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**SPECIAL ISSUES: RECURRENT STATISTICAL PUBLICATIONS  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

Recurrent statistical publications of the United Nations

Report of the Secretary-General

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**SUMMARY**

The present report has been prepared in response to the decision of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to request the Secretary-General (utilizing the Publications Board) to communicate to the intergovernmental bodies that had authorized recurrent publications a request to review those publications in the light of the criteria set forth in General Assembly resolution 38/32 E, with a view to terminating those publications that did not meet those criteria or to reducing their periodicity or volume of issuance.

Sections I and II provide background information on the Committee's request, the criteria to be used in reviewing recurrent publications and the subsequent action taken by the Publications Board (paras. 4-10). Section III provides additional information that may be useful to the Commission in its review of recurrent statistical publications (paras. 11-36). Section IV contains points for discussion by the Commission (para. 37).

\* E/CN.3/1989/1.

## CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION .....	1 - 3	3
I. REQUEST OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION FOR A REVIEW OF RECURRENT PUBLICATIONS .....	4 - 8	3
A. Background .....	4 - 7	3
B. Criteria for reviewing recurrent publications of the United Nations .....	8	4
II. ACTION TAKEN BY THE PUBLICATIONS BOARD .....	9 - 10	5
III. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON RECURRENT STATISTICAL PUBLICATIONS .....	11 - 36	9
A. Review by the Statistical Commission at its twenty-fourth session .....	11 - 13	9
B. Review of recurrent publications by the Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat .....	14 - 36	10
1. Types of uses and users of international statistics	15 - 23	10
2. Expected increase in the availability of statistics	24	12
3. Strategy for meeting users' needs without increasing the volume of recurrent publications ...	25 - 34	12
4. Measures taken to limit recurrent statistical publications .....	35 - 36	14
IV. POINTS FOR DISCUSSION .....	37	15

## INTRODUCTION

1. At its twenty-sixth session, in 1986, the Committee for the Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) decided to request the Secretary-General (utilizing the Publications Board) to communicate to the intergovernmental bodies that had authorized recurrent publications a request to review those publications in the light of the criteria set forth in General Assembly resolution 38/32 E, with a view to terminating those publications that did not meet those criteria or to reducing their periodicity or volume of issuance, if that was called for. 1/

2. The Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Co-ordination, at its twelfth session, in 1987, agreed that the documentation on recurrent statistical publications to be prepared for the Statistical Commission at its twenty-fifth session should include the relevant extracts from the report of the Secretary-General on recurrent publications of the United Nations (E/AC.51/1987/12), supplemented by a covering note explaining more fully what was requested of the Commission, providing updated information where necessary, and any additional information that might be obtained on user needs (E/CN.3/1989/20, para. 12).

3. The present report contains a more detailed explanation of the request made by CPC, a description of the initial steps taken by the Publications Board, and extracts from the report of the Secretary-General (E/AC.51/1987/12). It also contains updated information on recurrent statistical publications, including preliminary information on a review by the Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat of its publications and of the balance between the various forms of dissemination available, namely printed publications, computer tapes, diskettes, microfiche, and the like.

### I. REQUEST OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND CO-ORDINATION FOR A REVIEW OF RECURRENT PUBLICATIONS

#### A. Background 2/

4. At its twenty-sixth session, CPC took note of the report of the Secretary-General on recurrent publications of the United Nations (E/AC.51/1985/14). CPC noted that the justification given in the report for many of the publications were references to the programme budget, and recommended that specific resolutions or decisions of the intergovernmental body concerned should be provided in each instance. In respect of the reviews requested by the General Assembly in resolution 38/32 E of 25 November 1983 and the Economic and Social Council in decision 1984/101 of 10 February 1984, CPC noted that no recurrent publications had as yet been terminated. 3/ It also noted that readership surveys were being conducted by author departments, with the encouragement of the Publications Board, in order to obtain end-user response on, for example, the usefulness of the content of publications and the standard of the published analysis or data.

5. CPC then took the decision concerning the review by intergovernmental bodies of the publications they had authorized (see para. 1 above).

