



UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR ASIA

LIBRARY & DOCUMENT SECTION

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA

REPORT ON THE SECOND SESSION

5-10 May 1975

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS : FIFTY-NINTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 11

UNITED NATIONS

New York, 1975

NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

E/5658
E/ECWA/28

CONTENTS

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. ISSUES THAT REQUIRE ACTION BY, OR ARE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF, THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL		1
II. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SESSION.	1 - 42	2
A. Attendance and organization of work	1 - 11	2
B. Election of officers.	12 - 13	3
C. Agenda	14	3
D. Consideration of applications of States Members of the United Nations not members of the Commission to participate in a consultative capacity in the second session of the Commission	15	4
E. Consideration of the application submitted by the Palestine Liberation Organization to participate as an observer in the second session of the Commission.	16 - 17	4
F. Review of the economic and social situation in the ECWA region	18	5
G. Work of the Commission.	19 - 22	5
H. Programme of work and priorities.	23 - 25	6
I. Site of the headquarters of the Commission.	36 - 37	10
J. Place of the 1976 session	38 - 39	10
K. Other business.	40 - 42	10
III. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION		12
IV. PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES FOR 1976-1977.	43 - 50	20
Introduction.	43 - 50	20
1. Agriculture, forestry and fisheries		21
2. Natural resources, science and technology		28
3. Transport, communications and tourism		48
4. Development planning.		56
5. Industry.		74
6. Social development and human settlements.		78
7. Population.		88

CONTENTS (continued)

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
V. ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION SINCE 9 JUNE 1974	51 - 106	94
A. Development Planning Division.	51 - 63	94
B. Public finance and administration.	64 - 70	96
C. Social Development and Human Settlements Division .	71 - 84	97
D. Joint ECWA/FAO Agriculture Division.	85	99
E. Natural Resources, Science and Technology Division .	86 - 90	100
F. Population Division.	91 - 96	101
G. Transport, Communications and Tourism Division . . .	97 - 98	102
H. Joint ECWA/UNIDO Industry Division	99 - 105	102
I. Information services	106	104
VI. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT	107	104

ANNEXES

I. STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON THE FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS BEFORE THE COMMISSION.	105
II. LIST OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE COMMISSION AT ITS SECOND SESSION.	107

ABBREVIATIONS

ACAST	Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development
ACC	Advisory Committee on Co-ordination
CAEU	Council of Arab Economic Unity
CSTD	Committee on Science and Technology for Development
ECWA	Economic Commission for Western Asia
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IDCAS	Industrial Development Centre for Arab States
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMCO	Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNESOB	United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

II. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SESSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

1. The second session of the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) was held at Beirut from 5-10 May 1975.
2. Mr. Zeki Al-Mazbudi, the Minister of Planning of Lebanon, opened the session and made a statement in which he commended the achievements of the Commission despite its recent establishment, and drew attention to international economic developments and their impact on the countries of the region. The Executive Secretary of the Commission read out a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Kurt Waldheim, to the Commission's second session.
3. The Executive Secretary then made a statement in which he discussed aspects of economic and social development in the countries of the region and the major challenges encountered by those countries in their endeavour to accelerate progress. He also explained the economic possibilities of the countries of the region and the scope of their participation in strengthening international economic co-operation and he indicated the role which the Commission could play in supporting the development efforts of the region.
4. The session was attended by representatives of the following member States: Bahrain, Democratic Yemen, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic and United Arab Emirates. Yemen did not attend.
5. In accordance with paragraph 4 of the Commission's terms of reference, the following States Members of the United Nations participated in a consultative capacity in the Commission's work: Australia, Belgium, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany (Federal Republic of), Hungary, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Yugoslavia. 3/
6. The Palestine Liberation Organization participated in the capacity of permanent observer.
7. Representatives of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees attended the session.
8. Representatives of the following specialized agencies were present: the International Labour Organisation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the

3/ See para. 15 below.

United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Monetary Fund and the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization.

