UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA
Thirteenth session
19-24 April 1986
Baghdad
Item 6(b) of the provisional agenda

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION

FOLLOW-UP ACTION ON THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

(iv) Commission resolution 136(XII)
on the Science and Technology Programme
(iv) Resolution 136(XII) on the Science and Technology Programme

ESWA is planning to implement resolution 136(XII) concerning the review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development in the same way it conducted the Mid-decade review for the region i.e. in close co-ordination with the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD). As in the preparation of the Mid-decade review, UNCSTD has now been made responsible for co-ordinating the actions at the international level to prepare for the Global End-of-Decade Review on the Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action (Resolution A/CN-11/L.96, para 13, Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development, June 1985).

This co-ordination has some definite advantages, as experience has shown. It will enable the ESCWA Secretariat to benefit from the experience of other regions, utilize the review methodologies which are currently being developed and updated, and may also help to support the resources needed to conduct a comprehensive review of the activities in the region.

Therefore, the implementation of the resolution will be in two stages: in the first stage, which will be during the biennium 1986-87, the Science and Technology Programme will conduct the review by using the existing comprehensive questionnaire system and contacting the large number of concerned government departments it has already identified. The first review will be produced during the second quarter of 1988.

In the second stage, which will be during the biennium 1988-89, the Science and Technology Programme will include in its work programme, as in the previous biennium, a programme element entitled "End-of-decade Review on the Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action". Allocation for travel and consultancy will be made and the new questionnaire system, which is currently being developed by UNCSTD will be ready for application. An expert group meeting will be organized to discuss the country reports, and to finalize the regional report which will be submitted to the Global Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology to take the necessary actions to implement its recommendations.