6. CPC noted that, in order to assist intergovernmental bodies in conducting their reviews, the Secretary-General would furnish them with an updated, expanded revision of the information provided in his report (E/AC.51/1985/14), which would include the total print run of each publication, broken down into the number of copies for official distribution, stock, departmental use and sales; the actual legislative mandates; the results of the readership surveys that had been conducted by author departments, with particular reference to the criteria set out in Assembly resolution 38/32 E; any relevant information or comments from intergovernmental or other sources that could be useful in their reviews; and annotations by the Secretary-General to indicate which recurrent publications appeared, in practical terms, to be likely candidates for discontinuance, as well as relevant justification for such discontinuance.

7. Finally, CPC requested that a report on the results of the above-mentioned reviews by intergovernmental bodies be submitted to it at its twenty-seventh session and that the report contain complete information on the recurrent publications being retained, discontinued or reduced in frequency and volume. The report should also provide the justification given by the intergovernmental body concerned for the retention of a publication that the Secretary-General had considered might be discontinued.

B. Criteria for reviewing recurrent publications of the United Nations

8. In paragraph 17 of resolution 38/32 E, the General Assembly established a set of criteria which it recommended that "intergovernmental bodies bear in mind" when reviewing publications. These criteria are:

(a) Usefulness to the end-user of the publication, as gauged from end-user response or from the sales record of a publication;

(b) Filling of a need;

(c) High standard of analysis or data;

(d) Promotion of the principles and purposes of the Organization;

(e) Continued validity of the original mandate;

(f) Recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in its report on publications policy and practice in the United Nations system, if applicable.

CPC reiterated the General Assembly's decision that intergovernmental bodies should use these criteria in carrying out the review of recurrent publications.

## II. ACTION TAKEN BY THE PUBLICATIONS BOARD

9. The heads of all author departments and offices were invited by the Publications Board to contribute the comments requested by CPC regarding the recurrent publications issued under their auspices, or indeed any other recurrent publication issued by the Organization, including annotations to indicate which recurrent publications appeared, in practical terms, to be likely candidates for discontinuance, as well as relevant justification for such discontinuance (E/AC.51/1987/12, para. 3).

10. The results of that exercise were set out in annex I to the report of the Secretary-General on recurrent publications of the United Nations (E/AC.51/1987/12), submitted to CPC at its twenty-seventh session, in 1987; the annex contained a list of publications, arranged by budget section; for each publication, the legislative mandate, print run and sales record were furnished, to the extent possible, for all the languages of publication (E/AC.51/1987/12, para. 4). The table in the present report contains such information on recurrent statistical publications.

Recurrent statistical publications of the United Nations

Title	Starting date <u>a/</u>	Frequency of issue	Average time for preparation by author departments <u>b/</u>	Justification <u>c/</u>	Printed for sale	Copies of most recent edition sold as at cut-off date <u>d/</u>
<u>Programme: Statistics</u>						
(a) These publications are included in the list of final outputs in the programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987 (see <u>Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/40/6)</u> , vol. I, sect. 6, para. 6.87);						
(b) The mandate of the statistical publications is renewed biennially by the Statistical Commission;						
(c) Titles are as published in A/40/6, vol. I. Actual titles may vary.						
Energy Statistics Yearbook	1952	Annual	10 months	Statistical Commission, report on the first session (E/39), chap. IV; Statistical Commission, report on the twenty-first session (E/1981/12), para. 17	E/F 1 500	1 296
Industrial Statistics Yearbook Vol. I, General Industrial Statistics Vol. II, Commodity Production Statistics	1975	Annual	11 months each volume	Statistical Commission, report on the fifteenth session (E/4471), chap. IV, sect. D, resolution 7 (XV)	E/F 1 200	959
National Accounts Statistics Series: Government Accounts and Tables <u>e/</u>	1983	Annual	6 months	Statistical Commission, report on the seventeenth session (E/5236), para. 195	E/F 2 400	1 662
National Accounts Statistics Series: Main Aggregates and Detailed Tables	1958	Annual	10 months	Statistical Commission, report on the seventeenth session (E/5236), para. 195	E/F 2 400	1 677
National Accounts Statistics Series: Analysis of Main Aggregates	1958	Annual	6 months	Statistical Commission, report on the seventeenth session (E/5236), para. 195	E/F 2 400	1 677
Construction Statistics Yearbook	1974	Annual	10 months	Statistical Commission, report on the seventeenth session (E/5236), para. 192	E/F 600	251