9. Representatives of the following regional organizations were also present: the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, the Arab Labour Organization, the Arab Institute for Economic and Social Planning, the Council of Arab Economic Unity, the Industrial Development Centre for Arab States, the League of Arab States, the Arab Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and the European Economic Community.

10. Representatives of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development attended.

11. Representatives of the following non-governmental organizations in category I were present: the International Chamber of Commerce, the International Planned Parenthood Federation, the Women's International Democratic Federation, the World Federation of Trade Unions and the World Veterans Federation.

B. Election of officers

12. The Commission unanimously elected Mr. Jawad Hashim (Iraq) as Chairman; Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulwali (Democratic Yemen) and Mr. Hashim Dabbas (Jordan) as Vice-Chairmen; and Mr. Yussouf Al-Khajah (Bahrain) as Rapporteur for the session.

13. In accordance with rule 11 of the provisional rules of procedure, the officers of the Commission examined the credentials of the delegations and found them in order.

C. Agenda

14. The delegation of Democratic Yemen requested the deletion of item 9 of the provisional agenda (E/ECWA/14 and Add.1) entitled "Consideration of a proposal submitted by the Government of Democratic Yemen to amend rule 12 of the Commission's provisional rules of procedure". The Commission decided to delete item 9 and adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Consideration of applications of States Members of the United Nations not members of the Commission to participate in a consultative capacity in the second session of the Commission.
5. Consideration of the application submitted by the Palestine Liberation Organization to participate as an observer in the second session of the Commission.

6. Review of the economic and social situation in the ECWA region.
7. Work of the Commission:
 - (a) Report on the activities of the Commission since 9 June 1974;
 - i. Progress made in the implementation of the 1974-1975 work programme;
 - ii. Organizational and financial matters;
 - iii. Co-operation with other United Nations and regional and international organizations;
 - (b) Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;
 - (c) Follow-up action on the relevant resolutions of the Commission.
8. Programme of work and priorities for 1976-1977 and medium-term programme of work and priorities for 1976-1979.
9. Site of the headquarters of the Commission.
10. Place of the 1976 session.
11. Any other business.
12. Annual report of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council.
- D. Consideration of applications of States Members of the United Nations not members of the Commission to participate in a consultative capacity in the second session of the Commission
15. The Commission adopted unanimously a proposal to invite the States Members of the United Nations listed in document E/ECWA/27 and Pakistan, which are not members of the Commission, to participate in a consultative capacity in its second session.
- E. Consideration of the application submitted by the Palestine Liberation Organization to participate as an observer in the second session of the Commission
16. The Commission considered the application submitted by the Palestine Liberation Organization to participate as an observer in the work of the session, in the light of the note by the secretariat contained in document E/ECWA/22. The Commission adopted unanimously a proposal that that organization should be admitted as a permanent observer to all meetings and sessions of the Commission as from the current session. 4/

4/ See chap. III, resolution 12 (II) below.

17. The representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization made a statement thanking the Commission for its decision, which was in accordance with resolution 3210 (XXIX) and 3237 (XXIX) adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session. He drew the attention of the Commission to the economic and social situation of the Palestinian people under occupation. He also requested the Commission to accord the Palestine Liberation Organization the treatment accorded to member States with regard to utilization of the Commission's services in its various spheres of activity and to request the Executive Secretary to carry out a study of the economic and social situation and potential of the Palestinian people and investigate ways and means whereby the Commission could assist Palestinian institutions in rebuilding the Palestinian Arab society in the region of Western Asia, including Palestine.

F. Review of the economic and social situation in the ECWA region

18. The Executive Secretary introduced this agenda item and said that the topic was approached primarily from the viewpoint of accomplishments in the countries of the ECWA region towards the realization of the objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, on the one hand, and the progress achieved in the region and the measures taken by the ECWA secretariat to assist member States in the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, on the other. As a basis for discussion, the Commission had before it a number of studies prepared by the secretariat (E/ECWA/13 and Corr.1, E/ECWA/21 and Corr.1 and E/ECWA/21/annex, E/ECWA/26). One delegation submitted written comments on this item, centring mainly on the contents of document E/ECWA/21 and the annex thereto, and requested that its comments be taken into account in the Commission's future studies; two other delegations also made a number of comments on this item. The Commission approved the relevant documents, taking into account the comments made by the various delegations.

