

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

ANNUAL REPORT

21 April 1988-5 April 1989

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1989**

SUPPLEMENT No. 14



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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.

E/1989/33 E/ESCAP/693

ISSN: 0252-2284

CONTENTS

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
Abbreviations		(iv)
Introduction	1	1
<i>Chapter</i>		
I. ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION	2-3	1
A. Issues calling for action by the Economic and Social Council	2-3	1
B. Resolutions brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council		1
II. WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE FORTY-FOURTH SESSION	4-104	2
A. Activities of subsidiary bodies	4-81	2
Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment	5-16	2
Food and agriculture	5-7	2
Integrated programme on rural development	8-11	3
Environment	12-16	3
Committee on Development Planning and Statistics	17-27	4
Development issues and policies	17-21	4
Statistics	22-27	5
Committee on Industry, Technology and Human Settlements	28-36	6
Industrial development	28-30	6
Science and technology	31-33	6
Human settlements	34-36	7
Committee on Natural Resources and Energy	37-56	8
Energy resources	37-39	8
Mineral resources	40-43	9
Water resources	44-48	9
Cartography and remote sensing	49-53	10
Marine resources	54-56	10
Committee on Population and Social Development	57-64	10
Population	57-61	10
Social development	62-64	12
Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications	65-71	13
Shipping, ports and inland waterways	65-67	13
Transport and communications	68-70	15
Tourism	71	16
Committee on Trade	72-81	16
International trade	72-76	16
Transnational corporations	77-81	17
B. Other activities	82-85	18
Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries	83-85	18

CONTENTS *(continued)*

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
C. Relations with other United Nations programmes	86-104	19
III. FORTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION	105-738	22
A. Attendance and organization of work	105-119	22
B. Agenda	120	23
C. Account of proceedings	121-738	24
Inaugural address by the Prime Minister of Thailand	122-128	24
Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations	129-134	24
Statement by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP	135-137	25
Policies and perspectives for the economic and social development of the ESCAP region	138-181	25
Policy statement by the Executive Secretary	138-148	25
Review of the development of the ESCAP region and the work of the Commission	149-161	27
Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and preparations for the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade	162-171	28
Review of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, and preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	172-181	29
Restructuring the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s	182-192	30
Implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region	193-219	31
Review of the Tokyo Programme on Technology for Development in Asia and the Pacific	220-230	34
Issues and programmes in various fields of activity of ESCAP	231-665	35
Issues in various fields of activity	234-550	35
Food, agriculture and rural development	234-274	35
Industry, human settlements and technology	275-316	39
Environment	317-334	43
International trade	335-365	45
Transnational corporations	366-380	48
Natural resources and energy	381-412	49
Population	413-437	52
Shipping, transport and communications	438-488	54
Social development	489-530	58
Statistics and government information systems	531-550	61
Report of the ESCAP-NGO Regional Symposium on Co-operation for Economic and Social Development	551-557	64
Report of the study on the viability and cost-effectiveness of establishing a regional inland water transport centre in Bangladesh, and of other alternatives of strengthening the secretariat or using a network approach	558-559	64

CONTENTS *(continued)*

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
Progress reports on regional institutions, special regional projects and other regional bodies	560-645	64
Administrative and financial issues related to the Commission's regional institutions	560-565	64
Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific	566-579	65
Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology	580-591	67
Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific	592-599	68
Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery	600-607	69
Regional Energy Development Programme	608-612	70
Pacific Energy Development Programme	613-623	71
Asian and Pacific Development Centre	624-626	71
Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin	627-629	72
Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas	630-639	72
Typhoon Committee	640-645	73
Draft programme of work and priorities, 1990-1991; programme changes for 1989; and programme structure of the medium-term plan, 1992-1997	646-665	73
Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries	666-677	75
Special problems faced by Pacific island countries: the Commission's activities in the Pacific	678-687	76
Announcement of intended contributions	688-728	78
Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission	729-734	81
Date, venue and any other subject pertaining to the forty-sixth session of the Commission	735-737	82
Adoption of the report of the Commission	738	82
IV. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS FORTY-FIFTH SESSION		83
 <i>Annexes</i> 		
I. Programme of work and priorities, 1990-1991		87
II. Statement of programme budget implications of actions and proposals of the Commission		122
III. Meetings of subsidiary bodies held during the period under review		123
IV. Publications and documents issued by the Commission		124
V. Terms of reference of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific ...		127
VI. Rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific ...		129

ABBREVIATIONS

AARS	Asian Association on Remote Sensing
ACC	Administrative Committee on Co-ordination
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AIDAB	Australian International Development Assistance Bureau
APCTT	Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology
APDC	Asian and Pacific Development Centre
ARSAP	agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations
ASCOBIPS	Association of Shippers' Councils of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka
AVHRR	advanced very high resolution radiometer
CAD/CAM	computer-aided design/computer-aided manufacture
CCOP	Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas
CCOP/SOPAC	Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas
CEFIGRE	International Training Centre for Water Resources Management
CGPRT Centre	Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific
CIRAD	International Co-operation Centre of Agricultural Research for Development
CIRDAP	Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific
DESCONAP	Regional Network of Research and Training Centres on Desertification Control in Asia and the Pacific
ECDC	economic co-operation among developing countries
EEC	European Economic Community
EPOC	ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre
FADINAP	Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific
FASA	Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations
FASC	Federation of ASEAN Shippers' Councils
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GTZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit GmbH (German Agency for Technical Cooperation)
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
INSTRAW	International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IPF	indicative planning figure
ITC	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT
ODA	official development assistance
PEDP	Pacific Energy Development Programme
POPIN	Population Information Network
PORTMIS	Port Management Information System
REDP	Regional Energy Development Programme
RMRDP	regional mineral resources development programme
RNAM	Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery
RRSP	Regional Remote Sensing Programme
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation
SEATRADC	Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre
SIAP	Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific
SPC	South Pacific Commission
SPEC	South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation
TCDC	technical co-operation among developing countries
Technonet Asia	Asian Network for Technical Information, Industrial Extension, Technology Transfer and Entrepreneurship Development for Small and Medium Enterprises
UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)
UNCSTD	United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNCTC	United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRO	Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	United Nations Voluntary Fund for Women
WHO	World Health Organization
WINAP	Women's Information Network for Asia and the Pacific
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

Introduction

1. The annual report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, which covers the period 21 April 1988 to 5 April 1989, was adopted unanimously by the Commission at its 693rd meeting on 5 April 1989.

Chapter I

ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

A. Issues calling for action by the Economic and Social Council

Venue of the forty-sixth session of the Commission

2. At the 690th meeting of the Commission on 3 April 1989, the Government of Malaysia offered to hold the forty-sixth session of the Commission in Kuala Lumpur in 1990. The Government of Malaysia agreed to bear all responsibility for the additional administrative, logistical and financial expenditure involved in holding the session away from the headquarters of the Commission.

3. At the same meeting, the Commission accepted the invitation of the Government of Malaysia and decided to hold the forty-sixth session in Kuala Lumpur, subject to the approval of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

B. Resolutions brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council

- 45/1. Regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond
- 45/2. Establishment of a depository centre for United Nations human rights materials
- 45/3. Regional support for International Literacy Year
- 45/4. Integrated programme on rural development
- 45/5. Fulfilling the objectives of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction in the ESCAP region

Chapter II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE FORTY-FOURTH SESSION

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

4. During the year under review, the following subsidiary bodies met: the Committees on Population and Social Development; Shipping, Transport and Communications; and Trade. Details of the dates and bureaux of these meetings are given in annex III.

Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment

Food and agriculture

5. The following meetings were held during the period under review:

ESCAP/FAO TCDC Regional Seminar on the Use of Recycled Organic Matter, Quanzhou and Chengdu, China, May 1988

ESCAP-NGO Regional Symposium on Co-operation for Economic and Social Development, Bangkok, June 1988

Training Course on Negotiation Techniques for Fertilizer Importers, Bangkok, September 1988

Planning Workshop on Socio-economic Constraints on the Use of New and Renewable Sources of Energy, Bangkok, September 1988

IFA/FADINAP South-East Asia and the Pacific Regional Fertilizer Conference, Manila, October 1988

Training Course on Fertilizer Distribution and Utilization in Viet Nam: Northern Region, Hanoi, November 1988; Southern Region, Ho Chi Minh City, March 1989

Regional Training Workshop of National Participating Centres of the Network for Fertilizer Information Systems on the Use of Micro-CDS/ISIS Software, Bangkok, November 1988

Regional Symposium on Farm Broadcasting, Bangkok, November-December 1988

Planning Workshop on Country Studies to Assess the Impact of Low Agricultural Export Prices at the Farm Level, Bangkok, December 1988

International Seminar on Waste-water Reclamation and Reuse for Aquaculture, Calcutta, India, December 1988

6. The following advisory services were provided:

(a) Assistance was given to the China International Economic Information Centre (CIEIC) on computerization of information services and the establishment of national fertilizer documentation services. FADINAP prepared a model project proposal for CIEIC for submission to donors to obtain support for a national co-operating centre for fertilizer information;

(b) In co-operation with the International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington D.C., FADINAP was conducting a study on fertilizer marketing in China;

(c) Upon the invitation of the faculty of the Fertilizer Association of India, FADINAP staff members delivered several lectures on various aspects of development of the fertilizer sector in India;

(d) Technical inputs were provided to the International Symposium on Sulphur for Korean Agriculture, held at Seoul. A paper entitled "Sulphur fertilizer requirements and availability in Asia" was presented;

(e) Assistance was given to the National Fertilizer Secretariat of Sri Lanka on fertilizer subsidy matters;

(f) Information on world fertilizer price trends was provided to the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Co-operatives of Thailand;

(g) Advisory services on fertilizer logistics, distribution and subsidies, marketing and trade were provided to the Cook Islands, Fiji, Samoa and Tonga;

(h) Advisory services were provided to the Government of Viet Nam on various issues related to development of the fertilizer sector, and a permanent FADINAP technical liaison office was established in June 1988. FADINAP also assisted three agencies under the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry in the preparation of three national training courses on fertilizer distribution scheduled for 1988 and 1989.

7. The following technical publications and reports were completed:

(a) *Agricultural Information Development Bulletin* (quarterly)

(b) *Agricultural Reforms in China*

(c) *Agro-chemicals News in Brief* (quarterly, with two special issues)

(d) *ARSAP/CIRAD (International Co-operation Centre of Agricultural Research for*

Development) Regional Agro-pesticide Index: Asia and the Pacific, 1988/89 edition

(e) *Calendar of Meetings on Agro-chemicals* (quarterly)

(f) *Economics of Dryland and Rainfed Farming*

(g) *FADINAP Fertilizer Trade Information* (monthly)

(h) *FADINAP/NFIS Training Package for Fertilizer Information Processing*, vols. 1-10

(i) *NPK Fertilizer Production Alternatives: Proceedings of the International Workshop, Madras/ Bombay, India, February 1988*

(j) *Report of the IFA (International Fertilizer Industry Association)/FADINAP South-East Asia and the Pacific Regional Fertilizer Conference, Manila, 10-13 October 1988*

(k) *RISS, Regional Information Support Service. An Abstract Journal on Fertilizer-related Subjects* (monthly)

(l) *Safe Handling and Application of Agro-pesticides* (safety guide translated into Burmese, Chinese and Vietnamese)

(m) "Draft training guidelines on farm broadcasting"

Integrated programme on rural development

8. Three meetings of the Interagency Task Force on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific were held to review implementation of ongoing activities, plan programmes on participatory rural development and exchange information on the ongoing work of member agencies.

9. With the assistance of the Government of Japan, eight small-scale, high-impact projects were implemented in seven *barangays* of Antique Province of the Philippines.

10. A training programme on decentralized planning was conducted at Ilam, Nepal for district-level officials in August 1988, with the assistance of the Government of the Netherlands.

11. The first phase of the inter-agency project on the action plan for multiplication of participatory rural development experience on a socially significant scale was implemented with the holding of the Regional Review Meeting on Participatory Rural Development at Dhaka in July 1988. In accordance with a decision of the Meeting, eight grassroots cadres participated in training programmes in Bangladesh, India and Nepal during November-December 1988 as a part of the programme on exchange of cadres.

Environment

12. The following meetings were held:

Preparatory Meeting on Planning and Implementation of the Project on Environmental Assessment of Industrial and Urban Development in Coastal Areas of South-East Asia - A Pilot Study in Thailand's Eastern Seaboard, Pattaya, Thailand, May 1988

Expert Group Meeting on Environmental Impact Assessment of Development Projects, Bangkok, August 1988

ESCAP/UNEP/COM (Commission of the USSR for UNEP)/UNEP Regional Seminar on Agricultural Development in Arid and Semi-arid Zones and its Environmental and Socio-economic Aspects, Ashkabad, USSR, August 1988

Regional Consultative Group Meeting on Strengthening of the Regional Network of Research and Training Centres on Desertification Control in Asia and the Pacific, Chiang Mai, Thailand, September 1988

Consultative Meeting on Integrated Environmental Impact Assessment for the Eastern Seaboard Development Programme, Bangkok, November 1988

Roving Seminars on Promotion of Environmental Awareness in Accordance with Findings and Recommendations of the World Commission on Environment and Development, Dhaka, Kuala Lumpur and Bangkok, December 1988

Training Workshop on Environmental Impact Assessment in Thailand, Bangkok, February 1989

13. The following technical publications, studies and training materials were completed:

(a) *ESCAP Environment News* (quarterly)

(b) *Coastal Environmental Management Plan for Bangladesh*

(c) *Reporting on the Environment: A Handbook for Journalists*

(d) "Audio-visual module on desertification control experience in the region"

(e) "Directory of national research and training centres on desertification control in the region"

14. Programme/financial support was provided to:

(a) The Asian Forum of Environmental Journalists, in support of its programme activities in 1988-1989;

(b) The national forums of environmental journalists in China, Indonesia, Nepal and Pakistan, in support of their respective programme activities in 1988-1989;

(c) The Government of the Philippines, in organizing the national seminar/workshop on environmental management, Quezon City, November 1988;

(d) The Government of Vanuatu, in support of the publishing of additional copies of the proceedings of the Conference on Resources, Development and Environment, held at Port Vila in September 1987.

15. The following advisory services were rendered:

(a) To Bangladesh, to follow up the recommendations as they arose from the study on the coastal environmental management plan for Bangladesh;

(b) To Bangladesh, Malaysia, Pakistan and Thailand, to assist in promoting public awareness, especially through environmental journalists;

(c) To Pakistan and Tonga, to develop coastal environmental management plans;

(d) To Thailand, to assist the Government's efforts in planning for rehabilitation of the flood-affected areas in southern Thailand, as it related to environmental aspects;

(e) To Tuvalu, to review the state of its environment and environmental legislation;

(f) To Viet Nam, to discuss with the DESCONAP (Regional Network of Research and Training Centres on Desertification Control in Asia and the Pacific) focal point the organization of a seminar-cum-study tour on deforestation and desertification in Viet Nam.

16. To strengthen the environmental dimensions of the Commission's programme of work, a number of activities were undertaken in co-operation with the following divisions:

(a) With the Division of Industry, Human Settlements and Technology, on the development of a project on human resources development to improve the quality of life in intermediate cities;

(b) With the Natural Resources Division, on the organization of a series of national seminars on management of the environmental impact of water resources development projects;

(c) With the Social Development Division, on a study on the interrelationship between the quality of life and that of the environment;

(d) With the Technical Co-operation Division, on the ESCAP input into the International Garden and Greenery Exposition, Osaka, Japan, 1990;

(e) With the Transport and Communications and Tourism Division, on the development of a project on a case study of the environmental impact of tourism in Nepal, with special emphasis on trekking.

Committee on Development Planning and Statistics

Development issues and policies

17. The following meetings were held:

Training Course on Human Resources Development Planning, Moscow, May-July 1988

ESCAP/APD (Academy for Planning and Development) National Training Course on Project Preparation and Planning, Dhaka, August 1988

Expert Group Meeting on Restructuring the Developing Economies of Asia and the Pacific in the 1990s, Bangkok, August 1988

ESCAP/SPC (State Planning Commission of China) Conference on Economic Co-operation through Foreign Investment among Asian and Pacific Countries (Phase III), Beijing, September 1988

Seminar on Planning Regional Economic Co-operation, Moscow, September-October 1988

ESCAP/KDI (Korea Development Institute) Seminar on Institutional Relations in Development, Seoul, October 1988

Expert Group on Development Issues and Policies, Bangkok, December 1988

Expert Group Meeting on Restructuring the Developing Economies of Asia and the Pacific in the 1990s, Bangkok, January 1989

Second Regional Seminar on Project Planning and Implementation for Selected Asian Least Developed Countries, Bangkok, January-February 1989

Regional Seminar on an Interlinked Country Model System (seventh session), New Delhi, February 1989

18. The following advisory services and missions were undertaken:

(a) To Burma, for consultations with respect to projects on the mobilization of domestic savings and on project planning and plan implementation for the least developed countries;

(b) To Viet Nam, to hold a seminar and consultations with the Vietnamese modelling team under the Interlink project.

19. The following technical publications and reports were completed:

(a) *Development Papers*, No. 7

(b) *Development Planning Newsletter*, Nos. 7 and 8, December 1987 and April 1988

(c) *Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*, vol. XXXVIII, No. 1/2, June/December 1987

(d) *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1988*

20. In preparation for the theme topic for the forty-fifth session of the Commission on restructuring the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s, studies were undertaken on a range of issues, including experience of growth and structural change among groups of developing countries of the ESCAP region; patterns of regional trade and investment flows; impact of technology; and policies and strategies to assist restructuring in the 1990s, with emphasis on strengthening regional co-operation.

21. Activities continued towards the implementation at the regional level of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries. These included the preparation of a progress report on the implementation and monitoring of the Programme and the contribution of regional inputs to the global review process.

Statistics

22. The following meetings were held:

Expert Group Meeting on Computerized Information Systems for Governments, Bangkok, June 1988

ESCAP/SIAP Advanced Course on Statistics Related to Poverty, Inequality and Basic Needs, Bangkok, July 1988

ESCAP/SIAP Advanced Course on Planning, Implementing and Evaluating Agricultural Census, Bangkok, July-August 1988

Pacific Seminar on Social and Related Statistics, Nuku'alofa, August 1988

Working Group on Software Packages for Processing Census and Survey Data, Bangkok, November 1988

Working Group of Statistical Experts (sixth session), Bangkok, November-December 1988

ESCAP/SIAP Seminar on Improving the Timeliness and Quality of Statistics, Bangkok, December 1988

ESCAP/ILO Seminar on Employment and Unemployment Statistics, Bangkok, January 1989

UNICEF/ESCAP Expert Consultation on Social Statistics and Indicators for Children and Women, Bangkok, February 1989

Fifth Training Course on Sampling and Household Survey Methodology, New Delhi, February-May 1989

23. The following advisory services were rendered:

(a) To Bangladesh, to conduct a technical review of the National Household Survey Capability Programme, to Brunei Darussalam, to assist in the formulation of the national household survey programme, and to China, to appraise household survey activities in two provinces;

(b) To Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam and Thailand, to assist in the review and improvement of national accounts;

(c) To Bangladesh, China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Nepal, Philippines, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Vanuatu and Viet Nam, to advise on various aspects of data processing, including the production of census tables, the use of various software packages for data processing of population censuses and surveys, and assessment and evaluation of data processing facilities and needs;

(d) To Bangladesh, Hong Kong, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Vanuatu and Viet Nam, to assist in the planning, organization, conducting of pre-tests, processing and analysis of population and housing censuses and demographic surveys;

(e) To Bangladesh, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand, to advise on various aspects of government information systems and computerization;

(f) To Bangladesh, Nepal and Thailand, to assist with labour force surveys, labour statistics and collection of data on industrial outputs;

(g) To Fiji, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Mongolia, on various aspects of statistical organization, statistical development and ESCAP assistance in statistics.

24. Secretariat staff delivered lectures and/or made technical presentations: (a) at a national workshop in China on statistics on women; (b) at a seminar in India on national income and wealth; (c) at the international conference on population statistics held in China; (d) at the international conference on expert systems for development held in Nepal; and (e) at Beijing, on various topics on household surveys.

25. The following regular publications, containing statistical data for the countries of the region and other information of statistical interest, were released:

(a) *Asia-Pacific in Figures, 1989*

(b) *Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific, 1982-1986*

(c) *Sample Surveys in the ESCAP Region*, 24th report, 1986

(d) *Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific* (four issues in 1988)

(e) *Statistical Newsletter* (four quarterly issues)

(f) *Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific, 1988*

26. In addition, the following technical publications were released:

(a) *Censuses of Population and Housing in Asia and the Pacific: Towards the 1990 Round*

(b) *ESCAP Conferences for Regional Statisticians*

(c) *Manual on Training of Statisticians*

(d) *Statistical Software Packages for Processing Censuses and Surveys: A Brief Guide to Present Availability and Expected Future Developments*

27. The secretariat maintained close collaboration in the field of statistics with intergovernmental organizations and various international technical assistance agencies outside the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and professional and academic institutions. It worked closely with the South Pacific Commission in co-ordinating the statistical programmes relating to the development of statistics in Pacific countries.

Committee on Industry, Technology and Human Settlements

Industrial development

28. The following meetings were organized:

ESCAP/UNIDO/Technonet Asia Training Programme/Workshop on CAD/CAM in the Small and Medium-scale Engineering Industries in the ESCAP Member Countries, Singapore, May 1988

Expert Group Meeting on Transfer of Technology for Small and Medium-scale Industries in the Developing Countries of the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, November 1988

Expert Group Meeting on the ESCAP Model Form of Contract for the Acquisition of Foreign Technology, Bangkok, January 1989

Consultative Meeting on the Selection of Projects for Investment Promotion, Kathmandu, February 1989

29. The following assistance and advisory services were provided:

(a) To Afghanistan: (i) to advise on investment promotion activities and assist in the identification of possible sectors for foreign investment; and (ii) to advise on the development of private investment;

(b) To Brunei Darussalam, to review and advise on the organizational structure of the Industrial Development Unit of the Ministry of Development;

(c) To China: (i) to advise on small and medium-scale industries relating to international

co-operation in science and technology and in attracting foreign investment to provinces; (ii) to advise the Government on promotion of joint ventures and foreign investment; and (iii) to train and hold consultations on technology transfer and joint ventures;

(d) To Malaysia, to advise on identification of projects, investment in small and medium-scale industries and planning for the integration of small industries in an overall industrial development plan;

(e) To Nepal: (i) to provide assistance in the implementation of a project on women in development; and (ii) to assist in the identification of possible sectors for foreign investment;

(f) To Pakistan: (i) to conduct training and hold consultations on foreign investment; (ii) to advise the Government on the economic performance of public enterprises; and (iii) to advise on investment opportunities in the public sector;

(g) To Thailand, to advise the Northern Industrial Economics and Planning Centre on the preparation of an industrial development plan for the northern region and a plan of activities for the Centre;

(h) To Viet Nam: (i) to advise on privatization and investment and participate in private sector development meetings (Hanoi and Haiphong); and (ii) to provide assistance to the National Institute for Economic Management and the State Commission for External Economic Relations.

30. The following technical publications were completed:

(a) *An Evaluation Report on the Feasibility of Establishing Small-scale Agro-industries in the Lower Mekong Basin*

(b) *Entrepreneurship Development for Small and Medium-scale Industries in Selected Developing Countries*

(c) *Evaluation of the Worldwide Market for Tropical Fishery Products*

(d) *Industrial Development News for Asia and the Pacific*, No. 17

(e) *Promotion of Export-oriented Small and Medium-scale Industries*

(f) *Review of Industrial Progress in Countries of the ESCAP Region*

(g) *Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific*, No. 23

(h) *Study on Investment Policies for the Development of the Private Sector in Selected Countries of the Region*

Science and technology

31. The following meetings were organized:

Training Course on Standardization and Related Activities, Seoul, October-November 1988

Consultative Expert Group Meeting on Technology Atlas Project Outputs, Bangkok, November 1988

Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology, Technical Advisory Committee (fourth session), Jakarta, November-December 1988

Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology, Governing Board (third session), Jakarta, December 1988

Regional Meeting on the End-of-Decade Review of Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development, Bangkok, December 1988

Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery, Technical Advisory Committee (thirteenth session), Los Baños, Philippines, December 1988

Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery, Governing Body (eleventh session), Los Baños, Philippines, December 1988

Review Meeting on Electricity Conservation in Commercial and Domestic Subsectors, Bangkok, February 1989

Seminar on Technical, Economic and Social Aspects of Powder Metallurgy and Its Applications, Bombay, India, February 1989

32. The following assistance and advisory services were provided:

(a) To China: (i) to hold the two-week Training Workshop on Technology Transfer and Joint Ventures in Northern China for the Tianjin Municipal Commission of Science and Technology; and (ii) to conduct seminars on international trade law and contract practices, and on technology transfer and development;

(b) To Indonesia, to conduct seminars on negotiation and execution of international contracts;

(c) To the Lao People's Democratic Republic, to assist in the preparation of project formulation frameworks for two senior experts on technology transfer and international trade and a draft project document for the promotion of international trade and industrial development;

(d) To Pakistan: (i) to advise and provide information on the availability of technology and markets; (ii) to hold an in-house training workshop; and consultation for selected major public enterprises; and (iii) to hold a training workshop on international joint ventures;

(e) To Singapore: (i) to advise on methods to enhance technology acquisition in the construction industry; and (ii) to hold the Training Workshop on Successful Negotiation of Technology Acquisition and Joint Venture Contracts;

(f) To Viet Nam: (i) to advise on foreign investment and technology transfer; and (ii) to hold the Training Seminar on Technology Transfer and Joint Ventures, in Ho Chi Minh City.

33. The following technical publications were completed:

(a) *A Framework for Technology for Development*, vol. 1, *An Overview of the Framework*; vol. 2, *Technology Content Assessment*; vol. 3, *Technology Climate Assessment*; vol. 4, *Technology Status Assessment*; vol. 5, *Technology Capability Assessment*; vol. 6, *Technology Needs Assessment*

(b) *Manual for Training in Electricity Conservation in Commercial and Domestic Subsectors*

Human settlements

34. The following meetings were organized:

Training Workshop on Community Action Planning for Settlement Upgrading, Colombo, May 1988

Regional Workshop on Metropolitan Fringe Land Development, Bangkok, June 1988

Workshop on the Methodology for Joint Research on the Role of Informal Transport in Socio-economic Development of Urban Areas, Bangkok, August-September 1988

National Training Seminar for Trainers in Community Participation in Human Settlements Programmes, Manila, September 1988

Training Workshop on *Kampung* Improvement and Integrated New Settlement Development, Surabaya and Jakarta, October 1988

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Urban Transport, Yokohama/Osaka, Japan, October-November 1988

Non-governmental Organization Study Tour on Low-income Settlement Improvement, Bangkok, December 1988

Regional Training Course for Trainers in Appropriate Building Materials and Construction Technology, New Delhi, January 1989

Meeting of the Promotional Committee of the Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements, Yokohama, Japan, January 1989

Workshop on Housing Development and Management, Nagoya, Japan, March 1989

35. The following advisory services and missions were undertaken:

(a) To Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam, for preparation of guidelines for innovative housing finance and credit systems for low-income households;

(b) To Bombay, Karachi and Dhaka, for a TCDC field study mission of non-governmental organization workers in local housing development;

(c) To India, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam, to develop building component industries through application of updated modular co-ordination rules;

(d) To Indonesia, to prepare for a seminar for trainers on rural centre planning;

(e) To Indonesia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand, to collect data and provide technical advice in connection with joint research on the role of informal transport in socio-economic development under the ESCAP/UNDP project on the network of local authorities;

(f) To Japan, to assist in the organization of seminars hosted by the cities of Yokohama and Nagoya under the Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements.

36. The following technical publications were completed:

(a) *Case Studies on Metropolitan Fringe Development with Focus on Informal Land Subdivisions*

(b) *Human Settlements Atlas for Asia and the Pacific*, part II, Country Profiles

(c) *Managing Urban Growth* (brochure)

(d) *Study on the Role of Informal Paratransit in the Socio-economic Development of Urban Areas*

(e) *Study on Subnational Area Planning in Countries of Asia and the Pacific*

Committee on Natural Resources and Energy

Energy resources

37. The following meetings were organized:

Training Course in the Reduction of Transmission and Distribution Losses, Seoul, May 1988

Training in Energy Planning: Special Programme for the Least Developed Countries, Male, May-June 1988

ESCAP/PEDP/GTZ/AIDAB/SPEC Training Workshop on the Socio-economic Impact of Rural Electrification in the Pacific Islands, Suva, June 1988

Training Course on Rural Energy Integrated Planning and Policy Analysis, Beijing, June 1988

Seminar on Hydrocarbon Taxation (for ASEAN Member Countries), Jakarta, June 1988; (for South Asian Countries), Bangkok, July 1988

Tripartite Review Conference of the Regional Energy Development Programme (second session), Bangkok, August 1988

Third Meeting of Focal Points on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, Bangkok, August 1988

Symposium on Energy Conservation and Optimization Relating to Power Systems, Colombo, September 1988

Training Workshop on the Evaluation of the Technological Options within the Framework of Rural Energy Planning, Beijing, September 1988

Seminar on the Social and Economic Impact of Rural Electrification, Hangzhou, China, November 1988

38. The following advisory services were undertaken:

(a) To China, to give lectures at the Guangzhou Institute of Energy Conversion, Academy of Sciences, on the world and Chinese energy scenes, energy conservation technology development, programming of energy conservation activities, and applications of heat pump technologies;

(b) To China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, the Republic of Korea and Thailand, to advise on sectoral energy demand analysis;

(c) To the Cook Islands, to advise the Electric Power Supply on improvements in the power generation system on Rarotonga Islands;

(d) To Fiji, to present papers on power supply options and power system performance in the Pacific island countries at the Training Workshop on the Socio-economic Impact of Rural Electrification in the Pacific Islands;

(e) To Thailand, to advise the Electricity Generating Authority on solar energy issues.

39. The following technical publications were produced:

(a) *Energy Issues and Prospects in the Asia and Pacific Region*, Energy Resources Development Series, No. 31

(b) *ESCAP Energy News*, vol. V, No. 2; vol. VI, No. 1

(c) *New and Renewable Sources of Energy for Development*, Energy Resources Development Series, No. 30

(d) *The Potential for the Use of Coal and Peat in Small-scale Industries and Rural Households in Countries with Dispersed Coal Deposits*

Mineral resources

40. The following meetings were organized:

Workshop on Geophysical Exploration in Tropical Terranes, Hanoi, November 1988

Seminar on Coastal Evolution in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, November 1988

41. The following advisory services were undertaken:

(a) To India, to discuss with the Geological Survey of India details of the resumption of the 11-month post-graduate training course on geology;

(b) To Indonesia, to discuss preparation of an issue of the *Atlas of Mineral Resources of the ESCAP Region* devoted to an inventory of the mineral resources of Indonesia;

(c) To Indonesia, Thailand and Viet Nam, to assist national geological agencies in formulation of mineral and geothermal energy exploration projects under the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration;

(d) To the Lao People's Democratic Republic, to assist the Department of Geology and Mines in the formulation of a project proposal on strengthening national capabilities in geological research, and geochemical and mineralogical analysis, to be submitted to UNDP for funding;

(e) To Malaysia, to assist the Geological Survey of Malaysia in assessing geological hazards, and to provide in-house training for a preliminary analysis of the urban geology of Kuching.

42. The following technical publications and studies were produced:

(a) *Atlas of Mineral Resources of the ESCAP Region*, vol. 5

(b) *Atlas of Urban Geology in Asia and the Pacific: China*, vol. 3

(c) *Ceramic and Refractory Minerals*, vol. 5, *Mineral Concentrations and Hydrocarbon Accumulations in the ESCAP Region*

(d) *Review of Mineral Exploration in Selected Countries of the ESCAP Region, 1986-1987*

43. The secretariat continued to provide technical support to SEATRADC.

Water resources

44. The following meetings/workshops were held:

Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific (twenty-first session), Bangkok, May 1988; (twenty-second session), Bangkok, December 1988

Regional Workshop on Management of the Environmental Impact of Water Resources Development Projects, Kharkov and Kiev, USSR, June 1988

Workshop on the Role of Water-use Statistics in the Long-term Planning of Water Resources Development, Kiev, USSR, August 1988

Expert Group Meeting on Comprehensive Flood Loss Prevention and Management, Bangkok, October 1988

Typhoon Committee (twenty-first session), Manila, November 1988

ESCAP/CEFIGRE/PWA (Provincial Waterworks Authority of Thailand) Workshop for Directors of Training Centres for Formulating a TCDC Training Programme on Water Resources Development, Bangkok, January 1989

ESCAP/INSTRAW Regional Training Seminar on Women's Contribution to the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, Bangkok, January 1989

45. The secretariat co-operated with WMO in organizing and servicing the sixteenth session of the WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones at New Delhi in February 1989; participated in the meeting of the Typhoon Committee Technical Working Group on the Implementation of the Regional Co-operation Programme, held at Kuala Lumpur in October 1988; provided support to the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin by reviewing the documents and participating in its twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth sessions, held at Vientiane in June 1988 and at Bangkok in February 1989, respectively.

46. The following advisory services and missions were undertaken:

(a) Consultancy missions to India, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam;

(b) A mission to Thailand by the regional adviser.

47. The following technical publications and reports were completed:

(a) *Confluence*, Nos. 11 and 12, 1988

(b) *Flood Loss Prevention and Management in East Asia - Report of the Missions to the Typhoon Committee Area (November-December 1987, March 1988)*

(c) *Information on Training in Water Resources Development*

(d) *Proceedings of the Expert Group Meeting on Improvement of Flood Loss Prevention Systems Based on Risk Analysis and Mapping*

(e) *Report of the Regional Expert Group Consultative Meeting on Technical Co-operation*

among Developing Countries in Water Resources Development

(f) *The Role of Water-use Statistics in the Long-term Planning of Water Resources Development*, Water Resources Series, No. 64

(g) *Water Resources Development in Asia and the Pacific: Dam Safety Evaluation and Monitoring, Water Tariffs and Rain-water Harvesting*, Water Resources Series, No. 67

(h) *Water Resources Journal* (quarterly)

48. The secretariat was undertaking a project on urban flood loss and mitigation, and preparation of a manual and guidelines on comprehensive flood loss prevention and management. Information on training requirements of countries and training capabilities of institutes and agencies of the Regional Network for Training in Water Resources Development was prepared and disseminated; exchange of experts for training between China and Thailand, and between China and India was carried out on a TCDC basis; and preliminary guidelines for national master water plans were drafted.

Cartography and remote sensing

49. The following meetings were organized:

Training Course on the Application of Remote Sensing to Severe Storm Analysis, Dhaka, April 1988

Training Course on the Application of AVHRR Data to Oceanography, Dhaka, June 1988

Meeting of the Directors of the National Remote Sensing Centres/Programmes in the ESCAP Region, Shanghai, China, July 1988

Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on the Regional Remote Sensing Programme (fifth session), Shanghai, China, July 1988

Training Course on Remote Sensing on Meteorology (Hydrology), Dhaka, October 1988

Working Group Meeting on Education and Training in Remote Sensing for the ESCAP Region, Wuhan, China, October 1988

Working Group Meeting of the Regional Information Service Contact Points, Bangkok, November 1988

Workshop on the Geographic Information System, Bangkok, November 1988

AARS/ESCAP Ninth Asian Conference on Remote Sensing, Bangkok, November 1988

50. The following technical publications were completed:

(a) *Asian-Pacific Remote Sensing Journal* (biannually)

(b) *Regional Remote Sensing Bibliography*

(c) *Remote Sensing Newsletter* (quarterly)

51. Assistance was rendered to the following technical co-operation exchange activities:

(a) Scientists from East China Normal University, Shanghai, China, visited Maldives and assisted in the development of offshore marine studies and also conducted ground truth surveys;

(b) Specialists in the Geographic Information System (GIS) from Canada, China, Japan and New Zealand rendered services as resource persons in the workshop on GIS, held at Bangkok, in November 1988, which was hosted by the National Research Council of Thailand.

52. Five pilot projects were conducted and reports of two pilot projects were completed. A subprogramme for the South Pacific became fully operational.

53. The Regional Information Service on Remote Sensing was launched formally during the year. A regional network for education and training in remote sensing was also established.

Marine resources

54. The following meeting was held:

Seminar on Issues Associated with Offshore Installations and Structures in the Exclusive Economic Zone, Bangkok, February 1989

55. The following advisory services and missions were undertaken:

To Indonesia in August 1988, and to Fiji and Vanuatu in October 1988, to assess the implications of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea as well as the countries' needs for assistance in this field.

56. The secretariat continued to provide technical support to CCOP and CCOP/SOPAC.

Committee on Population and Social Development

Population

57. The following meetings were held:

Final Meeting of the Study Directors on Emerging Issues of the Aging of Population, Bangkok, May 1988

Regional Seminar on Frameworks for Population and Development Planning, Bangkok, June 1988

Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Integration of Population and Development Policies, Bangkok, August-September 1988

Workshop for Thai Participants on Training in the Use of Microcomputers for Demographic Analysis Survey Data Processing and Family Planning Evaluation, Bangkok, October 1988

Asia-Pacific Population Information Consultative Workshop, Bangkok, October-November 1988

Workshop on Training in the Use of Microcomputers for Data Entry for Family Planning Surveys, Bangkok, October-November 1988

Expert Group Meeting on the Interaction between Clients and Grassroots Family Planning Workers, Chiang Mai, Thailand, January 1989

First Study Directors' Meeting on the Study of the Accessibility of Contraceptive Methods, Bangkok, February 1989

58. The following training activities were organized:

(a) Eighteen candidates from the ESCAP region were awarded 1988-1989 fellowships for training at the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Bombay, India;

(b) Training in the use of microcomputers for data entry for sample surveys, undertaken in connection with the contraceptive prevalence survey of Viet Nam (National Committee on Population and Family Planning and Institute of Computer Science and Cybernetics), Hanoi, July 1988;

(c) Training for one official from the League of Arab States and three officials from the Philippine Population Commission, on population information management in the use of microcomputers and information repackaging, Manila and Bangkok, October 1988;

(d) Training in the use of microcomputers for demographic analysis, survey data processing and family planning evaluation for Thai participants, Bangkok, October 1988;

(e) Training in the use of microcomputers for data entry for family planning surveys, Bangkok, October-November 1988;

(f) A two-week training course on techniques for searching POPLINE data bases using POPULATION INDEX and the HP3000 computer for 20 officials of the China Population Information Centre, Beijing, November 1988;

(g) A two-week training course on development, research and evaluation of selected population and family planning policy issues for 25 officials from the China Population Information Centre

and its sub-centres in Beijing and Shengyang, China, December 1988;

(h) An in-service training course on population information management and an information users' seminar for 30 officials of the Viet Nam Population Documentation and Information Centre at Haiphong and Hanoi, December 1988.

59. The following advisory services were provided:

(a) To Bangladesh: (i) to assist the Government in developing and finalizing the district-level impact study; and (ii) to conduct a course in POPIN management and to draft a UNFPA project document for the national POPIN centre in Dhaka;

(b) To Bangladesh, Nepal and the Philippines, to assist in the final preparation of reports for the project on development of analytical frameworks for population and development research and planning;

(c) To Bhutan, to undertake an inventory of family planning programme statistics;

(d) To China: (i) on the development and strengthening of national population information services; (ii) to provide technical backstopping for the "two per thousand" fertility and family planning survey; (iii) to Beijing and Harbin Municipality to monitor the implementation of the project on improvement of the family planning management information system; and (iv) to conduct workshops/seminars at Xian, Shanghai and Beijing on repackaging population research findings for special audiences, to consult the national POPIN centre in Beijing on the current status of the publication programme, and to represent ESCAP at the tripartite review meeting of the project on strengthening of the China Population Information Centre;

(e) To India: (i) to undertake an inventory of family planning programme statistics; and (ii) (to Bombay, Nasik and New Delhi) to monitor the implementation of the project on improvement of family planning management information systems;

(f) To Indonesia, to provide technical assistance to the Asia-Pacific POPIN counterpart in the implementation of the national population information programme;

(g) To Indonesia and Malaysia, to provide technical assistance in the development of integrated data banks for bibliographic, textual and statistical information and their telecommunication networking applications at the national POPIN centre in Jakarta;

(h) To Malaysia: (i) to provide technical assistance in the use of microcomputer software; and (ii) to provide advisory services to the Government on family planning evaluation methodologies;

(i) To Nepal, to undertake an inventory of family planning programme statistics and to monitor the implementation of the project on the improvement of the family planning management information system;

(j) To Nepal and Sri Lanka, to review the status of the national POPIN centre in Kathmandu;

(k) To Pakistan, to discuss the development of SAARC-POPIN at the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation secretariat in Islamabad;

(l) To the Philippines, to negotiate a TCDC training course in the use of technical writing for 1989, jointly sponsored by ESCAP and the Commission on Population, and to assess the status of the Philippines POPIN national networking programme;

(m) To the Philippines and the Republic of Korea, to provide backstopping for an in-country seminar on the dissemination of research findings;

(n) To the Philippines and Samoa, for a diagnostic survey of service statistics;

(o) To the Republic of Korea: (i) to provide technical assistance in the tabulation and analysis of data from the national demographic survey and in the finalization of the phase II report on the aging of population; (ii) to provide technical assistance in the preparation of a census monograph on migration; and (iii) for consultation with the Korean Institute for Population and Health (KIPH) on arrangements for TCDC training information in the use of microcomputers for national information centre work and to develop plans for an on-line data transfer demonstration between KIPH and ESCAP;

(p) To Singapore, Sydney, Nadi, Suva, Vanuatu, Port Moresby, Mount Hagen and Madang, to undertake inventories of family planning programme statistics and monitor the implementation of the project on the improvement of the family planning management information system;

(q) To Thailand, to advise on a newly developed project of the Planned Parenthood Association of Thailand, in honour of H.R.H. the Princess Mother;

(r) To Viet Nam: (i) to provide technical backstopping in the preparation of the future work plan of the Viet Nam Population Documentation and Information Centre; (ii) to evaluate the status of the equipment provided by UNFPA and to prepare specifications for future equipment orders; (iii) to provide technical assistance in reference collection development; (iv) to lecture at a training course for a contraceptive prevalence survey; (v) to conduct training in the use of microcomputers for data entry for sample surveys; (vi) to lecture at a short course on demography at the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare; and (vii) to conduct a training course on population information management at the national POPIN centre in Hanoi and to review the 1988 work plan and finalize the 1989 and 1990 work plans for the project on support to the Viet Nam Population Documentation and Information Centre.

60. The following publications and issues of periodicals were produced:

(a) Asian Population Studies Series, Nos. 62I, 86A, 86D, 87, 88, 89 and 90, and *Report of the*

Asia-Pacific POPIN Consultative Workshop, October-November 1988 (special issue)

(b) *Asia-Pacific Population Journal*, vol. 3, Nos. 1-4; vol. 4, No. 1

(c) *Catalogue of ESCAP Population Publications Through 1988*

(d) *Population Headliners*, Nos. 158-168

(e) *Population Research Leads*, Nos. 28, 29, 30 and 31

(f) *Recommended Titles in Population*, vol. 5, Nos. 1-4

61. The Population Division assisted members and associate members by providing technical assistance and training, conducting research, and disseminating information about population and its interrelationship with development. Its work focused on population dynamics, fertility and family planning, aging, migration, and the operation of population information networks.

Social development

62. The following meetings were held:

ESCAP/WHO Workshop on Drug Abuse Rehabilitation in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, May 1988

National Workshops to Promote Legal Literacy among Women, Colombo, June 1988; Manila, July 1988; Jakarta, September 1988; Dhaka, December 1988

Training Seminar on Advanced Social Planning for Integrated Socio-economic Development, Bangkok, June-July 1988

Inter-agency Task Force on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, July 1988

Seventh DPI (Disabled People's International) Leadership Training Seminar (in collaboration with ESCAP), Bangkok, August-September 1988

ESCAP/ACYF (All-China Youth Federation) Expert Group Meeting on Skills Training for Rural Youth, China, September 1988

International Training Course on Training of Trainers in Youth Work, Kuala Lumpur, October 1988

National Training Workshop for the Development of Community-based Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Programmes, Dhaka, November 1988; Male, January 1989

Workshop on Management of Women's Information Centres, Bangkok, December 1988

Expert Group Meeting on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, January 1989

Meeting of Senior Officials on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region, Bangkok, January 1989

63. The following advisory services were provided:

(a) To the Governments of Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Burma, China, Fiji, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, Tonga and Thailand, to assist in the strengthening of national structures and mechanisms, including national policies and programmes, for the integration of women in development;

(b) To the Governments of Australia, Burma, India, Japan, the Philippines and Thailand, in the field of health and development with particular reference to the promotion of community services and assistance in demand aspects of drug abuse control;

(c) To the Governments of Bangladesh, Indonesia, Japan, Maldives, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand and Viet Nam, to assist in developing policies and plans for the integration of disabled persons in society and to assist in promoting their participation in development;

(d) To the Governments of China, Indonesia, Malaysia and Nepal, to assist in the strengthening of national efforts in mobilizing the participation of youth in development;

(e) To the Governments of China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Sri Lanka, on the facilitation of human resources development and the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region;

(f) To the Government of the Philippines, to assist in strengthening policies and programmes on crime prevention and the rehabilitation of offenders;

(g) To the Governments of the Philippines and Thailand, to assist in strengthening social development policies and programmes and in the training of social development personnel.

64. The following technical publications and studies were produced or in preparation:

(a) *Background to an Integrated Plan of Action on Human Resources Development for the ESCAP Region*

(b) *Decentralized Industrialization as an Approach to Social Development*

(c) *Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region*

(d) *Manual on Establishing and Strengthening National Women's Information Networks in Asia and the Pacific*

(e) *Momentum*, No. 9

(f) *Report of the Expert Group Meeting to Review and Plan Youth Training Programmes in the ESCAP Region*

(g) *Report of the Expert Seminar on the Promotion of National Infrastructures for Aging Populations in Asia and the Pacific*

(h) *Report of the Seminar on the Role of Women in Social and Economic Development with Special Reference to Rural Development*

(i) *Report of the Training Seminar on Advanced Social Planning for Integrated Socio-economic Development*

(j) *Report of the Workshop on Drug Abuse Data Collection, Analysis and Presentation: A Standard Format*

(k) *Report of the Workshop on a Standard Format for Drug Abuse Data Collection, Analysis and Presentation*

(l) *Social Development Newsletter*, Nos. 15 and 16

(m) *Study on the Impact of Selected Development Programmes on Low-income Groups*

(n) *WINAP Newsletter*, vol. 2, No. 1

Several documents and studies were prepared for the first session of the Committee on Population and Social Development and for other intergovernmental meetings.

Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications

Shipping, ports and inland waterways

65. The following meetings were held:

Meeting of Chief Executives of Port Authorities (seventh session), Fremantle, Australia, May 1988

Joint Meeting of Chief Executives of Port Authorities and the Association of Australian Port and Marine Authorities, Fremantle, Australia, May 1988

Third Expert Group Meeting on Port Tariff Structure, Fremantle, Australia, May 1988

Country-level Workshop on Port Management Information Systems, Fremantle, Australia, May 1988

Subregional Workshop I: Maritime Transport for Shippers - Training of Training Managers (General Course) (for ASCOB'PS), Bangkok, June 1988; (for FASC), Kuala Lumpur, July 1988

Working Group on Training of Freight Forwarders (first session), Bangkok, June 1988; (second session), Bangkok, November 1988

ESCAP/UNCTAD Country-level Seminar on Multimodal Transport and the Hamburg Rules, Jakarta, June 1988

ESCAP/UNCTAD Subregional Seminar on Multimodal Transport and the Hamburg Rules, Penang, Malaysia, June 1988

Regional Maritime Strategy Study Expert Advisory Group Meeting, Bangkok, August 1988

ESCAP/UNCTAD Regional Workshop on the Review Conference of the United Nations Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences, Bangkok, August 1988

ESCAP/SEATAC Workshop on Intra-ASEAN Shipping, Kuala Lumpur, August 1988

Subregional Workshop II: Maritime Transport for Shippers - Training of Training Managers (Senior Course) (for ASCOBIPS), Bangkok, August-September 1988; (for FASC), September-November 1988

Regional Seminar on the Dredging Contract, Bangkok, September-October 1988

Country-level Workshop on Freight Forwarding, Bangkok, October 1988

Subregional Workshop on Freight Forwarding, Manila and Karachi, October 1988

Regional Seminar on Operation and Maintenance of Inland Waterways, Bangkok, October 1988

ESCAP/UNCTAD Subregional Workshop on Multimodal Transport, Bangkok, October 1988

ESCAP/UNCTAD Country-level Seminar on Multimodal Transport, Manila, October 1988

Country-level Workshop on Upgrading of Dredging Capabilities, China, November 1988

Meeting of the Chief Executives of National Freight Forwarders' Associations (third session), Bombay, India, November 1988

Counterpart Group Meeting on Effects of Shipboard Automation on Manpower Development, Bangkok, January 1989

Meeting of the FASA (Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations)/ESCAP Project Working Group, Jakarta, January-February 1989

66. The following assistance and advisory services were provided:

(a) To Burma, on the hydraulic problems of the port of Rangoon;

(b) To China, on the implementation of PORTMIS;

(c) To Indonesia, on the Port Banjarmasin Development Plan and one fellowship for training at the Port of Melbourne Authority and the Maritime Service Board, Australia;

(d) To Malaysia: (i) Kuantan Port Authority, on the long-term strategies of Kuantan Port development; (ii) Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries, Kuala Lumpur, on shipping statistics;

(e) To the Philippines, one fellowship for training at the Port of Melbourne Authority and the Maritime Service Board, Australia;

(f) To the Republic of Korea, to advise on sea-borne cargo forecasting;

(g) To South Pacific island countries: (i) Fiji, on improvement of dredging operations, training needs and follow-up of ESCAP projects; and one fellowship for training at the Port of Melbourne Authority and the Maritime Service Board, Australia; (ii) the Republic of Palau, on improvement of dredging operations, and one fellowship for training at Auckland Harbour Board, New Zealand; (iii) the Republic of the Marshall Islands, one fellowship for training at Auckland Harbour Board, New Zealand; (iv) Papua New Guinea, one fellowship for training at the Port of Melbourne Authority and the Maritime Service Board, Australia; and (v) Cook Islands, Niue, Solomon Islands and Tokelau, to advise on port and harbour development;

(h) To Sri Lanka, on establishment of a maritime training centre at Mahapola Training Institute;

(i) To Thailand: (i) the Merchant Marine Institute, Chulalongkorn University, on the establishment of a maritime training centre of excellence; (ii) the Port Authority of Thailand, on implementation of PORTMIS; and (iii) one fellowship for training at the Port of Melbourne Authority and the Maritime Service Board, Australia;

(j) To Viet Nam, on development of the maritime sector.