Title	Starting date <u>a/</u>	Frequency of issue	Average time for preparation by author departments <u>b/</u>	Justification <u>c/</u>		Printed for sale	Copies of most recent edition sold as at cut-off date <u>d/</u>
Distributive Trade Statistics Yearbook <u>f/</u>	1987	Annual	4 months	Statistical Commission, report on the seventeenth session, (E/5236), para. 192	E	-	-
Commodity Trade Statistics, Series D	1949	28 issues/year	Each issue depends on data availability	Statistical Commission, report on the sixth session (E/1994), para. 15	E/F	850	850
World Trade Annual <u>g/</u>		Annual	12 months				
Supplement to World Trade Manual <u>g/</u>		Annual	12 months				
International Trade Statistics Yearbook, vols. I and II	1951	Annual	12 months each volume	Economic and Social Council resolution 23 (III)	E/F	2 600	2 415
Maritime Transport Study	1981	Annual	12 months	Statistical Commission, report on the sixth session (E/1994), para. 15	E	700	384
Demographic Yearbook	1949	Annual	12 months	Economic and Social Council resolution 41 (IV)	E/F	7 000	3 996
Population and Vital Statistics Report, Series A	1949	Quarterly	2 months each issue	Statistical Commission, report on the first session (E/39), chap. IV, para. 33	E	1 200	Subscription
Statistical Yearbook	1949	Annual	12 months	Economic and Social Council resolution 23 (III) B	E/F	10 250	7 908
Monthly Bulletin of Statistics	1947	Monthly	4 weeks each issue	Economic and Social Council resolution 23 (III) B	E/F	4 000	Subscription
World Statistics in Brief	1976	Annual	10 months	General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV)	E	4 500	4 448
Energy Balances and Electricity Profiles	1983	Biennial	6 months	Statistical Commission, report on the twentieth session (E/1979/23), para. 23 (a) (b) (i)	E	800	411

(Source and footnotes on following page)

(Source and footnotes to table)

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Source: E/AC.51/1987/12, annex I.

a/ First year of issue of a publication.

b/ From initiation of research or data becoming available to submission of a manuscript to the Documents Control Section of the Department of Conference Services for processing.

c/ In accordance with the specific request of the Committee, author departments were asked to give references to the most recent resolutions or decisions of the intergovernmental body authorizing the publication, rather than cite the programme budget or medium-term plan.

d/ The sales figures refer to the latest issue of the recurrent publication for which details are available, expressed as numbers of copies sold over number of copies originally in stock. The number shown as "sold" may in some cases be misleading since some of these publications were issued shortly before these data were compiled, whereas in other instances the publications had been available for some time. For subscription items, the number of subscriptions is provided, since no separate record is kept of sales of single issues.

e/ Terminated owing to redeploymnt of resources. Data have been incorporated in National Accounts Statistics Series: Main Aggregates and Detailed Tables.

f/ Postponed to a later biennium.

g/ Five volumes published by Walker and Co. under an agreement with the Statistical Office.



### III. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON RECURRENT STATISTICAL PUBLICATIONS

#### A. Review by the Statistical Commission at its twenty-fourth session 4/

11. The Statistical Commission, at its twenty-fourth session, in 1987, reviewed current practices in the production and dissemination of the recurrent publications of the Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat and made the following comments:

(a) The Commission considered that timeliness was extremely important in the release of international statistics and the Secretariat was urged to continue to give that matter high priority;

(b) The Commission stressed the importance of the accuracy and consistency of international statistics, both for comparative studies and for the assessment of trends. For that purpose the provision of adequate technical notes and descriptions in publications was essential. The Commission recognized that a considerable amount of such notes and descriptions was provided with the data in the Statistical Office publications and was of the view that it could be further improved;

(c) The Commission requested the Statistical Office to continue the ongoing evaluation of its publications and to carry out surveys on the usefulness of those publications, especially for users in the private sector;

(d) The Commission considered that the Statistical Office publications were generally under-utilized and an effort should be made to expand their dissemination and use;

(e) The Commission strongly endorsed the effort of the Statistical Office to disseminate international statistical data through media other than publications and recommended that dissemination through microfiche, magnetic tapes, diskettes and on-line access should be expanded.