G. Work of the Commission

19. The Executive Secretary introduced this agenda item and said that a large portion of the secretariat's efforts since the conclusion of the Commission's first session in 1974 had been directed towards the completion of its organizational structure and the fulfilment of its financial and staffing requirements, as well as towards the consolidation of ties of co-operation with other United Nations organizations and regional, international and other governmental organizations active in the field of development. In introducing this item, the Executive Secretary invited the Commission to express its views on document E/ECWA/18 concerning a unified approach to development, which had been prepared in accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 51 (LVII), and on document E/ECWA/20, concerning organizational and financial matters. He drew attention also to the other documentation prepared in connexion with this item (E/ECWA/16, 18, 19, 23, 24).

20. One representative, in making some observations on this item, expressed the hope that the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions referred to in document E/ECWA/16 would be reflected in the Commission's activities, particularly with regard to the question of the sovereignty of the Arab States and peoples over national resources in the occupied Arab territories,

concern for the problems of the least developed countries and the question of the transfer of technology. He expressed appreciation for the Commission's efforts to complete its administrative and technical arrangements and hoped that the proportion of the Commission's budget allocated to the technical aspects of its work would be increased.

21. One representative expressed his appreciation of the activities carried out by the various divisions of the secretariat, in particular the preparation of development planning studies, the regional project document on multilateral trade negotiations and other important studies, and requested that the figures for the Commission's financial resources should be set forth in greater detail and according to a simpler system of classification. He drew attention to the importance of General Assembly resolution 3336 (XXIX), which reaffirmed the right of the Arab States and peoples whose territories were under Israeli occupation and who were subjected to Israeli aggression to absolute sovereignty over their resources and wealth and the right of the Arab States and peoples to the restitution of control thereover. That resolution requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the adverse economic effects on the Arab States and peoples resulting from repeated Israeli aggression and continued occupation of their territories, and he expressed the view that the ECWA secretariat should provide assistance to the Arab States concerned and to the representatives of the Palestinian Arab people in co-ordinating data and documentation on this subject.

22. The Executive Secretary explained that the high proportion of administrative staff was due to the fact that the Commission itself discharged directly all the administrative functions relating to its work and that some of the administrative staff was actually discharging technical functions. Although the proportional increase in the Commission's financial resources was high, those resources were still limited, and he noted in that connexion that the Commission was meeting with an encouraging response from Arab development funds and from specialized international organizations in meeting some of its needs.

H. Programme of work and priorities

23. The Executive Secretary introduced the Commission's programme of work and priorities for 1976-1977 and the medium-term plan for 1978-1979 (E/ECWA/17) and said that the work programme had been prepared in the light of the recommendations and priorities adopted by the Commission at its first session and of subsequent consultations. It took into account the Commission's mandate, relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, urgent development problems in the region and the contribution it could make to the establishment of a new international economic order. Since the financial and human resources available to the Commission were limited, it had been necessary in the proposed work programme to concentrate on a few selected aspects of development, rather than to disperse efforts over a wide range of issues.

24. One representative made a number of comments on the programme of work and priorities and stressed the importance of the agricultural sector in the region, which required the conduct of more studies, a multifaceted analysis of agricultural development programmes and the application of modern production methods. With regard to the programme for transport, communications and tourism, he drew attention to the need to co-ordinate the intended activities with similar measures

being carried out by regional organizations and, in particular, by the CAEU and the Arab Tourism Union, stressing the importance of the role of the Union in the execution of the regional project for the development and promotion of tourism (E/ECWA/24). In the field of the development of mineral resources, it was essential to co-ordinate the Commission's activities with those of the newly established Arab Mining Company and to assist the Company in carrying out the necessary technical studies. He proposed that the Jordanian Institute of Public Administration be strengthened so as to make it a regional institute serving the States of the ECWA region. He stressed the importance of the regional project for investment opportunity identification, formulation and follow-up and proposed that the Building Materials Research Institute at Amman be transformed into a regional centre within the framework of the implementation of the regional project for a housing and building materials institute (E/ECWA/24).

