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20 February-2 March 1979

Item 12 of the provisional agenda.

Programme objectives: implementation and prospects:

(c) Statistical Office of the United Nations

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES, MEDIUM-TERM PLAN, 1980-1983, AND WORK PROGRAMME
OF THE STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. Following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 3043 (XXVII) of 19 December 1972, approving on an experimental basis the new form of presentation of the United Nations budget and a biennial budget cycle, the Economic and Social Council on 10 January 1973, at its organizational meeting, instructed its functional commissions (of which the Statistical Commission is one) "to state their programme objectives so that the Secretary-General can examine and elaborate the most effective and economical means of achieving the objectives in question and make appropriate recommendations in the biennial programme and budget and the medium-term plan". 1/

2. Pursuant to this instruction, the members of the Statistical Commission will have available during the session as a conference room paper, the medium-term plan for the period 1980-1983, the programme objectives of the Statistical Office and the proposed work programme for 1980-1981 through which the objectives will be implemented. #1

3. The Commission may wish to review the objectives and the proposed work programme of the Statistical Office and request the Secretariat to implement the projects listed, taking into account the conclusions reached by the Commission at its twentieth session.

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 1 (E/5367), "Actions arising out of decisions of the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session".

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4. The conference room paper will contain paragraphs 24.1-24.141 of chapter 24 (Statistics) of the "Medium-term plan for the period 1980-1983". 2/ This will permit the Commission to place the work of the Statistical Office in the perspective of the over-all medium-term plan and thereby assist the Commission in its evaluation of the work programme.

5. At the second part of its eighteenth session (28 August-27 September 1978), the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination reviewed briefly the programme on statistics contained in chapter 24 of the medium-term plan and "expressed its satisfaction with the general direction and presentation of the programme". 3/

2/ A/33/6 (Part 24) and Corr.1. The complete document is to be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/33/6/Rev.1).

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/33/38), para. 617.