12. In concluding its discussion, the Commission: (a) endorsed the collation and dissemination of international statistics by the Statistical Office as meeting a well-established and justified need; (b) requested that special attention continue to be given to the quality of data published, including the provision of appropriate technical notes and explanatory material; (c) requested that efforts be continued towards improving the timeliness of data published but noted that consideration should be given to the cost-effectiveness of any measures proposed; (d) requested that the content of statistical publications be reviewed periodically to assess current usefulness and relevance in relation to information needs arising from economic and social developments; (e) requested that additional efforts be made to make potential users aware of the statistical publications of the United Nations; and (f) requested the Statistical Office to disseminate international statistical data through media other than publications, making expanded use of microfiche, magnetic tapes, diskettes and on-line access.

13. The Commission will recall that recurrent statistical publications and related matters have been discussed at previous sessions. At its twenty-second session, for example, it had before it the report of the Secretary-General on a publication policy for statistics (E/CN.3/1983/4) and at its twenty-third session, reports of the Secretary-General on meeting user needs for, and improving the dissemination of, international statistics (E/CN.3/1985/2) and on a publication policy for statistics (E/CN.3/1985/4). The discussion and conclusions of the Commission are contained in the reports of the Commission on those sessions. 5/

B. Review of recurrent publications by the Statistical Office of the United Nations Secretariat

14. Any review of recurrent statistical publications at the national or international level must take into account a variety of factors. These include assessments of user needs, the changing nature of statistics and changes in the technology of collection, compilation and dissemination.

1. Types of uses and users of international statistics

15. The Statistical Office is concerned that its statistical outputs serve the needs of users of international statistics. Over the years a variety of approaches have been tried to obtain user feed-back. The task is a difficult one because (a) users are located in all parts of the world, (b) some publications serve the needs of general users, while others serve the needs of more specialized users and (c) many end-users cannot be identified from United Nations sales and distribution records since the majority of the statistical publications are sold or distributed to libraries. Although the first of these difficulties is a special problem of the United Nations and other international organizations, the other two are also faced by national statistical offices in reviewing their own statistical publications. The following paragraphs summarize some of the activities that have been carried out or are planned by the United Nations Secretariat aimed at assessing user reactions to recurrent statistical publications of the United Nations.

16. Survey of selected users of the Demographic Yearbook. In 1973, a survey of selected users of the Demographic Yearbook was conducted by a joint working group of the Statistical Office and the Population Division, organized to study possible improvements in the publication. Questionnaires were sent to 92 demographers and statisticians known to be regular users of the Yearbook in an effort to determine how well the publication met their needs. Replies were received from 54 persons. On the basis of an examination of those replies by the Working Group and of the opinions of Working Group members on additional possibilities not touched on in the replies, improvements were introduced.

17. Some years ago, a reader's card was inserted in a few of the yearbooks as a means of gathering information from readers. The rate of return was low (approximately 10 per cent), a problem reported by other agencies undertaking similar surveys. Of the cards returned, 75 per cent indicated that the yearbooks were being used in libraries (of which 10 per cent were public, 32 per cent were

college, 23 per cent were corporate and 10 per cent were "other"); 25 per cent of the replies indicated that the yearbooks were being used elsewhere.

18. Users' survey. In 1982 the Statistical Office contracted with a consulting firm to study the characteristics of current users of statistical publications and to identify means of increasing the dissemination of such publications. The first step in this process was to identify users. Several thousand individuals were queried through a mail survey covering 140 countries. Telephone and personal interviews were also conducted.

19. The first major finding of the study confirmed that the major purchasers of United Nations statistical publications were libraries (business, government, public and university libraries). Moreover, the actual decisions on whether to acquire the publications were made more by librarians than by end-users. The second important finding was that the major reason for acquiring publications was to update prior holdings. This led to the conclusion that the key to improving dissemination was to ensure the initial acquisition and the continuation of follow-up activities. It was also observed that the high level of repeated acquisitions was an indication of user satisfaction with the statistical products.

20. The survey revealed that for some publications there was a very low level of consumer awareness in many market segments. In fact, there were instances in which the publications had been provided free of charge to government organizations in which awareness of the publications and their content was only moderate. This perception was confirmed by the low level of use of the publications reported by government librarians.

21. In addition to awareness of the existence of the publications, the survey attempted to assess the level of their use. There were several interesting findings. First, the most active use of all of the publications was made in large public libraries, especially those that received complimentary issues, and in university libraries, regardless of the means of acquisition. Secondly, the lowest level of use was reported by small public libraries (with the exception of the Statistical Yearbook) and by government end-users. Thirdly, although the level of awareness of the existence of all of the publications appeared to be high, among those government end-users receiving complimentary issues, the level of use was reported to be low.

