and Communications Committee reviewed the problems of developing transport and communications in the light of the recommendations of the sixth session of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (Transport) (E/CN.11/TRANS/L.25); examined freight rate structures in transport undertakings; and considered the question

of transport co-ordination in the countries of the region. It also reviewed the reports of the Railway Sub-Committee (E/CN.11/TRANS/142 and Corr.1) and of the Highways and Highway Transport Sub-Committee (E/CN.11/TRANS/145); the progress made in implementing Commission resolution 32 (XVI) outlined in the report on "Tourism and international travel" (E/CN.11/TRANS/L.29), and the work programme in the fields of telecommunications and inland waterways.⁶

Transport development in relation to economic development and planning

139. The Committee endorsed the recommendations of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, which had examined the interrelationship between general economic growth and the development of transport. It agreed that transport experts should participate in the Conference of Asian Statisticians when it considered statistics for planning transport development. Personnel should be specially trained in carrying out surveys of transport facilities, traffic and capital-intensive techniques. The Committee felt that co-ordination of different transport systems could be achieved by such measures as the adoption of through rates; joint arrangements for collection and delivery, and the use of containers and pallets. The Committee requested the secretariat to study the question of uniform systems of accounting and statistical procedures which could help managements to improve operational efficiency, and also to examine general questions, such as the role of the state in relation to transport, taxation, subsidies and obligations imposed on various transport systems.

Freight rate structures in transport undertakings

140. The Committee felt that there was a need for detailed studies of freight rate structures for inland waterways and highways, since the secretariat report (E/CN.11/TRANS/L.28 and Add.1-5) was mainly confined to railways. In the case of railways, a considerable proportion of costs was independent of the volume of traffic, and most countries found it difficult to apportion costs between goods and passenger traffic, or between particular hauls. The Committee felt that a sound freight rate policy should aim at enabling transport undertakings to pay all operational expenses and fixed charges, and provide for depreciation, interest and funds for improvement. The Committee considered it desirable that transport costs should be spread over the largest number of ton/kilometres or passenger/kilometres, thus maximizing the load per unit of cost. It was necessary to establish a sound relationship between transport costs and freight rates, so that the rates charged were economical both to the transport undertakings and to the users. The Committee also stressed the need for flexibility in freight rates, so that each mode of transport could maintain its competitive ability.

⁶ For action taken by the Commission on the report of the Inland Transport and Communications Committee at its seventeenth session, see paragraphs 353-365.

International travel and tourism

141. The Committee noted that practically all governments of the ECAFE region had designated 1961 as "Visit the Orient Year", in pursuance of Commission resolution 32 (XVI), and had tried to simplify formalities governing the entry, stay and movement of tourists in their respective countries. Some governments planned to organize exhibitions and other events of cultural, commercial and industrial interest. The Committee noted that the Seminar on Promotion of Tourism, recommended by the Commission at its sixteenth session, would be held at New Delhi, India, and suggested that it should, in particular, study problems of statistics, publicity, facilities and training in relation to the tourist industry. The Committee also noted that short training courses in hotel and restaurant management, travel sales techniques, and publicity and advertising had been organized by the Government of the Philippines, but emphasized the need to establish permanent training centres in the region, both for hotel management and the promotion of tourism.

142. The Committee also felt that lack of co-ordination in airline schedules had made it difficult for tourists to travel to their destinations on specific days and to obtain assured accommodation for return journeys. Specially reduced fares introduced by airlines had not been adequate for journeys from Europe and North America to the ECAFE region. The Committee therefore suggested that governments should take the matter up with the International Air Transport Association.

Collection, analysis and dissemination of information

143. The Committee noted that, as a result of its request at the previous session, many member governments had appointed correspondents to ECAFE for the "Transport and Communications Bulletin", and hoped that more governments would do so. Governments should, in particular, contribute articles on subjects of specific interest.

Inland waterways

144. The Committee suggested that extensive experiments with the use of hydrofoil-supported craft should be carried out in the region, particularly in connexion with the safety, seaworthiness, and weight of vessels; commercial and technical feasibility; and economy of operation: it requested the industrially advanced countries to make this type of craft available for demonstration purposes. It also requested the Executive Secretary to explore the possibility that the Special Fund could finance this demonstration project. The technical and economic feasibility of using "Hovercraft" could also be investigated.

145. The Committee emphasized the importance of designing prototype coasting vessels, which would result in reducing construction and maintenance costs. It also expressed interest in having information on methods of waterweed clearance, particularly by chemical and mechanical means.

146. The Committee noted the assistance rendered by the secretariat to the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin on naviga-

tional matters, and in the preparation of navigation improvement programmes. It suggested that the secretariat's project on the improvement of inland waterway transport should include development of traffic on international waterways.

Railways

147. The Committee noted that, pursuant to the recommendations of the Working Party of Railway Mechanical Engineers, which met in December 1959, the governments of nineteen countries had appointed *rapporteurs* to collect information on measures adopted both within and outside the region to ensure the efficient and economic use of diesel locomotives. Arrangements were made to appoint, with the assistance of BTAO, a regional research adviser, who would collect information on the research needs of the railways of the region, allocate work to the appropriate research centres, and disseminate the results of research and other relevant information to the countries of the region. The Committee also noted that eighteen experts from six countries of the region had attended a study week organized by the Government of India, under the auspices of ECAFE, to observe the techniques used in the survey, design and construction of a major bridge over the Brahmaputra river at Pandu, Assam state.

Telecommunications

148. The Committee noted that the Executive Secretary had consulted with the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) on further action necessary to implement the recommendations of the Working Party of Telecommunication Experts. It recommended that a joint ECAFE/ITU unit should be established in the ECAFE secretariat to carry out an agreed programme of work designed to assist in the development of telecommunication facilities in the region, and that a second Working Party of Telecommunication Experts should be convened in 1962. It noted that an ITU expert had made a survey of training facilities for telecommunication personnel, that new training centres or the improvement of existing ones were being planned at Kuala Lumpur and Saigon, and that assistance from the Special Fund and under other United Nations technical assistance programmes was being sought in order to expand training facilities in other countries, including India, the Philippines and Thailand.

Highways and highway transport

149. The Committee noted that the international highway network, as proposed by the zonal Meetings of Working Groups of Experts, would connect the principal national highways of the countries and hence would be important both in national and regional communications for commercial and economic purposes. Moreover, as the existing main roads forming parts of the Asian highway were fairly well developed, the most important task in implementing the project within a short time was the construction of the missing links and the upgrading, where necessary, of existing roads. The Committee

recommended that the countries concerned, within their national overall economic and highway development plans, should consider giving high priority to the development of those roads which were designated for inclusion in the international highway network. Particular attention should be paid to the priority routes, but their own domestic networks which served their economic and commercial needs should also be kept in view. The countries concerned should seek assistance, if necessary, under various aid programmes for the development of such priority routes.

150. It requested the secretariat to collect detailed information on the condition of the roads and on the financial and technical requirements for constructing the links or upgrading the roads, and to place the relevant data before the Working Groups, which should suggest ways and means of connecting the existing sections in the system. The Working Groups should also make a preliminary assessment of the economic and engineering feasibility of the proposed links, and evaluate the technical and financial requirements. If the advice of experts on road construction and maintenance was required, the Executive Secretary was requested to explore possibilities of obtaining such assistance from the aid-giving agencies and advise governments accordingly.

151. The Committee, in reviewing the work of the Highways and Highway Transport Sub-Committee, felt that, since a combined comprehensive study of both freight and passenger transport would involve the collection and analysis of a considerable volume of data, both by governments and the secretariat, the Seminar on Highway Transport to be held in 1961 might deal only with passenger transport, and subsequent seminars might study freight transport. The Committee stressed that considerable benefits could be derived by the countries from study tours of highway transport officials in advanced countries; from the work being carried out by some countries in their research centres; from the organization, by countries, of highway study and road safety weeks; and from short refresher courses for highway officials.

4. RESEARCH AND PLANNING

152. During the period under review, the following meetings were held:

Conference of Asian Statisticians (third session), 5-15 April 1960

Chairman: Mr. Y. Morita (Japan);

First Vice-Chairman: Mr. E. T. Virata (Philippines);

Second Vice-Chairman: Mrs. I. W. Kannangara (Ceylon).

Third Workshop on Budget Reclassification and Management, 17-26 August 1960

Chairman: Mr. S. N. Singh (India);

Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. L. Rampton (United Kingdom).

Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (sixth session), 27 September to 7 October 1960

Chairman: Mr. K. Khittasangka (Thailand);

First Vice-Chairman: Sithu U Mo Myit (Burma);

Second Vice-Chairman: Mr. N. L. Cuenca (Philippines).

Working Group of Experts on Training of Statisticians, 8-18 November 1960

Chairman: Mr. P. C. Mathew (India);

Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Afzalipour (Iran).

Second Working Group of Experts on Programming Techniques, 18 January to 14 February 1961

Chairman: Mr. H. B. Chenery (United States);

Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. R. Bashir (Pakistan).

CONFERENCE OF ASIAN STATISTICIANS

153. The third session of the Conference of Asian Statisticians, which was held at Bangkok in April 1960 jointly by the ECAFE secretariat, the United Nations Statistical Office and FAO, considered basic industrial statistics, including mining statistics and statistics on agricultural producer prices, and noted the progress made with the world censuses of population and agriculture. It also reviewed programmes of basic statistics for economic and social development, facilities for training statisticians, and the reports of the Working Groups on Sampling Methods (E/CN.11/ASTAT/Conf.3/L.1) and on Capital Formation (E/CN.11/ASTAT/Conf.3/L.2).⁷

154. The Conference discussed the paper entitled "Proposed Revision of the International Standards in Basic Industrial Statistics" (E/CN.3/257) and "Proposals for the 1963 World Programme of Basic Industrial Inquiries" (E/CN.3/258), prepared by the United Nations Statistical Office, and reviewed the present and future programmes of countries in the ECAFE region, in regard to basic industrial statistics and, in particular, plans for participation in the 1963 World Programme of Basic Industrial Inquiries. The Conference stressed the value of participation by all countries in the ECAFE region in the 1963 World Programme. It recommended that a seminar on industrial statistics should be convened jointly by the United Nations Statistical Office and ECAFE to deal in detail with the objectives and methods of industrial inquiries, particularly those forming part of the 1963 World Programme.

155. The Conference noted the progress made in the region in regard to the censuses of population (including housing) and of agriculture, under the 1960 World Census Programme, and the assistance provided by the Regional Census Advisers under the United Nations/FAO Census Technical Assistance Programme.

156. As regards basic statistics for economic and social development, the Conference noted that countries in the region were preparing check-lists of available statistics for planning and development, and recom-

⁷ For action taken on the report of the Conference of Asian Statisticians (E/CN.11/531) by the Commission at the seventeenth session, see paragraph 400.

mended that the ECAFE secretariat should compile an inventory of such statistical series.

157. The Conference noted the urgent need for training, in the countries themselves, a large body of statistical personnel at the intermediate and lower levels, and decided to convene a working group on the training of such personnel. It requested the ECAFE secretariat to explore the possibility of undertaking a survey, in co-operation with other agencies, of the statistical staff available in the countries of the region, of the additional personnel needed for statistical development, and means of strengthening training facilities.

158. The Conference made a number of recommendations for the development and improvement of agricultural producer price statistics in the countries of the ECAFE region.

159. Reviewing the reports of the Working Groups on Sampling and on Capital Formation, the Conference recommended that countries should set up sample survey organizations. It approved the practical approach adopted by the Working Group on Capital Formation, whose report provided useful guidance.

160. The Conference recommended that the subject of "Family living, including food consumption, surveys" should be examined at the next session, and requested the ECAFE secretariat, the United Nations Statistical Office, the ILO and FAO to co-operate in this regard.

WORKSHOP ON BUDGET RECLASSIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT

161. The third Workshop on Budget Reclassification and Management, co-sponsored by ECAFE, BTAO, the Division for Public Administration and the Fiscal and Financial Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, met at Bangkok in August 1960 and reviewed the progress made since the second Workshop by the countries of the region towards the economic and functional classification of government transactions. The Workshop, in its report (E/CN.11/L.85), emphasized the need to adopt programme and performance budgeting on the lines of the *Manual of Programme and Performance Budgeting* (E/CN.11/BRW.3/L.5), prepared by the Fiscal and Financial Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. It recommended the extension of this work to provincial or state governments, local authorities and government enterprises. Introduction of these techniques should be regarded as an evolutionary process, and each country should adopt a cautious and selective approach in the light of its own needs and circumstances.

162. After the meeting, the participants visited Manila from 28 August to 2 September to observe the operation of a budget system in the Philippines based on programming and performance techniques.

WORKING PARTY ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

163. The Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, at its sixth session held at Bangkok in

September-October 1960, considered problems of transport development in relation to economic development and planning as a whole. It examined, in particular, transport problems in countries of the ECAFE region; the problem of estimating future transport needs within the process of economic development; the choice between different means of transport on the basis of investment criteria; and the financing of transport development. The major part of the Working Party's report (E/CN.11/L.86), namely the findings and recommendations, was published in the *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East*, vol. XI, No. 3 (December 1960).⁸

164. Although transport was a key factor in economic development, the Working Party felt that the promotional role of transport had not received adequate attention; it therefore stressed the need for fuller utilization of existing capacities, as this could often be achieved by small additional investments. The Working Party emphasized the need to integrate transport planning in general economic development planning. For this purpose, methods of estimating future transport needs and of assessing the economic effects of a given transport development scheme were examined. It recognized that, while the choice between different means of transport would depend upon numerous considerations and factors, cost calculations were useful in specific cases. The Working Party stressed that governments should provide funds for the development of transport, whether nationalized or not, but felt that, in general, each form of transport must pay its way, and that the nationalized undertakings should evolve a rates structure which would at least enable them to meet operating costs.

165. The Working Party emphasized the importance of comprehensive and accurate statistical data in formulating plans for transport development and assessing progress in their execution, and recommended that the Inland Transport and Communications Committee, in consultation with the Conference of Asian Statisticians, should consider this matter.

166. Since the growth in demand for transport was related in various ways to the rate of economic growth, the Working Party suggested that further research, particularly into the possible factors affecting these relationships, the measurement of these relationships and the improvement of projection techniques, should be undertaken. It felt that high priority should be given to the training of experts in transport economics and planning. It also recommended that the question of evolving labour-intensive techniques should be studied in detail.

WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON TRAINING OF STATISTICIANS

167. The Working Group on Training of Statisticians, which met at Bangkok in November 1960, dealt with problems of training statistical personnel at the primary and intermediate levels. The Working Group's review of existing training facilities showed that the training of

⁸ For action taken on the report of the Working Party by the Commission at the seventeenth session, see paragraph 369.

primary staff had been neglected in many countries, and that, even in countries which had such facilities, the training given was more academic than practical.

168. Keeping these considerations in mind, the Working Group prepared a detailed outline of the various categories of training, namely: scope and uses of statistics; design of statistical surveys; execution of surveys; collection of statistics as by-products of administration; processing, presentation, publication and utilization of data; and problems of supervision. It also discussed the organizational aspects of such training; the duration of the training; the optimum number of persons to be trained; the agencies and training staff; and the equipment, supplies and training materials required. It recommended that the ECAFE secretariat should prepare a manual on training.

169. The Working Group felt that the training of statistical personnel should be organized within each country; for this purpose, a capable organizer and director of the programme was essential. There was an urgent need for a regional course to train the organizers of such training courses.

170. The Working Group felt that, even in organizing national training courses, there was scope for regional co-operation. Countries having comparatively better training facilities could help neighbouring countries and make available to them equipment and supplies, training materials, etc. Furthermore, when a country was organizing such a training course, the organizer or other training staff of the neighbouring countries should be able to observe and participate.

171. The Working Group noted the observation of the United Nations Statistical Commission that it would be possible, with assistance from the Special Fund, to initiate training programmes in statistics, and hoped that any such assistance would be devoted to the urgent task of training personnel at the primary and intermediate levels.

WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON PROGRAMMING TECHNIQUES

172. The second Working Group of Experts on Programming Techniques, which met at Bangkok in January-February 1961, concentrated on the formulation of a workable technique for industrial planning, and examined the requirements and availability, in countries of the region, of statistical information for such planning.

173. The Working Group reviewed the industrial structure of countries of the region, and examined the principal elements in industrial planning. Beginning with aggregate economic analysis, as covered by the first Working Group, it discussed the programming techniques used in deciding on the main industrial sectors, and suggested a framework for ensuring consistency among the different sectors of the economy, and within the industrial sector itself. In respect of commodity and project analysis, it indicated the lines on which the engineering and statistical aspects should be studied,

with a view to making a choice between alternative development possibilities. The Working Group evaluated the statistical materials available in the countries of the region and identified the most urgent needs in respect of statistical development for industrial planning.

174. The Working Group focused attention on the typical problems faced by policy-makers in the industrially more advanced countries of the region and drew lessons from the experience of other countries which had adopted a systematic approach to the formulation of development policy. Although the scope and functions of development programming varied considerably in different political contexts, the Working Group noted that the main technical differences in requirements for different types of plans lay in the extent of detailed information required for a specification of commodities and projects.

175. In the light of the experience of the countries and of the theoretical framework, the Working Group felt that the objectives of planning should be clearly defined and consistently applied when evaluating development projects. In view of different social objectives and the imperfections of market prices, the Working Group recommended the use of accounting prices as a valid way of summarizing the different factors that affect project evaluation. It noted that countries were becoming increasingly aware of the advantages of adopting quantitative methods in planning; it therefore made a series of recommendations regarding the collection and analysis of data, bearing particularly in mind the requirements for fixing consumer goods targets, for estimating intermediate demand, and for testing the consistency of targets through inter-industry analysis, as means of evaluating individual development projects and reviewing the progress of the plans.

176. The Working Group suggested that an evaluation of development programming techniques, as applied in the countries of the region, should be undertaken by an international body, such as ECAFE. It also supported a proposal that United Nations Headquarters should produce, in collaboration with the regional economic commissions, standardized data for industrial programming, making allowance for factors that varied from country to country.

5. WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

177. During the period under review, the following sessions of the bodies reporting to the Commission were held.

Fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, 5-13 December 1960

Chairman: Mr. A. E. C. de S. Gunasekera (Ceylon);

First Vice-Chairman: Mr. K. N. Kathpalia (India);

Second Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. A. Rehman (Pakistan).

Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin

<i>Session</i>	<i>Chairman</i>
Ninth (special) 11-21 March 1960 Bangkok, Thailand	Mr. B. Binson (Thailand)
Tenth (special) 3-4 May 1960 Bangkok, Thailand	Mr. B. Binson (Thailand)
Eleventh 23-26 November 1960 Vientiane, Laos	Mr. B. Binson (Thailand)
Twelfth 22-27 February 1961 Saigon, Republic of Viet-Nam	Mr. Pham-Minh-Duong (Republic of Viet-Nam)
Thirteenth (special) 8-20 March 1961 New Delhi, India	Mr. Pham-Minh-Duong (Republic of Viet-Nam)

REGIONAL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE ON WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

178. The fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, held at Colombo, Ceylon, in December 1960, reviewed the development of water resources in the countries of the region from 1951 to 1960, and discussed the type of organization necessary for the planning, design and operation of river valley projects; the development of groundwater resources; and flood problems in deltaic regions.

Water resources development during the period 1951-1960

179. The Conference noted the significant progress made by the countries of the region in constructing river valley projects; many of these were multiple-purpose and provided irrigation, hydropower and water for industrial and domestic consumption, as well as means for flood control. Progress had been made with the investigation and utilization of groundwater resources; networks of hydro-meteorological and stream-gauging stations had been set up; and a number of projects had reached the stage of pre-investment investigations. Common flood-warning systems had been established, for example by India and Pakistan. The Conference emphasized the importance of the following: the collection of reliable hydrological data over a long period; phased planning of large projects; agreements between neighbouring countries on the use of international rivers; co-ordination between various agencies in charge of water resources; health aspects of river-valley projects; proper agricultural planning to derive the maximum benefits from available water; and the use of small projects under construction for demonstration and training purposes.

Organizations for river valley projects

180. Realizing that forms of government, standards of education and living, topographic factors, and the area covered by river basins differed from country to country, the Conference did not recommend a standard form of organization for the planning, design, construction and operation of river valley projects; rather, it suggested broad principles for the general guidance of countries. While, in the initial stages, government departments

might undertake all the above tasks, statutory bodies or control boards could be formed as experience was gained. At the highest level of government, a river basin should be viewed as an integrated whole. Since the welfare of the people was the paramount consideration, the organization should have vision, courage, a highly competent technical staff, and should include personnel to deal with the financial problems which the engineers would have to face.

Groundwater resources

181. The Conference noted that groundwater supplies would assume increasing importance in the countries of the region. Investigations with a view to the development of these resources must, therefore, receive close attention. The Conference emphasized the value of the co-ordinated development of ground and surface water resources, and the use of geophysical methods and radioactive tracers as a means of assessing groundwater resources. It decided to convene a Symposium on the Development of Groundwater Resources in co-operation with UNESCO. It also recommended the establishment of a regional research and training centre to study the techniques of groundwater investigations and utilization.

Flood problems in deltaic regions

182. The Conference recommended that countries should develop an integrated programme for the development of deltaic areas by providing protection against salt water intrusion and river floods, and by constructing drainage and irrigation facilities, taking into account geological, pedological and hydrological factors, as well as economic and other conditions in such areas. It decided to convene a Regional Symposium to consider problems of flood control, reclamation and the development of deltaic regions.

Future programme

183. In view of the rapid progress being made in the field of water resources development in the region, the Conference recommended that it should hold a session every two years; make a biennial review of the programme of work and priorities of the ECAFE Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development; and consider both technical and policy aspects. The name of the Conference should therefore be changed to "Regional Conference on Water Resources Development".

COMMITTEE FOR CO-ORDINATION OF INVESTIGATIONS OF THE LOWER MEKONG BASIN

184. The Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin held its ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth sessions during the period under review. In accordance with its statute, the Committee continued to promote, co-ordinate, supervise, and control the planning and investigation of water resources development projects in the lower Mekong basin.

Mekong project

185. The programme of investigations included the collection of essential engineering, economic, and related

data, and the planning of projects on the main stream and on the major tributaries. The Committee envisaged the construction of seven multiple-purpose water resources projects, each including a dam and reservoir, at three points on the main stream, and four on the tributaries, as well as navigation improvement. Work on the Mekong project consisted of a variety of operations indicated in paragraph 129 of the Commission's previous annual report (E/3340). These operations are now being carried out with the help of the technical, financial and other assistance provided by various countries and agencies as described below.

186. The Australian aid given under the Colombo Plan programme was directed towards geological investigations, including boring, over a period of about two years, on two of the short reaches of the main river showing promise as potential dam sites. One of the reaches is near Pa Mong, just upstream of Vientiane, where the Mekong forms the border between Laos and Thailand; the other is in the stretch of the river between Sambor in Cambodia and the Khone falls at the southern tip of Laos. A team of some nine engineers, geologists, and technicians from the Australian Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Authority arrived in the Mekong basin in the last quarter of 1960 to commence this work.

187. Canada, which had offered a credit of 1.3 million Canadian dollars under the Colombo Plan for aerial survey work, ground surveys, photogrammetric mapping of the main river and dam sites, and mapping of the principal tributaries, assembled a large field team to implement its contribution: this consisted, at its peak, of some 92 overseas technicians and 172 technicians and workers from the riparian countries. It had completed all ground work by June 1959 and aerial photography by early 1961 and planned to have the final maps finished by the end of 1961. China, which had offered the Committee 5,000 tons of cement for use in the programme of investigations and in the implementation of projects on tributaries, was host to the members of the Committee and secretariat on the occasion of a ten-day study tour to Taiwan in October 1960 for the examination of water resources and other economic development activities. France supplied hydrologic equipment; completed a soil survey in the Pa Mong area in Laos and Thailand; commenced a two-year fisheries study in the Tonlé Sap (Great Lake); started a sedimentation study (also in the Great Lake); helped with the My Phuoc pilot irrigation, drainage, and land reclamation project in the delta; and contributed the services of a geologist, who assisted in the preparation of a minerals possibility survey, helped the Committee to draft an application to the Special Fund and agreed to undertake bauxite prospection work.

188. India commenced delivery to the capitals of the four riparian countries of the 366 rain gauges specified in the programme recommended by the United Nations Survey Mission, together with a reserve of measuring glasses. Iran provided petroleum products for the aircraft, vessels and vehicles donated under all the other programmes, in each case enabling specific additional work to be undertaken. Israel, which had offered the Committee 1,000 tons of cement to be delivered at any

port in the Mekong area, delivered an initial shipment at Saigon for the construction, in the delta, of foundations for the lighted shore marks and radio station being contributed for navigation improvement by the United Kingdom. Japan completed the second phase of its reconnaissance of the tributaries and the Committee considered the reports of the Japanese team exceedingly useful in selecting four projects for initial development of the tributaries. New Zealand completed the construction of, and delivered to the Committee, four 24-foot shallow-draught vessels, propelled by water-jet, which were useful for work in shallow water and rapids; it also delivered a 50-foot survey launch contributed under the Colombo Plan. An identical 50-foot survey launch was presented to the Committee by the United Kingdom under the Colombo Plan, together with hydrologic and meteorological equipment; the United Kingdom also constructed lighted shore marks, light buoys, and radio equipment as navigational aids in the delta, as requested in the Committee's navigation improvement programme, and presented a portion of its contribution in cash to help the Committee meet its local cost obligations under the Special Fund hydrographic survey. United States aid was directed towards the establishment of a network of hydrologic and meteorological stations and services, the levelling and horizontal control of the main river from the Burmese border to the sea, and a hydrographic survey of the delta. The United States programme also included provision of hydrologic equipment for gauging stations, and sixteen water craft. A central office at Bangkok and regional offices at Saigon, Phnom Penh, Moukdahan, Vientiane and Luang Prabang were in operation, each controlling a group of measuring stations and staffed by engineers provided by the United States and the riparian countries. It is expected that hydrologic work in the area will continue until May 1962, when an adequate hydrologic service will have been established in the four riparian countries and a substantial amount of data collected. A number of fellowships for different activities — including study tours, short-term training of senior officials, work experience and training leading to a certificate, diploma or degree — were offered, through the Committee, to the Governments of the four riparian countries by Canada, France, Israel, Japan and Switzerland; several of these fellowship offers were taken up during the period under review.

189. A plan of operations was drawn up for the Lower Mekong Basin Survey of the Four Tributaries, for which funds had been granted by the Special Fund in December 1959; four private engineering companies (from France, Italy, Japan, and the United States) were selected and work was commenced on the preparation of four comprehensive projects, in connexion with investment loan applications on four tributaries — one in each of the riparian countries. Moreover, construction of an experimental and demonstration irrigation farm on the Nam Ngum tributary in Laos was started, and designs for similar farms on the three other tributaries were drafted. The Special Fund also approved a hydrographic survey as part of the Committee's navigation improvement programme. The Committee, towards the end of the period under review, submitted two further applications for aid; one was for assistance in the construction and

operation of a delta model, and the other for assistance in conducting a basin-wide survey to determine the extent of known mineral deposits.

190. The ILO, at the request of the Committee, prepared a report on manpower related to the development of the basin. FAO undertook a qualitative study of the immediate losses in timber, and the long-term losses in soil depletion resulting from the practice, in some parts of the basin, of burning forests to obtain land for rice cultivation. FAO was subcontractor in charge of the experimental and demonstration irrigation farms forming part of the Special Fund Tributaries Project. FAO also maintained close contact with the Committee and the secretariat on all agricultural aspects of the project. UNESCO supplied the mission which studied the possibility and potential usefulness of a delta model, and prepared a report which the Committee utilized in requesting the Special Fund for assistance with such a model. At the request of the Committee, UNESCO also sent a group of experts to the basin to prepare a report on the seismological aspects of the Mekong's development. The Bank continued to aid the project by assigning its resident representative at Bangkok to serve, in a personal capacity, on the Committee's Advisory Board. A WHO report, devoted in part to the lower Mekong basin, indicated the presence of a negligible incidence of schistosomiasis (bilharziosis). WMO continued to provide technical guidance through the Committee's hydrometeorologist, who played a major role in establishing the basin-wide rain gauge network (in part utilizing the rain gauges contributed by India); he also studied problems of tidal hydrology in the delta, non-tidal hydrology on the main stream and tributaries, and the hydrology of the Tonlé Sap, and carried out calculations to predict maximum probable floods at the Pa Mong main stream dam site. At the request of the Committee IAEA sent a two-member mission to the basin and its members prepared a report concerning possible applications of radioactive tracers in Mekong basin hydrologic studies.

191. TAB continued its association with the project through the participating organizations. The TAB Regional Representative in Bangkok as well as the TAB representatives for Cambodia and the Republic of Viet-Nam and for Laos (all of whom also represented the Special Fund), assisted in policy negotiations with the Governments of the riparian countries on technical assistance and Special Fund matters; they also afforded administrative assistance to members of the Committee and to the Executive Agent. The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs aided the project, especially through the Commissioner for Technical Assistance, BTAO, and the Director for Special Fund Activities; assistance took the form of policy guidance, administrative backstopping, and financing of the Committee's Advisory Board and the Office of the Executive Agent.

192. The ECAFE secretariat, as in the past, co-operated closely in all phases of the project during the period under review. The Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development worked closely on all technical matters, notably the Special Fund Survey of the Four Tributaries, the Australian geological investigations, the

Canadian aerial survey, the Japanese tributaries reconnaissance and the United States hydrologic programme. The Transport and Communications Division assisted in the preparation of the Committee's navigation improvement policy, including its application to the Special Fund for aid in a hydrographic survey, and on related aspects of the contributions of Canada, Iran, Israel, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The Division of Industry and Natural Resources helped to examine industrial potentialities and, in co-operation with the expert offered by France, aided in the preparation of the Committee's policy for minerals exploration, including the application to the Special Fund for assistance in a minerals survey. The Division of Administration provided budgetary, personnel, communications, transport, library, and related central services.

193. The project is co-ordinated by the Committee's Executive Agent and staff. The four members of the Committee, representing Cambodia, Laos, Republic of Viet-Nam and Thailand worked as the project's Board of Directors, with the Executive Agent serving under them as their general manager. The Executive Agent and the Committee continued to receive policy guidance from the Executive Secretary of ECAFE, as well as from the competent officials at United Nations Headquarters, notably the Commissioner for Technical Assistance. The Office of the Executive Agent included the posts of Executive Agent, a language officer, and administrative and secretarial staff, financed through 1960 by BTAO, but after 1 January 1961 under a separate chapter in the ECAFE section of the United Nations budget; a consultant financed (along with the Advisory Board) by BTAO under General Assembly resolution 200 (III); a civil engineer, an appraisal economist, a WMO hydrometeorologist, and secretarial support financed by the Special Fund Survey of the Four Tributaries; and one chief of navigation improvement and secretarial support financed by the Special Fund Hydrographic Survey of the Lower Mekong River.

B. Other activities

194. This section of the report covers those activities of the secretariat which are not directly connected with the work of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission referred to in section A above.