67. The following technical publications and reports were completed:

(a) *ASEAN Fleet Development Study*

(b) *Intra-ASEAN Shipping Study*, vols. I and II

(c) *Ports and Shipping Technology Study*

(d) *Proceedings of a Subregional Seminar on Maritime Fraud, Karachi, 2-3 March 1988*

(e) *Regional Maritime Strategy Study - Inception Report*

(f) *Report and Proceedings of the Seminar on Classification of Inland Waterways, China, 18-27 September 1986*

(g) *Report of the Seminars on Freight Forwarding: Bombay, June 1987; Jakarta, June 1987; and Singapore, June 1987*

(h) *Report of the Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Port Development and Evaluation Policy in Developing Countries, Yokohama, Manila, 22-31 March 1988*

(i) *Report on Country-level Workshops on Maritime Transport for Shippers (Basic Course): Karachi, January 1988 and Dhaka, January-February 1988*

(j) *Report on the Project on Fuel Efficiency in Shipping (ASEAN Countries)*

(k) *Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Dredging Operations, Planning and Training, the Netherlands, 6-20 October 1985*

(l) *Study on Application of Low-cost Dredging Techniques*

(m) *Study of Container Documentation in ASEAN Ports*

(n) *Study on Rehabilitation and Relocation of Ports*

(o) *UNDP/ESCAP Model Port Tariff Structure*

Transport and communications

68. The following meetings were held:

Project Steering Committee for the UNDP Project on Development of Rural Road Infrastructure, Bangkok, July 1988

Project Steering Committee on Demonstration of Cost-effective Railway Signalling and Telecommunication System, Bangkok, July 1988 and February 1989

National Training Course on the Haulage of Heavy Train Loads, Beijing, August 1988

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Railway Integrated Development Planning and Meeting of Experts on the Trans-Asian Railway, Asian Railway Master Plan and Subgroup on International Traffic of the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group, USSR, August- September 1988

Intergovernmental Meeting of Highway Experts, Bangkok, October-November 1988

Seminar-cum-Study Tour on the Toll Road System in Japan, Tokyo and Okayama, November 1988

Expert Meeting on Railway Computerization with Special Emphasis on Wagon Control Systems and Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group, Bangkok, December 1988

Meeting of Senior Experts on the Development of Integrated Transport Planning, Bangkok, February 1989

Asia-Pacific Seminar/Workshop on Modern Methods of Telecommunication Planning, Bangkok, March 1989

69. The following advisory services were provided:

(a) To Bangladesh, Nepal and the Philippines, on information and data collection for ESCAP railway statistics;

(b) To China and Indonesia, in connection with the implementation of the UNDP project on the development of rural road infrastructure and the conversion of diesel buses to CNG (compressed natural gas);

(c) To Cook Islands, Fiji and Tonga, on airport information and general policy;

(d) To India, for a site survey of rail/wheel wear and derailment and in connection with the implementation of the UNDP project on the development of rural road infrastructure;

(e) To Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore, for a follow-up activity to the Seminar-cum-Study Tour on the Role of Railways in Urban Transport;

(f) To Malaysia, on railway statistics and rolling stock maintenance;

(g) To Pakistan, in connection with the implementation of the UNDP project on the conversion of diesel buses to CNG;

(h) To Thailand, on various statistical data on air transport and the Asian Highway network.

70. The following technical publications and reports were completed:

(a) *Report of the Joint Meeting of Experts on the Trans-Asian Railway, Asian Railway Master Plan and Subgroup on International Traffic of the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group, Leningrad, USSR, 7-10 September 1988*

(b) *Report on the Regional Seminar on Air Cargo Handling and Management, Kathmandu, 25-29 January 1988*

(c) *Report on Road Maintenance Advisory Services in Malaysia, Bangkok, November 1987*

(d) *Report of the Seminar on the Planning of Rural Telecommunication Networks, Bangkok, 21-25 March 1988*

(e) *Report of a Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Cost-effective Road Construction and Maintenance through Marshy/Wet and Arid Areas in the USSR, 7-20 August 1987*

(f) *Report of a Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Low-cost Techniques for Construction and Maintenance of Roads, China, 23 September-7 October 1987*

(g) *Report of the Seminar-cum-Study Tour on Railway Integrated Development Planning, USSR, 29 August-18 September 1988*

(h) *Report on the Seminar-cum-Study Tour on the Role of Railways in Urban Transport, Japan, 13-23 October 1987*

(i) *Report on the Training Course on Excessive Rail/Wheel Wear and Derailments for Sri Lanka Railways, Colombo, 7-11 May 1987*

(j) *Report on the Training Course on Excessive Rail/Wheel Wear and Derailments for the Railways of China, Beijing, 7-18 September 1987*

Tourism

71. The following meetings were held:

Workshop on Tourism Management Development, Bangkok, May 1988

Seminar on the Promotion of Tourism in the ESCAP Region, Tokyo and Kyoto, October 1988

Expert Group Meeting on the Measurement of the Economic Impact of Tourism by Input-output Analysis, Bangkok, November 1988

Committee on Trade

International trade

72. The following meetings were held:

ESCAP/ITC Regional Workshop for National Computer Consultants of Trade Information Services, Bangkok, May 1988

Second Round of Negotiations under the Bangkok Agreement (third session), Bangkok, May 1988; (fourth session), Bangkok, February-March 1989

Government Consultation among Jute Producing Countries (special session), Bangkok, June 1988

Regional Consultative Group on Silk (fourth session), Quangzhou, China, August 1988

ESCAP/ITC Regional Workshop on Assessment of End-user Needs of the Business Sector in Trade Information, Bangkok, September 1988

PRODEC-IMPORT (Finnish Import Promotion Office for Products from Developing Countries)/ESCAP Seminar on the Finnish Market, Bangkok, September 1988

Buyers-Sellers Seminar on Export Prospects and Market Promotion of Silk and Silk Products, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, September 1988

UNCTAD/ESCAP Regional Seminar on the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations for Asia and the Pacific Participating Developing Countries, Bangkok, October 1988

ESCAP/UNCTAD/CCC (Customs Co-operation Council) National-level Seminar and Workshop on Trade Facilitation, India, October 1988

ESCAP/ITC Workshop for the Development and Strengthening of Trade Information Services in the South Pacific, Suva, October 1988

Expert Group Meeting on Sericulture, Khon Kaen, Thailand, December 1988

UNCTAD/ESCAP/UNDP Workshop for ASEAN Countries on Trade Promotion with Socialist Countries of Eastern Europe, Bangkok and Moscow, January 1989

ESCAP/CRCGT (Commonwealth Regional Consultative Group on Trade) Market Training Course on Overseas Markets for CRCGT Exporters, Bangkok, January 1989

PRODEC/ESCAP/ITC Training Course on Export Marketing and Export Market Research, Thailand, Switzerland and Finland, February-June 1989

ITC/ESCAP Seminar on Exports from Small and Medium Enterprises, Bangkok, March 1989

Intergovernmental Consultative Forum of Developing Tropical Timber Producing/Exporting Countries (fourth session), Manila, March 1989

Expert Group Meeting on Price Stabilization of Tropical Timber and Timber Products, Manila, March 1989

73. The Asian International Silk Fair '88 was organized at the RAI International Congress Centre, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, from 28 to 30 September 1988, in co-operation with ITC, the International Silk Association and the Netherlands Centre for the Promotion of Imports from Developing Countries. Exhibitors from Bangladesh, China, India, Malaysia, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland

and Thailand, representing 31 corporations, participated in the Fair.

74. The following advisory services were undertaken:

(a) To China: (i) to provide technical assistance to the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, the China International Centre for Economical and Technical Exchanges, and the International Trade Research and Training Centre in the field of trade, export promotion, training and research in the implementation of the programme; (ii) to lecture at the Workshop on Promotion of Trade and Industrial Co-operation; (iii) to co-ordinate and service the second meeting of senior officials of the ITC project on development of exports from small and medium enterprises in Asia and the Pacific, and to introduce the project on the Asian Small Industries Tourist Crafts Fair; (iv) to assist the China Textile Ministry and China Silk Industrial and Trading Corporation during the Asian International Silk Fair '88 in Amsterdam and in their trade mission in the Federal Republic of Germany; and (v) to assist the China International Advertising Corporation in establishing a China silk export promotion office in the Federal Republic of Germany, and to assist the China Chamber of International Commerce in setting up its office in Munich;

(b) To China, Fiji, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka, for project progress monitoring;

(c) To India, to advise on development of periodic courses and a tentative training and research programme for the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade;

(d) To the Philippines: (i) to lecture at the Seminar on Exports from Small and Medium Enterprises, on the role of trade fairs in export promotion; and (ii) to lecture at the Second Asian Regional State Trading Organizations Meeting, on investment in China;

(e) To the Philippines and Thailand, to discuss the formulation of a pilot project on information linkages using computer and telecommunication technology;

(f) To Singapore, to review the latest developments in the Trade Information Services of the Trade Development Board;

(g) To Thailand: (i) to provide technical assistance to the Department of Export Promotion in setting up the Bangkok International Exhibition Centre and in preparation for participation in international trade fairs; (ii) to assist the Thailand Trade Centre in Hamburg to plan and arrange for trade promotion activities in department stores to be held in 1989; (iii) to provide technical assistance in preparation for Thailand Export Industries IV Fair to be held in February 1989, which will be followed by the Asian Small Industries Tourist Crafts Fair in 1990, in co-operation with the Asian Network for Technical Information, Industrial Extension, Technology Transfer and Entrepreneurship Development for Small and Medium Enterprises (Technonet Asia); (iv) to provide technical assistance to the Seminar on Exports from Small and Medium Enterprises; and (v) to assist

the Department of Export Promotion in the development of its computerized trade information service.

75. In addition, training of trainers in the use of CDS/ISIS software for trade information applications was undertaken in Malaysia and Thailand, and in-service training was provided to two officials from the Shanghai Research Institute of International Economy and Trade in trade information systems, and to staff of the Department of Export Promotion of Thailand on computerized library management.

76. The following technical publications and reports were completed:

(a) *Foreign Investment Incentive Schemes: 4. Malaysia*

(b) *Prices of Selected Asia/Pacific Products* (monthly)

(c) *TISNET Trade Information Sheet* (bi-weekly)

(d) "TIS QUICK" (weekly)

(e) "Trade information sources data bank" and its alphabetical index (card service)

(f) "Trade information source directory" (quarterly) (card service)

Transnational corporations

77. The following meetings were held:

ESCAP/UNCTC Seminar on Services and Development: The Role of Foreign Direct Investment and Trade, Bangkok, June 1988

ESCAP/UNCTC Seminar on Transnational Corporations from Developing Asian Countries, Bangkok, February 1989

78. The following advisory services were undertaken:

To China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Singapore, to assist the Governments with projects relating to transnational corporations.

79. The following research activities were undertaken:

(a) Preparatory data collection and bibliographical surveys under the project on transnational corporations in the international trade in primary commodities;

(b) Studies under the second phase of the project on transnational corporations and the environment.

80. The following technical publications and reports were completed:

(a) *Asia-Pacific TNC Review 1988*

(b) *The Socio-economic Impact of Transnational Corporations in the Fast Food Industry*, ESCAP/UNCTC Publication Series B, No. 14

(c) *Transnational Corporations and Environment Management in Selected Asian and Pacific Developing Countries*, ESCAP/UNCTC Publication Series B, No. 13

(d) *Transnational Corporations from Developing Asian Economies: Host Country Perspectives*, ESCAP/UNCTC Publication Series B, No. 12

81. The ESCAP/UNCTC Joint Unit on Transnational Corporations continued to collect, analyse and disseminate basic information relating to transnational corporation activities in the region, including information and research publications on: laws, regulations and general policies pertaining to them; foreign direct investment flows and non-equity arrangements; and data sources, research activities and information services pertaining to or carried out in the region. Activities to further the development of national information systems on transnational corporations and the establishment of a regional information network continued with the formulation of a pilot project proposal for ASEAN.

B. Other activities

82. In addition to the work of its legislative committees, the secretariat performed the following promotional and supportive activities of a substantive nature during the year.

Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

83. Five Governments, those of China, the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of Korea and Sweden, contributed to the ESCAP TCDC supplementary fund to cover the international cost component of the operational TCDC activities of members and associate members promoted by the secretariat. The in-country cost component of the activities was borne by the participating countries, other United Nations agencies such as UNCTAD and UNESCO, and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, for example the International Pepper Community, Technonet Asia, and CEFIGRE, which, promoted such TCDC activities jointly with the secretariat.

84. Listed below are 27 operational TCDC activities promoted by various divisions of the secretariat for which the international cost component, mostly in the form of return economy air travel, was borne in total or partly by the ESCAP TCDC supplementary fund:

Agriculture Division

ESCAP/FAO TCDC Regional Seminar on the Use of Recycled Organic Matter

ESCAP-NGO Regional Symposium on Co-operation for Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific

Indonesian field study visit on the fertilizer marketing and distribution system in Thailand

Field study visit by Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand on the organization and operation of national fertilizer centres in Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka

South-East Asia and the Pacific Regional Fertilizer Conference, on co-operation among FADINAP members in fertilizer

Workshop on research on the control of wilt disease in pepper

Training of Philippine officials in sericulture in India

Regional Symposium on Farm Broadcasting -- Pacific participation

International Seminar on Waste-water Reclamation and Reuse for Aquaculture

Division of Industry, Human Settlements and Technology

Workshop on CAD/CAM in the Small and Medium-scale Engineering Industries in the ESCAP Member Countries

Field study tour of non-governmental organization workers of Thailand to Bombay, Karachi and Dhaka on low-income housing

International Trade Division

Expert advisers from Indonesia and Sri Lanka on computerized information of rubber demand and supply in Thailand

Indonesian field study tour on silk processing in Thailand

Sri Lankan expert mission to India and Maldives to enlarge membership of the Bangkok Agreement

Expert advisers from Sri Lanka to the fourth session of the Second Round of Negotiations under the Bangkok Agreement

Regional Workshop on Assessment of End-user Needs of the Business Sector in Trade Information

Training on jute retting techniques in China for participants from Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Thailand

Expert advisers from Thailand to the National Seminar/Workshop on Trade Facilitation in India

Natural Resources Division

Study visit by Thai participants to China on regional water quality management

Workshop for Directors of Training Centres for Formulating a TCDC Training Programme on Water Resources Development

Population Division

Sri Lankan study visit on the use of microcomputers for population information in Malaysia

Social Development Division

TCDC workshop on skills training for rural youth

Training of trainers in youth work

Transport, Communications and Tourism Division

Consultative visit to Thailand by an officer of the Republic of Palau on road construction and maintenance

ECDC-TCDC Services

Exchange of visits between Bangladesh and Thailand on technical and economic co-operation on the design and manufacturing of hand tractors

UNESCO/ESCAP Subregional Symposium to Promote TCDC in South Asia

Most of the TCDC activities implemented were in the form of seminars, workshops and field study visits. Provision of the in-country cost by the participating countries constitutes the main constraint in expanding this activity.

85 Progress reports on the activities of the following regional projects, institutions and intergovernmental bodies were submitted to the Commission in separate documents

Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas

Pacific Energy Development Programme

Regional Energy Development Programme

Typhoon Committee

C. Relations with other United Nations programmes

86 In the field of food and agriculture, the secretariat co-operated with UNDP, ILO, FAO, the World Bank and ITC on various projects by jointly organizing meetings and/or providing technical inputs

87 The secretariat maintained close co-operation with the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs in the preparation of the annual

Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific and other research activities, especially the Link project. Similarly, consultations were held with UNCTAD to co-ordinate activities and maintain close collaboration in preparing for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries to be held in Paris in September 1990. Co-operation also continued with UNDP in providing technical assistance to the Pacific island developing countries.

88 In the field of transnational corporations, the secretariat continued close working relations with UNCTC on various research activities, including those on foreign direct investment, transnational corporations and environmental management, transnational banks, and the socio-economic impact of transnational corporations. The secretariat collaborated with UNCTC in organizing advisory and information activities, including the Regional Seminar on Legal Aspects of Transnational Investments in Developing Countries, held in Singapore in May 1988, and the Seminar on Services and Development: The Role of Foreign Direct Investment and Trade, held at Bangkok in June 1988. In addition, support was provided to technical assistance missions organized by the Centre in Thailand and in Viet Nam. Finally, the secretariat co-ordinated its activities with UNCTC in initiating a pilot project on the development of national information systems and the establishment of an information network among ASEAN member countries.

89 In the area of industrial development, close co-operation continued with UNIDO through frequent contacts between staff members and jointly organized studies, meetings and seminars. Co-operation was maintained with UNCTC in relation to projects and advisory services on investment promotion activities.

90 With respect to activities related to science and technology, close co-operation was maintained with UNCSTD, UNCITRAL (United Nations Commission on International Trade Law), UNDP and UNIDO. Together with UNCSTD, the secretariat organized the Regional Meeting on the End-of-Decade Review of Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development in Asia and the Pacific, held at Bangkok in December 1988. The secretariat also participated in a UNCSTD-led inter-agency (ESCAP, UNCHS, UNCTAD, UNDP, ILO, UNESCO) mission on the impact study on the activities of the United Nations system in science and technology in Thailand, conducted in December 1988 prior to the convening of the regional meeting.

91 Close co-operation was maintained with UNCHS in the work of the ESCAP/UNCHS Joint Unit on Human Settlements. ESCAP participated in the eleventh session of the Commission on Human Settlements, held at New Delhi in April 1988. The representative of ESCAP briefed the Commission on the activities of the Joint Unit and other ESCAP initiatives in the field of human settlements.

92 The secretariat maintained co-operation with the two United Nations regional housing centres, at New Delhi and Bandung, Indonesia, and conducted training activities with their collaboration. The secretariat also maintained close contact with the United Nations Centre for Regional Development at

Nagoya and UNICEF, UNDP, UNESCO and UNIDO in various human settlements activities, including the exchange of information and participation in substantive activities.

93. In the field of the environment, the secretariat maintained close working relations with UNEP in all areas of mutual concern; with UNDP in the management of terrestrial ecosystems (desertification aspects) and in the implementation of Commission resolution 267 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 on the adoption and implementation of the principle of environmentally sound and sustainable development in the Asian and Pacific region. Additionally, consultations on the respective programmes of work were held, and co-ordination of programme activities was undertaken with UNESCO, FAO, IMO, World Bank, WHO and ADB in different areas and aspects of environmental management.

94. In the field of energy resources development, close contact was maintained with the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, UNDP, ILO, FAO and UNIDO concerning the Regional Energy Development Programme as well as the regional programme of action on new and renewable sources of energy. Information exchange with the Economic Commission for Europe and other bodies and mutual participation in activities took place on a regular basis. Co-operation also continued with the Asian and Pacific Development Centre.

95. In the minerals programme, the secretariat co-operated with the Commission for the Geological Map of the World, in the preparation of geological and mineral resources maps; the UNESCO International Geological Correlation Programme and the International Union of Geological Sciences, in the compilation of geological and thematic maps and in stratigraphic correlation between sedimentary basins of the region; UNDP, in technical reviews and monitoring of the activities of the UNDP-assisted regional mineral resource development projects of SEATRADC, CCOP and CCOP/SOPAC; the United Nations Departments of Technical Co-operation for Development and of International Economic and Social Affairs, on mineral resource exploration and development programmes in the region; and the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration.

96. In the field of water resources development, co-ordination with other United Nations programmes was carried out at the regional level through the Inter-agency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific, and at the global level by participation in the annual session of the ACC Intersecretariat Group on Water, held at Geneva in October 1988. Close co-operation was maintained with WMO and the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO) in providing substantive support to the work programme of the Typhoon Committee and the Panel on Tropical Cyclones. Similarly, the project on the Regional Network for Training in Water Resources Development was being implemented in close collaboration with the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, UNEP, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WMO and others. The Regional Training Seminar on

Women's Contribution to the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade was organized in collaboration with INSTRAW.

97. In the field of remote sensing, the secretariat, through its UNDP-funded Regional Remote Sensing Programme, co-operated with the Outer Space Affairs Division of United Nations Headquarters, which organized a seminar on microwave remote sensing in Bangkok. The Department of Technical Co-operation for Development and FAO participated in the meetings of the Directors of Remote Sensing Centres/ Programmes in the ESCAP Region and in the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on the Regional Remote Sensing Programme. A pilot project on remote sensing was also conducted in collaboration with the Mekong Secretariat.

98. With respect to the marine affairs programme, the secretariat co-ordinated its activities with the Office for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of United Nations Headquarters in all aspects of the law of the sea. Close co-operation was maintained with CCOP and CCOP/SOPAC, at Bangkok and Suva respectively, in activities dealing with offshore prospecting for mineral resources. Contact was maintained with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO to ensure that activities did not overlap.

99. Nearly all activities of the population programme were carried out with extrabudgetary support from UNFPA. Population information activities were co-ordinated with population education programmes of UNESCO. Asia-Pacific POPIN collaborated closely with the global POPIN centred in the Population Division at Headquarters.

100. The secretariat maintained co-operation with UNCTAD, other regional commissions, the World Bank, IMO and ADB on matters concerning shipping and ports; with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea, UNCTAD, ILO and IMO on maritime legislation; and with UNDP on shipping, ports, inland waterways and dredging.

101. In the field of social development, the secretariat maintained close contact and co-operation with the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs. In specific sectors, that is, social development planning, women, youth, disabled persons, the elderly, and demand aspects of drug abuse control, close co-operation was maintained with UNICEF, UNCRD (United Nations Centre for Regional Development), UNDP, UNFPA (United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control), UNIFEM, UNV (United Nations Volunteers), ILO, FAO, UNESCO and INSTRAW. Exchange of information on women's issues with other United Nations regional commissions took place on a regular basis. Joint project activities were undertaken with WHO in the field of drug abuse rehabilitation. Inter-agency task force meetings were convened to promote inter-agency co-ordination and co-operation in the fields of women, youth, disabled persons and human resources development.

102. In the statistics sector, a close working relationship was maintained with the United Nations

Statistical Office in all areas of statistics; in particular, several joint technical assistance missions were undertaken in the areas of population censuses and household surveys. The United Nations Statistical Office participated in several meetings, including the Working Group of Statistical Experts, and provided resource persons for a number of technical meetings of ESCAP. The secretariat participated in the twenty-fifth session of the United Nations Statistical Commission held in New York in February 1989, the twenty-second session of the ACC Sub-Committee on Statistical Activities, which met at Geneva in June 1988, and the Interregional Workshop on Statistical Data Processing and Data Bases held at Geneva in May-June 1988 under the sponsorship of the United Nations Statistical Office and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development. The secretariat also participated in various activities organized by the United Nations Statistical Office in connection with the review and revision of the System of National Accounts. Relevant data series for ESCAP publications were received from FAO, the World Bank and IMF (International Monetary Fund). Inter-agency co-operation was maintained particularly with

UNICEF, UNFPA, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO and INSTRAW on statistical development issues. Exchange of methodological material and other publications was maintained with the statistics divisions of other regional commissions.

103. The ESCAP Trade Promotion Centre and ITC continued their co-operation in implementation of activities in the field of trade promotion and trade information and received financial support from UNIFEM in organizing the regional workshop on export marketing for women executives from developing countries of the region.

104. In the field of raw materials and commodities, the secretariat maintained close working relations in areas of mutual concern and interest with UNCTAD, FAO, UNIDO, ITC, the International Jute Organization (IJO), the International Silk Association (ISA), and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO). Some of the activities of the secretariat were formulated and implemented in co-ordination with UNCTAD.

Chapter III

FORTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

105. The forty-fifth session of the Commission was held at the United Nations Building, Bangkok from 27 March to 5 April 1989.

106. The session was attended by representatives of the following members and associate members: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burma, China, Democratic Kampuchea, Fiji, France, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Cook Islands, Hong Kong, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands and Republic of Palau.

107. By virtue of rule 3 of the Commission's rules of procedure, representatives of Chile, Czechoslovakia, Germany (Federal Republic of), Israel, Romania, Sweden and Turkey attended. A representative of Switzerland attended under Economic and Social Council resolution 860 (XXXII). A representative of the Holy See also attended under Economic and Social Council decision 244 (LXIII).

108. The session was also attended by officials from United Nations Headquarters, representing the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development and the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations. Representatives of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Co-ordination of Kampuchean Humanitarian Assistance Programmes also attended.

109. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies attended: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Development Fund for Women, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Population Fund, United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), World Food Council and World Food Programme.

110. Representatives of the following specialized agencies were present in a consultative capacity: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization, World Health Organization, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Universal Postal Union, International Telecommunication Union, World Meteorological Organization, International Maritime Organization and United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

111. Representatives of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT also attended.

112. The following intergovernmental organizations attended as observers: Asian and Pacific Coconut Community, Asian and Pacific Development Centre, Asian Clearing Union, Asian Development Bank, Asian-Pacific Postal Union, Asia-Pacific Telecommunity, Asian Productivity Organization, Asian Reinsurance Corporation, Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific, Colombo Plan Bureau, Commission of the European Communities, Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas, Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas, Commonwealth Secretariat, Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, Intergovernmental Committee for Migration, Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, International Jute Organization, International Pepper Community, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme.

113. Observers were present from the following non-governmental organizations in category I: International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Co-operative Alliance, International Council of Women, International Council on Social Welfare, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Organization for Standardization, International Planned Parenthood Federation, International Union of Local Authorities, World Assembly of Youth, World Confederation of Labour, World Federation of Trade Unions, World Federation of United Nations Associations, World Muslim Congress, World Veterans Federation and Zonta International; and in category II: Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization, Baha'i International Community, International Federation on Aging, Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association International. Representatives of Asian Forum of Environmental Journalists, Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reforms and Rural Development and Technonet Asia also attended.

114. The list of participants is given in document ESCAP(XLV)/INF.3/Rev.2.

115. In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the Commission at its 678th meeting elected His Excellency Mr. Khumbagyn Olzvoy, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mongolia as Chairman.

116. In view of the heavy agenda, it was proposed that the part of rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the Commission providing for the election of 2 Vice-Chairmen be held in abeyance, and the following 15 Vice-Chairmen were elected: H.E. Mr. M.A. Munim (Bangladesh), H.E. Haji Ahmad Wally Skinner (Brunei Darussalam), H.E. Mr. Li Daoyu (China), H.E.

Mr. Dinesh Singh (India), H.E. Mr. Mohammad Mohsen Sazegara (Islamic Republic of Iran), H.E. Mr. Takamori Makino (Japan), the Hon. Datuk Kasitah Gaddam (Malaysia), the Hon. Dr. B.P. Dhital (Nepal), the Hon. John Giheno, M.P. (Papua New Guinea), H.E. Mr. Choi Ho-Joong (Republic of Korea), H.E. Mr. Peter Sung (Singapore), H.E. Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila (Thailand), the Hon. Mr. J.C. Cocker (Tonga), the Hon. Donald Kalpokas (Vanuatu) and H.E. Mr. Tran Quang Co (Viet Nam).

117. Dr. John Gee (Australia) was elected Rapporteur of the plenary session.

118. The Chairman proposed and the Commission decided to appoint two Committees of the Whole to consider agenda items 8 and 9. Committee of the Whole I elected Dr. Gan Khuan Poh (Malaysia), Chairman and Mr. Shigeru Ise (Japan) and Mr. Hong Jae Im (Republic of Korea) Vice-Chairmen. Dr. D.R. Khanal (Nepal) was elected Rapporteur. For Committee of the Whole II, Mr. Conrad J. van Tooren (Netherlands) was elected Chairman and Mr. Ibrahim Hussain Zaki (Maldives) and Mr. Poseci Bune (Fiji) were elected Vice-Chairmen. Mr. Mario de Leon (Philippines) was elected Rapporteur. The Commission decided to constitute an informal working group on draft resolutions presented during the session. It elected Mr. Yang Guanqun (China) Chairman and Mr. Kh. Zaheer Ahmed (Pakistan) and Mr. Bernard Ledun (France) Vice-Chairmen.

119. In accordance with rule 12 of the rules of procedure, the Chairman and the Vice-Chairmen, constituting the Credentials Committee, examined the credentials of all the representatives. One member of the Credentials Committee rejected the credentials of a delegation. One member expressed its reservation regarding the credentials of the same delegation. Some other members held that the credentials of the aforesaid delegation were in order. With those views and reservations recorded, the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen constituting the Credentials Committee found the credentials of all the representatives to be in order.

B. Agenda

120. At its 678th meeting, the Commission unanimously adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening addresses.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda (E/ESCAP/L.110/Rev.3, E/ESCAP/L.III and Corr.I, 2 and 3).
4. Policies and perspectives for the economic and social development of the ESCAP region:
 - (a) Review of the development of the ESCAP region and the work of the Commission (ST/ESCAP/678 (English only), ST/ESCAP/678/Add.1 (Chinese, French and Russian only), E/ESCAP/681);
 - (b) Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International

Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and preparations for the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade (E/ESCAP/645 and Corr.I);

- (c) Review of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, and preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (E/ESCAP/646, E/ESCAP/647).
5. Restructuring the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s (E/ESCAP/648 and Corr.I).
6. Implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region (Commission resolution 274 (XLIV)) (E/ESCAP/649, E/ESCAP/650 and Corr.I).
7. Review of the Tokyo Programme on Technology for Development in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/651).
8. Issues and programmes in various fields of activity of ESCAP:
 - (a) Reports of legislative committee meetings held since the forty-fourth session of the Commission and selected issues in different sectors (E/ESCAP/652, E/ESCAP/653 and Corr.I, E/ESCAP/654, E/ESCAP/655, E/ESCAP/656, E/ESCAP/657, E/ESCAP/658, E/ESCAP/659, E/ESCAP/660, E/ESCAP/661, E/ESCAP/662, E/ESCAP/663, E/ESCAP/664, E/ESCAP/665, E/ESCAP/666, E/ESCAP/692);
 - (b) Report of the ESCAP-NGO Regional Symposium on Co-operation for Economic and Social Development (E/ESCAP/667);
 - (c) Report of the study on the viability and cost-effectiveness of establishing a regional inland water transport centre in Bangladesh, and of the other alternatives of strengthening the secretariat or using a network approach (E/ESCAP/668);
 - (d) Progress reports on regional institutions, special regional projects and other regional bodies (E/ESCAP/669, E/ESCAP/670, E/ESCAP/671, E/ESCAP/672, E/ESCAP/673, E/ESCAP/674, E/ESCAP/675, E/ESCAP/676, E/ESCAP/677, E/ESCAP/678, E/ESCAP/679);

- (e) Draft programme of work and priorities, 1990-1991, programme changes for 1989, and programme structure of the medium-term plan, 1992-1997 (E/ESCAP/680, E/ESCAP/681, E/ESCAP/682, E/ESCAP/683 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/684 and Corr.1 and E/ESCAP/685).
- 9. Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries (E/ESCAP/686 and Corr.1).
- 10. Special problems faced by the Pacific island countries: the Commission's activities in the Pacific (E/ESCAP/687 and Corr.1 and Add.1).
- 11. Announcement of intended contributions (E/ESCAP/688 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/689).
- 12. Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (E/ESCAP/690).
- 13. Date, venue and any other subject pertaining to the forty-sixth session of the Commission (E/ESCAP/691).
- 14. Other matters.
- 15. Adoption of the report of the Commission (E/ESCAP/L.112).

C. Account of proceedings

121. The session was declared open by His Excellency Mr. Ali Alatas, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, the Chairman of the forty-fourth session. His Excellency General Chatichai Choonhavan, Prime Minister of Thailand, delivered the inaugural address. The Executive Secretary read out a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations and delivered an address.

Inaugural address by the Prime Minister of Thailand

122. The Prime Minister of Thailand, speaking on behalf of the people and Government of Thailand, welcomed those attending the session.

123. He noted the challenges and opportunities in a world of change, in which new and significant developments were taking place every day. Those changes were being brought about by the great advances in science and technology and by new attitudes and thinking. The discussions on conflict and confrontation had given way to a common endeavour that bound nations together in bringing about peace, progress and prosperity. The measure of success in governing would be judged not by the amassing of weapons of war but rather by whether success could be achieved in uplifting the well-being of the people and in providing them with a better and secure future.

124. The common goal of building a peaceful and prosperous world was not an easy one to achieve. It

would require co-operative efforts on the part of all nations. It would also require more innovative thinking and approaches to outstanding national and international problems on the part of the respective Governments. It would, furthermore, require a greater role by and the firm support of international institutions such as ESCAP.

125. He welcomed the fact that ESCAP had taken up the challenge by adopting "Restructuring the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s" as the theme of the current session. He expressed confidence that the proposals and recommendations arising out of the session would enable countries of the region to see more clearly how they might adjust to the changing world environment in order to maintain and further their economic and social development.

126. The most immediate challenge that confronted the global economy and individual national economies was the rise of protectionism. He expressed the hope that the reconvening of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations would achieve some progress in breaking the current impasse. There was a need to reaffirm confidence in and commitment to the GATT system of free world trade. Only then could free market access and fair trade competition, both of which were so crucial to the development of countries of the region, be ensured. Towards that end, countries of the region needed to take the initiative by promoting closer and more effective economic co-operation among themselves.

127. He expressed the belief that the Asian and Pacific region was one of the most dynamic and fastest growing regions of the world, possessing immense human and natural resources. By working together to realize their fullest potential, the economic successes of Japan and the newly industrialized economies of the region could undoubtedly be enjoyed by all countries of the region.

128. The recent era was one of change and vitality, full of opportunities as well as challenges. The manner in which those challenges were tackled depended not only upon each country but also upon how well countries could work together. By working together, countries should seek to ensure that the winds of change would usher in an era of real and lasting peace, greater progress and prosperity for the peoples and nationals of the Asian and Pacific region and of the world at large.

Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations

129. In his message, the Secretary-General of the United Nations stated that the session was taking place at an important stage in international relations, with a relaxation of tension between the major Powers and significant movement towards the resolution of several regional conflicts. The prospects for sustaining the momentum for peace were especially encouraging given the renewed confidence in multilateral approaches to the solution of such conflicts.

130. Notwithstanding the uneven progress in the economic sphere, the improved growth performance of the industrialized nations during 1988 had helped to stimulate the general economic recovery and improve the performance of most developing countries of the

Asian and Pacific region, particularly through sustained demand for the region's experts and resurgent foreign investment. That improved performance was also a tribute to the sound policies of ESCAP member Governments and to the energy and determination of their peoples.

131. Despite those positive developments, a number of Asian and Pacific countries, particularly the least developed and Pacific island countries, had not registered significant economic growth in recent years and continued to require special support measures and assistance.

132. For many developing countries, the burden of external debt continued to impede development efforts. It was clear that the international community needed to take urgent action to deal with the problem of debt, as well as related issues such as promoting more vigorous growth in international trade, the removal of protectionist barriers and enhanced concessional aid flows.

133. The agenda before the Commission focused on a number of major development issues. He felt that the Commission's discussion on restructuring the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s was most timely and expressed the hope that it would result in clear policy guidance for national and international action. The Commission's consideration of the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region and of the Tokyo Programme on Technology for Development in Asia and the Pacific were also of particular significance.

134. The Secretary-General extended his best wishes for a most successful session.

Statement by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP

135. The Executive Secretary welcomed all the delegations to the session and thanked the Prime Minister for his inspiring address, which underlined the support of Thailand for the purposes and principles of the United Nations as well as the objectives of ESCAP. He expressed his appreciation to the Chairman of the forty-fourth session of the Commission, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, for the very able manner in which he had performed his duties as Chairman. He also conveyed his sincere thanks and appreciation to the Foreign Minister of Thailand for his support for ESCAP activities.

136. The Commission was meeting for the current session amid a gradually strengthening international ambience of peace and understanding. Recent encouraging developments in various conflicts had helped to ease tension and bring about a favourable international climate.

137. The pervasive aura of new hope for a world truly at peace, the better world envisaged in the Charter of the United Nations, was being felt in international affairs today. That was evident in the cordial and constructive manner in which the Commission had conducted its forty-fourth session. He expressed the hope that the harmonious atmosphere and close attention to the issues at hand would be maintained at the current session.

Policies and perspectives for the economic and social development of the ESCAP region

Policy statement by the Executive Secretary

138. The Executive Secretary observed that during the current decade the economic performance of many developing Asian and Pacific countries had given reason for considerable satisfaction. The developing ESCAP region had achieved a healthy average of 6.5 per cent growth from 1981 to 1986, despite the recession in the industrialized world, followed by 7 per cent in 1987 and more than 8 per cent in 1988. Contributing to vigorous growth in 1988 were a recovery from the previous year's drought in South and South-East Asia, sustained import demand in the industrial countries, and growing intraregional trade and investment flows.

139. However, the performance of most of the least developed member countries had remained far below the 1988 regional average, as had been the case for most of the 1980s. The Executive Secretary felt that the growth disparities between the dynamic and less resilient developing member countries had been insufficiently recognized in popular perceptions, and that reports of instances of high growth had often caused overall regional progress to be exaggerated. Although he was optimistic about the region's future, euphoric forecasts of an imminent era of Asian and Pacific prosperity were unjustified; continuing absolute poverty affected some 600 million people and about 85 per cent of the developing region's population had very low average per capita incomes. He hoped that many of the region's development objectives would be achieved in the next one or two generations, particularly the alleviation of mass poverty. Such equitable economic and social development would depend on various supporting factors, both internal and external.

140. Timely, appropriate government action was especially important. To bring the impoverished masses into the mainstream of progress, it was important to redirect efforts to meet their needs better and improve their opportunities, while also seeking to maintain the existing growth momentum and to curb excessive population increases. There was a need to redress an increasingly clear imbalance in the region between economic growth and social and environmental concerns. The Executive Secretary felt that seriously lagging social progress and disturbing degrees of environmental damage in many member countries deserved much more attention in the forthcoming formulation of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade.

141. Externally, probably the strongest hope of developing member countries was for a world economy reasonably conducive to growth and progress, in contrast to the highly complex and fiercely competitive present-day international market-place. Adequate access to Western markets had become a near-crisis concern for many members. Although the developing region, including the newly industrializing economies, played a growing role in world trade, its apparent vulnerability and lack of influence were indicated, for example, by the threatened collapse of

the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations because of disputes between the industrial nations. Widespread hope remained for the ultimate success of the Uruguay Round, but unrelenting protectionism, various problems confronting GATT and growing resort to bilateral solutions gave rise to some scepticism.

142. The Executive Secretary suggested that, in view of such unfavourable prospects, the developing member countries, especially those more export-oriented, should consider the need to assert their economic rights and responsibilities more forcefully and to play a more active role in presenting the region's concerns, particularly on crucial issues such as market access. The danger that increasing protectionism could cause economic progress to be short-lived underlined the need for a clear, collective regional voice, and the common trading interests of many members lent themselves to such an approach. To help strengthen the bargaining power of the region, there was a clear need for further research and analysis, more sharply focused and better co-ordinated than at present. ESCAP had recently undertaken research on trade in primary commodities and restructuring the region's developing economies, and was ready to probe further into restructuring in order more fully to analyse its complexities. One area of particular interest in that regard was the potential of increased intraregional trade and investment to act as a vehicle for more extensive regional co-operation.

143. Although various constraints required further investigation, the ESCAP study saw significant possibilities for such expanded co-operation, especially with an active role by Japan. While supplementing rather than substituting for North-South trade, such expanded regional interaction was viewed as enhancing national strategies by providing valuable flexibility and room for manoeuvre. Greater trade and investment within the region were further portrayed as offering a less vulnerable middle path between totally inward- and outward-looking trade policies. Such expanded regional co-operation appeared to offer the most logical and promising approach in a protectionist era when emerging regional trade blocs were also adding to the uncertainties about traditional markets. Many factors were working in its favour. They included economic factors as well as those of cultural affinity, taste, geographical proximity and history. Expanded regional co-operation was reflected in the recent rapid growth of intraregional trade and investments, mainly among the newly industrializing economies and other East and South-East Asian countries, and Japan.

144. Such dynamic growth impulses also needed to be spread more widely and evenly across the region, with special efforts to provide greater help to those least developed and small Pacific island countries that had been unable to keep pace with the more vigorous regional mainstream. The reasons for their falling behind were clear. Deficiencies and difficulties of a structural, infrastructural, financial and technical nature had in many cases been compounded by natural disasters. Although the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries had been adopted as an international rescue effort, the extremely low living conditions in most member least developed countries had sunk even lower during that disappointing decade. The grim situation

required a major and sustained resurgence of effort by all concerned, with assistance to the Pacific countries specially tailored to help solve their different types of development problems.

145. In summing up, the Executive Secretary stressed that the ideas put forward on intraregional trade and investments did not reflect any lessening of need or hope for an open and orderly multilateral trading system. Nor was there any suggestion that the region should form its own defensive trading bloc. In fact, he was summarizing ESCAP conclusions that the potential benefits of growing regional complementarities and interdependence could augment export earnings and other growth impulses, partly compensating for the existing shortcomings of the world trading system. Regional interdependence needed to be better harnessed, however, with credit and marketing mechanisms created to supplement the existing Bangkok Agreement and the Asian Clearing Union, in addition to appropriate national policy regimes. ESCAP was eager to assist in any such tasks, as directed by the Commission.

146. Concerning the capabilities of the peoples of the region, the Commission's adoption in 1988 of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region, calling for a humanistic approach to development, had constituted the acceptance of a momentous challenge: substantially to upgrade the productivity and technological capacities of more than half of humanity, while improving the region's quality of life to a level such as that in the developed countries. Although those were long-term goals, the strategy and guidelines provided in the Jakarta Plan of Action had attracted world-wide attention, and had been discussed by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Governing Council of UNDP. With the Jakarta Plan hailed as a useful prototype for developing similar initiatives in other regions and also as a useful guideline for global efforts, the Commission had assumed a pioneering role in human resources development. A number of member countries had taken steps to begin implementing the Plan, and ESCAP had been supporting those efforts with a broad multisectoral programme of human resources development activities, including the launching of an in-depth analytical survey of the region's quality of life. Further assistance could be developed based on the Commission's guidance after it had reviewed those activities.

147. Environmental deterioration had become increasingly worrisome in many member countries. There was much evidence that the region needed to shift, to the extent possible, to preventative types of environmental protection instead of relying on a crisis-management approach. Despite progress in legal, institutional and technological aspects by many members, such measures had neither stopped nor even slowed the relentlessly increasing degradation of the environment and depletion of natural resources of the region. The forces of greed and short-term profit maximization, waste and inefficiency of resource use, negligence and inertia were still in the ascendant. Three environmental problems were particularly severe: deforestation and other forms of land degradation, industrial and urban pollution, and

unhealthy living conditions in many of the region's villages and urban slums. Poverty was often the root cause. With sound policies and energetic action, however, effective environmental protection and substantial restoration were still possible. The World Commission on Environment and Development had produced extremely useful guidelines for environmentally sound and sustainable development and, with an Asian and Pacific ministerial-level conference on the environment planned for May 1990, there were encouraging signs that member countries were gearing up for more concerted efforts to save the environment.

148. In conclusion, the Executive Secretary expressed his conviction that the time had come for the region, while not ignoring the world economy, to look more to itself for sources of growth. In his view, current circumstances and prospects appeared to dictate such diversification in a more conscious manner. As the region's highest intergovernmental body, the Commission, if it agreed, could perhaps take the initiative and assume a leadership role in identifying fresh goals and priorities and reaching out for new horizons that would provide guidance for the rest of the century and beyond.

Review of the development of the ESCAP region and the work of the Commission

149. The Commission commended the secretariat on the high quality of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1988*, which contained a useful analysis and an excellent summary of recent developments in the region.

150. It noted that the world environment was undergoing rapid and fundamental changes with the growing spirit of political understanding and co-operation among nations, rapid technological innovations, and changing structures of world production and trade. Those changes provided both challenges and opportunities in all countries of the world, and called for appropriate adjustments in their economies to enable them to take advantage of those opportunities.

151. The Commission also noted the satisfactory growth performance of the world economy in 1988, with the second highest growth rate of the decade achieved during the year. The high growth rate, led by the industrial economies and accompanied by an equally strong expansion in world trade, had provided a favourable environment for the growth and development of the developing countries, especially in the ESCAP region, during the year. While the fears of late 1987 and early 1988 of a recession in 1988 had not been realized and the performance of the world economy during the year had in fact been much better than expected, the situation warranted no complacency. The prospects for the world economy in 1989 remained uncertain amidst a number of persistent unfavourable factors.

152. It noted with concern the persistence of large imbalances in international trade and payments among major trading countries of the world, notwithstanding some signs of recent improvement. Those imbalances were accompanied by volatile movements in exchange

rates, high and unstable interest rates, extremely high levels of indebtedness by many developing countries, persistently low levels of real commodity prices, continued protectionist pressures, and an insufficient flow of developmental resources to the developing countries. Those factors hindered the growth and development of developing countries as well as of the global economy.

153. The Commission expressed grave concern at the continued pressure for trade protectionism, and disappointment at the impasse reached in the mid-term review of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations after substantial progress had been achieved in many areas. In that connection, the importance of tropical products to developing countries in the region was emphasized. The Commission expressed the hope that the remaining issues under negotiation would be resolved satisfactorily in the resumed session of the negotiations currently taking place in Geneva and that the Round would conclude successfully, thereby strengthening and maintaining an open world trading system, which was an important pre-condition for stable economic growth and development in the global economy.

154. The Commission noted with satisfaction the high average rates of economic growth achieved by the developing economies of the ESCAP region in 1988. That had been possible owing to an improvement in 1988 in the external economic environment faced by developing countries of the region, which stimulated growth in their exports and encouraged an accelerated flow of foreign investment in many countries of the region. Growth was also facilitated by domestic policy changes and efforts to carry out readjustment and reforms in the face of changing circumstances.

155. It noted the policy changes and reforms being carried out in many countries of the region, involving foreign trade, investment, and fiscal, financial and administrative policies, which in many cases had produced satisfactory results in accelerating growth and development. Some countries, however, pointed to the hardships faced by them in making such adjustments in a situation of low and stagnant levels of income.

156. The Commission expressed deep concern at the generally low rates of economic growth in the region's least developed and small island economies. Noting their extreme vulnerability to various natural calamities and infrastructural weaknesses, the Commission stressed the need for an increased flow of financial and technical assistance to those countries and for an improvement in its quality and effectiveness.

157. The Commission noted that the growing diversity in the levels and structures of economies in the region provided increased opportunities for regional economic co-operation based on expanded intraregional trade and investment flows, which would sustain the process of growth and development in the region. Such regional co-operation was not to be viewed, however, either in terms of exclusive trading blocs or as a substitute for wider international economic co-operation based on an open multilateral trading system fair to all parties concerned. Region-wide co-operation within a flexible framework

was more to be commended. In that regard, the lead role of ESCAP was reiterated and the secretariat was urged to take further initiatives, including the convening, when necessary, of a special ministerial meeting devoted to strengthening regional co-operation in the context of new developments.

158. The Commission also stressed the need for strengthening ECDC/TCDC activities in the region and in that connection noted with satisfaction the offer of a number of developing countries to provide economic and technical co-operation, within the framework of their respective national programmes, to other developing countries of the region.

159. The Commission expressed concern at the lack of adequate progress in social development and the continued prevalence of mass poverty, illiteracy and disease in the ESCAP region. Particular concern was expressed at the degradation of the environment in the region. The Commission noted the various measures being undertaken at national, regional and international levels to protect the environment and urged more vigorous action at all levels towards that end. The Commission reaffirmed its decision taken at its forty-fourth session, to convene a ministerial-level conference on the environment in the ESCAP region in 1990.

160. The Commission stressed the need for a fuller development of the region's human resource potential, as a means to both improve the quality of life and enhance its productive capacity. In that connection, the Commission commended ESCAP initiatives and urged the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region.

161. It reviewed the work of the Commission since the forty-fourth session, as presented in document E/ESCAP/681.

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and preparations for the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade

162. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/645 and Corr.1. The note by the secretariat consisted of two parts, the first containing a review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, in compliance with Commission resolution 212 (XXXVII) of 19 March 1981, and the second highlighting major economic, social and environmental issues of the region which needed to be considered for inclusion in the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade. The deliberations of the Commission were centred mainly on the possible elements of the new strategy for the 1990s.

163. The Commission regretted that the objective of the International Development Strategy for the 1980s had remained largely unfulfilled, in particular in the areas of an effective international food security

system, energy, commodity price stabilization and enhanced aid flows. It stressed that the findings of the study of the reasons for that failure would have to be reflected in the preparations for the new international development strategy for the 1990s. The Commission agreed with the secretariat view that, while there were grounds for satisfaction about the pace of economic growth in the ESCAP region as a whole in the 1980s, there had been much less satisfactory progress in the social aspects of development and considerable deterioration in the environmental conditions of many countries of the region. It was therefore suggested that the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade should emphasize major economic issues as well as social and environmental concerns of the region that required articulation. Delegations agreed with the regional priorities voiced in the document and supported, in particular, the emphasis on environmental issues.

164. The Commission felt that the objective of the ESCAP developing economies of achieving a sustained increase in the per capita income of their population would continue to be important in the 1990s, particularly for the least developed and the Pacific island economies. It was, however, suggested that the new international development strategy should set targets not only for achieving real growth in GDP per capita but also for minimum entitlements of basic necessities of life for the peoples of the region. Some delegations, however, did not favour the specification of rigid targets in the strategy.

165. The need for increased ODA flows to the developing ESCAP region was emphasized by the Commission. Some delegations, however, felt that, given the dynamism of the ESCAP region, the potential of intraregional efforts to assist the development of the poorer economies in the region was considerable, and that such efforts could play a helpful role in accelerating the growth of the less dynamic economies of the region. The Commission emphasized the need to undertake measures to stimulate growth, particularly of the least developed and geographically disadvantaged economies of the region.

166. The Commission recommended that continuing international efforts to establish the sustainability of growing world trade relations should be included as a major objective in the new international development strategy.

167. The Commission urged that comprehensive human resources development and improved quality of life, especially for the rural and urban poor, be included as major objectives in the new strategy, reflecting the region's growing concern about those issues.

168. It noted that technical co-operation was currently recognized as one of the most important means of helping to attain the targets of the International Development Strategy with the generous support of the international community. The international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade should therefore contain, under every major cluster of social and economic issues, some indication of the technical

support or co-operation required by the developing countries.

169. The Commission was unanimous in its concern about the need to prevent further environmental degradation and recommended that that should be included as an important cornerstone of the new strategy. It urged that action-oriented strategies be formulated for protection of the ecological balance and management of natural resources in the 1990s.

170. A number of delegations noted with appreciation the efforts of ESCAP to assist in the formulation and implementation of the international development strategy in the region. They urged the secretariat to intensify its activities in relation to regional co-operation, human resources development and protection of the environment. Some delegations stressed the need for deeper analysis of failure in the past to achieve the targets set out in the Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.

171. In his concluding statement, the Executive Secretary informed the Commission of important steps in the preparations for the international development strategy for the 1990s already being taken at the international level. The General Assembly of the United Nations had initiated two separate but interrelated exercises. First, a special session of the General Assembly devoted to international economic co-operation, in particular to the revitalization of economic growth and development of developing countries, would be convened from 23 to 27 April 1990. Second, the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade, preparations for which had already started, would be submitted for approval to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session in 1990.

Review of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, and preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

172. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/646, and chapter III of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1988*, entitled "Economic performance of the least developed and island economies".

173. The Commission noted with concern the wide disparity between the rapid economic progress and development in several of the region's developing countries and the continued unfavourable economic situation in the least developed countries. In terms of per capita GDP, growth in the majority of the least developed countries had remained below the targets of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries and significantly lower in the Pacific island least developed countries. In particular, the performance of the agricultural sector had been persistently poor, aggravated by recurrent serious natural disasters. In the majority of the region's least developed countries food security had re-emerged as a serious issue, mainly as an after-effect of the extremely adverse weather conditions experienced in 1987 and 1988. In several of the region's least developed countries the

population growth rate continued to be close to or above the GDP growth rate, resulting in stagnating or declining levels of per capita income.