22. The results of the survey greatly improved the awareness of the Statistical Office of the existing market, the reason for the acquisition of the publications and the current level of use of the publications in the various market segments. The survey also provided some information on the users' evaluation of United Nations statistical publications with respect to certain factors that influence their decisions to buy them. Six factors were considered to be highly important: accuracy of the data, clarity of presentation, completeness of the data, convenience in obtaining the publication, projection of the statistics and timeliness of the data.

23. New user surveys aimed at assessing the views of knowledgeable end-users in such fields as demographic statistics and national accounts statistics are

planned. These surveys would involve contacting a sample of members of a number of appropriate international professional associations.

2. Expected increase in the availability of statistics

24. The need to economize and rationalize recurrent statistical publications is particularly important since, over the next few years, the Statistical Office expects to face a substantial increase in the volume and detail of data reported from countries. As a consequence, the dissemination in its recurrent publications of all the statistics received will become increasingly difficult. For example, as the 1990 round of population census activities throughout the world reaches its peak in 1990-1991, the resulting population census data will be reported, in subsequent years, to the Statistical Office. Another example is data on national accounts statistics. In 1980, the content of the national accounts questionnaire was revised and the number of tables was increased from 17 to 55. While not all the countries responded to the request for additional information, there has been a substantial increase in data provided by countries. If the current increase in the data collected continues, the Statistical Office will not be able to publish all the data reported annually on the questionnaires. A further example is the results of the 1983 round of the world industrial census programme. Questionnaires on the industrial censuses are being processed in the Statistical Office, but it may be difficult to publish the tables, except for core tables.

3. Strategy for meeting users' needs without increasing the volume of recurrent publications

25. The Statistical Office has been reviewing recurrent publications on an ongoing basis to improve services to users of international statistics in several aspects. One aspect concerns efficient and effective ways of compiling, editing and printing collected data. The use of improved technology, computers, photocomposition and integrated system software is an important part of this effort. Another aspect deals with ways of disseminating statistics other than in publications; for example, in computer readable form (magnetic tapes, diskettes and on-line access), on microfiche and in ad hoc hard copy of tables stored in data bases. Some of those efforts were described in the report of the Secretary-General on dissemination of international statistical data (E/CN.3/1987/4), submitted to the Statistical Commission at its twenty-third session.

26. Dissemination of statistics on magnetic tape. The Statistical Office has been providing data on magnetic tape for the past 20 years, starting with the dissemination of international trade statistics. At present, data tapes are available for international trade statistics, demographic statistics, special population estimates, energy statistics, maritime transport statistics, general industrial statistics, index numbers of industrial production and national accounts statistics. Magnetic tapes will continue to be efficient media for data dissemination, particularly for those users having access to mainframe computers.

27. Dissemination of statistics on diskette. Dissemination of statistics on diskette is becoming more effective now that many of the users of international statistics are expected to own or have access to micro-computers. Those statistics that it may not be possible to publish owing to the limitation in the size of recurrent publications could be disseminated on diskettes of micro-computers. The Statistical Office has already been disseminating on diskette such statistics as women's indicators, youth statistics and statistics on disabled persons. The statistics currently under consideration for diskette dissemination include demographic statistics, energy statistics, industrial statistics, international trade statistics and national accounts statistics.

28. A diskette or a set of diskettes may contain a whole publication, including statistical tables with their full descriptive parts, such as title, column headings, stub, footnotes and even technical notes. At present, the most widely used diskette is a 5 1/4-inch 360 KB diskette which may contain about 100 pages of medium-sized documents. Three other types of diskettes that may contain large amounts of recorded data are also being used: the 5 1/4-inch 1.2 MB diskette, the 3 1/2-inch 720 KB diskette and the 3 1/2-inch 1.4 MB diskette, with four times the capacity of the 5 1/4-inch 360 KB diskette; that is, nearly 400 pages of documents or statistical tables. Further, attention will be paid to the development of optical disks, which is currently under way. A compact optical disk connected to a micro-computer can hold 200-400 megabytes (or 200-400 million characters) on one side of a 5 1/4-inch disk. At present, the optical disk available on the market is either the read-only device (CD-ROM, Compact Disk-Read Only Memories) or the write-once, read-most device (WORM). An erasable optical disk is soon to be available, thus providing for the efficient transfer between micro-computers of a large amount of recorded data.