BUREAU OF FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

Investigation and promotion of multiple-purpose river basin development in the region

195. The Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development continued its comprehensive review of water resources development in the region through its country surveys. In 1960, it completed the surveys for Afghanistan, Iran, Nepal and the Republic of Korea. A case study on the planning and execution of the Damodar valley project in India was completed and published as *Flood Control Series No. 16*.⁹ Plans for a

⁹ United Nations publication, Sales No. : 60.II.F.7.

study of each of the ten main rivers in the region, selected from the point of view of their characteristics and the methods employed in their development, were also made.

Dissemination of technical information

196. Important studies carried out by the Bureau, as well as the proceedings of technical conferences, seminars and working parties, were included in the *Flood Control Series*, of which two issues have been published since the sixteenth session of the Commission. The Bureau also continued to publish the quarterly *Flood Control Journal*, giving up-to-date information on projects undertaken by various countries in the region, as well as on recent technical advances in water resources development. Four issues of the *Journal* were published in 1960, including an annual survey of the work being carried out at various hydraulic research stations. The Bureau also continued the distribution of project reports and technical publications to various organizations in the region.

International rivers

197. During the period under review, the secretariat co-operated closely in all phases of the Mekong project and continued to render assistance and technical services to the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin and its Executive Agent, for example, in the preparation of specifications and contracts on four tributary projects in the four riparian countries. The Bureau also made preparations to carry out field investigations of another international river — namely, the Karnali.

International co-operation in water control and utilization

198. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolutions 417 (XIV) and 533 (XVIII), the annual inter-agency meetings to promote international co-operation on water resources were continued. The Bureau submitted a report to the 1960 meeting with a view to co-ordinating its activities with those of the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

RESEARCH AND PLANNING DIVISION

Review and analysis of current economic situation

199. The 1960 issue of the *Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East*¹⁰ continued the practice of reviewing the economic situation in the region as a whole for as much of the latest calendar year as available information and statistics permitted. Part I gave a current analysis, in three chapters, of production, trade, and aggregate demand and allocation of resources. Part II consisted of a review, in four chapters, of public finance in the postwar period. The first chapter analysed the forces that have shaped the growth in the size and influence of the public sector, and the objectives of postwar fiscal policies. The second chapter examined the volume, the growth and the distribution of government expenditure, particularly

on public investment, social services and general services, including defence. In the third chapter, the volume and growth of government revenue were dealt with. The structure and mechanics of taxation of foreign trade, of internal transactions in goods and services, and of the incomes and wealth of persons and companies were analysed in an attempt to determine whether there were further possibilities of expansion. In reviewing fiscal policies, in the final chapter, budget deficits and their impact on the economy as a whole were examined, and a few case studies given to illustrate the variety of ends and means for which fiscal policies were employed.

Economic development and planning

200. Work continued on an analytical survey of economic development and of economic development planning in the countries of the ECAFE region. Attempts were made to appraise the past trends of economic development in a number of ECAFE countries, with a view to building up a basis for long-term national income projections, as increasingly stressed in the Commission's work programme. The Division collaborated with FAO and the Joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division in the work of the Expert Group on Selected Aspects of Agricultural Planning in Asia and the Far East, which met from 24 October to 4 November 1960.

201. The study on sources of savings and on methods of raising the rate of saving, initiated by the secretariat in co-operation with several central banks, continued. A paper entitled "Capital Supply and Economic Growth : Sources of Savings" was prepared and circulated to the central banks concerned. It was also presented to the Meeting of Experts on Economic Development in South East Asia, sponsored by the International Economic Association and UNESCO in April 1960 at Gamagori, Japan. The case study on "Estimates of Saving in the Indian Economy" (undertaken by the Reserve Bank of India) was completed and published in the *Reserve Bank of India Bulletin* (March 1960). The case study on "Savings in Economic Growth of Postwar Japan", sponsored by the secretariat and undertaken by the Economic Research Institute of Risho University, in co-operation with the Research Department of the Bank of Japan, was completed and published in the *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East* (September 1960). The case study on "Savings of the Ceylon Economy, 1950-1959" (undertaken by the Central Bank of Ceylon) was completed and published in the *Central Bank of Ceylon Bulletin*, January 1961. The case study on "Savings in the Federation of Malaya" (undertaken by the Department of Economics, University of Malaya, Singapore Branch, in co-operation with the Central Bank of Malaya) was near completion.

Population growth and economic development

202. Subsequent to the publication of the report on "Population Trends and Related Problems of Economic Development in the ECAFE Region" in June 1959, a paper on "Population Growth and Problems of Employment in the ECAFE Region" was completed, and will be published in the June 1961 issue of the *Economic*

¹⁰ United Nations publication, Sales No. : 61.II.F.1.

Bulletin. It projected the growth of manpower in selected ECAFE countries, and discussed the desired structural changes in the economy and possible measures to ensure a more efficient utilization of manpower. Work on employment, savings and investment in relation to population growth was under way.

Community development and economic development

203. In co-operation with the Joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division and the Bureau of Social Affairs, a three-volume report on *Community Development and Economic Development* was published in December 1960.¹¹ Part I examined the contribution of community development to the expansion of the output of goods and services, capital formation, the development of people, institutions, outlooks and leadership, and problems of organization and administration. Parts II A and II B contained the reports of two case studies relating to Taiwan and to Ghosi, Uttar Pradesh, India, undertaken in co-operation with the Governments concerned.

Timber trends and prospects

204. The ECAFE/FAO draft report on "Timber Trends and Prospects in the Asia-Pacific Region", presented to the fifth session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission, together with a summary of the recommendations of that Commission, was submitted to the thirteenth session of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (E/CN.11/I&NR/L.23 and Add.1). The final report, which will include projections of demand up to 1975 and a discussion of forest resources as well as future supply possibilities, will be published in 1961.

University teaching of economics

205. In co-operation with UNESCO, a survey of the teaching of economics in Asian universities with special reference to the needs of economic development was begun. Questionnaires were sent to all countries in the region in 1960. A team of two economists, representing UNESCO and ECAFE respectively, will visit selected universities in southern Asia to obtain first-hand information. The report will be completed in 1962.

In-service training programme in economic development

206. Six fellows from Iran, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Thailand, sponsored by BTAO, participated in the 1960/61 in-service training programme in the ECAFE secretariat for a period of nine months. Within the general field of economic development, individual fellows were given training in development planning and economic development in relation to population growth, with seminars on selected topics. The Joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division and

the Social Affairs Division participated by providing the training for the fellows. The 1961/62 programme is to begin in June 1961, and again BTAO will provide six fellowships.

Statistical compilation and analysis

207. Publication of statistical series continued in the *Economic Bulletin*, and included a new series on the imports of the countries of the ECAFE region classified into four categories, namely, consumer goods, materials used chiefly for the production of consumer goods, materials used chiefly for the production of capital goods, and capital goods. Data on imports, reclassified according to these categories, are now available for seventeen countries, and a regional table for the years 1953 to the middle of 1960 has been drawn up. The analysis has now been extended by treating food as a separate item.

208. Other series currently published include annual tables on population, agricultural production, balance of payments, public finance and national accounts. Regional statistical series in selected fields were compiled and published quarterly, as were statistics for each country on industrial output, foreign trade, transport, prices and banking.

209. A review of the public finance of the region in the postwar period in the 1960 *Economic Survey* called for an extensive analysis of the expenditure, revenue, and economic and functional classifications of government transactions for the region. Related compilations were also prepared on national income, capital formation, foreign aid, and monetary changes. At the request of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), statistics were compiled on the production and imports and exports of mechanical and electrical engineering equipment for each ECAFE country from 1957 to 1959. This was supplemented, for use by ECAFE, by statistics on the production of and trade in selected metal products, machinery, transport equipment and steel. An analysis was made of production, consumption, stocks and foreign trade of the seven main agricultural products of the region. For the Intraregional Trade Promotion Talks, compilations were made of the nature and direction of trade in the region with greater coverage than similar tables for the previous years. For the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, which dealt with the subject of transport in relation to economic development and planning, tables were prepared on the composition of traffic by railways, motor vehicles, regional freight and passenger traffic, and development expenditure on the various modes of transport.

210. As in former years, reclassified tables on government income and expenditure for many Asian countries were prepared for publication in the *United Nations Statistical Yearbook*. The secretariat assisted the Fiscal and Financial Branch at Headquarters in the preparatory work for two papers — namely, "A Draft Questionnaire on Public Finance and Summary of Comments Received" (E/CN.11/BRW.3/L.4). and "Development of Budget Reclassification Work in the ECAFE Region" (E/CN.11/BRW.3/L.3).

¹¹ United Nations publications, Sales Nos. : 60.II.F.6 (Part 1); 60.II.F.6 (Part II A); and 60.II.F.6 (Part II B).

Statistics development

211. Work on statistics development continued to follow the long-range and integrated approach recommended by the Conference of Asian Statisticians at its second session in 1958. A Working Group on Training of Statisticians was convened in November 1960, and a survey of training facilities available in the ECAFE countries for intermediate and lower statistical personnel was prepared for this body. Arrangements were also made for a survey of statistical manpower in the ECAFE countries, as recommended by the Conference of Asian Statisticians at its fourth session.

212. Preparations for a Seminar on Industrial Statistics, to be held in September 1961, as recommended by the Conference of Asian Statisticians, were made in consultation with the United Nations Statistical Office. A comprehensive questionnaire calling for information required on basic industrial statistics was sent to the governments of ECAFE countries, as a part of the plans for participation in the 1963 World Programme of Basic Industrial Inquiries.

213. The Regional Census Advisers, under the United Nations/FAO Census Technical Assistance Programme, made thirty-five visits in 1960, and advised fifteen countries of the region on many aspects of population and agricultural censuses, including problems of sampling and data processing. The practice of publishing periodic progress reports on census plans and preparations was continued.

214. The secretariat was represented at the eleventh session of the United Nations Statistical Commission. It also participated in and contributed papers to the thirty-second session of the International Statistical Institute at Tokyo, the regional meeting of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth at Hong Kong, the Seminar on Taxation, convened by the Tax Commission of the Government of the Philippines at Manila, and the FAO Seminar on the Analysis, Evaluation and Uses of Agricultural Census Results in Asia and the Far East, also at Manila.

JOINT ECAFE/FAO AGRICULTURE DIVISION

215. The Joint Division continued to serve as the means for integrated study and action by ECAFE and FAO in the mutually agreed fields of work described below.

Regular economic surveys

216. The Division continued the study of current developments in the field of food and agriculture in the region and supplied information on these matters for the annual *Economic Survey* of ECAFE, and on trade in agricultural commodities for the Committee on Trade. The Division continued to assist the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Far East in connexion with the economic aspects of FAO's regional work. These activities included the drafting of working papers on agricultural development plans for the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Far East, and participation in that Conference.

Agricultural financing and credit

217. The Division continued to study the progress made and the problems faced by governments in the region in their efforts to improve the supply of low-cost and timely credit to farmers. Plans were made to undertake, in 1961 and 1962, a country-by-country review of agricultural financing and credit institutions in the region.

Agricultural development and planning

218. The Division continued to collect information on agricultural development plans and planning in the countries of the region. It published, in the *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East*, Vol. XI, No. 1 (June 1960), a paper on "Some Aspects of Agricultural Development Planning in Asia and the Far East", which included an illustration of the likely demand and supply situation for rice in 1966. This study was made available to the fifth FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Far East as a background document. The FAO Conference noted that the achievement of national self-sufficiency in food and agricultural products and raw materials, which were important in international trade, could have harmful effects on the economies of individual countries in the region and on the region as a whole. It therefore requested the Director-General of FAO to undertake, in co-operation with the United Nations, an objective study of the development plans of the countries of the region, and to transmit the study to the member governments concerned.

219. An ECAFE/FAO Expert Group on Selected Aspects of Agricultural Planning in Asia and the Far East met at Bangkok from 24 October to 4 November 1960. Its report (E/CN.11/L.91) was placed before the Commission. The Group made a number of recommendations on the formulation, by the countries of the region, of realistic and sound plans for agricultural development. It emphasized the need to improve the collection of required data, to undertake basic research, and to improve the organizational structure of ministries of agriculture so that planning work could be undertaken more efficiently.

Relationship between agriculture and industry

220. A preliminary report on the relationship between the growth of the agricultural and industrial sectors in China (Taiwan), undertaken on behalf of ECAFE by the Joint Commission on Rural Reconstruction and the National University of Taiwan, was completed. The report would be published in 1961 as a case study.

Impact on agriculture of community development activities

221. The Division published two studies entitled *Community Development and Economic Development: Part II A. A Case Study of The Ghosi Community Development Block, Uttar Pradesh, India* and *Part II B. A Study of Farmers' Associations in Taiwan*.¹²

¹² See paragraph 203.

222. The first publication assembled the findings of a case study in the Ghosi Community Development Block, Uttar Pradesh, India and analysed the acceptance of improved agricultural practices, the changes in output and levels of living, the extent of capital formation, changes in outlook, leadership patterns and other aspects of village life, resulting from the community development programme. The study compared the position in these respects in the villages covered by community development activities with similarly situated villages in an adjacent area, which were not covered by community development activities. It also analysed changes in these respects over a period of time. It highlighted the benefits from community development programmes, for example, the adoption of new production techniques, the increasing economic awareness of cultivators, as evidenced by increased productive expenditures, the formation of co-operatives for the purpose of processing agricultural commodities, and the emergence of a new corporate spirit conducive to the social and economic betterment of the villages. The study included a number of suggestions for improving the impact of community development programmes on agriculture.

223. The second publication related to a study of the activities of Farmers' Associations in Taiwan; these were multi-purpose co-operatives with limited liability and had a history of nearly six decades. The study showed that, during recent years, the scope of the activities undertaken by these associations had increased considerably. As a consequence of the stimuli and facilities provided for the cultivators, both production and productivity had increased appreciably, particularly from 1953 onwards, and more intensive use was being made of land through double cropping. The incomes of farmers had increased and levels of living had risen. The development of attitudes favourable to economic progress had been noticeable.

Capital formation in agriculture

224. The Division arranged to have the Planning Research and Action Institute at Lucknow collect field data on capital formation in agriculture in certain parts of Uttar Pradesh, India and to examine the main factors affecting capital formation. A preliminary report was received from the Institute and would be published in 1961.

Food and agricultural price policies

225. The Division continued to review the information available on price policies, particularly with respect to foodgrains. The fifth FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Far East discussed the problems of price policies in the context of agricultural development and programming and requested the Director-General of FAO to convene, in co-operation with ECAFE, a technical meeting on the marketing aspects of implementing food and agricultural price stabilization policies.

Agricultural surpluses for economic development

226. Since the completion of "A Note on the Utilization of Agricultural Surpluses for Economic Development in Japan" (E/CN.11/L.60), a second case study had

been taken up in Pakistan. It was hoped that this study could be published in 1961.

Marketing of agricultural products

227. The recommendation of the ECAFE/FAO Technical Meeting on Marketing, for the establishment of a permanent training centre in the region for agricultural marketing, was supported by the fifth FAO Regional Conference, and facilities have been offered by the Government of Pakistan for this purpose.

Agricultural economics research

228. The Division strengthened its contacts with institutions engaged in agricultural economics research and teaching in countries of the region, and assisted the Indonesian authorities in planning an agricultural economics training centre for 1961 in that country.

DIVISION OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS

229. The Division of Social Affairs continued its work on the social aspects of economic development, population and community development. As in the past, it assisted the Bureau of Social Affairs at Headquarters by supplying information and making contributions to studies and reports undertaken at the request of the Social and Population Commissions.

Balanced social and economic development

230. The Division completed a case study on balanced social and economic development in Burma, and revised a similar case study undertaken previously in Ceylon. The two case studies would be used by the Bureau of Social Affairs in the preparation of part II of the third report on "The World Social Situation", to be submitted to the thirteenth session of the Social Commission.

Population

231. The Division collaborated in the organization of the Regional Seminar on Evaluation and Utilization of Population Census Data in Asia and the Far East, held at Bombay, India, from 20 June to 8 July 1960, sponsored jointly by the Government of India, the Bureau of Social Affairs, BTAO and ECAFE, in accordance with Commission resolution 28 (XV). The Demographic Training and Research Centre at Bombay carried out the project on behalf of the United Nations and the Government of India. The Division prepared four papers for the Seminar, namely, "A Brief Survey of Available Information on the Completeness and Accuracy of Results of Recent Population Censuses in ECAFE Countries" (E/CN.9/CONF.2/L.19), "Case Study of Arrangements for Evaluation and Utilization of Population Census Results for Japan" (E/CN.9/CONF.2/L.22), "Case Study of Arrangements for Evaluation and Utilization of Population Census Results for Iran" (E/CN.9/CONF.2/L.23) and "Demographic Information and Studies Relevant to the Formulation and Implementation of Family Planning Programmes" (E/CN.9/CONF.2/L.24).

232. The Seminar emphasized the importance of population data in the formulation of policies for economic and social development, and urged governments to make special efforts to use fully the data collected in the population censuses. Plans for the tabulation of the census results and analytical studies should be drawn up with due regard to the requirements of various economic and social development plans and programmes. The Seminar urged close co-operation between agencies which collected population census data and those which used them. It also suggested means of increasing international co-operation in the field of demographic training and research.

233. The Division continued its research programme in connexion with the secretariat project on population growth and economic development,¹³ and initiated preparatory work for the Asian Population Conference. Information on demographic matters was provided, on request, to governments and agencies of the region, including the Colombo Plan Bureau.

Community development

234. Three case studies were initiated on the inter-relationship between land reform and community development in the Bombay area (India), in China (Taiwan) and West Pakistan. The case studies were undertaken in co-operation with the Bureau of Social Affairs as a contribution to a comprehensive report on land reform which the United Nations is preparing in collaboration with FAO and other specialized agencies, for submission to the Economic and Social Council in accordance with its resolution 712 (XXVII), and with General Assembly resolution 1426 (XIV).

235. In consultation with the Bureau of Social Affairs and BTAO, plans were made for a Regional Seminar and Conference on Planning and Administration of National Community Development Programmes, to be held in 1961. A meeting of six consultants from the region was convened at Bangkok from 10 to 23 December 1960 to advise the secretariat on the agenda and the organization of these two meetings.

236. The Division collaborated with the Research and Planning Division, the Joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division and the Bureau of Social Affairs at Headquarters in the preparation of part I of the report on *Community Development and Economic Development: A Study of the Contribution of Rural Community Development Programmes to National Economic Development in Asia and the Far East*.¹⁴

237. In compliance with the request, made by the Working Group on Community Development of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, for a review of progress made on and plans for regional and country programmes of community development, an informal regional Inter-Agency Meeting on Community Development was convened by the Division at New Delhi, India, from 9 to 10 May 1960, in which the ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO and UNICEF participated.

Other social questions

238. The Division conducted the first Asia and the Far East Seminar on Family and Child Welfare, which was organized by the United Nations, in co-operation with the Government of the Federation of Malaya, at Kuala Lumpur, from 17 to 30 October 1960. The subjects considered by the Seminar included; (a) the planning, administration and co-ordination of family and child welfare services and their contribution to raising the levels of living, (b) legislation needed for family and child welfare and financing of the services concerned, (c) personnel requirements, and (d) international assistance available.

239. The Seminar considered the family as the focal point for the development of all social services, and recommended that priority should be given to those services which aimed at preserving and strengthening the family. It recognized that, as far as possible, the basic training of social welfare personnel should be provided on a national basis, but that there would be scope for international co-operation, including the establishment of a centre for the interregional exchange of information and literature on social work and social problems.

240. The Division assisted the Prisons Inquiry Commission of Singapore, established with a view to introducing reforms of the prison system. It assisted the Government of Thailand in the preparation of plans for a socio-economic survey of the hill tribes in northern Thailand; this was designed to provide basic information on the living conditions and attitudes of the tribal population, required for economic and social planning, and in particular for land settlement purposes. Assistance was also provided to the Thai Government in the preparation of a plan for an urban community development project and a study of the needs of children, undertaken at the request of UNICEF.

241. The Division continued to assist in the planning and implementation of projects in the social field financed by the United Nations, under the Regular (General Assembly resolution 418 (V)) and Expanded Technical Assistance Programmes, to provide short-term technical assistance to the countries of the region and to collaborate in regional projects, such as seminars, training centres, and study tours. The Division participated in a mission which was organized to evaluate selected aspects of United Nations technical assistance in the social field in three countries in the ECAFE region and which was undertaken by the Bureau of Social Affairs at the request of the Social Commission¹⁵ and the Economic and Social Council (resolution 731 G (XXVIII)), in co-operation with the Governments of Indonesia, Pakistan and the Philippines.

242. The Division continued to collaborate closely with UNICEF in its new programme of aid for the development of social services for children in selected countries of the region. Aid from UNICEF was provided for the child welfare aspects of social services and community development programmes in Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand.

¹³ Project 61-02 (b).

¹⁴ See paragraph 203.

¹⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 11 (E/3265/Rev.1), paragraph 117.*

243. The Division participated in the ECAFE programme of in-service training for economists and statisticians, particularly in respect of techniques of analysing demographic data required for economic development planning.

OTHER ASPECTS OF WORK

244. The secretariat of the Commission continued to collaborate closely with the Headquarters Secretariat, of which it forms a part, and with the secretariats of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). As in the past, at the meetings of the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions convened by the Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs, the overall programmes of the work of the United Nations and of its regional and functional commissions were reviewed with a view to promoting a co-ordinated approach in the economic and social fields, particularly to economic projection techniques, industrialization, development of natural resources (including water), transport, trade and balanced economic and social development.

245. Movements of staff between ECAFE and Headquarters and the other three regional commissions were carried out. Several projects, particularly in the fields of economic development planning, programming techniques, budget reclassification and management, statistics, water resources development, commercial arbitration, demography and population censuses, were carried out in co-operation with the Headquarters Secretariat.

246. Several meetings were co-sponsored by ECAFE and Headquarters. The third session of the Conference of Asian Statisticians was conducted jointly by ECAFE and the United Nations Statistical Office, which also made available to the Conference two documents prepared by that office, namely, "Proposed Revisions to the International Standards in Basic Industrial Statistics" (E/CN.3/257 and Add.1 and 2), and "Proposals for the 1963 World Programme of Basic Industrial Inquiries" (E/CN.3/258). The Seminar on Evaluation and Utilization of Population Census Data in Asia and the Far East was sponsored jointly by ECAFE, the Bureau of Social Affairs and BTAO. The Bureau of Social Affairs prepared the following papers for the Seminar: "International Co-operation in Demographic Research and Training in Asia and the Far East" (E/CN.9/CONF.2/L.16); "Methods of Analytical Assessment of Accuracy and Completeness of Census Data" (E/CN.9/CONF.2/L.1); "Population Census Tabulations for Economic and Social Policy-making in Countries of Asia and the Far East" (E/CN.9/CONF.2/L.7); "Preliminary Report of the United Nations Seminar on Evaluation and Utilization of Population Census Data in Latin America" (E/CN.9/CONF.2/L.9); "Selected Bibliography on Methods of Projecting the School Age Population, the Economically Active Population, the Urban and Rural Populations and the Number and Size of Households" (E/CN.9/CONF.2/L.11); and "Evaluation of Population Census Results by Post-Enumeration Field Checks" (E/CN.9/CONF.2/L.17).

247. The Division for Public Administration and the Fiscal and Financial Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations co-sponsored, with ECAFE and BTAO, the third Workshop on Budget Reclassification and Management in the ECAFE Region. The Fiscal and Financial Branch collaborated with ECAFE in preparing a paper on "Developments in Budget Reclassification Work in the ECAFE Region" (E/CN.11/BRW.3/L.3), and submitted two papers to the Workshop, namely, "A Manual on Programme and Performance Budgeting" (E/CN.11/BRW.3/L.5) and "A Manual for Economic and Functional Classification of Government Transactions" (E/ECA/39). The United Nations Office of Legal Affairs continued to collaborate with the secretariat on work in commercial arbitration. It participated in and submitted two papers to the fourth session of the Committee on Trade, namely, "Commercial Arbitration in the ECAFE Region" (E/CN.11/TRADE/L.38) and "Arbitral Legislation and Facilities in Certain Countries of the ECAFE Region" (E/CN.11/TRADE/L.19/Add.1).

248. For the second session of the Working Party on Customs Administration, held in 1960, the Statistical Office of the United Nations contributed a paper on "The Relation between Customs Data and External Trade Statistics" (E/CN.11/TRADE/CAWP.2/L.7), and the Division for Public Administration prepared a paper on "Possibilities of Co-operation in Exchange and Training of Staff" (E/CN.11/TRADE/CAWP.2/L.6). The Bureau of Social Affairs prepared a paper on "Town and Regional Planning in ECAFE Countries" (I&NR/HBWP.6/8) for the sixth session of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials. The United Nations Water Resources Development Centre and Natural Resources Group submitted a report on *Large-Scale Groundwater Development*¹⁶ to the fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development: it also participated in this Conference.

249. The Industrial Development Division at Headquarters co-operated with ECAFE in organizing and servicing the second Working Group of Experts on Programming Techniques, and prepared a paper on "Investment and Current Input Data in Industrial Programming (A case study of some industries in the ECAFE region)".

250. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs, through its Cartography Section, co-operated with the secretariat in organizing the Seminar on Aerial Survey Methods and Equipment and in implementing the recommendations of that Seminar. It participated in the fourth sessions of both the Working Party of Senior Geologists and the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development held in April-May 1960.

251. The ECAFE secretariat participated in the Asia and the Far East Seminar on Family and Child Welfare, organized by the Bureau of Social Affairs and BTAO and prepared a paper entitled "Planning, Administration and Co-operation of Family and Child Welfare Services" (Working Paper No. 2).

¹⁶ United Nations publication, Sales No. : 60.II.B.3.

252. ECAFE co-operated increasingly with ECE, ECLA and ECA, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 723 (XXVIII). The secretariats of the four regional commissions continued to exchange information and data on trade, economic development and planning, transport, housing and electric power. The secretariat contributed a paper entitled "Survey of Electrical Power Development in the ECAFE Region" to the ECLA Seminar on Electric Power Development. ECE prepared a paper on "Activities of ECE in the Field of Housing and Building" (I&NR/HBWP.6/3) for the sixth session of ECAFE's Working Party on Housing and Building Materials, and assisted ECAFE in the preparation and organization of the Study Group of Asian Housing Experts to Europe. The Study Group, during its tour, attended the ECE Housing Committee in June 1960.

253. The ECA secretariat's study on "The Significance of Recent Common Market Developments in Latin America" (TRADE/68) was circulated at the fourth session of the ECAFE Committee on Trade. On the basis of information supplied by the secretariats of ECE, ECLA and ECA, the ECAFE secretariat prepared a note entitled "Work of other Regional Economic Commissions in the Field of Trade" (E/CN.11/TRADE/L.39), for the ECAFE Committee on Trade. A note on ECAFE activities in the field of trade was prepared by the ECAFE secretariat for the ninth session of the ECE Committee on the Development of Trade in 1960.

254. The Secretariat was increasingly aided in its work by member and associate member governments and their representatives and liaison officers.¹⁷ Valuable services were rendered to the secretariat by government experts and non-governmental organizations.

Scientific and technical co-operation

255. In accordance with the Commission's terms of reference and resolution 15 (XII) of the Commission, the secretariat intensified its work on the promotion of scientific and technical co-operation among member countries through its various journals and publications, library and documentation services, exhibitions of technical, scientific and information films, participation in fairs and exhibitions, and the organization of study tours.

256. The secretariat's publications — the annual *Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East*, the quarterly *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East*, the *Development Programming Techniques Series*, the *Flood Control Series*, *Mining Developments in Asia and the Far East*,

¹⁷ Cambodia, China, France, Japan, Laos, Netherlands, Republic of Viet-Nam, United Kingdom (also representing North Borneo, Brunei, Hong Kong, and Sarawak), and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics have permanent representatives to ECAFE. The following Governments have representatives acting as Liaison Officers with ECAFE: Australia, Burma, Federation of Malaya, India, Indonesia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand and the United States. The Governments of Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, Israel and Italy also maintain liaison with ECAFE.

the "Industrial Development Journal", the "Transport and Communications Bulletin", the "Industrial Development Series", the "Trade Promotion News", the "Electric Power Bulletin" and the "Asian Bibliography" — were, as in the past, issued regularly and distributed to government ministries, departments and agencies, research institutions, universities, semi-governmental and non-governmental organizations. The secretariat continued to function as a clearing house, dealt with individual inquiries from governments and non-governmental organizations, and promoted direct exchange of scientific, technical and economic information among the member governments.

257. In this task, the secretariat received increasing co-operation from members and associate members of ECAFE, other states, technical organizations, national experts, departments of the United Nations Secretariat, the other regional commissions and from international and regional organizations. Technical and information papers were prepared by governments for the meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission. Member governments offered to carry out special surveys, case studies, laboratory tests, pilot operations, demonstrations, training and research for the benefit of other members in such matters as geological and aerial surveys; analysis, beneficiation and other techniques for processing raw materials, coals, and ores; house design; maintenance of railway tracks; traffic safety on railways and on roads; small-scale industries; rural electrification; specifications and operation of inland waterway vessels; dieselization and electrification of railways; mechanization and the use of labour-saving techniques in mining and construction; hydrology; floating fairs and trade promotion techniques. Directories of research and training institutions for small-scale industries, soil stabilization and railways were prepared with a view to promoting further co-operation among member governments in technical and scientific matters. Some countries of the region also organized exchanges of visits by their experts on, for example, community development, housing, and economic planning. A number of non-governmental organizations prepared papers and co-operated with the secretariat in the dissemination of information on geology, electric power, standardization, railway operations, highway construction, road safety, and training of inland waterway personnel.

258. The library of technical films maintained in the secretariat was substantially augmented by donations of films by countries and was increasingly used by ECAFE countries and at ECAFE meetings. The practice of organizing study tours, as part of the technical meetings of ECAFE, was continued. During the period under review, such study tours were organized by host countries in respect of highway construction, multiple-purpose river valley development, paper manufacturing, metals and engineering, and the cement and glass industries.

259. The preparation of regional geological, mineral and other maps continued to be a joint effort of the secretariat, the International Geological Congress and national geological surveys. Directories of research and training institutes for cottage and small-scale industries, soil stabilization, railways and water resources develop-

ment were issued, and similar directories of research institutes or laboratories serving medium and large-scale industries were being prepared with a view to promoting the co-ordination and regional use of the training, research, demonstration and pilot projects of the countries of the region.

Advisory services

260. During the period under review, the secretariat expanded its advisory services to member and associate member countries, often in co-operation with BTAO and the specialized agencies. These services included technical information and specially prepared studies, comments on the development plans of countries and on specific industrial development projects as well as assistance in respect of Special Fund requests and projects. The secretariat's advice was specially sought by the Government of British Borneo on the establishment of an alumina plant, by the Government of Singapore in respect of investigations of industrial development generally and in particular of steel, shipbuilding and electric power projects, by the Government of Indonesia on steel projects, and by the Government of Pakistan on matters relating to housing and utilization of surplus manpower.