174. The Commission commended the Governments of the least developed countries on their efforts to embark on restructuring programmes and to place due emphasis on basic needs and social justice in their development plans. It noted that the majority of the region's least developed countries were in the process of adopting and implementing economic reforms designed to decrease government budget deficits, increase the role of the market mechanism and enhance production efficiency, especially with a view to improving and diversifying exports. Three of the least developed countries had recently adopted new foreign investment laws in order to accelerate industrial development.

175. The Commission noted that, for reasons beyond the control of the Governments of the least developed countries, decreasing internal revenues as well as deteriorating terms of trade in international markets continued to stunt the growth of those economies. At the same time, those economies were experiencing an overall decrease in ODA in real and per capita terms. Export revenues of the least developed countries were further adversely affected by developments in agricultural commodity prices and protectionist measures. Those factors were causing an increasing trend in debt-service ratios in many of those countries.

176. In reviewing progress in the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action, the Commission noted that most least developed countries had launched extensive development programmes. However, owing to the lack of resources, there were serious deficiencies in meeting the various goals of those programmes, in both quantitative terms and such qualitative aspects as structural change, equity and social development. The Commission therefore expressed the urgent need to formulate an appropriate action programme for the 1990s for the least developed countries. Some delegations expressed the view that the programme should set specific targets in real GDP per capita terms, as well as in terms of minimum entitlements of basic necessities of life, an open international trading system and an increased flow of funds to those countries. The Commission emphasized the importance of incorporating environmental protection in the formulation of a new substantial programme of action, as many of the region's least developed countries were particularly adversely affected by environmental degradation.

177. The Commission noted that the ODA flow to most of the least developing countries of the region had been stagnating. Neither of the two alternative aid targets envisaged in the Substantial New Programme of Action was likely to be realized before the end of the current decade. Although in current dollar terms the net disbursement of ODA to the least developed countries of the region had increased, in constant dollar terms the amount was less than that at the beginning of the current decade. Furthermore, the average per capita aid flow to the least developed countries of the region was much below that of the least developed countries of the world as a whole. Several delegations therefore urged the international community to take the necessary steps towards

realizing the ODA targets as set out in the Substantial New Programme of Action as rapidly as possible.

178. The Commission noted that in response to Commission resolution 271 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988, action had been taken by the secretariat on the preparations for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries scheduled to be held in Paris in September 1990. It noted with appreciation the financial support provided by the Government of the Netherlands to undertake country studies on least developed countries of the ESCAP region. The Commission also expressed appreciation to the Government of France of its offer to make available to the secretariat, on a non-reimbursable loan basis, an expert to assist in the preparations for the Conference. The Commission further urged the donor countries and multilateral funding agencies to provide adequate financial support to the secretariat in carrying out the preparatory work for the Conference.

179. The Commission noted with appreciation assistance extended by a number of developing countries within their ECDC/TCDC programme. It expressed hope that other developing countries would extend such assistance in areas in which they had expertise and facilities.

180. UNDP and the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development reiterated their support of the priority concerns of the least developed countries. UNDP was rendering special support to countries with special needs. In particular, it was committed to participating in a rehabilitation programme for countries stricken by war and had extended emergency assistance to two least developed countries hit by natural disasters in 1988. UNDP was co-ordinating assistance in five least developed countries of the region and considering convening a round-table meeting for a sixth in the near future. The Department of Technical Co-operation for Development offered assistance to the least developed countries in their preparation of country papers for the Second Conference, in the areas of development planning, and macro-economic and sectoral issues.

181. The Commission noted that, in the context of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, GATT, in its Subcommittee on Least Developed Countries, had been exploring means to promote the trade of those countries in the areas of abolishing tariff barriers and improving access to international markets.

Restructuring the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s

182. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/648 and Corr.1, which dealt with the theme topic of the current session, "Restructuring the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s". It complimented the secretariat on having prepared a study of high professional standard in a very limited period of time. While the Commission appreciated and commended the broad thrust of the document, it urged the secretariat to make a more detailed investigation and analysis of a number of issues that had not been accorded adequate emphasis. Among

them, the Commission particularly noted social and environmental issues, rural development, barriers to trade in the region and the service sector. The need for an international economic environment conducive to those restructuring efforts was highlighted by the Commission.

183. The Commission generally endorsed the main focus of the study, although some delegations preferred alternative approaches on specific issues. Thus, while the secretariat document favoured a medium-term view, the Commission felt that the study also needed a longer-term perspective emphasizing measures and policies supportive of sustainable development. A few delegations felt the need to emphasize policy reforms with a greater role for the market mechanism and giving due cognizance to the changing world environment. The Commission, while appreciating the study's analysis of the global environment and its effect on restructuring in developing economies of the ESCAP region, recommended that more emphasis should be placed on prospective developments in the 1990s.

184. The Commission commended the differentiated approach of the secretariat study in view of the region's diversity. It cautioned against excessive enthusiasm about reliance on success stories, which were often predicated on specific historical and other initial conditions. Although the "flying geese model" might not be considered a representative pattern of restructuring in the developing ESCAP region, it was expressive of the emerging dynamism of the region. Its relevance to East and South-East Asian economies was generally accepted, as evidenced by the stimulus provided by trade, foreign investment and technology transfer in effecting a changing international division of labour. Some delegations, however, questioned the assumption that foreign investment necessarily promoted exports. Domestic markets were equally important for providing the needed impulse for restructuring.

185. The Commission agreed that for many developing economies of the ESCAP region, in particular the group of least developed and geographically disadvantaged economies, agricultural restructuring was of fundamental importance. Some delegations expressed the view that the problems of agricultural and rural development were not adequately addressed in the study. Other delegations, however, cautioned against over-emphasis on any particular sector of the economy in the restructuring process on the grounds that such emphasis could lead to intersectoral imbalances as well as accentuate inequities in income distribution.

186. The Commission stressed the need to maintain an open international trading system. In that regard, it reiterated its hope that the ongoing Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations should lead to the emergence of a freer trading environment, keeping in view the special needs and concerns of the developing countries. That was crucial to the ESCAP region, particularly since the issue related to primary commodities as well as manufactures, on which many of the region's economies were dependent for their export earnings. In that context, subsidization of agricultural production and proliferation of protectionist measures were identified by some

delegations as major hindrances to the restructuring efforts of developing economies of the ESCAP region. The formation of a single market in Europe in 1992 and the United States-Canada Free Trade Agreement was viewed with concern by some delegations. However, the delegations of some EEC countries stated that a unified European market in 1992 was not intended as a protectionist measure and the delegation of the United States made a similar statement in relation to the United States-Canada Free Trade Agreement.

187. Several delegations endorsed the emphasis of the secretariat document on regional co-operation and intraregional trade, in order to offset the potentially adverse effects on trade of the trend towards protectionist pressures, or the possible formation of protectionist trading blocs and the likely reduction in the United States trade deficit. There was, however, a need to ensure that any strengthened intraregional trade arrangements remained outward-looking and reinforced the process of multilateral trade liberalization so as not to distort incentives and lead to an inefficient allocation of resources in the region. One delegation suggested the holding, when necessary, of a ministerial-level meeting to consider regional co-operation among economies of the ESCAP region with regard to the emerging challenges in the world economy.

188. The Commission recognized the need for an increased flow of ODA in order to enable the low-income, especially the least developed and Pacific island developing countries to pursue the goal of economic restructuring, which they had found elusive in the current circumstances.

189. The Commission agreed that there was an urgent need for removal of deficiencies in infrastructure as well as the development of human resources, which were prerequisites for industrial and technological restructuring. Those problems were being faced by countries regardless of the stage of their development, and were a basic requirement for maintaining the region's growth momentum.

190. The Commission noted that the resilience of the developing ESCAP region arose largely from its increased reliance on open markets, decentralized decision-making and increasing use of economic incentives. While the role of government would be largely determined by individual nations, the Commission recognized the role of active state intervention in easing infrastructural constraints in the planning process and in ensuring the provision of environmental protection and social welfare. Many delegations stressed the importance of market forces in the restructuring process and of the need for government policies to take account of that fact.

191. The Commission expressed concern at the neglect in the study of institutional and social welfare considerations, and especially of the distributional impact, in the restructuring process. The increase in disparities between rural and urban incomes and the worsening of income distribution had constrained demand and growth of output in many developing countries of the ESCAP region. Against the evidence of widespread unemployment and poverty in the

region, the Commission viewed those developments as worthy of special emphasis in the secretariat's follow-up work.

192. The Executive Secretary, in his concluding statement on the agenda item, mentioned the need for incorporating social and environmental issues in the restructuring process. He assured the Commission that that task would be undertaken by the secretariat, along with other priority areas mentioned in the discussions, in connection with the preparation of the regional input for the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade.

Implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region

193. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/649 and E/ESCAP/650 and Corr.1. It commended the secretariat on the high quality and usefulness of those documents as a basis for its deliberations.

194. The Commission emphasized that the human resources development strategy advocated in the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region, adopted by the Commission in its resolution 274 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988, required a fundamental reorientation of policies, plans and programmes, accompanied by a change in national development priorities. It recommended that Governments should place increased priority on the development of human resources and provide commensurate financial support. It further recommended that national development plans and programmes should be carefully monitored and evaluated in order to ensure that stated priorities for human resources development were reflected in resource allocation and programme implementation.

195. The Commission noted that in most countries in the region a relatively small share of the total national development budget had in the past been allocated to human resources development. It emphasized that effective implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action would require increased financial allocations. In view of the long-term returns on investment in human resources development, national development budgets should be reoriented over time in favour of human resources development. The Commission also emphasized that multilateral and bilateral donors should strengthen their financial support for national efforts to implement the Plan.

196. The Commission recognized the essential role played by human resources development in the restructuring process under way in the region. Several delegations emphasized that human resources development was the basis of restructuring. The Commission therefore urged the secretariat to give full consideration to human resources development as an aspect of restructuring in its current exercise to examine the process of restructuring in the region and the policy and planning options available in that regard.

197. The decision to highlight human resources development in the preparations currently under way for the formulation of an international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development

decade was welcomed. The Commission felt that the inclusion of human resources development considerations in the secretariat's in-depth study on restructuring would provide a valuable input into the preparation of the international development strategy for the coming decade.

198. The Commission noted that countries in the region differed in their interpretation of the concept of human resources development. That was partly owing to their different human resources development situations and different development needs. The Commission recommended that steps should be taken in each country to clarify the national concept of human resources development and the principal means whereby it would be translated into action. It also recommended that further elaboration and clarification of the concept should be undertaken by ESCAP to assist Governments as well as international bodies and agencies in developing policies, plans and programmes to implement the Jakarta Plan of Action.

199. In identifying an integrated approach as fundamental to human resources development, the Commission placed particular emphasis on the need to increase intersectoral co-ordination in national policy-making and planning for such development. It was observed that human resources development plans and programmes in many countries in the region had been developed sectorally. The Commission therefore recommended that plans and programmes dealing with human resources development issues should be revised and new mechanisms devised to make explicit provision for intersectoral co-ordination, particularly at the local level.

200. The Commission commended the secretariat on the various initial activities undertaken in implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action. It voiced its approval of the secretariat's intersectoral approach to the implementation of those activities. The Commission expressed the view that those activities had laid a firm foundation for the further implementation of the Plan.

201. The Commission commended the secretariat on having successfully implemented a project to provide for the convening of an expert group meeting and an intergovernmental meeting on human resources development to make preparations for the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action. That project had culminated in the convening of the Expert Group Meeting on Human Resources Development, held at Bangkok from 10 to 13 January 1989, followed by the Meeting of Senior Officials on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region, held at Bangkok from 17 to 19 January 1989. It noted with thanks the support that had been provided by UNDP towards the successful implementation of that project.

202. The Commission endorsed the report of the Meeting of Senior Officials on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region. It called for the early implementation of the projects contained therein, which should be formulated and executed in co-operation with other concerned United Nations agencies and bodies both to avoid possible duplication of effort and to ensure that the expertise and experience gathered by all such agencies would be fully utilized.

203. The Commission welcomed the initiative taken to establish an advisory group on human resources development within the secretariat to ensure the effective participation of all sectors in the secretariat in implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action. It also noted with satisfaction the establishment by the secretariat of an inter-agency task force on human resources development to provide a mechanism for regular consultations among concerned United Nations bodies and agencies so as to ensure effective inter-agency co-ordination in the implementation of the Plan.

204. The Commission noted with satisfaction that several countries in the region had established mechanisms at the national level to facilitate integrated and holistic policy-making, planning and programming for human resources development. It also noted that such national efforts had been facilitated through a series of advisory missions undertaken to co-ordinate the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action at the national level. Those missions had served as a means of strengthening national human resources development efforts and had also enabled the secretariat to monitor the human resources development process in the region, as called for in resolution 274 (XLIV). Recognizing the value of those activities, the Commission expressed its appreciation to the Government of France of its support of the secretariat's work in that area through the provision of the services of a senior expert on human resources development.

205. The Commission noted with appreciation the secretariat's efforts to focus particular attention on the policy and planning aspects of human resources development through the convening, in co-operation with the Government of the Republic of Korea, of the Expert Group Meeting on Policy and Planning Guidelines for Human Resources Development at Seoul from 6 to 10 March 1989. It called upon Governments to consider the recommendations emanating from that Meeting as a guide for future policy and planning efforts for human resources development.

206. The Commission commended the secretariat on its initiative in devising a portfolio of intersectoral project profiles consisting of:

- (1) Survey of the quality of life (Phase I);
- (2) Upgrading public administration for human resources development at the local level;
- (3) Manpower aspects of restructuring;
- (4) Promoting public awareness of human resources development;
- (5) Small town and rural human resources development to reduce migration to large cities;
- (6) Support for programmes related to human resources development in science and technology institutions (energy sector);
- (7) Diversified skill development for women in industry;

- (8) Statistics and indicators on human resources development;
- (9) Promoting human resources development among women in the informal sector;
- (10) Youth skills training for human resources development;
- (11) Promotion of human resources development among women in the development of handicrafts for export;
- (12) Human resources development in the maritime sector in a period of rapid technological change.

207. Those project profiles had been designed by ESCAP in close co-operation with other concerned United Nations bodies and agencies and inter-governmental organizations in the region. The projects would be implemented in close consultation with those bodies and the Governments of the region. The Commission called upon the concerned United Nations bodies and agencies to continue to provide their support to the implementation of those activities.

208. Various delegations were of the view that priority should be attached to projects 1-5, 7 and 10. Some delegations suggested that careful consideration might be given to a consolidation of some of the proposed projects based on common themes relevant to a number of countries.

209. The following additional intersectoral project ideas were suggested for inclusion in the portfolio:

- (1) Establishment of a regional information network on human resources development, focusing on national approaches to policy-making, planning and programming for human resources development;
- (2) Periodic assessment of the impact of all national and regional efforts directed towards the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action, including periodic review and appraisal of the Plan with a view to its revision by the Commission in order to enhance its relevance to the changing circumstances and needs of the region;
- (3) Study on the socio-cultural aspects of human resources development.

210. The Commission recognized the importance of science and technology as a major dimension of human resources development. It noted that the development of human resources could promote further advancement in science and technology. At the same time, progress in science and technology could enhance the development of human resources. The Commission was therefore of the view that additional projects concerning human resources development aspects of science and technology should be formulated.

211. The Commission stressed that the secretariat, in view of its multi-sectoral orientation, was in an advantageous position to implement the portfolio of

project profiles. It noted the secretariat's unique role as regional co-ordinating body as well as executing agency for intersectoral projects in the field of human resources development. Noting the magnitude of the problems afflicting the region and bearing in mind the technical competence of the specialized agencies in their respective fields, the Commission urged those agencies to lend their active support to ESCAP in its implementation of those projects.

212. The Commission emphasized the importance of literacy as a prerequisite for human resources development. It deplored the continuing high rates of illiteracy and functional illiteracy prevailing in many countries in the region. It called on the secretariat, in close co-operation with UNESCO, to undertake activities to assist members and associate members in achieving universal literacy.

213. The Commission recommended that steps should be taken to develop more comprehensive national data bases for human resources development. The scope of existing indicators in many countries was considered to be inadequate for the appropriate identification of target groups. In addition, new indicators were needed to allow the assessment of innovative approaches to human resources development within particular sectors. In particular, appropriate provision should be made for the collection and analysis of data at the subnational and micro levels. The Commission called upon the secretariat to provide assistance to Governments in those areas.

214. The critical role played by the quality of life in human resources development was stressed by a number of delegations. Several delegations referred to the complexities involved in defining the quality of life and quantifying its relevant indicators, but nevertheless recognized the urgent need to undertake work in that field as a basis for monitoring the quality-of-life situation in the region and assisting Governments in devising policies and programmes for its enhancement. In that connection, the Commission welcomed the secretariat's initiation of a major project to prepare a survey on the quality of life in the region. It expressed appreciation to the Government of Japan of its financial assistance for a human resources development project on improvement of the quality of life.

215. The Commission reaffirmed the critical need for maximizing the human resources potential of women as a basis for effective human resources development planning. It felt that a multi-sectoral, policy-directed approach would provide a sound basis for designing specific measures directed at ensuring the incorporation of women's concerns and capabilities in national and regional mainstream human resources development activities.

216. It was observed that development was not only for the people but essentially by the people and that, in that regard, the role of non-governmental organizations in promoting popular participation in the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action, especially at the provincial and local levels, would be of fundamental importance. The Commission therefore recommended that appropriate attention and resources should be directed towards co-operation and co-ordination between government agencies and

non-governmental organizations in support of human resources development.

217. The Commission welcomed the offer of the Government of France, further to its proposal submitted to the Commission at its forty-fourth session, to sponsor a prize for accomplishment in the field of human resources development, with specific reference to contributions regarding work in the fields of the environment or human settlements related to human resources development. It was indicated that further discussions would take place between the donor Government and the secretariat to devise appropriate modalities for the awarding of the prize.

218. The representative of the United Nations Development Programme informed the Commission of UNDP financial support and active participation in the preparatory activities toward the secretariat's implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action. The Commission welcomed that support. It also expressed its appreciation of the announcement that UNDP had earmarked \$US 1.5 million for a regional project on human resources development for the remainder of the current programme cycle. Recognizing the role of ESCAP as the regional focal point for implementation of the Plan and, in view of the interdisciplinary mandate of ESCAP, UNDP envisaged that ESCAP would be the lead agency for that project. Lastly, UNDP proposed to field an inter-agency project formulation mission with ESCAP to ensure inter-agency co-ordination and promote an integrated approach to implementation of the Plan.

219. The Commission recommended that inter-agency committees should be established at the national level to facilitate national co-ordination among United Nations bodies and specialized agencies of international support for implementation of human resources development programmes. The Commission expressed the view that the UNDP country offices could play a lead role in the establishment and functioning of such committees.

Review of the Tokyo Programme on Technology for Development in Asia and the Pacific

220. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/651.

221. It commended the secretariat on its timely efforts in preparing a well-structured and useful document and expressed general satisfaction with the progress of implementation of resolution 235 (XL) of 27 April 1984 on the Tokyo Programme on Technology for Development in Asia and the Pacific, by initiating co-operative projects in the five areas identified in the resolution: (a) research, development and demonstration projects in selected areas of technology; (b) identification of technological needs, capabilities and levels of technological development, which had led to the publication of the six outputs of the technology atlas project; (c) finding practical ways of sharing information; (d) promotion of regional co-operative activities for the creation of a favourable technological climate; and (e) initiating measures for the technological development of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries.

222. The Commission recognized that a time-bound review of any development was not an easy task; that was particularly true in the case of science and technology, where gestation periods encompassing all important aspects were considerably longer than the five years which had elapsed since the Tokyo Programme was initiated in April 1984. It called for the identification of additional co-operative projects and financial support for their implementation, in order to meet the additional needs of developing countries of the ESCAP region in powder metallurgy and other areas of new and emerging technologies. Member countries reiterated their support for resolution 235 (XL) and requested donor agencies and developed countries to maintain funding for future programmes.

223. The Commission noted the accomplishments and problems encountered in the development of science and technology as they affected policy, infrastructure development, technology transfer, human resources development, scientific and technological information and financing of science and technology. It observed that, in several countries of the region, a considerable number of activities had been undertaken along the lines suggested in the Tokyo Programme, especially with regard to the formulation of national technology policies and plans and improvement in national scientific and technological infrastructure. It further noted that the Tokyo Programme had had a positive impact on influencing national thinking on technology and demonstrated the importance of integrating technological considerations into the national socio-economic development planning process.

224. The Commission generally endorsed the recommendations contained in document E/ESCAP/651 and specifically requested the secretariat to take serious note of the suggestions made with regard to, *inter alia*, joint-venture research and development arrangements among countries of the region; management of user-oriented research and development; and the promotion of technological co-operation between small and medium-sized enterprises of developing and developed countries.

225. The Commission noted that during the period under review, the region had witnessed a heightened awareness among policy planners and decision makers of development based on science and technology. In that regard, the Commission commended the secretariat on its efforts to popularize and disseminate the technology atlas methodologies. It noted that the outputs of phase I of the technology atlas project had resulted in the publication of a set of six volumes which had been well received by the member countries. Several countries in the region had already initiated efforts to utilize and popularize the technology atlas methodologies. Moreover, the Commission was heartened by the willingness of the Government of Japan to support advisory services to individual countries on the methodologies. It also expressed satisfaction with other activities and projects implemented by the secretariat during the period under review, including training courses in solar photovoltaic systems; a seminar on technological human resources forecasting, planning and development; and a workshop on human resources policies and plans for technology for development. The Commission noted with appreciation the financial support extended to the

secretariat by the Governments of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea, and by UNDP in those efforts.

226. The Commission was informed that a number of countries had identified priority areas for the advancement of their scientific and technological capabilities, which included biotechnology and genetic engineering, micro-electronics, new materials and metallurgy, alternative sources of energy, information technologies, and laser and space technologies. It recognized that developing countries were concerned that, given the knowledge and research-intensive nature of new and emerging technologies, there was a dire need to develop technological capabilities to avert widespread obsolescence of the current industrial structure.

227. The Commission stressed the need for paying special attention to issues which, *inter alia*, related to forging close and more effective linkages between research and development and the productive sectors of the economy; efforts required to improve the management of research and development activities of academic institutions, industry and government; the building up of capabilities leading to widespread sectoral technological diffusion; the need for the development of human resources for science and technology to overcome the various hurdles to technological development; and enhancing the development of consultancy services.

228. The Commission suggested that the secretariat should disseminate its publications on a wider basis by identifying national agencies which could reproduce additional copies for dissemination within the country concerned. With reference to the directory of marketable technology which was currently under preparation, the suggestion was made that the secretariat might extend its support to the publication of national directories of marketable technology by sector. The Commission suggested that efforts should be made to strengthen and utilize consultancy capabilities in science and technology available within the region, following a TCDC approach. In that regard, the Commission welcomed the willingness of the Government of India to support the secretariat's efforts.

229. The Commission commended the contribution of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) in implementing the Tokyo Programme, especially in the vital areas of science and technology information-sharing and management and the promotion of technology utilization. It noted with appreciation the financial support provided by UNDP in that regard. The Commission further noted that the publication and dissemination of the bi-monthly *Tech Monitor* served as a useful channel of communication in a number of countries in the region.

230. The Commission felt that technology transfer was especially significant for the ESCAP region, which had been registering relatively rapid growth over recent years. It noted that a major criterion in selecting projects for the fourth UNDP intercountry programme cycle was that proposals entailed strong potential for technology transfer and human resources development. The Commission also felt that the impact of technology on trade should be given due recognition in future reviews of the Tokyo Programme. In that regard, the Commission urged UNDP to continue its financial support to APCTT.

Issues and programmes in various fields of activity of ESCAP

231. The Commission had before it the reports of the Committee on Population and Social Development, the Committee on Trade, and the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications, which had met during the year prior to the forty-fifth session, sectoral issues papers and the progress reports on the implementation of relevant resolutions.

232. In his opening statement, the Deputy Executive Secretary highlighted the major issues in the various fields of activity of ESCAP presented in the documents, on which the Commission's views were sought. The attention of the Commission was drawn to the issues concerning: (a) the convening of the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development; (b) problems related to the sphere of industrial production and technological development; (c) the impact of recent development policies and strategies on the family as a major institution; (d) the development of industrial minerals and construction materials; (e) the promotion of environmentally sound and sustainable development; (f) the strengthening of efforts relating to flood loss prevention and mitigation; (g) the development and demand management of energy; (h) the need to enhance the utility and contributions of national statistical services; (i) the development of appropriate modalities and policies to further strengthen regional co-operation in trade and finance; (j) the contribution of transnational corporations to the restructuring measures in developing countries; (k) the impact of agricultural export prices on the socio-economic conditions of farmers and agricultural workers; (l) the draft programme of work and priorities for 1990-1991; and (m) the proposed structure of the next medium-term plan.

233. The Commission reviewed the issues in the various sectors, as reflected below.

Issues in various fields of activity

Food, agriculture and rural development

234. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/659. It recognized the importance of the agricultural sector in developing countries but felt that the sector was beset by many problems that hindered national progress. Among those problems were farmers' limited knowledge of modern technologies, lack of required inputs, absence of integrated rural planning, unfavourable prices of primary commodities, decline in soil fertility and heavy dependence on weather. In addition, frequent natural disasters in some countries had resulted in repeated crop failures.

235. The Commission expressed appreciation of the secretariat's activities in the field of food, agriculture and rural development. It felt that the secretariat had performed significant and useful activities in the area of co-operation among member countries aimed at developing agriculture and food production and improving the socio-economic development of rural people.

236. The Commission expressed concern about the effect of a large regular budget reduction on the

execution of the food and agriculture programme. It appealed to donors to augment extrabudgetary resources for the programme.

Impact of low agricultural export prices

237. The Commission endorsed the objectives, methodology and general outline of the country studies under the project to assess the impact of low agricultural export prices on the socio-economic condition of small farmers and agricultural workers. It was stated that fluctuating and declining prices of agricultural exports were serious problems still faced by the member countries and that those problems were accentuated by protectionist and subsidy policies of the developed countries.

238. The Commission expressed the hope that the findings of the country studies would provide useful information to policy makers in the formulation of their agricultural trade policies. It desired the socio-economic conditions of the affected small farmers and agricultural labourers to be accurately studied. The suggestion was made that, in conjunction with relevant agencies, forecasting of market and underlying supply and demand conditions might be improved.

Food supply and distribution

239. The Commission strongly endorsed phase II of the agro-climatic project, which had introduced satellite crop-monitoring in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand on an experimental basis during 1989. The participating countries praised the project as beneficial to their systems of drought early warning, food security management, and disaster relief efforts. The representatives of Bangladesh, Nepal and Viet Nam, countries which had not been included in the phase II programme, requested participation in the project in a subsequent phase. In that respect, several countries made particular reference to recent natural disasters, such as floods and drought, that had confirmed the persistent vulnerability of the agricultural sector to weather.

240. The Commission expressed appreciation to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and UNDP for generously funding the project, and to the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for its technical support.

Waste-water reclamation and reuse for aquaculture

241. The Commission endorsed the technical recommendations of the ESCAP and World Bank/UNDP Resource Recovery (Waste Recycling) International Seminar on Waste-water Reclamation and Reuse for Aquaculture. It expressed appreciation to the Government of India for providing host facilities for the Seminar and for sharing the experience of India with other countries. As a follow-up to the project, it recommended that public health aspects of sewage-fed aquaculture be further studied and requested the secretariat to promote TCDC study tours in that field. The representative of Viet Nam requested the secretariat to arrange an exclusive study tour for

technical personnel of that country in India. The representative of India indicated his country's willingness to provide expertise in that field on a TCDC basis.

Agricultural development and township enterprises

242. The Commission expressed gratitude to China for offering to host a seminar on linkages between agricultural development and township enterprises. It was hoped that the seminar would provide needed information on township enterprises based on the experience of China in that field. Many countries in the region had placed emphasis on the development of small-scale and agro-based rural industries. The secretariat was requested to assist in promoting the development of such industries.

TCDC activities

243. The Commission expressed appreciation to India and Bangladesh for providing TCDC training facilities on, respectively, tropical sericulture and the methodology of the Grab-ten Bank. The representative of India indicated his country's readiness to share its sericulture technology and related training facilities with other developing countries. The representatives of Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam requested the secretariat's assistance in arranging TCDC study tours on aquaculture development. With regard to horticulture, the representatives of Bangladesh and Sri Lanka requested similar assistance.

Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific

244. The Commission expressed wholehearted support of the ESCAP/FAO/UNIDO Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (FADINAP) in its continued work to promote the balanced and judicious use of fertilizer through the development of human resources by means of: (a) training, workshops, seminars and study tours; (b) advisory services and research; and, more importantly (c) dissemination of timely and reliable fertilizer-related information.

245. The Commission expressed the view that those services had contributed significantly to the improvement in the efficiency of the fertilizer sector through minimization of costs and streamlining the distribution and marketing systems. Several representatives expressed satisfaction at the assistance provided by the regional distribution and marketing adviser supported by the generous financial assistance of the Federal Republic of Germany on a continuing basis.

246. The Commission noted with satisfaction the training courses organized by FADINAP at the national and regional levels in the areas of fertilizer distribution, utilization and handling, among others. It commended the sponsorship by FADINAP of a substantial number of participants in national and international training courses/study tours.

247. The Commission strongly commended the regular publications of FADINAP, especially

Agro-chemicals News in Brief, and *Fertilizer Trade Information* and the telex services, as important channels of information dissemination. It strongly urged donor support to continue FADINAP activities in information dissemination. The Commission was informed by the representative of the Netherlands that so far FADINAP had received sustained and substantial support for its operation and activities from his Government. The time had come for the recipient member countries - corresponding to their share of responsibilities - to start contributing, or to increase their contributions, to FADINAP. That view was shared by the representative of the Republic of Korea. The representative of the Netherlands noted the intention of the secretariat to develop a plan and a timetable to facilitate such an exercise and strongly supported the secretariat's appeal to them in that respect. He requested the secretariat to examine the possibility of accepting commercial advertisements and introducing subscription fees for FADINAP publications.

248. The Commission commended the progress of the Network of Fertilizer Information Systems (NFIS) of FADINAP. It noted activities related to the adoption of a computer software programme, training on the use of computer software, and the assistance provided to several countries for the establishment of national information centres. The representative of Japan informed the Commission of his Government's decision to support NFIS financially in 1989.

249. The Commission strongly endorsed the FADINAP proposal to conduct an in-depth study on fertilizer use under rain-fed farming conditions, because the incidence of poverty was the greatest in rain-fed areas. The investigation should emphasize the socio-economic aspects of fertilizer use under rain-fed farming conditions and build up a strong information base on the subject. In that connection, the Commission was informed that a study was being undertaken on that topic in India; the results of the study would be available early in 1990 and could be applied in some other countries.

250. Referring to the Regional Seminar on the Use of Recycled Organic Matter, organized by FADINAP and FAO in China, in May 1988, it was suggested that follow-up activities should include: (a) training on the proper and efficient use of organic matter; (b) research on the integration of biofertilizers into crop production; and (c) demonstration trials to assess the economics of technologies in green manuring, crop rotation and crop residues. The representative of Malaysia stated that his country was in a position to host a workshop with other countries through ESCAP on the technology of recycling industrial crop wastes.

251. The representative of the United Kingdom informed the Commission of his Government's support of FADINAP information activities since 1982, through the provision of advisory services. It had also provided resource persons to assist the regional consultations and training workshops of NFIS. He confirmed his Government's support for a three-year assistance programme from 1988 to 1990.

252. The Commission expressed sincere appreciation to donors for their continued generous financial assistance to FADINAP and strongly urged them to continue their support of the work of

FADINAP in the future. The Commission noted with deep satisfaction the technical assistance and staff support received from FAO and UNIDO.

253. The representative of Australia noted that the 1989 International Fertilizer Industry Association/FADINAP South-East Asia and the Pacific Regional Fertilizer Conference would be held at Cairns, Australia, and that the Commission had been asked to urge member countries, particularly the Pacific island countries, to participate actively in the Conference.

Agro-pesticides

254. The Commission expressed appreciation of and fully supported the efforts undertaken by ARSAP to improve pesticide safety through its various publications. During a period of rapidly increasing pesticide use in the region and hazards associated with it, such information was urgently needed. Several delegations commended the translation of simple rules on pesticide handling into local languages.

255. The Commission commended the *Regional Agro-pesticide Index: Asia and the Pacific* published annually, as a useful tool for the implementation of government pesticide registration schemes and as market information for the private sector. It expressed the hope that the work of ARSAP in that area would lead to better harmonization of pesticide registration procedures and to more uniform pesticide standards, and would reduce potential barriers to trade in the region.

256. The Commission praised the work of ARSAP as a significant contribution to the implementation of the FAO International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides and recommended continued close co-operation between the relevant FAO regional project and the Regional Network for the Production, Marketing and Control of Pesticides in Asia and the Pacific (RENPAF).

257. Several delegations requested ARSAP to assist in the establishment of computerized pesticide data banks. Its assistance was also requested by the representatives of Sri Lanka and Thailand in the organization of pesticide safety training courses for farmers.

258. The Commission expressed appreciation to the Governments of France and the Netherlands of their continued support of ARSAP. The representative of France indicated that support would be increased for the computerized plant protection programme (IPHYTRÔP) and the regional agro-pesticide index.

Agricultural information and farm broadcasting

259. Recognizing the ever-increasing importance of development support communication activities, the Commission commended the secretariat on organizing the Regional Symposium on Farm Broadcasting and on the wide-ranging recommendations made by the Symposium. It expressed strong support for the recommendation that a regional network for co-operation in agricultural/rural communication, with emphasis on electronic media, should be established in the ESCAP secretariat. It urged the secretariat to work out a concrete action plan for the operation of the proposed network.

260. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the secretariat was preparing to publish a set of training guidelines and a training manual on farm broadcasting and to organize a national farm video production training course in Fiji. The representative of Fiji welcomed the opportunity for his country to host the training course.

261. The Commission emphasized that additional training opportunities for personnel involved in various agricultural/rural information activities, particularly in farm/rural broadcasting, should be created at both national and regional levels with the assistance of ESCAP. The representative of Viet Nam requested ESCAP assistance in training farm broadcasting personnel in the central part of the country.

262. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Government of Japan for providing continuous financial support for the farm/rural broadcasting project and expressed the hope that Japan would provide further support.

263. The representative of Japan, recognizing the importance of farm/rural information activities in promoting agricultural/rural development, welcomed the outcome of the Regional Symposium on Farm Broadcasting, especially the recommendation to establish the proposed regional network, and expressed his Government's readiness to consider possible financial support, conditional on the submission of an agreed project document.

264. The *Agricultural Information Development Bulletin* was commended by the Commission as a most useful journal in disseminating information on agricultural and rural development programmes and projects. The secretariat's efforts to ensure resources for the publication of the *Bulletin* were appreciated. The continuous publication of the *Bulletin* was strongly requested.

Integrated rural development

265. The Commission noted with appreciation the activities undertaken by the secretariat and the Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific in the field of rural poverty alleviation. It was recognized that in spite of impressive progress, the problem of rural poverty persisted in many developing countries of the region, which had made it imperative to initiate additional action to redress it. In that respect, the Commission strongly urged the Interagency Committee to further strengthen and expand its efforts.

266. The Commission recognized the need to promote participation of the rural poor and to bring them to the centre of integrated rural development activities. The activities under the interagency project on the multiplication of participatory rural development experience on a socially significant scale were commended. It was emphasized that participatory rural development activities should be further strengthened and expanded by the Interagency Committee by undertaking more training activities and conducting in-depth studies. The Commission urged that appropriate training programmes to develop human resources at the grassroots level should also be taken up.

267. The Commission commended the ESCAP/ILO non-farm employment project as highly beneficial for creating a replicable model to generate employment opportunities. The appreciation expressed by the former President of Sri Lanka of the benefits of the project was noted. The Commission strongly urged the continuation and expansion of such programmes.

268. The Commission was informed about the Regional Experts Meeting on Integrated Rural Development Strategies, held recently at Suweon, Republic of Korea. That Meeting had reviewed the successes and failures of integrated rural development strategies during the past decade and had adopted a number of recommendations. It had also reaffirmed the need and relevance for the coming decade of the 1990s of the Interagency Co-ordinated Plan of Action on Integrated Rural Development in the ESCAP Region, adopted by the Commission in 1977. The Commission endorsed the recommendations of the Meeting and urged the Interagency Committee to take the necessary action for their implementation.

269. The Commission appealed to donors to provide, where possible, increased funding for activities related to the alleviation of rural poverty. In that regard, the representative of Japan, expressing his appreciation of measures such as the creation of employment opportunities and the establishment of farmers' organizations, offered his country's support for relevant programmes on a continuous basis. The representative of the Netherlands said that his country would also continue to support rural poverty alleviation programmes. The representative of India offered host facilities for holding the second review meeting on participatory rural development at the National Institute of Rural Development in Hyderabad, India.

270. The representatives of UNIFEM, WHO, WFC (World Food Council) and CIRDAP (Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific) informed the Commission of the activities pursued by their respective organizations for rural poverty alleviation. The representative of WHO expressed satisfaction at the continued inter-agency co-operation on integrated rural development activities. He called for the inclusion of a health component in all integrated rural development programmes. The representative of WFC emphasized, *inter alia*, that access to food constituted a human right. The representative of UNIFEM stressed the need to incorporate women's participation in poverty alleviation programmes to enhance their effectiveness. The representative of CIRDAP informed the Commission that his organization was in the process of strengthening collaboration with ESCAP in the field of rural development.

271. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 45/4 on the integrated programme on rural development.

Utilization of agricultural residues

272. The Commission urged the secretariat to pay increased attention to the utilization of agricultural residues as an energy source. It pointed out that such an endeavour would reduce pollution caused by unused residues and wastes and alleviate the shortage

of fuel caused by the depletion of forest resources in most developing countries. Agricultural residues and wastes could be utilized in a cost-effective way.

273. The Commission took note of the progress made with regard to the studies on socio-economic constraints on the use of new and renewable sources of energy technologies in China, India, Thailand and Viet Nam, scheduled to be completed by the end of 1989 as part of the Regional Energy Development Programme funded by UNDP. It welcomed such studies in view of the limited information and documentation available in that field.

274. The Commission also noted that the regional project on a seminar-cum-study tour on gasification of rice husk and other biomass would be carried out in China and the Republic of Korea. The major portion of the financial support would be provided by the Republic of Korea. The representative of China indicated that China might consider bearing the local costs for that regional project. Many representatives expressed their willingness to participate in the project and share the experience of their countries; the Commission expressed appreciation to the countries concerned.

Industry, human settlements and technology

275. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/661, E/ESCAP/662 and E/ESCAP/663. It commended the secretariat on the comprehensive documentation prepared for its deliberations.

Industry

276. The Commission expressed appreciation of the secretariat's analytical review of structural changes in the industrial sector of the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific contained in document E/ESCAP/661. It felt that the analysis had raised critical issues and challenges related to the industrial restructuring process. The Commission stressed that the developing countries should attempt to create favourable macro- and micro-economic environments to cope with the changing international economic situation, and reorient policy measures to meet such challenges and enhance the competitiveness of manufactured products from developing countries of the region. In that respect, the Governments should play a catalytic role in the industrialization process by facilitating the building up of infrastructure and other support systems and also should attempt to develop linkages at the international level through appropriate provision of incentives and liberalization of the economy. The Commission suggested that the Governments should encourage the development of entrepreneurs for further industrialization in developing countries and assist in technology acquisition, industrial skill development, financing and investment, and in promoting trade of manufactured products. It noted that public sector industrial units had provided the momentum for industrialization in several countries of the region and continued to do so in a number of developing countries. It noted with interest the various measures undertaken at the national level to improve the efficiency of public sector industrial units through various privatization measures. It urged the secretariat to undertake

activities, including the provision of advisory services, to assist developing countries in that respect.

277. The Commission recognized that technology was a crucial factor in the overall process of structural change in industry. The experience of industrialized as well as newly industrializing countries had clearly demonstrated that the capability of using modern technology was a prerequisite for industrial restructuring and for promoting the competitiveness of manufactured products. In that respect, the Commission, while noting the significance of labour-intensive technologies adopted in several countries of the region, felt that the strategy of resource-based and technology-oriented industrialization should be the long-term target of the developing countries of the region. The Commission recognized that the development of engineering industries and capital goods could form a long-term base for further industrialization and promotion of productivity and competitiveness of manufactured products. It recommended that the secretariat should assist the developing countries in assessing the prospects for the use of computer-aided design/computer-aided manufacture (CAD/CAM), for the introduction of industrial automation and for the development of software to enhance industrial productivity, flexibility and growth.

278. An appropriate strategy for human resources development constituted another significant step in attempting industrial structural change. The crucial gaps in industrial skills had not only limited the development of rural industries but also constrained flexibility for industrial structural change. The Commission therefore urged the Governments to strengthen their efforts in the development of appropriate industrial manpower through effective linkages between industry, academic and research institutions, and governmental and non-governmental organizations, in order to meet the changing requirements in technical and managerial skills and to meet the need for new and emerging technologies for industry. In that respect, the Commission recommended that the secretariat should initiate additional activities aimed at strengthening national capabilities in the development of industrial and managerial skills for both the male and female labour force.

279. The Commission recognized that several developing countries of the region had faced serious constraints in meeting financing and investment requirements for industrial growth and change. In that regard, it emphasized that the member countries should attempt greater mobilization of resources domestically through improvements in fiscal and monetary policies. It further emphasized the need to encourage the flow of foreign private investments through the creation of an appropriate environment and to promote joint ventures, with both private and public sector involvement. It was suggested that the Governments should attempt to develop viable industrial projects for possible concessionary and commercial funding.

280. The Commission stressed that the developing countries of the region, without ignoring the advantages of inward-oriented strategy, should aim at greater outward-looking strategy by further liberalization of their economies for both exports and imports. Accordingly, they should examine innovative

ways and means for export-oriented industrialization, to be able to penetrate the international market more competitively. In that respect, the Commission recognized that the analysis and monitoring of international markets for both primary commodities and manufactured products would be of significant interest and concern to the developing countries of the region. It therefore recommended that the secretariat should undertake activities to assess the international market situation for manufactured products and feed such information to Governments through the provision of advisory services and technical assistance.

281. The Commission noted that in several developing countries of Asia and the Pacific, agro-based and agro-processing industries still constituted a large part of the overall industrial structure. It urged the secretariat to strengthen its activities in that area with a view to modernizing and improving the productivity of such industries.

282. The Commission emphasized that small and medium-scale industries played an important role in the process of structural change in industry. It therefore urged the secretariat to strengthen its activities related to the promotion and development of small and medium-scale industries in the region. The development of such industries would not only assist in employment generation and export promotion but would also lead to greater spatial distribution of industries and increase rural income. It recommended that the secretariat should undertake activities to enhance the technological and managerial capabilities of such industries. In that respect, the Commission expressed appreciation of the secretariat's activities related to the transfer of technology for small and medium-scale industries, and noted gratefully the generous assistance of the Republic of Korea for that purpose. Such activities, and those related to energy conservation in small and medium-scale industries, should form the core programme in the field of industrial development.

283. The Commission urged the secretariat to strengthen further its activities aimed at assisting the least developed and island developing countries in their industrialization efforts. In that respect, the secretariat's activities should be aimed at assessing the needs of those countries in areas such as industrial technology, human resources development and industrial financing. It emphasized the need to provide advisory services for industrial technology acquisition and assessment and industrial consultancy services. The Commission welcomed the proposed project on promotion of business collaboration between Nepal and the Federal Republic of Germany, and expressed appreciation of the financial assistance provided by the Federal Republic of Germany. It recommended that follow-up action be taken by the secretariat to extend such activities to other least developed countries and to island developing countries as well.

284. The Commission recognized that some of the developing countries of Asia and the Pacific, particularly the newly industrializing economies, had acquired experience in industrial restructuring which could be valuable for other developing countries of the region. The diversity of the developing countries of the region in terms of the level, structure, pace and strategy of their industrial development had opened new avenues for co-operation among them. The

Commission noted that the newly industrializing economies and some of the faster developing countries had built up advanced and highly diversified industrial structures and had displayed capabilities for using sophisticated industrial technologies: their experience could be shared by others through the promotion of ECDC/TCDC. In that respect, the Commission noted with appreciation the offers of China, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Republic of Korea to share their experience. It emphasized that regional co-operation should extend beyond trade liberalization and arrangements for manufactured goods into areas such as harmonization of industrial policies, foreign investment and sharing of industrial technologies. The Commission urged the secretariat to strengthen and initiate activities aimed at assisting developing countries in formulating a programme for promoting export-oriented industries with a view to increasing intraregional and interregional trade in manufactured products.

285. The Commission welcomed the secretariat's proposal to undertake a comprehensive study on industrial restructuring and improvement of competitiveness of manufactured products of Asian and Pacific countries. It recommended that the study should, *inter alia*, examine ways and means for international linkage of the manufacturing sector of developing countries, as well as provisions for meeting the growing needs of manufactured products for domestic markets. It appreciated the generous financial assistance of UNDP for that important and timely activity.

286. The Commission emphasized the need for close co-operation between ESCAP and other United Nations bodies and agencies working in the area of industrial development. It particularly emphasized the need for ESCAP to maintain close co-operation with UNIDO in undertaking various activities for industrial growth in developing countries of Asia and the Pacific.

Human settlements

287. The Commission stressed that shelter was one of the basic human needs which had a profound bearing on the quality of life. Recognizing people's right to housing, it urged all members and associate members to renew their commitment to the objectives of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, with particular focus on improving the situation of the poor and disadvantaged.

288. Recognizing that the operational focus of the Strategy was for action at the national level, with each country developing its own appropriate national shelter strategy and a plan for its implementation, it emphasized that the regional commissions had an important supporting role to play. It was therefore pleased to note that the secretariat had designed projects that were supportive of the required national efforts and complementary to the tasks undertaken by UNCHS (United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)). It urged member countries to try to adhere to the following time schedule developed by UNCHS for the Global Strategy: 1989-1991, establishment of national policies and strategies, and design of new institutional arrangements; 1992-1994, introduction of new institutional arrangements, and strengthening of existing national programmes; 1995-2000, full-scale operation of national

programmes and progressive strengthening of institutions for activities beyond 2000.

289. The Commission endorsed the proposed project on assistance in shelter formulation, evaluation and implementation and urged UNDP to provide the necessary resources for its early implementation. It also suggested that the assistance of the secretariat should be intensified, particularly for the improvement of low-income settlements in the least developed countries, keeping in mind the possibility of having pilot/demonstration projects.

290. The Commission also stressed the importance of awareness creation in that context and therefore welcomed the idea of involving the non-governmental organizations and the media in explaining shelter and settlement issues and promoting understanding of those issues by policy makers and the general public. Constructive suggestions were given to the secretariat as to how best to achieve those objectives, possibly by involving the existing regional networks of environmental journalists and non-governmental organizations. The Commission welcomed the offer of the Government of Indonesia to host a regional workshop on the formulation of shelter strategies based on computerized models, which could serve as an important tool in shelter policy evaluation.

291. The Commission noted the progress made towards the implementation of its resolution 268 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 on shelter strategies towards the year 2000, and commended the initiatives taken by many countries in designating a "lead agency" to serve as a contact point for the necessary information collection. It also urged the member countries that had not yet done so to nominate their lead agency as soon as possible, so that the review of progress towards the goal of shelter for all by the year 2000, to be submitted to the Commission at its forty-sixth session, could be completed in time.

292. The Commission expressed its appreciation to the Government of France for its support of the two projects currently under implementation: developing building component industries through the application of updated modular co-ordination rules, and guidelines for innovative community-based housing finance and credit systems for low-income households. In that connection, the Commission felt that pilot projects demonstrating viable industrialized housing technologies should be pursued as a follow-up to the first project. Both UNDP and UNIDO were requested to consider their potential contribution to and involvement in that endeavour.

293. The Commission also thanked the Federal Republic of Germany for its support of the project on promotion of innovative and appropriate technologies in the building materials and construction industry of developing countries of the ESCAP region, from which several countries had benefited, and looked forward to the second phase, focusing on training of small-scale contractors in least developed countries. In view of the recent natural disaster in Bangladesh, the Commission considered that that project would be particularly useful to the search for flood-resistant shelter construction techniques.

294. The Commission recognized the increasing role of non-governmental and community-based

organizations in human settlements development, which should be further promoted and supported through regional action. It noted that several non-governmental organizations had recently taken steps to establish linkages among themselves, as exemplified by the establishment of Habitat International Coalition-Asia. It recommended that the secretariat should prepare an inventory of non-governmental organizations actively working in urban slums and squatter settlements. In that connection, the Commission welcomed the secretariat's efforts to organize, on a TCDC basis, several regional exchange programmes among non-governmental organizations and community leaders from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand, and expressed its appreciation to the Government of Japan for providing financial support to the programme. The Commission recommended that the secretariat should further strengthen such non-governmental organization exchange programmes at the community level; the inventory would facilitate the expansion of the coverage of such programmes.

295. The Commission regarded the establishment and operation of the Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements as the most important development in regional co-operation for human settlements during recent years. It noted with satisfaction that three training workshops, a seminar-cum-study tour, a joint research project and a meeting of the Promotional Committee of the Network of Local Authorities had been conducted since the forty-fourth session of the Commission, based on the initiatives and with the active participation of many city authorities and non-governmental organizations in the region. The Commission commended the secretariat on its efficient performance of the secretariat functions of the Network, and expressed appreciation to UNDP for its financial support. It also welcomed the substantive and financial contributions from member cities, such as Bangkok, Colombo, Jakarta, Nagoya, Surabaya and Yokohama, which had hosted Network activities in 1988 in co-operation with their Governments. The Commission urged the secretariat to continue organizing and co-ordinating similar activities under the Network.

296. The Commission welcomed the offer of the city of Shanghai to host a senior-level workshop on appropriate technology for low-income housing and the first General Meeting of the Network in November 1989. It was also informed by the delegation of Viet Nam of the offer of Ho Chi Minh City to host a workshop on urban housing in 1989. The Commission supported the proposal that a project for documentation of viable development experience by the Network be organized, highlighting women in settlements and involving many non-governmental organizations during 1989. It noted with appreciation that the Lyon Metropolitan Authority in France was keen to take an active part in and extend technical co-operation to cities in the region through the Network.

297. The Commission recognized that one notable recent development in the region had been that the initiatives and resources of the private sector, both formal and informal, were being increasingly incorporated in shelter provision and management.

298. The Commission noted with interest the following developments as reported by various countries. In Australia, a ministerial-level committee on housing access had been established, with a view to activating communities and promoting non-governmental organization activities towards the achievement of the objectives of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. China was in the process of a dramatic restructuring of its housing system aimed at privatizing ownership of housing. It was mentioned that a two-pronged approach was being adopted: while housing was allowed to be purchased at the full rate by those high-income individuals who had the means to do so, employees were encouraged to purchase their homes from their enterprises at a below-market rate. The investment thus recovered was reinvested in new dwellings for those still in need of adequate shelter. In Pakistan, a national reference manual on planning and infrastructure standards had been proposed to provide realistic guidelines and standards of land use, housing, infrastructure and services, for use by federal, provincial and local government agencies within the framework of the national human settlements policy and national housing policy, which were at an advanced stage of implementation. In the Philippines, efforts were under way to organize exchange of experts between urban projects in the Philippines and the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, for applying innovative community-based financial schemes to the improvement of urban slums. In Thailand, a national sub-committee on housing policy, which comprised representatives of both the Government and the private sector, was in the process of formulating new housing standards for low-income people. The role of the private sector was viewed not only in terms of its housing investment in the market but also as a co-operative partner in housing policy formulation and implementation.