29. Ad hoc printing of statistical tables on a laser printer. As an alternative to the provision of statistical data in computer-readable form, statistical tables may be printed, on an ad hoc basis, using a laser printer which can print statistical tables stored in a data base faster and in a more compact manner than a regular impact printer can. In this way, the provision of statistical data to a limited number of users can be met on an ad hoc basis.

30. On-line access. Dissemination of statistics through on-line access to the data base will provide improved services to users. A very recent development in this regard is the expansion of public data networks through which micro-computers can be used to access the data bases which are linked to the public data networks. When applied to statistical data bases, data to be transmitted would include not only statistical data but also technical notes and other descriptive information.

31. The Statistical Office maintains an on-line data base of international trade statistics, called COMTRADE, both at the New York Computing Service and at the International Computing Centre in Geneva. It comprises all annual series in the revised Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) from 1962 to 1986, available annual series in SITC, Revision 2, from 1976 to 1986, and available quarterly series for the past three years. The scope of COMTRADE is updated weekly with new and revised country periods. Currently, eight users within the United Nations system, two users from international organizations outside the system and

four government users have access to COMTRADE at Geneva. COMTRADE, installed in 1986 in the New York Computing Service, is currently providing on-line service to users in New York, as well as to those linked through the AVD (Alternate Voice/Data) communication line with Headquarters in New York. Such users include United Nations offices and regional commissions headquarters at Geneva, Vienna, Bangkok, Santiago, Addis Ababa and Nairobi.

32. The International Computing Centre is now linked to TELEPAC, the public data communication network of Switzerland. Therefore, theoretically, COMTRADE is available to any user around the world having access to one of the multinational switching networks.

33. In addition to COMTRADE, the Statistical Office also maintains an increasing number of data bases at the New York Computing Service. The management of many of these data bases on disk is performed through the United Nations Statistical Information System (UNISIS), developed by the Statistical Office. UNISIS not only manages the storage and retrieval of data but also contains a photocomposition facility. Most of the recurrent statistical publications are photocomposed using the UNISIS facility. On-line access to UNISIS from outside the Statistical Office is being provided on an experimental basis. However, such access is at present restricted to the "browse-only" mode.

34. Despite the obvious appeal of on-line access to users with the technological capacity to use this method of data dissemination, the establishment and maintenance of a globally accessible on-line facility for the massive data bases of the Statistical Office would require considerable resources. Moreover, it is questionable whether the expenditure of such resources by the Organization is justified at present since many Member States are not yet in a position to benefit from on-line access. In these circumstances, at least for now, more attention is being given to other modes of dissemination.

#### 4. Measures taken to limit recurrent statistical publications

35. As part of the efforts to limit recurrent statistical publications and partly owing to lack of resources, the Statistical Office has taken the following measures, which are reflected in the table:

(a) National Accounts Statistics Series: Government Accounts and Tables was terminated and data were incorporated in National Accounts Statistics Series: Main Aggregates and Detailed Tables, starting with the 1984 edition;

(b) The Distributive Trade Statistics Yearbook, which was expected to start publication in 1987, was postponed indefinitely.

36. Further, the Statistical Office decided to suspend the publication of the Construction Statistics Yearbook after the 1985 edition, which was published in July 1988.

#### IV. POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

37. The Statistical Commission, based on its review of the recurrent statistical publications listed in the table and in the light of the criteria set forth in General Assembly resolution 38/32 E, may wish:

(a) To suggest changes in the publication programme with a view to terminating those publications that do not meet those criteria or to reducing their periodicity or volume of issuance;

(b) To suggest effective ways to improve the dissemination of international statistics collected by the Statistical Office;

(c) To formulate its conclusions with respect to recurrent statistical publications in the form of specific recommendations as requested by CPC.

#### Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/41/38 and Corr.2), para. 210.

2/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/41/38 and Corr.2), paras. 209-212.

3/ By decision 1988/101, the Council reiterated its request to its subsidiary bodies responsible for recurrent publications to review them with the objective of identifying and discontinuing those that no longer served a useful purpose, bearing in mind the criteria set out in General Assembly resolution 38/32 E.

4/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1987, Supplement No. 6 (E/1987/19), paras. 27-32.

5/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1983, Supplement No. 2 (E/1983/12 and Corr.1), paras. 16-19; and *ibid.*, 1985, Supplement No. 6 (E/1985/26), paras. 6-17.

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