261. ECAFE assisted BTAO in organizing, and seconded secretariat staff to, an Industrial Survey Team and an Iron and Steel Survey Mission to advise the Government of Singapore on its industrial development plans and projects. The team of census experts provided by the United Nations Statistical Office and BTAO, and stationed in the secretariat, continued to advise countries of the region on various aspects of the 1960-1961 World Census Programme. During the year, fifteen countries made use of the services of these census experts. Advisory services to governments in other fields of statistical work continued.

262. The secretariat continued to advise and assist the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, the Executive Agent, and the donor countries and agencies, in regard to the implementation of the programme of investigations on the lower Mekong river and its tributaries.

263. The secretariat continued to be represented on the advisory boards or committees of a number of regional training and research institutions, such as the Pakistan Regional Railway Training Centre at Lahore, Pakistan; the Regional Marine Diesel Training Centre at Rangoon, Burma; the two Regional Housing Centres at Bandung, Indonesia, and Delhi, India; the Demographic Training and Research Centre at Bombay, India; and the UNESCO Research Centre on the Social Implications of Industrialization in Southeast Asia, at New Delhi, India. The secretariat was, as in the past, consulted in regard to the work of the Water Resources Development Training Centre, Roorkee, India, and of the Statistical Centre at the University of the Philippines, Manila.

Co-operation with the Special Fund

264. Frequent consultations were held between the secretariat and the Special Fund on matters of common

interest. The secretariat co-operated with the Special Fund in examining project applications by the countries of the region and plans of operations in the fields of water resources development, housing and building materials, and the petroleum industry. Assistance was provided by the secretariat in preparing, evaluating and co-ordinating project applications and plans of operations for the Mekong project. The Special Fund prepared an information paper on "United Nations Special Fund Activities in Asia and the Far East" (E/CN.11/555) for the seventeenth session of the Commission.

Co-operation with the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations (BTAO)

265. The secretariat continued to provide advice on technical assistance projects and furnished assistance in the recruitment and briefing of experts, fellows and trainees. The secretariat was increasingly consulted by BTAO on certain matters, such as the formulation of job descriptions of experts requested by governments, the review of the reports of the experts, and the measures required to follow up their recommendations. The secretariat's work in that regard covered a wide variety of subjects, such as general economic surveys, planning techniques, methods of establishing specific industries, statistical surveys, water resources development, transport and communications, surveys and development of mineral resources, establishment of research, demonstration and servicing institutions for small-scale industries, housing and building materials, population and community development.

266. The secretariat co-operated closely with BTAO on the Mekong project and on the other regional projects sponsored by the Commission. It assisted BTAO in connexion with a number of training and research centres. The Study Group of Asian Housing Experts to Europe was organized jointly by BTAO and ECAFE. BTAO co-sponsored, with ECAFE, the third Workshop on Budgetary Reclassification and Management, and the Conference on Pulp and Paper Development in Asia and the Far East. BTAO prepared information papers on its activities for the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, the Sub-Committee on Metals and Engineering, the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials, the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, and the Inland Transport and Communications Committee.

267. BTAO co-operated with, and provided assistance to, ECAFE in organizing the second Working Group of Experts on Programming Techniques, the third Working Group on Training of Statisticians, the Regional Seminar on Trade Promotion, the Zonal Meetings of the Working Groups of Experts on International Highways, the Regional Seminar on Evaluation and Utilization of Census Results, the preparatory meeting for the Seminar on Planning and Administration of National Community Development Programme and the 1960-61 in-service training programme for economic development in the secretariat.

268. BTAO experts stationed in the countries of the region often participated in the technical meetings of the

subsidiary bodies of the Commission. Increased personal consultations and contacts between BTAO experts and the secretariat proved mutually beneficial. Close contacts were maintained with the representatives of TAB stationed in the region.

C. Relations with specialized agencies and other organizations

269. As in previous years, the Commission received close co-operation from the specialized agencies and other organizations over a wide-range of the Commission's activities, through such means as joint planning and implementation, co-sponsorship of regional meetings, joint participation in technical assistance and other activities, participation in each other's meetings and inter-secretariat discussions and consultations.

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

International Labour Organisation (ILO)

270. Co-operation with the ILO, and particularly with its Asian field office, continued on questions of training, manpower, employment and productivity. The ILO and ECAFE worked together on the Regional Centre for Diesel Marine Mechanics at Rangoon, Burma. The ILO prepared a paper on "The Promotion of Industrial Productivity in ECAFE Countries" (I&NR/44), and made available the ILO brochure entitled "Raising Productivity" (I&NR/40), for the thirteenth session of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources. It submitted a paper entitled "Activities of the International Labour Organisation in the Field of Workers' Housing" (I&NR/HBWP.6/6) to the sixth session of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials. It was represented at these two meetings, as well as at the third session of the Conference of Asian Statisticians and the seventeenth session of the Commission.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

271. Close co-operation with FAO continued, particularly through the Joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division. The two bodies exchanged statistics and other data for use in general economic analysis. FAO joined with ECAFE and BTAO in sponsoring the Conference on Pulp and Paper Development in Asia and the Far East, and contributed the following papers to the meeting: "World Pulp and Paper Production, Consumption and Trade, with special emphasis on the Far East" (ECAFE/BTAO/FAO CONF/SEC/PAPER I); "Appraisal of the Region's Fibrous Raw Materials Supply and Economic Availability" (ECAFE/BTAO/FAO CONF/SEC/PAPER III); "Technical and Economic Aspects of Industrial Pulp and Paper Production in the Region" (ECAFE/BTAO/FAO CONF/SEC/PAPER V); and "Newsprint" (ECAFE/BTAO/FAO CONF/SEC/PAPER VI). FAO also made available for circulation to the Conference the FAO publication entitled *World demand for paper to 1975*. It was represented at the sixth session of the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries, and submitted information papers and the report of the FAO Regional

Seminar on Food Technology for Asia and the Far East (FAO/59/10/7513) to the meeting. FAO is collaborating with the ECAFE secretariat in a market analysis of jute. It submitted a paper on "Trends in World Demand for Jute Manufactures" (TRADE/65) to the fourth session of the Committee on Trade. The third session of the Conference of Asian Statisticians was held jointly with FAO and for this FAO prepared the following papers: "World Census of Agriculture" (E/CN.11/ASTAT/Conf.3/L.5); "Progress of Agricultural Census Preparations in Asia and the Far East" (E/CN.11/ASTAT/Conf.3/L.8); and "Statistics on Agricultural Producer Prices" (E/CN.11/ASTAT/Conf.3/L.6 and Add.1 and 2). FAO participated in the Working Group of Experts on Training of Statisticians, convened by ECAFE with the assistance of BTAO.

272. The United Nations/FAO Census Technical Assistance Programme in Asia and the Far East which was aided by the Ford Foundation, was, as in the past, carried out jointly by ECAFE, BTAO, the United Nations Statistical Office and FAO. The FAO/ECAFE Expert Group on Selected Aspects of Agricultural Development and Planning in Asia and the Far East was convened jointly by ECAFE and FAO. FAO prepared a paper entitled "Activities of the FAO Forestry and Forest Products Division relating to Housing" (I&NR/HBWP.6/7) for the sixth session of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials and participated in the session. Close collaboration between the two organizations was maintained on questions relating to the Mekong project.

273. FAO was represented at the sixth session of the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries, the sixth session of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, the sixth session of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials, the Working Group on Training of Statisticians, the fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, the fourth session of the Committee on Trade, the thirteenth session of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, the ninth session of the Inland Transport and Communications Committee and the seventeenth session of the Commission.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

274. Frequent consultations were held between the ECAFE and UNESCO secretariats, particularly on the teaching of economics in the universities of the region, the social aspects of rural electrification, small-scale industries, productivity, growth of steel towns and the role of education in economic development. Negotiations were carried out with UNESCO on the question of constructing and operating a hydraulic model of the Mekong delta. UNESCO worked closely with ECAFE in the preparation of a survey of training facilities for geologists and mining specialists. It prepared a paper on "Activities of UNESCO in the field of Low-cost School Building" (I&NR/HBWP.6/5) for the sixth session of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials, at which it was represented. Discussions were held with UNESCO regarding the establishment of a technical

centre for evolving designs of low-cost schools at Bandung, Indonesia. UNESCO was represented at the fourth session of the Working Party of Senior Geologists, the fourth session of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, the Conference on Pulp and Paper Development in Asia and the Far East, the Working Group of Experts on Training of Statisticians, the sixth session of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials, the fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, the thirteenth session of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources and the seventeenth session of the Commission. The ECAFE secretariat continued to be a member of the Advisory Committee of the UNESCO Research Centre on the Social Implications of Industrialization in Southeast Asia.

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

275. Co-operation between the ECAFE secretariat and the ICAO Far East and Pacific Office at Bangkok continued. ICAO was represented at the sixth session of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, the second session of the Working Party on Customs Administration — for which it prepared a note entitled "Facilitation of International Air Transport" (TRADE/CAWP.2/12) — and the ninth session of the Inland Transport and Communications Committee.

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the Bank)

276. The ECAFE secretariat continued to co-operate with the Bank's Resident Representative at Bangkok, who was appointed a member of the Advisory Board of the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin. The Bank prepared a paper on "Economic Criteria for Assessing Transport Projects" (E/CN.11/DPWP.6/L.7) for the sixth session of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning. It was represented at the fourth session of the Committee on Trade, the thirteenth session of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources and the seventeenth session of the Commission.

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

277. The IMF continued to supply the ECAFE secretariat with information and data on conversion rates and on trade, balance of payments and financial questions. It was represented at the third Workshop on Budget Reclassification and Management in the ECAFE Region, for which it prepared a paper on "The Fund's Experience in the Compilation and Use of Government Finance Statistics" (BRW.3/2), and the seventeenth session of the Commission.

World Health Organization (WHO)

278. Consultations continued between the ECAFE secretariat and the Regional Office of WHO on matters of common interest, particularly on environmental hygiene in respect of housing and town building, and population problems. WHO was represented at the third session of the Conference of Asian Statisticians, the

sixth session of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials, the fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, the thirteenth session of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources and the seventeenth session of the Commission.

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

279. ITU continued to co-operate with ECAFE in implementing the Commission's work programme in the field of telecommunications. The expert, appointed by ITU with assistance from BTAO and stationed in the ECAFE secretariat, continued to carry out studies on problems relating to the development of national and regional telecommunications facilities. The Secretary-General of ITU consulted the Executive Secretary on the question of setting up, in the ECAFE secretariat, a joint unit to deal with telecommunication problems. ITU was represented at the ninth session of the Inland Transport and Communications Committee and at the seventeenth session of the Commission.

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

280. WMO continued to co-operate with the ECAFE secretariat in implementing the recommendations of the ECAFE/WMO Interregional Seminar on Hydrologic Network and Methods held in July 1959. It also continued to provide a hydrometeorologist to assist the Executive Agent in the supervision of the hydrologic programme for, as well as the installation and operation of hydrologic equipment under, the Mekong project. WMO was represented at the seventeenth session of the Commission.

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)

281. The secretariats of ECAFE and IAEA continued to consult each other on problems of developing energy resources in the region, the study of the comparative cost of generating power from conventional and nuclear materials, the application of radioactive tracer techniques in geological investigations, and the collection of hydrologic data. IAEA sent an Isotope Mission to assist in the investigation of the lower Mekong basin. The ECAFE secretariat briefed an IAEA mission to the Philippines which made a study of the possibility of introducing nuclear power in that country. IAEA was represented at the fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development and the seventeenth session of the Commission.

INTERIM COMMISSION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE ORGANIZATION (ICITO/GATT)

282. The ECAFE secretariat continued to consult the GATT secretariat on problems of international trade relating to developments in the European Economic Community, trade regulations and customs procedures and trade agreements concluded by the countries of the region. The GATT secretariat contributed two papers, namely, "Recent Developments in European Economic Integration" (TRADE/67), and "Negotiability of Duties

applied by Developing Countries" (TRADE/76), to the fourth session of the Committee on Trade, and participated in that meeting. It was represented at the seventeenth session of the Commission.

OTHER INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Colombo Plan

283. The secretariat continued to co-operate with the Consultative Committee for Co-operative Economic Development in South and Southeast Asia (the Colombo Plan). The secretariat and the Colombo Plan Bureau exchanged information on training facilities available in the region. The Governments of Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand and the United Kingdom continued to provide aid under the Colombo Plan for the Mekong project.

284. The Executive Secretary of ECAFE attended, as an observer, the ministerial session of the Consultative Committee held at Tokyo, Japan, in November 1960. A member of the secretariat participated in the preparatory meeting of officials held before the ministerial session, supplied data and information for, and assisted in, the preparation of the report of the Consultative Committee.

285. The Director of the Colombo Plan Bureau participated in the seventeenth session of the Commission.

Customs Co-operation Council

286. The Customs Co-operation Council participated in the second session of the Working Party on Customs Administration, and contributed three papers entitled "Professional Customs Agents" (TRADE/CAWP.2/5),

"Customs Convention Regarding ECS Carnets for Commercial Samples" (TRADE/CAWP.2/6), and "Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Packings" (TRADE/CAWP.2/7).

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

287. A large number of international non-governmental organizations, their regional bodies and representatives continued to co-operate with the secretariat, the Commission and its subsidiary bodies. Information was exchanged and consultations arranged, wherever possible, between the secretariat and the appropriate organizations regarding the Commission's projects on trade, commercial arbitration, standardization, electric power, irrigation and drainage, hydrology, inland water transport, highways, travel and tourism, community development, housing and land settlement. The Permanent International Association of Navigation Congresses initiated a study on dredging methods for canals and rivers in the countries of the region. The Permanent International Association of Road Congresses assisted the secretariat in preparing the study "Bituminous Construction Terminology". The International Chamber of Commerce presented a paper on "The ECS Carnets System" (TRADE/CAWP.2/NGO/1), and the International Air Transport Association presented two papers on Customs administration and the special requirements of air transport (TRADE/CAWP.2/NGO/2 and 3) to the second session of the Working Party on Customs Administration.

288. Various non-governmental organizations participated in several meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission and in the Commission's seventeenth session. ECAFE sent representatives to the meetings of some of the organizations held in the region.

Part II

SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

OPENING AND CLOSING MEETINGS

289. The seventeenth session of the Commission was held at New Delhi, India, from 8 to 20 March 1961, inclusive. His Excellency Rajendra Prasad, President of the Republic of India, Mr. Phillipe de Seynes, United Nations Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs, and Mr. U Nyun, Executive Secretary, addressed the Commission.

290. The Commission thanked the President of the Republic of India for his inaugural address and the Government of India for providing facilities for the session at New Delhi. It expressed deep regret at the death of Mr. Govind Ballabh Pant, Minister for Home Affairs of the Government of India.

291. At the close of the seventeenth session, on 20 March 1961, the Commission unanimously adopted the text of the Annual Report to the Economic and Social Council and passed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and the two Vice-Chairmen.

OPENING AND CLOSING ADDRESSES

292. His Excellency Rajendra Prasad, President of India, welcomed representatives and observers. He described the progress made in India under the second five-year plan. The Government had sought to achieve a balance between heavy basic industries and small-scale industries, as the two were interdependent and complementary, and to provide more gainful employment opportunities for India's increasing population.

293. He noted that *per caput* income in some of the member countries was among the lowest in the world. To achieve real economic progress, it was necessary to expand the interchange of goods and services between countries of the region. Despite political and ideological differences in the outlook of the people of Asia and the low level of economic activity in the region, concerted action in the field of intraregional trade, tourism, international highways and waterways, communications and power was bound to yield results. He hoped that the more developed countries of the West would co-operate in promoting a freer flow of goods and not allow regional

arrangements to restrict trade between different parts of the world.

294. The problem of providing employment opportunities was not peculiar to India and any action taken to raise levels of living would have to take into account the growth of population in the region. Through a continual exchange of views, joint action in planning, industrial development and technical collaboration, possibilities of co-operation could be fully exploited. The Government of India would wholeheartedly participate in co-ordinated efforts to raise levels of living throughout the region.

295. The development of the lower Mekong river basin was an illustration of international co-operation achieved through ECAFE. India had provided expert advice and some equipment for the project. As a result of discussions with the ECAFE secretariat, the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin and the Cambodian Government, the Government of India had also agreed to provide 1,250,000 rupees for carrying out comprehensive examinations with a view to the preparation of a project report, including designs for a barrage in the Tonlé Sap sector. The Indian team would work closely with other agencies and donor countries already associated with the project. The agreements India had reached with Pakistan relating to the waters of the Indus valley rivers and those with Nepal relating to the waters of the Kosi and the Gandak were further examples of international collaboration.

296. He expressed the hope that a spirit of mutual accommodation and the desire to improve living conditions throughout the region would guide the Commission in its deliberations.

297. Mr. de Seynes noted that India was on the threshold of a further phase in the great venture of democratic planning which had commenced ten years previously.

298. The global indices for 1960 showed record levels of production, income and trade and did not indicate any major disruptive price movements. However, it was not enough to compare averages; it was necessary to diagnose trends, and, in that respect, the situation was far from satisfactory. Some of the critical indexes used in measuring economic performances had levelled out or turned downward. The economic upswing which had appeared to be taking shape in 1959 had lost its momentum. The contraction of demand in the United States, insufficiently offset by economic expansion in Europe, where the rate of acceleration was tending to decline, was being felt in the under-developed countries, where the index of average prices of primary commodities had again started to fall, and the terms of trade were again deteriorating. Moreover, the effectiveness of counter-cyclical measures was being severely tested by the persistent pressure on the dollar.

299. Although the formulation of a concerted policy by the principal industrial countries was beset with difficulties, the problems involved were being tackled, using a new approach and with an increasing sense of international responsibility. Thus, in spite of the anxiety caused by its balance of payments difficulties, the United States Government had so far not sought to solve them

by curtailing its financial assistance programmes or by protective measures likely to be detrimental to world trade. Nevertheless, the vicissitudes of the United States economy and the uncertainties with regard to corrective policies were of concern to the countries of the region, for approximately one-fifth of their exports went to the United States. In spite of good harvests and increased imports, supplies of foodstuffs in the region remained basically vulnerable to climatic variations. The domestic supply and the volume of the exportable surplus — which remained the determining element in investment programmes — were both menaced. The region's trade deficit had risen from less than \$1,000 million in the first three quarters of 1959 to almost \$1,600 million in the corresponding period of 1960. The resulting persistent pressures on the balance of payments were bound to restrain the rate of growth, despite the fact that invisible receipts seemed to be preventing any further shrinkage of gold and foreign exchange reserves for the time being.

300. The trade pattern of the ECAFE region differed from those of western Europe and the American and African continents. More than one-third of the value of its exports went into intraregional trade, as against less than 10 per cent in Latin America and Africa, and well over 50 per cent in western Europe. Although trade within the region was favoured by transport and port facilities, and by the extent to which the more and less industrialized countries and the food-surplus and food-deficit countries were mutually complementary, the proportion of intraregional trade had fallen from 40 per cent of total trade before the war to 37 per cent. This relative decline in intraregional trade appeared to reflect a lag in production and purchasing power. Governments should therefore determine how far a policy of intra-regional trade promotion would stimulate production and raise levels of living. A general and over-hasty removal of all tariff protection within the Asian region would probably tend to increase and perpetuate the gap between the industrialized countries and the primary producing countries. Most of the new regional systems, as well as GATT, recognized the special position of the less-developed countries, and the need to allow them a certain degree of freedom in formulating trade and tariff policies to suit their investment plans and their need for diversification. On the other hand, a policy which would bring into being a large number of relatively inefficient industries, each operating within a highly protected local market, would not make for harmonious development in the region. Between these two extremes, there was ample scope for concerted or negotiated measures, capable of fostering regional or sub-regional arrangements which would increase the rate and diversification of production. Such arrangements must be conceived on the basis of a long-term perspective, and geared to the future structural pattern indicated by demand trends and by the prospects for the development of natural resources. The necessity of economic projections for this purpose had been recognized by the organs of the United Nations. A programme of global and sectoral projection was now under way and was of particular relevance in the ECAFE region. For example, the import requirements of the under-developed countries as a whole, which were at present estimated at \$20,000 million, would rise to \$60,000 million

by 1980. Even with a substantial increase in international financial assistance in the form of grants and loans and the possibilities offered by intraregional trade, a gap would remain unless the industrial countries were prepared to import a larger volume of manufactured goods from the less-developed countries. That could well happen, provided the industrial countries maintained a satisfactory rate of growth and level of employment, but the process would be neither quick nor spontaneous. It was, therefore, not too early to be looking for possible solutions. He believed that the Commission should devote methodical and sustained attention to the problem. The United Nations, with its regional ramifications, was well designed to provide forums where measures for co-operation and a new international discipline, based on free consent, could be discussed.

301. Mr. U. Nyun, Executive Secretary, noted that the economic development of India was an example of what could be achieved by the organized mobilization of resources in a developing country. It also demonstrated the difficulties which had to be overcome and the challenges to be met in order to secure a higher rate of growth.

302. It was, however, still too early to make a final assessment of the adequacy of the rate of growth of the economies of the countries of the ECAFE region and of their potentialities for progress. Progress had not been uniform in all sectors and the significant expansion achieved in the volume of goods and services had to be set off against the growth of population. While the inflow of foreign aid and loans had risen during the decade, the terms of trade of many countries had deteriorated considerably. The average rate of savings and capital formation had increased slightly but had not reached the desired level of 12 to 15 per cent of the national income.

303. The special study made of the growth of public finance in the region in part II of the *Economic Survey* revealed that, although the rate of growth of government revenues had increased, it had not kept pace with public expenditure and was not continuous or steady. The proportion of government revenues to gross national product had remained low in spite of the increase in national incomes. Apart from the incentives required to promote voluntary savings and investment, there was a need to review entire taxation systems and to seek new and expanding sources of revenue.

304. In September 1961, the Conference of Asian Economic Planners would study the progress made and the problems involved, as well as the obstacles to growth encountered by the countries over the decade 1950-1960; it would also examine the possible scope and forms of co-operation among the countries of the ECAFE region in the field of economic development and planning.

305. The fourth session of the Committee on Trade had made a number of recommendations for closer regional trade co-operation, in pursuance of Commission resolution 31 (XVI) on regional economic co-operation for development of trade and industries. Those recommendations included the formation of an expert working group to study the possibilities of greater regional co-operation in trade, the holding of an Asian trade fair in 1964 or thereafter, joint measures for the improvement

of customs administration and the simplification of customs formalities.

306. As industrial development in the countries of the region moved forward from the planning to the implementation stage, the need for practical guidance on development projects, particularly in some of the smaller countries, was becoming increasingly pressing. The secretariat had therefore increased its technical advisory services, for example, to the Governments of Indonesia, British Borneo and Singapore. It would also act as co-ordinator in the implementation of the mineral resources development programme of the lower Mekong basin.

307. Although progress had been made with the Asian highway project, much work still remained to be done at both national and regional levels. He appealed to the governments of the advanced countries to provide substantial technical and financial aid to the countries of the region in the implementation of the project.

308. Considerable headway had been made in the development of water resources in the region. An expansion of the irrigated area and flood control works had helped considerably to stabilize and increase agricultural production. Progress in hydro-power development and increases in the consumption of water, both industrial and domestic, had also been marked. The co-operation between India and Pakistan on the flood warning system was an example of the co-operative use of hydrological data in the interest of a river basin as a whole. The concept of multiple-purpose unified river basin development had been accepted in practically every country of the region. Many multiple-purpose projects, at different stages of investigation, planning or construction, in practically every country of the region, were receiving financial and technical assistance from various international organizations.

309. The joint development of the lower Mekong basin, under the auspices of the Commission, by Cambodia, Laos, the Republic of Viet-Nam and Thailand, supported by the joint efforts of eleven countries and a number of United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, had established a new pattern of international co-operation. There were no less than fourteen international rivers within the geographical area of the region, and the secretariat stood ready to assist the riparian countries concerned in the development of suitable joint ventures. He also reviewed the work of the fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development and the projects undertaken by the secretariat.

310. The changes in the terms of reference of the Commission had made it possible to pay increasing attention to the role of social and cultural factors in economic development. Although certain outmoded social traditions, institutions or attitudes might retard progress, Asian society contained many common and strong elements which could be strengthened to harness social forces for economic development and welfare. For instance, the co-operative spirit of village life and pride in the village society could be exploited to promote the cause of development. In that regard, community development programmes had made good progress in many countries of the region and were of tremendous impor-

tance to the Asian countries, because they reached the mainsprings of economic growth in the rural areas, where 90 per cent of the population lived, and sought to convert the liability of surplus and under-used manpower into an asset. He referred to the secretariat study¹⁸ and future plans in the field of community development.

311. Almost all governments in the region were participating in the World Population Census Programme, and preliminary census results, in general, indicated a population growth which was greater than anticipated; this could have serious implications for the development plans of the countries concerned.

312. He reviewed the measures taken by the secretariat to increase co-operation with United Nations Headquarters and with the specialized agencies and referred to the work of the Joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division, including that of the Expert Group on Selected Aspects of Agricultural Planning in Asia and the Far East.

313. He drew attention to General Assembly resolution 1518 (XV) and Economic and Social Council resolution 793 (XXX) on the need for the decentralization of United Nations economic and social activities. In pursuance of those resolutions, the Secretary-General had submitted a note on "Decentralization of the United Nations Economic and Social Activities and Strengthening of the Regional Economic Commission" (E/CN.11/558) to the Commission for the purpose of facilitating his consultations with the regional commissions. Member governments should give careful consideration to the suggestions made in that note to make increasing use of the services of the regional commissions. The activities of the Commission had reached a stage it could emphasize and promote a greater degree of regional co-operation in the context of the larger international co-operation which was the goal of the United Nations.

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

314. The session was attended by representatives of the following member and associate member countries : Afghanistan, Australia, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, China, the Federation of Malaya, France, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Laos, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Republic of Viet-Nam, Thailand, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Brunei, Hong Kong, Singapore, and North Borneo and Sarawak. By virtue of paragraph 9 of the terms of reference of the Commission, representatives of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Turkey, the United Arab Republic, and Yugoslavia, and, under Economic and Social Council resolution 617 (XXII), a representative of the Federal Republic of Germany, attended the session in a consultative capacity. Observers were sent by the following specialized agencies : International Labour Organisation (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations

Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO), International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the Bank), International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), as well as by the Interim Commission of the International Trade Organization/General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (ICITO/GATT), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Technical Assistance Board (TAB) and the Special Fund. Observers from the Colombo Plan Bureau and from the League of Arab States¹⁹ also attended. Observers from the following non-governmental organizations were present in a consultative capacity : International Chamber of Commerce, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Co-operative Alliance, International Federation of Agricultural Producers, International Federation of Christian Trade Unions, International Organization of Employers, World Federation of Trade Unions, World Federation of United Nations Associations, World Veterans Federation, Catholic International Union for Social Service, the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, International Council of Women, International Federation of University Women, International Federation of Women Lawyers, International Union of Official Travel Organizations, League of Red Cross Societies, Pan Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, and International Committee of Catholic Nurses.

315. The Commission decided to invite the League of Arab States to participate in its meetings in a consultative capacity under paragraph 10 of the Commission's terms of reference.

316. A list of representatives and observers is given in annex I.

CREDENTIALS

317. The Commission heard statements by some delegations on the credentials of the delegation of Laos. The Chairman announced at the 246th meeting that, in accordance with rule 12 of the rules of procedure, he and the two Vice-Chairmen had examined the credentials of delegations to the session and found them to be in order.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

318. In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the Commission, at its 232nd meeting, elected Mr. N. Kanungo (India) as Chairman, and Mr. M. Lim (Philippines) and Mr. M. Notowidigdo (Indonesia) as first and second Vice-Chairmen respectively.

319. The Commission appointed a Working Party, consisting of representatives from Burma, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Pakistan, and Thailand, to examine its programme of work and priorities. The Working Party elected Mr. A. Sunananta (Thailand) as Chairman. The Commission also appointed a Drafting Committee to prepare its annual report. The Committee consisted of representatives from Afghanistan, Burma,

¹⁸ See paragraph 203.

¹⁹ See paragraph 315.

Ceylon, the Federation of Malaya, France, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Pakistan, Thailand, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. It elected Mr. S. Matsui (Japan) as Chairman.

B. Agenda

320. 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.11/543/Rev.2; E/CN.11/L.87/Rev.1).
4. Amendment of the rules of procedure of the Commission (E/CN.11/549).
5. Economic situation in Asia (E/CN.11/L.88 I and II, E/CN.11/L.93, E/CN.11/L.98).
6. Report of the Committee on Trade (fourth session) (E/CN.11/553).
7. Report of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (thirteenth session) (E/CN.11/554).
8. Report of the Inland Transport and Communications Committee (ninth session) (E/CN.11/556).
9. Economic development and planning :
 - (a) Report of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (sixth session) (E/CN.11/L.86, E/CN.11/L.92);
 - (b) Report of the third Workshop on Problems of Budget Reclassification and Management (E/CN.11/L.85);
 - (c) Report of the ECAFE/FAO Expert Group on Selected Aspects of Agricultural Planning (E/CN.11/L.91, E/CN.11/L.90);
 - (d) ECAFE/BTAO in-service training programme for economic development (E/CN.11/L.92).
10. Communication from the League of Arab States.²⁰
11. Contribution of rural community development programmes to national economic development (E/CN.11/L.96, E/CN.11/540, E/CN.11/541, E/CN.11/542).
12. Activities in the field of water resources development :
 - (a) Report of the Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development (E/CN.11/551);
 - (b) Report of the fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development (E/CN.11/548);
 - (c) Report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin (E/CN.11/557).
13. Regional co-operation for the economic and social development of Asia and the Far East (E/CN.11/L.95).
14. Activities in the field of statistics :
 - (a) Report of the Conference of Asian Statisticians (third session) (E/CN.11/531);
 - (b) Report of the Working Group of Experts on the Training of Statisticians (E/CN.11/545);
 - (c) Report on the progress of the 1960 World Census Programme and on the work of the Regional Census Advisers in Asia (E/CN.11/550, E/CN.11/L.97).
15. Report of the Joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division (E/CN.11/L.89).
16. Technical assistance and Special Fund activities in the region (E/CN.11/552, E/CN.11/555).

²⁰ Item added as a result of the decision of the Commission at its 233rd meeting. See paragraph 315.

17. Co-operation with specialized agencies.
18. Decentralization of United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the regional economic commissions (E/CN.11/558).
19. Programme of work and priorities :
 - (a) Commission's programme of work and priorities for 1961-62 (E/CN.11/L.94/Rev.1, ECAFE/67);
 - (b) Resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council of interest to the Commission (ECAFE/66).
20. Date and place of the next session.
21. Annual report to the Economic and Social Council (ECAFE/68 and Corr.1).