25. The representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization expressed his appreciation of the proposed programme of work and priorities, which reflected a comprehensive view of the development process centred on specific priorities, stressed the importance of joint regional endeavour and took into account recent financial developments in the region. He drew attention to the need to concentrate on studies which constituted the backbone of development and to the necessity of carrying out a global evaluational study which would gather together the conclusions of the many studies already existing - due regard being had in the study of Arab financial resources, to the formulation of an over-all concept for their optimum utilization - and of conducting a study specifying the region's position in the international economic order and the modality of its contribution to the establishment of a new international economic order. Drawing attention to paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 3336 (XXIX), he emphasized that the report requested therein should cover the Palestinian Arab people, as well as the other Arab States concerned.

26. Two representatives supported the position of the Palestine Liberation Organization regarding the necessity of including the Palestinian Arab people in the report called for under General Assembly resolution 3336 (XXIX). Commenting on the programme of work and priorities, one representative drew attention to the need to accord priority to the "hard-core" least developed countries in the field of statistics, surveys and studies. He stressed the importance of the programmes relating to agriculture, forestry and fisheries in the medium-term plan and the importance of co-ordinating development planning studies with the efforts of the CAEU. His country was prepared to provide aid in development financing and administration through the National Centre for Consultation and Administrative Development of the Iraqi Planning Board. He stressed also the importance of the planning of human resources at the national and the regional level as set forth in the programme for labour, management and employment. He supported the project relating to programme analysis and evaluation and expressed the willingness of the Iraqi Central Statistical Agency to co-operate in that regard. He supported also the other programmes contained in the Commission's medium-term plan. In the foreign trade programme, emphasis should be placed on economic integration among the countries of the region, within the framework of the Arab Common Market. That representative proposed that the recommendations of the Post-World Population Conference Consultation for the ECWA region, held at Doha, Qatar, and concluded at Beirut on 2 May 1975, be taken into account in the preparation of the final version of the population programme.

27. The view was expressed that it was necessary to concentrate on basic issues and vital projects in the region, such as the documentation of significant data and information, the formulation of a global plan for the investment of Arab financial resources in economically and technically profitable fields, a study of training requirements in the tourism sector and the conduct of a survey of appropriate modern methods. The Commission should not be limited in its choice of professional staff by the country quota system and emphasis was placed on the importance of the separation of powers between the Commission and other organizations. Projects within the Commission's purview should be distributed in such a way as to ensure their execution in the States and regions best suited to them.

28. One representative said that among the most important functions of the Commission were the conduct of intensive studies to explore the components of economic integration among the countries of the region and concentration on concrete projects to serve the purposes of economic and social development there. He proposed that the programme of work and priorities should concentrate on: the problem of water and the development of water resources and the services that could be provided by the Water Resources Development Centre in Kuwait in that regard; the development of fisheries resources in the Gulf; co-operation in the fields of planning and development and modes of co-ordinating plans already formulated or in preparation; and the possibility of co-operation in the field of manpower and the training of workers in modern mechanization utilization. In view of the importance of fishery resources as sources of nutrition, he recommended that the Commission should undertake a comprehensive study to identify the reasons why consumers in the Gulf States confined themselves to the consumption of certain limited types of the many and varied species to be found there. In the area of statistics, he drew attention to the necessity of co-operation between the Commission and national and regional statistical centres and expressed his country's support for measures relating to industrial development, because of their significance for the diversification of production in the countries of the region, provided that the need to protect the environment from industrial pollution was taken into account. He stressed the importance of co-ordinating the Commission's activities in the field of population and the application of science and technology with those of the specialized agencies.

29. The view was expressed that it was essential to give priority to the least developed countries in the region and to take the necessary steps for the application of that principle.

