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PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES

PUBLICATIONS OF STATISTICS

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

1. The attached table, giving available information in connexion with the recurrent publications of the Statistical Office of the United Nations, was prepared at the request of the Commission's Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Co-ordination at its fourth session (June 1972). The Working Group "felt that for the purposes of discussing the JIU report, the Statistical Commission would find it useful to have a table listing each statistical publication, indicating its periodicity and timeliness, and summarizing its content, purposes and uses, circulation, income and costs" (see E/CN.3/420, para. 10). Each recurrent publication is covered except the World Trade Annual <sup>1/</sup> and the Supplement to the World Trade Annual, <sup>1/</sup> which are published and sold by an independent firm through agreement with the United Nations. Consequently, data on the number of copies printed and the cost are not available.

2. The dollar figures under column (5), "Printing cost", cover all contractual printing costs in connexion with the printing of copies required for official purposes, i.e., United Nations official distribution copies shown in column (4a), "United Nations distribution". Contractual printing costs include composition (type-setting), paper, press run, covers and binding of which composition is the single most expensive element. The cost of printing copies for sales purposes (column 4b) is not available; however, the copies printed for sales embody cost only for paper, press run, covers and binding. Those publications for which no

<sup>1/</sup> New York, publisher Walker & Company.

cost figures appear in column (5), i.e., Population and Vital Statistics Report, 2/ World Energy Supplies 3/ and Growth of World Industry, vols. I and II, 4/ were reproduced internally by the United Nations, and cost figures by individual publication are not available. The sources for the data shown in column (5) were taken from the Secretary-General's budget estimates for the financial year .... submitted to the General Assembly 5/ for the relevant years.

3. It is difficult to compute the average timeliness of data which appear in the Monthly Bulletin of Statistics (United Nations publication) owing, in part, to the diversity of the types of series contained therein. For some series - for example, price quotations on commodities, certain external trade and financial statistics - data are available for immediate publication; however, for other series, such as indexes of industrial production etc., the time lag is longer. Also, for any given series the data for some countries are available earlier than the same series for other countries.

4. The Yearbook of National Accounts Statistics 6/ appears in two volumes and printing and cost data are reported jointly. However, there was a small time difference in the issuance of volumes I and II of the 1970 Yearbook: volume I was issued in June 1972 and volume II in March 1972. For the 1969 Yearbook, both volumes were issued in October.

5. The figure of \$US21,000 was estimated as the publishing cost of the official copies of the last issue of the Yearbook of International Trade Statistics shown in the attached table, 7/ since the printing process was expected to be changed to computer offset.

6. Commodity Trade Statistics 8/ is issued as data for countries become available. For example, vol. XX contains data only for 1970 and the first fascicle in the volume, covering the United States and Sweden, was published in October 1970; the latest, No. 43, covering Australia, French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Réunion, Israel and New Zealand, was published in May 1972 and it is expected that at least four more fascicles, on several remaining countries in vol. XX, will be issued as data become available.

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2/ United Nations publication, Statistical Papers, Series A.

3/ World Energy Supplies, 1966-1969 (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.71.XVII.14).

4/ Growth of World Industry, 1970 Edition, vols. I and II (United Nations publications, Sales. Nos: E/F.72.XVII.4 and E.72.XVII.9).

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/8706) (and previous sessions).

6/ Yearbook of National Accounts Statistics, 1970 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.72.XVII.3).

7/ To be issued as a United Nations publication.

8/ United Nations publication, Statistical Papers, Series D.