C. Account of proceedings

AMENDMENT OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE COMMISSION

321. The Commission unanimously decided to include the following rule in the Commission's rules of procedure :

"Draft resolutions, and substantive amendments or motions, shall be introduced in writing and handed to the Executive Secretary, who shall circulate copies to the representatives at least twenty-four hours before they are discussed and voted upon, unless the Commission decides otherwise."²¹

ECONOMIC SITUATION IN ASIA

322. The Commission reviewed the economic situation in the region in the context of the background information provided in the *Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1960*,²² part II of which contained a special study on postwar trends in public finance and fiscal policies in the countries of the region. The Commission congratulated the secretariat on the *Survey*, and felt that the studies on specific subjects appearing in part II since 1957 were particularly valuable, because they brought together the experience of different countries in fields of common interest.

323. For most countries of the region the economic situation continued to improve in 1960, although the rate of improvement slowed down from the striking progress made in 1959, following the moderate setback in the preceding year. In reaching record levels of production, agricultural output increased by only 1 per cent in the 1959/60 season as against a 7 per cent increase in 1958/59. Industrial production, however, recorded a sizable advance in the first half of 1960 and was 15 per cent higher than in 1959. Earnings from exports were higher largely as a result of an improvement in export prices. Import prices rose, but only slightly. Consequently, the region's terms of trade improved by about 4 per cent in the first half of 1960 as compared with the first half of

²¹ This additional rule has been incorporated into the rules of procedure of the Commission as rule 31 and the following rules have been renumbered accordingly. The rules of procedure as amended will be issued as E/CN.II/539/Rev.1.

²² Available to the Commission in mimeographed form as E/CN.II/L.88, parts I and II, and subsequently printed as United Nations publication, Sales No. : 61.II.F.1.

1959. Export prices weakened in the second half of 1960 and the year as a whole might not show a gain over 1959. Imports, in the first nine months of the year, rose more than exports in terms of percentage increase in value and this resulted in larger trade deficits. Nevertheless, countries were able to increase their foreign assets on account of greater foreign aid. An upward pressure of demand arose, mainly as a result of increased government expenditure and private investment; budget deficits and bank credits were relied upon to finance a significant proportion of this demand. Nevertheless, except for a few countries in special situations, internal stability was maintained. Government revenues were rising and private savings increasing. Monetary policy also came to play a more prominent (and more effective) role in several countries. To achieve external balance, countries are intensifying their efforts to promote exports and secure foreign aid; at the same time they are liberalizing their trade and payments restrictions.

324. The Commission, as in previous years, stressed the importance of increasing agricultural production which was a critical factor in economic development. It expressed concern that the rate of growth had slowed down in 1960, and that the study made in part I of the *Survey* regarding the longer term position of the region in respect of food consumption and nutritional levels had revealed a very unsatisfactory picture. As compared with the prewar period, consumption levels had shown only a modest increase, made possible only by larger imports; *per caput* food production had not yet caught up with prewar levels. The diet continued to lack variety and balance; cereals and other starchy foods predominated.

325. In the field of foreign trade, the Commission again expressed concern at the uncertainties and anxieties caused by sharp fluctuations in the region's export earnings from primary products, resulting from changes in the level of economic activity in the industrial countries of the world. It stressed the need to continue to explore all ways and means, within the framework of the United Nations, of overcoming these difficulties which hampered the development efforts of the under-developed countries of the region. The Commission also expressed concern that regional groupings, such as the European Economic Community (EEC) and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), might have an adverse effect on the exports of the countries of the ECAFE region, and noted the assurances by EEC and EFTA countries that liberal policies would be followed.

326. The review of the economic situation by the Commission, however, centred around the study of public finance in part II of the *Survey*. The Commission stressed the importance of mobilizing the savings of the community for economic development through the public sector and considered such action to be of prime importance in the attempt to secure economic growth. The Commission noted that the ratio of government revenue to national income had remained unchanged at a rather low level in several countries. The major reason for this was the heavy dependence of revenue on foreign trade. As the structure of trade, and particularly of imports,

changed in favour of consumer necessities and capital goods, the revenue potential from import duties declined. Export duties at best remained an uncertain source of revenue subject to sharp fluctuations. The fields of promising revenue growth were excise taxes and direct taxes on income, wealth and spending. The Commission commended the *Survey* on its detailed examination of the possibilities and problems of raising revenue from these sources. Administrative difficulties remained one of the main obstacles to the fuller exploitation of such sources.

327. Nevertheless, the Commission noted that countries, irrespective of the political philosophy to which they subscribed, were in agreement on the critical role of the public sector and on the need for planning economic development. This gave rise to the important problem of allocating resources between alternative claims. On the one hand, there was urgent pressure to spend on social services; on the other, there was the need to press on with economic development. The Commission agreed with the observation in the *Survey* that, while in practice the choice often appeared in this form as a set of alternatives, the purposes of investment in human capital were basically in harmony with the goals of investment in material assets. The countries, in deciding their allocations, were striving to achieve a pragmatic balance, although the balance seemed to be a product of *ad hoc* decisions.

328. In its review of fiscal policies, the Commission noted the tendency of countries of the region to swing from a state of internal instability to one of external imbalance, although internal stability and external balance were not incompatible. In this connexion, it noted that external assistance, where available, had been one of the most stable elements in the balance of payments of the under-developed countries in the past decade or so. The need for additional external assistance was stressed.

329. This emphasis on external assistance, however, did not imply that there was not ample scope for sensitive and anticipatory fiscal policies serving simultaneously the needs of short-term stability and long-term economic growth. The efforts of the countries of the region could well be directed to the formulation of such policies.

330. The view was expressed that the achievement of an agreement on the problem of disarmament would release considerable resources which could be used to promote the economic development of countries of the region. In this connexion, the Commission noted that the United Nations General Assembly at its fifteenth session, had requested the Secretary-General to examine, with the assistance of expert consultants, the possible economic consequences of disarmament.²³

331. The Commission noted the statements of observers from various non-member countries describing their interest in the development of the region and expressing readiness to expand economic, technical and trade co-operation with all countries of the region.

²³ See General Assembly resolution 1516 (XV) of 15 December 1960.

TRADE

332. The Commission commended the Committee on Trade on its valuable role as a forum for the formulation of a regional view-point on major questions of commercial policy and on promoting international co-operation in practical fields of work, such as trade promotion seminars and training courses, customs administration, commercial arbitration, market analysis, and international fairs and exhibitions. It recommended that these activities should be continued.

333. The Commission expressed particular appreciation of the pragmatic approach of the Committee on Trade to the problems of regional co-operation. It considered that the Committee had rightly taken note of the significant differences between the ECAFE region and other regions in regard to economic, historical and political conditions. For the region as a whole, and for most of its members individually, trade with countries outside the region constituted a higher proportion of total trade than intraregional trade. Most countries of the region depended on non-regional sources of supply for capital goods and materials, as well as for economic and technical assistance, without which economic development could not be speeded up. Significant differences and disparities in the levels and rates of industrial development among the countries of the region appeared to diminish the opportunities for any far-reaching programme of integration in the immediate future. At the same time, it was recognized that co-operation among the countries of the region on a joint or sub-regional basis should provide an incentive to accelerated development, particularly in the field of industry. This would also widen the opportunities for intraregional trade. The Commission considered that all these questions should be examined from a practical rather than a theoretical and doctrinaire point of view.

334. The Commission noted that certain countries were studying plans for closer trading arrangements between themselves. Attention was drawn, in this connexion, to the decision of the Governments of the Federation of Malaya, the Philippines and Thailand to form an association of southeast Asian States. It was also noted that the Governments of North Borneo and Sarawak were examining the possibility of establishing a customs union or common market of their two territories, and that the Governments of the Federation of Malaya and Singapore were negotiating a limited form of common market.

335. The Commission endorsed the view of the Committee that constructive opportunities for regional co-operation existed in certain practical fields, namely, the stabilization of the prices of primary commodities, particularly those commodities of which the ECAFE countries were major suppliers, the improvement of quality and the standardization of products, market research, sales publicity, and the promotion of tourism. It also noted the need for co-operation with the various international bodies which had been set up to deal with problems associated with trade in primary commodities and which included representatives of both consumer and producer countries. A commodity-by-commodity

approach was recommended as likely to yield fruitful results. It also noted that the feasibility of bilateral arrangements for the exchange of surplus commodities between the countries of the region, designed to bring about a net expansion of trade and of long-term agreements and contracts, should be explored further. The Commission therefore supported the proposal of the Committee that the Executive Secretary should convene a working group of experts to undertake a comprehensive investigation of the practical methods of trade co-operation.

336. The Commission considered that the Intra-regional Trade Promotion Talks had become a well-established and useful means of promoting intraregional trade. Group discussions among the participating countries not only facilitated exchanges of views but also helped to develop habits of regional thinking and co-operation. The Commission recognized that, with better advance preparation and more active follow-up action by participating governments, more concrete benefits could be obtained from the Talks.

337. Several countries referred to EEC and EFTA and reiterated their concern over the possible adverse effects of these regional arrangements. The representatives of France and the United Kingdom, on behalf of EEC and EFTA respectively, renewed their assurances that the economic and commercial policies pursued by the member states of EEC and EFTA would be "outward-looking" and liberal and would not be applied in such a way as to discriminate against the urgent and important interests of the countries of the ECAFE region.

338. It was pointed out by some countries that under-developed countries could not achieve any equitable balance of reciprocal advantages in their negotiations with the developed countries through tariff negotiations, partly because the under-developed countries were in no position to offer substantial tariff concessions, and partly because several developed countries resorted to import restrictions. The Commission recognized that the advanced industrial countries were becoming increasingly aware of their obligations to the developing countries and expressed the hope that this awareness would result in the early formulation and implementation of specific measures to promote the export earnings of the countries of the ECAFE region.

339. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the work done by the Working Party on Customs Administration and commended to countries of the region the ECAFE Code of Recommended Customs Procedures for adoption. It also endorsed the future work programme in this field and emphasized the need for suitable follow-up action by member governments in implementing the recommendations on various aspects of customs administration. The Commission noted that the recommendations on transit facilities were of particular interest to the land-locked countries of the ECAFE region and suggested that special attention should be given to this subject.

340. The Commission endorsed, in principle, the proposal to organize an Asian Trade Fair and considered it a practical means of demonstrating regional co-operation. It noted that several countries of the region were already

organizing national trade fairs and that one such fair could appropriately be converted into an Asian Trade Fair. Reference was also made to floating fairs organized by some member countries, namely, Indonesia, Japan and the Philippines. A suggestion was made that the Asian Trade Fair could be organized jointly by the countries of the ECAFE region in a country outside Asia. The Commission recognized that the organization of an Asian Trade Fair called for a great deal of preparatory work and recommended that all the suggestions made during the discussions should be taken into consideration in formulating specific proposals on the subject. It noted with appreciation the readiness of advanced countries outside the region to provide assistance in arranging the Fair. It recommended that member governments should designate representatives to the *ad hoc* committee to be set up to undertake a survey on the subject.

341. Further studies on jute and jute products by the ECAFE secretariat in co-operation with FAO were supported. With regard to a detailed examination of the problems of the jute trade, the attention of the Commission was drawn to a proposal by FAO to convene a meeting of jute producing and consuming countries. The Commission considered that this offered an opportunity for collaboration between ECAFE and FAO in an important area of interest to countries of the region.

INDUSTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

342. The Commission commended the report of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources on its thirteenth session (E/CN.11/554), and in general endorsed the suggestions and recommendations it contained. It also noted with satisfaction the work of the subsidiary bodies of the Committee and of the secretariat in the fields of mineral resources development, electric power, metals and engineering, pulp and paper, and housing and building materials. However, it felt that the activities in the field of small-scale industries required re-examination and requested the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries, at its next session, to review carefully the work programme in this field, taking into consideration the economic aspects of cottage and small-scale industries, production and marketing techniques and common facility services, including means of standardization. The role that the handicraft sector could play in the promotion of tourism should not be overlooked. It also suggested that the forthcoming Seminar on Industrial Estates should pay attention to the requirements of small-scale industries.

343. The Commission noted that the advisory and information services rendered by the secretariat to the countries of the region at their request had been appreciated. The work done by the secretariat in the organization of industrial survey missions to Singapore and its proposed participation in the mineral development programme of the lower Mekong basin were also commended. The Commission considered that, resources permitting, the secretariat should expand such operational activities.

344. The Commission realized the importance of industrial and mineral development to the economic growth of countries of the region. It noted that, despite continued expansion of industrial output and further diversification of the range of production, the contribution of the region as a whole to world output of manufactured goods remained insignificant and that, within the region, there was a great disparity between a very few industrially advanced countries and a number of other countries. To raise the low level of production and to remove this disparity would require the best possible utilization of all available human and natural resources. It was largely for that reason that the Commission, at its previous session, had adopted resolution 31 (XVI) regarding regional economic co-operation for development of trade and industries. The Commission was aware of the fact that regional projects and joint ventures among countries were meant to supplement, and not to supersede, national projects and that the countries concerned would have to decide on the type of regional projects best suited to their respective development needs. Furthermore, careful economic and technical studies (with particular reference to cost factors) would have to be made before any joint project could be undertaken. Nevertheless, the small size of the domestic market in most countries of the region, the economies of scale in production and, in some cases, the complementary nature of resources, seemed to indicate the need for a regional approach and the possibility of joint action by neighbouring countries. In this connexion, a suggestion was made that the secretariat, in co-operation with the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the Special Fund, should undertake immediately a comprehensive survey and an integrated study of the industrial development possibilities of southeast Asia.

345. Mineral resources development was a field particularly suitable for regional and international co-operation. Mineral resources formed an important base for industrial development and exports of minerals had provided a major source of foreign exchange for many countries of the region. Geological surveys and mapping were important for the discovery of mineral resources. In this connexion, the Commission noted with satisfaction the completion of the first Regional Geological Map for Asia and the Far East. It commended the work done by the Working Party of Senior Geologists and the ECAFE secretariat to stimulate the interest of countries in the organization of joint geological surveys of border areas and in activities connected with aerial surveys of mineral resources. The offers of countries outside the region to provide technical experts for the proposed training centre for aerial survey methods and to contribute technical papers to the future sessions of the Working Party were noted with appreciation. The Commission also noted that, as a result of the recommendation of the Working Party, UNESCO, in co-operation with ECAFE,²⁴ was making a survey of training facilities in the region for geologists and other specialists in the field of mineral resources development. It expressed its appreciation of the offer made by the Government of

²⁴ See the report of the Working Party of Senior Geologists (fourth session) (E/CN.11/L&NR/24), paragraph 64.

Thailand to provide land for the site of the proposed regional geological survey centre for southeast Asia and requested the secretariat to circulate to member governments, as soon as possible, a draft scheme for such a centre. The Commission also directed the Working Party to suggest measures which countries of the region should take in regard to the geological survey of underground water resources and geological investigation of engineering projects.

346. The exploitation, development and utilization of petroleum resources had engaged the attention of many governments of the region. The Commission therefore welcomed the proposal to convene the second Symposium on the Development of Petroleum Resources of Asia and the Far East at Teheran, Iran, in 1962. It expressed the hope that authorities and experts of countries both within and outside the region would contribute technical papers to the Symposium. In view of the importance of petroleum development to the economy of countries of the region and the anxiety of the countries to secure the speedy development of such resources, a suggestion was made that the secretariat should undertake a study on the organization and development of the petroleum industry in the countries of the region. The industrially developed countries would, no doubt, wish to render all possible assistance to countries in the region in their efforts to promote the exploration of their oil resources and the establishment of a petroleum industry.

347. The Commission noted that the Governments of India, Indonesia and Pakistan were proceeding with the establishment of national petroleum institutes for their own purposes while, in Iran, research and training facilities already existed which could be available immediately for regional use. It noted that the Government of Iran was prepared to accept trainees from other countries. The secretariat had issued a questionnaire on the facilities available in the countries of the region for the establishment of a regional petroleum institute; so far Iran had submitted the necessary data. The Commission felt that advantage should be taken of Iran's offer with a view to the expeditious implementation of the Committee's recommendation on the establishment of regional petroleum institutes. It requested the secretariat to consult the Government of Iran and work out details for the regional use of its Institute. When the national institutes of India, Indonesia and Pakistan were fully established their possible expansion for regional use could also be considered.

348. The Committee took note of the recommendation of the Sub-Committee on Metals and Engineering for the formation of a panel of experts to undertake a comprehensive survey of engineering industries in the ECAFE region and to assist countries, on request, in drawing up a co-ordinated development programme for such industries. A suggestion was made that the panel of experts should examine the requirements of trained personnel for these industries.

349. The Commission was informed that demand for paper in countries of the region would increase substantially in the next fifteen years and that this demand could not be met by imports in view of the large amount of foreign exchange expenditure involved. On the other hand,

the region possessed adequate raw material resources for pulp and paper manufacture. The Commission requested ECAFE, in consultation with FAO and UNESCO, to strengthen and co-ordinate programmes for the development of the pulp and paper industry in the countries of the region.

350. The Commission attached importance to the proposed Seminar on Community Facilities in relation to Housing, which was to meet in 1962, and welcomed the offer of the Government of India to provide host facilities for the Seminar.

351. The Commission noted that a number of countries in the region had established or proposed to establish national productivity centres to raise productivity in large-scale industries as well as in small workshops and agriculture. It also noted that an Asian Productivity Organization was being formed and would work closely with the ECAFE secretariat in the industrial productivity field. The Commission deemed it necessary to give special attention to the provision of effective assistance to countries in the region in training personnel in productivity techniques. Several delegations suggested that the secretariat, in co-operation with the ILO, should study this problem and submit a report to the Commission at its next session. An opinion was expressed to the effect that mutual understanding between trade unions and management at all stages was essential in order to increase productivity.

352. The Commission recognized the importance of research in industrial development and endorsed the Committee's recommendation that the secretariat should, in collaboration with appropriate bodies, undertake projects for the dissemination of technical information and data and the results of research carried out by national and private institutes in various fields.

INLAND TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

353. The Commission noted with appreciation the work of the ninth session of the Inland Transport and Communication Committee and endorsed the Committee's report (E/CN.11/556).

354. The Commission noted that the Inland Transport and Communications Committee, at its last session, besides reviewing the reports of its subcommittees, had discussed comparative freight rate structures in transport. The Commission felt that the problem should be studied not only in relation to the railways but with reference to all forms of transport. It also suggested that the Committee should place greater emphasis on problems pertaining to overall transport policy, co-ordination of transport and on projects likely to develop regional co-operation.

355. The Commission agreed with the views of the Committee that transport services were an essential factor in the processes of production and distribution. Transport was basic to all economic development and played a major part in its acceleration. For rational transport planning, the total transport requirements of the economy and projected future demands must be taken into consideration. However, there were many factors which

affected the choice between different means of transport and, in some cases, even the costlier mode of transport might be preferred to a cheaper mode owing to certain special advantages. In the development of transport, it was desirable to evaluate the economic and social benefits, despite the fact that such assessment was beset with considerable difficulties. In developing new transport facilities, however, it was necessary to avoid duplication, particularly in view of the limited resources available and other competing demands. In this connexion, the Commission endorsed the recommendations of the Committee that specific measures of co-ordination of existing transport facilities would help to avoid duplication and ensure better utilization of existing capacities. In view of the importance of transport co-ordination, the Commission agreed that further studies should be carried out on:

- (a) Uniform systems of accounting and statistical procedures and problems of tariff co-ordination, and
- (b) The State in relation to transport, taxation, subsidies and obligations imposed.

356. In reviewing the progress made in the implementation of the international highways project, the Commission noted with satisfaction that a number of countries in the region had made satisfactory progress in the improvement and construction of national highways which had been designated as part of the international highway network. The Commission expressed appreciation of the work done by the zonal Working Groups, which had held two series of meetings since the last session of the Commission and had reached agreement on a draft code on a uniform system of road signs and signals, pavement markings and signs for road works, on principles governing road traffic and on the numbering of international routes. The Working Groups had also indicated the nature and approximate amount of external assistance required to construct the missing road links and to improve existing roads to meet the agreed minimum standards. The Commission felt that, in order to ensure implementation of the project as a whole, it was necessary for the governments concerned to take urgent action to provide the road links which were missing in certain places. The Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the countries concerned should accord high priority, in their national overall economic and highway development plans, to the development of roads included in the international highway network, and in particular of the priority routes, keeping in view the needs of their own domestic networks as dictated by economic and commercial requirements. The Commission also suggested that the governments concerned should include such routes, if necessary, in their programmes for obtaining assistance under various aid programmes. In order to speed up action to remove bottlenecks, the ECAFE secretariat was requested to secure relevant data, on the basis of the form approved by the zonal Working Groups; the Groups could then suggest ways and means of making good the missing links in the system, after a preliminary assessment of the economic and engineering aspects had been carried out. If the Working Groups felt that the advice of outside experts was required, they might request the Executive

Secretary for the necessary assistance. On receipt of the recommendations of the Working Groups, the Executive Secretary was requested to explore informally the possibility of securing help from aid-giving agencies. In view of the need for speedy action to harmonize national policies, the Executive Secretary was requested to convene a meeting of the countries concerned, at a high level, to give further impetus to the project. The Commission unanimously adopted a resolution on the subject of the international highways.²⁵

357. The Commission noted the increasing traffic congestion in large cities and the consequent increase in accident rates in countries of the region. It urged the countries to take urgent and vigorous action to check effectively the rising toll of human lives and the damage to property caused by highway accidents; it endorsed the recommendations for adoption by countries, made at the first Study Week on Highway Safety and, in particular, the recommendation for the establishment of permanent bodies to deal with traffic accidents and to collect and analyse accident statistics. It also welcomed the convening of the second Study Week on Engineering and Traffic Aspects of Highway Safety at Manila from 28 August to 5 September 1961, at which administrative structures and allocation of traffic safety responsibilities, training, public education in traffic safety and traffic operations would be discussed.

358. The Commission noted with satisfaction that a Seminar on Highway Transport would be held in India in the latter part of 1961 at which the economic, operational and organizational aspects of passenger road transport would be discussed.

359. In the field of railways, the Commission expressed its appreciation to the Government of India for having organized, under the auspices of ECAFE, a Study Week to observe the construction of the Brahmaputra bridge; this had provided a valuable opportunity to the railway and highway engineers to study the techniques of designing and constructing a major bridge. The Commission accepted the renewed invitation of the Australian Government to the effect that the seventh session of the Railway Sub-Committee and the Working Party of Railway Signalling and Operating Officials should be held in that country in April-May 1962.

360. Attention was drawn to the need for the further simplification of formalities in transit ports, including the elimination of bottlenecks and the removal of additional charges, if levied on goods destined for land-locked countries, and the expeditious clearance of goods through the co-operation of the countries concerned.

361. In reaffirming the need for training, the Commission drew the attention of the countries of the region to the training facilities available at the Regional Railway Training Centre at Lahore (Pakistan), and at the Regional Marine Diesel Training Centre at Rangoon (Burma) and urged that fuller use should be made of those centres.

362. In the field of inland waterways the Commission noted that, in addition to Pakistan, Indonesia was also

²⁵ See part III of the present report, resolution 33 (XVII) on "The Asian Highway".

prepared to provide facilities for a hydrofoil craft demonstration project. This type of craft, used extensively in some countries outside the region, should, before adoption, first be proved to be economically and technically suitable for the region from the point of view of operation, maintenance, safety, seaworthiness, and weight.

363. The Commission noted the progress made with regard to the prototype coasting vessels project. It approved the inclusion of Indonesia in the Standing Committee. It also noted the offer of the Government of Hong Kong to provide host facilities for the proposed Working Party of Experts to review the designs received and select the most suitable types of coasting vessels for preparing detailed line plans and outline specifications to be followed by tank testing.

364. In the field of telecommunications the Commission noted with satisfaction that, during 1960, ITU had provided technical assistance to a number of countries of the region in regard to the establishment of training and research facilities. The Commission also took note of the negotiations which were under way between the Executive Secretary of ECAFE and the Secretary-General of ITU with a view to the establishment of co-operation between the two organizations. The Commission noted the request of some delegates that the possibility of studies on the following subjects should be considered at the second ECAFE/ITU Working Party of Telecommunication Experts:

(a) The basic telecommunication needs of the area, having regard to national economic requirements in other fields;

(b) The need for telecommunication specialists and arrangements for an exchange of such specialists between countries; and

(c) The improvement of statistics relating to telecommunications and the exchange of information relating to statistics and operational matters concerning telecommunication facilities and procedures.

The Commission hoped that it would be possible for ECAFE to convene the second Working Party in 1962.

365. The Commission noted with satisfaction the progress made by the secretariat in broadening its co-operation with the International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO) and its regional commissions. The Commission noted that the Government of India would provide host facilities for the Seminar on Promotion of Tourism at New Delhi from 24 April to 2 May 1961. The Commission hoped that, since the Seminar would be the first of its kind to be held in Asia and in view of the importance governments attached to the promotion of tourism, all governments would participate fully in its work. The Commission also noted with satisfaction that all governments of the region had responded favourably to the appeal contained in its resolution 32 (XVI) that adequate measures should be taken by all governments to ensure the success of the "1961: Visit the Orient Year" campaign. It noted with appreciation the steps taken by various governments. In this connexion, the Commission recommended that countries should pay greater attention to augmenting the capacity of domestic air services and surface transport

and improving co-ordination between various modes of transport. Referring to the lack of co-ordination in international airline schedules and the desirability of introducing special reduced fares for travel to the Pacific area and on east-west routes via Asia, the Commission requested the Executive Secretary to bring the facts to the notice of IATA for its consideration.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

366. The Commission reaffirmed the importance of economic development and planning to the countries of the region. While development programming was increasingly based on quantitative relationships between economic variables, general models should be adapted to specific problems arising in particular situations, especially having regard to the availability of basic data. In the absence of elementary data in many countries of the region where economic relationships were less complicated, planning would have to proceed through the application of procedures of a less sophisticated nature. As experience with planning grew, it would become possible to progress further in the direction of quantitative analysis.

367. The Commission emphasized the importance of the first session of the Conference of Asian Economic Planners in September 1961 as a forum for the discussion of high policy questions pertaining to economic development and planning; the session might lead to forward-looking policy recommendations on economic development, and the Commission agreed that high-level representation at the Conference would be essential to achieve this purpose. The Conference should limit the scope of the discussion to well-defined areas of concrete and practical policy measures but the long-term patterns of economic development should not be lost from view. Referring to General Assembly resolution 1517 (XV) of 17 December 1960 and Economic and Social Council resolution 777 (XXX) of 3 August 1960, the Commission recognized the special importance of economic projections to the less-developed countries of the region in the formulation of their long-term policies and plans for economic development.

368. The Commission took note of the progress made in the study, initiated by the secretariat in 1959 in co-operation with central banks in selected countries, regarding sources of savings and methods of raising the rate of savings in countries of the region. Special attention was drawn to the crucial role of public finance and taxation policy in economic development. In view of the limited funds that could be mobilized from domestic sources, however, the Commission recognized the importance of foreign assistance and capital investment in financing economic development in many countries of the region. In the light of these considerations, the Commission endorsed the suggestion that the seventh session of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning in 1962 should consider the subject of domestic and foreign financing of economic development.

369. The Commission commended the report of the sixth session of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (E/CN.11/L.86). The working papers

submitted to the session represented the first attempt on the part of the secretariat to come to grips with the problems of transport development in the context of overall economic development planning. Recognizing the important promotional role of transport development in economic development in general, the Commission shared the view of the Working Party that, in some cases, transport development had to precede the actual demand for transport facilities. However, in view of the high capital cost of transport development, which might compete with more directly productive investments, economic and social costs and benefits of given transport projects would have to be carefully evaluated by means of case studies. The Commission noted the need to estimate future transport requirements in such a way as to avoid waste and duplication of efforts on the one hand and bottlenecks in transport facilities on the other. As competition between rail and road transport was an acute problem in some countries in the region, it felt that the recommendations of the Working Party on the choice of alternative means of transport would provide a useful guide in practical transport planning. The Commission, in agreement with the Working Party, attached special importance to the training of skilled personnel and took note of the offers of several developed countries to provide facilities for training technical personnel, especially in transport economics and planning.

370. The Commission took note of the report on Selected Aspects of Agricultural Planning in Asia and the Far East (E/CN.11/L.90), which had been prepared by an ECAFE/FAO Expert Group, and commended the two bodies on their fruitful co-operation. It recognized the importance of formulating agricultural plans within the framework of plans for general economic development and considered that the report would be a useful guide for agricultural planning in countries of the region for some time to come. Some delegates expressed special appreciation of the quantitative approach attempted by the experts, but others felt that such an approach was too complicated for use in their countries at present, in view of the lack of statistical data and skilled personnel. However, the Commission recognized that planning had to be based, even in countries with a good statistical service, on a series of judgements. The experts' report was commended for indicating a procedure that helped to make such judgements better informed and more objective, especially in countries lacking a good statistical service. This would not only help to make plans more realistic but would also point up more clearly those weaknesses in the statistical data which should be overcome as quickly as possible, so as to permit more scientific planning in the future. The Commission endorsed the experts' opinion as to the importance of viewing short-term operational plans for agricultural development in a long-term setting. The emphasis in the report on incentives to individual cultivators and on measures for utilizing under-employed rural manpower for agricultural capital formation was considered appropriate.

371. The Commission reviewed the report of the third Workshop on Budget Reclassification and Management (E/CN.11/L.85) and commended the secretariat's work

on budget reclassification as being of practical value for economic analysis and policy decisions. It endorsed the recommendation by the Workshop that the secretariat should prepare an annual review covering developments in the field of budget reclassification as well as other improvements in budget management and control introduced by countries of the region. A suggestion was made that case studies of the budgetary process should be made in selected countries. The Commission noted the value of programme and performance budgeting techniques in establishing a close relationship between the budgetary process and economic development planning. While these techniques did not represent an entirely new approach to traditional budgetary procedures, the Commission felt that they should be adopted within the existing framework of budgetary procedure on an evolutionary and selective basis. The Commission took note of the Workshop's recommendation that, in view of the practical usefulness of the past three Workshops, a fourth Workshop should be organized in 1963 or 1964, in co-operation with BTAO and the Fiscal and Financial Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

372. The Commission commended the note by the Executive Secretary on the ECAFE/BTAO training programme in economic development (E/CN.11/L.92) and expressed its appreciation of the efforts made by the secretariat, in spite of limited staff resources, to organize and undertake the in-service training programme in economic development. The shortage of economists and personnel trained in the art of development programming was felt to be one of the serious obstacles to the formulation and implementation of economic development programmes in the countries of the region and every effort should be made to overcome this bottleneck as soon as possible. Since the staff of the secretariat was heavily burdened with current work, the Commission requested the Executive Secretary to explore the possibilities of providing full-time instructors under the technical assistance programmes of the United Nations. It was suggested that the secretariat should give further consideration to the demand for, and to the nature and scope of, the courses to be offered in future training programmes and to their compatibility with the terms of reference of the Commission. It was also suggested that the secretariat should explore the possibility of developing such training programmes into an Asian institute of economic development, situated within the region, and should submit its proposals to the first session of the Conference of Asian Economic Planners and to a subsequent session of the Commission. The Commission noted the offer by several countries, within and outside the region, of training facilities in the field of economic development.

