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ANNOTATIONS

1. Election of officers

In accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure, the Commission will elect at its first meeting a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur to serve from the beginning of the twenty-second session of the Commission to the beginning of the twenty-third session.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

The items on the provisional agenda and the corresponding documentation were considered by the Commission at its twenty-first session ^{1/} and by the Commission's Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Co-ordination at its ninth session (E/CN.3/1983/24, paras. 4-42).

Two subitems were added by the Working Group, namely subitem 3 (c), entitled "Publication policy for statistics", and a new subitem 4 (b), entitled "System of Balances of the National Economy (MPS)" (the original subitem (b) thus became subitem (c)). The Secretariat reversed the sequence of the original items 4 (Industrial, transport, energy and international trade statistics) and 5 (National accounts and balances) in order to improve the logical presentation of the document to the Commission. The Working Group decided which documents should be submitted for discussion and which for information (E/CN.3/1983/24, paras. 43-47).

Information document

"Organization of the work of the session" (E/CN.3/1983/L.1)

3. Special issues

(a) Administrative records

The Secretary-General will submit a document covering current practices in the use of administrative records, practical problems in their use and suggested solutions. It will reflect the experience and problems in both developed and developing countries. The document will also cover the improvement of statistics derived from administrative reporting systems and proposals for further work at the international level.

Discussion document

"Use of administrative records for statistical purposes" (E/CN.3/1983/2)

^{1/} Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1981, Supplement No. 2 (E/1981/12), chap. XII.

(b) Information technology

The Secretary-General will submit a document covering information technologies that are relevant for statisticians in the selection, collection and verification of statistical data; in the storage and manipulation of statistical data; and in the dissemination and exchange of statistical data. It will also discuss the present level of utilization of various information technologies in national and international statistical offices and by other users, the impact on statistical activities, the future possibilities of exploiting information technology in a statistical environment and proposals for future work of the Commission in this field.

Discussion document

"Implications of new developments in information technology" (E/CN.3/1983/3)

Information document

"Progress report on statistical data processing" (E/CN.3/1983/23) (see item 10 (c) below)

(c) Publication policy for statistics

The Secretary-General will submit a report in response to a recommendation of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination that the Economic and Social Council should request the Statistical Commission "to review and evaluate the general policy of publication of statistics which are more than three years old". ^{2/} The document will describe the present policies and practices of the United Nations Statistical Office in publishing statistics and the implications of alternative policies.

Discussion document

"Publication policy for statistics" (E/CN.3/1983/4)

4. National accounts and balances

(a) System of National Accounts (SNA)

The Secretary-General will submit two documents to the Commission. One will review current plans for the organization and scheduling of work on the long-term revision of SNA, including the division of responsibility for preparatory work between interested agencies and participating countries in all major areas of development. It will also present a set of proposals for the short-term

^{2/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/36/38), para. 484 (a), endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1981/180 of 23 July 1981.

clarification, updating and harmonization of the System. The proposals will incorporate the views of an expert group that met at United Nations Headquarters in March 1982 and of the Working Party on National Accounts and Balances of the Conference of European Statisticians that is scheduled to meet at Geneva in June 1982. The other document will deal with the establishment of international data series in national accounts and related fields. It will discuss the consideration for selecting those series, analyse the present availability of those data in terms of tables, concepts and classifications recommended in SNA and related documents and propose strategies for the improvement of the implementation of the international guidelines in national accounts.

Discussion document

"Review and development of the System of National Accounts (SNA)"
(E/CN.3/1983/5)

Information document

"Progress report on the implementation of the guidelines and the establishment of international data series in national accounts and related statistical fields" (E/CN.3/1983/6)

(b) System of Balances of the National Economy (MPS)

The Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) will submit a document indicating the status of the work on the development of the System of Balances of the National Economy.

Information document

"Progress report on the development of the System of Balances of the National Economy (MPS)" (E/CN.3/1983/7)

(c) Links between the System of National Accounts (SNA) and the System of Balances of the National Economy (MPS)

The Secretary-General will submit a review of the empirical test of the conceptual framework for SNA/MPS comparisons, the current status of illustrative calculations of gross domestic product (GDP) for centrally planned economies and net material product for market economies and progress in further development and elaboration of a conceptual framework for SNA and MPS comparison. In particular, the drafts of the revised conversion tables designed for the derivation of GDP for countries using MPS will be presented. The future programme of work will be outlined.

Information document

"Progress report on SNA/MPS comparisons and related topics" (E/CN.3/1983/8)

5. Industrial, transport, energy and international trade statistics

(a) Industrial and transport statistics

The Secretary-General will submit two documents to the Commission. One will be a report on the 1983 World Programme of Industrial Statistics, including a review of the objectives, content and development of the Programme, work done since the twenty-first session of the Statistical Commission, the status of industrial statistics in developing countries and regional training activities. The report will also include information on the publication of maritime transport statistics and the promotion of and fund-raising for the uniform system for collecting economic statistics of shipping. The other document will be a draft revision of International Recommendations for Industrial Statistics, 3/ based on comments from national statistical offices, international organizations, individuals and an expert group convened to consider the revision (United Nations Headquarters, 5-9 October 1981).