(1) Title of publication and its periodicity	(2) Contents	(3) Timeliness		(4) Number of copies printed			(5) Printing cost (United Nations distribution only in US dollars)	
		(a) Issue	(b) Latest data for	(c) Release date	(a) United Nations distribution	(b) Sales		(c) Total
<u>Monthly Bulletin of Statistics</u> (monthly)	Monthly statistics on 70 subjects from over 200 countries and territories together with special tables illustrating important economic developments. Quarterly data for significant world and regional aggregates are also included.	Jan-Dec 1970 " 1971 " 1972		1st week of each month	52,760 53,600 $\frac{1}{2}$ 55,280 $\frac{1}{2}$	45,840 46,400 48,720	78,000/year 80,000/year 84,000/year $\frac{1}{2}$	82,000 116,000 97,000
<u>Statistical Yearbook</u> (annual)	A comprehensive compilation of international statistics relating to: population; manpower; agricultural, mineral and manufacturing production; construction; energy; trade; transport; communications; consumption; balance of payments; wages and prices; national accounts; finance; international capital flow; health; housing; education, science and technology and culture.	1969 1970 1971	1968 1969 1970	July 1970 July 1971 July 1972	2,025 2,125 2,200	9,750 9,800 8,800	11,775 11,925 11,000	41,000 46,000 52,600
<u>Demographic Yearbook</u> (annual)	Contains statistics of area, population, natality, mortality, nuptiality and divorce for every country of the world, and latest available data on expectation of life and international migration. Different tables covering special topics appear in each issue.	1969 1970 1971	1969 1970 1971	October 1970 November 1971 (February 1973) $\frac{1}{2}$	2,090 2,100 -	5,400 6,200 -	7,450 8,500 -	48,500 52,000 60,000
<u>Population and Vital Statistics Report</u> (quarterly)	This publication updates population and vital statistics for each country of the world, on a quarterly basis, and population aggregates for the world and each continent, annually. Included for each country are (1) results of the latest population census; (2) the latest official estimate of population, irrespective of date; (3) a mid-year population estimate for a fixed (recent) year; and (4) the latest birth, death and infant mortality statistics. The reference date of the fixed-year population estimate for each country, as well as the aggregate estimate for the world and each continent, is updated in the 1 July issue.	Jan-April-1970 Jul-Oct 1971 " 1972	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	Feb-Jun-Jul-Oct 1970 Feb-May-Sep-Oct 1971 Feb-May-Aug-(Oct) $\frac{1}{2}$ 1972	1,425 1,425 1,450	8,972 8,534 9,120	10,397/year 9,959/year 10,680/year $\frac{1}{2}$	12,600 19,000 21,000
<u>Yearbook of National Accounts Statistics</u> , vols. I and II (annual)	Internationally comparable data for countries and territories on: gross domestic product and expenditure; national income and national disposable income; capital transactions of the nation; the gross domestic product and domestic factor incomes according to kind of economic activity; supply and disposition of commodities; government and private final consumption expenditure according to purpose; composition of gross capital formation; distribution of capital flows; income and outlay and capital transactions of various transactors; selected outlays of general government by purpose and external transactions. Also includes internationally comparable information contained in 10 tables of processed data.	1969 1970 1971	1968 1969 1970	October 1970 Mar-Jun 1972 (December 1972) $\frac{1}{2}$	1,900 2,000 -	2,500 2,300 -	4,400 4,300 -	45,000 55,000 21,000
<u>Yearbook of International Trade Statistics</u> (annual)	A compilation of national tables showing annual figures. Among the data shown are: value of merchandise imports and exports in national currency and US dollars; trade in gold; quantum and unit value indexes, currency conversion factors; trade in principal commodities (according to the SITC where possible).	1968 1969 1970-1971	1968 1969 1970-1971	November 1970 December 1971 (November 1972) $\frac{1}{2}$	1,750 1,800 -	3,000 2,800 -	4,750 4,600 -	45,000 55,000 21,000

PUBLICATIONS OF STATISTICS (continued)

(1) Title of publication and its periodicity	(2) Contents	(3) Timeliness			(4) Number of copies printed			(5) Printing cost (United Nations distribution only in US dollars)
		(a) Issue	(b) Latest data for	(c) Release date	(a) United Nations distribution	(b) Sales	(c) Total	
Commodity Trade Statistics (continuous)	Fascicles of about 270 pages containing quarterly data as it becomes available in the 625 subgroups of the United Nations Standard International Trade Classification (SITC). Data for each reporting country are published together.	1969 1970 1971			73,419 6/ 71,660 5/ 73,888	20,709 20,211 20,800	94,128 1/ 91,871 94,688	101,000 110,000 130,000
World Energy Supplies (annual)	This publication on energy contains quantitative annual data on the production, imports, exports and gross consumption of solid fuels, petroleum and its products, gas and electricity (thermal, hydro, geothermal and nuclear) for approximately 180 countries with regional and global totals. Matrix tables show the origin and destination of world trade in solid fuels and in crude petroleum.	1965-1968 1966-1969 1968-1970	1968 1969 1970	August 1970 October 1971 (December 1972) 3/	1,500 1,000 -	2,175 2,150 -	3,675 3,150 -	
The Growth of World Industry, Vol. I, General Industrial Statistics (annual)	Annual compilations of general industrial statistics containing data for over 80 countries. The following items are covered for each branch of industry: number of establishments; number of persons engaged; number of employees; compensation of operatives; number of operatives; wages and salaries of operatives; man-hours worked by operatives; quantity of electricity consumed; gross output; value added; gross fixed capital formation; value of stocks; and index numbers of industrial production. In addition, special tables are included, for example, on indexes of industrial production and employment by branches of activity for the world and major regions.	1968 1969 1970	1967 1968 1969	July 1970 June 1971 May 1972	1,000 1,000 1,000	2,000 2,000 2,050	3,000 3,000 3,050	
Vol. II, Commodity Production Data (annual)	Presents internationally comparable information on the production of 347 industrial commodities (366 statistical series). The publication contains data for 173 countries and territories, including all major developed countries. The commodities included have been selected primarily on the basis of their importance in world commerce and represent the principal products of all branches of mining and manufacturing.	1968 1969 1970	1967 1969 1970	December 1968 April 1971 May 1972	1,000 1,000 1,000	2,500 2,000 2,050	3,500 3,000 3,050	

1/ Estimated on the basis of data available for 1970.  
 2/ Estimated on the basis of data available through June 1972.  
 3/ Estimated release date.  
 4/ Contains latest available data (see column (2)) irrespective of date.  
 5/ Estimated on the basis of data available through August 1972.  
 6/ Estimated on the basis of data available for 1971.  
 7/ Based on the total number of fascicles printed during the year. This is not, as explained in paragraph 6, the complete volume.