CONTRIBUTION OF RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES TO NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

373. The Commission commended the three-volume report prepared by the ECAFE secretariat, the Joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division and the Bureau of

Social Affairs, and felt that it contained valuable information and offered practical guidance.²⁶

374. The Commission recognized the important part that community development programmes could play in accelerating economic and social progress in the vast rural areas of the countries of the region, by helping those areas to contribute to national economic development as a whole, and, in the long run, by preventing excessive movements of population to urban areas. Economic growth was basic to all progress and community development programmes accordingly should make a conscious effort to promote economic growth, giving due attention in that connexion to raising the levels of agricultural production through improved farming practices and investments in land improvement, to starting and fostering viable small-scale industries, and to utilizing surplus rural labour for creating ancillary facilities, including local roads, irrigation works, schools, and health and sanitation facilities. Thus, when seeking technical assistance for their community development programmes, countries of the region should bear the desired economic contribution of these programmes in mind.

375. At the same time, the purpose of community development programmes should by no means be viewed as exclusively economic; their social and civic aims were equally important. Moreover the attainment of even their economic objectives required the use of certain means, some of which might not ordinarily be thought of as economic — such as, in particular, the increase of knowledge, better health and more self-confident and progressive attitudes on the part of the villagers and the strengthening of their local government and co-operative institutions.

376. The Commission emphasized that the acceleration of rural progress could not be achieved by the efforts of a community development organization alone. An integrated approach to the problems involved was needed everywhere. For example, it was necessary that the national economic development effort, of which the community development effort was to form a part, should be a vigorous one; that the various government departments concerned should be prepared to take concerted and co-ordinated action in giving effect to a common policy; that democratic decentralization should be actively promoted, planning from below encouraged as far as possible, and arrangements devised so that this planning at the local level could be dovetailed with overall national planning; that land tenure conditions should be equitable, so as to provide incentives to cultivators; that local government bodies and co-operative organizations of various kinds should be strengthened; that active attention should be given to the development and introduction of improved farming techniques, suited to local soil conditions, and of a suitable rural industrial technology. At the same time, the Commission considered that, regardless of the number of aspects which the problems of rural development in support of national economic development might have, it was necessary to

have one government department specifically responsible for acting as a sponsor, catalyst and organizer of rural development in general.

377. The Commission endorsed the programme of work in the community development field proposed in the Executive Secretary's note (E/CN.11/L.96), including the research studies selected for priority attention; these dealt with the utilization of under-employed labour in community development, methods of evaluating the impact of community development programmes, and the role of local government bodies, co-operative societies and other voluntary bodies in relation to these programmes. Several delegations also favoured an extension of the series of case studies in community development when resources permitted. In endorsing the proposed Seminar on Planning and Administration of National Community Development Programmes and the Conference on Community Development, to be held in 1961, the Commission welcomed the Executive Secretary's proposal to establish the Asian Conference on Community Development as a high-level body which would continue to meet at intervals of two or three years to discuss selected major aspects of the subject, review the work of ECAFE in this field and recommend priorities for future work.

378. The Commission unanimously adopted a resolution²⁷ endorsing the programme of work and recommending that member governments should take full advantage of community development as an instrument for promoting economic and social progress.

WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

379. The Commission considered the report of the Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development (E/CN.11/551), the report of the fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development (E/CN.11/548) and the report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin (E/CN.11/557).

Activities of the Bureau and report of the fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development

380. In reviewing the activities of the Bureau of Flood Control and Water Resources Development, the Commission noted with satisfaction the usefulness of the Bureau's work and commended the continuing progress it had made with respect to its work programme. The Commission recognized the importance of hydrologic studies, both surface and sub-surface, to the planning of water resources development projects and welcomed the organization of a second Interregional Hydrologic Seminar on Field Methods and Equipment used in Hydrology and Hydrometeorology, towards the end of 1961, and a Symposium on the Development of Groundwater Resources, to be held in 1962. The Commission also considered that the organization of a Symposium on Dams and Reservoirs, in September 1961, was timely and desirable, in view of

²⁶ See paragraph 203.

²⁷ See part III of the present report, resolution 34 (XVII) on "Community development and economic development".

the growing number of dam projects being implemented in the region. It was pointed out that, in the organization of the Seminar and Symposia, the closest co-operation should be maintained with appropriate agencies and institutions with a view to obtaining optimum benefits and avoiding duplication of efforts.

381. The Commission considered that the studies undertaken by the Bureau and published in the *Flood Control Series* were very valuable and should be continued. Such studies included country surveys of water resources development, case studies of multiple-purpose projects, comprehensive reviews of water resources development in the region, and other common problems of importance to the countries. The Commission considered that the preparation, by the Bureau, of a manual on standards and criteria for water resources development projects would serve a very useful purpose.

382. The Commission approved the recommendation of the fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development that the Conference should meet once every two years to undertake a review of the programme of work of the Bureau and to report to the Commission. The Commission further expressed the desire that the Conference should also consider, in addition to technical problems, policy matters relating to water resources developments and that the name of the Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development be changed to "Regional Conference on Water Resources Development".

383. Recognizing the importance of flood control and reclamation in coastal and deltaic areas which were inhabited by a considerable proportion of the population of the region, the Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Conference to organize a Symposium on Flood Control and Reclamation of Deltaic Areas, to be held jointly by ECAFE and BTAO in 1962/63. The Commission further endorsed the recommendation of the Conference that a Regional Research and Training Centre on the Development of Groundwater Resources should be organized and accepted the offer of the Government of India to provide facilities for the establishment of such a centre. The Commission also felt that, with a view to ensuring a wider dissemination of experience already gained in the water field in many parts of the region, an exchange of experts and specialized professional staff among countries should be encouraged.

The Mekong project

384. The Commission heard statements from the Chairman and members of the Committee for the Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin (Cambodia, Laos, Republic of Viet-Nam and Thailand) and from the Committee's Executive Agent and examined the Committee's annual report. The Committee had met five times during the year.

385. The Committee was making good progress in data collection. Work was well under way, already completed, or, in some cases, about to begin, in the following fields: geological investigation, including boring, of mainstream dam sites; establishment of horizontal and vertical ground control; aerial survey and mapping; soil survey; fisheries

and sedimentation investigations; installation of rain gauges; tributaries reconnaissance; establishment of a network of hydrologic stations; hydrographic survey and estimates of losses due to forest and grassland fires; a preliminary manpower study; and an examination of the incidence of malaria and schistosomiasis (bilharziasis). This meant that arrangements had now been made for the collection of almost all the data recommended by the United Nations Technical Assistance Mission of 1958 headed by General Wheeler; the comparatively few items on which work had not yet begun were power market surveys in some of the countries, construction materials surveys at mainstream project sites, and flowage damage surveys.

386. The Commission noted that, apart from its data collection activities, the Committee was now entering the stage of planning, including economic appraisal. Four tributary multiple-purpose dams, four mainstream multiple-purpose dams and navigational improvements were envisaged. Comprehensive reports on the four tributary projects, in the form of loan applications, were being prepared with the aid of the Special Fund; navigational improvements were being planned and, in some cases, carried out, as a result of combined grants from the Special Fund, Iran, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

387. The Commission noted with great satisfaction that, during the course of the current session, six governments, a non-governmental organization and a private organization had offered co-operative assistance valued at the equivalent of \$3,313,000 to the Committee, which accepted the offers with deep gratitude. France offered: a minerals survey, especially in Cambodia and Laos, to supplement an anticipated Special Fund project; bauxite prospection throughout the basin; assistance in the completion and reproduction of a geological map; as well as additional aid in fisheries and a vegetation study in the Tonlé Sap to the value of 500,000 new francs. India offered to prepare a comprehensive project report in the form of a loan application for the Tonlé Sap project to the value of Rs 1,250,000. Japan offered to complete a tributaries reconnaissance equivalent to \$80,000 and a preliminary survey of the Sambor project equivalent to \$72,000 making a total of \$152,000. New Zealand offered field and laboratory equipment for the preparation of the Tonlé Sap comprehensive project report to the value of \$45,000. The Philippines offered to undertake the topography of the irrigable areas of the mainstream dam sites to the value of 800,000 pesos, contingent upon constitutional appropriation processes in the Philippines. The United States offered the preparation of a comprehensive project report of the Pa Mong project in the form of a loan proposal; the amount was not fixed but was stated at one per cent of the estimated project cost of \$250 million. The Pan Pacific South-East Asia Women's Association offered to participate in social studies and the Ford Foundation offered assistance to the Committee in its examination of economic and related fiscal, social and administrative questions; the amount of this aid was not fixed.

388. The Committee's resources, as at 20 March 1961, the final day of the seventeenth session, thus stood at

some \$12.5 million, computed as follows in approximate dollar equivalents :

	U.S. \$	
Australia (Colombo Plan)	409,500	
Canada (Colombo Plan)	1,365,000	
China	105,500	
France	600,000	
India (Colombo Plan)	282,000	
Iran (first year)	32,000	
Israel	53,240	
Japan (Colombo Plan)	472,000	
New Zealand (Colombo Plan)	183,000	
Philippines (Colombo Plan; contingent on appropriation)	266,667	
United Kingdom (Colombo Plan)	364,000	
United States (estimate)	4,700,000	
United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (continuous support; plus \$68,765 in 1961 budget)	68,765	
Expanded, regular, and regional technical assistance programmes of the United Nations, the specialized agencies, and the International Atomic Energy Agency, mostly co-ordinated through the Technical Assistance Board :		
BTA	333,300	
ILO	12,104	
FAO	113,930	
UNESCO	16,000	
WHO	3,677	
WMO	45,300	
IAEA	5,650	
Special Fund :		
Tributary surveys	1,326,700	
Hydrographic survey for navigation improvement	342,980	1,669,680
Pan Pacific South-East Asia Women's Association (unspecified)		
Ford Foundation (unspecified)		
Local costs pledged by the riparian countries :		
Under Canadian programme	105,000	
Under Indian programme	50,000	
Under United States programme	400,000	
Under United Nations Special Fund Tributaries project	454,000	
Under United Nations Special Fund hydrographic survey for navigation improvement project	346,600	1,355,600
TOTAL AS AT 20 MARCH 1961	12,456,913	

389. The Commission noted that the Committee, looking beyond data collection and planning to the construction and operation of development projects, felt it possible that, at a not too distant date, the four riparian countries or the Committee authorized by them would have to take up three further types of work, namely: consideration of joint arrangements for the common utilization of water and power; joint arrangements to obtain financial credits for large-scale international constructions; and the international administration of such projects by the parties concerned.

390. The Commission noted that, in its administrative arrangements, the Committee was adhering to the principles of candour, anticipation and economy. Twenty-eight separate component programmes were now under

way and the number was constantly growing. All persons concerned were kept regularly and fully informed of progress and problems and every effort was made to foresee the evolving needs of the project as a whole and of each of its components, so that all aspects of the work could be co-ordinated smoothly at the proper time and place. The Committee and the Executive Agent were drawing heavily upon the services generously made available in the ECAFE secretariat and the offices of TAB regional and country representatives in the area.

391. The Commission joined the Committee in conveying its warm appreciation to the many countries and agencies which were co-operating in the project.

REGIONAL CO-OPERATION FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

392. The Commission considered the interim report of the Executive Secretary (E/CN.11/L.95) which gave an account of the progress made in implementing the resolution on regional economic co-operation for development of trade and industries (resolution 31 (XVI)). It noted that the Executive Secretary had consulted with the governments with a view to focusing their attention on measures likely to promote the objectives of the resolution. The subsidiary bodies which had met during 1960 and 1961 had included this subject in their agenda. This practice should be continued. The secretariat had carried out a number of studies in which the possible scope and measures for increasing regional co-operation were examined and a number of possibilities in this regard were identified. The projects carried out by the secretariat in close co-operation with BTAO had resulted in the implementation of a number of projects of regional significance. The Executive Secretary's suggestion that the governments themselves should first examine the overall aspect as well as particular projects of regional co-operation from their own viewpoint and interest was accepted by many governments; some governments had already prepared tentative proposals for co-operation among themselves in the fields of trade, marketing, training and educational and scientific development.

393. The Commission felt that the external assistance available under multilateral or bilateral aid programmes had provided an impetus to the development and implementation of projects not only of national importance but also those involving co-operation among countries in respect of joint ventures, industrialization and exploration of new resources. The Commission recognized that, in the present stage of under-development of the countries of the region, national development projects, particularly those designed to build up an infrastructure, were vitally important. However, there was scope for developing co-operation among the countries even in regard to such projects, for example, in the fields of transport and communications, water resources development, navigation, and training and research. It emphasized that regional projects would supplement, and not supplant, national development projects. The need in the countries of the region for training, research, management, productivity and planning institutions was increasing. Although in some cases existing national institutions could be utilized for regional purposes, the feasibility of establishing

regional centres should be explored. The Commission appreciated that the secretariat was not only following the activities of the technical and other organizations which were carrying out regional activities, but was also advising and assisting them.

394. The Commission was aware that the present differences between the countries of the region, in respect of geographical size, population, natural resources and degree of development, as well as historical factors, might appear to hamper a rapid and fruitful co-ordination of their economies. However, the scope for intraregional trade and for the establishment of joint ventures would gradually increase during the process of economic and social development, which led to the diversification of agricultural production and industrialization. In this connexion, the Commission welcomed the growing awareness among the ECAFE countries of the regional aspects of economic planning. The Commission emphasized that the countries should take into consideration the plans of other countries in preparing their own plans. The ECAFE secretariat should function as a clearing house for information in this regard. It hoped that the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning and the Conference of Asian Economic Planners would prove to be increasingly useful instruments for facilitating regional consultations in respect of economic development and planning. Modern techniques of programming and particularly the preparation of economic projections, in respect of which the ECAFE secretariat had initiated studies and advisory services, would promote better understanding of the external factors and forces which the countries of the region should take into account in their national development plans. The Commission particularly stressed that the limited resources and markets in many countries made it desirable for them to co-operate in the development of large-scale industries and emphasized the need for the governments to carry out joint surveys of resources and pre-investment studies. Assistance in this regard could be sought under the United Nations technical assistance programmes and from the Special Fund. The Commission hoped that, in this manner, the countries of the region would increasingly co-ordinate their national plans.

395. The Commission recognized that suggestions for the promotion of co-operation between countries of the region in the fields of trade, industrialization, water resources development, transport and communications, agriculture, commodities and social affairs would require further examination before any specific projects or policy measures could be recommended to the governments. Nevertheless, such suggestions could be explored, not only in the secretariat studies, but also during discussions and consultations between governments.

396. The Commission noted that many countries had already initiated co-operative projects in respect of water resources development, international highways, population censuses, customs administration, transport and communication, civil aviation and geological surveys. It also noted that the present engineering investigations in the lower Mekong basin had revealed the scope for viewing the industrial and economic development of the lower basin as a whole and that the Committee for

Co-ordination had already proposed an integrated survey of the mineral resources of the basin. The Commission also noted that the association of southeast Asian states, proposed by the Governments of the Federation of Malaya, the Philippines and Thailand, would bear in mind the principles underlying Commission resolution 31 (XVI). It also noted that the possibility of establishing an international copra board by the copra producing countries of ECAFE was being studied by some countries and that this project might require the advice and assistance of the secretariat.

397. The Commission emphasized that the task of promoting regional co-operation was a continuing one, both in respect of general economic and social planning and also in respect of developing specific individual projects. It endorsed the proposal that a working group of high ranking experts in the field of economic and social planning and policy making should be convened by the Executive Secretary in 1962 to give further thought to the whole subject of regional co-operation, to analyse and determine the scope and means of furthering such co-operation, and to prepare a long-term programme of action for member governments, international agencies concerned and the secretariat. The group of experts should, in particular, assess the practicability of various forms of co-operative, co-ordinated and other arrangements or agreements designed to achieve a better regional approach in national economic and social development planning and policy making and make suitable recommendations.

398. Attention was drawn to a recommendation made at the fifteenth session of the General Assembly which called upon the Economic and Social Council to consider the desirability of a declaration on international economic co-operation.

STATISTICS

399. The Commission reviewed the progress made by the countries of the region in regard to the censuses of population and agriculture under the 1960 World Census Programme. Attention was drawn to the desirability of Special Fund assistance in carrying out such census programmes. It noted with satisfaction that some countries had already completed their census enumeration work and were now processing the data collected and that others had made considerable progress in the plans and preparations for their censuses. The Commission recommended that the countries of the region should complete the census programme, including data processing, the preparation of the tables, the valuation and analysis of the results and should provide the necessary funds and facilities for this purpose. The Commission recorded its appreciation of the valuable services of the Regional Census Advisers provided under the United Nations/FAO Census Technical Assistance Programme, with funds supplemented by the Ford Foundation. It also noted the work of the Seminar on the Evaluations and Utilization of the Population Census Data, sponsored by the United Nations, at Bombay and that of the FAO seminar on the Analysis, Evaluation and Uses of Agricultural Census Results, held at Manila.

400. The Commission commended the report of the third session of the Conference of Asian Statisticians (E/CN.11/531) and noted the substantial progress made in the matter of statistics development following the lead and guidance provided by the Conference.

401. The Commission, realizing the importance of basic industrial statistics in the context of rapid industrialization, recommended that the countries of the region should participate in the 1963 World Programme of Basic Industrial Inquiries sponsored by the United Nations. The Commission welcomed the preparatory work already done by the United Nations in the development of international standards and the proposed Seminar on Industrial Statistics, to be held in September 1961, in collaboration with BTAO and the United Nations Statistical Office. The Commission expressed the hope that all ECAFE countries would participate in the Seminar and discuss plans in regard to basic industrial statistics, and, in particular, the 1963 industrial inquiries. The Commission observed that, in view of the importance of and the special conditions prevailing in, the household and cottage industry sector, attention should also be given to the special problems of collecting data in respect of that sector.

402. The Commission attached great importance to the training of statistical personnel and welcomed the report of the Working Group of Experts on the Training of Statisticians (E/CN.11/545). The Commission was gratified that the Working Group had considered the most urgent problem of training the large body of primary and intermediate statistical personnel and had drawn up a detailed syllabus which emphasized the practical aspects of developing statistical skills. The Commission recommended that the secretariat should give high priority to the preparation of a training manual. It strongly supported the establishment, as early as possible, of a regional training centre for the organizers of national training centres. It welcomed, in this connexion, the offer by the Government of India of facilities available in the Indian Statistical Institute and the International Statistical Education Centre, Calcutta. The Commission also drew attention to the scope for sub-regional co-operation and, for this purpose, recommended that assistance should be provided by the United Nations, in particular the Special Fund, the other international agencies and the advanced countries, in the form of experts, equipment and materials.

403. The Commission noted with interest the attempts made to survey the availability of, and need for, statistical manpower and favoured the preparation and maintenance of a directory of statistical personnel in the countries of the region.

404. The Commission strongly supported the recommendation of the Conference of Asian Statisticians that ECAFE countries should set up sample survey organizations as early as possible after completion of their census activities, for the collection, at minimum cost, of the many types of socio-economic data needed. It welcomed the proposal to discuss, in collaboration with the ILO and FAO, the subject of family living, including food consumption surveys at the next session of the Conference of Asian Statisticians.

405. The Commission reiterated the importance of statistics development in the context of planning for economic and social development. The Commission was gratified that, on the initiative and under the guidance of the Conference of Asian Statisticians, attempts were being made to formulate and implement long-range statistical development and training programmes. The Commission urged countries that this work should be pursued vigorously, and that, with a view to ensuring continuity in their implementation, these programmes should be included in national plans and the necessary funds provided. The Commission also recommended that the United Nations should, as in the case of the World Census Programme, provide regional statistical advisory services on a continuing basis, to assist countries in implementing further programmes, for example, the 1963 World Programme of Basic Industrial Inquiries, socio-economic sample surveys, training programmes, etc.

406. The Commission noted that the Government of Japan intended to invite the Conference of Asian Statisticians to hold its fourth session at Tokyo.

AGRICULTURE

407. The Commission commended the secretariat and FAO on their fruitful collaboration as reflected in the report on the activities of the Joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division during 1960 (E/CN.11/L.89). The programme of work proposed for the Division in 1961-1962 was endorsed.

408. The Commission noted that the report of the ECAFE/FAO Expert Group on Selected Aspects of Agricultural Planning in Asia and the Far East had already been discussed under its agenda item on economic development and planning. Similarly, the two completed case studies on the Ghosi Block, Uttar Pradesh, India and on Farmers' Associations in Taiwan had been reviewed by the Commission during its discussion of community development. These reports had been major items in the Division's activities during the year.

409. The Commission expressed appreciation of the review of the agricultural development plans of countries in the region prepared by the Division and noted with approval that such reviews were to be continued. The Commission recognized that individual countries, in their national plans, should take into account the implications of the planned targets for agriculture of other countries. In this connexion the Commission noted that the Joint Division, together with FAO, could play a part in preparing the objective study of agricultural plans in the region recommended by the fifth FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Far East held at Saigon in November, 1960 with a view to promoting further regional economic co-operation. The proposal to give attention, in a future review, to input-output relationships in agriculture was endorsed. The Division's periodic surveys of the situation in the region were considered of basic value.

410. The Commission hoped that further work would be done on the relationships between agricultural and industrial development, including farm and non-farm income levels, on capital formation in agriculture and

on domestic marketing systems for rice. The continued use of the case study method in conjunction with national research institutions was supported. The proposed regional review of agricultural finance and credit institutions was considered by the Commission to be of great interest.

411. The Commission appreciated the importance of further training in agricultural economics for personnel concerned with agricultural development in countries of the region and welcomed the support being given by the Joint Division to national training centres on various aspects of the subject.

412. The proposals to hold joint ECAFE/FAO technical meetings, one in 1962 on the marketing aspects of food and agricultural price stabilization policies and one in 1963 on institutions for agricultural finance and credit, were supported by the Commission.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SPECIAL FUND ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION

413. The Commission noted with appreciation the information paper submitted by the Technical Assistance Board (TAB) on "Technical Assistance provided to the Countries and Territories of the ECAFE Region under the Expanded and Regular Programmes" (E/CN.11/552) and a paper by the Special Fund on its activities in Asia and the Far East (E/CN.11/555), both of which gave a comprehensive account of the technical assistance and co-operation of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and of the work of the Special Fund. The Commission also heard the statement by the Commissioner for Technical Assistance and by the Regional Representative of TAB, to the effect that the increasingly dynamic role of the regional commissions had led to a closer association between the technical assistance programmes of the United Nations and the work of ECAFE. The technical assistance activities of the United Nations were being increasingly integrated into the work of the United Nations Secretariat as well as of the secretariats of the regional commissions. Consequently the secretariats were making an increasing impact on the member countries and the combined programmes under the technical assistance and regular activities of the United Nations and of the regional commissions constituted the most important elements in the economic and social activities of the United Nations. This evolution would have the ultimate effect of achieving closer integration, administrative and substantive, of technical assistance activities in the work of the secretariats of the regional commissions, particularly since it had now been recognized that the work of the regional commissions included operational functions. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 793 (XXX), had requested the Secretary-General as well as governments to draw as fully as possible on the facilities and services of the regional commissions in the initiation, implementation and co-ordination of economic and social programmes and activities at the regional level, including appropriate technical assistance projects.

414. The Commission noted that the ECAFE countries

continued to account for the major portion of the technical assistance programmes of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and that, in the past year, the availability of technical assistance funds had increased. The Commission noted that the programmes in the region had acquired a great measure of refinement, resulting from long experience. The increased emphasis on feasibility studies was of vital significance to the subsequent planning, financing and ultimate execution of major development projects. This was in line with the emerging role of technical assistance as one of the major factors in the field of pre-investment activities. The association of ECAFE secretariat staff members with the recent industrial survey missions to some countries of the region had proved to be beneficial and the Commission hoped that this practice of associating the ECAFE secretariat with technical assistance activities would be greatly enlarged.

415. The Commission particularly noted that joint ECAFE/BTAO regional projects were contributing significantly to the development of regional co-operation in the ECAFE region. It noted that, so far as regional projects were concerned, the trend towards administrative and executive decentralization had begun some time ago.

416. The Commission hoped that the resources at the disposal of TAB would increase further, thereby enabling it to provide additional funds for regional projects. The Commission particularly emphasized that, since adoption of its resolution 31 (XVI) on regional economic co-operation for development of trade and industries in the ECAFE region, the usefulness of regional projects in a number of fields had increased further. The growing ability of the countries within the region themselves to offer training, research and demonstration facilities and to provide experts further demonstrated the value of regional projects. The Commission emphasized the importance of selecting highly competent experts to carry out technical assistance work.

417. The Commission also noted that the member governments of the region had made generous contributions to current programmes and that several countries had actually increased their contributions over the past year. A view was expressed to the effect that the United Nations might appropriately accept contributions from non-governmental agencies in a position to provide personnel, equipment or funds for technical assistance.

418. The Commission noted that the Technical Assistance Committee, at its 1960 summer session, had approved the adoption of project programming, which would allow for a greater integration of work by the United Nations and the specialized agencies. It emphasized that the governments should co-ordinate their technical assistance requests to various bilateral and multilateral programmes on the basis of well-conceived plans of economic development. In this task the advisory services of the regional commissions, particularly in respect of comprehensive economic and social planning, should be of increasing value. The experts operating under the technical assistance programmes could also benefit from the studies carried out and from the experience and contacts developed by the ECAFE secretariat.

419. Finally, the Commission welcomed the increasing co-operation between the ECAFE secretariat and the Colombo Plan Bureau in the field of technical co-operation.

CO-OPERATION WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

420. The Commission noted that the activities of the specialized agencies, in particular the ILO, FAO, UNESCO, the Bank, WHO, WMO and ITU, as well as IAEA, had increased in recent years. The Commission heard statements from representatives of these agencies on the work carried out in the countries of the region and in particular noted the co-operation between ECAFE and the specialized agencies as described in paragraphs 269 to 280.

421. The Commission particularly noted the increasing amount of mutual consultation that was taking place between the specialized agencies and the ECAFE secretariat with a view to utilizing the detailed knowledge and understanding of the problems of the region acquired by the ECAFE secretariat and the Commission's subsidiary bodies, as well as the expert knowledge of the specialized agencies. Several specialized agencies had co-sponsored meetings and seminars with ECAFE or had co-operated in their organization. The specialized agencies were assisting the countries and contributing significantly to the economic development of the region. The Commission noted in particular that ten countries of the ECAFE region accounted for one-third of the total loans granted by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. The Commission also noted that several specialized agencies had established regional offices in certain countries of the region and had thereby decentralized their activities.

DECENTRALIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND STRENGTHENING OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS

422. The Commission considered a note submitted by the Secretary-General, entitled "Decentralization of the United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the regional economic commissions" (E/CN.11/558), for the purpose of facilitating his consultations with the Commission. The Commission appreciated the action taken by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 793 (XXX) and by the General Assembly in resolution 1518 (XV), which recognized that the regional economic commissions were not limited, under their terms of reference, to studies and deliberations and were actually performing various operational functions through their secretariats. The Commission emphasized that the studies carried out by the secretariat could be so designed as to promote the use of the secretariat and the Commission's forums not only as focal

points for an exchange of views but also for facilitating consultations and negotiations among the member governments. The Commission in particular emphasized that, in the field of technical co-operation, a closer association should be developed between the departments of the United Nations responsible for technical co-operation and the ECAFE secretariat. It also recommended that the United Nations departments responsible for the evaluation and management of Special Fund projects should make increasing use, as appropriate, of the services of the ECAFE secretariat in their work. The Commission stressed that the arrangements made should be such as to enable the ECAFE secretariat to provide an increasing number of advisory services to member governments, at their request, through joint ECAFE/BTAO advisory groups or teams of experts. The Commission, however, felt that any administrative arrangements to implement the resolutions on the decentralization of United Nations economic and social activities and the strengthening of the regional economic commissions should avoid complicated and confusing procedures and should aim at the speedy, efficient and maximum use of the total resources available in the United Nations Secretariat, including those in the secretariats of the regional commissions.

423. Furthermore, those arrangements should be made in the light of the concept of regional co-operation, in the context of wider international co-operation and should not tend to create any closed regional blocks.

424. The Commission unanimously adopted a resolution on this subject.²⁸

DATE AND PLACE OF FUTURE SESSIONS

425. The Commission welcomed the invitation of the Government of Japan to hold its eighteenth session in Japan. It unanimously decided that, subject to the approval of the competent United Nations authorities, the invitation of the Government of Japan should be accepted and that the date and the place of the session should be determined by the Executive Secretary in consultation with that Government.

426. The Commission also welcomed the invitation of the Government of the Philippines to hold its nineteenth session in 1963 in the Philippines and it unanimously decided that the invitation of the Government of the Philippines should be accepted.

427. The Commission also noted the invitation of the Government of Iran to hold a session of the Commission in Iran and hoped that it would be possible to hold the twentieth session in 1964 in that country.

²⁸ See part III of the present report, resolution 35 (XVII) on "Decentralization of the United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East".

Part III

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS SEVENTEENTH SESSION

33 (XVII). The Asian highway ²⁹

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recognizing that the linking of the countries of Asia and the Far East by international highways would promote regional and international co-operation for their economic and social development,

Appreciating the progress made by the Working Groups of Experts on International Highways in reaching agreement on the routes comprising the international highway network, including standards for roads and bridges, codes for road signs and signals, pavement markings and road traffic, and on other technical aspects,

Noting that progress is being made by some countries in constructing and improving their highways which form part of the international highway network,

Recognizing, however, that there is an urgent need to fill a number of gaps in the priority routes designated as part of the international highways,

1. *Recommends* that the countries concerned should give high priority, within their overall economic plans and highway development programmes, to the development of roads, particularly priority routes, which have been designated for inclusion in the international highway network, having regard to their immediate national benefit as well as international use;

2. *Requests* the Working Groups to collect and review data on the missing links, to make a preliminary assessment of the economic and engineering feasibility of constructing these links, to assist governments in determining the technical and financial resources required and to make recommendations on the ways and means of meeting these requirements;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to explore, with the aid-giving agencies and co-operating countries, the possibilities of obtaining the required assistance;

4. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to take such steps as may be deemed necessary, including the convening of a meeting at a high level, to review the progress made by the countries in implementing the international highway project, and to take concerted action and harmonize policies aimed at implementing the recommendations of the Working Groups and at mobilizing financial and technical resources for the completion of the international highway system.

242nd meeting,
14 March 1961.