299. The Commission expressed the view that the essential role of the public sector was that of enabling the private sector and communities to maximize their own contribution to shelter provisions. In that context, it felt that Governments should streamline their regulations on land tenure, land use and building standards, and revise the regulatory framework which discouraged small enterprises.

300. The Commission welcomed the offer of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host a seminar on rural centre planning in May 1990 with the co-operation of the secretariat, as that would complement the ongoing project in that field, which focused on employment generation and organizational aspects of rural centre planning, generously funded by the Government of the Netherlands.

301. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the publication of the four volumes of the *Human Settlements Atlas for Asia and the Pacific* had been completed before the end of 1988, and expressed appreciation to the Government of Japan for its generous support of that valuable publication.

Technology

302. The Commission noted that document E/ESCAP/663 examined the question of the development of technological capabilities by countries of the region for the utilization and possible

development of new technologies, micro-electronics and biotechnology, which might yield benefits for their economies. It expressed appreciation of the practical, useful and comprehensive information presented in the document, and endorsed the ideas and concepts it contained.

303. The Commission stressed that the utmost care and consideration were required in formulating and implementing effective strategies for managing and harnessing technological advances in such areas as biotechnology and genetic engineering, micro-electronics, new materials, and laser and environmental technologies, and in building up indigenous scientific and technological capabilities in the region, particularly technologically competent human resources in new and emerging areas of science and technology.

304. It was noted that the ability of developing countries to develop, use and manage new technologies depended on the range and depth of indigenous technological capabilities. The Commission emphasized that the main policy challenge was to determine the areas of competitive advantage of various countries and to build up adequate capabilities in order to reap the benefit of new technologies and minimize their possible adverse effects on societies. Accordingly, the Commission endorsed the activities that the secretariat proposed to undertake, and those it would continue, on new and emerging technologies.

305. The Commission stressed that technology-blending, which could offer some counter-balance to the tendency for new technologies to be restricted to large firms and the urban sector of developing economies, was the most appropriate way of dealing with new and emerging technologies. By reducing the optimum scale of technology application, blending gave a promise of raising productivity and incomes in traditional sectors and facilitated the introduction of new technologies in small and medium-scale industries. The Commission requested the secretariat to formulate programmes for the promotion of technology-blending in small and medium-scale industries.

306. The Commission noted the progress made in a number of countries of the region in the field of new and emerging technologies. In many countries, efforts had been made to expand and develop technological capabilities and institutional and policy infrastructure for such technologies. In some countries, policy-making bodies in the form of co-ordinating committees or national centres for new technologies had been established. However, the Commission observed that the region also included least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, where not much progress had been made in the transfer, development and use of technologies, and called for genuine and intensified efforts to be pursued within an ECDC/TCDC framework to assist those countries.

307. The Commission further noted with interest the following developments reported by various countries: China had devoted special attention to the linkage between research and production in its seventh five-year national development plan; the Republic of Korea had adopted and had been implementing a

technology-led development policy with the active participation of the public and private sectors and had set the target for research and development investment at the commendable levels of 3 per cent and over 5 per cent of GNP by the years 1991 and 2001 respectively; Pakistan was vigorously implementing policies and plans for manpower development in science and technology; and Thailand had established three national centres as focal points for biotechnology, micro-electronics and materials technology.

308. While recognizing that the availability of an adequately educated, trained and skilled work-force was an essential prerequisite for acquiring, utilizing, developing, adapting and managing new technologies, and noting also that a weak relationship between research and development and the production sector had been observed in many developing countries, the Commission stressed that appropriate action should be taken at the national level as well as within the context of regional co-operation in both those areas.

309. The Commission endorsed suggestions that the promotion of in-house research and development activities of enterprises with sufficient incentives and privileges provided by the Governments could be one of the ways to ensure closer links between research and development and production.

310. The Commission suggested that the secretariat should organize, in co-operation with relevant international organizations and agencies, as necessary, training courses, seminars and meetings on various priority areas such as contract negotiations, technology assessment and forecasting of new technologies and their implications, with the joint participation of professionals, decision makers and planners.

311. It was pointed out by some delegations that improved universal protection of intellectual property rights should enhance international co-operation in science and technology and its role in promoting economic growth and social development. Private industry was more willing to exchange and transfer its technical knowledge when adequate protection existed for its investment in research and development and its innovations.

312. The Commission stressed the importance of activities in the field of industrial standardization and quality control, and directed the secretariat to continue its work in that area in order to promote intraregional and international trade as well as to strengthen co-operation among countries of the region.

313. While recognizing that Governments had the primary responsibility for planning and implementing appropriate programmes for the development and use of advanced technologies, the Commission felt that organizations such as ESCAP could promote regional co-operation and joint activities. In that regard, the Commission requested the secretariat to undertake the following activities: provide consultancy and advisory services to member countries on a continuing basis in the fields of micro-electronics, biotechnology and advanced materials; formulate regional co-operative programmes for the facilitation of technology transfer; promote information exchange through the setting up of a regional data base with the assistance of national information centres; undertake studies on assessment

of new and emerging technologies and their implications for social and economic development, including their impact on the environment; and pay special attention to the least developed and island developing countries when providing assistance.

314. The Commission noted with appreciation the resources, financial and human, provided by the Governments of Japan and the Republic of Korea in support of the scientific and technological activities and projects of the secretariat in the areas of standardization, transfer of technology, new technologies and policies with regard to the technological dimension of human resources development.

315. The Commission noted with interest the initiative of the Government of Bangladesh in establishing a technology transfer centre and organizing a national workshop to assess the country's technological capabilities and needs, for which the assistance of the secretariat had been sought.

316. The Commission welcomed the offer by the Government of India to provide host facilities for a seminar on the impact of new and emerging technologies on the developing countries, and to assist the secretariat in establishing a programme in the area of engineering consultancy services. The offer by the Government of the USSR to host a seminar on new materials technologies was also noted with appreciation. The Commission further noted with appreciation the willingness of the Governments of Australia and the Republic of Korea to assist countries of the region in developing new and emerging technologies.

Environment

317. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/660. It noted that the major environmental problems of the region were land degradation, deforestation, industrial pollution, and the deterioration of human health. The region was experiencing primary-sector resource over-exploitation in response to global demands for such resources. The Commission drew attention to the role of such diverse factors as population growth and the repercussions of trade policies in placing stress on natural resources. It expressed great concern over the implications of the "greenhouse effect" and the depletion of the ozone layer for global climatic changes, and the resulting rise in the sea level. Dumping of toxic and hazardous wastes and chemicals (including pesticides) was also considered to be a major threat to the region. In combating those problems, the Commission strongly reaffirmed the principles of environmentally sound and sustainable development, with their emphasis on meeting basic needs and making possible a life of dignity in a viable environment. In that regard, the Commission felt that consideration should be given to the development of a code of human conduct which would guide people in their treatment of the environment.

318. The Commission recognized that, while the primary responsibility for promoting environmentally sound and sustainable development rested at the national level, it was an interdisciplinary concept that required the development of strategies which anticipated environmental problems, and which could

be implemented through co-operative action at the international, regional and national levels. Such efforts should be equitable, and should recognize the economic disparities between nations and peoples. In that regard, the Commission reaffirmed its support for General Assembly resolutions 42/186 and 42/187 of 11 December 1987 concerning sound and sustainable development, and for the recommendations in the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, and in the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond.

319. The Commission recognized that environmental problems required co-operative international efforts for their solution. In that regard, it noted with appreciation the statements of the representatives of France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom concerning the international conferences on the environment which had recently been held at the Hague and in London. At those conferences, progress had been made towards dealing with the problem of global warming and the reduction of ozone-depleting chemicals in the atmosphere.

320. The Commission was informed of efforts being made in the region to promote sustainable development. The representative of China expressed serious concern over the damage caused by over-exploitation of resources in many parts of the ESCAP region. The representative of the Republic of Korea ascribed those effects to changes in life-style, population growth, and rapid development. The representative of Bangladesh referred to the heavy damage caused by floods and cyclones, and the lack of financial support to overcome them. Representatives of several other countries described national efforts to promote environmentally sound and sustainable development; the representatives of Nepal, Pakistan and the Philippines informed the Commission of the establishment of institutional frameworks at the national and local levels, linkages with development organizations, the training of administrators, and the development of national strategies for the conservation of natural resources. The representative of Thailand suggested that effective strategies must involve all sections of the community, from the international level to the household level. The representative of Australia drew attention to the ongoing effort to establish a South Pacific climate monitoring system, which would consider the ramifications of the rise in sea level for low-lying countries. The representative of France noted that the time-lag between the discovery of environmental problems and international action to counteract them must be shortened. The representative of India drew attention to the need for the rapid transfer of alternative technologies, and for financial support for that transfer. The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran referred to the negative impact of the use of chemical weapons on the environment.

321. The Commission suggested that the secretariat should organize programmes at the national level to inform and educate decision makers and planners in the various development sectors and help them integrate principles of sustainable development into the planning, design and implementation of sectoral development programmes. It recommended that the secretariat should develop specific case studies on successful interdisciplinary approaches to

environmentally sound and sustainable development, which would emphasize the holistic nature of the subject. The Commission expressed its appreciation to UNDP for its generous financial commitment for the intercountry project on the promotion of environmentally sound and sustainable development in the ESCAP region. It further welcomed the offer of the United Kingdom to provide environmental studies produced by the Overseas Development Administration as they became available.

322. The Commission welcomed the offer of the Government of Malaysia to host a ministerial-level conference on the environment for Asia and the Pacific at Kuala Lumpur from 2 to 8 May 1990. It expressed appreciation to the Governments of Norway and Sweden for their pledge of financial support for the preparation of the conference, and to the Government of France for its assistance in the preparation of the second state-of-the-environment report. It felt that the conference could serve as a useful input into the proposed global conference on the environment and development scheduled for 1992.

323. The Commission suggested that the preparatory work for the conference should be thorough and adequate. In that exercise, efforts should include an assessment of institutional structures, public sector administrative arrangements, funding for community organizations, communications with industries, public-hearing processes and other planning procedures, such as environmental impact assessment, which would be involved in the management of sustainable development. The environmental effects on countries of the region, in their efforts towards integration with the world economy, in particular the impact of international trade policy measures and commodity prices, needed to be further studied and highlighted. It would be useful to analyse which arrangements were the most effective, and what action would be required to orient national policy towards sustainable development.

324. With regard to the provisional agenda for the ministerial-level conference in 1990 which had been endorsed, in principle, by the Commission at its forty-fourth session, the following suggestions were made: under the appropriate agenda item, consideration should be given to developing a regional strategy for promoting co-operation in environmentally sound and sustainable development. It was also suggested that under item 2, provision should be made for the discussion of major environmental issues other than those listed in paragraph 51 of document E/ESCAP/660. Item 3 should be amended to read "Long-term environmental problems of depletion of the ozone layer, the greenhouse effect and related climatic changes, including the rise in sea level: their implications in the context of the Asian and Pacific region".

325. It was further suggested that under item 4, on regional co-operation in the field of the environment, the conference should consider the establishment of a regional environment centre for Asia and the Pacific that would provide training for policy planners, administrators and decision makers on the issues related to environmentally sound and sustainable development and would conduct research and studies on technology transfer for sustainable development.

326. The Commission expressed satisfaction over the progress of the ESCAP/UNDP project on the Regional Network of Research and Training Centres on Desertification Control in Asia and the Pacific (DESCONAP), including the production of a film on the extent of the problem within the region. It urged the secretariat to intensify its efforts to combat desertification through increased promotion of public awareness and community involvement in desertification control activities. The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran offered its full support to ESCAP in exchanging its experience in desertification control measures. In that regard, the Commission noted with appreciation the funding support provided by UNDP, and urged it to continue its support in the future.

327. The Commission stressed the critical role of the media in guiding the public to enhanced environmental awareness. It directed the secretariat to continue to promote public awareness on various environmental issues of concern to the region by providing training and assistance to the media and non-governmental organizations. In that regard, the Commission noted with satisfaction the publication of a guidebook on environmental reporting by the secretariat in co-operation with the Asian Forum of Environmental Journalists (AFEJ).

328. The Commission suggested that assistance should be provided in the areas of development of environmental indicators, and guidelines for sectors such as industry, agriculture and transport. Recognizing the significance of the development and transfer of technology for the state of the environment, the Commission recommended that the secretariat should pay due attention to that activity; it was suggested that APCTT might incorporate that aspect in its work programme. It also felt that environmental issues and considerations should be incorporated in the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*.

329. The representative of Japan stated that his Government was placing priority on environmental issues in its bilateral and multilateral co-operation. He stated that Japan would host two international conferences on the protection of the ozone layer and on the global environment and human response to sustainable development, and reaffirmed his country's continued financial support and assistance to ESCAP.

330. The representative of the United Nations Environment Programme stated that UNEP generally concurred with the views of ESCAP as expressed in document E/ESCAP/660, and informed the Commission of its work in dealing with various environmental problems. UNEP looked forward to continued collaboration with ESCAP, other United Nations organizations, and governmental and non-governmental organizations, and to strengthening activities relating to the prudent management of the environment and natural resources.

331. The representatives of the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) and AFEJ described their activities in the field of environmental management for sustainable development, and requested United Nations agencies and other organizations concerned to extend financial and other assistance to those activities.

332. The representative of the United Nations Development Programme outlined his organization's deep commitment to sustainable development. UNDP support for the ESCAP programme on the environment was continuing, and had recently been strengthened. That had been demonstrated by its strong support for the regional project on DESCONAP, and for the regional project on environmentally sound and sustainable development, which had been approved in principle. He also drew attention to the joint World Bank/ESCAP project being funded by UNDP, which concerned the strengthening, conservation and management of critical ecosystems in the Asian and Pacific region. There was scope for wider collaboration in that field among other ESCAP sectors, such as promotion of alternative fuels and training in photovoltaic systems.

333. The Commission commended the work of the secretariat in the field of the environment over the past year. It hoped that the existing level of collaboration with other bodies and agencies of the United Nations system, including UNEP and UNDP, would continue. Furthermore, the secretariat should do its utmost, within its limited resources, to assist substantive divisions of ESCAP in incorporating an environmentally sound and sustainable development approach in their work.

334. The Commission noted with appreciation the extrabudgetary assistance provided by various donor countries and agencies, including France, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden, and UNDP.

International trade

335. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/648 and Corr.1, E/ESCAP/656 and E/ESCAP/692, and expressed satisfaction with the information and analysis contained in those documents. It endorsed the report of the Committee on Trade on its twenty-sixth session, contained in document E/ESCAP/656.

336. It noted that world trade had continued to grow at a healthy pace in 1988 and that the economic recovery in most developed countries had been sustained. While the Asian and Pacific region had also displayed economic growth and trade expansion, wide disparities in the performance and prospects of the dynamic and the less resilient developing countries of the region continued to exist and cause concern. The external environment for many developing countries continued to be uncertain and the growth of those countries was constrained by high external debt burdens, decline in net capital inflows, weak commodity markets, and erosion of their terms of trade.

337. It was observed that trade friction, continuing infringement of the rules of the international trading system and resort to protectionist measures constituted obstacles to the growth of international trade. In an interdependent world economic and trading system, adjustment measures adopted by developing countries would need to be further reinforced by supportive measures and policies designed to strengthen a free and open multilateral trading system. The Commission noted the statements made by a number of countries regarding action taken by them with a

view to restructuring their economies and improving access to their markets. It called upon the secretariat to examine the trade expansion potential generated by recent trade liberalization measures adopted by countries in the region and trade reforms being adopted by socialist countries. The Commission also urged the secretariat to study the implications for the trade of countries in the ESCAP region of the trend towards the creation of free trade blocs. The representative of the USSR referred to the emphasis being given by his Government to the strengthening of its far-east region and expressed the hope that ESCAP members would consider new opportunities arising therefrom.

338. The Commission noted that the mid-term review of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations had revealed that while progress had been achieved in some sectors, much progress was still required in others. Many delegations referred to the key importance of agreeing on market-oriented reforms in the conduct of trade in agricultural products so as to deal with problems created by protectionism and trade-distortive subsidy and production support practices, in order to bring such trade within a strengthened GATT discipline. Other delegations referred to the need for meaningful implementation of a standstill and rollback of protectionist measures and special and differential treatment for developing countries. The Commission agreed that the success of the Uruguay Round was critical for the maintenance of a free and open multilateral trading system and, recognizing the importance of the forthcoming meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee in Geneva, urged that progress be made towards finding satisfactory solutions in the four sectors on which it had not been possible to reach agreement during the mid-term review. It further urged ESCAP to continue to provide appropriate technical and advisory support to developing countries in the region, and conduct relevant studies and seminars so as to equip them to participate effectively in the negotiations and adopt appropriate trade policy measures. The secretariat should also give consideration to developing a data base on impediments and barriers to trade in services.

339. The Commission commended the activities of the secretariat in the field of raw materials and commodities. It particularly took note of the usefulness of co-operative commodity arrangements among producing countries of jute, silk and tropical timber, and urged the secretariat to continue its efforts in support of activities in that sphere. The representative of India reiterated the readiness of his Government to collaborate on several elements of sericulture development at the regional level.

340. The Commission endorsed the recommendation that the secretariat should broaden the scope of its activities to support market development, product diversification, and research and development efforts. Exploratory activities to establish co-operation on other commodities such as ramie, rattan, rubberwood furniture, leather and leather products received strong support. The Commission expressed appreciation of the financial support the Government of Japan intended to provide to the secretariat's proposed activities on expansion of trade in rattan and rubberwood furniture.

341. The Commission regarded the stabilization of the international market for primary commodities to ensure stable supply, remunerative prices and earnings as important for long-term development. It urged the secretariat to develop activities relating to price forecasting and marketing of commodities, as well as commodity export inspection. The Commission observed that there was need to ensure the successful conclusion and implementation of international commodity agreements such as the International Natural Rubber Agreement, 1987, which required the support of many producing and consuming countries. Many delegations expressed satisfaction that the Common Fund for Commodities was expected to be operational soon, and called upon the secretariat to assist commodity organizations in identifying and preparing project proposals for funding from the second window of the Fund.

342. The Commission strongly supported the secretariat's proposal to conduct a workshop on the use of econometric techniques in forecasting demand, supply and prices of commodities. It urged the secretariat to continue providing technical assistance and advisory services to member countries and to commodity bodies in the region. The Commission further requested the secretariat to examine the possibility of entering into a formal co-operative arrangement with commodity organizations established under the auspices of ESCAP.

343. The Commission heard the statement of the representative of the International Jute Organization (IJO) reviewing the work undertaken by that organization, as well as the progress made in renegotiating the International Agreement on Jute and Jute Products, 1982. IJO urged international institutions and donor countries to continue to provide financial assistance to IJO in its activities.

344. The Commission stressed that ESCAP should play a more active role as a regional forum, not only to help developing countries solve their economic problems at the regional level but also to strengthen trade and monetary co-operation among the countries of the region.

345. The Commission expressed the view that the Bangkok Agreement was a useful instrument for strengthening intraregional trade co-operation, as it could take advantage of complementarities. It expressed the hope that the second round of negotiations under the Bangkok Agreement would be concluded successfully, and that the Agreement would be further strengthened through increased membership and wider coverage of concessions, as well as through the promotion of other forms of trade co-operation in the region.

346. The Commission heard the statement of the representative of the Asian Reinsurance Corporation (ARC) and expressed concern that the limited membership of nine countries had restricted its capital and business base, thereby reducing its impact at the regional level. For developing countries in the region to have any real stake in the international insurance market, there was a need to build up strong, efficient and highly capitalized reinsurers. The Commission noted that ARC had invited new members to join the Corporation, on the same terms as founding members.

347. The Commission took note of the statement of the representative of the Asian Clearing Union (ACU) and observed that the ratio of transactions settled inside the ACU clearing system had gradually increased over the years. It noted with satisfaction the introduction of a swap arrangement in ACU which would be an important device for ACU members to overcome temporary deficits in their account. It expressed the view that the ACU facility could contribute to easing the short-term pressures on balance of payments through using the member countries' national currencies in international transactions.

348. The Commission invited developing countries, or country groupings in the region, which might be interested in creating a similar clearing union among themselves to give consideration to joining ACU in order to enhance its useful role and thereby effect economies in the use of the participants' exchange reserve.

349. The Commission expressed appreciation of the usefulness of the studies on foreign investment incentive schemes relating to Bangladesh, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Sri Lanka, and requested the secretariat to issue studies on other developing countries, as well as to update the existing studies.

350. The Commission commended the secretariat on its activities in the field of trade promotion and development and reiterated its support for strengthening the Trade Promotion Centre of ESCAP to assist the developing countries in expanding their exports.

351. The Commission was pleased to note that the Asian International Silk Fair '88, held at Amsterdam in September 1988 with partial financial assistance from the Netherlands Centre for the Promotion of Imports from Developing Countries, had been very successful. Recognizing the utility of commercially oriented trade fairs, it requested the secretariat to organize the next fair in 1990, as requested by producers and exporters of silk and silk products, and to arrange for similar fairs for other commodities of export interest to the developing countries of the region.

352. The Commission noted the efforts made by the secretariat to organize the next Asia-Pacific International Trade Fair, and expressed the hope that a member country would come forward soon to host that event in 1990-1991.

353. The Commission expressed appreciation of the high quality of the volumes of the *Traders' Manual for Asia and the Pacific* relating to Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore, which had been published with the financial assistance of the Government of Japan. Endorsing the view that the publication of the *Manual* would facilitate the expansion of trade among countries of the region, it urged that the remaining part of the *Manual* be completed as soon as possible.

354. Many delegations referred to the role of the generalized system of preferences (GSP) in the growth in exports of developing countries, and welcomed the holding of the proposed regional seminar on the GSP

scheme of Japan, which would be held in June 1989 with financial support from the Government of that country. They stated that they would participate in the seminar with a view to better utilization of the available preferences under the Japanese GSP scheme.

355. The Commission reiterated that human resources development in the field of international trade continued to be inadequate, and requested the secretariat to intensify its activities in the areas of business and trade education through the organization of training seminars in various aspects of trade promotion. The representative of India made reference to the training facilities offered by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, and expressed the hope that developing countries of the region would utilize the facilities of that Institute. The representative of China made a reference to the mutual technical co-operation between ESCAP and the China International Trade Research and Training Center for Asia and the Pacific and expressed the hope that ESCAP would strengthen its friendly co-operation with the Center in the future.

356. The Commission reaffirmed the usefulness of market guidebooks for the expansion of trade of developing countries and urged the secretariat to update them whenever possible. In that regard, the representative of China requested the secretariat to update the *Guidebook on Trading with the People's Republic of China* and publish the fourth edition, and expressed the hope that mobile seminars with Chinese experts would subsequently be arranged to introduce the *Guidebook* and apprise the participants of the trading opportunities available in China.

357. The Commission noted with appreciation the statement of the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany concerning the provision of financial assistance under the project "Regional adviser on export promotion". As trade promotion was a priority area in his Government's development assistance programme, in addition to the above project extrabudgetary funds would be allocated for activities of trade promotion for exports of commodities relevant to countries of the region.

358. The Commission commended the secretariat on the activities undertaken in the field of trade facilitation. It supported the proposed regional network on trade facilitation, and suggested that an action plan should be laid down for activities in that area with a view to attaining specific targets within a definite period. The Commission requested the secretariat to intensify its activities in that field so as to enable it to meet the technical assistance requirements of the countries, more specifically those of the least developed countries. In that context, the Commission noted the request for assistance by Bhutan on the simplification and standardization of its trade documentation. It noted with satisfaction that a workshop had been held in Malaysia in 1987 in the field of trade facilitation, and that a national-level seminar on trade facilitation would be held in Nepal during 1989.

359. The Commission was pleased to note the working arrangements agreed upon between the secretariats of ESCAP and the Customs Co-operation Council. It welcomed and endorsed those agreements, and felt that agreements and close working relationships of a similar nature with other

organizations would not only benefit the countries but also eliminate duplication of effort.

360. The Commission requested the secretariat to intensify activities in the field of international trade with respect to the region's least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, as had been recommended by the Committee on Trade at its twenty-sixth session.

361. The Commission took note of the request made by the representative of Bhutan that the ESCAP secretariat, in co-operation with the relevant international organizations, should undertake training activities covering the following areas: (a) transport and air freight operations; (b) warehousing for goods in transit; and (c) standardization and simplification of customs documentation and control at the country level.

362. The representative of a transit country expressed the view that issues of land-locked countries and transit trade should not be internationalized but should be settled through bilateral consultations. The representative of another transit country stated that any studies related to transit transport/transit trade problems should be undertaken only after prior consultation with and with the consent of the transit country concerned.

363. The Commission noted the important role played by the UNDP-funded regional trade information project in assisting the developing countries of the ESCAP region in the development of computerized trade information systems and in training national users, as well as in the strengthening of the regional trade information network (TISNET) for a faster flow of trade information. The Commission supported the view that there was a need to extend that project to enable developing countries in the region to establish the required data banks and telecommunication linkages for effective networking at the national and regional levels. The Commission noted the postponement of a planned TISNET meeting since the funds available were insufficient, and expressed the view that ESCAP should endeavour to mobilize additional funds to enable it to organize the meeting in the near future.

364. The Commission supported the proposal that ESCAP become a regional information centre as well as an advisory body on issues associated with access problems for products and markets opened up by the emergence of new technologies.

365. The Commission noted with appreciation the assurance given by the representative of the United Nations Development Programme that UNDP would be in a position to consider funding more trade-related projects during the next cycle, and subject to availability of funds during the remaining part of the current cycle.

Transnational corporations

366. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/656 and E/ESCAP/657.

367. It endorsed the conclusions and recommendations pertaining to transnational corporations in the report of the Committee on Trade on its twenty-sixth session (E/ESCAP/656).

368. The Commission noted trends and problems, as well as government policies and measures, relating to the activities and impact of transnational corporations, in various areas, including the role of those corporations in economic restructuring, environmental management in pollution-intensive industries and the service sector. It also devoted attention to the draft United Nations code of conduct on transnational corporations and to the development of national information systems and the establishment of a regional information network on transnational corporations.

369. The Commission observed that recent changes in the global economy had not only affected the pattern of foreign direct investment but also induced countries in the region to restructure their economies in line with the changing international division of labour. It agreed that a continued in-flow of foreign direct investment was desirable, especially for developing countries which were in the process of restructuring their economies in line with major changes in the global economy.

370. One delegation noted that recent trends in the flow of foreign direct investment tended to favour the developed countries. Furthermore, it was pointed out that transnational corporations currently accounted for a significant part of total investment in only a few developing countries of the region, tending to be concentrated in the higher-income, larger and better-endowed developing countries. Consequently, the Commission agreed that it might be desirable for the developing countries concerned to improve their investment climate in order to maintain their share of foreign investment. Another delegation supported the secretariat's proposal to encourage groups of developing countries to negotiate for industrial programmes and projects involving transnational corporations at the subregional level. Some delegations drew the Commission's attention to the increasing importance of transnational corporations from developing countries and urged those countries to encourage intraregional investment.

371. The Commission generally agreed that, although the restructuring process might take various forms, transnational corporations could play a useful role, such as providing technology and export outlets. However, one delegation stressed that appropriate copyright laws and patent protection were necessary in encouraging transnational corporations to transfer their technology. There was a general consensus that subcontracting might provide an effective medium in facilitating the accelerated transfer of technology from transnational corporations.

372. The Commission also noted that transnational corporations had not only facilitated the implementation of import-substitution policies in developing countries but had also contributed to the expansion of manufactured exports from such countries. In addition, it recognized that although foreign direct investment had been the main form of transnational corporation participation in assisting developing countries in restructuring their economies, other modalities, such as trading and non-equity relationships, had also been significant.

373. While recognizing that transnational corporations could contribute towards the restructuring of

developing Asian and Pacific economies, the Commission emphasized that transnational corporation objectives and practices should conform to those of their host countries, particularly in relation to national development objectives. In that regard, the Commission supported the secretariat's efforts to enhance the net contributions of transnational corporation participation in their host economies.

374. The Commission observed that the service sector had become increasingly important, and that transnational corporations had expanded their participation in the service sector of many developing countries in the region. It generally welcomed the contribution of transnational corporations in the modernization of the service sector, especially the key role played by them in producer services, which could help to enhance economic efficiency. Some delegations agreed with the need to encourage foreign direct investment in the service sector, and described recent deregulating and liberalizing measures which had been implemented in their respective countries.

375. More generally, the Commission felt that the strategic and essential nature of certain services made it necessary to ensure that the regulation and monitoring of activities of transnational corporations in the service sector continued. It also expressed concern that the activities of transnational corporations in certain services, such as the mass media, advertising and tourism, might have some adverse socio-cultural impact, especially on the traditional values of the host country.

376. The Commission's attention was drawn to the extensive participation of transnational corporations in a variety of environmentally sensitive or pollution-intensive industries. In addition, it noted that transnational corporations played a major role in the transport and export of hazardous and harmful products. It expressed concern over the relocation of pollution-intensive industries which were motivated by differential costs in environmental control, and regretted that some transnational corporations failed to adopt uniform environmental standards in all their enterprises, world-wide.

377. However, the Commission acknowledged that transnational corporations, in co-operation with the host countries, could use their superior resources and expertise to assist developing countries in achieving their goals of environmental protection and sustainable development. At the same time, the Commission recognized that, if transnational corporations were to play a positive role in development, the negotiating capacity of developing countries *vis-à-vis* transnational corporations must be strengthened so that such countries could secure terms which respected their environmental concerns. There was a general consensus on the need for developing countries in the region to co-operate and exchange information in order to strengthen their capability to deal with the environmental aspects of transnational corporation activities.

378. The Commission also devoted attention to the need to develop national information systems and a regional information network on transnational corporations. It generally agreed that, although the nature of the information needs and systems might

differ, the basic systems would include combinations of efforts of public and private organizations operating at the national and international levels. More importantly, the Commission recognized that in order to be truly effective, national information networks should have access to regional and international networks. Thus, the Commission urged international organizations to complement national efforts to develop national information systems and establish a regional information network on transnational corporations.

379. The Commission agreed that standards needed to be established governing the relationship between host Governments and transnational corporations. It expressed the hope for early adoption of the United Nations code of conduct on transnational corporations and stressed the importance of concluding the negotiations. Some delegations noted that the adoption of the code would improve the climate for foreign direct investment, which would be beneficial to all countries. One delegation, however, while supporting the existence of a framework to prevent conflicts between transnational corporations and host countries, suggested that the code should be voluntary rather than mandatory.

380. The Commission commended the ESCAP/UNCTC Joint Unit on Transnational Corporations on the information and useful documentation which it had prepared, as well as on its research, information and advisory activities.

Natural resources and energy

381. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/664. It endorsed the emphasis on the main issues in the field of natural resources and energy as presented in that document and expressed its appreciation of the work of the secretariat in that field. In particular, the multidisciplinary mission sent to the flood-stricken areas of southern Thailand was highly commended.

Mineral resources

382. A general view was expressed by the members of the Commission that the assessment of industrial minerals was useful and that proposals for exploration and development of those resources were timely. The Commission pointed out that the direction the secretariat was proposing for the development of industrial minerals was in line with the existing policies of some countries and expressed its full support of the proposal for systematic assessment of the potential of non-metallic minerals using a multidisciplinary approach. It noted that industrial minerals development and use were less affected by mineral market fluctuations and that their development and use for both industrial and high-tech applications should be encouraged.

383. The Commission expressed appreciation of the substantial progress achieved by the secretariat in the implementation of the programme of work in the mineral sector. Specifically, it commended the secretariat on the high professional standard and quality of the studies and publications in the two atlas series on stratigraphy and on mineral resources, and the continuous inventory of regionally important

minerals through the mineral concentrations and hydrocarbon accumulations series.

384. The Commission noted the progress made in the implementation of the regional mineral resources development programme and expressed its appreciation to Japan for funding the programme on epithermal gold and for providing a coal expert. The contributions made by Indonesia of \$US 15,000 and by Bangladesh of \$US 1,000 in support of the programme in 1988 were also gratefully acknowledged. The Commission supported the project proposal by the secretariat on training in mineral resources development in the least developed countries of the region and requested UNDP to provide funding.

385. The Commission commended the initiatives undertaken in the area of urban geology, which had included the assessment of the geology and foundation conditions of a number of major cities in the region. Those studies had revealed that improper use of the land and ignorance of geologic processes and conditions had at times resulted in severe and long-lasting environmental problems and that there was an increased need to incorporate geologic data in the planning process. The Commission endorsed the study and mapping of construction materials proposed as a major activity in the urban geology programme for 1991 and beyond.

386. The Commission noted that geologic hazards such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides and mudflows had seriously affected the lives of many people in the region and recommended that the systematic assessment of those natural hazards should be included in a programme that would provide advisory services and training in environmental geology and thematic mapping in 1990-1991. At the same time, those assessments would make an important contribution to the efforts of ESCAP with regard to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 42/169 of 11 December 1987 concerning the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction. The secretariat was urged to find the resources to continue to provide advisory services and training in the area of urban and environmental geology.

387. The representative of the Netherlands informed the Commission that his Government would fund a new project entitled "Investigating, planning and managing coastal lowlands in Asia using polders". The project provided *inter alia* for a study tour of polderized areas in the Netherlands. It was noted that many coastal areas of the ESCAP region suffered from geologic and hydrologic hazards which were quite similar to those faced by the Netherlands, where the polder technique had been successfully utilized to mitigate those problems.

388. The Commission was informed by the representative of the United Nations Development Programme that UNDP had provided its support for the technical projects of both CCOP and CCOP/SOPAC and for SEATRADC (Southeast Asia Tin Research and Development Centre) during the current cycle. In addition, the Fourth Meeting of Aid Co-ordinators recently held at Jakarta had endorsed the project on training in mineral resources development especially for the least developed countries for an amount of \$US 400,000. The same meeting had also endorsed a project on international

trade in mineral commodities for an amount of \$US 1.5 million. That project would be implemented jointly by the International Trade and Natural Resources Divisions. A joint UNDP/ESCAP evaluation mission could be fielded in 1989 for CCOP and CCOP/SOPAC.

389. The Commission expressed appreciation of the substantial support given in the area of mineral resources and marine affairs by the Governments of France, Japan and the Netherlands, and by UNDP; of the host facilities that had been provided by the Government of Viet Nam; and of the provision by the Government of India of the post-graduate training course. It acknowledged the offers made by a number of delegations to host various training activities in the mineral sector: by China, for an international symposium on circum-Pacific volcanism and metallogeny to be held in 1989; by the USSR, to sponsor and organize a seminar on modern methods in mineral exploration, also in 1989; by Viet Nam, to host a regional workshop on coal exploration and mining early in 1990; and by the USSR, to host a seminar on application of remote sensing data for geotectonic mapping and mineral exploration in 1990.

Water resources

390. The Commission expressed appreciation of the work of the secretariat in the field of water resources. In particular, it commended the work being undertaken on flood loss prevention and mitigation and the ESCAP missions to countries affected by flood-related disasters.

391. The Commission fully endorsed the proposal to give increased emphasis to activities in natural disaster reduction, and in particular to flood loss prevention and mitigation, in the context of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction designated in General Assembly resolution 42/169 and urged the donor agencies and countries to make the necessary extrabudgetary funding available to support activities in that context. The Commission stressed the importance of international co-operation and urged members to take bilateral, subregional and regional action when necessary for natural disaster reduction. The application of comprehensive measures was recommended and a number of project activities suggested for possible application in flood loss prevention and mitigation.

392. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 45/5 on fulfilling the objective of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction in the ESCAP region.

393. It expressed gratitude to Japan for its continuing support of the activities of the water resources programme of ESCAP on flood loss prevention and mitigation, and to China, the Netherlands and the USSR for their support in other aspects of work in the area of water resources. It expressed the hope that such support would continue well into the future. In that respect, the Commission thanked the USSR for its readiness to host a seminar on the application of ESCAP guidelines for the preparation of national master water plans.

Cartography and remote sensing

394. The Commission recognized that remote sensing had become an efficient and vital tool for resource inventory, environment and natural hazard monitoring and environmentally sound development planning. It also noted that there was a strong interest in and a high demand for using remote sensing technology for promoting the economic and social development process in the countries of the region.

395. The Commission noted that the region had made commendable progress in promoting remote sensing technology and its applications. However, there was general concern that most of what had been achieved in the countries of the region still lagged behind the rapid technological development emerging in that new field. To keep pace with recent developments and also to rise to the challenge of rapid technological progress over the next decade, the Commission recommended that promotional efforts by ESCAP and other United Nations agencies should be continued and enhanced.

396. The Commission considered the UNDP-funded Regional Remote Sensing Programme to be one of the most successful projects carried out by ESCAP and endorsed the view expressed by the Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on RRSP and the Directors' Meeting on the continuation of funding by UNDP for RRSP in the next decade. The Commission recommended that the establishment of a co-ordinated and comprehensive space application programme should be considered by ESCAP. Such a programme could be designed based on the existing Programme, since remote sensing applications would form one of its major components.

397. The Commission expressed support for undertaking a study on the overall aspects of remote sensing information technology in the Asian and Pacific region, under the umbrella of ESCAP. The study would comprise a comprehensive survey and detailed review of the status of remote sensing and geographic information system technology at both national and regional levels and would identify and define in detail the essential elements of a long-term plan for regional remote sensing development for the 1990s. The secretariat was requested to seek additional funds for that study.

398. The Commission expressed appreciation to UNDP for its continued support of RRSP and noted with great satisfaction its approval of financial support for the agro-climatic satellite crop monitoring project as a sub-activity of the Programme.

399. The Commission noted with appreciation the substantial support provided by many member countries, including Australia, Bangladesh and China, in hosting seminars, workshops and training courses or in providing experts and resource persons to RRSP pilot projects and activities.

400. The Commission thanked the Government of France for the offer of continued support to RRSP in fostering regional remote sensing activities, the Government of India for extending training to scientists of the region under its SHARES (Sharing of Experience in SPACE) programme through RRSP, and the Government of the United States for its offer of a

closer working relationship with RRSP in order to foster increased applications of new-generation remote sensing data. The Commission recorded with appreciation the offers made by Bangladesh, China, Pakistan, the Philippines, the USSR and Viet Nam to co-sponsor seminars, workshops and meetings in their countries in the coming years.

Energy resources

401. The Commission recognized that despite the current complacency in the oil market, the development and management of energy resources would remain a major issue in the future. Developing countries would need continuing assistance in strengthening their national capabilities in the development and management of their energy resources. The Commission endorsed the view that the formation of self-sustaining regional co-operative mechanisms among countries, international agencies and donor countries and agencies would be useful.

402. The Commission unanimously endorsed and supported the working group concept as a viable approach towards self-sustained co-operation in the energy field. Some delegations expressed concern that such developments should be undertaken within existing secretariat resources, while others stressed the need for continued external funding support, from UNDP and other sources, for working group activities.

403. The Commission noted with appreciation the offers made by China to host the rural energy planning and development working group; by the Philippines to host a geothermal working group; and by India to host three working groups, those on energy conservation, biogas and solar thermal systems. The Commission also noted that Thailand supported the formation of a working group on biomass, cooking stoves and charcoal. Many delegations expressed their readiness to participate in the energy working groups.

404. The Commission stressed the need for manpower development in energy through continuing assistance in planning and management of energy resources. Several delegations mentioned the benefits they had obtained from training programmes in various fields such as energy planning, coal utilization, energy conservation, rural electrification, and reduction of transmission and distribution losses of electricity.

405. The Commission considered that new and renewable sources of energy played a central role in the social and economic development of rural areas in the developing countries of the ESCAP region. The secretariat was congratulated on the successful completion of the regional project on biomass, solar and wind energy, which had benefited developing countries of the region. The Commission expressed the hope that activities in that area would continue. It supported future activities of ESCAP in the field of new and renewable sources of energy.

406. The Commission noted with appreciation the assistance provided by UNDP and by Australia, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan and other donor countries for the energy activities of ESCAP.

Marine resources

407. The Commission noted that under the new regime of the sea established by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the management of marine spaces and marine resources under national jurisdiction had become a very complex issue encompassing many sectors of activity. In that connection, the Commission noted with satisfaction the integrated and multidisciplinary approach followed by the secretariat in its marine affairs programme.

408. To exercise the new rights and fulfil the new responsibilities under the Convention, some countries had already set up multidisciplinary institutional mechanisms in order to co-ordinate the efforts of the various government agencies dealing with marine-related issues.

409. Assistance was still required in that respect, and the Commission commended the secretariat's proposal to organize a TCDC workshop on the development of marine policies in 1990.

410. The Commission noted that remote sensing and cartography were useful tools in the assessment of marine resources. The representative of the United States proposed that concerned scientific institutions in his country collaborate with the secretariat in that field. The representative of the Soviet Union, emphasizing the need for training in marine resources assessment, expressed the willingness of his country to host a seminar on marine geology and geophysics in Leningrad in 1991.

411. The Commission recognized the essential role played by the secretariat in the execution of the technical support projects of CCOP and CCOP/SOPAC. It acknowledged with appreciation the substantial UNDP support to those projects.

412. In general, the Commission expressed appreciation of the ongoing programme of work in marine affairs. It urged donor countries to facilitate the implementation of activities under that programme.

Population

413. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/652 and E/ESCAP/653 and Corr.1.

414. In endorsing the report of the Committee on Population and Social Development on its first session (E/ESCAP/652), the Commission observed that there had been a significant change in the age structure of the population as a result of past high fertility and falling mortality. That had resulted in population aging, an inevitable process in the circumstances.

415. In considering document E/ESCAP/653 and Corr.1, the Commission commended the secretariat on its efforts in undertaking a regional study on emerging issues of population aging, with the aim of developing policies and programmes concerning the elderly. It further observed that the problem of population aging should be considered in relation to development issues such as urbanization and industrialization.

416. In emphasizing the importance of human resources development in population, the Commission commended the secretariat on organizing training programmes in the use of microcomputers for analysis of mortality data and providing fellowships at the International Institute for Population Sciences, Bombay, India. The Commission noted that the training in population studies was very useful for building a cadre of trained manpower, particularly in countries where training facilities were limited.

417. The Commission strongly supported the holding of the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference in 1992, and noted with satisfaction the offers of the Governments of China, Indonesia and the Republic of Korea to host the Conference and provide all necessary facilities. The secretariat would conduct further consultations with those Governments with a view to making a final decision in that regard.

418. The Commission expressed appreciation of the useful role played by various institutions in improving national capabilities, and recommended that the secretariat, in co-operation with existing regional and national institutions, should organize specialized training programmes at the regional, national and subnational levels for improvement of skills in the integration of population and development.

419. In view of the importance of the integration of population and development at the subnational and sectoral levels, the Commission recommended that the secretariat should take appropriate steps to improve the development, dissemination and use of subnational population data, projections and findings in the planning process. In that context, the Commission emphasized the relationship between population and the environment, which was very much linked with the quality of life at the local level. It recognized the considerable evidence that family planning and conservation of the environment, if taken together, were compatible with the notion of developing local self-reliance through popular participation. It further recognized the need for integrating family planning within the larger framework of population, the environment, resources and sustainable development. The Commission recommended that the secretariat should undertake studies to examine the relationships between population and the environment within that broad framework.

420. Taking note of the continuing high levels of infant and early childhood mortality, as well as mortality among mothers, in some countries, the Commission recommended that the secretariat should design and implement a programme of work specifically aimed at understanding the factors that underlay those phenomena. Further recognizing that the role and status of women, among other factors, had an important bearing on mortality patterns and fertility as well as other demographic variables, the Commission urged the secretariat to examine those linkages and communicate the findings to member countries.

421. Recognizing that there was an increasing need for exchange of experience, research findings and data in the area of population and development, the Commission urged the secretariat to devise a mechanism for such an exchange.

422. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the secretariat, in implementing resolution 272 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 on a study on the implications of demographic changes for the development of human resources, had initiated a regional study entitled "Consequences of population change in Asia". In noting that the secretariat had strengthened its technical assistance activities in the formulation and implementation of population policies and programmes through the provision of regional advisory services on population and development, and on population policy, it encouraged members to make full use of those services.

423. The Commission noted that the spatial distribution of population and rural-to-urban migration were important concomitants of economic development and strongly supported the secretariat's work on migration and urbanization policies, urging it to carry out projects related to various types of international migration, particularly short-term, circulatory and intraregional movements. It also recommended that the secretariat should initiate projects to assist in the resettlement of persons dislocated by major disturbances.

424. The Commission called upon the secretariat to provide technical support and assistance in the analysis of the 1990 round of population censuses, and in the effective dissemination and utilization of the related findings. In particular, it requested the secretariat to develop appropriate methodologies for those purposes, and to provide technical backstopping and training courses, especially in the use of microcomputers, in the analysis of census and other demographic data.

425. The Commission observed that, even though there had been a significant decline in fertility in the region, there remained large areas of high fertility, particularly in South Asia and in some countries of South-East Asia. It also observed that some countries had started to experience a second-generation "baby boom". In that context, it stressed the importance of strengthening the existing national family planning programmes by improving the quality of services, and urged the secretariat to provide the necessary technical assistance in support of national endeavours.

426. In recognizing the linkage between women's participation in the labour force and fertility decline, and the access of women to family planning services as an essential element of their right to self-development, the Commission called on the secretariat to undertake policy-oriented research as a basis for formulating strategies in meeting the needs of working women in that regard. It also urged that in national programmes the choice of contraceptive methods available to women, particularly in the workplace, be maximized.

427. The Commission recognized the need for developing comprehensive population policies and programmes for the 1990s that would encompass areas much broader than fertility, mortality and population growth rates. It strongly supported the proposal for basic changes in the orientation of the policies and programmes, and the necessity for introducing an innovative approach to programme development to deal effectively with those issues. It observed that while quantitative targets for the reduction of population growth would retain their central

importance, the emphasis of family planning programmes should be shifted to the qualitative aspects of life, such as increased attention to family health, especially that of children and mothers, counselling on responsible parenthood, family planning and creating opportunities for women to combine their dual role of mother and worker.

428. Because of the need for reaching the "unreached" population for family planning purposes, particularly men, who had often been neglected by programmes, the Commission urged the secretariat to assist countries of the region in developing programmes to enhance the role of men in family planning. It also urged the secretariat to promote among the developing countries the development of appropriate information, education and communication materials for that purpose, to develop strategies for reaching young, low-parity married women and sexually active youth and underprivileged groups, and to organize comparative studies on the efficacy and safety of traditional contraceptive methods, as well as the role of religion in family planning.

429. The Commission recognized that non-governmental organizations had been playing an important role in supporting family planning long before government programmes started in many countries and that those organizations should continue their efforts, particularly in reaching the "unreached". Those organizations should be encouraged to continue their pioneering efforts in community participation and the integration of population and development, meeting the needs of adolescents and youth, and establishing standards for the quality of services. The secretariat was urged to provide necessary assistance to national non-governmental organizations in their programme development and evaluation.

430. In endorsing the change in approach to programme development, the Commission noted the importance of local-level planning of programmes and the involvement of local leaders in the implementation of family planning programmes. It urged the secretariat to continue its efforts to popularize the community participation approach and self-reliance in the countries by providing the necessary support services.

431. The Commission stressed the need to improve the efficiency of family planning programmes so that government programmes would become more cost-effective. In that regard, it urged the secretariat to assist countries in improving the quality of their data and information base for the monitoring and impact analysis of family planning programmes.

432. The Commission commended the secretariat on its efforts to improve the dissemination and exchange of population information, which it considered essential to the integration of population factors into development planning, the formulation of sound policies, and the efficient implementation of programmes.

433. The Commission expressed appreciation of the secretariat's ongoing efforts to develop population information centres and networks in countries of the region, in particular its provision of translation grants, technical assistance, fellowships, study tours and

training courses, and publications and information support services. With regard to training, the Commission urged the secretariat to organize computer familiarization courses for policy makers and programme administrators, in addition to its courses for the staff and management of population information centres.

434. The Commission also noted with appreciation the secretariat's co-ordination of the population information centres as members of the Asia-Pacific Population Information Network (Asia-Pacific POPIN). It supported the concept of intercountry co-operation through the Network for fostering the sharing of knowledge and expertise among the developing countries of the region.

435. Recognizing the importance of such co-operation, the Commission encouraged the secretariat to promote further the TCDC approach in its training workshops and other such activities in order to strengthen national efforts towards attaining self-reliance in information-handling capabilities.

436. The Commission noted with satisfaction the close collaboration between the secretariat and WHO in various programmes as well as in population information and networking, and urged continued technical collaboration into the 1990s and beyond.

437. It expressed appreciation of the secretariat's lead role in the region with regard to population affairs. In that context, it suggested close collaboration between the secretariat and UNFPA as well as the other agencies concerned. While recognizing the need for increased funding in the face of growing demands from the developing countries in the region, the Commission expressed gratitude for the extrabudgetary support being provided to the secretariat by UNFPA, and by donor countries and agencies.

Shipping, transport and communications

438. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/658. It endorsed the report of the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications on its twelfth session, contained in that document.

General transport planning

439. The Commission noted that integrated transport planning required intensive and flexible international co-operation. It supported a project on integrated transport planning in Asia and the Pacific being implemented by the secretariat and endorsed the secretariat's proposal to undertake a series of advisory missions to interested countries to advise relevant government agencies on appropriate arrangements for integrated transport planning.

440. The Commission noted that in recent years multimodal transport had become increasingly important owing to demand for fast, efficient shipment of goods and rapid changes in technology. It also noted that there was a tremendous need in the developing countries for assistance in the introduction of multimodalism. The requirements for assistance could be in the form of advisory services to introduce

institutional changes or technical assistance to train personnel to use computers in the electronic data information system. The Commission took note of a suggestion that the secretariat should assist developing countries in adapting to that advanced method of transport with the least possible effect on their economic and social fabric. It also urged UNDP and other financial institutions to review their funding priority to ensure that multimodalism was accorded high priority.

441. The Commission noted that efforts were being made by some developed countries to introduce high-cube containers, which might have a negative effect on the introduction of multimodalism in the region as the existing transport infrastructure might not be able to support the bigger containers. The Commission therefore supported the recommendation of the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications, at its twelfth session, that ESCAP and UNCTAD should jointly undertake a study on the cost benefits and particular problems connected with the introduction of high-cube and high-rate containers in the developing countries of the ESCAP region.

442. The Commission supported the secretariat's activities to assist the member countries in improving their urban transport system and, consequently, the quality of urban life. In particular, it supported a project on preparatory assistance in the identification of major problems of urban transport in the ESCAP region being carried out by the secretariat. It took note of the request of the Republic of Korea that Seoul be included in that project, and also the request of Pakistan that Islamabad-Rawalpindi, rather than Karachi, be included because a comprehensive study for Karachi was already under way.

Roads and road transport

443. The Commission, while attaching importance to the development of roads and road transport in rural areas, felt that the secretariat should also concentrate its efforts on problems and solutions in the development of motorway systems as a major part of the Asian Highway network. It also felt that different aspects of the interrelation between roads and road transport, such as the problem of vehicle overloading, should be studied.

444. The Commission welcomed the UNDP-financed project "Development of rural road infrastructure", which was designed to strengthen the training as well as research and development capacities of several institutions of the region in order to organize training courses for the countries of the ESCAP region.

445. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Government of Japan, for hosting the Seminar-cum-Study Tour on the Toll Road System in Japan in November 1988 and for providing the services of a non-reimbursable loan expert to the secretariat; to the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, for providing financial and other assistance to the secretariat activities in the field of roads and road transport; and to the Governments of Bangladesh, China, India and Indonesia, for providing their facilities and personnel for the implementation of the UNDP-financed project. The Commission noted with

appreciation the offer of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to host a seminar-cum-study tour on road accident prevention in the USSR in 1990.

446. In recognizing the usefulness of the secretariat activity in the field of rational use of energy in road transport, in particular the utilization of natural gas, the Commission noted that some countries had expressed their readiness to host an experimental UNDP-financed project, "Utilization of compressed natural gas (CNG) in urban transport through the conversion of diesel buses to CNG".

447. The Commission recommended that the secretariat should continue the collection, standardization, compilation and analysis of energy data in the transport sector and supported further activities of the secretariat in the field of energy conservation and substitution.

448. The Commission noted the interest of China in joining its National Highway No. 107 with the Asian Highway network.

Railways and railway transport

449. The Commission noted that railways and railway transport were playing an increasingly important role in the developing countries of the region, particularly in forming energy-efficient and ecologically sound transport systems. It felt that modernization of railway systems, in which optimum utilization of existing railway infrastructure and rolling stock, as well as maintenance, played a crucial role, should receive special emphasis. It noted that the safety aspect of railway operation was of increasing concern to the railway administrations of the developing countries in the region.

450. The Commission supported the ESCAP activities on the modernization, transfer of technology and development of railways, particularly those related to computerized wagon control systems; railway electrification; and cost-effective railway signalling and telecommunication systems. It noted with satisfaction that Thailand, as host country, assured its support to the demonstration of railway signalling in order to utilize existing railway infrastructure more effectively with minimum investment. It also took note of a request for a study on the determination of the residual life of railway bridges, to be undertaken by the secretariat.

451. The Commission stressed the importance of human resources development and commended the secretariat's activities in the training of railway personnel for computerized railway operation and electrification and in organizing seminars, study tours, symposiums and workshops. It noted with appreciation that India, in co-operation with ESCAP, would host a seminar-cum-workshop with emphasis on measures for speed-up on metre gauge lines in developing countries in November 1989; that the USSR had completed preparatory work for the seminar-cum-study tour on training and research in the field of railways to be held in 1990; and that Japan had decided to provide co-operation to phase II of the project on training of instructors in modern inspection and maintenance procedures for railway structures as well as its continuous provision of a railway expert to the secretariat. It also took note of a request that

experts from Pakistan be more associated with the secretariat activities in railways.

452. Stressing the importance of technology transfer in the field of railways and railway transport, the Commission felt that the outcome of studies should be more widely circulated for the benefit of the member countries.

453. The Commission noted the importance of the Trans-Asian Railway project, the Asian Railway master plan and a study on railway-cum-sea transport for the development and strengthening of interregional and intraregional transport linkages, and also stressed the importance of the implementation of the recommendations of the Joint Meeting of Experts on the Trans-Asian Railway, Asian Railway Master Plan and Subgroup on International Traffic of the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group held in August-September 1988. It also noted the request of the Republic of Korea that the secretariat examine the possibility of extending the Trans-Asian Railway in North-East Asia.

Air transport

454. The Commission supported the secretariat's project on air cargo management systems applicable to developing countries of the ESCAP region. It felt that in view of the geographical disadvantage of both land-locked and island countries of the region, the secretariat should give special attention to the development of air transport in those countries. It took note of the request of Thailand that the secretariat undertake a study on air cargo tariffs and supply/demand elasticity in air cargo transport. The Commission expressed appreciation to the Government of France of its valuable support to the secretariat in that field of activity, including the secondment of an expert on a non-reimbursable loan basis and the hosting of a seminar on liberalization of air transport and its impact on the Asian and Pacific region, to be held during the second half of 1989.

Telecommunications and postal services

455. The Commission felt that telecommunications should be accorded higher priority integrally and in harmony with other sectors of national and regional development. It took note of the suggestion that more training/seminars for human resources development and transfer of technology for the advancement of telecommunications should be organized by the secretariat.

456. Recalling Commission resolution 270 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988, in which the secretariat was requested to identify a programme of activities to be undertaken as a follow-up of the specific areas recommended in the report *The Missing Link*, the Commission noted that the secretariat was in the process of exploring the possibility of obtaining extrabudgetary resources for the study. It also noted with satisfaction the offer of ITU to co-operate and assist the secretariat in the follow-up of the resolution and in all other programmes of activities pertaining to the development of telecommunications in the region.

457. The Commission supported the programme of activities being undertaken by the secretariat relating to the development of postal services in the rural areas

of the region. It felt that the management of operational problems in the development of postal services in rural areas of developing countries should be addressed. It took note of the suggestion that a study should be undertaken by the secretariat on the establishment of private licensed post offices as a means of expanding postal services in developing countries. The Commission noted with appreciation the offer of the USSR to organize a seminar on the development of postal services in rural areas in 1989.

Shipping and ports

458. The Commission expressed deep interest in the results of the regional maritime strategy study, which would provide tools and important inputs for planning, policy-making and priority- and target-setting for the development of the maritime sector of the region. The delegation of the Philippines requested the secretariat to investigate the possible extension of the project to inter-island shipping.

459. The Commission recognized the need for training in computerization and electronic data interchange systems; it noted the interest of India in participating in the UNDP/ESCAP project, "A regional approach to appropriate computerization in ports", and that country's commitment to provide host facilities.

460. The Commission welcomed the timely proposal to conduct a two-part study to determine the socio-economic impact of the new technologies on the maritime sector and potential human resources development programmes to upgrade capabilities and provide the opportunity for job mobility.

461. It noted the assistance provided to the ESCAP secretariat by the Government of Japan in arranging a series of seminars in collaboration with the Overseas Coastal Area Development Institute on port development policy. It further noted with appreciation that Japan had decided to provide support for the fourth seminar, which would be held in the latter part of 1989, in addition to the provision of experts on ports and shipping. It also noted the offer of the USSR to host the forthcoming seminar on modern port management techniques, which would be attended jointly by ESCAP and member countries of ECA (Economic Commission for Africa). It also noted the proposal of France to make an expert on port management available at the beginning of 1989.

462. The Commission noted that national maritime legislation needed improvement and urged member countries to participate in the projects being implemented by the ESCAP secretariat, which were designed to assist member countries in developing their maritime legislation on a proper and sound basis.

Inland water transport

463. The Commission noted that in many ESCAP member countries inland waterways were an important means of communication from a cost-benefit point of view, but that the region's inland water transport systems in general were in poor condition. It was therefore of the utmost importance that those systems be improved.

464. The Commission noted that Bangladesh had the longest inland waterways, catering for the needs of 80

per cent of the rural people in terms of movement of goods and passenger traffic. It noted the interest of Viet Nam in developing its inland waterways transport, as that country was criss-crossed with large and small rivers that offered great potential. It also noted that the Lao People's Democratic Republic, a land-locked country, had 1,600 km of inland waterways, which were used for transport. However, it lacked financial resources and skilled manpower.

465. The Commission took note of the proposal of the delegation of Indonesia to organize a country-level seminar in that country on the development and assessment of waterways for transport and other related sectors, and of the need expressed by the delegation of Papua New Guinea to develop its own inland waterways in some of its major rivers, the Ramu, Sepik and Fly.

466. In expressing satisfaction with the work done by the secretariat in human resources development, the Commission urged the secretariat to continue to assist in the training of maritime personnel.

Tourism

467. The Commission reaffirmed the increasingly important role of tourism in the socio-economic development of the developing Asian and Pacific countries. It stressed that tourism was important as a means of earning foreign exchange and increasing employment. It also stressed the importance of recognizing the broader role of tourism in socio-economic development and as an effective vehicle for fostering international understanding and friendship. It noted that tourism should be given priority in the ESCAP programme and urged the secretariat to intensify its activities in that sector.

468. The Commission noted that there was an urgent need to understand the socio-economic costs and benefits of tourism. The formulation of rational tourism development policies was often hindered by lack of data on the scope and extent of the economic impact of tourism. The absence of such data on the economic contribution of tourism resulted in an unduly low priority in the allocation of domestic resources and foreign assistance.

469. The Commission noted that the shortage of skilled manpower constituted a major hindrance to the overall development of tourism. It requested the secretariat to continue its efforts to assist developing countries in the development of human resources in the tourism sector. It took note with appreciation of the offer made by India at the twelfth session of the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications to provide for member countries of ESCAP up to five places, with tuition fees exempted, in short-term specialized training courses at the Institute of Tourism and Travel Management in New Delhi.

470. The Commission noted that tourism had become an important economic activity in China and in other parts of the ESCAP region. One delegation expressed the hope that tourism, and the relevant training of human resources, would be given high priority after the peaceful settlement of the Kampuchean issue. The Commission noted with interest that tourism promotion activities were being

implemented by the Government of Japan through the "Ten Million Programme" and the "Tourism Action Programme in the Twenty-first Century". It welcomed the recent measures taken by the Government of the Republic of Korea to liberalize overseas travel. It noted with interest that tourism had become a top foreign exchange earner in Thailand.

471. The Commission noted with satisfaction that many countries had benefited greatly from the various activities being implemented by the secretariat under phase I of the project "Maximization of the socio-economic benefits from tourism development", which had commenced in 1988 with financial assistance from the Government of Japan. It noted that the secretariat had organized three regional meetings in 1988: (a) the Workshop on Tourism Management Development, held at Bangkok in May 1988; (b) the Seminar on the Promotion of Tourism in the ESCAP Region, held at Tokyo and Kyoto in October 1988; and (c) the Expert Group Meeting on the Measurement of the Economic Impact of Tourism by Input-output Analysis, held at Bangkok in November 1988. It endorsed the decisions and recommendations of the three regional meetings, and the guidelines on input-output analysis of tourism and on the production of a standard tourism sector paper.

472. The Commission was informed that a study on the economic impact of tourism in Maldives had been completed and that work was in progress for a similar study in Thailand. It noted that co-ordination was under way for a study on tourism carrying capacity in the mountainous region of Nepal.

473. The secretariat was requested to organize: (a) a seminar on maximization of the socio-economic benefits of tourism development; (b) a seminar on technical and economic co-operation in tourism; and (c) a workshop on human resources development in the tourism sector. The Commission noted the request of Indonesia to be included in the study on the economic impact of tourism. It requested the secretariat to explore the possibilities of undertaking a study on the development of cruise tourism in the region, noting that the Asian and Pacific region was endowed with long and attractive coastlines.

474. The Commission noted the valuable co-operation provided by ILO, the World Tourism Organization and the Asia Division of the Pacific Area Travel Association for the regional meetings organized by ESCAP in 1988. It encouraged the secretariat to further strengthen co-operation with relevant organizations. It urged ESCAP and other international organizations to devote greater attention to tourism.

475. The Commission noted that a seminar-cum-study tour on the organization and planning of international tourism, scheduled for May 1989 in the USSR, had to be postponed for technical reasons.

476. It noted with appreciation that Australia was ready to consider providing manpower support to assist the secretariat in implementing its tourism activities.

477. The Commission expressed gratitude to the Government of Japan for financing the Workshop on Tourism Management Development, the Seminar on the Promotion of Tourism in the ESCAP Region and

various policy-oriented research studies. It noted with appreciation that Japan was prepared to finance phase II of the project "Maximization of the socio-economic benefits from tourism development". It also appreciated the provision of a tourism expert on a non-reimbursable loan basis by Japan.

478. The Commission took note of a view that tourism should continue to be dealt with by the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications.

Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994

479. The Commission reaffirmed its strong support for the Transport and Communications Decade. It also supported the mid-term review project for the Decade planned to be undertaken in the later part of 1989. It also endorsed the proposal to convene a meeting at the senior level of members and associate members of ESCAP for consideration of the report and the findings of the intercountry mission which would take place within the framework of the mid-term review.

480. The Commission took note of the suggestion that the strategy for the implementation of the programme for the remaining period of the Decade should be geared to the immediate and direct needs of the least developed countries, especially the land-locked countries of the region. In that connection, it took note of a request for assistance from Afghanistan in restructuring its highway system so that its requirements of cross-border transit delivery and clearance through neighbouring countries could be met. It also took note of the suggestion that the secretariat should collect information on activities of the national co-ordinating committees of the member countries and assist more actively in the implementation of the regional programme of action for the Decade, particularly the harmonization of national action programmes with the regional programme.

481. The Commission felt that the long-term projects such as the Asian Highway, the Trans-Asian Railway, the Asian Railway master plan, and rail-cum-sea transport development under the programme for the Decade should be continued in the second half of the Decade. It also felt that human resources development, technology transfer, strengthening of interregional and intraregional transport and communication linkages, promotion of regional co-operation and integrated transport planning should be accorded priority and thus included in the regional programme of action for the Decade.

482. The Commission noted with satisfaction that a number of countries had issued commemorative stamps for the Transport and Communications Decade as a campaign to create public awareness of the importance of transport and communications. It also took note of the suggestion that appropriate incentives should be provided by the secretariat to the projects that had made outstanding contributions which would pave the way for the successful completion of the ensuing phase of the Decade.

483. The Commission took note of the offer of the USSR to provide 35 fellowships in the field of railway transport annually as a Decade activity.

484. The Commission noted with satisfaction that UNDP continued to attach importance to transport and communications and had provided almost \$US 10 million in the current cycle for projects within the framework of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific.

485. It also noted that in the implementation of its activities, the secretariat had co-operated closely with other international organizations such as UNCTAD, ITU, UPU, ICAO, IMO, ADB and APT (Asia-Pacific Telecommunity).

Terms of reference of the Committee

486. The Commission decided to postpone its deliberations on the terms of reference of the Committee to its forty-sixth session in 1990, when it was expected to review the overall conference structure of the Commission in pursuance of resolution 262 (XLIII) of 30 April 1987.

Other issues

487. The Commission felt that in view of the amalgamation of the Transport, Communications and Tourism Division and the Division for Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways of the secretariat, efforts should be made by the secretariat to formulate intersectoral activities as an integrated approach to transport development. In that connection, it supported the view expressed at the twelfth session of the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications that at future sessions deliberations should focus on policy issues rather than on technical aspects. It also stressed that the technical aspects of the secretariat's activities should not be underestimated.

488. The Commission expressed gratitude to the members and associate members for their active support of the secretariat's work in various modes of transport and communications. The financial and expert assistance provided by the Governments of Australia, Canada, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), India, Japan, Norway, the Netherlands, the USSR and the United Kingdom was acknowledged with appreciation. The Commission also expressed sincere appreciation of the financial assistance provided by UNDP.

Social development

489. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/652, E/ESCAP/654 and E/ESCAP/655. It commended the secretariat on the excellent quality of those documents.

490. The Commission endorsed the report of the Committee on Population and Social Development on its first session, with specific reference to those sections and paragraphs pertaining to social development.

491. The Commission voiced its gratitude to the Governments of Australia, France, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway and the Republic of Korea for their generous financial support of the secretariat's work in the field of social development. It expressed

appreciation to the Governments of China, Malaysia and the Philippines for the provision of host facilities, technical expertise and financial support in connection with various meetings and training activities undertaken in those countries. The contributions made by various international agencies, including UNICEF, UNDP, UNIFEM and WHO, were also acknowledged with thanks. In addition, the Commission thanked various non-governmental organizations, including the Asian Community Trust, Disabled Peoples' International, the World Council of Churches and the International Association of Schools of Social Work, for their contributions.

Social development policy and planning

492. The Commission noted with concern the urgent need to give increased impetus to policy and planning approaches that integrated the social dimension into overall national development policies and plans. It found particularly relevant and timely the initiatives taken by the secretariat to formulate a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond.

493. The Commission recalled the decision taken at its thirty-seventh session that the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development should be convened periodically but that flexibility should be observed in its timing. It noted that the Conference had last been convened in 1985. Taking into consideration the importance of the early formulation of a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond, the Commission decided to convene the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development in 1991, which would provide an opportunity to consider such a strategy.

494. The Commission welcomed the generous offer of the Government of the Philippines to host the Fourth Conference at Manila in 1991.

495. It also welcomed the offer of the Government of the Republic of Korea to host a regional seminar on social development issues pertaining to the formulation of a regional social development strategy at Seoul in September 1989.

496. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 45/1 on a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond.

497. The Commission examined the role of the family in development and considered various policy measures in that regard. It recognized that industrialization and modernization processes in developing countries of the region subjected the family to pressures that affected its traditional functions. At the same time, adjustments in intra-familial roles and relations were necessary to ensure the equitable sharing of responsibilities as well as rights and privileges among family members. The Commission called for social policies that focused on the family as a means of integrating disadvantaged social groups, particularly women, the young, disabled persons and the elderly, into development.

498. The Commission proposed that the secretariat should give careful consideration to the role of the

family in the formulation of a regional social development strategy. Due emphasis should be given, in the formulation of such a strategy, to measures for strengthening the ability of the family to provide social services.

499. The Commission expressed concern over the persisting low rates of literacy in a number of countries in the region. It noted that illiteracy had grave social implications, particularly with regard to human resources development. The secretariat was urged to collaborate actively with UNESCO towards the fulfilment, in the Asian and Pacific region, of the objectives of International Literacy Year.

500. The Commission recognized that illiteracy was particularly severe among rural youth and women and that greater attention should be focused on its alleviation among those disadvantaged social groups. It proposed, therefore, that the secretariat should co-operate with UNESCO in convening a meeting of senior officials to discuss alternative approaches to combating the problem of illiteracy in the region.

501. Welcoming the decision of UNICEF, UNDP, UNESCO and the World Bank to collaborate in the convening at Bangkok in 1990 of the World Conference on Education for All - Meeting Basic Learning Needs, the Commission requested the secretariat to lend its active support, within available resources, to the preparation and convening of that Conference.

502. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 45/3 on regional support for International Literacy Year.

503. The Commission urged that more attention should be given to combating the negative side-effects of rapid and unbalanced development, particularly crime and delinquency. It welcomed the expression of continued support by the Government of Japan for the secretariat's activities relating to crime prevention and the treatment of offenders, in particular its support of the secretariat's advisory services to member and associate member Governments. In addition, the Commission welcomed the convening of a seminar on adolescence and crime prevention, to be organized by the secretariat in co-operation with the United Nations Asia and the Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) at Tokyo in August 1989.

504. The Commission unanimously adopted resolution 45/2 on the establishment of a depository centre for United Nations human rights materials.

505. The Commission observed with satisfaction that the secretariat had undertaken effective collaboration with a number of non-governmental organizations in the field of social development. It called for strengthening of the partnership between Governments and non-governmental organizations in the delivery of social services. The Commission felt that the role of such organizations in social development should be fully considered in a regional social development strategy and that non-governmental organizations could contribute to the formulation of such a strategy.

506. The Commission commended the technical advisory services extended by the secretariat to

Governments in the areas of social development planning and training, and women in development, as well as crime prevention and criminal justice. A number of members and associate members expressed keen interest in exchanging views and information on national social development experience in the region and in strengthening their social welfare staff capabilities within the framework of TCDC. The Commission therefore called on the secretariat to expand its information and training activities in the field of social development.

507. The Commission was of the view that close inter-agency co-ordination was essential in such a multi-sector field as social development. In that connection, the secretariat was commended on its active role in promoting inter-agency co-operation in the fields of women, youth and disability-related concerns, as well as drug abuse prevention and the rehabilitation of drug abusers. The Commission urged the secretariat to continue such inter-agency co-operation.

Women in development

508. The Commission commended the secretariat on its activities in the field of women in development; it noted that those activities had been of considerable assistance to members and associate members in their efforts to improve the situation of women.

509. The Commission noted the continued progress reported by several delegations concerning the advancement of women in their countries. Specific national activities towards institutionalizing women's full integration in development were highlighted. There was concurrence on the critical role of human resources development, particularly education and training, for women. It was noted that increases in the average level of education among women would result in raising the average age of marriage and in lowering the fertility rate. That would, in turn, increase women's labour force participation and thus contribute to overall economic and social development.

510. The Commission stressed the need for the systematic integration of women's concerns into development planning and programming. As an initial step, it urged the secretariat to strengthen its own programming further to ensure that women's concerns were fully incorporated in its development activities. It also emphasized the need for the continued implementation of activities relating to women's concerns in such areas as environmental protection, sanitation and water supply, international migration, rights to property and the role of women in the family, including single-parent households.

511. The secretariat's activities concerning the promotion of legal literacy among women were considered to be particularly appropriate, especially for the developing countries, where the majority of women were in many cases not aware of their legal rights. Women's legal literacy was regarded as a crucial prerequisite to women's access to the protection of their rights by law. There was a need to review the extent of legal protection available to women workers and to encourage the upgrading of such protection in order to safeguard women's rights and welfare.

512. The Commission commended the secretariat on its implementation of the multi-year project on the development of the Women's Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (WINAP). It expressed appreciation of the work done to collect, process and disseminate statistics and other information about women through the publication of *WINAP Newsletter*, the *Manual on Establishing and Strengthening National Women's Information Networks in Asia and the Pacific*, and various directories on women in development issues. The Commission also noted the secretariat's convening of training workshops and provision of technical advisory services to improve the capabilities of national focal points for women in information management based on the use of new computer technologies. It called for the continued implementation of those and related activities to strengthen WINAP further.

513. The Commission stressed the need for all Governments to implement the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. It recognized the need for countries to share successful national experience in the implementation of the Strategies and to promote regional co-operation in that regard. The Commission welcomed the suggestion of the Government of the Republic of Korea that an expert group meeting might be convened on the regional implementation of the Strategies.

Youth in development

514. In view of the predominance of young people in the Asian and Pacific region, the Commission reiterated the need to focus attention on critical youth issues. Among the issues that received special consideration were education, skills training and employment of out-of-school youth, the special problems facing young women in society and the formulation of comprehensive national youth policies.

515. The Commission urged the secretariat to improve the quality of young people's social environment in the context of rapid socio-economic change. It observed that such activities should be undertaken in consonance with the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up concerning youth endorsed by the General Assembly at its fortieth session.

516. The Commission commended the secretariat's extensive experience in youth work training, directed at promoting the participation of youth in development. In view of the low literacy and employment rates among rural young people in many developing countries, the Commission proposed that the secretariat's future training-of-trainers efforts should incorporate the strengthening of training skills for the promotion of functional literacy among rural youth. It welcomed the offer of the Government of Malaysia to continue its support of annual regional training courses in the field of youth.

517. In continuing support of the secretariat's work on youth-related issues, the Government of China informed the Commission that it would consider hosting seminars on critical issues facing youth in development, particularly the effects of new technologies on the working life of young people and the impact of socio-economic transformation on their life-style. It was expected that the outcome of those

seminars would contribute to the formulation of comprehensive national youth policies.

518. In support of the secretariat's continued attention to the special problems facing young women, the Government of the Netherlands expressed interest in funding a project to promote community awareness for the prevention of prostitution.

Disabled persons

519. The Commission attached importance to policies and programmes directed at promoting the active participation of disabled persons in development. It expressed appreciation of the secretariat's ongoing technical assistance activities on behalf of disabled persons in the region. It noted, in particular, the valuable advisory services being rendered by the secretariat to government agencies concerned with disabled persons in several developing countries of the region. It welcomed the organization by the secretariat of a forthcoming study attachment on the planning and management of community-based rehabilitation services concerning disability in the Philippines.

520. The Commission urged that continuing attention should be given to regional co-operation in support of leadership development among disabled persons; promotion of the education, training and employment of disabled persons; community mobilization in the effective delivery of disability-related services; and the systematic collection and analysis of data to improve the planning and management of disability-related programmes. It proposed that further attention should be given to the strengthening of national mechanisms or focal points on disability. The need to strengthen linkages among national, regional and international agencies and non-governmental organizations concerned with disability was also stressed.

The elderly

521. The Commission noted with concern the effects of rapid social and economic change on the situation of the elderly. It also noted the issues being raised as a result of the rapid increase in the elderly population in many countries of the region. It was recognized that those trends had vastly increased the demand for care and support of the elderly in many countries. It considered various measures to promote the well-being of the elderly, including specific health care provisions, social security and other income maintenance measures, liberalized employment practices, continuing education, and home and community care services. The role that national mechanisms or focal points for the elderly could play in the effective development of such services was emphasized.

522. The Commission called attention to the need to strengthen community participation in implementing social services for the elderly through family and community support systems. The importance of enhancing the contribution of the elderly to development and promoting positive inter-generational relationships was also underlined.

523. The Commission urged that steps should be taken to realize the regional recommendations for

further implementation of the Vienna International Plan of Action on Aging, endorsed at its forty-fourth session. One delegation supported the convening of an Asian and Pacific conference on the elderly in 1990, as recommended by the Committee on Population and Social Development at its first session.

Drug abuse prevention and rehabilitation

524. The Commission expressed concern over the growing problem of drug abuse in the region. The connection between drug abuse and such unanticipated consequences of modernization as family breakdown and urbanization was highlighted. In view of the gravity of the situation, the Commission called for increased attention to drug abuse demand reduction activities. It was pointed out that both treatment and rehabilitation of drug abusers should be given greater emphasis in all countries and that the secretariat should strongly support such efforts. The need to explore alternative approaches to drug abuse prevention and rehabilitation was emphasized.

525. The Commission commended the secretariat on its activities related to reduction in the demand for illicit drugs. ESCAP participation in the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking held at Vienna in 1987 was noted with approval, and active follow-up of the recommendations for action emanating from that Conference was urged.

526. The Commission welcomed the indication by the Government of Australia of its readiness, in principle, to fund the second year of an ongoing project on drug abuse prevention programme development. It heard with appreciation the assurances given by the representative of WHO of his agency's continuing support for and close co-operation with the ESCAP drug abuse prevention and rehabilitation programme. It also noted with appreciation the statement of the representative of the Colombo Plan Bureau, which called attention to the close collaboration between ESCAP and the Bureau's Drug Advisory Programme in serving the region's needs.

Human resources development

527. The Commission emphasized that economic growth was closely associated with the ongoing development of a sound human resources base and that such a process required, in turn, careful consideration of the social dimension. It emphasized that the region's economic achievements needed to be translated into meaningful human results for a population fast approaching 3,000 million. In that connection, the Commission commended the secretariat on the initial activities that had been undertaken in implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region.

528. The Commission endorsed the intersectoral approach that had been adopted by the secretariat in addressing human resources development issues. In doing so, it pointed to the need to identify key target groups for human resources development. Those target groups should be selected in such a way as to maximize the positive impact of human resources development programmes and their multiplier effects.

The Commission noted that the poor, women, youth and disabled persons were among those identified as key target groups in the Jakarta Plan of Action, and reaffirmed that those disadvantaged groups should continue to be stressed in the secretariat's activities related to the social aspects of human resources development.

529. The Commission was of the view that enhancement of the quality of life of the people was a fundamental objective of all development activities. In placing importance on the "quality of life" theme in the Jakarta Plan of Action, the Commission urged the secretariat to focus particular attention on activities that would lead to improvement in the quality of life of disadvantaged social groups. In that connection, the Commission commended the secretariat for having embarked on a project to conduct a regional survey of the quality of life, in accordance with resolution 273 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988. The Commission was of the opinion that that project would provide a firm basis for all members and associate members to undertake an assessment of the quality of life as an aspect of human resources development in the region. It would also motivate Governments in the region to pay increasing attention to the quality of life and related social development issues in the context of overall development policy-making, planning and programming.

530. The Commission noted with appreciation the advisory services in the field of human resources development that had been provided by the secretariat to a number of developing countries of the region. Those services had contributed to the strengthening of national human resources development mechanisms as well as national policies and programmes in support of the Jakarta Plan of Action. The Commission, in noting the value of those services, urged the secretariat to continue to provide such assistance to the Governments of the region.

Statistics and government information systems

531. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/665 and E/ESCAP/666. It commended the secretariat on the high quality of the documentation provided and generally supported the views outlined concerning the statistician's role in data analysis and interpretation, and the use of expert systems in technology transfer.

532. The Commission reaffirmed that statistics constituted a fundamental tool for planning, formulating and monitoring policies and programmes, and grew in importance in line with the greater complexity of society. An efficient statistical system was therefore crucial to economic and social development, and effective policy-making was highly dependent on the extent to which useful data were available. The most important responsibility of statisticians was thus to produce accurate, dependable and clearly presented data responding to the needs of policy makers and the general public. The Commission noted with interest that in economies undergoing restructuring, the need for reliable and timely data, and the means to analyse and process them, were being more clearly recognized.

533. The Commission noted with concern the practically universal phenomenon whereby increased

demands for data were placing a strain on national statistical offices, whose resources were static or declining. In some countries that problem was particularly pronounced at the subnational level. Rising non-response rates also made it more difficult to satisfy user demands. A number of remedies for redressing the situation were suggested, including the greater recognition by policy makers of the importance of national statistical services and of the need to expand investment in the statistical system, for example through training, to permit it to upgrade its services. While the demand for official statistics underlay the need to increase resources allocated to their generation, it was acknowledged that a more user-oriented approach on the part of statisticians would facilitate the supply of adequate funding. Better communications with and service to users were regarded as the key to a more enhanced and relevant role for national statistical services.

534. Several aspects of user satisfaction were discussed by the Commission. In one decentralized statistical system, it was suggested that a master plan for meeting the requirements of policy makers should be drawn up, with producers and users co-operating to increase end-users' knowledge of the statistical system. In another, official statisticians had a limited role in data analysis, which was largely being carried out by separate policy-making offices. In general, however, the Commission agreed that national statistical offices should not confine their functions to data collection and dissemination. To participate more fully in the policy process, statistical agencies needed to upgrade their efforts in data evaluation, interpretation and analysis, as well as in presenting complex problems in readily understandable and usable ways and in informing users of limitations in the data being supplied. In striving to serve users better, some countries were already embodying substantial analytical content in their statistical output.

535. The Commission noted in that regard that the analysis and interpretation provided had to be based on facts, since comment that could be perceived as inaccurate or political in nature was likely to cause difficulties. The independence and integrity of the national statistical agency were of great importance. The Commission recognized that in many countries of the region there was a dearth of skills among statistical offices in the fields of analysis, interpretation, presentation and report-writing. It consequently urged the secretariat to provide assistance in those areas through training courses and seminars; it was also suggested that a technical meeting should be held on improving analytic capability and similar topics, in which statistical offices in some developed countries had gained recent experience. Exposing young statisticians to varied work experience, especially in the fields of management and analysis, would also help in boosting the capabilities of national statistical offices in that regard.

536. Other facets of providing a high-quality statistical service responsive to the needs of users were noted by the Commission. Particular emphasis was laid on the importance of developing existing statistical methodology, especially in the quality control of data, so as to enhance the accuracy and reliability of the information supplied. Improved qualifications of statisticians, strengthened by on-the-job training and familiarity with new computer

technologies, were also seen as essential. An integrated system of data collection among government agencies would reduce the response burden and was one of several ways in which response rates could be improved and service to users enhanced. Various examples of fruitful producer-user mechanisms were cited. National statistical offices in the region were becoming increasingly aware of the need to market statistical products actively, and possibly charge for them, and in that regard it was desirable that a complementary relationship be maintained with the growing number of private sector data suppliers. It was suggested that the skills and resources of those organizations could be harnessed to improve the total statistical service in a country.

537. The Commission generally commended the secretariat on its work in the field of statistics, and recalled its earlier view that there should be no downgrading of the role or functions of the Statistics Division of the secretariat as a result of the revised legislative committee structure, nor any lessening of its capacity to carry out its work programme. It noted that the secretariat had played a major role in promoting and enhancing the development of statistics in the region. The technical assistance provided in various fields of statistics had been useful and appropriate; the secretariat was urged to continue its efforts and to expand its programme into such areas as computerization and data base development.

538. The Commission noted in particular that many countries had benefited greatly from the regional advisory services provided by the secretariat in such fields as population censuses and surveys, data processing, household surveys and the recently reinstated area of national accounts. The advisory services not only transferred expertise to countries but allowed them to keep abreast of recent methodological developments in the region. The Commission welcomed the recent addition to the secretariat of regional advisers on energy and population statistics, and urged ILO and other advisory service donors to continue to provide support. The training courses and technical meetings organized by the secretariat and SIAP had also assisted national statistical offices of the region in developing their human resources. The hope was expressed that UNDP would reconsider extending its funding assistance to participants from all developing countries in the training courses organized under the National Household Survey Capability Programme in New Delhi.

539. In the Pacific subregion, the Commission noted that statistical data bases had been identified as an important input for sound management. A collaborative effort to construct such data bases was being undertaken by EPOC (ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre), SPEC (South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation) and others, working with national statistical offices and central banks in the Pacific. The Commission expressed the hope that EPOC would soon again be able to deploy the services of an adviser in statistics, who could assist countries in statistical training and other areas.

540. The Commission identified two fields of statistics to which greater attention should be paid in future work. It recognized, first, that while economic progress was not sustainable without concomitant improvement in social conditions, and development

plans had to take account of both aspects, the availability of economic data far outstripped that of social statistics and indicators. The capacity to collect, compile and analyse data on nutrition, unemployment, educational attainment, human resources, medical care facilities and so on needed to be addressed through social statistics training courses which should build on previous ESCAP technical meetings in that area. By helping to strengthen human capabilities, the secretariat could enhance the development and use of social statistics and indicators in many countries of the region.

541. Second, the Commission acknowledged that given the dynamism of the developing economies in the ESCAP region and future population growth and industrial development, environmental problems and concerns were likely to receive more attention. Demand would inevitably follow for information to assess environmental conditions, to monitor the impact of human activities on the natural environment, and to measure resource consumption. The Commission recognized that environment statistics was a complex field where much methodological work remained to be done, but felt that work could commence on assessing data needs and availability from existing sources, increasing co-ordination among national data collection agencies, and standardizing concepts, definitions and classifications. It requested the secretariat to stimulate work on environment statistics through the provision of advisory services and the exchange of technical information.

542. The Commission discussed government computerization on the basis of document E/ESCAP/666. It noted that the field of information technology had been marked by continuous change and dynamic development since the introduction of the first commercial computers many years earlier. Those technological developments had changed the potential of information technology, the issues involved and the conceptual framework of applying computers.

543. The Commission noted that human knowledge was the crucial ingredient in the transfer of technology to the developing countries. The most difficult part of that knowledge to transfer was the professional experience and know-how that had evolved over years of practical problem-solving in the developed countries, and which were largely not documented. Expert systems technology made it possible to capture and document such knowledge in a usable, easily reproducible form, and thus to transfer it to the developing countries.

544. The Commission was also informed of the Executive Secretary's strong interest in the general area of public sector computerization and his conviction that modern information technology held vast potential for better management of the administrative and development processes. In view of the need among the countries of the region for assistance with the policy, institutional, human resources and technological aspects of government computerization, and of the role ESCAP could play in responding to those needs, the Commission heard with concern that the secretariat's requests for extrabudgetary resources in that field had not yet resulted in any concrete projects.

545. The Commission found that document E/ESCAP/666 gave a good overview of expert system technology, and of its capabilities and limitations. The consideration of the use of expert systems in technology transfer was felt to be very timely, as the microcomputers on which their development depended had become affordable tools.

546. Several member countries expressed great interest in the field of expert systems, for which many potential applications were foreseen, for example in the critical area of human resources development and management. Concern was expressed that the operation of expert systems in the developing countries would require the acquisition and retention of new technical knowledge and manpower capabilities. The Commission noted that there was a need to disseminate information about experience in the field of expert system technology, especially to policy and decision makers and donors. It was therefore strongly recommended that ESCAP should organize projects, on-the-job training and workshops on expert systems, as well as mobilize funds for the development of that area of technology. The view was expressed that expert system technology was but one possible tool for solving problems relating to government information systems, and urged that ESCAP activities aimed at the organizational, institutional and managerial issues in that area continue to receive emphasis.

547. Recognizing that expert systems were relevant in capturing know-how to prevent loss of expertise and improve decision-making quantitatively and qualitatively, the Commission agreed that in order for the developing countries to take advantage of the systems, assistance in creating the proper environment for their implementation was necessary. It suggested that technical personnel might be sponsored to attend courses in developed countries and be attached to expert system projects and, on a longer time-scale, expert systems should be introduced in the curricula of institutions of higher learning in the developing countries. It was also suggested that in order to accelerate the utilization of expert system applications, different systems might be developed in individual member countries and subsequently cloned and modified for implementation elsewhere.

548. The Commission was informed that Australia had very strong and diversified expert system capabilities, in both the research and commercially applied phases, and noted numerous examples of applications. The Australian Bureau of Statistics already had experience in applying expert systems to statistical problems, and the Commission noted with appreciation that Australia would be pleased to be considered as a source of expertise in that field within the region.

549. In recognizing that expert system technology was an important, practical development tool, the Commission highly commended and fully supported the intention of the secretariat to seek extrabudgetary funding to assist developing member countries in government computerization and the utilization of expert systems.

550. The Commission was informed that during the year under review the secretariat had received bilateral support for its activities in the fields of statistics and

government computerization from Australia, Denmark, India, Japan, the Netherlands, Tonga and the United Kingdom. Among the multilateral organizations, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA and ILO had been prominent donors. The Commission also welcomed the generous offers of New Zealand and the USSR to support the secretariat's statistical meetings in those countries, and of India and Thailand to continue the provision of technical assistance on a TCDC basis. It further welcomed with appreciation the cash contribution of \$US 73,900 from the Republic of Korea to fund the seminar on the revision of the System of National Accounts to be held at Bangkok. It heard with appreciation of the support being provided by Australia through ESCAP to Viet Nam on that country's population census, and welcomed the offer of Australia to consider requests for technical assistance from developing countries in such areas as data analysis and interpretation. The Commission expressed gratitude to those donors and requested them and others to continue their support in the future.

Report of the ESCAP-NGO Regional Symposium on Co-operation for Economic and Social Development

551. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/667. It was informed that the secretariat had convened the Regional Symposium on Co-operation for Economic and Social Development because of the active role played by non-governmental organizations in bringing the issue of the disadvantaged groups of society to the forefront and initiating programmes to help them. They had built up an admirable reputation for cost-effectiveness, innovation, flexibility and ability to get the job done with people's participation.

552. The Commission commended the secretariat highly on its timely convening of the first regional symposium with non-governmental organizations working actively in the fields of integrated rural development, the environment, population, human settlements and social development. It emphasized that such organizations had been playing a crucial role and had emerged as effective agents for development in many developing countries, especially at the grassroots level.

553. The Commission noted the report of the Symposium, including the sectoral recommendations, as well as those contained in the Asia-Pacific Call for Action on ESCAP-NGO Co-operation for Economic and Social Development. It urged the secretariat to take follow-up action:

- (1) The establishment of a focal point in the ESCAP secretariat with a view to promoting tripartite co-operation among non-governmental organizations, Governments and United Nations agencies at the regional level;
- (2) The organization of similar symposiums in the future to provide a regular consultative forum for non-governmental organizations to articulate their needs, share experience and review their mutual co-operation with ESCAP.

554. The Commission considered that it would be useful for the secretariat to prepare a simple assessment on implementation of the recommendations of the report, taking into account the resource implications which could be involved.

555. The representative of Japan stated that his Government would extend assistance to ESCAP/non-governmental organization joint projects, provided such projects responded to regional needs.

556. One delegation endorsed the advocacy role of ESCAP with member Governments for the active involvement of non-governmental organizations in development policy formulation and development planning, while another delegation expressed a contrary view in that regard. With respect to defining "distance" between non-governmental organizations and Governments, it was suggested that the matter would be better left to the member Governments.

557. The representatives of the International Council of Women (ICW), the Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) and the Asian Forum of Environmental Journalists (AFEJ) welcomed the initiative taken by ESCAP in convening the Symposium, which had provided an important forum for the exchange of ideas and for interaction on major social and economic issues among non-governmental organizations, as well as between such organizations and ESCAP. They urged adoption of the report of the Symposium, including the Asia-Pacific Call for Action.

Report of the study on the viability and cost-effectiveness of establishing a regional inland water transport centre in Bangladesh, and of other alternatives of strengthening the secretariat or using a network approach

558. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/668. It noted the information given by the secretariat that the study called for by the Commission at its forty-fourth session, on the viability and cost-effectiveness of establishing a regional inland water transport centre in Bangladesh, and of the alternatives of strengthening the secretariat or using a network approach, had commenced with generous support from the Governments of France, Japan, the Netherlands and Thailand.

559. It noted that the report of the study would be completed within about six months, and requested the secretariat to refer the report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications for consideration at its thirteenth session in 1990, with a view to the Committee forwarding the report to the Commission at its forty-seventh session in 1991.

Progress reports on regional institutions, special regional projects and other regional bodies

Administrative and financial issues related to the Commission's regional institutions

560. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/669.

561. In his introduction, the Executive Secretary referred to the financial targets set by the Commission at its forty-fourth session for cash contributions for institutional support in 1988 of SIAP (Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific), APCTT (Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology), and the CGPRT Centre (Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific). The financial targets for cash contributions for institutional support in 1988 for APCTT and the CGPRT Centre had, however, not been met.

562. The Executive Secretary further referred to the indicative minimum amounts of voluntary contributions for institutional support to APCTT and the CGPRT Centre, which had been proposed for the consideration of the Commission during its forty-third and forty-fourth sessions. The proposed minimum voluntary contributions were \$US 1,000 per participating country for the least developed countries and \$US 15,000 for other developing countries for institutional support of APCTT and the CGPRT Centre. Those were indicative figures, aimed at ensuring the financial viability of the two Centres, both of which had to depend largely on extrabudgetary voluntary contributions for institutional support but had enjoyed substantial programme support from donor resources.

563. The Executive Secretary drew attention to the need for expeditious payment of contributions pledged, since the institutions faced serious cash-flow problems. He urged the developing members and associate members to make new and increased cash contributions for institutional support, taking into account the proposed indicative minimum voluntary cash contributions. He invited them to consider seconding experts to work with the institutions on a non-reimbursable loan basis.

564. While expressing appreciation of the generous programme support provided by UNDP and the Governments of France, Japan and the Netherlands, which had contributed to the successful implementation of several important projects of the institutions, the Executive Secretary proposed the following financial targets for institutional support for the respective regional institutions for 1989: \$US 1,100,000 for SIAP, \$US 250,000 for APCTT, and \$US 400,000 for the CGPRT Centre.

565. The Commission took note of the financial situation of the institutions as presented in document E/ESCAP/669 and the introductory remarks of the Executive Secretary.

Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific

566. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/671, which contained a report by the Governing Board of the CGPRT Centre. The document provided an overview of the Centre's activities, staffing, and financial situation, including budgetary requirements for 1989 and the issues to be considered. The Commission expressed satisfaction at

the progress of and the achievements attained by the Centre. It endorsed the report of the Board.

567. The Commission noted with satisfaction that continued efforts had been made by the Centre in 1988 so that its three core programmes, comprising information and documentation services, training, and research, could be mutually supportive and integrated effectively. It observed that an adequate balance had not yet been fully established as far as the budgetary allocation to the training and information programmes was concerned. To alleviate imbalance, it recognized that the Centre's core budget needed to be expanded considerably and new sources to meet the financial requirements should be explored.

568. The Commission noted with satisfaction that in the course of programme implementation, especially of the training programme, in 1988, the Centre had strengthened linkages with Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. It noted that memoranda of understanding had been exchanged, or were being processed, between the Centre and the appropriate organizations of Bangladesh, Indonesia and the Philippines. The Commission welcomed the fact that in 1988 collaborative activities had been undertaken with FAO, the Asian Vegetable Research and Development Centre (AVRDC), the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT) and the International Potato Centre (CIP). The Centre also collaborated closely with the Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement/Département des systèmes agraires (CIRAD/DSA) of France, in co-operation with the Royal Tropical Institute of the Netherlands, specifically in implementing a study project on soybean yield gap analysis in Indonesia and Thailand.

569. With regard to the Centre's regional mandate, the Commission was informed that the Technical Advisory Committee of the Centre had recommended that its programme should not limit itself to commodity- and country-specific issues but should include a general view on the future of CGPRT crops in the agriculture of the region. The Committee had suggested that general issues such as income-generation, employment and macro-economic developments should be fully taken into account in the Centre's programme activities. The Commission endorsed that recommendation and noted that the Centre had already initiated the necessary action, including the preparation of a position paper for submission to the Technical Advisory Committee, the Governing Board and any other relevant forum. The aim of that position paper was to prepare a broad strategic framework for the future of the Centre by indicating tasks and problems ahead in the light of experience so far gained by the Centre and by considering the mandate of other international organizations. The position paper would contain, *inter alia*: (a) prospects of CGPRT crops, in particular the role of those crops in the industrial sector, including feed processing, marketing and relevant production systems; (b) employment opportunities; (c) institutional aspects; and (d) the role

of the CGPRT Centre. In that connection, the Commission supported the Centre's plan to organize a workshop with the purpose of generating widespread and concerted interest in the development of Asian agriculture in general and CGPRT crops in particular.

570. The Commission noted with satisfaction that, during the period under review, the Centre had issued 12 publications and 4 newsletters. The introduction of a computer system had improved the services of the Centre for users of information. A data base on CGPRT crops and relevant subjects was being established so that the incompatibility of data from various sources could be reconciled by using different formats to present the different types of data. The view was expressed that in establishing a data base, subregional aspects should be taken into account. The Centre's information and documentation programme had received continued financial support from the Government of the Netherlands. It had also continued to receive personnel support from the Canadian University Service Overseas (CUSO). The Commission greatly appreciated their support.

571. The Commission was informed that in 1988, a two-week training workshop had been organized by the Centre with financial support from UNDP/FAO project RAS/82/002 and technical assistance from CIMMYT. The theme of the training was "Adaptive on-farm research to recommend to small farmers appropriate technology for food legumes and coarse grain crop yield improvement". Eighteen trainees, comprising middle-level researchers and extension specialists from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam, had participated in the workshop. The Commission expressed appreciation to UNDP, FAO and CIMMYT for their support in implementing the training workshop. It noted that a training workshop on research resource allocation and comparative advantage, held in late 1987, had been followed by two training-cum-case studies in 1988, in order to integrate training with research activities. Those follow-up studies had been conducted in Indonesia and Thailand in collaboration with national staff. Some of the results of the case studies had been published as a working paper to be used as training material. The Commission, recognizing the importance of the human resources development programme of the Centre, supported the appointment of a training officer. It noted with appreciation that the services of a training expert would be provided by the Government of the Netherlands. The representative of the USSR indicated the interest of his Government in participating in the Centre's training programme. It was recommended that the Centre should widen the perspective of its training programme to encompass all types of expertise from not only the public sector but the private sector as well.

572. The Commission was informed that during the period under review, the Centre had completed, or nearly completed, eight study projects, comprising four production and farming systems studies, three demand and utilization studies and one processing and marketing study. It also noted that in 1988 four study projects had been implemented, consisting of studies on the soybean production system, processing industries, farmers' group activities in CGPRT crops areas and the comparative advantage of soybean in

selected regions of Indonesia and Thailand. The Commission noted with satisfaction that with the finalization of the studies, the Centre had completed all its "first generation" research projects, and that 24 articles and papers on those studies had been submitted to journals, workshops and seminars; a selection of the reports would be published in the Centre's research report series. The Commission expressed appreciation of the progress made during 1988 and commended the Centre on its increased output. It noted that the focus of the Centre's research projects had been gradually shifting towards employment and income-related subjects, as well as to policy-related themes such as the comparative advantage of selected CGPRT crops.

573. The Commission recommended that the Centre's activities should be directed towards mutually agreed programmes which catered for the needs and requirements of recipient countries. Such close co-operation with the national research and development organizations would encourage more collaboration and financial support from recipient countries. The outposting of the Centre's Professional staff was supported by the Commission, while the implications of the outposted expert would be considered in the light of achievements made by other international institutes.

574. The Commission was informed that in 1988, the Centre's Professional staff had comprised a director, a senior agricultural economist, three agricultural economists, an agricultural economist/officer-in-charge for training programmes, an agricultural economist/programme leader for information and documentation, an information specialist and a publication specialist. It noted that in 1988, 10 Professional staff from the national research and development institutions in Indonesia and Thailand had been engaged in the collaborative study projects on a part-time basis. The Commission concurred with the Governing Board's view that the Centre would need additional Professional staff, including specialists on macro-level agricultural economics, livestock-feed economics, marketing, and nutrition economics, and several associate/assistant-level and General Service staff, subject to the availability of funds.

575. The Commission was informed that the Centre received considerable assistance and support from the ESCAP secretariat in various aspects of the Centre's operations. It noted the assistance from the UNDP office in Jakarta with regard to accounting matters, as well as from the Winrock International Institute for Agricultural Development in telex communication. The Commission appreciated that support.

576. The Commission was informed that the financial resources made available to the Centre during 1988 had amounted to \$US 1,231,000, comprising: (a) support for institutional costs in the form of cash contributions of \$US 660,000 from Bangladesh, France, Japan, Nepal, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea; and (b) support for specific programme activities, amounting to \$US 571,000, from France, Japan, the Netherlands, CIP, CIAT and the Commission of the European Communities. It noted that the Centre had also received contributions in kind from the Governments of France, Indonesia, Japan, the Netherlands and Thailand, the value of which was estimated to be \$US 286,000, consisting of

contributions in kind and the services of 14 experts and scientists, which were estimated to be equivalent to approximately \$US 46,000 and \$US 240,000 respectively. The total resources available for 1988, including cash and other components, were estimated at approximately \$US 1,517,000. The Commission expressed sincere appreciation to all the countries and donors for their valuable support to the Centre's operations.

577. The Commission was informed that the Governing Board had endorsed the budgetary requirements for 1989, which amounted to \$US 1,420,000, consisting of \$US 310,000 (22 per cent) for institutional support costs and \$US 1,110,000 (78 per cent) for programme costs. Those amounts were required to maintain continuity of the Centre's activities as well as to undertake priority programme activities in 1989. The Commission advised the Centre to formulate the plan of work and the recruitment of additional staff on the basis of expected availability of funds.

578. The Commission recognized that the Centre had completed its formative stage and started to provide technical assistance to the developing countries, with strengthened capacity on the basis of its medium-term and perspective plan. Noting that the financial situation of the Centre needed to be further strengthened, particularly its institutional support resources, the Commission recognized the importance and urgency of increased contributions of the developing member countries to ensure the Centre's viability. In 1988, contributions from developing member countries amounted to approximately \$US 41,000, or only about 10 per cent of the institutional expenditure. The Commission concurred with the Governing Board's appeal to the developing member countries to increase their financial support to the Centre in accordance with the levels recommended by the Commission at its forty-third and forty-fourth sessions, namely, \$US 1,000 for each least developed country and \$US 15,000 for each developing country.

579. The Commission noted that the Director, who had assumed responsibility of the Centre for eight years during the crucial formative stage of the Centre's operation, would retire from service shortly. It expressed its deep appreciation to the Director of his outstanding and dedicated service during his term of office, during which he had guided the Centre through its formative stage. The Commission was informed that the new Director of the Centre was in the process of being appointed.

Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology

580. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/672, the report on the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology, which contained details on the performance of the Centre with respect to the UNDP-funded project on promotion of technology utilization, and the Japanese-funded technology atlas project. The report also summarized the recommendations of the Governing Board of APCTT on both substantive and administrative issues.