Discussion document

"Draft revision of International Recommendations for Industrial Statistics"
(E/CN.3/1983/9)

Information document

"Progress report on the 1983 World Programme of Industrial Statistics and on transport statistics" (E/CN.3/1983/10)

(b) Energy statistics

The Secretary-General will submit a document reviewing special achievements in international energy statistics, the priority given to the development of new statistical series, 4/ the development of Statistical Office publications containing energy statistics and co-ordination and co-operation in energy statistics.

Information document

"Progress report on energy statistics" (E/CN.3/1983/11)

(c) International trade statistics

The Secretary-General will submit a draft of the third revision of the Standard International Trade Classification, 5/ which will incorporate the views of

3/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.68.XVII.10.

4/ Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/2.

5/ See United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.XVII.6.

an expert group that met at United Nations Headquarters in March 1982. The work currently under way in revising the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) 6/ was taken into account.

Discussion documents

"Evaluation of co-ordination in international statistical programmes"
(E/CN.3/1983/26) (see item 11 below)

"Draft of the Standard International Trade Classification, Revision 3"
(E/CN.3/1983/12)

Information document

"Progress report on the harmonization of international economic classifications" (E/CN.3/1983/15) (see item 7 below)

6. Price statistics

(a) Inter-agency price statistics programme

The Secretary-General will submit a review of price statistics work at the international level in recent years, with particular reference to current work on the introduction of an inter-agency price statistics programme. The implications of the programme for national statistical work will be assessed.

Discussion document

"Development of an inter-agency price statistics programme" (E/CN.3/1983/13)

(b) International Comparison Project (ICP)

The Secretary-General will submit a review of the status of ICP, the goals to be achieved by the end of the decade, the relationship of ICP to other statistical programmes and the organizational arrangements and resources needed to carry out ICP. The document will be based in large part on the discussions of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on the Long-Term Organization of the International Comparison Project (Geneva, 11-13 November 1981).

Discussion document

"Long-term organization of the International Comparison Project (ICP)"
(E/CN.3/1983/14)

6/ See United Nations publication, Sales No. E.68.XVII.8.

7. International economic classifications

The Secretary-General will submit a report on the revision of ISIC and the harmonization of international activity classifications, the co-ordination of ISIC with SITC, the harmonization of classifications of goods in production and international trade, the status of work on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS) of the Customs Co-operation Council and the participation of the United Nations Statistical Office in the work.

Information document

"Progress report on the harmonization of international economic classifications" (E/CN.3/1983/15)

8. Demographic and social statistics

(a) Population and housing censuses

The Secretary-General will submit a preliminary assessment of national experience in the 1980 World Population and Housing Census Programme, a review of emerging issues (such as the relationship of the census to other data sources, the integration of population and housing censuses, census content, methods of enumeration, privacy and confidentiality, editing and imputation, processing census data, tabulation and dissemination of census results, and evaluation, acceptance and adjustment of results) and an outline of plans for the 1985-1994 World Population and Housing Census Decade.

Information document

"Progress report on national experiences and emerging issues in population and housing censuses" (E/CN.3/1983/16)

(b) International migration statistics

The Secretary-General will submit a report on the international co-operative programme on immigrant stock data, the work of the Expert Group on the Improvement of International Migration Statistics (New York, 21-25 September 1981) and the preparation of technical reports designed to assist countries.

Information document

"Progress report on the improvement of international migration statistics" (E/CN.3/1983/17)

(c) Social indicators and links among social, demographic and related economic and environment statistics

The Secretary-General will submit a report on national activities with respect to statistical publications and methodological studies, international activities of the United Nations system, CMEA, the European Economic Community and the

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and international co-ordination of these activities.

Information document

"Progress report on national and international work on social indicators and on related concepts and classifications for general use" (E/CN.3/1983/18)

9. Environment statistics

The Secretary-General will submit a report describing the work undertaken on the survey of frameworks, approaches and statistical publications; the preliminary format of an over-all framework for the organization of data; the development of statistics in specific areas of environmental concern; the compilation of a directory of environment statistics; regional workshops and pilot studies. The report will also outline the future work programme.

Information document

"Progress report on environment statistics" (E/CN.3/1983/19)

10. Technical co-operation

- (a) Development of country capabilities: the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP) and the Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS)

Two documents will be before the Commission. One, submitted by the Secretary-General, will discuss NHSCP, including future plans. The other, submitted by the World Bank, will discuss LSMS.