34 (XVII). Community development and economic development ³⁰

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Recognizing the great potentialities of community development for economic development, particularly through the generation of a co-operative self-help spirit, the spread of knowledge, the building up of institutions and the mobilization of under-employed labour for productive tasks,

Noting with interest the secretariat study entitled *Community Development and Economic Development*,³¹

1. *Recommends* that member governments should :

(a) Take full advantage of community development as an instrument for promoting economic and social progress, bearing in mind the relationship between overall national plans and locally determined needs;

(b) Relate their community development programmes to national efforts for the promotion of land reforms, co-operatives and local government;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary :

(a) To continue to provide assistance to member governments, on request, for strengthening national programmes of community development, including their contribution to economic development;

(b) To explore the possibilities of setting up a regional clearing house on community development and related activities, as outlined in the Executive Secretary's interim report on Regional Economic Co-operation;³²

(c) To undertake, as resources permit, studies proposed by the Executive Secretary on; (i) the utilization of under-employed labour in community development, (ii) methods of evaluating the impact of such programmes, and (iii) the role of local government bodies and voluntary agencies in community development;³³

3. *Endorses* the Executive Secretary's proposal to convene sessions of the Asian Conference on Community Development at regular intervals;

4. *Urges* governments to take advantage of, and participate actively in, the 1961 Seminar on Planning and Administration of National Community Development Programmes and the Conference on Community Development, which will examine further the study on *Community Development and Economic Development*.

245th meeting,
16 March 1961.

²⁹ See paragraph 356 above.

³⁰ See paragraph 378 above.

³¹ See paragraph 203.

³² E/CN.11/L.95.

³³ See the Executive Secretary's note on "Contribution of rural community development programmes to national economic development" (E/CN.11/L.96).

35 (XVII). Decentralization of the United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East ³⁴

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East,

Welcoming Economic and Social Council resolution 793 (XXX) and General Assembly resolution 1518 (XV), which recognize the increasing role of the regional economic commissions in the economic and social activities of the United Nations,

Appreciating the step taken by the Secretary-General to consult the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East by circulating a note on the subject,³⁵

1. *Recommends* that, in the field of technical co-operation, closer association should be developed between the technical co-operation agencies of the United Nations and the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East;

³⁴ See paragraph 424 above.

2. *Recommends* further that the United Nations departments responsible for the evaluation and management of Special Fund projects should make increasing use, as appropriate, of the services of the ECAFE secretariat in their work;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to enlarge arrangements for the provision of advisory services to the member governments in response to specific requests or general indications of needs and, for this purpose, to organize where necessary joint ECAFE/BTAO advisory groups or expert teams or consultants;

4. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the eighteenth session of the Commission on the progress made in pursuance of this resolution.

249th meeting,
18 March 1961.

³⁵ E/CN.11/588.

Part IV

DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

428. At its 250th meeting, the Commission unanimously approved the following draft resolution for submission to the Economic and Social Council for action.

The Economic and Social Council

Takes note of the annual report of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East ³⁶ for the period 22 March 1960 to 20 March 1961, and of the recommendations and resolutions contained in parts II and III of that report, and endorses the programme of work and priorities contained in part V of the report.

250th meeting,
20 March 1961.

³⁶ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirty-Second Session, Supplement No. 2 (E/3466).*

Part V

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES 1961-1962

429. At its 250th meeting held on 20 March 1961 the Commission unanimously approved the programme of work and priorities for 1961-1962 set forth below. This programme was adopted in the light of the recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission which had met since the last session of the Commission, referred to in part I of this report.

BASIC DIRECTIVES

430. In preparing the programme of work and priorities, the Commission and its subsidiary bodies followed, as in the past, the 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 programme of work and priorities in the economic and social fields, concentration and co-ordination of efforts and resources, control and limitation of documentation, pattern of conference and related questions. Particular attention has been paid 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), 664 (XXIV), 693 (XXVI), 694 (XXVI), 742 (XXVIII), 751 (XXIX), 777 (XXX), 792 (XXX), 793 (XXX) and 801 (XXX).

CONCENTRATION AND CO-ORDINATION

431. The Commission and its subsidiary bodies, in reviewing their work programmes, continued to make

efforts to achieve the most effective use of resources through concentration of activities. The work programme for 1961-1962 took into account the observations made in the Consolidated Report submitted to the Economic and Social Council by its Committee on Programme Appraisal.³⁷ The work programme lays greater emphasis on projects which aim at promoting greater regional co-operating in all fields covered by the Commission's activities and envisages increasing participation by the Commission, its subsidiary bodies and the secretariat in a number of programmes of concerted action by the United Nations and the specialized agencies. The Executive Secretary, as in the past, followed the policy of using, in appropriate cases, the services of such bodies as universities, national, private or public institutions or non-governmental organizations in the preparation of economic studies and surveys. The subsidiary bodies also utilized or adapted existing studies or publications, whenever possible, in connexion with the work programme concerned.

REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAMME

432. The subsidiary bodies of the Commission continued to bear in mind the Commission's policy that their objective should be the "streamlining" of the work programme. A detailed statement of the changes in the programme of work and priorities resulting from the continuing review and the application of the criteria adopted by the Commission at its thirteenth session is given below. The total number of projects proposed in the present work programme is 86, as compared with 89 in the previous year.

A. New projects ³⁸

- 03-04 Training programme on economic development.
- 34-03 Evaluation of self-help in housing methods and practices in the ECAFE region.
- 34-04 Provision of community facilities in relation to housing.
- 35-04 Regional training, research, and advice on the metals and engineering industries.
- 36-02 Seminar on Geochemical Prospecting Methods and Techniques.
- 36-04 Development of mineral resources of the lower Mekong basin.
- 52-03 Economic studies on highway projects.
- 52-04 Highway statistics.

B. Projects completed ³⁹

- 03-04 Budget reclassification.
- 31-02 Conference on the Pulp and Paper Industries in Asia and the Far East.
- 34-03 Study tour by housing and building material experts from the countries of the region.
- 34-04 Study of costs in building industry.
- 35-04 Follow-up action on the Study Tour of Iron and Steel Experts to Europe.
- 52-01 Road construction and maintenance.

C. Projects incorporated in major projects

Old project ³⁸

- 33-04 Regional Seminar on Energy Resources and Electric Power Development.

New project ³⁸

- 31-02 Integrated study of fuels and power and resources and demands of countries of the ECAFE region.

D. Projects deleted ³⁹

- 51-05 Techniques of management in transport undertakings.
- 53-06 Water weed clearance.
- 53-07 Regional research institutes and training.
- 55-05 Training and research.

433. The Commission further decided that the subsidiary bodies and the secretariat, in continually and strictly following a policy of "streamlining" the work programme, should adhere to the following principles, criteria and procedures.

(i) While the continuing projects and activities under *Group 1* are recognized to be of basic, long-term and continuing interest and benefit to member countries of ECAFE, specific subjects or aspects of such continuing projects should be precisely defined in each year's work programme. As studies and activities relating to these specific aspects of each subject are completed, other specific aspects should be included and specified in the description of work projects. Such continuing activities of the secretariat, which are a normal part of its work, should be distinguished from the particular projects or activities included in the work programme. The need for this distinction will grow as the Commission's activities become increasingly related to the operational functions and practical work geared to the needs of the countries of the region. In order to make the work done by ECAFE more fully known to the individual departments of member governments, brochures should be prepared for each sector and field of activity, giving information on the subjects discussed at meetings, the documents of continuing interest produced, the resolutions adopted, etc. Such brochures should be revised once every three years.

(ii) *Group 2 projects* should aim at a concentration of work of immediate and practical interest to the countries of the region. In this connexion, projects of regional and international interest, or projects involving the establishment of panels of experts or advisory groups

³⁷ *Five-year Perspective 1960-1964. Consolidated report on the appraisals of the scope, trend and costs of the United Nations, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, WMO and IAEA in the economic, social and human rights fields* (United Nations publication, Sales No. : 60.IV.14), paragraph 318.

³⁸ Project numbers refer to the annotated list of projects in this report.

³⁹ Project numbers refer to the annotated list of projects given in the Commission's previous annual report (*Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 2 (E/3340)*).

to render assistance to governments, should acquire increasing importance as the Commission's work progresses. In implementing *Group 2 projects*, the facilities available in countries to carry out research, demonstrations or studies, or similar facilities available in governmental or non-governmental organizations, including universities, should be fully utilized, the secretariat acting as promoter and guide.

(iii) All projects should be constantly reviewed, in order to avoid the continuation, over a long period, of the same types of projects and studies. The titles of the projects should highlight the new elements and aspects of work in each field.

(iv) The Executive Secretary, in accordance with rule 23 of the Commission's rules of procedure, should indicate to subsidiary bodies the financial implications of any new proposals they make.

(v) The Executive Secretary should, in consultation with the subsidiary bodies, review the pattern and calendar of meetings with a view to reducing the number of meetings and the number of substantive items in their agenda. As regards the agenda of the Commission itself, the Executive Secretary may consider the desirability of including the reports of the committees and the reports on the secretariat's work in a single item.

(vi) The subsidiary bodies should periodically review the extent to which member countries give effect to the recommendations and the decisions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

(vii) The studies undertaken by the secretariat in accordance with the work programme should not be academic but should aim at assisting governments, in a practical manner, to understand problems and to evolve policy measures. The studies should be action-oriented and designed to stimulate interest in pioneering activities which could be followed up by other organizations, particularly in technical fields.

(viii) An *ad hoc* working group or party should be convened each year, if possible, just prior to or early during the Commission's session, to review the work programme and to examine how far the above principles, criteria and procedures have been followed by the subsidiary bodies and by the secretariat.

REGIONAL PROJECTS IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE BUREAU OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OPERATIONS

434. The increasingly close co-operation between the ECAFE secretariat and BTAO has made it possible to relate the activities of the ECAFE secretariat more effectively to the needs of technical assistance operations and, in particular, to provide BTAO with more effective research and technical information services; ECAFE, in turn, has also made increasing use of the experience of BTAO. A number of regional projects, such as these concerning training centres, seminars, study tours, research, demonstrations and the convening of working groups of experts proposed by the Commission in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 222 (IX), were implemented in co-operation with,

and with the assistance of, BTAO. During the past year, as a result of advance planning and continuous consultations by the secretariat with the various organs carrying out the technical assistance programmes of the United Nations, a total of 15 regional projects were carried out as compared with 13 in the previous year. These projects are a part of the Commission's work programme as a whole; however, owing to their regional character, the significant contribution which they make to the technical assistance work of the United Nations, and the very close co-operation between the ECAFE secretariat and BTAO through which they are implemented, the proposed regional projects for 1961 and 1962 respectively are listed as follows :

1961 ⁴⁰

Category I

- 01-02 (d) In-service training programme in economic development in the ECAFE secretariat.⁴⁰
- 03-02 (c) Working Group of Experts on Programming Techniques.⁴⁰
- 04-03 (b) Seminar on Industrial Statistics.
- 21-01 (f) Symposium on Dams and Reservoirs.
- 21-02 (a) Mekong river projects.⁴⁰
- 21-04 (b) Second Hydrologic Seminar (jointly with WMO).
- 31-01 (a) Seminar on Organization and Operation of Industrial Estates.
- 31-02 (b) Seminar on Energy Resources and Electric Power Development.
- 41-08 Regional Training Centre on Trade Promotion.
- 51-04 Seminar on Promotion of Tourism.
- 52-01 Working Group of Experts on International Highways.⁴⁰
- 53-03 Design of prototype coasting vessels.
- 61-03 (c) Seminar on Planning and Administration of National Community Development Programmes.

Category II

- 37-04 Working Group of Experts on Mining Legislation.

1962

Category I

- 01-02 (d) In-service training programme in economic development in the ECAFE secretariat.⁴⁰
- 03-02 (c) Working Groups of Experts on Programming Techniques.⁴⁰
- 04-03 (c) Working Groups of Experts on Statistics.
- 21-02 (a) Mekong river projects.⁴⁰
- 21-04 (c) Seminar on Groundwater Development.
- 31-01 (a) Working Party on Basic Chemical and Allied Industries.
- 33-03 Panel of Rural Electrification Experts.
- 37-03 Symposium on Development of Petroleum Resources of Asia the and Far East.
- 52-01 Working Groups on International Highways.⁴⁰
- 61-01 (c) (ii) Regional Seminar on Training for Family and Child Welfare.
- 61-03 (c) (iii) Seminar on Urban Community Development.

Category II

- 33-04 Regional training course in operation and maintenance of power transmission and sub-stations.
- 34-04 Seminar on Essential Services and Community Facilities in relation to Housing.
- 35-04 (c) Engineering panel : preparation of feasibility surveys for engineering industries of regional character.
- 36-03 (b) Training Centre for Aerial Survey Methods.
- 53-02 (a) Demonstration or trials with hydrofoil craft.

⁴⁰ For both 1961 and 1962.

PATTERN OF CONFERENCES

435. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 693 (XXVI), and bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 1202 (XII), the Commission continued to keep in view the aim of reducing the number and length of meetings of the Commission's subsidiary bodies and *ad hoc* working parties. The total number of meetings of the subsidiary bodies convened in 1960 was thirteen as compared to fifteen in 1959. The policy of convening seminars and *ad hoc* groups of experts to carry out preparatory or follow-up work, introduced in 1959, was continued; six such groups were organized in 1960 with a view to restricting the number and duration of meetings requiring participation of representatives of member governments. The directives of the General Assembly have been borne in mind in proposing the calendar of meetings for the period 1961 to 1962.

CONTROL AND LIMITATION OF DOCUMENTATION

436. The Commission noted that the Executive Secretary had continued to enforce the policy on control and limitation of documentation in accordance with the directives of the General Assembly and those of the Secretary-General. The rationalization of the pattern of conferences has greatly assisted in limiting the number of documents for meetings. Through editorial control, the average size of the documents issued by the secretariat has been less than that two or three years ago. Member governments have also co-operated with the secretariat in regard to documentation control by themselves preparing country papers and supplying an adequate number of copies for distribution at meetings. As a result, there was a noticeable trend towards reduction of the total documentation issued from about 4,200 pages in 1957 to 3,800 in 1958 and 3,400 in 1959. In the year under review, however, the volume increased somewhat, primarily owing to the revision of the terms of reference of the Commission; (i) to include social aspects of economic development and the interrelationship between social and economic development, and (ii) to establish appropriate liaison and co-operation with other regional commissions. As a result, the number of studies in the socio-economic field and the information material on the work of other regional commissions issued by the secretariat has increased. A number of special studies undertaken by the secretariat in implementation of the Commission's work programme were completed and published during the year. The Executive Secretary would propose to keep under continuing and strict review the schedule of meetings and the documentation to be published by the secretariat, so as to achieve the objectives of control and limitation of documentation, without adversely affecting the efficiency of the secretariat's work and the quality of its publications.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME

437. 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 entered into appropriate consultations with the competent specialized agencies. The Commission wished the Executive Secretary to continue that policy.

438. 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, or to establish different priorities within the framework of the approved programme, should he feel that unforeseen developments made that necessary.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE WORK PROGRAMME

439. At the fifteenth and sixteenth sessions of the Commission, the Executive Secretary had indicated that, as from 1960, additional staff resources would be required to carry out the future programme of work. In 1961 the Executive Secretary would attempt to carry out the proposed programme for 1961-62 within the staff resources available to the secretariat as provided in the 1961 budget which had been approved by the General Assembly at its fifteenth session. The resources available in that budget would not, of course, be adequate to carry out all the projects approved by the Commission. The accumulated backlog of requirements, including those necessary to carry out Commission resolution 34 (XVII) on community development and economic development and the decision to establish a group of experts on a regional co-operation work programme in this regard, would be as follows:

Professional staff

Office of the Executive Secretary	1
Research and planning	2
Flood control and water resources development	2
Industry and natural resources	2
International trade	2
Transport and communications	2
Social affairs	1
Administration	2
Languages	2

Consultants

Additional experts for three months each and related travel	6
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General service staff	10
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440. While the above were the estimated immediate requirements, the Executive Secretary again wished to emphasize that he foresaw the need for additional substantive professional and corresponding general service staff to meet the increased tasks envisaged in the "Forward Look", which the Commission, by its resolution 29 (XV), had approved in connexion with the five-year appraisal of the scope, trend and cost of the Commission's work. However, it would be premature to estimate precisely the long-term needs as envisaged in the five-year appraisal, which had been taken into account in the Consolidated Report submitted by the Committee on Programme Appraisal of the Economic and Social Council, under the title *Five-Year Perspective 1960-1964*,

referred to in paragraph 431 above. The Commission noted that a review of the activities of the entire United Nations Secretariat is being carried out by a Committee of Experts established under General Assembly resolution 1446 (XIV). The results of this review and the action that might be taken by the General Assembly would have to be borne in mind in assessing the long-term and growing needs of the Commission. The attention of the Commission was also drawn to General Assembly resolutions 1518 (XV), on decentralization of the United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the regional economic commissions, and 1508 (XV), on low-cost housing and related community facilities. It was not possible at this stage to make a precise estimate of the additional staff requirements in the ECAFE secretariat as a result of these resolutions. However, the Executive Secretary considered that increased utilization of the services of the regional economic commissions envisaged in Economic and Social Council resolution 793 (XXX) and General Assembly resolution 1518 (XV) might require a further augmentation of staff resources in the ECAFE secretariat, over and above those envisaged in terms of the five-year appraisal. This need had been also anticipated by the Secretary-General in paragraph 9 (2) of his note (E/CN.11/558).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

441. The proposed programme of work consists of eight broad divisions, namely: I, General projects (technical assistance and advisory services); II, Research and planning; III, Agriculture; IV, Flood control and water resources development; V, Industry and natural resources; VI, Trade; VII, Inland transport and communications; and VIII, Social affairs. Although the organizational pattern of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission and the ECAFE secretariat corresponds broadly to these eight divisions under which the annotated list of projects is classified, the implementation of projects under any particular heading is under the integrated responsibility of the secretariat as a whole. It has not been found practicable or useful to attempt a determination of priorities between these broad divisions or between their sections.

442. Within each of these eight divisions, and within each of their sections, projects are listed in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 402 B (XIII) in the following three groups:

Group 1. Continuing projects and activities of high priority

443. 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 submitted from time to time. Each study may differ from, and supplement, the others, in respect of the countries, substance, problems and period covered. No relative priorities are assigned to projects within this group, or as between groups 1 and 2.

Group 2. Ad hoc projects of high priority

444. This group consists of non-recurrent projects, the approximate duration of which can be estimated. It includes projects outside the broad scope of continuing projects (group 1), as well as occasional topics within the scope of such projects. Pursuant to the recommendations of the Economic and Social 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 groups 1 and 2.

Group 3. Other projects

445. This group consists of projects which, in view of staff and budget limitations, will have to be deferred for the present and probably also in 1962 or 1963. An estimated duration of work or date of completion is shown for virtually every project in this group. Within this group, projects are listed in 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.

446. The criteria used in proposing the distribution of projects in the above three groups include an estimate both of the basic importance of each project concerned, and of the most effective way of utilizing available resources.

Annotated list of projects for 1961 and 1962

(*Note:* The letter "s" indicates projects involving co-operation with one or more of the specialized agencies; the letter "t" indicates projects on which the co-operation of the United Nations Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations (BTAO) has been accorded or is to be sought.)

I. GENERAL PROJECTS

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND ADVISORY SERVICES

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

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

Authority :

Terms of reference of the Commission; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

The secretariat, within the available resources and in consultation with TAB, Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the specialized agencies, will, upon request by governments, provide expert advisory services to countries of the region.

01-02 *Co-operation in the technical assistance programme* (t)

Authority :

Terms of reference of the Commission; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

(a) Assistance in the development of technical assistance activities of the United Nations upon request by competent bodies, as appropriate;

- (b) Co-operation with BTAO in the planning and implementation of regional technical assistance projects recommended by the Commission;
- (c) Assistance to governments, at their request, in the preparation of formulation of their applications for technical assistance, and implementation of such projects;
- (d) Provision of in-service training for economists from Asia in the ECAFE secretariat. The programme commenced in 1960 when six fellowships were awarded by BTAO. The programme to be continued in 1961 under similar fellowships to be provided by BTAO.

N. B. Assistance and co-operation described in (a) (b) and (c) above should include Special Fund activities.

II. RESEARCH AND PLANNING

1. Review and analysis of the current economic situation

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

02-01 *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, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Publication annually of the *Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East*, survey and analysis of the current economic situation and problems in the region.

02-02 *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, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Contents include special articles or studies on the economic aspects or problems of Asia and the Far East, current economic indicators and statistics and studies and reports from meetings on economic development and related subjects.

2. Economic development

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

03-01 *Economic development and planning*⁴¹

Authority :

Commission, resolution 16 (XII), 1956; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

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 both national and international aspects, with special reference to the ECAFE region;

- (c) Studies of long-term prospects of economic development in the ECAFE region, initially for some selected countries, in co-operation with governments and research institutes concerned;
- (d) 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, in particular a study of the problems of mobilization of rural savings in developing economies, increasing and stabilizing foreign exchange earnings, and enlarging the inflow of capital from both public and private sources;
- (e) Studies of techniques of programming economic development, including methods of economic projection, adapted to the conditions of the countries in the ECAFE region. Case studies of the methods of development programming as applied to particular countries to be undertaken in agreement and co-operation with the governments and the research institutes concerned.

03-02 *Conference of Asian Economic Planners*

Authority :

Commission resolution 16 (XII), 1956; Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, fourth session, 1958; First Group of Experts on Programming Techniques, 1959; Commission fifteenth session, 1959; seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) The first session of the Conference is to be held in 1961 (i) to review the present status, progress and problems of economic development planning and implementation in the ECAFE region, (ii) to discuss specific problems of development planning such as the administrative machinery for planning and the possible scope for intraregional co-operation in economic development planning, and (iii) to consider the main findings of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning and of groups of experts and to recommend priority tasks in the work programmes of subsidiary bodies;
- (b) The seventh session of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning is to be held in September 1962, on the subject of domestic and foreign financing of 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; 1958, on industrialization; 1959, jointly with the Bureau of Social Affairs, on social and economic development; 1960, on transport development.
- (c) Groups of experts to be convened from time to time on technical aspects of development planning, in co-operation with BTAO. Previous groups : first Group of Experts on Programming Techniques, dealing with the general aspects of these techniques, in 1959; second Group of Experts on Programming Techniques, dealing

⁴¹ In co-ordination with projects 11-03 and 31-01.

with the techniques of applying industrial cost data and related co-efficients for economic programming, in early 1961. In addition, an expert group was organized in 1960, jointly with FAO, to consider selected aspects of agricultural planning in Asia and the Far East.⁴² In 1962, it is proposed that the third Group of Experts on Programming Techniques be convened to consider the techniques of long-term economic projection.

03-03 *Employment, savings and investment with special reference to population growth*⁴³

Authority :

Commission, resolution 20 (XIII); Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Following the publication of the first report on "Population Trends and Related Problems in Economic Developments in the ECAFE Region", a further analysis of the problems in employment, savings and investment in the region in relation to population growth is being undertaken.

03-04 *Training programme on economic development*
(r)

Authority :

Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

An in-service training programme for economists and statisticians, in co-operation with BTAO, was started in July 1960. Six government officials from six countries are participating in the 1960/61 programme. Another six participants are expected in the 1961/62 programme.

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

03-05 *Economics teaching and research in Asian universities*
(s)

Authority :

Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

A survey of the teaching of and research in economics in universities and other institutions in selected ECAFE countries, with special reference to the needs of economic development. In co-operation with UNESCO. To be completed in 1962.

3. Statistics

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

04-01 *Statistical compilation*
(s)

Authority :

Terms of reference of the Commission; Commission resolution E/CN.11/223/Rev.1, fifth session, 1949; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

(a) Maintenance of basic statistical series for ECAFE countries, including series regularly published in the *Economic Bulletin*. This involves close liaison with statisticians of the region and collaboration with the Statistical Office of the United Nations as well as with the specialized agencies;

(b) Compilation of statistics for the *Economic Survey* and other recurrent and special projects of the secretariat.

04-02 *Statistics development*
(s, r)

Authority :

Terms of reference of the Commission; Commission resolution E/CN.11/223/Rev.1, fifth session, 1949; Conference of Asian Statisticians, second session, 1958; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

In collaboration with the United Nations Statistical Office :

(a) Continuing study of statistical methods and standards, with a view to improving and enlarging the existing statistical basis in the ECAFE region and promoting international comparability;

(b) Advice and assistance to member governments of the region in formulating and implementing long-range programmes of development of statistics and in building up statistical systems to meet the needs of planning and development;

(c) Promotion of fuller participation by countries of the region in the 1960-1961 World Census Programme, including the Programme of Technical Assistance, jointly under the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization. Study and dissemination of census plans and activities, preparation of periodic progress reports, advice in regard to census techniques and methods programming and scheduling of visits of the United Nations/FAO Regional Census Advisers to countries of the region;

(d) Assistance and advice in the use of sampling methods and in the establishment of sample survey units. Collection and dissemination of information on sampling techniques and on sample surveys in different fields of application;

(e) Study of statistical personnel requirements in the ECAFE countries and of the training and other needs related to the fulfilment of those requirements. Assistance in developing methods of training and in promoting measures to secure the requisite training and other facilities;

(f) Promotion of participation of countries in the region in the 1963 World Programme of Basic Industrial Inquiries; assistance and advice in regard to plans for such inquiries; collection, study and dissemination of information on the present status and plans in regard to basic industrial statistics in countries of the region.

04-03 *Conference of Asian Statisticians*

Authority :

Terms of reference of the Commission; Commission resolutions E/CN.11/223/Rev.1, fifth session, 1949; resolution 21 (XIII), thirteenth session, 1957; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

(a) Fourth session of the Conference to be held in 1961, to consider family living, including food consumption surveys, censuses, industrial inquiries, statistical manpower and training, sample

⁴² In co-ordination with project 11-03 (b).

⁴³ In co-ordination with project 61-02 (b).

surveys, basic statistics for economic and social development, etc. (Organization meeting was held in April 1957, second session in December 1958 and third session in April 1960).

- (b) A Seminar on Industrial Statistics to be convened in 1961, in co-operation with the Statistical Office of the United Nations and BTAO, to consider objectives, concepts and methods of gathering and compiling industrial statistics for national and international use, taking into account international recommendation.
- (c) Two working groups are to be convened in 1962, the two subjects to be finally selected by the Conference of Asian Statisticians at its fourth session in 1961, from amongst the following : national income, housing statistics, balance of payments statistics, transport statistics, statistics for evaluation of progress of plan-projects, etc. : in co-operation with BTAO.

III. AGRICULTURE

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY ⁴⁴

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

Authority :

Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Survey and economic analysis of food and agriculture problems of the region.⁴⁵

- 11-02 *Agricultural financing and credit*

Authority :

Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Collection, analysis and dissemination of information regarding institutions and methods being developed in countries of the region to provide finance and credit for agricultural development (first report published in 1957, further report to be prepared during 1961 and 1962);
- (b) Preparatory work in 1962 for a joint ECAFE/FAO Technical Meeting on Institutions for Agricultural Financing and Credit, to be held in 1963.

- 11-03 *Agricultural development and planning*
(s)

Authority :

Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, third session, 1957; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

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 programming and input-output relationships in agriculture, measures adopted for achieving fuller utilization and higher productivity of the available labour force in agriculture, and the implications for countries of the region of development plans policies of other countries (first report published in 1957, second in 1959, third in 1960, fourth to be completed in 1961);
- (b) Relationships between the growth of agriculture and industry in expanding economies of countries of the region (report on first case study to be completed in 1961 and a regional study of farm and non-farm incomes to be commenced in 1961);
- (c) Impact on agricultural economy, especially at the village level, of community development activities (reports on two case studies published in 1960); studies to be integrated with project 61-03;
- (d) Case studies on particular aspects of agricultural development, e.g. capital formation in agriculture, rural employment, etc. (case study on capital formation to be completed in 1961).

- 11-04 *Food and agricultural price policies*
(s)

Authority :

Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on food and agricultural price policies and agricultural support policies in countries of the region (first regional report published in 1955, second in 1958, third to be prepared);
- (b) Preparatory work for a joint ECAFE/FAO technical meeting in 1962 or 1963 on marketing aspects of the implementation of price policies.

- 11-05 *Agricultural surpluses for economic development*

Authority :

Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Studies on the disposal of agricultural surpluses, with special reference to the procedures and problems involved in the utilization in the region of agricultural surpluses for economic development; to the effects of such disposals on incentives to expand agriculture domestically; the effect on commercial imports; and on the speed of economic development within the recipient countries (reports completed on Japan 1958 and Pakistan 1960; further case studies to be taken up as opportunities arise).

- 11-06 *Marketing of agricultural products*
(s, t)

Authority :

Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Studies of marketing problems and methods in relation to selected products, such as sugar, rice, tobacco, dairy products and meat. National studies to be

⁴⁴ This work programme on agriculture results from the decisions of the Commission at its seventeenth session, based on proposals agreed between the Director-General of FAO and the Executive Secretary of ECAFE in the light of developments since the sixteenth session of the Commission.

⁴⁵ This work will include services for the FAO Regional Office and the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Far East.

undertaken as far as possible, by national institutions; co-operation from the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance of the United Nations and from specialized agencies or other sources to be sought. Regional aspects to be studied by the secretariat.

11-07 *Agricultural economic research*

Authority :

Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Collection and dissemination of information on agricultural economic studies and research in countries of the region (first report published in 1958);
- (b) Improvement of agricultural economic services and facilities for training and research, problems to be studied and assistance given to governments in planning improvements.

IV. FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

21-01 *Multiple-purpose river basin development*⁴⁸ (s, t)

Authority :

Fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, 1960; Commission, seventh session, 1951, and seventeenth session, 1961.

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; study and analysis of problems and difficulties encountered;
- (b) A comprehensive ten-year review of water resources development in the region during 1950-1960 and subsequent reviews;
- (c) A study of ten major rivers in Asia and the Far East, each river to be studied separately;
- (d) Analysis of planning and execution of selected multiple-purpose projects in the region;
- (e) 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;
- (f) Organization of a symposium on dams and reservoirs, in co-operation with BTAO, in 1961.

21-02 *Flood control and water resources development of international rivers*⁴⁸ (s, t)

Authority :

Fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, 1960; Commission, sixth session, 1950, and seventeenth session, 1961.

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 :

- (a) Lower Mekong basin — servicing, assisting and advising the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin; provision of substantive and other assistance to the Office of the Executive Agent, TAB, the Special Fund, specialized agencies and others participating in the programme of investigations of the lower Mekong basin;
- (b) Initiation of a study of the Karnali and other international rivers.

21-03 (s, t)

Flood control methods

Authority :

Fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, 1960; Commission, sixth session, 1950, and seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Improvement of flood control methods, including a study of various specific problems in co-operation with technical organizations of the region :
 - (i) Symposium on flood and drainage problems of deltaic and coastal regions,
 - (ii) Bringing up to date the study on sediment problem already carried out;
- (b) Implementation of the recommendations of the Working Party on Earthmoving Operation held in 1959, particularly exploring the possibilities of developing experimental pilot projects for a work study in earthmoving operations.

21-04 (s, t)

Hydrologic studies

Authority :

Fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, 1960; Commission, seventh session, 1951 and seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Study of major deficiencies in hydrologic data (joint ECAFE/WMO project);
- (b) Interregional seminars on surface water hydrology and Second ECAFE/WMO/BTAO Interregional Seminar on Field Methods and Equipment used in Hydrology and Hydrometeorology to be held in 1961;
- (c) Groundwater resources : (i) convening of regional seminar on the Development of Groundwater Resources in collaboration with UNESCO and BTAO, in 1962, (ii) establishment of a regional research and training centre on the techniques of development of groundwater resources;
- (d) Study of geographic variations of runoff deficit and runoff co-efficients and of specific runoff rates on an annual and, if possible, on a monthly basis;
- (e) Use of isotopes in hydrologic studies concerning hydrometric measurements, measurements of seepage flow, sediment transport.