581. The Commission reviewed the activities already carried out under the programme "Mechanisms

for technology transfer and utilization". It noted the results achieved in actually transferring selected technologies between developing countries of the region and in generating many interactions for technology transfer among small and medium-scale enterprises through regional technology expositions-cum-missions in China, Fiji and Nepal, the publication and dissemination of the bi-monthly *Tech Mart* series, and other mechanisms. The Commission, having noted the inherent difficulties related to involvement with small and medium-scale enterprises, endorsed the suggestions that national focal points should play a more active role to strengthen the linkages between APCTT and small enterprises in each country, and that, in view of the usefulness of the activities under implementation, they should be further intensified to promote also the transfer of simple and inexpensive technologies.

582. The Commission noted that under the programme "Strengthening of technology information services", APCTT had provided microcomputer hardware and software to the designated national organizations in 10 developing member countries, Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. In the area of information, the Commission noted that APCTT had organized two hands-on training courses in Bangalore, India, and a number of national/subregional workshops in China, Indonesia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. It further noted that the publication and dissemination of the bi-monthly *Tech Monitor*, a useful channel of communication, was continuing according to plan. Having noted that the main emphasis under that programme was to develop a mechanism of information exchange among the technology information service organizations in ESCAP member countries, the Commission welcomed the proposal to evaluate the potential for the establishment of a computerized on-line network of information systems for technology transfer.

583. Under the programme "Strengthening technology management capability", the Commission noted that the main focus of APCTT had been to create awareness and to promote the exchange of country experience through the publication of country studies and the organization of national and regional workshops. It further noted the recent addition of 3 country studies to the 12 completed earlier. It observed that the country-level activities of that programme also complemented the technology atlas project through the dissemination of developed methodologies to some member countries for testing and facilitating the process of technology-based socio-economic planning. In the technology management area, the Commission noted that national and regional workshops had been held in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. The Commission felt that APCTT should intensify its activities related to manpower development for technology management, create a core professional group in member countries for strengthening technology assessment and decision-making capabilities, and continue efforts for the popularization of technology culture in developing countries.

584. The Commission showed considerable interest in the outcome of the first phase of the technology atlas project. It commended APCTT on its valuable contribution through the publication of *A Framework*

for *Technology-based Development*, in six volumes. The Commission noted with satisfaction the variety of activities already initiated or to be initiated by the Governments of Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Malaysia and Pakistan in introducing the technology atlas methodologies in their respective countries. The Commission endorsed the proposal for a follow-up of the technology atlas project in selected countries, which could effectively introduce the new methodologies in their development planning efforts as the next logical step for further refinement and dissemination of the methodologies to the whole region. The Commission also endorsed the establishment of a regular training programme by ESCAP, similar to that of the Economic Development Institute of the World Bank, but specifically focusing on technology-based development. As a basis for the technology atlas project, the Commission also appreciated the valuable contribution of APCTT through a series of publications in the area of technology policies and planning, including 15 country studies (Australia, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam), a regional report, and a reference manual.

585. The Commission noted that the new Director would be able to take up his position at APCIT headquarters shortly, which would ensure the continued and smooth functioning of the Centre.

586. The Commission commended APCTT on its work performance and noted with appreciation that member countries recognized the valuable contribution already made by APCIT and were making increased demands on its services. The Commission therefore requested members and associate members of ESCAP, other interested donor countries and agencies, and in particular UNDP, to continue and augment their programme support to APCIT in the following areas: technology utilization enhancement; technology information services; and technology-based development planning and management methodologies.

587. The Commission, however, noted with some concern that the financial situation of APCTT, in terms of institutional costs for smooth operation, was still somewhat unsatisfactory. It therefore urged both beneficiary and other developing and developed countries of the region to increase their contributions to meet the full institutional costs of APCTT on a continuing basis.

588. The Commission expressed appreciation of the progress achieved with respect to the relocation of the Centre from its current premises in Bangalore to the permanent headquarters being constructed in New Delhi by the host Government, India. It also noted with appreciation the offer by the Government of India to help ESCAP and APCTT establish a programme in the area of engineering consultancy services, with the assistance of its Consultancy Development Centre at New Delhi.

589. The Commission observed that, for continuity as well as for balanced development of the work plan and activities of APCIT, it was desirable for all participating countries, particularly the beneficiary countries, to designate appropriate core focal point institutions and national liaison officers, and also to

consider the secondment of Professional staff to work at APCTT. The Commission thanked the Government of the Republic of Korea for seconding an electronics expert to APCIT for two years.

590. The Commission expressed appreciation to all donor countries, UNDP and the host country, India, for their extremely valuable support in both cash and kind for the operation of APCIT during the previous year.

591. The Commission was informed of the recommendations of the UNDP/ESCAP evaluation mission on the project on promotion of technology utilization. It took particular note of the recommendations concerning the need to: relocate APCTT to New Delhi, as early as possible; widen its national focal points to include, *inter alia*, small and medium-scale enterprises; increase government contributions to the Centre; involve the private sector in its activities; and enhance national self-reliance in the transfer and utilization of technology. In that regard, the Commission noted with satisfaction the assurance of the secretariat that necessary steps were being taken to implement the recommendations of the UNDP/ESCAP mission, in consultation with the concerned Governments.

Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

592. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/670. It noted that the Institute had expanded the range of its programmes not only to meet the need for trained statisticians in the region but also to upgrade their skills in the use of computers. A total of 215 participants from 34 members and associate members had attended various SIAP training programmes during the period under review.

593. The Commission recognized that improvement of data bases was essential for planning and monitoring social and economic development. SIAP was playing an important role in that regard since its programmes were geared to meet the changing needs of training in statistics and computer usage, and such programmes were in great demand in the region. The Institute should therefore continue its programme of advanced courses, seminars and workshops, and in particular focus on developing skills to produce data which would help in monitoring changes in the social situation. Curriculum development and training courses on social statistics and indicators, and on statistics relating to the environment, energy, and small geographic areas, were also essential. Other areas requiring attention in SIAP training programmes were management and co-ordination of the statistical offices of member countries, analysis and interpretation of data, and dissemination of statistics.

594. The Commission also stressed that training programmes should be expanded to cater for a larger number of countries. In particular, it felt that SIAP should provide greater assistance through training programmes and workshops to the statistically least developed countries and the island nations of the Pacific.

595. The Commission noted with appreciation the contribution made by SIAP in upgrading data processing skills in statistical offices in the light of the expected demand for computer skills for the

processing of the 1990 round of censuses. In that regard, and also for general statistical applications, the training of statisticians in microcomputers and associated software packages was particularly important. The statistical software demonstration programme of SIAP was accordingly commended.

596. An increasing number of in-country courses covering a wide variety of subjects had been conducted successfully by SIAP, largely in response to the demand for such courses by national statistical offices. While commending the Institute on such efforts, the Commission suggested that expertise from statistical offices and academic institutions should be utilized as far as possible to complement SIAP staff resources.

597. The Commission noted that the current fourth five-year phase of SIAP would end in September 1990. It appreciated the fact that SIAP programmes were fulfilling an essential component in human resources development necessary for social and economic development, and urged all parties concerned to initiate preparations and arrangements for the fifth phase. In that regard, UNDP, consistently a major donor, pledged its strong support for the fifth phase, noting that the new thrusts being developed by the Institute to make statistics a useful instrument for the formulation and monitoring of social programmes were in accord with UNDP interests.

598. The Commission gratefully acknowledged the continuing support, in cash and in kind, being provided to SIAP by members and associate members to implement its programmes. Concern was, however, expressed regarding the finances at the disposal of the Institute resulting from the sharp appreciation of the yen against the dollar. That had seriously affected the recruitment of staff for the Institute. The Commission urged the recipient countries in a position to do so to increase their cash contributions so that SIAP would have the necessary financial resources to implement its planned programmes without disruption or lowering of the quality of its work. In that regard, the Commission noted with appreciation the proposed increase in the contributions of the Government of Japan for the next fiscal year; that would partly alleviate the shortfalls. On its part, the Institute was urged to continue to implement cost-saving measures which, however, should not affect the quality of its programmes.

599. The Commission expressed gratitude to the host country, Japan, for its continuing financial and in-kind contributions to the Institute, as well as for the programme support it provided through the award of fellowships for training in statistics and data processing; to the United Kingdom, for the continuing provision of lecturers on a short-term, non-reimbursable loan basis; and to various international organizations for their co-operation and assistance in the many programmes of the Institute. The Commission was also grateful to UNDP for its generous provision of over \$US 2 million for the fourth phase and for its additional contribution for SIAP programmes scheduled during 1989. The offer of Australia to meet, where possible, requests for lecturers from the Australian Bureau of Statistics on a short-term basis was also noted with appreciation.

Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery

600. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/673, which provided highlights of the activities and achievements of RNAM from its inception and particularly since the forty-fourth session of the Commission. It noted with satisfaction that the activities of the project during the fourth phase (1987-1991), especially those related to human resources development, local manufacture and extension of machinery to farmers, were well under way.

601. The Commission acknowledged the contributions of the RNAM project to the participating countries in the areas of institutional infrastructure development for agricultural mechanization, training of personnel, design and development of improved agricultural machinery and information dissemination. The Network had indeed enhanced technical co-operation among the member developing countries through those activities.

602. The Commission also noted with appreciation the successful conclusion of AGRIMACH'89 in February 1989, the first agricultural machinery exhibition and symposium conducted under the auspices of ESCAP. It was reported that there had been 171 participants, of which 105 were manufacturers, from 23 developed and developing countries. On the basis of the promise shown by the one-on-one discussions to promote South-South and North-South co-operation, the Commission recommended that the project should undertake more such activities in the future to accelerate the local manufacture of agricultural machinery through joint-venture or licensing arrangements. The Commission noted with satisfaction that some licensing agreements had already been facilitated by RNAM.

603. The representative of China stated that her country had participated in the project activities in the past as a non-member. The Commission, however, noted with satisfaction that China was now considering becoming a regular member of the Network.

604. The Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Governing Body of RNAM to continue its operation and useful work beyond 1991. While expressing appreciation to UNDP for the financial support provided to RNAM so far, the Commission urged UNDP to continue to provide programme support during the next programming cycle. It also requested the donor countries to continue their financial support to the project after the fourth phase, ending in 1991. Such assistance was particularly crucial if the two least developed countries which had joined the project recently, and possible new members, were to be assisted in a meaningful way in their agricultural mechanization efforts.

605. The Commission requested the secretariat to look into alternative mechanisms for co-ordinating the regional activities of the project. The suggestion was made that the co-ordinating office might be located at ESCAP to minimize institutional support costs.

606. The donor countries, Australia and Japan, stressed that after 11 years of operation, the project

should become self-sustaining. They further expressed the view that RNAM should continue efforts to increase its membership and to meet all the institutional costs from the increased contributions from the member countries.

607. The Commission noted with appreciation the generous financial support to the RNAM project by UNDP and the Governments of Australia and Japan. It expressed gratitude to UNIDO and the Government of the Netherlands for posting an associate expert at the Regional Office for one year. It also thanked the Government of the Philippines for its support to the project in cash, and in kind in the form of host facilities.

Regional Energy Development Programme

608. The Commission endorsed document E/ESCAP/674, which had been presented to it for consideration and updated during its introduction by the Senior Co-ordinator. It noted with satisfaction the completion of three activities of phase III (1987-1989) as programmed in the project document for the second cycle (1987-1991) of the Regional Energy Development Programme. In regard to remaining activities/sub-activities of phase III still being implemented, the Commission noted the scheduling adjustments already made by the project office in keeping with implementation requirements, and commended the strong interest and support reaffirmed by the participating countries in completing them. The Commission expressed confidence that, with the active co-operation of all concerned, phase III of the programme could be completed before the end of 1989, within the time allotted in the project document.

609. The Commission noted that 355 persons of governmental, quasi-governmental or private consultancy affiliation from the Asian region had benefited from short-term group training activities already held during 1987 and 1988 under REDP in the areas of: (1) sectoral energy demand analysis (sub-activity P-1.2(a)); (2) microcomputer applications in energy planning (P-1.2(b)); (3) a special energy planning training course for the least developed countries (P-1.2(c)); (4) energy manpower assessment and the identification of training needs (P-1.2(d)); (5) hydrocarbon taxation (P-2); (6) electricity conservation (L-1.1); (7) coal technology and economics (L-2.2); (8) evaluation of technological options within the framework of rural energy planning (R-1.1(c)); (9) socio-economic aspects of small hydropower development (R-2); and (10) construction management for small hydropower (R-2); it also noted that Australia, China, Indonesia, Maldives, Pakistan and the Republic of Korea had provided host facilities and certain resource inputs for some of those training activities. It further noted that 142 officials had been and were still involved in the implementation of pilot programmes and studies under major sub-activities on sectoral energy demand analysis (sub-activity P-1.1) and electricity conservation (sub-activity L-1.1), and sub-activities on socio-economic constraints to wide-scale application and acceptance of practical new and renewable sources of energy technologies in rural settings (R-1.2) and co-operative research projects under R-2. The Commission expressed appreciation of various statements from the

participating countries providing feed-back on the appropriateness and usefulness of assistance and the training programmes under the current phase III activities, in terms of upgrading the member countries' energy manpower capability and complementing, at an opportune time, many of the member countries' own energy planning, management and development projects. On the basis of the progress in implementation reported in document E/ESCAP/674 and the introductory statement of the Senior Co-ordinator, as well as statements made by the representatives of member countries, and taking note of the results of evaluation by the Tripartite Review Conference of REDP at its second session in August 1988, the Commission expressed full satisfaction with the overall performance of phase III up to March 1989.

610. The Commission commended the REDP participating countries on seeking, within the framework of ESCAP intercountry activities, self-reliance in co-operative initiatives in energy development among the participating countries and interested co-operating countries beyond the current cycle of the project, and on their ongoing efforts in attaining that objective through the establishment of six regional TCDC subject-specific working groups in the following areas of the energy sector: (a) coal development; (b) natural gas development; (c) energy conservation; (d) rural energy planning and development; (e) electric power development; and (f) national energy planning. The Commission noted the detailed deliberations that had already been held on the subject during the second session of the Tripartite Review Conference of REDP in August 1988, which included: (i) the twinning of programme activities, selected on the basis of the three-point criteria endorsed by the Commission at its forty-fourth session, for inclusion in phase IV (1990-1991) of the project with the development of the six subject-specific regional working groups; and (ii) the recommendations to allocate REDP phase IV funding of \$US 200,000 to each of those working groups, as reported in document E/ESCAP/674. In the ensuing debate on those matters, the readiness of China to co-ordinate and provide secretariat support for the working group on rural energy planning and development, of India to do the same for the working group on energy conservation, and of Indonesia to do so for the working group on natural gas development was reiterated. Australia confirmed its support for the concept of the working groups. The Commission also noted the interest of China, Indonesia and Thailand in participating in all the working groups that were being established, and the interest of Viet Nam in participating in certain activities which had already been assigned priority under phase IV, particularly on sectoral energy demand analysis. In view of the shared view that REDP had contributed to consolidating closer co-operation among the member countries of the region in the field of energy, the Commission endorsed the establishment of the six working groups as the modality to attain the long-term objective of REDP, and the twinning of programme activities assigned priority during the 1988 Tripartite Review Conference of REDP to support development of those working groups, and urged the participating Governments, the secretariat and UNDP and other interested donors to provide continued active support in that regard. The Commission also noted that many countries had called for UNDP to consider continuing its support of REDP and the working group

programme beyond 1991, in view of the wide regional coverage and the varying interests of the countries participating in the project.

611. The Commission noted with appreciation statements by many delegations of the REDP participating countries indicating their intention of playing an active part in the Tripartite Review Conference of REDP to be held at Bangkok from 28 to 30 August 1989, and urged all REDP participating countries to participate in that Conference.

612. The Commission expressed gratitude to UNDP for its continuing support of the project, and to the Governments of Australia and France for providing additional support to the sub-activities on coal development and utilization and sectoral energy demand analysis, respectively. The Commission thanked the Governments of China, Indonesia, Maldives, Pakistan and the Republic of Korea for hosting and providing certain resource inputs to regional group training activities of REDP held in 1988, and all concerned, particularly the associated executing agencies and institutions, for their co-operation in the project.

Pacific Energy Development Programme

613. The Project Manager reviewed and updated the activities during 1988 as described in document E/ESCAP/675, involving a wide range of training and advisory services in petroleum supply, electric power, renewable energy and national energy policy. During the year, 44 formal reports had been completed in response to specific requests for advice from 13 countries. Over 150 islanders from 17 countries of the Pacific (plus Maldives) had benefited from training courses, attachments and on-the-job training. Phase One of an innovative series of 18 practical photovoltaics courses for technicians had been completed, reaching 411 trainees since 1987. During 1989, under Phase Two, photovoltaics trainers would be trained in six regional institutions, made possible through generous assistance from Japan.

614. PEDP worked very closely with the Energy Division of the Forum Secretariat and since late 1988 they had shared a common work programme. It was reported that in 1989, a joint evaluation mission comprising UNDP, the Forum and ESCAP would assess the PEDP and Forum energy activities. That was expected to lead to a permanent subregional energy assistance service, one of the goals of PEDP.

615. The Commission expressed appreciation to UNDP, for its continuing strong support; to Japan, for substantial additional funding for photovoltaics training; and to Australia, France and the Federal Republic of Germany, for their support of training activities. Several countries commended PEDP on its practical, flexible approach, and seven countries supported the close working relationship which had developed between PEDP and the Forum Secretariat.

616. The representative of Australia expressed support for the work of PEDP, which was considered useful to the Pacific island countries. The very practical strategy of energy development activities formulated by PEDP was particularly commended. He was pleased that a close working relationship had been

established between PEDP and the Forum Secretariat on energy activities, as had been requested by the Commission at earlier sessions.

617. The representative of Papua New Guinea acknowledged that his country was the largest beneficiary of PEDP services. The activities undertaken in petroleum policy and supply were of great interest to Papua New Guinea, particularly the PEDP/Forum Secretariat proposal for a regional petroleum unit. He felt that the unit's functions should be clearly defined to provide relevant assistance in policy formulation, and expressed the hope that activities in natural gas pipeline development could be incorporated within PEDP and the proposed regional petroleum unit.

618. The representative of Fiji commended PEDP on the assistance provided to his country, especially in petroleum supply advice and photovoltaics training, which he thanked Japan for supporting. He expressed gratitude to UNDP, Australia and the Federal Republic of Germany for their support, which had enabled PEDP to extend its range of activities.

619. The representative of France noted that his country had supported PEDP training activities and would continue to do so in 1989 through assistance channelled through the South Pacific Commission (SPC).

620. The representative of New Zealand expressed pleasure at the relationship between PEDP and the Forum Secretariat, which was seen to be a very positive development.

621. The representative of Samoa thanked donors for their support of PEDP, and noted that his country expected to make more use of PEDP training services in the future.

622. The representative of Kiribati also thanked the donors for their continuing support and PEDP for its extensive assistance in the petroleum sector. He hoped to see more assistance channelled towards rural electrification.

623. In response, the Project Manager thanked the delegations for their statements, which would be reflected in future work plan revisions and activities.

Asian and Pacific Development Centre

624. The Commission had before it the report of APDC transmitted in a note by the secretariat (E/ESCAP/679).

625. The Director of the Centre stressed that in the context of the rapidly changing global economic environment and the increasing interdependence between national economies, the Centre had in recent years expanded its programme, which dealt not only with the traditional equity issues such as poverty and employment, but also the emerging broad growth issues of macro-economic policy, industrial policy adjustments and alternative approaches to regional economic co-operation. In 1988, major conferences and dialogues had been held on those issues. They had attracted strong support and active participation by the region's leaders, senior planners, scientists, scholars,

leaders of business and non-governmental organizations. The expansion of the activities of the Centre had been made possible by the continuing support of member Governments and expanded linkages with UNDP and other donor agencies. During the year, preparations for the 1990-1992 work programme had begun in earnest. It was expected that the existing programme boundaries would remain in place for 1990-1992, with the inclusion of new projects to widen and deepen the scope of projects in areas in which the Centre had attained a comparative advantage. In 1988, the Centre had expanded its advisory services. In addition to the services provided to member countries, the assistance of the Centre was being sought by a growing number of regional and international organizations. Networking activities had been expanded during the year. By the end of 1988, over 200 institutions had participated in the networking efforts of the Centre. Networking had enabled national institutions to make a distinct impact on the quality of the Centre's programmes in terms of their relevance and usefulness to the member countries.

626. Several delegations commended the development of the Centre and expressed satisfaction with its achievements and its sound financial management during 1988. There was general consensus that the Centre's programmes were useful to the countries of the region. One delegation asked that a continuing review of APDC activities and work programme be undertaken. It was suggested that the Centre should continue its focus on projects of direct relevance to the needs of its member countries and constantly review its activities with those objectives in mind, while avoiding duplication of the work programme of other regional organizations such as ESCAP. The representative of Australia pledged a contribution of \$A 100,000 to the Centre for 1989, subject to the same principles as those applying to the phasing out of core budget support for ESCAP regional programmes in accordance with the Commission's views on the matter. The representative of Japan pledged a contribution of \$US 350,000 for 1989, subject to parliamentary approval. The representative of Malaysia confirmed the agreement of his Government to continue providing host facilities to the Centre, and pledged a contribution of \$US 42,000 and an annual grant of \$M 400,000 for 1989.

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

627. The Commission had before it the annual report of the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, 1988, transmitted in a note by the secretariat (E/ESCAP/676), which was presented for information by its Chairman for 1989, assisted by the Executive Agent. In bringing out the salient points of the annual report, the Chairman mentioned that in 1988 crucial steps had been taken by the Committee to enhance its capacity to harness the immense resources of the lower Mekong basin for the benefit of its inhabitants and that that had taken place against the background of considerable improvement in the climate for co-operation in the subregion. He referred, in particular, to the adoption of the Indicative Basin Plan revised in 1987, and further restructuring of the Secretariat. He specified progress achieved in various sectors of the work programme, including hydrology

and meteorology, water management, fisheries, irrigation, flood control, hydropower generation, environmental protection and transport and navigation. As a result of the progress made, a number of projects had been successfully concluded in 1988.

628. In his statement, the Chairman indicated that in 1988 financial commitments made by the international community for projects sponsored by the Committee, coupled with institutional support to the Secretariat, had amounted to approximately \$US 35 million, and expressed the Committee's gratitude to the co-operating countries and agencies for their continuing support of its work.

629. In statements made by the representatives, strong support was given to the unique role that the Committee continued to play in promoting regional co-operation towards the integrated development of the basin, and satisfaction was expressed at the successful implementation of several important projects and the marked improvement in the climate for co-operation in the subregion in 1988. Several representatives pledged continuing assistance. Representatives of several countries expressed their appreciation of the work of the Committee and its Secretariat and member countries voiced their gratitude to the co-operating countries and organizations for their assistance.

Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas

630. The Commission had before it the report of the Committee transmitted in a note by the secretariat (E/ESCAP/677).

631. It was informed that, as from 1 April 1989, the new Director of the CCOP Technical Secretariat would assume his responsibilities. It noted the appreciation expressed by the member and co-operating countries of the contributions made by the Director to the success of CCOP during the past three years and the congratulations to the new Director on his election to that important position.

632. The Commission was informed of the strong financial position of CCOP, and noted that the member and co-operating countries would continue to provide financial and other support for its future activities.

633. With regard to headquarters facilities, the Commission noted that early conclusion of the Headquarters Agreement with the Royal Thai Government was anticipated.

634. It noted the appreciation expressed by member countries of the work carried out during 1988 in the fields of hydrocarbons exploration, offshore surveys, Quarternary geology studies, aeromagnetic data compilation, marine environment and safety, studies of East Asian tectonics and resources and the extensive training programme consisting of on-the-job and in-house training, fellowships, workshops and seminars.

635. It further noted that CCOP planned to continue and expand the above activities towards the

development of a pool of technical manpower which would assist the member countries in achieving their mineral resources development goals. That would include implementation of the Regional Experts' Programme and the recruitment of a geoscience training co-ordinator.

636. The Commission noted the suggestion by one member country that CCOP should consider expanding its mandate to cover the whole gamut of mineral resources development and issues related to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

637. It also noted the offer by one member country to host and provide a site for the establishment of a CCOP training centre.

638. The Commission was informed that a joint UNDP/ESCAP evaluation of the UNDP project to support CCOP would be conducted in June 1989. The possibility of transferring execution of the UNDP project to CCOP, as well as the request for extension of UNDP support of CCOP for the long-term experts, would be considered during that review.

639. The Committee expressed its appreciation to UNDP, ESCAP and co-operating countries for their past support and for their indications of continued support to implement its future work programme.

Typhoon Committee

640. The Commission had before it the report of the Typhoon Committee, transmitted in a note by the secretariat (E/ESCAP/678). It expressed appreciation of the activities of the Typhoon Committee and noted the considerable progress made in the implementation of activities under the meteorological, hydrological, disaster prevention and preparedness, training and research components of its programme, and in the operation of the Typhoon Committee Trust Fund.

641. The Commission congratulated the Typhoon Committee on receiving the Sasakawa-UNDRO Disaster Prevention Award in 1988.

642. It was pleased to note that ESCAP had provided the members of the Typhoon Committee with various substantive services, such as the production of a manual on flood risk analysis and mapping, the organization of an expert group meeting on comprehensive flood loss prevention and management, and the launching of the first phase of the project on urban flood loss prevention and management.

643. The Commission noted that special field experiments to study the formation, intensification and movement of typhoons were being planned for 1990 and were expected to lead to improvements in forecasts and warnings and track prediction capabilities on typhoons. A number of countries expressed support for that activity and indicated their willingness to participate.

644. It took note with appreciation that Japan had decided to host the twenty-second session of the Typhoon Committee in 1989.

645. The Commission also noted with appreciation that the Philippines had pledged to continue to host the Typhoon Committee Secretariat and to provide the services of a co-ordinator, a meteorologist and an expert on disaster prevention and preparedness on a part-time basis, and that Japan had reconfirmed its intention to continue its support for and active participation in the Committee's activities by providing financial contributions and long-term experts to the Typhoon Committee Secretariat. The Commission also noted with appreciation the funding of phase I of the project on urban flood loss prevention and management by Japan, and the cash contributions made to the Trust Fund by China, Japan, Malaysia and the Republic of Korea. One delegation suggested that the annual Trust Fund amount be established at \$US 120,000, to be contributed equally by the 10 Members and to continue for the next four years at that level. The Commission expressed gratitude to China for its plan to donate YRMB 100,000 in support of the typhoon field experiments planned for 1990, as well as providing technical support. The Commission commended UNDP on its considerable financial support for the activities of the Typhoon Committee and expressed the hope that it would continue that support. The Commission also commended the co-operation between WMO and ESCAP in support of the work of the Typhoon Committee.

Draft programme of work and priorities, 1990-1991; programme changes for 1989; and programme structure of the medium-term plan, 1992-1997

646. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/680, E/ESCAP/682, E/ESCAP/683 and Corr.1, and E/ESCAP/684 and Corr.1. It also had before it for reference documents E/ESCAP/681, E/ESCAP/685 and ESCAP(XLV)/INF.2.

Programme changes for 1989

647. The Commission endorsed the programme changes for 1989 as contained in document E/ESCAP/683 and Corr.1, subject to the following changes and observations:

(a) In the programme on the environment, the title of the proposed additional output 1.3 (ii)(c) would be "Project on strengthening conservation and management of critical ecosystems";

(b) In the programme on population, in relation to the proposed deletion of 2.4 (ii) owing to lack of funds, it was requested that the secretariat continue seeking funds for the purpose, in view of the importance of the activity.

648. The Commission approved the tentative calendar of meetings, 1989/90 as presented in document E/ESCAP/684 and Corr.1.

Draft programme of work and priorities, 1990-1991

649. The Commission considered the draft programme of work and priorities, 1990-1991 as presented in documents E/ESCAP/680 and ESCAP(XLV)/INF.2.

650. The Commission recommended that the criteria for priority-setting, as well as the percentage of programme elements which were to be accorded high priority, as adopted by the Commission at its thirty-ninth session in 1983, needed to be reassessed. The programme elements designated as high priority were too numerous to justify the principle of priority-setting. The Commission therefore recommended only a few priority areas, considering their importance, and requested the secretariat to consult with the member Governments through ACPR with a view to reassessing both the criteria and the percentage of programme elements to be accorded high priority.

651. Regarding the resource allocation among the programmes, the Commission was of the view that the existing allocation was somewhat imbalanced and that more resources needed to be allocated to programmes on food and agriculture, population, human settlements and land transport in view of the importance of activities in those fields for the developing countries of the region.

652. The Commission requested that the secretariat provide information regarding regular budget resources for the entire secretariat, including administrative and other programmes which were not contained in the document. Without prejudice to the prerogative of the General Assembly in determining the programme budget, the Commission considered such information necessary in order to be able to make an informed judgement regarding the balance between the substantive and other programmes, in the light of the fact that the reduction of resources in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, on review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations was to be applied to both types of programme. The Commission was informed that 70 regular budget established posts were proposed to the Secretary-General for executive direction and management, administration, conference services and the management of technical co-operation activities, and that the details would be found in the Secretary-General's proposed programme budget for 1990-1991, which was expected to be issued shortly by Headquarters.

653. The Commission also requested the secretariat to consider presenting a report on the implementation of the programme of work, specifically referring to which items of the approved work programme had been implemented and which were left unimplemented, together with the reasons, so that the delegations would be better able to make judgement on the proposals by the secretariat on changes to the programme for the new biennium. ACPR should also make its contribution in identifying the scope and content of such a report.

654. The Commission made the following specific recommendations with respect to individual programmes.

655. In the programme on the environment, the Commission suggested that output 1.1 (iii)(a), "Environmental management in Asia and the Pacific through promotion of environmental awareness", should be expanded, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to include engineering and

law-related professionals and non-governmental organizations. The title of output 1.2 (iv)(d) should be changed to "Strengthening national capabilities in natural resource area management in Asia and the Pacific". Similarly, the title of output 1.4 (a) should read "Enhancement of national capabilities of member Governments for environmental management in Asia and the Pacific through protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems". The secretariat informed the Commission that the change of title of outputs 1.2 (iv)(d) and 1.4 (a) would not result in any change in the scope of the project.

656. In the programme on food and agriculture, the Commission recommended that the title of 1.2 (ii) should be amended to read "Assistance to Governments on satellite crop-monitoring to mitigate the impact of drought-induced food shortages as well as the impact of floods (1990-1991)". Under programme element 2.1 (ii)(a), an information service on sources of fertilizer at competitive prices should be provided. The Commission also recommended that activities on sharing successful experience in the field of co-operatives should be added as 3.1 (ii)(d) and that programme element 3.1 should be given high priority. It was also suggested that assistance should be provided by the secretariat in translating some of the agricultural publications into local languages. Appreciating the suggestion, the secretariat informed the Commission that that was already being done in some cases and that future requests would be considered, subject to availability of resources.

657. In the programme on international trade and development finance, the Commission recommended that programme element 4.1, "Improvement of the trade performance of least developed, land-locked and island developing countries", should be accorded high priority.

658. With regard to the programme on natural resources, the Commission decided that the title of output 2.3 (i) should be amended to "Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on preparedness, including available mechanisms and facilities, and measures for water-related natural disasters, consequences, mitigation, and prevention in the interested countries of the region at the beginning of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (third quarter, 1991)".

659. In the programme on social development, it was recommended that the following outputs should be included under programme element 2.2: "Report to the Commission on preparations for the formulation of a regional social development strategy (1990)"; and "Substantive servicing of the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development (1991)". Under programme element 4.1, it was recommended that an additional output should be included on the annual award of an ESCAP prize for accomplishment in the field of human resources development. Under programme element 4.2, output (iii), it was suggested that, subject to the availability of resources, the secretariat should consider including studies on human resources development forecasting and the socio-cultural impact of human resources development.

660. In the programme on statistics, the Commission requested the secretariat to explore funding for the

seminar on human settlements statistics, with a view to its inclusion under programme element 1.4.

661. In the Transport I programme, the Commission recommended that a study on air cargo tariff and supply/demand elasticity in air cargo transport should be undertaken under programme element 4.1, output (i), as and when resources became available. It also recommended that the safety aspect of railways should be included under programme element 3.1. The Commission requested the secretariat to focus special attention on the problems of multimodalism, and also requested that a study should be undertaken under programme element 1.1, output (ii) on the cost-benefit of the particular problems faced by the developing countries of the ESCAP region as a result of the introduction of high-cube containers; it urged UNDP and donor countries to consider providing the necessary funding for that study. It recommended that programme element 5.1, "Promotion of telecommunication and postal services development" should be accorded high priority.

662. Under the Transport II programme, the Commission recommended that the secretariat should assign priority to programme elements 2.1, "Development and promotion of shipping services, sea transport systems and merchant marines", and 5.1, "Development of ship users".

663. The Commission also felt that as all modes of transport were of high priority, the secretariat should pay due attention to both the technical and policy aspects of its programme of work.

664. With those amendments, the Commission endorsed the draft programme of work and priorities, 1990-1991 presented in document E/ESCAP/680. The programme of work and priorities, 1990-1991, as endorsed by the Commission, is contained in annex I.

Proposed programme structure of the medium-term plan, 1992-1997

665. In response to General Assembly resolution 43/219 of 21 December 1988 on programme planning, the Commission considered the proposed new structure of the next medium-term plan presented in document E/ESCAP/682. Welcoming the new structure of the programme on regional co-operation for development in Asia and the Pacific under the major programme on regional co-operation for economic and social development, the Commission recommended the following structure of subprogrammes for ESCAP:

A. Executive direction and management

B. Substantive activities

1. Agriculture and rural development
2. Economic development issues and policies
3. Energy
4. Environment
5. Human resources development
6. Human settlements

7. Industrial and technological development
8. International trade and development finance
9. Natural resources (including marine affairs)
10. Population
11. Social development
12. Special programmes for the least developed and island developing countries
13. Statistics
14. Transnational corporations
15. Transport and communications
16. Women in development

C. Programme support

1. Administration and common services
2. Conference services
3. Management of technical co-operation
4. Public information

Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries

666. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/686 and Corr.1 on economic and technical co-operation among developing countries, and commended the secretariat on its useful catalytic and advisory role in promoting operational TCDC and ECDC activities among ESCAP members and associate members. It urged the secretariat, within its existing facilities and resources, to continue and expand its activities in that important area.

667. The Commission thanked the Governments of China, the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of Korea and Sweden for their contribution to the ESCAP TCDC supplementary fund, and appealed to other members and associate members, and donor countries and agencies, to contribute to the fund. It also thanked UNDP for its technical and financial assistance in collaboration with the ESCAP secretariat in promoting operational TCDC activities in the region.

668. The Commission expressed concern that the ESCAP-funded promotional TCDC activities had not resulted in more operational activities. It therefore requested members and associate members to make use of the large number of ESCAP promotional TCDC activities and develop them into operational TCDC activities of interest to them at the bilateral and multilateral levels. It noted that that approach would give added benefits to the ESCAP developing members and associate members, in particular the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries. The Commission suggested that the existing networks established by the secretariat should be strengthened and utilized fully by their respective members to identify, plan and implement operational

TCDC and ECDC activities of common interest to them.

669. The Commission reiterated its decision that TCDC and ECDC modalities should be incorporated at the earliest possible stage in the formulation of ESCAP projects and programmes so as to enhance the identification, planning and implementation of operational TCDC and ECDC activities of members and associate members. It commended the secretariat on its continuing efforts to incorporate such modalities in the ESCAP programme of work and projects.

670. While agreeing to the expansion of TCDC and ECDC activities promoted by the secretariat, the Commission urged the secretariat to prevent overlapping and duplication of its efforts with those of other organizations. It therefore urged the secretariat to continue its effort to promote TCDC and ECDC activities jointly with other United Nations agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

671. Some delegations were of the view that, as the main responsibility for TCDC rested with developing countries, priorities and resources should be determined accordingly by the countries concerned. That activity should not be an additional component drawn against the ESCAP regular budget.

672. The Commission supported the secretariat proposal to organize an *ad hoc* intergovernmental meeting of TCDC and ECDC national focal points in 1990 to consider issues related to TCDC and ECDC matters and the expansion of business-sector participation in TCDC and ECDC activities. It welcomed the offer of the Government of the Republic of Korea to host the meeting.

673. The Commission noted with satisfaction that by utilizing the UNDP indicative planning figure (IPF) of the country, their own national budget and the third party financial assistance, member countries had undertaken a large number of operational TCDC activities in numerous sectors at the bilateral and multilateral levels. It further noted that numerous operational TCDC activities formulated during the TCDC programming exercises organized by the UNDP Special Unit for TCDC and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development in China, Turkey, and recently in Pakistan, had been or were being implemented by the member Governments concerned. The Commission welcomed the decision of the Government of Indonesia to host, in co-operation with the UNDP Special Unit for TCDC, a TCDC programming exercise entitled "Development of community self-reliance". ESCAP assistance in that important exercise would be welcome.

674. The representative of the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC) thanked ESCAP for its technical and financial support in the successful implementation of several operational TCDC activities of the APCC members that were at the same time members of ESCAP. He stated that APCC, which had been established by ESCAP in 1969, had used and would continue to use TCDC and ECDC modalities, wherever applicable, in achieving its objectives. APCC had served as a successful network for promoting co-operation and transfer of technology among its members. He requested ESCAP to continue

its technical and financial support to APCC members in the identification, planning and implementation of specific operational TCDC activities.

675. The representative of the International Pepper Community (IPC) stated that the Community accorded very high priority to the promotion of TCDC and ECDC among its members. ESCAP assistance, both technical and financial, had been instrumental in the success of a number of operational TCDC activities implemented by members of the Community; he requested that such assistance be continued. His organization had successfully brought together representatives of member Governments, exporters and importers to discuss issues of common interest and to formulate a joint action programme for improving the pepper economy as a whole.

676. The representative of the World Health Organization fully endorsed the usefulness of the catalytic role of ESCAP in promoting operational TCDC and ECDC activities among its members. His organization had participated in some of the TCDC meetings promoted by the ESCAP secretariat and was impressed by the fact that a workable operational TCDC training programme among the participating countries had been developed within a very short time in the course of a meeting. He recommended to the Commission that ESCAP should expand its support to TCDC and ECDC activities and increase its joint promotion of such activities with other United Nations agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

677. The representative of UNDP informed the Commission that TCDC was a major feature and an important modality of the UNDP programme, both globally and in the ESCAP region. In the context of regional co-operation programmes, UNDP projects were geared to TCDC through networking arrangements, exchange programmes and the sharing of experience; UNDP encouraged the recipient countries to earmark their country IPF resources for TCDC action-oriented projects. He further informed the Commission that there was a global facility in the UNDP Special Unit for TCDC in New York which promoted TCDC through catalytic support when other sources of funding were not available. The support was given to cover the international travel and other international costs of the TCDC activities.

Special problems faced by Pacific island countries: the Commission's activities in the Pacific

678. The Commission had before it documents E/ESCAP/687 and Corr.1 and Add.1. It commended the secretariat on presenting a very useful and comprehensive report on the special problems faced by the Pacific island countries, and on progress in the implementation of Commission resolution 269 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 on the Commission's activities in the Pacific.

679. The Commission was struck by the revealing, if gloomy, account of the economic performance of many Pacific island countries contained in the report. It was particularly concerned to note that, owing to a variety of external and domestic constraints on development, not only had income growth been

unstable but the rate of growth of the subregion was, on the average, among the lowest of the developing ESCAP region. That had led to a long-term decline in the standard of living over a large part of the Pacific island subregion.

680. The Commission expressed great satisfaction at the successful implementation of resolution 269 (XLIV), which had resulted in the participation of an unprecedentedly large number of Pacific delegations in the forty-fifth session of the Commission; a number of delegations were attending the current session after an absence of several years. The Commission expressed appreciation of the contributions of Governments, which had, in part, made such enhanced participation possible. Many delegations expressed the hope that additional support would be forthcoming to assist the participation by Pacific island members and associate members in future Commission sessions at that enhanced level. The delegations of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea made pledges of specific financial contributions to the special trust fund for 1989, while the representatives of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau indicated that their Governments were seriously considering providing some financial support to the trust fund for 1989. One delegation indicated that its future financial support for Commission resolution 269 (XLIV) would rest on its evaluation of the implementation of the resolution in 1989.

681. The Commission considered several requests for donor support for the establishment of a modest Pacific representation office in Bangkok. In view of the need for elaboration of the facilities required, it was agreed that further consultations were necessary among the Pacific island members and associate members before any steps could be taken to meet the requests.

682. The Commission welcomed the secretariat proposal for technical assistance to examine the patterns of past economic performance by Pacific island countries, and to investigate feasible options to meet the challenge of a changing external environment in the 1990s. The representative of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands indicated his Government's willingness to host one of the meetings if the proposed project was funded for implementation. Some delegations suggested that use could be made of existing research and urged that every effort should be made by the secretariat to avoid duplication with work already done or currently being undertaken by other agencies and institutions. The need for better general co-ordination in the Pacific among donor agencies was stressed. It was also emphasized that project activities and outputs should lead to concrete and implementable policy recommendations. The Commission recommended that the promotion of private sector participation, productive enterprises and services (including tourism), self-sufficiency and institution-building should receive special emphasis in the proposed project.

683. The Commission took note of the comprehensive statement on development problems, issues and needs for technical assistance jointly put forward by Pacific island countries during informal consultations with the secretariat. Several donor

Government delegations indicated that the expressed needs for technical assistance in the area of development of human resources, institutional capabilities, and statistical data bases and information would receive the most careful consideration by their Governments and that the necessary assistance could be channelled on a bilateral or multilateral basis, including through ESCAP. In particular, the Commission was informed that the possibility of providing the requested services of a statistical adviser at EPOC would be looked at closely by the Government of Australia. Other areas of need for technical assistance identified by a number of Pacific island delegations included the greenhouse effect on island ecosystems and the sea level, and foreign investment policies and options.

684. The Commission expressed appreciation of the resumption and revitalization by the secretariat of the annual orientation programme with a new focus on the training component during 1989. It urged the secretariat to continue that activity, which was considered a most useful and cost-effective way of maximizing the exposure of Pacific island government officials to the work of the secretariat and of the Commission.

685. The Commission expressed appreciation of the wide range of activities implemented by the various divisions, units and offices of the secretariat for the benefit of Pacific island countries. It welcomed the assumption of duties by the new Head of EPOC, which had resulted in the invigoration and increased effectiveness of EPOC and the reversal during 1989 of the earlier decline in Pacific island participation in those activities. It was, however, indicated that the decrease in the number of fellowship schemes, training courses and meetings organized exclusively for the Pacific island subregion was a contributing factor in the fall in the number of island participants in secretariat activities. Many delegations urged the secretariat to increase the number of subregional activities undertaken by it.

686. The Commission expressed its deep appreciation to the Governments of Australia, France, Japan, the Netherlands and New Zealand, and to UNDP, for their generous support in cash or in kind for the implementation of activities involving Pacific island participation in the previous and current years. In that context, several donor Governments indicated that they would continue to support EPOC financially in 1989. Several other delegations stressed the importance of ECDC-TCDC, outlined the various areas of technical assistance provided by their Governments under the national ECDC and TCDC modalities, and announced their willingness to extend co-operation to Pacific island Governments in suitable areas where needs had been identified, using those modalities.

687. The Commission took note of the interest expressed by the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands in becoming a full member of ESCAP. The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that when a formal request to that effect was received from the Republic of the Marshall Islands, it would be forwarded to the Legal Counsel of the United Nations in New York for his views.

Announcement of intended contributions

688. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/688 and Corr.1.

689. The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that, with total cash contributions of \$US 22.68 million in 1988, ESCAP extrabudgetary funding for 1988 had surpassed the funding provided by the regular budget by about \$US 5 million. Thus, the importance of extrabudgetary resources in implementing the ESCAP programme of work had increased significantly.

690. Concerning the sources of cash contributions in 1988, the Executive Secretary noted that about 59 per cent had come from the United Nations family, with UNDP, which had contributed about \$US 10 million, ranking as the largest extrabudgetary donor. Donor countries had contributed about \$US 9.3 million.

691. The Executive Secretary mentioned that the establishment of co-operation funds between ESCAP and developing member countries, such as the China-ESCAP co-operation projects and the Korea-ESCAP Co-operation Fund, implied a growing sense of commitment on the part of members in the region. They represented a welcome addition to contributions from traditional donors and facilitated the implementation of many programme activities. He expressed the hope that more developing countries in the region would follow suit.

692. The Executive Secretary pointed out that the growing importance of contributions in kind, particularly the provision of 46 experts on a non-reimbursable loan basis in 1988, had temporarily offset serious staff constraints at a time of stringent reductions in regular staff.

693. In expressing deep gratitude for all the extrabudgetary cash contributions, as well as for the contributions in kind, the Executive Secretary further pointed out that the sector that emerged as receiving most support from donors was the "Transport II" programme, relating to shipping, ports and inland waterways. That might be regarded as a donor response to the priority the Commission attached to the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994. Four other sectors that had received sizeable donor cash support during 1988 were "Food and agriculture", "International trade and development finance", "Transport I", relating to transport, communications and tourism, and "Environment". Furthermore, there had been a marked increase in the number of TCDC activities supported by the secretariat in 1988 as compared with 1987, owing to generous contributions to the ESCAP TCDC supplementary fund by the Governments of China, the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of Korea and Sweden. In that connection, the Executive Secretary drew the attention of the Commission to the importance of an adequate and timely response from donors to requests for funding of projects resulting from themes adopted by the Commission. Since quick responses had been forthcoming from donors in the past, the Executive Secretary felt confident that funds would be forthcoming to assist the secretariat in implementing the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region.

694. The Executive Secretary reported that self-evaluation was now integrated into the programme planning budgeting and monitoring cycle and had proved to be a valuable tool for the preparation of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. He further reported the findings of phase I of the in-depth evaluation of the ESCAP energy programme, which indicated that energy was still a priority and would remain so for all developing countries for several decades to come. He invited donor countries to contribute in cash to the undertaking of in-depth evaluation exercises by regional institutions, as well as to support developing countries through technical co-operation activities in order to strengthen their evaluation capacity, and to contribute in kind to the manning of the Operations Evaluation Unit.

695. The Executive Secretary, in appealing for increased contributions, reminded the Commission of the severe financial constraints besetting the three regional institutions: the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific; the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology; and the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific. He observed that, when making pledges to those institutions, delegations might bear in mind the suggestion made by the secretariat the previous year that the least developed countries and other developing countries consider \$US 1,000 and \$US 15,000 respectively as indicative of appropriate levels of contribution.

696. The Executive Secretary expressed confidence that the Governments would continue to render unflagging support to ESCAP activities. He therefore hoped that the results of the pledging exercise would once again reaffirm the commitment of the member States to the ideals and purposes for which the Commission had been established.

697. The Commission took note of the following intended contributions announced for 1989.

698. *Afghanistan.* The representative of Afghanistan expressed appreciation to the ESCAP secretariat of its assistance to that country in various areas towards the achievement of its socio-economic development plan, and reiterated the full support of his Government for the ESCAP programme of work. The intended contributions would be indicated to the secretariat in the near future.

699. *Australia.* The representative of Australia announced the following contributions:

	\$A
ESCAP programme of work, including support to EPOC of \$US 100,000	800,000
SIAP	60,000
RNAM	30,000

In addition, Australia would contribute \$A 100,000 to APDC. The representative of Australia expressed support for the Commission's view that financial support for the core institutional costs of regional institutions should be the direct responsibility of the recipient countries. The Australian Government therefore intended to phase out institutional funding

for regional centres, but would consider funding programme support for specific priority activities.

700. *Bangladesh.* The representative of Bangladesh indicated that the intended contributions of his Government were the following:

	\$US
APCTT	5,000
SIAP	5,000
CGPRT Centre	1,000
RNAM	6,000

In addition, Bangladesh would contribute \$US 15,000 to APDC.

701. *Bhutan.* The representative of Bhutan announced that his Government would indicate its intended contribution in the near future.

702. *Brunei Darussalam.* The representative of Brunei Darussalam announced the following contribution:

SIAP	\$US 5,000
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In addition, a contribution of \$US 10,000 would be made to APDC.

703. *Burma.* The representative of Burma announced that his Government would make a contribution of \$US 2,000 to the programme of work of ESCAP.

704. *China.* The representative of China announced the following contributions:

- (a) Programme of work - for China-ESCAP co-operation projects - ¥RMB 460,000 and \$US 120,000 (including \$US 40,000 for the ESCAP TCDC supplementary fund)

- (b) Regional institutions:

	\$US
APCTT	15,000
SIAP	20,000

In addition, China would contribute \$US 40,000 to CCOP, \$US 50,000 to APDC and ¥RMB 100,000 to the Typhoon Committee.

705. *France.* The representative of France announced that the intended contribution of his Government in cash and in kind would amount to F 11.4 million, representing an increase of about 10 per cent over the 1988 level, to be allocated in the following way:

- (a) Cash contribution:

	F
CGPRT Centre	325,000
ESCAP programme of work (REDP)	350,000
Human settlements programme	1,100,000

Special fund for the benefit of the Pacific countries 100,000

Regional remote sensing activities 200,000

- (b) Contributions in kind:

Expert services for the CGPRT Centre equivalent to 1,100,000

Expert services for EPOC equivalent to 800,000

Expert services for the ESCAP programme of work equivalent to 6,600,000

- (c) Cash contribution of F 325,000 and expert services equivalent to F 600,000 for the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin

706. *India.* The representative of India announced the following contributions:

	\$US
APCTT	100,000 (in local currency)
SIAP	10,000

707. *Indonesia.* The representative of Indonesia announced the following contributions:

- (a) Cash contribution:

	\$US
APCTT	10,000
SIAP	40,000
RNAM	8,000

- (b) Contributions in kind:

For the CGPRT Centre, equivalent to 30,000

In addition, Indonesia would contribute \$US 40,000 to CCOP, \$US 47,300 to APDC, \$M 582,152 to SEATRADC, and \$US 49,576 to CIRDAP.

708. *Islamic Republic of Iran.* The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced that, subject to the final approval of the Parliament, his Government's intended contributions were \$US 15,000 for the programme of work of ESCAP.

709. *Japan.* The representative of Japan announced that the total assistance of his Government to ESCAP in cash and in kind, including technical co-operation, would be approximately \$US 9.2 million, distributed in the following way:

- (a) \$US 2.5 million for the implementation of ESCAP projects under the Japan-ESCAP Co-operation Fund
- (b) A cash contribution of about \$US 843,600 to SIAP

- (c) An estimated provision of about \$US 1,742,400 for host facilities and personnel at SIAP
- (d) Expert services provided on a non-reimbursable loan basis by the Japan International Co-operation Agency at an estimated cost of \$US 2,641,000
- (e) Five group training courses, of which two would be conducted jointly with SIAP, at an estimated cost of \$US 976,000
- (f) A cash contribution of \$US 350,000 to APDC
- (g) A cash contribution of \$US 125,000 to the Interim Mekong Committee.

710. *Malaysia.* The representative of Malaysia announced the following contributions:

	\$US
SIAP	7,000
APCTT	10,000

In addition, Malaysia would contribute \$US 40,000 to CCOP, and \$US 42,000 and \$M 400,000 to APDC.

711. *Mongolia.* The representative of Mongolia indicated that his Government would contribute \$US 2,000 in national currency to the ESCAP programme of work, representing an increase of 100 per cent over the 1988 level.

712. *Nepal.* The representative of Nepal announced that the 1989 intended contributions would be at the same level as 1988, and would be the following:

	\$US
ESCAP programme of work	2,492
APCTT	500
CGPRT Centre	500
RMRDP	500
SIAP	500

In addition, Nepal would contribute \$US 1,500 to APDC.