30. The secretariat of the Commission provided some clarifications with respect to the comments of delegations of member States on the programme of work and priorities and the medium-term plan and gave a brief outline of divisional programme targets. The secretariat would take the observations of member States into account in the implementation of the programme and in co-ordination and co-operation with the Governments of member States, the regional organizations concerned and United Nations specialized agencies, so as to ensure utmost effectiveness.

31. Draft resolutions on the following subjects were submitted to the Commission in connexion with the programme of work and priorities:

(a) Co-operation with the secretariat of the Commission in the publication of the annual statistical abstracts;

- (b) The expansion of co-ordination and co-operation with regional institutions;
- (c) The organization of preparatory meetings at ECWA headquarters with States members both of the Commission and of the UNDP Governing Council;
- (d) Consultations on the establishment of a voluntary fund;
- (e) According the Palestine Liberation Organization the status of permanent observer to the Commission;
- (f) Taking the necessary steps to expand the Commission's statistical activities;
- (g) Undertaking studies encompassing the Arab world as a whole;
- (h) Mid-term review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade;
- (i) The provision of additional services and activities in favour of the least developed countries;
- (j) The intensification of the secretariat's activities for the participation of women in national development;
- (k) The adoption of the programme of work and priorities.

32. The secretariat submitted a statement of the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolutions (see annex I).

33. After a discussion of the draft resolutions and the amendments thereto, the Commission proceeded to adopt the resolutions set forth in chapter III.

34. The Commission took note of the importance of the Arab League/UNFPA meeting to be held at Cairo on 21 and 22 May 1975 for the consideration of population problems in the Arab world and for the purpose of devising a formula for supporting UNFPA and enabling it to play its role in meeting the needs of the Arab States and contributing to the implementation of the many projects under way in that field. The Commission urged member States to accept the invitation addressed to them by the League of Arab States to attend the meeting at the ministerial level. The Executive Secretary was requested to contact member States by telegram to inform them to that effect.

35. The Commission recommended that member States should give careful consideration to participation in the activities for International Women's Year and should participate in the conference to be held at Berlin in the German Democratic Republic from 20 to 24 October 1975 in observance of the Year and strive for its success. Similarly, member States should consider their participation in the conference to be held by the Commission at Beirut in October 1975 in observance of the Year.

I. Site of the headquarters of the Commission

36. The Chairman of the session made a statement on this item and drew attention to document E/ECWA/L.5 and Add.1 and 2, containing the project submitted by the Republic of Iraq for hosting the Commission's headquarters at Baghdad and the letter from the Chairman of the delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic informing the Commission that the competent authorities in the Syrian Arab Republic were preparing proposals concerning the subject of the site of the headquarters. He then informed the Commission that the heads of delegations, after careful study of the documents relating to the item (E/ECWA/25, E/ECWA/L.5 and Add.1 and 2), had agreed that member States interested in hosting the permanent headquarters of the Commission should be urged to submit, if they had not already done so, detailed proposals on the subject to the secretariat as soon as possible, in order to allow it time to consult with the competent authorities in the United Nations Secretariat in New York and to distribute those proposals to member States at least six weeks before the opening of the 1976 regular session, in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, so that member States would be able to take a decision on the matter.

37. The Executive Secretary explained that the Lebanese Government had informed the ECWA secretariat officially that it would contribute an annual sum of £L 1 million, in accordance with ECWA resolution 6 (S-1), in order to ensure the necessary premises and other requirements of the ECWA secretariat.

J. Place of the 1976 session

38. The Chairman of the second session of ECWA made a statement on the place of the 1976 session. He informed the Commission that he had received a proposal that the next regular session should be held in one of the Gulf States, on the understanding that the State interested in hosting the Commission's meetings should so inform the secretariat within three months, i.e., before 9 August 1975. Failing this, the next session of the Commission would be held in Beirut, the site of ECWA provisional headquarters.

39. The Executive Secretary explained that financial and administrative implications would have to be taken into consideration if a session was to be held elsewhere than at the provisional headquarters in Beirut. It was customary for member States hosting meetings of other economic commissions to bear all the additional costs incurred as a result of the meeting being held away from its headquarters.