Discussion documents

"The National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP)" (E/CN.3/1983/20)

"The Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS)" (E/CN.3/1983/21)

Information document

"Evaluation of co-ordination in international statistical programmes" (E/CN.3/1983/26) (see item 11 below)

- (b) Training in statistics

The Secretary-General will submit a document discussing a variety of issues arising in the training of statistical personnel and describing the training activities carried out under the aegis of the regional commissions, specialized agencies and countries.

Information document

"Progress report on training in statistics" (E/CN.3/1983/22)

(c) Statistical data processing

The Secretary-General will submit a review of recent progress in the support of technical co-operation activities in statistical data processing, the development and use of data-base management methodologies, the role of communications technology in data processing and applications to statistics.

Information document

"Progress report on statistical data processing" (E/CN.3/1983/23)

(d) Technical co-operation in statistics

The Secretary-General will submit a report prepared on the basis of information provided by the United Nations system, other international organizations and countries on both the demand for and supply of field experts, training, equipment and miscellaneous technical co-operation.

Discussion document

"Technical co-operation in statistics by the United Nations system, other international organizations and countries" (E/CN.3/1983/25)

Information documents

"The National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP)" (E/CN.3/1983/20)
(see item 10 (a) above)

"The Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS)" (E/CN.3/1983/21) (see item 10 (a) above)

"Progress report on training in statistics" (E/CN.3/1983/22) (see item 10 (b) above)

"Progress report on statistical data processing" (E/CN.3/1983/23) (see item 10 (c) above)

11. Co-ordination and integration of international statistical programmes

The Secretary-General will submit two documents to the Commission. One will be the report of the Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Co-ordination on its ninth session (Geneva, 29 September-2 October 1981), including a review of the provisional agenda for the twenty-second session of the Statistical Commission, suggestions on the documentation for that and future sessions and consideration of the reporting burden on countries in supplying data to international organizations. The other document will evaluate co-ordination of:

/...

(a) forms used for data collection; (b) system design for machine-readable data bases; (c) NHSCP experience in identifying and overcoming co-ordination problems within countries and among international agencies; and (d) standards. The report will indicate how these issues are related to other items on the agenda.

Discussion document

"Evaluation of co-ordination in international statistical programmes"
(E/CN.3/1983/26)

Information document

"Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Co-ordination;
report on the ninth session" (E/CN.3/1983/24)

12. Programme implementation

The Secretary-General will submit an over-all review of the statistical work of the international organizations for the period 1981-1982 with respect to major achievements, new activities and activities cancelled or significantly modified.

Information document

"Progress report on the statistical work of the international organizations"
(E/CN.3/1983/27)

13. Programme objectives and planning

The Secretary-General will submit two documents to the Commission. One will be a report describing the plans in statistics of the international organizations through 1989, concentrating on important planned changes in activities, that is, new activities and activities to be cancelled or significantly modified. The other document will describe the proposed work programme of the United Nations Statistical Office for 1984-1985 and revisions made in the medium-term plan for 1984-1989 since the twenty-first session of the Statistical Commission.

Discussion documents

"Future plans in statistics of the international organizations"
(E/CN.3/1983/28)

"Proposed work programme of the United Nations Statistical Office, 1984-1985,
and the medium-term plan, 1984-1989" (E/CN.3/1983/29)

14. Other business

The Commission may wish to discuss under this item any matters not covered under other items of the agenda.

15. Draft provisional agenda for the twenty-third session of the Commission

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the Commission will have before it the provisional agenda for its twenty-third session with an indication in respect of each agenda item as to the documents to be submitted under that item and the legislative authority for their preparation, in order to enable the Commission to consider those documents from the point of view of their contribution to the work of the Commission, and their urgency and relevance in the light of the current situation.

In accordance with Council resolution 1979/41 of 10 May 1979, which was endorsed by General Assembly resolution 34/50 of 23 November 1979, the draft provisional agenda of the Commission at its twenty-third session will be submitted to the Council. In paragraph 2 (e) of that resolution, the Council decided that the provisional agenda for its subsidiary bodies, together with the list of requested documentation, should be submitted to the Council for its review in order, inter alia, to establish greater consistency between the documentation of those bodies and the over-all documentation requested by the Council and other subsidiary bodies and greater consistency between the requests for documentation and the medium-term plan and the programme budget.

In that connexion, the attention of the Commission is drawn to the note by the Secretariat (A/INF/37/1), which contains the relevant provisions of resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council relating to the control and limitation of documentation and to the calendar of meetings.

Further, the Economic and Social Council, in paragraphs 5 and 6 of its resolution 1981/83 of 24 July 1981:

"Instructs the subsidiary bodies of the Council to take urgent measures to streamline their agendas and programmes of work and to bring about a substantial reduction in their requests for documents, bearing in mind the duration and the cycles of their meetings, and to report to the Council on measures adopted, taking strictly into account the guidelines set forth in the pertinent resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

"Requests the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions are adopted, any request for documentation that exceeds the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process on time and within its approved resources."

16. Report of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council

The report of the Commission on its twenty-second session will be submitted to the Economic and Social Council.