713. *The Netherlands.* The representative of the Netherlands announced that the Netherlands would contribute f 3.0 million, being the counter-value of approximately \$US 1.5 million at current exchange rates, to the ESCAP programme of work. That would include a contribution to EPOC.

714. *Pakistan.* The representative of Pakistan announced the following contributions, subject to parliamentary approval:

	\$US
APCTT	5,000
RMRDP	500
SIAP	8,000
RNAM (Phase IV)	14,000

He also announced that his Government would contribute \$US 30,000 to APDC.

715. *Papua New Guinea.* The representative of Papua New Guinea announced the following contributions:

	\$US
SIAP	3,839
EPOC	3,000
Pacific Trust Fund	5,000

716. *The Philippines.* The representative of the Philippines announced the following contributions:

CGPRT Centre	\$US	5,000
SIAP	\$US	6,000
RNAM	P	525,000
APCTT	\$US	10,000

In addition, the Philippines would contribute \$US 20,000 to CCOP.

717. *Republic of Korea.* The representative of the Republic of Korea announced the following contributions:

	\$US
ESCAP programme of work under the Korea-ESCAP Co-operation Fund	300,000
SIAP	20,000
APCTT	20,000
RNAM	11,500
CGPRT Centre	15,000

In addition, the Republic of Korea would provide four experts on a non-reimbursable loan basis, equivalent to \$US 280,000, and a cash contribution of \$US 73,900 for the Seminar on the Revision of the System of National Accounts. Contributions for APDC and CCOP would be announced at their respective general sessions.

718. *Singapore.* The representative of Singapore announced that a contribution of \$US 5,000 would be made to SIAP.

719. *Sri Lanka.* The representative of Sri Lanka announced that his Government would inform the secretariat of its intended contributions in the near future.

720. *Thailand.* The representative of Thailand announced the following contributions:

	\$US
APCTT	5,000
SIAP	10,000
RNAM	Baht 250,000

In addition, Thailand would contribute \$US 40,000 to APDC, and \$US 30,000 to CCOP. The contribution of Thailand to the Typhoon Committee would be \$US 12,000, on the conditions stated at the fortieth session of the Commission held at Tokyo in 1984.

721. *Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.* The representative of the USSR announced that in 1989 his Government would provide fellowships for study in the USSR. Eight seminars would be conducted in the USSR for participants from ESCAP developing members, which would involve an outlay of about \$US 1.0 million from funds provided by the USSR to UNDP and the United Nations regular programme on technical co-operation. In addition, the USSR would bear in-country costs associated with hosting the seminars, estimated at R 250,000-300,000. Furthermore, the Government of the USSR would continue to provide expert services on a non-reimbursable loan basis.

722. *United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.* The representative of the United Kingdom said that his Government would continue to provide extrabudgetary support for various ESCAP activities, including an expert for the regional maritime strategy study and consultancy services for FADINAP. The United Kingdom would also consider ESCAP requests for consultancy services at various regional seminars.

723. *Viet Nam.* The representative of Viet Nam announced that his Government would contribute \$US 1,000 for the ESCAP programme of work. In addition, his Government intended to contribute \$US 1,000 for APCTT and \$US 1,500 for APDC.

724. *Federal Republic of Germany.* The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany indicated that his Government would continue its co-operation with ESCAP in the agreed areas of co-operation. He noted that evaluation had been fully integrated into the entire programme planning, budgeting, and monitoring work of ESCAP, which should make ESCAP activities more transparent and visible to member countries.

725. *Norway.* The representative of Norway advised the secretariat that Norwegian assistance to ESCAP in 1989 would amount to Nkr. 6.5 million (approximately equivalent to \$US 1.0 million) for activities, mainly in the fields of shipping, the environment, women in development and TCDC. In addition, special budget allocations in the fields of the environment and women in development would also be available for new catalytic projects. The specific amount of the additional allocations would be communicated to ESCAP in due course.

726. The total pledges of contributions in cash and in kind for 1989 made by 26 member countries and 2 observer States amounted to approximately \$US 19.32 million. That total, mainly in the form of cash contributions, included financial assistance amounting to about \$US 1.56 million to CCOP, APDC, the Interim Mekong Committee, and other affiliated programmes of ESCAP. The net contribution to the institutions amounted to \$US 17.76 million, representing an increase of \$US 3.76 million, or 26 per cent over the 1988 announcement of intended contributions made by members and associate members and observers.

727. The Commission noted that the total pledges mentioned above did not include possible contributions from other member and donor countries

which had made no announcement of intended contributions at the current session, nor the value of several unaccounted contributions pledged in kind. In addition, extrabudgetary resources received from UNDP, UNFPA and other agencies of the United Nations system for ESCAP-executed projects were not reflected in the total pledges.

728. The Executive Secretary expressed deep appreciation of the announcements of intended contributions by member and donor Governments to the extrabudgetary resources of ESCAP, which would assist the secretariat in implementing the activities mandated by the Commission. In conclusion, he emphasized the three important elements of ESCAP programming work. First, the sectoral committees, various expert group meetings, country missions, and the Commission itself provided the central direction in determining the priorities of ESCAP activities. Second, for the purpose of project selection and review, the Project Review Committee had been instituted within the secretariat to assume the important role of project refinement and project design improvement, thereby further sharpening the secretariat's perception of the priorities. Finally, evaluation had become an integral part of project implementation and had been built into the total programme. The Executive Secretary expressed his appreciation to donors, particularly the Federal Republic of Germany, for their strong support in the evaluation activities of ESCAP.

Activities of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

729. The Commission considered and endorsed document E/ESCAP/690, the report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission. The report had been prepared by the Deputy Permanent Representative of India to ESCAP, the Rapporteur of the Advisory Committee, who introduced it. The Commission expressed appreciation of the concise and accurate report presented by the Rapporteur, and of the constructive and important role that ACPR had played in facilitating close and routine consultations as well as understanding and co-operation both among the members and between the members and the secretariat.

730. The Commission noted that ACPR had held nine regular sessions during the previous year, at which it had: reviewed the conduct of the forty-fourth session of the Commission and made various recommendations for improvement for future sessions; reviewed the preparations for and conduct of three legislative committee sessions; reviewed the progress of preparation of the secretariat study on the theme topic for the forty-fifth session of the Commission; considered the status of implementation of Commission resolution 269 (XLIV) on the Commission's activities in the Pacific; reviewed the report of the ESCAP-NGO Regional Symposium on Co-operation for Economic and Social Development; considered channels of communication between the secretariat and the member Governments; undertaken a preliminary review of the programme of work and priorities and the medium-term plan; and assisted in

the preparation for the forty-fifth session of the Commission.

731. The Commission commended the work of ACPR during the year and noted, in particular, its consideration of ways to facilitate the work of Commission sessions. It was gratified to note that some of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee had already been implemented during the current session: the time allocated to discussion on ECDC and TCDC had been extended; an informal debate had been initiated on the theme topic; the work-load of the Plenary and the two Committees of the Whole had become more balanced; and the number of resolutions had been reduced.

732. The Commission expressed appreciation to ACPR of having reviewed the work programme and the medium-term plan at its special session prior to the session of the Commission, which had facilitated the Commission's discussion on the important issues during the session.

733. In expressing appreciation of the increased effectiveness of the Advisory Committee in performing its functions, the Commission also expressed the hope that its effectiveness would be further improved in the coming years. In that context, as attendance at ACPR meetings was almost invariably limited to those members which had permanent representation in Bangkok, it was considered desirable to find ways to ensure that the views of all members and associate members of the Commission, particularly those from the Pacific, could be considered. To facilitate that, it might be helpful if the secretariat could issue the documents earlier, in order to allow time for inputs to be received from those members and associate members not represented in Bangkok. The Commission recommended that that point be considered by the secretariat in consultation with ACPR.

734. The Executive Secretary expressed appreciation of the precise report presented by the Rapporteur and said that the Advisory Committee, which was unique to ESCAP, had developed over the years into an important institution, a source of strength and advice to the secretariat. He noted that most valuable advice often came from the spontaneous discussion and free exchange of views in ACPR, which was not necessarily based upon the secretariat's documentation. He felt that that valuable function of ACPR, which was different from other, more formal, committee meetings, should be maintained, and, where possible, enhanced.

Date, venue and any other subject pertaining to the forty-sixth session of the Commission

735. The Commission had before it document E/ESCAP/691. It accepted with appreciation the invitation of the Government of Malaysia to hold the forty-sixth session at Kuala Lumpur. The Executive Secretary, after consultation with the host Government and the Chairman, would determine the exact dates of the session and inform the members and associate members of the Commission accordingly. The Government of Malaysia agreed to bear all responsibility for the additional administrative, logistical and financial expenditure involved in

holding the session away from the headquarters of the Commission and to fulfil the obligations under the standard agreement between the United Nations and the host Government. The secretariat agreed to take the necessary steps to seek the approval of the Economic and Social Council and the endorsement of the United Nations General Assembly in that regard. The Executive Secretary assured the representative of the Government of Malaysia of the full co-operation of the secretariat in holding the forty-sixth session at Kuala Lumpur.

736. The Commission noted the need for receipt of documentation prepared by the secretariat in good time, that is, well in advance of the session, in accordance with the relevant United Nations General Assembly resolution.

737. The Commission took note of the following statement of the Chairman on the theme for the forty-sixth session of the Commission:

(a) After extensive discussions and consultations on item 5 of the agenda, "Restructuring the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s", which represented the theme topic for the session, there was a consensus that at its forty-sixth session the Commission should continue with the same theme topic. The Commission, while appreciating the secretariat study as a useful effort to identify and analyse issues relating to restructuring in the regional context, urged it to undertake further work to strengthen and extend the study in a number of directions, taking into account both external and internal factors.

(b) Taking into account different experiences in and various approaches to the restructuring process, the Commission recommended that the primary focus of further work to be undertaken by the secretariat should be on: "The challenges and opportunities of the restructuring efforts of the developing ESCAP economies in the 1990s and the need for a conducive international economic environment, especially through enhanced regional co-operation".

(c) The Commission also recommended that the secretariat should undertake more in-depth studies of restructuring possibilities in particular groups of economies, especially the least developed and Pacific island countries, as well as, in due course, on socio-economic implications of adjustment policies and programmes and the prospects of sustainable development.

(d) The Commission requested the Executive Secretary to seek extrabudgetary support from donor countries and agencies in order to undertake the suggested follow-up work, including consultations between the secretariat and government experts at the appropriate level, as well as other experts, and to submit the result of the study, which should be forward-looking and action-oriented, for consideration at the forty-sixth session of the Commission to be held at Kuala Lumpur.

Adoption of the report of the Commission

738. At its 693rd meeting on 5 April 1989, the Commission unanimously adopted the draft report.

Chapter IV

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS FORTY-FIFTH SESSION

45/1. Regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond

*The Economic and Social Commission for
Asia and the Pacific,*

Recalling General Assembly resolution 40/100 of 13 December 1985 on the world social situation,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 40/98 of 13 December 1985 on improvement of the role of the United Nations in the field of social development,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 43/182 of 20 December 1988 on the preparations for an international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade,

Reaffirming that the primary responsibility for their development rests with the developing countries themselves and that the commitment of other countries to support their efforts is of vital importance for the achievement of this aim,

Noting with great concern the critical social situation in many countries of the region, most clearly characterized by the persistence of mass poverty and widespread deprivation among specific disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in society, such as women, children and youth, elderly persons and the disabled,

Noting further with equal concern the increasing use of drugs among youth,

Recognizing that the eradication of absolute poverty, pursuit of distributive justice, and enhancement of popular participation should be central issues in all development efforts in the region,

Reiterating the importance of the family as the basic social unit for socio-economic development,

Taking into account the need to further develop viable strategies for integrating social concerns and the human dimension into overall development policy and planning as a means of improving the quality of life of the people and thereby ensuring social progress and stability in the region,

Bearing in mind the recommendations for action to accelerate social development processes in the region adopted by the Third Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, held in October 1985, and the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region adopted by the Commission at its forty-fourth session,

Taking note of the importance placed by the Committee on Population and Social Development at

its first session, held in November 1988, on the development of a viable regional social development strategy as a priority activity in the Commission's programme of work,

1. *Commends* the Executive Secretary for having embarked on a project to formulate a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond with the financial assistance of the United Nations Development Programme;

2. *Urges* the Executive Secretary to incorporate the themes of distributive justice, poverty eradication and popular participation in the strategy;

3. *Also urges* the Executive Secretary to incorporate in the strategy careful consideration of the family in development and of the pivotal role of this basic social institution, as well as the problem of drug abuse, *inter alia*, in the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development;

4. *Invites* all members and associate members, as well as concerned United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, to contribute to the development of the strategy through participation in the preparatory activities to be organized by the secretariat;

5. *Decides* to convene the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development at Manila in 1991 to consider and adopt a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the preparatory activities towards a regional social development strategy towards the year 2000 and beyond to the Commission at its forty-sixth session in 1990 and to submit the regional social development strategy adopted at the Ministerial Conference to the Commission at its forty-eighth session in 1992;

7. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the population-related recommendations of the Ministerial Conference in 1991 to the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference in 1992.

*693rd meeting
5 April 1989*

45/2. Establishment of a depository centre for United Nations human rights materials²

*The Economic and Social Commission for
Asia and the Pacific,*

¹ See paras. 492-496 above.

² See para. 504 above.

Recalling General Assembly resolution 43/140 of 8 December 1988 on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian and Pacific region,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 1988/73 of 10 March 1988 on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asian and Pacific region,

Welcoming the designation, by the Executive Secretary, of the Social Development Division of the secretariat as a regional focal point on human rights,

Requests the Executive Secretary to pursue, within existing resources, the establishment of a depository centre for United Nations human rights materials, the functions of which would include the collection, processing and dissemination of such materials in the ESCAP region.

693rd meeting
5 April 1989

45/3. Regional support for International Literacy Year³

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 42/104 of 7 December 1987 proclaiming 1990 as International Literacy Year and recommending that the regional commissions consider at their respective forums the contributions that they could make to the success of the Year,

Recalling Commission resolution 266 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 on International Literacy Year,

Recalling also its resolution 274 (XLIV) of 20 April 1988 on the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region,

Noting the emphasis placed on literacy and basic education as critical components in human resources development, and particularly noting the recommendations contained in the Jakarta Plan of Action regarding literacy and basic education for all,

Welcoming with appreciation the decision of the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Bank to convene the World Conference on Education for All - Meeting Basic Learning Needs, at Bangkok in 1990,

1. *Urges* all members and associate members to participate actively in the World Conference;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to lend active support and, as far as possible, provide substantive inputs to the World Conference;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, as well as on action being taken by members and associate members in implementation of Commission resolution 266 (XLIV).

693rd meeting
5 April 1989

45/4. Integrated programme on rural development⁴

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its earlier resolutions 161 (XXXII) of 31 March 1976 and 172 (XXXIII) of 29 April 1977 in which it expressed grave concern at the problems of rural poverty and called for the promotion of growth with social justice in the region through mutual co-operation between Governments and the United Nations agencies,

Recognizing the serious efforts made by the Governments of the developing countries of the region, the support of the international community and their accomplishments in redressing rural poverty,

Convinced of the need for Governments to continue their efforts to focus on alleviation of rural poverty through the active participation of the beneficiaries themselves in the planning, implementation and evaluation of such activities to ensure the relevance of programmes and equitable sharing of benefits,

Also convinced of the continued need for the international community to supplement the efforts of the developing countries of the region,

Recognizing the need to focus urgent attention on areas such as employment generation, including self-employment opportunities, development of rural women, promotion of people's participation, monitoring and evaluation,

Expressing concern over the continued plight of millions of rural poor in the region, including in particular in the least developed countries, who have not been adequately reached by the fruits of development,

Expressing appreciation of the assistance provided by the United Nations agencies, including in particular the members of the Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific and the Committee itself to the developing countries of the region in the alleviation of rural poverty,

Taking into account the recent review of integrated rural development strategies undertaken by experts designated by a number of developing member Governments at Suwon, Republic of Korea and their reaffirmation of the Interagency Co-ordinated Plan of

³ See paras. 499-502 above.

⁴ See paras. 265-271 above.

Action on Integrated Rural Development in the ESCAP Region,

1. *Invites* member countries to accord increased priority in the allocation of resources to rural poverty alleviation programmes, as well as make greater efforts to distribute resources equitably in the rural areas;

2. *Also invites* the international community, in particular developed countries and the international funding agencies, to increase substantially their assistance to developing countries of the Asian and Pacific region in implementing integrated rural development activities for the alleviation of rural poverty;

3. *Requests* the United Nations agencies to further collaborate in providing assistance to the developing countries in poverty alleviation programmes in rural areas;

4. *Invites* the participating countries and organizations to co-operate actively in and to increase their assistance towards the implementation of the interagency programme on integrated rural development;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, within existing budgetary resources:

(a) To further strengthen and implement the Interagency Co-ordinated Plan of Action on Integrated Rural Development in the ESCAP Region;

(b) To hold periodic consultations with member countries to assess their needs for their poverty alleviation programmes for the disadvantaged groups;

6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

693rd meeting
5 April 1989

45/5. Fulfilling the objectives of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction in the ESCAP region⁵

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 42/169 of 11 December 1987 in which, *inter alia*, it was decided to designate the 1990s as a decade in which the international community, under the auspices of the United Nations, would pay special attention to fostering international co-operation in the field of natural disaster reduction,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 43/202 of 20 December 1988 in which,

inter alia, the Secretary-General was requested to further strengthen co-ordination within the United Nations system in order to ensure better preparation for the Decade,

Recognizing that natural disasters, such as windstorms (cyclones, typhoons), floods, droughts, locust infestations, tsunamis, earthquakes, landslides, volcanic eruptions and other calamities of natural origin are a cause of common concern in the ESCAP region,

Also recognizing that the tremendous destruction of human resources and property triggered by natural disasters represents a great loss to countries of the region and deprives developing countries of resources which could otherwise be mobilized for economic and social development, thereby further impeding their development process,

Further recognizing that the primary responsibility for defining the general goals and directions of efforts undertaken in the framework of an international decade for natural disaster reduction and for implementing the measures that would result from its activities lies with the Governments of the countries concerned,

Emphasizing that a concerted effort, both national and international, is essential in mitigating risks arising from natural disasters, as well as co-ordinating disaster relief, preparedness and prevention,

Bearing in mind the inter-sectoral character of natural disaster reduction work,

Taking note of the secretariat's work on prevention and mitigation of natural disasters in such fields as establishment of early warning systems, risk analysis in collaboration with the ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee and Panel on Tropical Cyclones, and other concerned international organizations, including the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator,

1. *Invites* the Governments of its members and associate members to accord priority to activities related to natural disaster reduction and mitigation in their national development plans;

2. *Urges* the Governments of its members and associate members to designate the appropriate mechanisms to implement, co-ordinate and monitor activities related to natural disaster reduction with a view to achieving the goals of the Decade;

3. *Calls upon* the Executive Secretary, in co-operation with the member Governments and the concerned international organizations, to promote and support co-operative efforts for attaining the objectives of the Decade as contained in General Assembly resolution 42/169;

4. *Further calls upon* the Executive Secretary to set up within the secretariat appropriate arrangements for interdivisional co-ordination and consultation to ensure that the intersectoral character of natural disaster reduction is reflected in all concerned programme activities of the Commission;

⁵ See paras 390-392 above.

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to further strengthen, where possible within the existing budgetary resources, the activities of the secretariat to assist the members and associate members in their preparation of a practical and intersectoral programme of action for the Decade at the country level and to mobilize the necessary international support for the successful implementation of the programmes for the Decade;

6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to study, in consultation with the relevant international organizations and in the context of the framework of activities being developed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and propose, activities for ESCAP in the implementation of the objectives of the Decade, and to submit a report to the Commission at its forty-sixth session for its consideration.

*693rd meeting
5 April 1989*

Annex I

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES, 1990-1991

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Development issues and policies	87
Energy	90
Environment	93
Food and agriculture	94
Human settlements	96
Industrial development	97
International trade and development finance	99
Marine resources	102
Natural resources	103
Population	106
Science and technology	108
Social development	110
Statistics	113
Transport I (transport, communications and tourism)	115
Transport II (shipping, ports and inland waterways)	118
Transnational corporations	120
Appendix	121

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PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES

		<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
		<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
Programme total:		336	24	2 981
Subprogramme 1: <i>Economic and social development strategies and policies</i>		72	-	95
<i>Programme elements:</i>				
1.1	<i>Analysis of economic and social policy issues of major concern to the region, including review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade*</i>	36	-	-
<i>Output:</i>				
(a) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Development Planning and Statistics (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Reports to the Commission on review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade (one, first quarter, 1990; one, first quarter, 1991)				
1.2	<i>Comparative analysis of strategies, policies, policy instruments and institutions for economic and social development in the region</i>	36	-	95
<i>Output:</i>				
Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of employment and productivity in the light of new technological developments through studies and an expert group meeting (1990-1991); (b) Assessment of new roles for the private and public sectors in the development process of developing countries in the region through studies and an expert group meeting (1990-1991)				
Subprogramme 2: <i>Development planning methods, modelling and projections, and administrative systems</i>		72	-	1 325.5
<i>Programme elements:</i>				
2.1	<i>Development modelling and projections, and strengthening of development planning methods and capabilities*</i>	48	-	1 190.5
<i>Output:</i>				
Technical assistance: (a) Development of an interlinked model system (1990-1991); (b) Improvement of capabilities of national planners in development planning methods and techniques (1990-1991)				
2.2	<i>Research and assistance in public finance</i>	24	-	135
<i>Output:</i>				
Technical assistance: Review and evaluation of budgetary policy and control including public sector enterprise evaluation (1990-1991)				

* Indicates priority programme element.

PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES (continued)

	<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
	<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
Subprogramme 3: <i>Special measures in favour of the least developed countries</i>	48	-	510.5
<i>Programme elements:</i>			
3.1 <i>Monitoring and review of progress in the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action and assistance in the development of related programmes and policies in the least developed countries of the region*</i>	24	-	330.5
<i>Output:</i>			
(i) (a) Report to the Commission on the socio-economic performance of the least developed countries of the region within the context of the Substantial New Programme of Action (first quarter, 1990; first quarter, 1991); (b) Report to the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (second quarter, 1990)			
(ii) Technical assistance: Improvement of project planning and implementation capabilities in the least developed countries (1990-1991)			
3.2 <i>In-depth studies on problems of special concern to the least developed countries of the region</i>	24	-	180
<i>Output:</i>			
(i) Technical publication: Studies on domestic savings mobilization efforts and financial resource requirements of the least developed countries of the region (one, second quarter 1990; one, second quarter, 1991)			
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Assessment of domestic savings mobilization efforts in the least developed countries of the region through studies and training/seminars (1990-1991); (b) Assessment of financial resource requirements for the development of the least developed countries of the region through studies and training/seminars (1990-1991)			
Subprogramme 4: <i>Surveys and information on economic and social developments</i>	96	-	-
<i>Programme elements:</i>			
4.1 <i>Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*</i>	72	-	-
<i>Output:</i>			
(i) Technical publication: Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific (one, first quarter, 1990; one, first quarter, 1991)			
(ii) Expert Group Meeting on Development Issues and Policies (one, third quarter, 1990; one, third quarter, 1991) (intermediate output)			
4.2 <i>Collection, analysis and dissemination of information on major development issues and problems</i>	24	-	-
<i>Output:</i>			
Technical publications: (a) Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific (two issues, second and fourth quarters, 1990; two issues, second and fourth quarters, 1991); (b) Development Papers (two issues, second and fourth quarters, 1990; two issues, second and fourth quarters, 1991)			

PROGRAMME: DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES (continued)*Resource requirements in
1990-1991*

	<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
Subprogramme 5: <i>Special measures in favour of island developing countries</i>	48	24	1 050

Programme element:

5.1 <i>Advisory, consultancy and training services, including research on development planning, policies and issues*</i>	48	24	1 050
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Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening the national development policy and planning processes (1990-1991);
(b) Promotion of trade and investment co-operation among Pacific island countries, and between them and other
ESCAP subregions (1990-1991)

PROGRAMME: ENERGY

		<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
		<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
Programme total:		153	24	528
Subprogramme 1: <i>Energy assessment and planning</i>		49	-	78
<i>Programme elements:</i>				
1.1 <i>Regional energy scenes and economy*</i>		25	-	28
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) (a) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Senior expert group meeting of energy experts preparatory to the sixteenth session of the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy (third quarter, 1991) (intermediate activity)				
(ii) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the regional energy scene; development trends (fourth quarter, 1991)				
(iii) Technical publications: (a) Electric Power in Asia and the Pacific (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) ESCAP Energy News (three, 1990; three, 1991)				
1.2 <i>Strengthening of national capabilities in integrated energy planning and programming, and management of energy demand</i>		24	-	50
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Substantive servicing of the Tripartite Review Conference of the Regional Energy Development Programme (third quarter, 1990; third quarter, 1991)				
(ii) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the Regional Working Group on Energy Planning and Co-ordination (third quarter, 1991)				
(iii) Technical publications: (a) Energy resources development series (third quarter, 1990); (b) Sectoral energy demand analysis in eight Asian countries (fourth quarter, 1990)				
(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Development of integrated energy planning through forums, workshops, training seminars and formation of a regional working group on energy planning and co-ordination (1990-1991); (b) Technical support to regional projects (Regional Energy Development Programme, Pacific Energy Development Programme) and the Pacific Energy Meeting (1990-1991) (intermediate activity)				
Subprogramme 2: <i>Accelerated development and use of new and renewable sources of energy</i>		30	-	100
<i>Programme element:</i>				
2.1 <i>Assessment, co-operative research, development, demonstration and transfer, adaptation and application of mature, new and renewable energy technologies*</i>		30	-	100
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the Regional Working Group on Rural Energy Planning and New Energy in areas such as biogas, biomass/cookstoves/charcoal, geothermal, solar photovoltaic, solar thermal, mini hydro and wind energies, expected to be operating during the period (fourth quarter, 1991)				

PROGRAMME: ENERGY (*continued*)

<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>

(ii) Technical publication: Guidebook on rural electrification (fourth quarter, 1990)

(iii) Technical assistance: Development of integrated energy planning for rural applications through studies, training and assistance in the implementation of activities of the Regional Working Group on Rural and New Energy (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 3: *Integrated investigation, development, conservation and efficient use of overall energy with emphasis on conventional sources of energy*

74	24	350
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Programme elements:

3.1 *Development and utilization of coal, oil and natural gas resources*

26	24	100
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Output:

(i) Reports to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on: (a) the activities of the Regional Working Group on Coal (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) progress of the Regional Working Group on Natural Gas (fourth quarter, 1991); (c) the effects of different oil price scenario assumptions on regional economic development (fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical publication: Environmentally acceptable economic uses of abandoned offshore platforms with reference to tropical waters (1990)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory missions on oil- and gas-related issues, upstream and downstream (one each, first and third quarters, 1990; one each, first and third quarters, 1991); (b) Promotion of increased gas utilization and secondary and tertiary recovery of oil, through study tours and training, and assistance in the implementation of activities of the Regional Working Group on Natural Gas (1990-1991); (c) Human resources development using training courses, seminars and studies and the formation of a regional working group on coal (1990-1991)

3.2 *Energy conservation and conversion policy**

24	-	50
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Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the Regional Working Group on Energy Conservation (fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Advisory missions on energy conservation (one each, second and fourth quarters, 1990; one each, second and fourth quarters, 1991)

(iii) Technical assistance: Promotion of energy conservation through information exchange and training, with special reference to environmental protection and better energy management in cities and rural areas, and through assistance in the implementation of activities of the Regional Working Group on Energy Conservation (1990-1991)

3.3 *Power system planning and management and peaceful uses of nuclear energy**

24	-	200
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Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the progress of the Regional Working Group on Electric Power Development (fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Reports to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on: (a) the problems and prospects of electric power development in the ESCAP region (second quarter, 1990); (b) the prospects of nuclear electricity generation in the ESCAP region (fourth quarter, 1990)

PROGRAMME: ENERGY *(continued)*

(iii) Advisory missions on management and efficient utilization of electricity (one each, first and third quarters, 1990; one each, first and third quarters, 1991)

(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of optimum utilization and conservation of electricity through studies, training and assistance in the implementation of activities of the Regional Working Group on Electric Power Development (1990-1991); (b) Support to the regional activities organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency (1990-1991)

PROGRAMME: ENVIRONMENT

		<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
		<i>RB (work months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
Programme total:		96	120	3 211
Subprogramme 1: <i>Environmental problems in the ESCAP region</i>		96	120	3 211
<i>Programme elements:</i>				
1.1	<i>Environmental awareness*</i>	24	24	937
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Ministerial-level Conference on the Environment in Asia and the Pacific (second quarter, 1990)				
(ii) Technical publications: (a) ESCAP Environment News (quarterly); (b) Regional strategy on environmental management in Asia and the Pacific (fourth quarter, 1990)				
(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Environmental management in Asia and the Pacific through promotion of environmental awareness (1990-1991); (b) Establishment of a regional environmental data base (1990-1991)				
1.2	<i>Incorporation of environmental considerations into development planning and processes</i>	24	24	1 237
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Servicing of the Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment (fourth quarter, 1991)				
(ii) Report to the Commission on the environmental aspects of development planning and sustainable development (first quarter, 1990)				
(iii) Technical publications: (a) Environmentally sound and sustainable development: implications for ESCAP (third quarter, 1991); (b) Manual on pollution control technologies (first quarter, 1991); (c) Guidelines on pollution control technologies for potentially hazardous industries (second quarter, 1991)				
(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of environmentally sound and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific (1990-1991); (b) Dissemination and follow-up of the findings and recommendations of the World Commission on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific (1990-1991); (c) Enhancement of planning and management of environmental technology in Asia and the Pacific (1990-1991); (d) Strengthening national capabilities in natural resource area management in Asia and the Pacific (1990); (e) Environmental assessment of industrial and urban development in coastal areas of South-East Asia (1990-1991); (f) Training of policy planners and administrators on environmental management (1990-1991)				
1.3	<i>Management of terrestrial ecosystems*</i>	24	24	537
<i>Output:</i>				
Technical assistance: Strengthening of the Regional Network of Research and Training Centres on Desertification Control in Asia and the Pacific - Phase II (1990-1991)				
1.4	<i>Protection of the marine environment and related ecosystems</i>	24	48	500
<i>Output:</i>				
Technical assistance: (a) Enhancement of the national capabilities of member Governments for environmental management in Asia and the Pacific through protection of the environment and related ecosystems (1990-1991); (b) Technical support to co-ordinating group meetings of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (intermediate activity)				

PROGRAMME: FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

*Resource requirements in
1990-1991 -*

<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
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Programme total:

144	96	2 474
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Subprogramme 1: *Agricultural and rural development policy, planning and information systems*

72	-	559
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Programme elements:

1.1 *Review of agricultural development policies, strategies and performance, and research and development of coarse grains, pulses, roots and tuber crops**

24	-	147
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Output:

(i) (a) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Expert group meeting on selected regional issues concerning food, agriculture and rural development (1990) (intermediate activity)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Substantive backstopping to the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific, Bogor, Indonesia (1990-1991); (b) Strengthening of socio-economic development policies related to food and agriculture, covering such issues as international trade in agriculture, agriculture-industry linkages, modernization of fisheries and other emerging issues of regional importance (1990-1991)

1.2 *Food supply assessment and distribution**

24	-	286
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Output:

(i) Technical publication: Training manual on satellite crop monitoring (fourth quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical assistance: Assistance to Governments on satellite crop monitoring to mitigate the impact of drought-induced food shortages as well as the impact of floods (1990-1991)

1.3 *Development of agricultural information systems**

24	-	126
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Output:

(i) Technical publication: Agricultural Information Development Bulletin (quarterly)

(ii) Technical assistance: Development of successful agricultural communication techniques, including a regional network for co-operation in rural/agricultural communication with emphasis on electronic media (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 2: *Understanding of critical elements of agricultural development*

24	96	1 368
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Programme element:

2.1 *Operation of the Fertilizer Advisory, Development and Information Network for Asia and the Pacific and the agricultural requisites scheme for Asia and the Pacific**

24	96	1 368
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Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Regional Information Support Service on Agro-chemicals (monthly); (b) Agro-chemicals News in Brief (quarterly); (c) Fertilizer Trade Information (monthly); (d) Calendar of meetings on

PROGRAMME: FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (continued)

Resource requirements in
1990-1991

RB (work-months)	XB	XB funds (thousands of US dollars)
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agro-chemicals (quarterly); (e) Country studies on supply, marketing, distribution and use of fertilizers (one, fourth quarter, 1990; one each, second and fourth quarters, 1991); (f) Development of a computerized fertilizer data base under the Network of Fertilizer Information Systems (one, second quarters, 1990; one, second quarter, 1991); (g) ARSAP/CIRAD agro-pesticide index (one, fourth quarter, 1990; one, fourth quarter, 1991); (h) Illustrated pesticide safety guides in local languages (one, second quarter, 1990; one, fourth quarter, 1991); (i) Agro-pesticides: their integrated management and application (first quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Provision of advisory, information and training services for improved fertilizer production, use, trade and human resources development (1990-1991); (b) Improvement of fertilizer distribution and marketing systems (1990-1991); (c) Strengthening and promotion of regional and interregional co-operation in fertilizers (1990-1991); (d) Advisory services on pesticide safety and data collection (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 3: Rural development focusing on improving the condition of disadvantaged groups*

24	-	277
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Programme element:

3.1 Improving the socio-economic conditions of the rural poor and disadvantaged groups such as the farmers, landless, tenants, small and marginal fisherfolk and rural women, and utilization of agricultural residues as energy sources for productive activities

24	-	277
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Output:

(i) Technical publication: Study on utilization of agricultural residues and other biomass as energy sources for productive activities (second quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening of institutional measures for improving market access, credit delivery and recovery systems, and extension services; (b) Promotion of innovative methodologies for rural employment generation and income improvement, in co-operation, where feasible, with non-governmental organizations (1990-1991); (c) Improvement of the utilization of agricultural residues and other biomass as energy sources for productive activities in selected countries (1990-1991); (d) Sharing successful experience in the field of co-operatives (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 4: Co-ordination of the regional inter-agency programme on integrated rural development

24	-	270
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Programme element:

4.1 Promotion of regional co-operation in integrated rural development

24	-	270
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Output:

(i) (a) Substantive servicing of the United Nations Interagency Committee on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific and the Task Force on Rural Development (1990-1991); (b) Co-ordination of ESCAP sectoral activities in the field of integrated rural development (1990-1991); (c) Support to the ACC Task Force on Rural Development (1990-1991); (d) Co-ordination with relevant regional agencies such as the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific and with non-governmental organizations (1990-1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: Implementation of the Interagency Co-ordinated Plan of Action for Integrated Rural Development in the ESCAP Region (1990-1991)

PROGRAMME: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

		<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
		<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
Programme total:		72	48	781
Subprogramme 1: <i>Integrated settlements policies and planning</i>		24	20	281
<i>Programme element:</i>				
1.1 <i>Policies and strategies*</i>		24	20	281
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Industry, Technology and Human Settlements (third quarter, 1991)				
(ii) Report to the Commission on implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 (first quarter, 1990)				
(iii) Technical assistance: Human resources development for improved awareness, formulation and implementation of shelter strategies and settlement development (1990-1991)				
Subprogramme 2: <i>Development of shelter, infrastructure and land</i>		24	16	250
<i>Programme element:</i>				
2.1 <i>Development and management of low-income shelter and land*</i>		24	16	250
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Technical publication: Modular guide (third quarter, 1991)				
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Human resources development and information dissemination on shelter, infrastructure and building materials technology (1990-1991); (b) Introduction of innovative land development and management techniques (1991)				
Subprogramme 3: <i>Stimulation of institutional capabilities and public participation</i>		24	12	250
<i>Programme element:</i>				
3.1 <i>Strengthening regional and local institutions*</i>		24	12	250
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Technical publication: Guidelines for community-based housing finance (fourth quarter, 1990)				
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening local authorities and servicing the Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements (1990-1991) (intermediate); (b) Support to regional housing centres (intermediate); (c) Human resources development in housing finance and credit for low-income housing (1990); (d) Exchange of experience among non-governmental organizations and community leaders (1991)				

PROGRAMME: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

		<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
		<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
Programme total:		144	24	1 250
Subprogramme 1: <i>Policies and strategies</i>		48	24	407
<i>Programme elements:</i>				
1.1 <i>Review of industrial progress, plans and policies*</i>		24	24	57
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Industry, Technology and Human Settlements (third quarter, 1991)				
(ii) (a) Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology (third quarter, 1990); (b) <i>Ad Hoc</i> Expert Group Meeting on Industrial Development Perspectives (second quarter, 1990)(intermediate output)				
(iii) Technical publication: Industrial Development News in Asia and the Pacific (one, third quarter, 1990; one, third quarter, 1991)				
(iv) Technical assistance: Advisory missions on planning and policy formation on industrial development (two, second quarter, 1990; two, third quarter, 1991)				
1.2 <i>Development of agro-, allied and small and medium-scale industries*</i>		24	-	350
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Technical assistance: (a) Development of agro- and allied industries in the Asian and Pacific region (1990-1991); (b) Training and information exchange programme on small and medium-scale industries (1990-1991)				
(ii) Technical publication: Small Industries Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific (one, fourth quarter, 1990; one, fourth quarter, 1991)				
Subprogramme 2: <i>Resource mobilization and project development and implementation</i>		48	-	407
<i>Programme elements:</i>				
2.1 <i>Resource mobilization programme*</i>		24	-	257
<i>Output:</i>				
Technical assistance: Development of industrial skills and human resources (1990-1991)				
2.2 <i>Project development and implementation</i>		24	-	150
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Technical assistance: (a) Revitalization of industrial development activities through studies and workshops (1990-1991); (b) Investment promotion activities through meetings and advisory support (1990-1991)				
(ii) Technical publication: Study on sectoral industrial development (one, third quarter, 1990; one, third quarter, 1991)				

PROGRAMME: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (continued)**Resource requirements in
1990-1991**

<i>RB</i> <i>(work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds</i> <i>(thousands of</i> <i>US dollars)</i>
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Subprogramme 3: *Regional and subregional industrial co-operation*

24	-	286
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*Programme element:***3.1 *Regional industrial co-operation****

24	-	286
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Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of industrial co-operation within the Asian and Pacific region (1990-1991); (b) Promotion of industrial activities and pilot projects in least developed and island developing countries through advisory and consultancy services (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 4: *Enhancing the role and efficiency of industrial undertakings in the public sector*

24	-	150
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*Programme element:***4.1 *Improvement of technical and managerial efficiency in the public sector***

24	-	150
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Output:

(i) Technical publications: Studies on the improvement of technical and managerial efficiency, including privatization of public sector industries in selected developing countries (two, fourth quarter, 1990; one, fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: Improvement of technical and managerial efficiency in the public sector (1990-1991)

**PROGRAMME: INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT
FINANCE ^a**

		<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
		<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
Programme total:		312	96	2 752
Subprogramme 1: <i>Trade expansion, trade facilitation measures and monetary co-operation</i>		96	-	990
<i>Programme elements:</i>				
1.1 <i>Trade expansion and major policy issues*</i>		48	-	657.5
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) (a) Substantive servicing of a session of the Committee on Trade (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) Intergovernmental meeting to develop policy issues and measures to combat the adverse effects of the graduation of the generalized system of preferences (fourth quarter, 1991)				
(ii) Technical publication: Study on the impact of containerization on regional trade (one, fourth quarter, 1991)				
(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Assistance to Governments on proper and effective utilization of the generalized system of preferences facilities through advisory services and meetings (1990-1991); (b) Enhancement of national capabilities to bring about benefits from trade in services to national economies through advisory services and workshops (1990-1991); (c) Development of national capabilities to expand the scope and diversify trade, including trade in manufactures, high-technology goods and technology, through surveys and seminars (1990-1991); (d) Promotion of trade-creating joint ventures and trade-related foreign investments, including buy-back arrangements (1990-1991); (e) Development of regional investment services through application of ECDC/TCDC (1990-1991)				
1.2 <i>Monetary co-operation, trade and development finance, and balance-of-payments support</i>		24	-	31
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Substantive servicing of intergovernmental meetings on the Asian and Pacific Aviation Pool and on the Asian Reserve Fund (one, fourth quarter, 1990; one, fourth quarter, 1991)				
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of the Asian Clearing Union and the Asian Reinsurance Corporation through studies and high-level missions (1990-1991); (b) Development of regional insurance and reinsurance education programmes through ECDC/TCDC arrangements (1990-1991); (c) Development of financial and credit facilities for trade expansion and co-operation among financial institutions in the ESCAP region (1990-1991)				
1.3 <i>Trade and customs facilitation measures</i>		24	-	301.5
<i>Output:</i>				
Technical assistance: Development of manpower in the field of trade and customs facilitation (1990-1991)				

^a Subprogramme 6, Development of tourism, has been transferred from the Transport and Communications Division to the International Trade Division (see note *b* on page 117).

**PROGRAMME: INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT
FINANCE (continued)**

*Resource requirements in
1990-1991*

	<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
Subprogramme 2: <i>Trade promotion and development</i>	102	48	769.5

Programme elements:

2.1 <i>Trade information*</i>	42	24	301.5
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Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Trade information source data bank (bi-monthly); (b) Trade information source directory (quarterly); (c) TISNET trade information sheet (fortnightly, 23 issues per year); (d) TIS QUICK (irregular, 15-18 issues per year); (e) Prices of selected Asia/Pacific products (monthly); (f) Directory of trade promotion development organizations of developing countries and areas in Asia and the Pacific, fifth edition (fourth quarter, 1991); (g) Trade profiles (fourth quarter, 1991); (h) *Ad hoc* technical information service: computer print-outs, tapes and diskettes, using specialized TISNET data bases and trade inquiry/reply in response to requests from public and private sector organizations

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening of the Regional Trade Information Network (TISNET) through the building up of computerized data bases, organization of meetings of senior officials on TISNET and in-service training of trade information officials (1990-1991); (b) Development and strengthening of trade/commodity information centres in the developing countries of the ESCAP region, through advisory missions and training at national and regional levels, with particular reference to utilization of modern information technology

2.2 <i>Trade promotion development*</i>	30	24	301.5
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Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of co-operation between national trade promotion organizations (1990-1991); (b) Development of human resources in the field of trade promotion through training and advisory services (1990-1991)

2.3 <i>Market and product development*</i>	30	-	166.5
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Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Market guidebooks and traders' manual (two, 1990; two, 1991); (b) Market profiles of selected products/commodities (one, third quarter, 1990; one, fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: Expansion of exports of developing countries through trade fairs and advisory services (one, 1990; one, 1991)

Subprogramme 3: *Raw materials and commodities*

52	48	783
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Programme elements:

3.1 <i>Promotion of subregional, regional and interregional co-operation in selected raw materials and commodities of socio-economic importance to member countries of the region*</i>	28	-	301.5
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Output:

(i) Organization of intergovernmental meetings of regional co-operative bodies in jute, silk and tropical timber (one, first and third quarters, 1990; one, second and fourth quarters, 1991)

**PROGRAMME: INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT
FINANCE (continued)**

*Resource requirements in
1990-1991*

<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
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(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening of co-operation in jute, silk and tropical timber through studies, training workshops and seminars (1990-1991); (b) Co-operative measures for other commodities, like ramie, rattan, rubberwood furniture, and leather and leather products, through studies and workshops/seminars (1990-1991)

3.2 <i>Development of commodities of interest to the region</i>	24	48	481.5
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Output:

Technical assistance: Trade development of commodities of socio-economic interest through the development of mineral and agricultural commodities trade publications, development of econometric models, preparation of *ad hoc* studies and organization of training seminars (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 4: *Least developed, land-locked and island
developing countries*

30	-	18
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Programme element:

4.1 <i>Improvement of the trade performance of least developed, land-locked and island developing countries*</i>	30	-	18
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Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of a session of the Special Body on Land-locked Countries (fourth quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical assistance: Assistance to Governments in the improvement of the trade performance of least developed, land-locked and island developing countries (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 5: *Economic co-operation among developing
countries in trade-related areas*

32	-	191.5
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Programme element:

5.1 <i>Promotion of subregional, regional and interregional trade co-operation</i>	32	-	191.5
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Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of four sessions of the Bangkok Agreement Standing Committee

(ii) Report to the Bangkok Agreement Standing Committee on the promotional activities for the enlargement of membership and scope of the Bangkok Agreement (fourth quarter, 1991)

(iii) Technical publication: (a) Trade under the Bangkok Agreement (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) *Ad hoc* technical information service: computer tapes/diskettes and print-outs on trade and tariff data in response to requests from public and private sector organizations of the Bangkok Agreement countries (1990-1991)

(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of the Bangkok Agreement through studies and organization of high-level missions (1990-1991); (b) Development of an Asian chamber of commerce and industry, and entrepreneurial co-operation through studies and formulation of TCDC working groups (1990-1991)

PROGRAMME: MARINE RESOURCES

		<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
		<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
Programme total:		57	-	450
Subprogramme 1: <i>Exploration, evaluation development and management of marine mineral resources</i>		57	-	450
<i>Programme elements:</i>				
1.1	<i>Strengthening of national capabilities and technical support to regional projects concerning marine mineral resources and geology</i>	28	-	150
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) (a) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on progress of regional projects in support of the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas (CCOP) and the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting Activities for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas (CCOP/SOPAC)				
(ii) Technical publication: Study on the benefits derived from rational coastal resources management (fourth quarter, 1991)				
(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Training in the appraisal of the geology, occurrence development and management of marine mineral resources (1990-1991); (b) Technical support to ESCAP/UNDP regional projects in support of CCOP and CCOP/SOPAC (intermediate activity)				
1.2	<i>Strengthening of national capabilities and promotion of regional co-operation relating to the integrated implementation of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea*</i>	29	-	300
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Technical publication: Study on the integration of marine affairs activities within government concerns: implications for technical assistance projects (third quarter, 1991)				
(ii) Technical assistance: Strengthening of developing countries' capabilities with regard to the uniform implementation of integrated national marine policies under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1990-1991)				

PROGRAMME: NATURAL RESOURCES

*Resource requirements in
1990-1991*

<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
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Programme total:

246	72	1 870
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Subprogramme 1: *Exploration, evaluation, rational utilization
and management of mineral resources*

93	-	530
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Programme elements:

1.1 *Exploration, assessment and development
of mineral resources*

30	-	100
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Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy (fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Atlas of Stratigraphy: Quaternary Stratigraphy (second quarter, 1990; second quarter, 1991); (b) Atlas of Stratigraphy: Triassic (first quarter, 1991); (c) Atlas of Mineral Resources (third quarter, 1990; third quarter, 1991)

(iii) Newsletter (second and fourth quarters, 1990; second and fourth quarters, 1991)

1.2 *Strengthening of national capabilities of investigation
and development of mineral resources, and technical
support to regional and subregional mineral projects**

32	-	280
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Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Exploration monographs (first quarter, 1990; fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Review of mineral exploration activities 1988-1989 (second quarter, 1990); (c) Mineral Concentrations and Hydrocarbon Accumulations Series (second quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Technical support to the South-East Asia Tin Research and Development Centre (intermediate activity); (b) Training in mineral resources assessment and development through a regional mineral resources development programme (1990-1991)

1.3 *Geology for planning**

31	-	150
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Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Atlas of Urban Geology (one, 1990; one, 1991); (b) Geological aspects of natural hazards in land-use planning (one, 1990)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Training in environmental geology for sustained development: urban geology (1990); (b) Promotion of and training in geology for land-use planning (1991)

Subprogramme 2: *Rational development, management and
utilization of water resources*

129	-	540
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Programme elements:

2.1 *Support for the implementation of the Mar del Plata
Action Plan on Integrated Water Resources
Development and Management**

29	-	250
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PROGRAMME: NATURAL RESOURCES (continued)**Resource requirements in
1990-1991**

<i>RB</i> <i>(work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds</i> <i>(thousands of</i> <i>US dollars)</i>
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Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the status of implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan (fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical publication: Study on assessment of water resources of member countries and demands by user sectors - Phase I (fourth quarter, 1991)

(iii) Technical assistance: Promotion of application of guidelines for preparation of national master water plans among development planners through information exchange and training (1990-1991)

2.2 Promotion of regional co-operation in water resources development

27	-	-
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Output:

(i) Technical publication: Study on ground-water-quality monitoring in Asia and the Pacific (second quarter, 1991)

(ii) Organization of the meetings of the Interagency Task Force on Water for Asia and the Pacific (second and fourth quarters, 1990; second and fourth quarters, 1991) (intermediate activity)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Expert group meeting to review the study on ground-water-quality monitoring and to advise on establishing guidelines and systems for monitoring (third quarter, 1991) (intermediate activity); (b) Support to the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin (1990-1991) (intermediate activity)

2.3 Mitigation of damage from cyclones, floods and droughts*

24	-	100
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Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the preparedness, including available mechanisms and facilities, and measures for water-related natural disasters, consequences, mitigation and prevention in the interested countries of the region at the beginning of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (third quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical publication: Manual and guidelines for comprehensive flood loss prevention and management (fourth quarter, 1990)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of measures for reduction of water-related disasters in Asia and the Pacific through research, training and advisory services - Phase I (1990-1991); (b) Support to the Typhoon Committee and the Panel on Tropical Cyclones (1990-1991) (intermediate activity)

2.4 Information and training in water resources development

25	-	90
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Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Water Resources Journal (quarterly); (b) Confluence (one each, second and fourth quarters, 1990; one each, second and fourth quarters, 1991); (c) Water Resources Series (one, fourth quarter, 1990; one each, second, third and fourth quarters, 1991); (d) Collection and analysis of annual data on water resources development in the countries of the region for the ESCAP Statistical Yearbook (1990-1991) (intermediate activity)

(ii) Technical assistance: Promotion of information and expertise exchange among the participating institutes in the Regional Network for Training in Water Resources Development - Phase II (1990-1991)

PROGRAMME: NATURAL RESOURCES *(continued)*

<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>

2.5 *Non-conventional water development and environmental
aspects of water resources development*

24	-	100
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Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Study on prospects for the application of solar energy in water pumping in the region (second quarter, 1990); (b) Study on prospects for the application of wind energy in water pumping in the region (third quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: Promotion through training of consideration of the environment in the sustainable development of water resources and TCDC in water development (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 3: Cartography and remote sensing

24	72	800
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Programme element:

3.1 *Promotion of regional co-operation in the application
of remote sensing techniques for efficient management
of natural resources and the environment*

24	72	800
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Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy on the current status of application of remote sensing techniques for efficient assessment, development, utilization and management of natural resources and the environment (fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: Strengthening national capabilities in the application of remote sensing techniques for efficient assessment, development, utilization and management of natural resources and the environment (1990-1991)