21-05

Dissemination of technical information on flood control works and water resources development

Authority :

Commission, sixth session, 1950, and seventeenth session, 1961.

⁴⁸ In co-ordination with project 53-01.

Description :

Publication of the *Flood Control Series* and the "Flood Control Journal"; publication of special progress reports on hydraulic research and distribution of technical reports and publications.

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

21-06 *Regional Conference on Water Resources Development*
(s,t)

Authority :

Fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development, 1960; Commission, sixth session, 1950, and seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

The fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development was organized in co-operation with BTAO, in December 1960; the fifth Regional Conference on Water Resources Development, to be held in 1962.

V. INDUSTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

A. GENERAL

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

31-01 *Industrial development and planning*

(t) **Authority :**

Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, twelfth session, 1960; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

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. A Seminar on Industrial Estates will be held in Madras, India, in 1961, in co-operation with BTAO and Department of Economic and Social Affairs of United Nations Headquarters. A Seminar on Development of Basic Chemical and Allied Industries (common salt, sulphuric acid, soda ash and caustic soda) in the ECAFE region to be held in 1962. Seminars on other specific industries to be convened in subsequent years;
- (b) Investigation and promotion of joint development projects for those industries which, from the point of view of raw materials and power supply, market demand or economies of scale, are of common interest to two or more countries in the region. To assist governments, at their request, in the formulation of industrial plans and in the undertaking of project feasibility surveys. Co-operation of BTAO to be sought as necessary;
- (c) Exploring the possibility of establishing, for each important field of industrial technology and research, a regional technical information clearing house and joint training centres, which may be built up by expanding existing national institutes or by establishing new ones;
- (d) Report on Progress and Problems of Industrialization in the Region to be submitted to the fourteenth session of the Committee on Industry

and Natural Resources. Continuing review by the Committee of progress and problems of industrial development;

- (e) Dissemination of technical information on organization and administration of industrial establishments ⁴⁷

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

31-02 *Integrated study of fuel and power resources and demands*
(t) *of countries of the ECAFE region*

Authority :

Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, second session, 1956; Sub-Committee on Electric Power, seventh session, 1959; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) 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. Assistance of BTAO to be sought.

Duration : 2 years.

- (b) Regional Seminar on Energy Resources and Electric Power Development : organization of a regional seminar during 1961 at which the problems of the countries of the region in regard to harnessing their natural resources for power development can be discussed. Countries to be invited to prepare detailed papers on various aspects of their power development programmes with special reference to the problems and difficulties encountered by them. The Seminar may deal with one or more of the following subjects :

- (i) Survey of available energy resources;
- (ii) Plans for power development and efficient utilization of energy resources and modern developments in the generation and transmission of electrical energy;
- (iii) Utilization of electrical energy in the home, agriculture and industry; rural electrification.

In co-operation with BTAO and the Industrial Development Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

B. 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, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Reports of research, experiments, new processes and techniques in selected industries to be furnished by

⁴⁷ In co-ordination with project 21-01 (e).

countries to the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing. Emphasis in disseminating technical information by the secretariat to be given to cottage and small-scale industries and research centres.

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

Authority :

Working Party on Small-Scale Industries and Handicraft Marketing, fifth session, 1957; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

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 manufacturers, including production and marketing; assistance to countries in the development of domestic and export marketing in co-operation with BTAO and the ILO.

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 Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

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. 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 1961.

C. 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, seventh session, 1959; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

(a) Electric Power Bulletin : annual publication of the "Electric Power Bulletin", to include a general review of power development in the countries of the region and also statistical data on the generation, transmission, distribution and consumption of electrical energy in the public electricity supply industry. The statistical information to include the installed capacity and production by different types of generating plants, fuel consumption, length and voltage of different transmission lines, pattern of electricity consumption and progress in rural electrification, etc ;

- (b) Country-by-country survey of the electricity supply organizations in the ECAFE region and study of plans and programmes for power development;
- (c) Costs of power stations now under construction;
- (d) Preparation and issue of special articles of regional interest relating to power development, including technical data on specific projects for generation, transmission and utilization of electric power; stream gauging techniques; changes in stream flow; progress in assessing hydroelectric potentials; the utilization of low-grade coals, methods of increasing reliability of power supply in large systems, planning of grid systems including programming techniques, and modern techniques for working on live lines;
- (e) Review of the progress of electrical manufacturing industries in the countries of the region.

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

33-02 *Studies on electricity tariffs*

Authority :

Sub-Committee on Electric Power, seventh session, 1959; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Present tariffs in countries of the region;
- (b) Scientific bases for formulating electricity tariffs, methods of apportionment of costs and fixing rates for electricity in multiple-purpose projects, concept of profit in public electricity undertakings, effect of tariff rates on the growth of industries, promotional tariff rates.

Duration : 2 years.

33-03 *Rural electrification*
(t)

Authority :

Sub-Committee on Electric Power, seventh session, 1959; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Study of technical features and problems of selected aspects of rural electrification schemes. Provision of advice through a panel of experts on rural electrification to countries in the region, especially the smaller countries. In co-operation with BTAO.

33-04 *Technical training centre for the training of technicians in the operation and maintenance of transmission lines and sub-stations*
(t)

Authority :

Sub-Committee on Electric Power, seventh session, 1959; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Host facilities will be sought from the governments of countries where such a training centre could be established; the organization, the course or courses of training, the equipment and technical personnel required, etc., will be worked out and the assistance from BTAO and other sources to be sought.

Duration : 2 years.

33-05 *Safety regulations in the electricity supply industry*
(s)

Authority :

Sub-Committee on Electric Power, seventh session, 1959; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

A comparative review of the safety regulations and legislation currently in force in the countries of the region and outside. Study of the extent of electrical accidents in the countries, their causes and the possible methods of their prevention, in co-operation with the ILO.

Duration : 2 years.

D. 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, fifth session, 1958; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

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 material industries; to promote international co-operation in this regard in close collaboration with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs, BTAO, ILO, FAO, 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 documents on technical, economic and social problems of housing, protected water supply and drainage, basic problems of building materials, results of research, experimentation and pilot projects to develop building materials and construction techniques, standardization of building components and aided self-help methods;
- (d) Periodic review of the housing situation especially for low income groups and workers and housing and building programmes in the region in relation to economic and social development.

34-02 *Regional housing centres*
(s, t)

Authority :

Working Party on Housing and Building Materials, fifth session, 1958; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

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 co-operation with BTAO, 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.

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

34-03 *Evaluation of self-help in housing methods and practices*
(s, t) *in ECAFE region*

Authority :

Working Party on Housing and Building Materials, sixth session, 1960; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

A survey by a mission, composed of the experts from the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs, ECAFE, ILO, FAO, UNESCO and WHO, to evaluate self-help housing in the region. The mission will visit India, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines, Thailand and the Republic of Viet-Nam. The survey will include examination and analyses of the various problems confronting the countries in self-help, mutual aid and other matters of co-operative rural and urban housing, as well as related community facilities. The building techniques, utilization of local building materials and underemployed labour and help necessary for technical supervision and financing will also be considered along with productivity and the administrative and organizational aspects of such housing. The survey will start in the latter part of 1961 and be completed by the end of the year.

34-04 *Provision of community facilities in relation to housing*
(s, t)

Authority :

Working Party on Housing and Building Materials, sixth session, 1960; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

A survey of various technical, administrative and financial problems faced by the countries in the ECAFE region in providing community facilities in the new housing projects, including the co-ordination and allocation of financial and executive responsibilities between housing authorities, local government and state or central government.

The organization of a seminar to focus the attention of the housing experts of the countries of the region on the problems connected with provision of community facilities and urban rural areas and to provide the latest information to them to enable the countries to devise solutions in this matter according to their requirements; information about the cost of providing such facilities in relation to housing to be collected, co-operation of BTAO and WHO to be sought.

E. METALS AND ENGINEERING

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

- 35-01 *Survey of metal producing and fabricating industries and trade in ECAFE countries — to include both technical and economic aspects*

Authority :

Metals and Engineering Sub-Committee, ninth session, 1960; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Iron and steel industry — continuing study of plans and problems of iron and steel industry and trade in ECAFE countries;
- (b) Engineering industries — detailed periodic survey of two or three specific industries in addition to foundries and machine tool industries;
- (c) Metal producing industries — review of the status of major metal producing industries (other than iron and steel) in ECAFE countries : review of specific industries such as copper, zinc and tin to be undertaken in subsequent years;
- (d) Promotion of intraregional and interregional co-operation — exploration of possibility of co-operation between two or more countries to set up industries, e.g. iron and steel producing industry by exchange or raw materials, joint rolling mills for rails and light structurals; alumina and aluminium plants and aluminium fabricating industries, machine tool industry and selected engineering industries.

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

Authority :

Metals and Engineering Sub-Committee, ninth session, 1960; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

This will include information and materials on ore beneficiation, new processes of making, shaping and treating iron, steel and other metals, manufacture of engineering products, electrodes and refractories, foundry techniques and techniques of scrap collection and preparation and, on a selective basis, information regarding engineering industries.

- 35-03 *Study of consumption trends and future demand*

Authority :

Metals and Engineering Sub-Committee, ninth session, 1960; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Periodic study of consumption trends and future demand for steel, ferro-alloys and alloy steels in countries of the ECAFE region;
- (b) Study of the consumption trends for other metals and engineering products in ECAFE countries, including machine tools, barges, fishing craft, coastal vessels, etc.

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

- 35-04 *Regional training, research and advice*
(s, t)

Authority :

Metals and Engineering Sub-Committee, ninth session, 1960; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) (i) Exploring the possibility of organizing training courses in India and Japan;
- (ii) Survey of existing international, bilateral and other training programmes and an assessment of their scope and contribution towards the fulfilment of the needs of the ECAFE region for trained manpower; an expert group to be appointed in co-operation with the agencies and governments concerned;
- (b) Exploring the possibility of establishing a Regional Industrial Research Institute for Metals and Engineering;
- (c) Provision of technical advice through a panel of industrial engineers on the development of engineering industries to countries of the region, especially those which have just started or are now planning to develop these industries. The panel will visit the countries concerned, at their request, to undertake a comprehensive industry-feasibility survey with a view to (i) formulating specific measures for improving the productive efficiency of the existing industries, (ii) determining the types of industries which could be started or readily expanded, and (iii) suggesting specific development policies for promoting these industries in individual countries. The panel will also help to draw up specific types of schemes in the field of standardization, research, design and training which could be more effectively undertaken on a joint basis by two or more countries. (Already included by BTAO as category II project for 1962.)

- 35-05 *Regional standards and specifications*

Authority :

Metals and Engineering Sub-Committee, ninth session, 1960; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Study of possibilities of standards specifications for iron and steel as well as selected engineering products including barges, vessels and coastal ships.

F. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND PROSPECTING

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, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Preparation, review and revision of regional maps in co-operation with the International Geological Congress, the United Nations Cartographic Office and 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. The first regional geological map completed in 1959-1960. Oil and natural gas map of the region to be completed in 1960-1961. Maps showing the distribution of known mineral resources of the region to be completed before 1962. Metallogenic maps, tectonic maps and prognosis maps to follow. Preliminary enquiries by the secretariat regarding regional magnetic maps;
- (b) Assisting the United Nations Cartographic Office in the preparation and organization of regional cartographic conferences for Asia and the Far East.

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

36-02 *Seminar on Geochemical Prospecting Methods and Techniques*

Authority :

Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, fourth session, 1960; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

To convene a Seminar on Geochemical Prospecting Techniques and Methods not later than 1963, for exchange of views and for examination of such techniques and methods in regard to their applicability to countries of the region, particularly those located in tropical and semi-tropical areas.

36-03 *Aerial survey methods and equipment*
(r)

Authority :

Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, third session, 1957; Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, fourth session, 1960; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) To convene a second Seminar on Aerial Survey Methods and Equipment in 1962 or 1963;
- (b) To establish an Aerial Survey Training Centre in the region.

BTAO assistance to be sought.

36-04 *Development of mineral resources of the lower Mekong basin*

Authority :

Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, eleventh session, 1960; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

The Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin has applied for United Nations Special Fund assistance to carry out a mineral prospecting programme in the basin. In

addition, there will be prospecting projects for specific mineral commodities under various other aid programmes. ECAFE's services will be required to advise the Committee and its Executive Agent on these mineral projects to be carried out in the basin and to render overall assistance in mineral development work.

G. MINERAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

37-01 *Regional mining development review*

Authority :

Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, second and third sessions, 1956 and 1957; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

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 on quantity and value, also salient features, such as better production methods developed in other regions. Earlier reports have reviewed progress from 1945 to 1959. Review to include studies on mineral trade.

37-02 *Dissemination of information relating to methods of exploration, exploitation and processing of mineral, and technical studies on selected minerals*

Authority :

Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, third session, 1957; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Dissemination of information on new improved methods of exploration, exploitation and extraction of all minerals, and equipment used for that purpose;
- (b) Technical studies so far completed cover coal, iron ore, aluminium, sulphur, kaolin, ilmenite ore, copper, lead and zinc. Studies on bauxite, tungsten, radioactive minerals and rare elements to follow;
- (c) Dissemination of information and study on mineral conservation measures.

37-03 *Symposium on the Development of Petroleum Resources of Asia and the Far East*
(s, t)

Authority :

Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, third session, 1957; Symposium on the Development of Petroleum Resources of Asia and the Far East, 1958; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

First meeting of the Symposium on the Development of Petroleum Resources held in 1958; proceedings published in 1959. Second meeting to be held in 1962; the Government of Iran has offered to act as host. Follow-up action arising from the conclu-

sions and recommendations of the first Symposium to be undertaken including :

- (i) Standardization and publication of petroleum industry statistics of the region and the reporting of petroleum exploration activities;
- (ii) Exchange of information on petroleum resources development;
- (iii) Co-ordination of stratigraphic correlation between sedimentary basins of the region;
- (iv) Study on the possibility of manufacturing petroleum exploration and production equipment in the region through international co-operation and/or co-operation with the manufacturing industry outside the region;
- (v) Compilation of case histories of the discovery and development of oilfields in the region.

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

37-04 *Working Group of Experts on Mining Legislation* (s, t)

Authority :

Committee on Industry and Natural Resources thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

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 and assess 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 BTAO and United Nations Office of Legal Affairs required. The Working Group is to meet in 1961 or 1962.

37-05 *Classification and utilization of coals of the region*

Authority :

Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development, third session, 1957; Committee on Industry and Natural Resources, thirteenth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

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

VI. TRADE

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

41-01 *Development of trade and trade promotion services*

Authority :

Committee on Trade, first session, 1958, and fourth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Review of developments in the trade and commercial policies of ECAFE countries and assistance to national trade promotion agencies by furnishing information and advice on problems of trade policy and promotion;

- (b) Report on current developments in trade and trade policies to be submitted annually to the Committee on Trade;
- (c) Review of developments relating to the European Economic Community (EEC), the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and the Latin American Common Market. Secretariat report to be submitted annually to the Committee on Trade. Work to be continued in co-operation with member governments, the secretariats of the other regional economic commissions, GATT, EEC, EFTA and other international bodies concerned;
- (d) Secretariat work to be continued on other questions of trade policy, namely, import and export licensing policies, export promotion techniques, state trading and long-term agreements and bulk contracts.

Reports on state trading and long-term trade agreements submitted to the third session of the Committee in January 1960. Further work on state trading to include (i) completion of country reviews contained in the secretariat report and inclusion of information on member countries outside the region with experience of state trading, (ii) a review of organizational structure, buying and selling practices and special privileges and exclusive rights of state trading agencies, if any, and (iii) assembling of information on the system of international tenders in force in the countries of the region;

(e) International fairs and exhibitions :

Survey of facilities for holding an Asian Trade Fair in 1964 or thereafter, to be undertaken by the secretariat with the assistance of a Committee consisting of representatives of member governments. Report to be submitted to the Committee on Trade, fifth session, 1962.

Implementation of recommendations on international fairs and exhibitions. Report presented to the fourth session of the Committee on Trade in 1961.

41-02

Clearing house of collection and dissemination of commercial information not generally available to the countries of the region

Authority :

Committee on Trade, first session, 1958, and fourth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Publication of "Trade Promotion News"; collection and dissemination of information on national trade promotion agencies, international fairs and exhibitions, trade missions, commercial intelligence and market research activities, trade promotion techniques, commercial arbitration, standardization of commodities and products, certification and marketing procedures and shipping rates and availabilities.

41-03

Methods of expanding international trade

Authority :

Committee on Trade, first session, 1958, and fourth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Stabilization of markets and prices of primary commodities of the region; secretariat to keep under review the activities of other international

bodies concerned in this field and work in this regard to be intensified in the regional context. A Note submitted to the participants in the third series of Intraregional Trade Promotion Talks in 1961. Further notes to be prepared in 1961 and 1962;

- (b) Measures to promote greater regional co-operation for trade development; study of feasibility of regional and sub-regional trade co-operation and other forms of trade expansion; examination of possibilities of joint projects by countries of the region to promote intraregional trade and the development of export industries, including engineering industries.

A Working Group of Experts to be convened in order to examine practical possibilities of regional and sub-regional trade co-operation;

- (c) Intraregional Trade Promotion Talks : third series of Intraregional Trade Promotion Talks among interested member countries of the region conducted in January 1961. Fourth series to be held in 1962;
- (d) Study of trade in selected commodities and capital goods. Reports on trade in certain minerals and mineral products of importance to the countries of the region submitted to the second and third sessions of the Committee on Trade. Work to be continued, including a study of trade in petroleum products, making use of other appropriate bodies of ECAFE;
- (e) Study on methods of expanding international trade with a view to removing obstacles to trade.

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

41-04 *Regulations, procedures and practices concerning the conduct of international trade*

Authority :

Committee on Trade, first session, 1958 and fourth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Working Party on Customs Administration, in co-operation with interested international organizations, to formulate practical recommendations for the simplification of customs formalities and procedures, with a view to facilitating the flow of international trade. Second session of the Working Party convened in November 1960. Report of the second session considered by the Committee on Trade at its fourth session in 1961. Work to include the following :

- (i) Review of implementation of the recommendations of the Working Party by countries of the region. Report on Implementation and Draft Code of ECAFE Customs Practices submitted to the second session of the Working Party in 1960. Work to be continued on the Code;
- (ii) The role of customs brokers/customs clearing agents : secretariat study and recommendations for the improved organization and work of customs brokers and agents, submitted to the Working Party, second session, in 1960. Follow-up action to be taken on the recommendations;

(f)

- (iii) Training and exchange of staff in customs administration. Note submitted to the second session of the Working Party in 1960. Possibility of establishing a regional training centre in customs administration, with BTAO assistance, to be examined;

- (iv) Possibilities of agreements among groups of countries for freer movement of goods and passengers. Secretariat recommendations on transit facilities submitted to the second session of the Working Party. Follow-up action to be taken;

- (v) Measures for co-operation in law enforcement. Secretariat recommendations submitted to the second session of the Working Party. Follow-up action to be taken;

- (vi) Co-operation of trade bodies with customs authorities in matters of customs administration;

- (vii) Study of customs terminology in the countries of the region with a view to promoting uniformity;

- (viii) Study of the laws and regulations concerning customs valuation in countries of the region with a view to promoting uniformity and harmonization;

- (ix) Simplification of documentary requirements and preparation of a model customs entry form for adoption by countries of the region;

- (b) 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. Revised report printed and issued in 1959. Next revision to be carried out in 1962.

41-05

(s)

Market analysis

Authority :

Committee on Trade, second session, 1959 and fourth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Market survey of selected products of countries of the ECAFE region. Reports on hides and skins, coconut and coconut products, and spices submitted to previous sessions of the Sub-Committee and Committee on Trade. Reports on marketing of jute and jute products to be prepared in co-operation with FAO in 1960-61; first report by FAO submitted to the fourth session of the Committee on Trade in 1961;
- (b) Market survey of selected products of countries of the ECAFE region to be continued, with particular reference to the future demand prospects, the growth of substitutes and development of new uses.

41-06

Commercial arbitration facilities

Authority :

Committee on Trade, second session, 1959 and fourth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Promotion, in co-operation with the appropriate national and international organizations con-

cerned, of arbitral facilities in the region, and assistance to countries in the formulation of laws, rules and regulations on arbitral procedures, incorporation of standard arbitral clauses in trade contracts and enforcement of arbitral awards;

- (b) Work to include (i) collection and dissemination of information about laws, regulations and court decisions and similar documents bearing on commercial arbitration; and (ii) analysis and comments on the information obtained : in co-operation with the United Nations Office to Legal Affairs. Interim report submitted to the Committee on Trade, second session, 1959. Progress report submitted to the Committee on Trade, third session, 1960. Further report and addendum 1 to the interim report submitted to the Committee on Trade, fourth session, 1961. Working Party of Commercial Arbitration Experts to be convened in 1962.

41-07 *Shipping and ocean freight rates*

Authority :

Committee on Industry and Trade, ninth session, 1957; Committee on Trade, second session, 1959, third session, 1960 and fourth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Intensive study on shipping and 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 appropriate national and international organizations; report submitted to the third session of the Committee in January 1960 on measures taken by the countries of the region to establish machinery for consultation with shipping lines. Further report to be submitted to the fifth session of the Committee on Trade in 1962;
- (b) Continuing and intensive review by the Committee of measures taken by the countries of the region to increase national shipping, to improve port facilities and, in consultation with the shipping lines, to achieve equitable freight rates and adequate shipping services; secretariat to continue to study the above questions in co-operation with governments and appropriate international organizations.

41-08 *Organization of training courses in trade promotion*

(i)

Authority :

Committee on Trade, first session, 1958 and fourth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

In co-operation with BTAO. The first Training Centre on Trade Promotion was held in Japan in March-May 1959. Report on the Training Centre in Japan submitted to the Committee on Trade, third session, 1960. Progress report on preparation for the Regional Seminar on Trade Promotion to be held in India in November-December 1961 submitted to the Committee on Trade, fourth session, 1961. Report on the Regional Seminar on Trade Promotion in India to be submitted to the Committee on Trade, fifth session, 1962. Further work to include examination of the advisability and feasibility of a Regional Training Centre on Trade Promotion on a long-term basis.

VII. INLAND TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. GENERAL

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY

51-01 *Collection, analysis and dissemination of information*

Authority :

Ad hoc Committee of Experts on Inland Transport, 1950; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, eighth and ninth sessions, 1959 and 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on general transport problems, railways, highways and inland waterways, as well as on telecommunications;
- (b) Collect and circulate information on training and research facilities in the transport and communication fields available both within and outside the region, and, where possible, expand such facilities for regional use;
- (c) Library and film service;
- (d) Printing and publication of "Transport and Communications Bulletin" semi-annually.

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

51-02 *Co-ordination of transport*

Authority :

Working Party on Co-ordination of Transport, 1958; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, eighth and ninth sessions, 1959 and 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

The subjects to be studied are : (a) uniformity of systems of accounting, statistical procedure and problems of tariff co-ordination; (b) the State in relation to transport, taxation, subsidies and obligations imposed on transport; (c) techniques and organization of inter-carrier traffic.

51-03 *Comparative studies of freight-rate structures in transport undertakings*

Authority :

Inland Transport and Communications Committee, seventh and ninth sessions, 1958 and 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Studies of principles and methods of preparation of the freight rates for different types of inland transport, with special reference to cost of transport, fair returns on investment and quality of service, and the rate relationship between different modes of transport.

Duration : 1961-1962.

51-04 *Seminar on promotion of tourism*

(i)

Authority :

Inland Transport and Communications Committee, ninth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Organization, in co-operation with BTAO and IUOTO, of a seminar on the promotion of

tourism with special reference to (i) research for tourist promotion, (ii) administration for organizations dealing with tourism, (iii) removal of travel barriers, (iv) the tourist industry;

(b) Study of the possibility of establishing training centres for personnel dealing with tourism and tourist industry;

(c) Assisting governments in making a country-by-country survey of tourist potentials in Asia and the Far East.

Co-operation of the IUOTO and its subsidiary bodies and BTAO to be sought.

Duration : 1961-1963.

B. HIGHWAYS AND HIGHWAY TRANSPORT

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY (see project 51-01)

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

52-01 *International highways* (i)

Authority :

Highway Sub-Committee, fourth session, 1958; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, eighth and ninth sessions, 1959 and 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

(a) Study of technical, financial, economic and other aspects to facilitate international traffic;

(b) Convening of working parties of experts from contiguous countries to formulate recommendations, in co-operation with BTAO. The fourth and fifth series of zonal meetings to be convened in 1961; other zonal meetings to be convened in 1962.

52-02 *Highway transport* (s, t)

Authority :

Highway Sub-Committee, fourth session, 1958; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, eighth and ninth sessions, 1959 and 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Studies will include the following aspects :

(a) General operational, organizational and financial aspects of road motor transport;

(b) Role of the co-operative movement in the transport industry, with special reference to the advantages and disadvantages of operation of highway transport through co-operative means, including examination of the feasibility of drawing up model legislation for the regulation and control of highway transport operated on a co-operative basis;

(c) Problem of mechanization versus labour-intensive methods, including studies on wage structure and other aspects of highway transport industry, in co-operation with the ILO;

(d) Comparative studies of legislative, regulatory measures and procedures adopted in the countries of the region relating to highway transport

operation, with special reference to long-distance trucking, and to regulatory control exercised over "transport on own account";

(e) Convening of a seminar, in co-operation with BTAO, on the organizational, operational and financial aspects of highway transport;

(f) Arranging a study tour of highway transport officials, in co-operation with BTAO, to advanced countries in Europe and America to observe current developments in this field.

52-03 *Economic studies on highways projects*

Authority :

Highways and Highway Transport Sub-Committee, fifth session, 1960; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, ninth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

(a) Study and report on the information available in different parts of the world on methods of determining the economic benefits which derive from the construction and improvement of roads;

(b) Encourage and help individual governments in the ECAFE area to survey the economic benefits which have derived from the construction or improvement of individual roads of different administrative classes, including feeder or village roads, secondary roads, main or arterial roads, national roads and roads linking neighbouring countries.

GROUP 3. OTHER PROJECTS

52-04 *Highway statistics*

Authority :

Highways and Highway Transport Sub-Committee, fifth session, 1960; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, ninth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Review of the character and use of statistics on roads and road transport which are collected at the national level in different regions of the world and recommend a unified pattern for the collection of such statistics for use in the countries of the ECAFE region.

C. INLAND WATERWAYS

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY (see also project 51-01)

53-01 *Improvement of inland waterway transport* (t)

Authority :

Inland Waterway Sub-Committee, fourth session, 1957; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, eighth and ninth sessions, 1959 and 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

(a) Collection and dissemination of information regarding improved methods of river and canal conservancy⁴⁸ for navigation and methods of

⁴⁸ In co-ordination with projects 21-01 and 21-02.

improving efficiency of inland waterway transport. To issue reports and information papers on different aspects from time to time;

- (b) Studies and recommendations relating to inland navigation on international waterways aimed at encouraging economic utilization of national resources and the free flow of traffic;
- (c) Assistance to governments, upon request, in their inland waterway transport projects, taking into account the need for a regionally co-ordinated approach;
- (d) Mekong river basin — assisting and advising, upon request, the Executive Agent of the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin in matters relating to inland navigation.

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

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

53-02 *Improved design and operation of craft* (i)

Authority :

Inland Waterway Sub-Committee, fourth session, 1957; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, eighth and ninth sessions, 1959 and 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Demonstration projects relating to fast passenger craft :

- (a) Wing boats : trials with hydrofoil passenger craft in interested countries of the region in order to demonstrate the feasibility and to determine the economy of passenger transport with this type of vessel on various waterways connecting important population centres;
 - (b) Other types of fast passenger craft.
- Co-operation from BTAO to be sought.

Duration : 1961-62.

53-03 *Prototype coasting vessel* (i)

Authority :

Inland Waterway Sub-Committee, fourth session, 1957; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, eighth and ninth sessions, 1959 and 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Formulation of specifications, design and tank-testing for coasting vessels suitable for countries of the region.

Co-operation of BTAO to be sought.

Duration : 1961-62.

53-04 *Classification of inland waterways*

Authority :

Inland Transport Committee, third session, 1954; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, eighth and ninth sessions, 1959 and 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

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

Duration : 1961-62.

53-05 *Dredging of inland waterways*

Authority :

Inland Waterway Sub-Committee, third session, 1955; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, eighth and ninth sessions, 1959 and 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

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

In co-operation with the Permanent International Association of Navigation Congresses (PIANC).

Duration : 1961-62.

D. RAILWAYS

GROUP 1. CONTINUING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES OF HIGH PRIORITY (see project 51-01)

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

54-01 *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; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, ninth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

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. Preliminary report submitted 1959. Further detailed studies to be undertaken on the lines recommended by the Sub-Committee.

Duration : 1961-62.

54-02 *Comparative studies of railway administration*

Authority :

Railway Sub-Committee, fourth session, 1956; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, ninth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Comparative study of the types of organization most suitable for the railways of the ECAFE region;
- (b) Dissemination of information on management techniques in the field of railways.

Duration : 1961-62.

54-03 *Increase of single line capacity with reference to operational and signalling aspects*

Authority :

Railway Sub-Committee, fourth session, 1956; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, ninth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Study of the optimum single-line capacity for different types of signalling. Convening of Working Party of Railway Signalling and Operating Officials. Working Party to be convened concurrently with seventh session of Railway Sub-Committee.

Duration : 1961-62.

GROUP 3. OTHER PROJECTS

54-04 *Diesel locomotive and railcar operation and maintenance in the ECAFE region*

Authority :

Working Party of Railway Mechanical Engineers, 1959; Railway Sub-Committee, sixth session, 1959; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, ninth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Convening of further working parties to study data collected on operation and maintenance of diesel locomotives and railcars; data on diesel hydraulic locomotives; bogies design and wheel arrangement for locomotives and railcars; use of low-grade fuels;
- (b) Possibility of establishing a regional standards organization to standardize design of components of locomotives and rolling stock.

Duration : 1961-62.

54-05 *Engine utilization and running shed practices*

Authority :

Railway Sub-Committee, fifth session, 1957; Inland Transport and Communications Committee, ninth session, 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

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 : 2 years.

E. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

(In co-operation with ITU)

GROUP 2. AD HOC PROJECTS OF HIGH PRIORITY

55-01 *Economic studies in relation to telecommunication development and planning in the ECAFE region*

(s)

Authority :

Inland Transport and Communications Committee, eighth and ninth sessions, 1959 and 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Study of the economic aspects of improving, planning and developing :
 - (i) National telecommunication networks;
 - (ii) Regional and extra-regional networks;
- (b) Study of the methods of financing and rates of flow of investment to accelerate development of adequate systems of telecommunications, national and regional, to meet the requirements of the ECAFE region.