PROGRAMME: POPULATION

<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>			
	<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
Programme total:	144	216	2 981
Subprogramme 1: <i>Population and development</i>	48	48	1 250.5
<i>Programme elements:</i>			
1.1 <i>Formulation and implementation of population-development policies and programmes*</i>	24	24	510.5
<i>Output:</i>			
(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Population and Social Development (third quarter, 1990)			
(ii) Reports to: (a) the Commission on population issues in the region (first quarter, 1990; first quarter, 1991); (b) the United Nations Population Commission on the population situation in the region (first quarter, 1991)			
(iii) Technical publications: (a) Study on consequences of population changes, Asian Population Studies Series (APSS) (four issues, third quarter, and one issue, fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Estimates of demographic indicators for Asian and Pacific countries (first quarter, 1990; first quarter, 1991)			
(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Advisory missions for the formulation and implementation of population-development policies and programmes (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991); (b) Pre-conference seminars for the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference (one, fourth quarter, 1990; one, fourth quarter, 1991)			
1.2 <i>Assistance to integrated population programmes for development in ESCAP member countries*</i>	24	24	740
<i>Output:</i>			
(i) Technical publications: (a) Study on population aging and its policy implications in the context of urbanization and industrialization, APSS (one, third quarter, 1990; one, third quarter, 1991); (b) Study on urbanization and socio-economic development in the ESCAP region, APSS (one, second quarter, 1991)			
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Regional advisory services to strengthen integrated population programmes for development (one each quarter, 1990 and 1991); (b) Planning small town and rural human resources development to reduce migration to large cities (1990-1991)			
(iii) Grants and fellowships: Fellowships for human resources development in population (18, second quarter, 1990; 18, second quarter, 1991)			
Subprogramme 2: <i>Population policies</i>	48	72	920.5
<i>Programme elements:</i>			
2.1 <i>Support to countries in developing and implementing population policies and programmes*</i>	24	48	400.5
<i>Output:</i>			
Technical assistance: (a) Advisory missions on development and implementation of population policies and programmes (eight, 1990; eight, 1991); (b) Backstopping services for fertility research and programme evaluation activities (1990-1991); (c) Improvement of skills of population programme personnel and researchers (1991); (d) Improvement of service statistics systems of family planning programmes (1990-1991); (e) Promotion of community participation as a programme strategy in the population programme through a seminar/workshop, training and demonstration projects (1990-1991); (f) Substantive support for strengthening the integrated approach in family planning programmes through TCDC and a seminar/workshop (1990-1991)			

PROGRAMME: POPULATION (continued)

Resource requirements in 1990-1991		
RB (work-months)	XB	XB funds (thousands of US dollars)
24	24	520

2.2 Studies on population policies, programmes and related issues

Output:

(i) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening the role of women and their participation in development (1990-1991); (b) Improvement of women's status through training, studies and TCDC for sharing experience (1990-1991); (c) Promotion of environmental awareness through studies and a seminar/workshop on the interrelationships between population, environment and resources (1990-1991)

(ii) *Ad hoc* expert group meeting to review the policy options and programme implications of the complex interrelationships between population, environment and resources *vis-à-vis* community participation and an integrated approach to family planning (fourth quarter, 1990) (intermediate output)

(iii) Technical publication: Studies related to acceptance of family planning, and level and determinants of fertility, APSS (two each, first, second, third and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991)

Subprogramme 3: Population information

48	96	810
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Programme elements:

3.1 Information support, including publications and data base services, to developing countries in the region

24	24	280
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Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Asia-Pacific Population Journal (four issues per year); (b) Population Headliners (12 issues per year); (c) Population Research Leads (three issues per year); (d) *Ad hoc* publications - catalogues, brochures, data sheets (one or two per year)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Training of government personnel in preparation and presentation of population publications, and in development of population data bases (1990-1991); (b) *Ad hoc* technical information service: computer print-outs on population in response to requests from users in the region (1990-1991)

3.2 Assistance in the development of national population information centres and networks, including co-ordination of the Asia-Pacific Population Information Network and development of a regional population data bank*

24	72	530
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Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Asia-Pacific POPIN Bulletin (four issues per year); (b) Asia-Pacific POPIN directory (fourth quarter, 1990); (c) Asia-Pacific POPIN meeting report (1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Organization of the Asia-Pacific POPIN biennial technical meeting (1990); (b) Strengthening population information sources through training/workshops, and grants to national population information centres and institutions, and TCDC (1990-1991); (c) Development of national, subregional and regional information systems and networks (1990-1991); (d) Provision of technical assistance and backstopping services to population information centres and UNFPA country programme execution (1990-1991); and (e) Development of a regional population data bank (1990-1991)

PROGRAMME: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

		<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
		<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
Programme total:		144	24	1 632
Subprogramme 1: <i>Institutional and policy infrastructure for science and technology</i>		48	-	500
<i>Programme elements:</i>				
1.1	<i>Improvements in science and technology policy and institutional infrastructure</i>	24	-	100
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Industry, Technology, and Human Settlements (third quarter, 1991)				
(ii) Meeting of ministers of industry and technology (third quarter, 1990)				
(iii) <i>Ad hoc</i> expert group meeting on the legal aspects of emerging technologies (fourth quarter, 1990) (intermediate activity)				
(iv) Technical publication: Study on legal aspects of transfer of new and emerging technologies (fourth quarter, 1991)				
(v) Technical assistance: Promotion of the legal aspects of the transfer of new and emerging technologies (1990-1991)				
1.2	<i>Promotion and application of technology for selected industries</i>	24	-	400
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Report to the Committee on Industry, Technology and Human Settlements on a survey of activities undertaken by selected developing countries for the implementation of the Tokyo Programme of Action on Technology for Development (third quarter, 1991)				
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Provision of information through profiles of technology structure, institutions, trade flows of developing countries and measures to strengthen technological capabilities within the framework of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development and the ESCAP Plan of Action on Technology for Development (1990-1991); (b) Improvement of energy conservation in the commercial and domestic sectors (1990-1991); (c) Promotion of tribiological techniques in industries (1990-1991); (d) Technology application for selected industries (1990-1991)				
Subprogramme 2: <i>Strengthening technological capabilities of member countries</i>		72	24	862
<i>Programme elements:</i>				
2.1	<i>Strengthening national and regional institutions*</i>	24	-	220
<i>Output:</i>				
Technical assistance; (a) Support to the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (1990-1991); (b) Support to the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (1990-1991); (c) Strengthening project generation capabilities, engineering design and consultancy services (1990-1991); (d) Endogenous capacity building in science and technology for development (1990-1991)				

PROGRAMME: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY *(continued)*

	<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
	<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
2.2 <i>Promotion of technology development, transfer and diffusion of technology*</i>	24	-	330

Output:

(i) Technical publication: (a) Revised directory of marketable technology in Asia and the Pacific (second quarter, 1991); (b) Manual on information, education and communication techniques for popularizing innovations in food technology (fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Development and popularization of industrial technology for food storage and processing in selected developing countries (1990-1991); (b) Exposition on technology for the people (1990-1991); (c) Human resources development and institutional strengthening for technical progress and employment generation in the rural and urban sectors of developing countries (1990-1991); (d) Selection and management of technology for development (1990-1991)

2.3 <i>Provision of technological support services*</i>	24	24	312
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Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Industry, Technology and Human Settlements on the review of selected standardization activities (third quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Improvement and strengthening of national standardization mechanisms (1990-1991); (b) Promotion of total quality control management technology for industries (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 3: <i>Major breakthrough in science and technology</i>	24	-	270
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Programme element:

3.1 <i>Assessment, acquisition, assimilation and development of new technologies*</i>	24	-	270
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Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Assessment of new technologies (1990-1991); (b) Development of strategies for the acquisition and absorption of new technologies (1990-1991); (c) Promotion of research, development and demonstration activities in selected areas of technology for development (1990-1991)

PROGRAMME: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

	<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
	<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
Programme total:	216	48	2 956
Subprogramme 1: <i>Popular participation</i>	84	24	1 283
<i>Programme elements:</i>			
1.1 <i>Participation of women in development*</i>	32	-	563
<i>Output:</i>			
(i) Report to the Committee on Population and Social Development on legal literacy among women in Asia and the Pacific (third quarter, 1990)			
(ii) Technical publications: (a) Guidelines on integrating women's concerns in development planning in Asia and the Pacific (first quarter, 1990); (b) Training manual on the management of women's information centres (first quarter, 1991); (c) Training manual on the technical processing of women's information (first quarter, 1991); (d) Women's Information Network for Asia and the Pacific Newsletter (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991)			
(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of legal literacy among women through the preparation of studies on the legal status of women and the organization of national workshops and literacy campaigns (1991); (b) Promotion of co-operation between government agencies and non-governmental organizations in the delivery of social services for women through the preparation of studies and the organization of meetings (1990-1991); (c) Promotion of public awareness of the status of women through the preparation and dissemination of information in the form of directories and other materials (1990-1991); (d) Assistance to Governments on integrating women's concerns in development planning (1990)			
1.2 <i>Participation of youth in development</i>	28	-	400
<i>Output:</i>			
(i) Report to the Committee on Population and Social Development on policies concerning youth and human resources development (third quarter, 1990)			
(ii) Technical publications: (a) Monograph on adolescence and crime prevention (third quarter, 1990); (b) Study on the social aspects of unemployment among youth (fourth quarter, 1991); (c) Guidelines on youth participation in environmentally sustainable development (third quarter, 1990); (d) Momentum: a youth development information publication (second and fourth quarters, 1990 and 1991)			
(iii) Advisory services to Governments on policies and programmes to promote youth participation in development (three, 1990; three, 1991)			
(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening of youth participation in development through conduct of seminars and workshops and preparation of a compendium on peer group training approaches (1990-1991); (b) Analysis of critical issues facing youth in development, including the impact of technology on the working life of young people and the protection of young women workers in industry through the preparation of studies and the conduct of meetings (1990-1991)			
1.3 <i>Participation of disabled persons and the elderly in development</i>	24	24	320
<i>Output:</i>			
(i) Report to the Committee on Population and Social Development on a regional support services network for disabled persons (third quarter, 1990); (b) Report to the Committee on Population and Social Development on policies and programmes to enhance the participation of the elderly in development (third quarter, 1990)			
(ii) <i>Ad hoc</i> expert group meeting to review and appraise the achievements of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (third quarter, 1991) (intermediate activity)			

PROGRAMME: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT *(continued)*

<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds</i>
<i>(work-months)</i>		<i>(thousands of US dollars)</i>

(iii) Technical publication: Directory of national focal points and experts on disability in the ESCAP region (fourth quarter, 1990)

(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Enhancement of disability policies and programmes through the preparation of studies and the organization of seminars focusing on management information development in the field of disability (1990-1991); (b) Promotion of national policies and programmes for the integration of the elderly in development through the preparation of studies and guidelines, and the organization of meetings (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 2: *Social development policies and co-ordination*

54	-	619
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*Programme elements:***2.1 *Promotion of national policy and programme responses to social development issues****

28	-	219
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Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of a session of the Committee on Population and Social Development (fourth quarter, 1990)

(ii) (a) Report to the Commission on social aspects of rural development (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) Report to the Commission on strengthening of co-operation between government agencies and non-governmental organizations in promoting social development (fourth quarter, 1991)

(iii) Technical publications: (a) Study on the changing role of the family as a social institution in development (second quarter, 1991); (b) Social Development Newsletter (first, second and third quarters, 1990 and 1991)

(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Assistance to Governments on promotion of integrated socio-economic development; (b) Assistance to Governments on prevention of crime and criminal justice policies (1990-1991)

2.2 *Formulation of a regional social development strategy**

26	-	400
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Output:

(i) (a) Report to the Committee on Population and Social Development on the formulation of a regional social development strategy (third quarter, 1990); (b) Report to the Commission on preparations for the formulation of a regional social development strategy

(ii) (a) Substantive servicing of an intergovernmental meeting on a regional social development strategy (second quarter, 1991); (b) Substantive servicing of the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development (1991)

(iii) Technical publication: Study on major issues relating to a regional social development strategy (first quarter, 1991)

(iv) Technical assistance: Subregional seminars for national policy advisers on the social implications of prevailing development policy and planning approaches (first and second quarters, 1990)

Subprogramme 3: *Health and development*

24	-	343
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*Programme element:***3.1 *Strengthening of national programmes on health and development***

24	-	343
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PROGRAMME: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (continued)

<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds</i>
<i>(work-months)</i>		<i>(thousands of US dollars)</i>

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Population and Social Development on issues related to demand aspects of drug abuse control, and on the prevention of AIDS (third quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening of national drug abuse prevention and rehabilitation programmes through the preparation of studies and guidelines and the organization of workshops (1990-1991); (b) Establishment of and support to a regional network of national agencies concerned with demand aspects of drug abuse control, focusing on the development of a regional information base (1990-1991); (c) Assistance to Governments on policies and programmes concerning demand aspects of drug abuse control (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 4: *Facilitation of human resources development*

54	24	711
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*Programme elements:***4.1 *Facilitation and monitoring of the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region****

26	24	341
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Output:

(i) Report to the Commission on the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action (first quarter, 1991)

(ii) Advisory services to Governments to support and monitor the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action (two, 1990; two, 1991)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of public awareness of human resources development through the preparation and dissemination of information materials (1990-1991); (b) Establishment of a regional network of national mechanisms for implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action (1991); (c) Annual award of an ESCAP prize for accomplishment in the field of human resources development (1990-1991)

4.2 *Promotion of human resources development policies and programmes in the ESCAP region**

28	-	370
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Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Population and Social Development on approaches to the integration of human resources development concerns into development planning (third quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Guidelines on methodological approaches to the conduct of a regional survey on the quality of life as an aspect of human resources development (second quarter, 1990); (b) Studies on human resources development forecasting and the socio-cultural impact of human resources development (1990-1991)

(iii) Technical assistance: Promotion of human resources development for disadvantaged social groups through the conduct of studies and the organization of seminars and training programmes (1990-1991)

PROGRAMME: STATISTICS

		<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
		<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
Programme total:		192	120	1 822
Subprogramme 1: <i>Statistics development</i>		120	96	1 124
<i>Programme elements:</i>				
1.1	<i>Promotion, co-ordination and management of statistical development activities in the region</i>	38	4	62
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Development Planning and Statistics/Committee on Statistics				
(ii) Technical assistance: Technical and substantive support to the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (1990-1991)				
(iii) Technical publication: Statistical Newsletter (quarterly)				
(iv) Organization of a working group of statistical experts (intermediate output)				
1.2	<i>Promotion of overall national statistical capabilities*</i>	30	-	296
<i>Output:</i>				
(i) Technical publication: Sample Surveys in the ESCAP Region (third quarters, 1990 and 1991)				
(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Assistance in general statistical organization and development through advisory missions; (b) Strengthening overall national statistical capabilities (1990-1991); (c) Improving statistics for human resources development (1990-1991)				
1.3	<i>Development of economic statistics, including national accounts</i>	24	24	150
<i>Output:</i>				
Technical assistance: Development, improvement and analysis of economic statistics, including national accounts (1990-1991)				
1.4	<i>Development of social, demographic and other statistics</i>	28	68	616
<i>Output:</i>				
Technical assistance: Development and improvement of social, demographic and other related statistics (1990-1991)				
Subprogramme 2: <i>Statistical information services</i>		48	-	-
<i>Programme elements:</i>				
2.1	<i>Collection of basic data relating to all fields of statistics, their editing and maintenance in time series records and their retrieval for dissemination through special compilations and secretariat publications</i>	24	-	-

PROGRAMME: STATISTICS *(continued)*

<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>

Output:

(i) *Ad hoc* information services and special compilations

(ii) Technical publication: Asia-Pacific in Figures (one, 1990; one, 1991)

(iii) Sales publications: Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific (one, 1990; one, 1991); Foreign Trade Statistics in Asia and the Pacific (one, 1990, one, 1991); Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific (one, each quarter, 1990; one, each quarter, 1991)

2.2 *Development of a network of statistical data bases within the ESCAP secretariat**

24 - -

Output:

A centralized statistical data base that could be accessed on-line by various divisions and units of the secretariat for the effective use of data for their development activities, as well as be connected with the United Nations Headquarters in New York, the Office at Geneva and countries of the region. In the long run, the project would be replicated in the developing member countries where needed, and regular advisory and technical services would be made available to the countries of the region.

Subprogramme 3: *Government computerization*

24 24 698

Programme element:

3.1 *Assistance in the planning and management of computerization development**

24 24 698

Output:

Technical assistance: (a) Identification of policy issues of public sector computerization in Asia and the Pacific (1990-1991); (b) Strengthening infrastructure for public sector computerization in Asia and the Pacific (1990-1991)

**PROGRAMME: TRASPOPRT I (TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS
AND TOURISM)**

*Resource requirements in
1990-1991*

<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds</i>
<i>(work-months)</i>		<i>(thousands of US dollars)</i>

Programme total:

168	24	2 255
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Subprogramme 1: *General transport planning and facilitation
of international traffic*

24	-	185
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Programme element:

1.1 *Strategies, policies and planning for transport development**

24	-	185
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Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of the Committee on Shipping, Transport, Communications and Tourism (fourth quarter, 1990)

(ii) Organization of an expert group meeting on urban transport planning (third quarter, 1990) (intermediate activity)

(iii) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport, Communications and Tourism on the mid-term review of the implementation of the programme for the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994 (fourth quarter, 1990)

(iv) Technical publications: (a) Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific (one, third quarter, 1990; one, third quarter, 1991); (b) Review of national transport development plans and programmes of developing member countries (third quarter, 1990); (c) Study on the cost benefit of the particular problems faced by the introduction of high-cube containers in the developing countries of the ESCAP region

(v) Technical assistance: Promotion of integrated transport, urban and public transport (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 2: *Development of highways and highway transport*

24	-	318
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Programme element:

2.1 *Development of roads, road transport and rational use of energy
in road transport**

24	-	318
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Output:

(i) Substantial servicing of an intergovernmental meeting of highway experts (third quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Study on the use of alternative types of energy as a substitute for petroleum-derived fuels in transport vehicles (third quarter, 1991); (b) Survey of roads and road transport statistics in the ESCAP region (fourth quarter, 1990)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of technology transfer and skill development in the field of roads and road transport (1990-1991); (b) Promotion of regional and international road transport (1990-1991); (c) Promotion of the utilization of compressed natural gas in urban transport (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 3: *Development of railways and railway transport*

48	-	962
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Programme elements:

3.1 *Railway development planning and manpower development**

24	-	635
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**PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT I (TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS
AND TOURISM) (continued)**

*Resource requirements in
1990-1991*

<i>RB</i> <i>(work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds</i> <i>(thousands of</i> <i>US dollars)</i>
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Output:

(i) Substantive servicing of: (a) Intergovernmental Railway Group Meeting (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Railway Research Co-ordination Group Meeting (fourth quarter, 1991)

(ii) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport, Communications and Tourism on strengthening of intraregional and interregional transport linkages (fourth quarter, 1990)

(iii) Technical publications: (a) Railway Development Goals of the Developing Countries of the Region, 1995-2000 (third quarter, 1990); (b) Development of Rail-cum-Sea Transport (third quarter, 1990); (c) Role of Containers in the Development of the Trans-Asian Railway and Asian Railway Master Plan (fourth quarter, 1991); (d) Guide to railway training (fourth quarter, 1990); (e) Railway statistics and information for Asia and the Pacific (third quarter, 1991); (f) Joint studies with the Asia-Pacific Railway Co-operation Group (APRCG) (one each, third quarters, 1990 and 1991)

(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of intraregional and interregional transport linkages (1990-1991); (b) Strengthening of capabilities of developing countries in railway manpower development (1990); (c) Development of co-operation through APRCG (1991); (d) Technical support to the meeting of APRCG and its subgroups (intermediate output); (e) The safety aspect of railways (1990)

3.2 <i>Modernization of railway systems*</i>	24	-	327
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Output:

(i) Reports to the Committee on Shipping, Transport, Communications and Tourism on: (a) Modernization of railway systems (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) Demonstration project on a cost-effective railway signalling and telecommunication system (fourth quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical publications: (a) Major problem areas in maintenance of railway tracks in the developing countries of the ESCAP region (third quarter, 1990); (b) Review of modern track monitoring techniques/systems (second quarter, 1991); (c) Review of modern railway technology (fourth quarter, 1991); (d) Case study of a computerized wagon control system (fourth quarter, 1990); (e) Guidelines for introduction of cost-effective railway signalling and telecommunication systems (fourth quarter, 1991); (f) Railway electrification (fourth quarter, 1991)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Demonstration project on a cost-effective railway signalling and telecommunication system (1990-1991); (b) Modernization of railways (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 4: <i>Development of air cargo transport</i>	24	-	150
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Programme element:

4.1 <i>Promotion of air transport in socio-economic development</i>	24	-	150
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Output:

(i) Technical publication: (a) Study on total distribution cost analysis for air cargo in relation to other modes of transport (second quarter, 1991); (b) Study on air cargo tariff and supply/demand elasticity in air cargo transport

(ii) Technical assistance: Development of air transport with special reference to the land-locked and the Pacific island countries (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 5: <i>Development of communications infrastructure</i>	24	-	200
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Programme element:

5.1 <i>Promotion of telecommunications and postal services development*</i>	24	-	200
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**PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT I (TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS
AND TOURISM) (continued)**

<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>

Output:

(i) Technical publication: Country study on the socio-economic impact of rural telecommunications (fourth quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical assistance: Improvement of telecommunications and postal services, with special emphasis on rural areas (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 6. *Development of tourism*^b

24	24	440
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Programme element:

6.1 *Promotion of co-ordinated tourism development*

24	24	440
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Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) ESCAP Tourism Review (one, second quarter, 1990; one, second quarter, 1991); (b) Study on the economic impact of tourism (third quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Strengthening of co-ordinated tourism development (1990-1991); (b) Manpower development in tourism (1990-1991); (c) Assistance in securing greater economic benefits from tourism (1990-1991)

^b This subprogramme has been transferred from the Transport and Communications Division to the International Trade Division in its entirety.

**PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT II (SHIPPING, PORTS AND
INLAND WATERWAYS)**

*Resource requirements in
1990-1991*

<i>RB</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds</i>
<i>(work-months)</i>		<i>(thousands of US dollars)</i>

Programme total:

216	96	5 047
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Subprogramme 1: *Development of maritime policy and institutions*

60	24	1 040
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Programme elements:

1.1 *Maritime policy**

30	24	147
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Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport, Communications and Tourism on the work programme activities and developments in the field of maritime policy and institutions in the ESCAP region (fourth quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical assistance: Development of maritime policies in co-ordination with regional, subregional and national maritime development organizations, including non-governmental organizations (1990-1991)

1.2 *Maritime institutions**

30	-	893
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Output:

(i) Technical publications: (a) Guidelines for port-related legislation (second quarter, 1991); (b) Guidelines for maritime legislation, third revised edition (third quarter, 1991)

(ii) Technical assistance: Development of maritime institutions and of tools and instruments relevant to the planning and implementation of maritime sector development programmes and investments, and enhancing the capabilities in the use of such tools and instruments (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 2: *Development of merchant marine and shipping services*

24	-	112
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Programme element:

2.1 *Development and promotion of shipping services, sea transport systems and merchant marines**

24	-	112
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Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport, Communications and Tourism on the work programme and development in the fields of sea transport systems, shipping services and merchant marines (fourth quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of modern transport systems and techniques, including training in relevant technologies (1990); (b) Development of management capabilities in planning, operation and technical upkeep of shipping, including domestic and inter-island shipping (1990); (c) Promotion of co-operation in shipping (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 3: *Port development*

48	48	1 723
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Programme elements:

3.1 *Port management**

24	24	1 284
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Output:

(i) Reports to the Committee on Shipping, Transport, Communications and Tourism on: (a) the development and implementation of management tools and TCDC activities to improve port efficiency (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) Employment issues in the maritime sector and the impact of new technologies (fourth quarter, 1990)

**PROGRAMME: TRANSPORT II (SHIPPING, PORTS AND
INLAND WATERWAYS) (continued)**

<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>

(ii) Technical publications: Manual and computer software on port management models and operationally related matters (third quarter, 1991)

(iii) Technical assistance: Promotion of co-operation between chief executives of port authorities through meetings (1990-1991)

3.2 *Port planning, construction and operations* 24 24 439

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport, Communications and Tourism on port development in the ESCAP region (fourth quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical publication: Port performance comparators (second quarter, 1991)

(iii) Technical assistance: (a) Production and dissemination of special studies requested by Governments on port development issues (1990-1991); (b) Development and provision of a programme of assistance on port planning, construction and operations

Subprogramme 4: *Development of inland water transport* 48 24 1 840

Programme element:

4.1 *Development of management and operation of inland waterways, fleet, terminals and dredging** 48 24 1 840

Output:

(i) Report to the Commission on the result of a study on the viability and cost-effectiveness of establishing a regional inland water transport centre in Bangladesh and of the alternatives of strengthening the secretariat or using a network approach (first quarter, 1990)

(ii) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport, Communications and Tourism on the programme of activities and developments in inland water transport and dredging (fourth quarter, 1990)

(iii) Technical publications: (a) Methods of determination of standard high- and low-water levels (fourth quarter, 1991); (b) Guidelines for conversion of dumb barges to push-towing (third quarter, 1991)

(iv) Technical assistance: (a) Production of an audio-visual programme on inland water transport (second quarter, 1990); (b) Development of inland water transport and upgrading of dredging capability through meetings and advisory services (1990-1991)

Subprogramme 5: *Shippers' organizations and co-operation* 36 - 332

Programme element:

5.1 *Development of ship users** 36 - 332

Output:

(i) Report to the Committee on Shipping, Transport, Communications and Tourism on: (a) the development of maritime education and training for ship users (fourth quarter, 1990); (b) The ship users co-operation project (fourth quarter, 1990)

(ii) Technical assistance: (a) Promotion of co-operation between chief executives of national freight forwarders' associations and between chief executives of national shippers' councils (1990-1991); (b) Development of ship users at the regional, subregional and national levels (1990-1991)

PROGRAMME: TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

<i>Resource requirements in 1990-1991</i>		
<i>RB (work-months)</i>	<i>XB</i>	<i>XB funds (thousands of US dollars)</i>
Programme total:	48 ^c	- 400

Subprogramme 1: *Enhancing the contribution of transnational corporations to development and minimizing any negative effects of their operations**

24	-	300
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Programme element:

1.1 *Research on transnational corporations in the region**

24	-	300
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Output:

(i) Reports to the Commission on the role and impact of TNCs in priority sectors in the ESCAP region as identified by the Commission on Transnational Corporations (one, 1990; one, 1991)

(ii) Report to the Committee on Trade on main issues in the field of transnational corporations (1990)

(iii) Technical publications: (a) Studies on specific issues regarding the activities of TNCs (one, 1990; one, 1991); (b) Studies on TNC activities in least developed and developing island countries (one, 1990; one, 1991); (c) Studies on TNCs in selected industries (one, 1990; one, 1991); (d) Studies on the impact of TNCs on the economic and social development process (one, 1990; one, 1991)

Subprogramme 2: *Strengthening the capability of host developing countries in dealing with matters related to transnational corporations*

24	-	100
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Programme element:

2.1 *Provision of training, advisory and information services to member Governments*

24	-	100
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Output:

(i) Reports to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on the provision of advisory, training and information services in the countries of the ESCAP region (one, 1990; one, 1991)

(ii) Servicing the annual session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations (one, 1990; one, 1991)

(iii) Substantive servicing of the twenty-seventh session of the Committee on Trade (1990)

(iv) Technical publication: Asia-Pacific TNC Review (one, 1990; one, 1991)

(v) Technical assistance: Workshop/seminar on issues relating to transnational corporations (1990)

^c Redeployed from the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (New York) to the ESCAP programme on transnational corporations.

Appendix

<i>Programme</i>	<i>Regional advisers under section 24 of the Secretary-General's proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991</i>
Social development	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Regional adviser on social development, planning and training2. Regional adviser on women in development
Statistics	Regional adviser on national accounts
Natural resources	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Regional adviser on energy2. Regional adviser on water resources
International trade	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Regional adviser on development policies for raw materials and commodities2. Regional adviser on trade policy, negotiations and trade promotion
Transport II	Regional adviser on small ports and harbours development
Science and technology	Regional adviser on technology transfer and development

Annex II

**STATEMENT OF PROGRAMME BUDGET IMPLICATIONS OF ACTIONS
AND PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION**

None of the resolutions adopted at the forty-fifth session of the Commission have financial implications for the regular budget of the United Nations.

Annex III

**MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES HELD DURING
THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW**

<i>Subsidiary body and officers</i>		<i>Session</i>	<i>Document symbol of report ^a</i>
Committee on Population and Social Development		First session Bangkok 21-25 November 1988	E/ESCAP/652
<i>Chairman:</i>	Flora C. Eufemio (Philippines)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i>	Kartomo Wirosubardjo (Indonesia)		
	V.S. Verma (India)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Yang Guanqun (China)		
Committee on Trade		Twenty-sixth session Bangkok 28 November- 2 December 1988	E/ESCAP/656
<i>Chairman:</i>	Kazi Anwarul Masud (Bangladesh)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i>	J. Grinberg (Australia)		
	Liu Xianming (China)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Mohd. Haniff bin Abdul Aziz (Malaysia)		
Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications		Twelfth session Bangkok 12-16 December 1988	E/ESCAP/658
<i>Chairman:</i>	Sawarng Srinilta (Thailand)		
<i>Vice-Chairmen:</i>	Malik M. Zahoor Anwar (Pakistan)		
	Johnson Amoako (Papua New Guinea)		
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Alejo Espinosa (Philippines)		

^a Copies of reports that are not available through normal distribution channels at United Nations Headquarters or at Geneva may be obtained from the Regional Commissions New York Office at United Nations Headquarters.

Annex IV

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. Publications

<i>Title</i>	<i>United Nations publication sales number</i>
<i>Development Papers No. 7: China's Experience in Economic Development and Reforms</i>	E.89.II.F.4
<i>Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 1988</i>	E.89.II.F.3
<i>Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific</i> Vol. XXXVIII, No. 1/2, June/December 1987	E.88.II.F.11
<i>Energy Issues and Prospects in the Asia and Pacific Region</i> (Energy Resources Development Series, No. 31)	E.88.II.F.9
<i>Foreign Trade Statistics of Asia and the Pacific, 1982-1986</i>	E/F.89.II.F.1
<i>Industry and Technology Development News for Asia and the Pacific, No. 16</i>	E.88.II.F.5
<i>New and Renewable Sources of Energy for Development</i> (Energy Resources Development Series, No. 30)	E.88.II.F.7
<i>Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific</i> Vol. XVIII, No. 1, March 1988 Vol. XVIII, No. 2, June 1988 Vol. XVIII, No. 3, September 1988 Vol. XVIII, No. 4, December 1988	E.88.II.F.6 E.88.II.F.8 E.88.II.F.10 E.88.II.F.12
<i>Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific, 1988</i>	E/F.89.II.F.2

B. Documents submitted to the Commission

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
E/ESCAP/645 and Corr.1	Towards a new international development strategy: economic, social and environmental concerns in the Asian and Pacific region in the 1990s	4 (b)
E/ESCAP/646	Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries	4 (c)
E/ESCAP/647	Report on progress in the implementation of Commission resolution 271 (XLIV): preparations for the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	4 (c)
E/ESCAP/648 and Corr.1	Restructuring the developing economies of Asia and the Pacific in the 1990s	5
E/ESCAP/649	Report on progress in the implementation of Commission resolution 274 (XLIV) on the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region	6
E/ESCAP/650 and Corr.1	Report of the Meeting of Senior Officials on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region	6
E/ESCAP/651	Review of the Tokyo Programme on Technology for Development in Asia and the Pacific	7
E/ESCAP/652	Report of the Committee on Population and Social Development on its first session, Bangkok, 21-25 November 1988	8 (a)

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
E/ESCAP/653 and Corr.1	Population policies and programmes in the 1990s: trends and prospects	8 (a)
E/ESCAP/654	The family in the context of socio-economic development in the ESCAP region	8 (a)
E/ESCAP/655	Report on progress in the implementation of Commission resolution 273 (XLIV) on survey on the quality of life in Asia and the Pacific	8 (a)
E/ESCAP/656	Report of the Committee on Trade on its twenty-sixth session, Bangkok, 28 November-2 December 1988	8 (a)
E/ESCAP/657	Main issues in the field of transnational corporations	8 (a)
E/ESCAP/658	Report of the Committee on Shipping, Transport and Communications on its twelfth session, Bangkok, 12-16 December 1988	8 (a)
E/ESCAP/659	Selected issues in the field of food, agriculture and rural development	8 (a)
E/ESCAP/660	Promotion of environmentally sound and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific	8 (a)
E/ESCAP/661	New structure for industry: strategy for promoting competitiveness of manufactured products in Asia and the Pacific	8 (a)
E/ESCAP/662	New directions in human resources development in human settlements	8 (a)
E/ESCAP/663	New and emerging technologies: implications for the development of the technological capabilities of developing Asian and the Pacific countries	8 (a)
E/ESCAP/664	Main issues in the field of natural resources and energy	8 (a)
E/ESCAP/665	Data interpretation and analysis: the statistician's role	8 (a)
E/ESCAP/666	The role of expert systems in technology transfer	8 (a)
E/ESCAP/667	Report of the ESCAP-NGO Regional Symposium on Co-operation for Economic and Social Development	8 (b)
E/ESCAP/668	Report of the study on the viability and cost-effectiveness of establishing a regional inland water transport centre in Bangladesh, and of the other alternatives of strengthening the secretariat or using a network approach	8 (c)
E/ESCAP/669	Report on administrative and financial issues related to the regional institutions	8 (d)
E/ESCAP/670	Report on the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific	8 (d)
E/ESCAP/671	Report on the Regional Co-ordination Centre for Research and Development of Coarse Grains, Pulses, Roots and Tuber Crops in the Humid Tropics of Asia and the Pacific	8 (d)
E/ESCAP/672	Report on the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology	8 (d)
E/ESCAP/673	Report on the Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery	8 (d)
E/ESCAP/674	Regional Energy Development Programme: project progress report	8 (d)
E/ESCAP/675	Pacific Energy Development Programme: activities during 1988	8 (d)
E/ESCAP/676	Report of the Interim Committee for Co-ordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, 1988	8 (d)
E/ESCAP/677	Report of the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore Areas	8 (d)

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
E/ESCAP/678	Report of the Typhoon Committee	8 (d)
E/ESCAP/679	Report of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre	8 (d)
E/ESCAP/680	Draft programme of work and priorities, 1990-1991	8 (e)
E/ESCAP/681	Work of the Commission since the forty-fourth session	4 (a)
E/ESCAP/682	Proposed programme structure of the medium-term plan, 1992-1997	8 (e)
E/ESCAP/683 and Corr.1	Programme changes for 1989	8 (e)
E/ESCAP/684 and Corr.1	Tentative calendar of meetings, 1989/90	8 (e)
E/ESCAP/685	Resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council	8 (e)
E/ESCAP/686 and Corr.1	Economic and technical co-operation among developing countries	9
E/ESCAP/687 and Corr.1	Special problems faced by the Pacific island countries: the Commission's activities in the Pacific	10
E/ESCAP/688 and Corr.1	Mobilization of extrabudgetary resources	11
E/ESCAP/689	Technical co-operation activities in Asia and the Pacific in 1988: information papers presented by the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development	11
E/ESCAP/690	Report of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission	12
E/ESCAP/691	Date, venue and any other subject pertaining to the forty-sixth session of the Commission	13
E/ESCAP/692	Working arrangements between the secretariats of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Customs Co-operation Council	8 (a)

Annex V

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

As adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its fourth session, amended by the Council at subsequent sessions, and revised in consequence of various General Assembly resolutions.

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered General Assembly resolution 46(1) of 11 December 1946, in which the General Assembly "recommends that, in order to give effective aid to the countries devastated by war, the Economic and Social Council, at its next session, give prompt and favourable consideration to the establishment of ... an Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East", and

Having noted the report of the Working Group for Asia and the Far East of the Temporary Sub-Commission on Economic Reconstruction of Devastated Areas,

Establishes an Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific with terms of reference as follows:

1. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, acting within the framework of the policies of the United Nations and subject to the general supervision of the Council, shall, provided that the Commission takes no action in respect of any country without the agreement of the Government of that country:

(a) Initiate and participate in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic reconstruction and development of Asia and the Pacific, for raising the level of economic activity in Asia and the Pacific and for maintaining and strengthening the economic relations of these areas both among themselves and with other countries of the world;

(b) Make or sponsor such investigations and studies of economic and technological problems and developments within territories of Asia and the Pacific as the Commission deems appropriate;

(c) Undertake or sponsor the collection, evaluation and dissemination of such economic, technological and statistical information as the Commission deems appropriate;

(d) Perform such advisory services, within the available resources of its secretariat, as the countries of the region may desire, provided that such services do not overlap with those rendered by the specialized agencies or the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration;

(e) Assist the Economic and Social Council, at its request, in discharging its functions within the region in connection with any economic problems, including problems in the field of technical assistance;

(f) In carrying out the above functions, deal, as appropriate, with the social aspects of economic development and the interrelationship of the economic and social factors.

2. The territories of Asia and the Pacific referred to in paragraph 1 shall include Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burma, China, the Cook Islands, Democratic Kampuchea, Fiji, Guam, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Kiribati, Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Niue, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.

3. The members of the Commission shall consist of Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burma, China, Democratic Kampuchea, Fiji, France, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Vanuatu and Viet Nam, provided that any State in the area which may hereafter become a Member of the United Nations shall be thereupon admitted as a member of the Commission.

4. The associate members shall include the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Cook Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Hong Kong, Kiribati, Niue, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau and the Territory of American Samoa.

5. Any territory, part or group of territories within the geographical scope of the Commission as defined in paragraph 2 may, on presentation of its application to the Commission by the member responsible for the international relations of such territory, part or group of territories, be admitted by the Commission as an associate member of the Commission. If it has become responsible for its own international relations, such territory, part or group of territories may be admitted as an associate member of the Commission on itself presenting its application to the Commission.

6. Representatives of associate members shall be entitled to participate without vote in all meetings of the Commission, whether sitting as Commission or as Committee of the Whole.

7. Representatives of associate members shall be eligible to be appointed as members of any committee, or other subordinate body, which may be set up by the Commission and shall be eligible to vote and hold office in such body.

8. The Commission is empowered to make recommendations on any matters within its competence directly to the Governments of members or associate members concerned, Governments admitted in consultative capacity, and the specialized agencies concerned. The Commission shall submit for the Council's prior consideration any of its proposals of activities that would have important effects on the economy of the world as a whole.

9. The Commission shall invite any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that non-member.

10. The Commission shall invite representatives of specialized agencies and may invite representatives of any intergovernmental organizations to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that agency or organization following the practice of the Economic and Social Council.

11. The Commission shall make arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations which have been granted consultative status by the

Economic and Social Council, in accordance with the principles approved by the Council for this purpose and contained in Council resolution 1296 (XLIV).

12. The Commission shall take measures to ensure that the necessary liaison is maintained with other organs of the United Nations and with the specialized agencies. The Commission shall establish appropriate liaison and co-operation with other regional economic commissions in accordance with the resolutions and directives of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

13. The Commission may, after discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same general field, and with the approval of the Council, establish such subsidiary bodies as it deems appropriate, for facilitating the carrying out of its responsibilities.

14. The Commission shall adopt its own rules of procedure, including the method of selecting its Chairman.

15. The Commission shall submit to the Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, once a year.

16. The administrative budget of the Commission shall be financed from the funds of the United Nations.

17. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall appoint the staff of the Commission, which shall form part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

18. The headquarters of the Commission shall be located at Bangkok, Thailand.

19. The Council shall, from time to time, make special reviews of the work of the Commission.

Annex VI

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

As drawn up at the first session, confirmed and adopted at the second session, and amended at subsequent sessions of the Commission.

Chapter I

SESSIONS

Rule 1

The following principles shall apply as regards date and place for the sessions of the Commission:

(a) The Commission shall at each session recommend the date and place for its next session subject to the approval of the Council and in consultation with the Secretary-General. Sessions of the Commission shall also be held within forty-five days of the communication to the Executive Secretary of a request to that effect by the Economic and Social Council, and, in that case, the Secretary-General shall establish the place of such sessions in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission;

(b) In special cases the date and place of the session may be altered by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission and the Council's Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences. At the request of the majority of the members of the Commission, the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Commission and the Council's Interim Committee on Programme of Conferences, may also alter the date and place of the session;

(c) Sessions shall ordinarily be held at the office of the United Nations in Asia and the Pacific. The Commission may recommend holding a particular session elsewhere.

Rule 2

The Executive Secretary shall, at least forty-two days before the commencement of a session, distribute a notice of the opening date of the session, together with three copies of the provisional agenda and of the basic documents relating to each item appearing on the provisional agenda. Distribution shall be similar to that under rule 49.

Rule 3

The Commission shall invite any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission to

participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that Member.

Chapter II

AGENDA

Rule 4

The provisional agenda for each session shall be drawn up by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chairman.

Rule 5

The provisional agenda for any session shall include:

(a) Items arising from previous sessions of the Commission;

(b) Items proposed by the Economic and Social Council;

(c) Items proposed by any member or associate member of the Commission;

(d) Items proposed by a specialized agency in accordance with the agreements of relationship concluded between the United Nations and such agencies;

(e) Items proposed by non-governmental organizations in category I, subject to the provisions of rule 6; and

(f) Any other items which the Chairman or the Executive Secretary sees fit to include.

Rule 6

Non-governmental organizations in category I may propose items on matters within their competence for the provisional agenda of the Commission, subject to the following conditions:

(a) An organization which intends to propose such an item shall inform the Executive Secretary at least sixty-three days before the commencement of the session, and before formally proposing an item shall give due consideration to any comments he may make;

(b) The proposal shall be formally submitted with the relevant basic documentation not less than forty-nine days before the commencement of the session. The item shall be included in the agenda of

the Commission if it is adopted by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

Rule 7

The first item upon the provisional agenda for each session shall be the adoption of the agenda.

Rule 8

The Commission may amend the agenda at any time.

Chapter III

REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Rule 9

Each member shall be represented on the Commission by an accredited representative.

Rule 10

A representative may be accompanied to the sessions of the Commission by alternate representatives and advisers and, when absent, he may be replaced by an alternate representative.

Rule 11

The credentials of each representative appointed to the Commission, together with a designation of alternate representatives, shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary without delay.

Rule 12

The Chairman and the two Vice-Chairmen shall examine the credentials and report upon them to the Commission.

Chapter IV

OFFICERS

Rule 13

The Commission shall, at its first meeting of each year, elect from among its representatives a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen, designated as First and Second Vice-Chairmen, who shall hold office until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election.

Rule 14

If the Chairman is absent from a meeting, or any part thereof, the Vice-Chairman designated by the Chairman shall preside.

Rule 15

If the Chairman ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the First Vice-Chairman shall become Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term. If the First Vice-Chairman also ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the Second Vice-Chairman shall become Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term.

Rule 16

The Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairman.

Rule 17

The Chairman, or the Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman, shall participate in the meetings of the Commission as such, and not as the representative of the member by whom he was accredited. The Commission shall admit an alternate representative to represent that member in the meetings of the Commission and to exercise its right to vote.

Chapter V

SECRETARIAT

Rule 18

The Executive Secretary shall act in that capacity at all meetings of the Commission and of its sub-commissions, other subsidiary bodies and committees. He may appoint another member of the staff to take his place at any meeting.

Rule 19

The Executive Secretary or his representative may at any meeting make either oral or written statements concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 20

The Executive Secretary shall direct the staff provided by the Secretary-General and required by the Commission, its sub-commissions, and any other subsidiary bodies and committees.

Rule 21

The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for the necessary arrangements being made for meetings.

Rule 22

The Executive Secretary in carrying out his functions shall act on behalf of the Secretary-General.

Rule 23

Before new proposals which involve expenditure from United Nations funds are approved by the Commission, the Executive Secretary shall prepare and circulate to members an estimate of that part of the cost involved in the proposals which could not be met out of the resources available to the secretariat. It shall be the duty of the Chairman to draw the attention of members to this estimate, and invite discussion on it before the proposals are approved.

Chapter VI

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 24

A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

Rule 25

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him elsewhere by these rules, the Chairman shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Commission, shall direct the discussion, ensure the observance of these rules, and shall accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote, and announce decisions. The Chairman may also call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Rule 26

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may raise a point of order. In this case, the Chairman shall immediately state his ruling. If it is challenged, the Chairman shall forthwith submit his ruling to the Commission for decision, and it shall stand unless overruled.

Rule 27

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the adjournment of the debate. Any such motion shall have priority. In addition to the proposer of the motion, one representative shall be allowed to speak in favour of, and one representative against, the motion.

Rule 28

A representative may at any time move the closure of the debate whether or not any other representative has signified his wish to speak. Not more than two representatives may be granted permission to speak against the closure.

Rule 29

The Chairman shall take the sense of the Commission on a motion for closure. If the Commission is in favour of the closure, the Chairman shall declare the debate closed.

Rule 30

The Commission may limit the time allowed to each speaker.

Rule 31

Draft resolutions, and substantial 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.

Rule 32

Upon the request of any member, any motion and amendment thereto made by any speaker shall be given to the Chairman in writing and shall be read by him before any further speaker is called upon and also immediately before a vote is taken on such motion or amendment. The Chairman may direct that any motion or amendment be circulated to the members present before a vote is taken.

This rule shall not apply to formal motions such as one for closure or adjournment.

Rule 33

Principal motions and resolutions shall be put to the vote in the order of their submission unless the Commission decides otherwise.

Rule 34

When an amendment revises, adds to or deletes from a proposal, the amendment shall be put to the vote first, and, if it is adopted, the amended proposal shall then be put to the vote.

Rule 35

If two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Commission shall vote first on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal; then, if necessary, on the amendment next furthest removed; and so on, until all the amendments have been put to the vote.

Rule 36

The Commission may, at the request of a representative, decide to put a motion or resolution to the vote in parts. If this is done, the text resulting from the series of votes shall be put to the vote as a whole.

Chapter VII

VOTING

Rule 37

Each member of the Commission shall have one vote.

Rule 38

Except for the provision of rule 6(b), decisions of the Commission shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.

Rule 39

The Commission shall take no action in respect of any country without the agreement of the Government of that country.

Rule 40

The Commission shall normally vote by a show of hands. If any representative requests a roll-call, a roll-call shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members.

Rule 41

All elections shall be decided by secret ballot.

Rule 42

If a vote is equally divided upon matters other than elections, a second vote shall be taken at the next meeting. If this vote also results in equality, the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

Rule 43

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

Chapter VIII

LANGUAGES

Rule 44

Chinese, English, French and Russian shall be the working languages of the Commission.

Rule 45

Speeches made in one of the working languages shall be interpreted into the other working languages.

Chapter IX

RECORDS

Rule 46

Summary records of the meetings of the Commission shall be kept by the secretariat. They shall be sent as soon as possible to the representatives of members and to the representatives of any other government agency or organization which participated in the meeting concerned. Such representatives shall inform the secretariat, not later than seventy-two hours after the circulation of any summary record, of any changes they wish to have made. Any disagreement concerning such changes shall be referred to the Chairman, whose decision shall be final.

Rule 47

The corrected version of the summary records of public meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible in accordance with the usual practice of the United Nations. This shall include distribution to non-governmental organizations in categories I and II and those on the Roster, and on appropriate occasions to consultative members.

Rule 48

The corrected version of the summary records of private meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible to the members of the Commission, to any consultative member participating in the meeting concerned, and to the specialized agencies. They shall be distributed to all the Members of the United Nations if and when the Commission so decides.

Rule 49

As soon as possible, the text of all reports, resolutions, recommendations and other formal decisions made by the Commission, its sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and its committees shall be communicated to the members of the Commission, to the consultative members concerned, to all other Members of the United Nations, to the specialized agencies, and to the non-governmental organizations in categories I and II and those on the Roster.

Chapter X

PUBLICITY OF MEETINGS

Rule 50

The meetings of the Commission shall ordinarily be held in public. The Commission may decide that a particular meeting or meetings shall be held in private.

Chapter XI

CONSULTATIONS WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Rule 51

1. Where an item proposed for the provisional agenda for a session contains a proposal for new activities to be undertaken by the United Nations relating to matters which are of direct concern to one or more specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Executive Secretary shall enter into consultation with the agency or agencies concerned and report to the Commission on the means of achieving co-ordinated use of the resources of the respective agencies.

2. Where a proposal put forward in the course of a meeting for new activities to be undertaken by the United Nations relates to matters which are of direct concern to one or more specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Executive Secretary shall, after such consultation as may be possible with the representatives at the meeting of the other agency or agencies concerned, draw the attention of the meeting to these implications of the proposal.

3. Before deciding on proposals referred to above, the Commission shall satisfy itself that adequate consultations have taken place with the agencies concerned.

Chapter XII

RELATIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rule 52

Non-governmental organizations in categories I and II may designate authorized representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Commission. Organizations on the Roster may have representatives present at such meetings which are concerned with matters within their field of competence.

Rule 53

Written statements relevant to the work of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies may be submitted by organizations in categories I and II on subjects for which these organizations have a special competence. Such statements shall be circulated by the Executive Secretary to the members and associate members of the Commission except those statements which have become obsolete - e.g. those dealing with matters already disposed of, and those which have already been circulated in some other form to members and associate members of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies.

Rule 54

The following conditions shall be observed regarding the submission and circulation of such written statements:

(a) The written statement shall be submitted in one of the official languages;

(b) It shall be submitted in sufficient time for appropriate consultation to take place between the Executive Secretary and the organization before circulation;

(c) The organization shall give due consideration to any comments which the Executive Secretary may make in the course of such consultation before transmitting the statement in final form;

(d) A written statement submitted by an organization in category I will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 2,000 words. Where a statement is in excess of 2,000 words, the organization shall submit a summary, which will be circulated, or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon the specific request of the Commission or of one of its subsidiary bodies;

(e) A written statement submitted by an organization in category II will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 1,500 words. Where a statement is in excess of 1,500 words, the organization shall submit a summary, which will be circulated, or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon the specific request of the Commission or other subsidiary bodies;

(f) The Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chairman or the Commission itself may invite organizations on the Roster to submit written statements. The provisions of paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (e) above shall apply to such statements;

(g) A written statement or summary, as the case may be, will be circulated by the Executive Secretary in the working languages and, upon the request of a member or associate member of the Commission, in any of the official languages.

Rule 55

(a) The Commission and its subsidiary bodies may consult with organizations in category I or II either directly or through a committee or committees established for the purpose. In all cases, such consultations may be arranged on the request of the organization;

(b) On the recommendation of the Executive Secretary and at the request of the Commission or one of its subsidiary bodies, organizations on the Roster may also be heard by the Commission or its subsidiary bodies.

Rule 56

Subject to rule 23 the Commission may recommend that a non-governmental organization which has special competence in a particular field should undertake specific studies or investigations or prepare specific papers for the Commission. The limitations of rule 54 (d) and (e) shall not apply in this case.

Chapter XIII

SUB-COMMISSIONS, OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND COMMITTEES

Rule 57

After discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same field, and with the approval of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission may establish such continually acting sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions and shall define the powers and composition of each of them. Such autonomy as may be necessary for the effective discharge of the technical responsibilities laid upon them may be delegated to them.

Rule 58

The Commission may establish such committees and sub-committees as it deems necessary to assist it in carrying out its tasks.

Rule 59

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

Chapter XIV

REPORTS

Rule 60

The Commission shall, once a year, submit to the Economic and Social Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies.

Chapter XV

AMENDMENTS AND SUSPENSIONS

Rule 61

Any of these rules of procedure may be amended or suspended by the Commission, provided that the proposed amendments or suspensions do not attempt to set aside the terms of reference laid down by the Economic and Social Council.

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