Duration : 1961-62.

GROUP 3. OTHER PROJECTS

55-02 *Telecommunication, with special reference to development of inland transport, coastal shipping and other public services in the ECAFE region*

(s)

Authority :

Inland Transport and Communications Committee, eighth and ninth sessions, 1959 and 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Studies in relation to improvements of telecommunication facilities for improving efficiency in inland transport, coastal shipping operation and other public services in the ECAFE region.

Duration : Two years.

55-03 *Administration and organization of national telecommunication systems*

(s)

Authority :

Inland Transport and Communications Committee, eighth and ninth sessions, 1959 and 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Comparative studies of current methods of administrative and legislative control of telecommunication systems;
- (b) Comparative studies of current administrative organizations.

Duration : Two years.

55-04 *Development of telecommunication statistics*

(s)

Authority :

Inland Transport and Communications Committee, eighth and ninth sessions, 1959 and 1961; Commission, seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

Studies on the compilation and dissemination and coverage of operational and commercial statistics (national and regional), with a view to assessing their adequacy to meet current requirements and for planning future developments.

Duration : Two years.

VIII. SOCIAL AFFAIRS

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

61-01 *Social aspects of economic development problems in Asia and the Far East*

Authority :

Terms of reference of the Commission; Commission resolution 30 (XV); fifth session of the ECAFE Working Party on Economic Development and Planning; Commission, sixteenth and seventeenth sessions, 1960 and 1961.

Description :

- (a) Collection and dissemination of information on social aspects of economic development and inter-relationship of economic and social factors including contribution to ECAFE studies, particularly the annual economic surveys;
- (b) Studies on social policy, the relation of social and family structure to economic development, social aspects of development plans, needs of families and children, and social welfare admini-

** In addition to these projects, the Division of Social Affairs at ECAFE is undertaking, in co-operation with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs, BTAO and UNICEF, as appropriate, various projects in the social field, as outlined in the work programme approved by the Social and Population Commissions. Advisory services to governments are provided upon request and close collaboration with regional and other institutions concerned with social and demographic problems is maintained.

nistration, including contributions, as required, to reports and studies being carried out by the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs in implementation of the work programme of the Social Commission;

- (f) (c) Seminars, working groups and training courses on social aspects of economic development :
- (i) A group of experts to discuss selected problems of social development planning and social aspects of economic development in co-operation with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs and BTAO; preparatory work in 1962, working group in 1963;
 - (ii) A regional seminar on personnel requirements and the training needed for development of family and child welfare services, as a follow-up of the Asia and the Far East Seminar on Family and Child Welfare held in 1960, in co-operation with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs and BTAO in 1962.

61-02 *Demographic aspects of economic and social development*

Authority :

Commission resolution 20 (XIII); Commission resolution 28 (XV); Commission, sixteenth and seventeenth sessions, 1960 and 1961; Population Commission, eleventh session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on population trends, including contributions, as required, to reports and studies being carried out by the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs in implementation of the work programme of the Population Commission;
- (b) Studies on population growth and economic development : detailed analysis of the interrelationship between population growth and economic development in the ECAFE region as outlined by the Commission, following the first report entitled "Population Trends and Related Problems in Economic Development in the ECAFE Region", published in 1959;
- (c) Conference, seminars and other meetings in the field of population :
 - (s,t) (i) Asian Population Conference — preparatory work for a regional Population Conference in Asia and the Far East with participation of specialists in population, economics, and other related fields (including some specialists from outside the region); in co-operation with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs, BTAO and interested specialized agencies; the conference will take place in 1963;
 - (t) (ii) Evaluation and utilization of census results : as follow-up to the United Nations Seminar on Evaluation and Utilization of Census Data for Asia and the Far East, held at Bombay, India, in 1960, national or sub-regional expert groups or seminars are planned to be convened in so far as resources are available, to discuss the application of census results and other demographic data in economic and social development planning and policy-making; in co-operation with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs and BTAO; to be organized

as the results of population censuses taken in or around 1960 become available, beginning in 1962.

61-03 *Community development*

Authority :

Social Commission, twelfth session, 1959; Commission, sixteenth session, 1960 and seventeenth session, 1961.

Description :

- (a) Collection and dissemination of information : collection, analysis and dissemination of information relating to the experience of various countries in community development;
- (b) Studies on relationship between community development and economic development : studies on the interrelationship between community development and land reform, contribution of community development to selected aspects of economic development and the role of community development in urban areas, including contribution, as required, to reports and studies being carried out by the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs in implementation of the work programme of the Social Commission; also participation in a fact-finding analysis on the application of self-help, mutual aid and other methods or low-cost housing in selected countries of the region;⁶⁰
- (c) Conference, seminars and other meetings in community development :
 - (i) Seminar on Planning and Administration of National Community Development Programme : a regional seminar on the planning and administration of national community development programmes; in co-operation with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs and BTAO in 1961;
 - (ii) Asian Conference on Community Development : a regional conference on the planning and administration of national community development programmes to be attended by top level administrators of community development programmes; organized in 1961 in conjunction with the regional seminar on the same subject (61-03 (c) (i)); in co-operation with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs. The duration of the Conference will be limited to about four days;
 - (t) (iii) Seminar on Urban Community Development : regional seminar on the planning and organization of community development programmes; in co-operation with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs and BTAO in 1962;
 - (t) (iv) Workshop on the Development of Local Leaders in Community Development : preparatory work for a workshop to be organized for a sub-regional group of countries to discuss methods of identification and development of local leaders needed in community development programmes; in co-operation with the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs and BTAO; the workshop to take place in 1963.

⁶⁰ In co-ordination with project 34-01.

IX. TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS IN 1961 AND 1962

1961

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Site</i>
1. Seminar on Promotion of Tourism	24 April - 2 May	New Delhi
2. Intraregional Trade Promotion Talks : Consultations on Stabilization of Pepper Prices	23-26 May	Bangkok
3. Seminar on Planning and Administration of National Community Development Programme	7-18 August	Bangkok
4. Asian Conference on Community Development	21-23 August	Bangkok
5. Seminar on Industrial Statistics	5-22 September	Bangkok
6. Symposium on Dams and Reservoirs	18-23 September	Tokyo
7. Conference of Asian Economic Planners	26 Sept. - 3 Oct.	India
8. Seminar on Highway Transport	Open	Madras
9. Seminar on the Organization and Operation of Industrial Estates	Open	Madras
10. Conference of Asian Statisticians (fourth session)	14-25 November	Tokyo
11. Second ECAFE/WMO Seminar on Hydrology ⁵¹	27 Nov. - 11 Dec.	Bangkok
12. Regional Seminar on Energy Resources and Electric Power Development	12-22 December	Bangkok
13. Working Party on Prototype Coasting Vessels	Early December	Hong Kong
14. <i>Ad hoc</i> Committee on Asian Trade Fair	Open	Bangkok

Group of experts meetings ⁵² and training courses

1. <i>Ad hoc</i> Working Groups of Experts on International Highways	June and/or July	(1) Bangkok (2) Open
2. Joint ECAFE/UNESCO Meeting on Training of Geologists and Mining Engineers	October	Bangkok
3. Training Centre for Aerial Survey Methods and Equipment	September/November	Open
4. Regional Training Course on Trade Promotion	15 Nov. - 19 Dec.	New Delhi
5. Working Groups of Experts on Regional Co-operation in the Field of Trade	Open	Bangkok

Committee for the Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin

1. Fourteenth session (special)	31 May - 5 June	Bangkok
2. Fifteenth session (special)	October or November	Bangkok

1962

1. Intraregional Trade Promotion Talks (fourth series)	9-19 January	Bangkok
2. Committee on Trade (fifth session)	22-29 January	Bangkok
3. Working Party on Commercial Arbitration	31 January - 9 February	Bangkok
4. Inland Transport and Communications Committee	January-February	Bangkok
5. Committee on Industry and Natural Resources	February	Bangkok
6. Commission (eighteenth session)	March	Tokyo
7. Railway Sub-Committee (seventh session)	April	Open
8. Second Symposium on the Development of Petroleum Resources of Asia and the Far East	April/May	Teheran
9. Working Party on Customs Administration (third session)	August	Bangkok
10. Inland Waterway Sub-Committee	September	Bangkok
11. Working Party of Telecommunications Experts	September	Bangkok
12. Working Party on Economic Development and Planning	September/October	Bangkok
13. Seminar on Basic Chemicals and Allied Industries	October	Bangkok
14. Regional Seminar on Development of Groundwater Resources	October	Bangkok
15. Seminar on Community Facilities in Relation to Housing	October or November	Open
16. Working Party on Housing and Building Materials	October or November	Bangkok
17. Sub-Committee on Electric Power	November	Bangkok
18. Fifth Regional Conference on Water Resources Development	December	Bangkok

⁵¹ To be followed by a study-tour from 13 December to 20 December 1961.

⁵² Only experts invited by ECAFE with the assistance of BTAO participate in the group of experts meetings; representatives of member governments do not attend.

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Site</i>
19. Seminar on Urban Community Development	Open	Open
20. Regional Seminar on Training for Family and Child Welfare	Open	Open
21. Ministerial Session on Asian Highways (to be preceded by the <i>ad hoc</i> Zonal Working Groups)	Open	Bangkok
<i>Group of experts meetings ⁵² and training courses</i>		
1. Working Group of Experts on Statistics IV	July	Bangkok
2. Third Group of Experts on Programming Techniques	July/August	Bangkok
3. Regional Training Centre on Operation and Maintenance of Transmission Lines and Sub-Stations	April-September	Open
4. Engineer's Panel — Preparation of Feasibility Surveys for Engineering Industries	December	Open
5. Panel of Rural Electrification Experts	Open	Bangkok
6. Working Group of Experts on Statistics V	November	Bangkok
7. Working Group of Experts on Regional Co-operation in the Field of Trade	Open	Bangkok
<i>Committee for the Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin</i>		
1. Sixteenth session	Open	Open

ANNEXES

ANNEX I

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

MEMBERS

Afghanistan

Representative: Mr. Abdussattar Shalizi

Alternate Representative: Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Rawan Farhâdi, Mr. Mohamed Yassin Mayal, Mr. Hamidullah Tarzi, Mr. Sayed Aminullah Baha, Mr. Ghulam Faruq Ghilzai, Mr. Syed Mohamed Yassin Zia

Australia

Representative: Mr. T. K. Critchley

Alternate Representatives: Mr. N. S. Currie, Mr. W. P. J. Handmer, Mr. E. G. Campbell

Adviser: Mr. C. E. McDonald

Burma

Representative: Maha Thiri Thudhamma Daw Khin Kyi

Alternate Representatives: U Maung Maung, U Soe Tin, U Hla Min, U Aung Gyaw, U Hla Maung

Cambodia

Representative: Mr. Varkamel

Alternate Representatives: Mr. Sonn Voeunsai, Mr. Net Kuon

Ceylon

Representative: Sir Richard Aluwihare

Alternate Representatives: Mr. P. H. Siriwardene, Mr. C. Suriyakumaran, Mr. J. R. Samaranayake, Mr. W. Rajakone, Mr. W. M. Tilakaratne, Mr. R. M. Seneviratne

China

Representative: Mr. C. M. Chen

Alternate Representatives: Mr. Chang Shen-fu, Mr. Sherman Wang, Mr. Chia-ling Yang, Mr. Samuel S. Wang, Mr. Fude I, Mr. Yih Zien

Adviser: Mr. Ta Yin Hsiung

Secretaries: Mr. Pai Hsion-dow, Mr. Chang Yuan

Federation of Malaya

Representative: Inche Mohamed Khir Johari

Alternate Representatives: Dato S. L. Chelvasingham MacIntyre, Mr. C. L. Robless, Mr. V. C. de Bruyne, Mr. T. Sivagnanam, Mr. Ali bin Abdullah, Mr. Yahaya bin Abdul Wahab

France

Representative: Mr. P. Abelin

Alternate Representatives: Mr. J. Duflos, Mr. de Lacharrière, Mr. J. D. Paolini

Advisers: Mr. E. Mayolle, Mr. Valls, Mr. Grière, Mr. Poussin, Mr. Bernad, Mr. Lautard

Secretary: Mr. R. Hussenet

India

Representative: Mr. Nityananda Kanungo

Alternate Representatives: Mr. M. B. Gopala Reddy, Mr. Satish Chandra, Mr. B. R. Bhagat, Mrs. Tarkeshwari Sinha, Raja Dinesh Singh, Mr. T. N. Vishwanatha Reddy, Mr. D. S. Joshi, Mr. K. B. Lall, Mr. J. J. Anjaria, Mr. A. C. Mukerji, Mr. R. B. Lal, Mr. G. L. Bansal, Mr. S. K. Banerji, Mr. S. N. Chib, Mr. V. H. Coolho, Mr. K. R. F. Khilnani, Mr. P. C. Mathew, Mr. A. Mitra, Mr. Yadava Mohan, Mr. B. D. Pande, Mr. R. N. Poduval, Mr. D. Sandilya, Mr. N. C. Sen Gupta, Mr. Shiv Naubh Singh, Mr. H. P. Sinha

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^a These include (i) members of the United Nations, participating in a consultative capacity under paragraph 9 of terms of reference of the Commission; and (ii) the Federal Republic of Germany, participating in a consultative capacity under ECOSOC resolution 617 (XXII) of 27 July 1956.

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Representative: Mr. Abbas Seif El-Nasr
Alternate Representative: Mr. Mohamed El-Shaarawi

Yugoslavia

Representative: Mr. Dusan Kveder
Alternate Representative: Mr. Miodrag Stojiljkovic

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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO):
Mr. W. H. Cummings, Mr. K. A. Bennett, Mr. E. M. Ojala
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO): Mr. A. F. M. K. Rahman, Mr. P. Bessagnet, Mr. Fritsch
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the Bank):
Mr. Harry G. Curran
International Monetary Fund (IMF): Mr. Tun Thin
World Health Organization (WHO): Dr. C. Mani, Dr. M. Doraisingham
International Telecommunication Union (ITU): Mr. N. V. Gadahar
World Meteorological Organization (WMO): Mr. P. R. Krishna Rao

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)

Mr. D. A. W. Fisher, Mr. I. Kovalenko

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Colombo Plan Bureau: Mr. J. K. Thompson
League of Arab States (LAS): Mr. Clovis Maksoud, Mr. Saeed K. Hindai
Interim Commission of the International Trade Organization/General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (ICITO/GATT): Mr. Om P. Mathun

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Category A

International Chamber of Commerce: Mr. P. Chentsal Rao, Mr. H. L. Gupta, Mr. Oberg W. Masgeik, Mr. Rintaro Miyake, Mr. Masuo Kitani, Mr. Shotaro Tajima
International Confederation of Free Trade Unions: Mr. G. Mapara, Mr. V. M. N. Menon, Mr. G. S. Melkote, Mr. C. P. Dave, Mr. G. P. Mohindra, Mr. Alim

International Co-operative Alliance: U Nyi Nyi, Mr. J. M. Rana
International Federation of Christian Trade Unions: Mr. Dam-Sy-Hion
International Organization of Employers: Mr. I. P. Anand, Mr. Charnjit Chanana
World Federation of Trade Unions: Mr. K. B. Panikkar
World Federation of United Nations Associations: Mr. P. S. Lokanathan, Mr. N. K. Sidhanta, Mr. S. D. Pandey
World Veterans Federation: Major Chulam Husain

Category B

Catholic International Union for Social Service: W. T. V. Adishesiah
Commission of the Churches on International Affairs: Mr. H. C. Bhatt
International Council of Women: Mrs. T. V. Dehejia
International Federation of University Women: Mrs. Mona Hensman, Mrs. Helen Wilson
International Federation of Women Lawyers: Mrs. Violet Alva
International Union of Official Travel Organizations: Mr. S. N. Chib
League of Red Cross Societies: Major-General C. K. Lakshmanan
Pan Pacific South-East Asia Women's Association: Mrs. Seow Peck Leng
World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations: Mrs. Albuquerque

Register

International Committee of Catholic Nurses: Mrs. Angela Sonaggere

ANNEX II

List of publications and principal documents issued since the sixteenth session

A. PUBLICATIONS

MAJOR STUDIES (printed)

Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East, Vol. XI, Nos. 1, 2 and 3, June, September and December 1960 (English)
Economic Survey of Asia and the Far East, 1960. United Nations publication, Sales No. : 61.II.F.1 (English) (Vol. XI, No. 4, of the *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East*, March 1961)
Hydrologic Networks and Methods. Flood Control Series No. 15. United Nations publication, Sales No. : 60.II.F.2 (ST/ECAFE/SER.F/15) (English)
Programming Techniques for Economic Development, with special reference to Asia and the Far East. Development Programming Techniques Series No. 1. United Nations publication, Sales No. : 60.II.F.3 (E/CN.11/535) (English)
Mining Developments in Asia and the Far East, 1958. Mineral Resources Development Series No. 13. United Nations publication, Sales No. : 60.II.F.4 (E/CN.11/537) (English)
Proceedings of the United Nations Seminar on Aerial Survey Methods and Equipment. Mineral Resources Development Series No. 12. United Nations publication, Sales No. : 60.II.F.5 (E/CN.11/536) (English)
Community Development and Economic Development: Part I. A Study of the Contribution of Rural Community Development Programmes to National Economic Development in Asia and the Far East. United Nations publication, Sales No. : 60.II.F.6 (Part I) (E/CN.11/540) (English)
Community Development and Economic Development: Part IIA. A Case Study of the Ghosi Community Development Block, Uttar Pradesh, India. United Nations publication, Sales No. : 60.II.F.6 (Part IIA) (E/CN.11/541) (English)
Community Development and Economic Development: Part IIB. A Study of Farmers' Associations in Taiwan. United Nations publication, Sales No. : 60.II.F.6 (Part IIB) (E/CN.11/542) (English)

A Case Study of the Damodar Valley Corporation and its Projects. Flood Control Series No. 16. United Nations publication, Sales No. : 60.II.F.7 (ST/ECAFE/SER.F/16) (English)

Copper, Lead and Zinc Ore Resources in Asia and the Far East. Mineral Resources Development Series No. 14. United Nations publication, Sales No. : 60.II.F.8 (E/CN.11/538) (English)

PERIODICALS (*mimeographed*)

Flood Control Journal, ST/ECAFE/SER.C/43-46
Trade Promotion News, ST/ECAFE/SER.H/76-80
Industrial Development Series, ST/ECAFE/SER.M/17
Electric Power Bulletin, ST/ECAFE/SER.L/6
Transport and Communications Bulletin, ST/ECAFE/SER.E/31

B. PRINCIPAL DOCUMENTS

COMMISSION

E/CN.11/532. Summary records of the sixteenth session

Seventeenth session

E/CN.11/53. Report of the Conference of Asian Statisticians (third session) to the Commission (seventeenth session)

E/CN.11/543/Rev.1, 2. Agenda (seventeenth session)

E/CN.11/545. Activities in the field of statistics : (b) Report of the Third Working Group. Subject : Training of statisticians

E/CN.11/548. Report of the Fourth Regional Technical Conference on Water Resources Development

E/CN.11/549. Amendment of rules of procedure of the Commission

E/CN.11/550. Activities in the field of statistics : (c) Report on the progress of the 1960 World Census Programme and on the work of the UN/FAO Regional Census Advisers in Asia and the Far East

E/CN.11/551. Activities in the field of flood control and water resources development

E/CN.11/552. Information paper on technical assistance provided to countries and territories of the ECAFE region under the Expanded and Regular Programmes

E/CN.11/553. Report of the Committee on Trade (fourth session) to the Commission (seventeenth session)

E/CN.11/554. Report of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (thirteenth session) to the Commission (seventeenth session)

E/CN.11/555. United Nations Special Fund activities in Asia and the Far East

E/CN.11/556. Report of the Inland Transport and Communications Committee (ninth session) to the Commission (seventeenth session)

E/CN.11/557. Report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin

E/CN.11/558. Decentralization of the United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of the regional economic commissions (note by the Secretary-General)

E/CN.11/559. Communication from the League of Arab States (Note by the Executive Secretary)

E/CN.11/560. Resolution on the Asian highway

E/CN.11/561. Activities of FAO of special interest to ECAFE

E/CN.11/562. Resolution on community development and economic development

E/CN.11/563. Resolution on decentralization of United Nations economic and social activities and strengthening of ECAFE

E/CN.11/NGO/34. The technical assistance activities of the International Co-operative Alliance in southeast Asia

E/CN.11/NGO/35. Statement by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions on economic situation in Asia

E/CN.11/NGO/36 and Add.1. Statement by Major Ghulam Husain of the World Veterans Federation on agenda item 7

E/CN.11/NGO/37. Statement by Major Ghulam Husain of the World Veterans Federation on agenda item 10

E/CN.11/NGO/38. Contribution of rural community development programmes to national economic development (by the Pan Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association)

E/CN.11/NGO/39. The Role of Women in regional co-operation for the economic development of Asia and the Far East (by the Pan Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association)

E/CN.11/NGO/40. Intervention of the International Federation of University Women (by IFUW)

E/CN.11/L.85. Report of the third Workshop on Budget Reclassification and Management in the ECAFE region

E/CN.11/L.86. Report of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (sixth session) to the Commission (seventeenth session)^a

E/CN.11/L.89. Activities of the Joint ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division in 1960 (Note by the Executive Secretary)

E/CN.11/L.90. Report of the ECAFE/FAO Expert Group on Selected Aspects of Agricultural Planning in Asia and the Far East (Note by the Executive Secretary)

E/CN.11/L.91. Report of the ECAFE/FAO Expert Group on Selected Aspects of Agricultural Planning in Asia and the Far East

E/CN.11/L.92. ECAFE/BTAO Training Programme in Economic Development (Note by the Executive Secretary)

E/CN.11/L.93. Economic situation in Asia (Note by the Executive Secretary)

E/CN.11/L.95. Regional co-operation (Interim report by the Executive Secretary)

E/CN.11/L.96. Contribution of rural community development programmes to national economic development (Note by the Executive Secretary)

E/CN.11/L.97. Report of the Seminar on Evaluation and Utilization of Population Census Data in Asia and the Far East (Note by the Executive Secretary)

E/CN.11/L.99. Role played by WMO by way of technical assistance and otherwise in the ECAFE region

COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Thirteenth session

E/CN.11/I&NR/23. Report of the Working Party on Small-Scale Industries (sixth session) to the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (thirteenth session)

E/CN.11/I&NR/24. Report of the Working Party of Senior Geologists (fourth session)

E/CN.11/I&NR/25. Report of the Sub-Committee on Mineral Resources Development (fourth session) to the Committee (thirteenth session)

E/CN.11/I&NR/28. Report of the Conference on Pulp and Paper Development in Asia and the Far East to the Committee (thirteenth session)

E/CN.11/I&NR/29 and Corr.1. Report of the Working Party on Housing and Building Materials (sixth session) to the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (thirteenth session)

E/CN.11/I&NR/30. Report of the Sub-Committee on Metals and Engineering (ninth session) to the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (thirteenth session)

^a Published in *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East*, Vol. XI, No. 3 (December 1960).

- E/CN.11/I&NR/L.18. Regional co-operation in the field of industrial and mineral resources development
- E/CN.11/I&NR/L.19. Arrangements for transferring technical know-how
- E/CN.11/I&NR/L.20. Industrial research in ECAFE countries and interchange of research programmes
- E/CN.11/I&NR/L.21. Industrial machinery manufacture in ECAFE countries
- E/CN.11/I&NR/L.22. United Nations technical assistance provided to countries in the ECAFE area in the fields of industry and natural resources
- E/CN.11/I&NR/L.23 and Add.1. Timber trends and prospects in the Asia - Pacific Region (Note by the Executive Secretary)
- E/CN.11/I&NR/L.24. Progress and problems of industrialization in the ECAFE region

SUB-COMMITTEE ON METALS AND ENGINEERING

Ninth session

- E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.19. Observations of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources and of the Commission on the work of the Sub-Committee
- E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.20. Machine tool industry in the ECAFE countries
- E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.21. Review of the iron and steel industry in the ECAFE region
- E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.22. Review of the barge building and coastal shipbuilding industries in ECAFE region
- E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.23. Development of aluminium production and fabrication industries in the ECAFE region
- E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.24. Review of the foundry industry in the ECAFE region
- E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.2/L.26. Development of engineering industries in the ECAFE region

SUB-COMMITTEE ON MINERAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

Fourth session

- E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.3/L.5. Trade in mineral and mineral products (Note by the Executive Secretary)
- E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.3/L.6. Observations of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources (twelfth session) on the report of the United Nations Study Group of Geologists and Mining Engineers from Asia and Far East (Note by the Executive Secretary)
- E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.3/L.7. Proposal for convening a symposium on the development of bauxite resources of Asia and the Far East
- E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.3/L.8. Proposed agenda for the second symposium on the development of petroleum resources of Asia and the Far East
- E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.3/L.9. Assistance provided by the United Nations in the field of mineral resources development in the ECAFE region — 1959
- E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.3/L.10. Report of the United Nations Seminar on Aerial Survey Methods and Equipment
- E/CN.11/I&NR/Sub.3/L.11. Copper, lead and zinc ore resources of Asia and the Far East

WORKING PARTY OF SENIOR GEOLOGISTS

Fourth session

- E/CN.11/I&NR/SGWP.4/L.1. Observations of the Committee on Industry and Natural Resources and of the Commission on the report and activities of the Working Party of Senior Geologists

WORKING PARTY ON HOUSING AND BUILDING MATERIALS

Sixth session

- E/CN.11/I&NR/HBWP.6/L.1. Report of the Advisory Committee (second meeting) of the two Regional Housing Centres in New Delhi and in Bandung
- E/CN.11/I&NR/HBWP.6/L.2. A study on building costs in the countries of Asia and the Far East
- E/CN.11/I&NR/HBWP.6/L.4. Housing and Building Materials Study Tour in Europe
- E/CN.11/I&NR/HBWP.6/L.6. Community facilities in relation to housing such as water supply, drainage, electricity, roads, etc.
- E/CN.11/I&NR/HBWP.6/L.7. Report of the Advisory Committee (third meeting) of the two Regional Housing Centres in New Delhi and in Bandung

COMMITTEE ON TRADE

Fourth session

- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.19 and Add.1 & Corr.1. Arbitral legislation and facilities in certain countries of the ECAFE region
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.33 and Add.1. Implementation of recommendations on international trade fairs
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.34. Measures for regional co-operation in the field of trade
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.35. Regional market arrangements with reference to the ECAFE region
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.36. An Asian trade fair
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.38. Commercial arbitration in the ECAFE region
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.39. Work of other regional economic commissions in the field of trade
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.40. Report of the Working Party on Customs Administration (second session) to the Committee on Trade (fourth session)
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.41. Developments relating to the European Common Market, the European Free Trade Association and the Latin American Common Market
- E/CN.11/TRADE/L.42. Review of developments in trade and trade policies

WORKING PARTY ON CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION

Second session

- E/CN.11/TRADE/CAWP.2/L.2 and Add.1,2,3,4 & 5. The role of customs brokers and customs clearing agents
- E/CN.11/TRADE/CAWP.2/L.4. Measures for co-operation among countries of the region in the field of customs administration
- E/CN.11/TRADE/CAWP.2/L.5 and Add.1 & 2. Implementations of recommendations of the first session of the Working Party on Customs Administration
- E/CN.11/TRADE/CAWP.2/L.6. Possibilities of co-operation in exchange and training of staff
- E/CN.11/TRADE/CAWP.2/L.7. The relation between customs data and external trade statistics

INLAND TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Ninth session

- E/CN.11/TRANS/142 and Corr.1. Report of the Railway Sub-Committee (sixth session) to the Inland Transport and Communications Committee (ninth session)
- E/CN.11/TRANS/145. Report of the Highways and Highway Transport Sub-Committee (fifth session) to the Inland Transport and Communications Committee (ninth session)

- E/CN.11/TRANS/L.24. United Nations technical assistance activities in field of transport and communications in 1960 in Asia and the Far East
- E/CN.11/TRANS/L.25. Review of the report of the Working Party on Economic Development and Planning (Transport) and other aspects of the study of transport co-ordination
- E/CN.11/TRANS/L.26. Library service—Report by the Executive Secretary
- E/CN.11/TRANS/L.28 and Add.1,2,3,4 & 5. Comparative study of freight rate structure in transport undertakings
- E/CN.11/TRANS/L.29. Tourism and international travel
- E/CN.11/TRANS/L.30. Activities in the field of inland waterways
- E/CN.11/TRANS/L.31. Implementation of recommendations of the Working Party of Telecommunication Experts

HIGHWAYS AND HIGHWAY TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE

Fifth session

- E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/L.6. Report on the first sessions of the Expert Working Groups on International Highways for Zones 1, 2 and 3
- E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/L.7. Terminology used in bituminous construction
- E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/L.8. Current methods of highway administration and highway financing
- E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/L.9. Report on the second series of sessions of the Expert Working Groups on International Highways for Zones 1, 2 and 3
- E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/L.10. Training facilities for highway officials
- E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/L.11. Regional road research institutes
- E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/L.12. Highway transport
- E/CN.11/TRANS/Sub.2/L.14. Possibility of including Indonesia in the international highway project

FOURTH REGIONAL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE ON WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

- E/CN.11/WRD/Conf.4/L.1. Organization for planning, construction and operation of river valley projects
- E/CN.11/WRD/Conf.4/L.3. Parts I and II. Flood problems in deltaic areas
- E/CN.11/WRD/Conf.4/L.4. Development of groundwater resources

CONFERENCE OF ASIAN STATISTICIANS

Third session

- E/CN.11/ASTAT/Conf.3/L.1. Report of the First Working Group of Experts. Subject : Sampling methods
- E/CN.11/ASTAT/Conf.3/L.2. Report of the Second Working Group of Experts. Subject : Capital formation
- E/CN.11/ASTAT/Conf.3/L.3. World Census of Population—Report on the census plans and preparations in the countries of the region
- E/CN.11/ASTAT/Conf.3/L.4. Statistics for planning, and development—Basic industrial statistics, including mining statistics

- E/CN.11/ASTAT/Conf.3/L.5. World Census of Agriculture
- E/CN.11/ASTAT/Conf.3/L.6 and Add.1 & 2. Statistics on agricultural producer prices
- E/CN.11/ASTAT/Conf.3/L.7. Review of the facilities for training statisticians
- E/CN.11/ASTAT/Conf.3/L.8. Progress of agricultural census preparations in Asia and the Far East (Supplement)
- E/CN.11/ASTAT/Conf.3/L.9. Progress report on programme of basic statistics for economic and social development

WORKING PARTY ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

Sixth session

- E/CN.11/DPWP.6/L.3. The present status and problems of transport in countries of the ECAFE region
- E/CN.11/DPWP.6/L.4. Estimating transport requirements in the process of economic development
- E/CN.11/DPWP.6/5 and Corr.1. Choice of transport methods and investment criteria
- E/CN.11/DPWP.6/6 and Corr.1. Financing of transport development
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