K. Other business

40. The Chairman informed the Commission that the ECWA secretariat had received applications from some States Members of the United Nations for membership in the Commission. It was decided, following consultations among heads of delegations at the first regular session and during the current session, to postpone this topic and include it in the agenda of a future session.

41. The Commission had before it two draft resolutions under this item, the first concerning the establishment of a standing committee composed of

representatives of all States members of the Commission for the purpose of giving advice on arrangements for the sessions of the Commission and meetings organized under its auspices; and the second concerning the adoption of Arabic as the original language in which all the resolutions of the Commission should be drafted. The Commission adopted the two draft resolutions. 5/ It adopted also a draft resolution concerning participation of ECWA in the execution of the activities of UNDP and related matters, following an announcement by the Chairman that the representative of UNDP had endorsed the contents thereof. 6/

42. Statements were made during the course of the session by representatives of States invited to participate in the session in a consultative capacity, United Nations specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. They expressed their interest in the work of the Commission and their desire for increased co-operation with it and with the countries of the region through joint activities in the various fields.

5/ See chapter III, resolutions 19 (II) and 20 (II).

6/ See chapter III, resolution 21 (II).

III. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION

8 (II). The annual statistical abstract

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Recognizing the need for an adequate range of information by planners, policy-makers and administrators, at both the national and the regional level,

Noting with satisfaction that the statistics programme of the Commission will include publishing an annual statistical abstract to serve as a major source of statistical information on the economic, social and demographic aspects of the member States,

Urges the Governments of member States to co-operate fully with the secretariat of the Commission by providing the necessary information.

4th meeting
8 May 1975

9 (II). Co-operation with regional institutions

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Recognizing the need for co-operation with regional institutions to avoid duplication and to optimize the deployment of scarce talents,

Noting with satisfaction the Commission's efforts and accomplishments in this field,

Urges the Executive Secretary to continue with his in-process efforts to expand co-ordination and co-operation with regional institutions and to extend those efforts to other regional institutions where ways and means of co-operation have not yet been explored.

4th meeting
8 May 1975

10 (II). Preparatory meetings for sessions of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Recalling the close relationship between the work of the Economic Commission for Western Asia and the United Nations Development Programme,

Noting with satisfaction the existing co-operation between the Commission and the United Nations Development Programme,

Desirous of co-ordinating views between States members of the Commission and States members of the United Nations Development Programme,

1. Urges States members of the Commission to increase their proportional representation in the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme;

2. Requests the Economic and Social Council to ensure more equitable representation of the States of the region of Western Asia in the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme;

3. Calls upon the Executive Secretary to hold preparatory meetings with those States members of the Commission which are also members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme before each session of the Governing Council of the Programme.

4th meeting
8 May 1975

11 (II). Voluntary fund

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Having reviewed the 1976-1977 work programme of the Commission,

Bearing in mind that a great number of projects therein require extrabudgetary financing for their implementation, and realizing that extrabudgetary resources are likely to be needed for future programmes of the Commission,

Recognizing the importance and usefulness of these projects for the region,

Decides to authorize the Chairman of the second session and the Executive Secretary to hold urgent consultations with member States with a view to exploring the best and speediest ways of establishing an additional fund financed from voluntary contributions for the extrabudgetary financing of the Commission's work programmes and for meeting requests by member States for studies and advisory services.

5th meeting
9 May 1975

12 (II). Palestine Liberation Organization

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, by which the Palestine Liberation Organization was accorded the status of observer at the sessions of the General Assembly and the right to

participate in the work of all conferences and meetings convened under the auspices of other organs and institutions of the United Nations in the capacity of observer,

Desiring to afford the Palestinian Arab people an opportunity to benefit from the Commission's activities in the fields of planning, studies, training and economic and social development,

Considering that that people would enjoy the benefit of the Commission's activities and services, since it belongs geographically and culturally to the region, were it not prevented, by the continuing Zionist aggression to which it is exposed, from exercising its right to self-determination, independence and national sovereignty in its territory,

1. Decides to accord the Palestine Liberation Organization the status of permanent observer and invites it on that basis to participate in all future sessions and activities of the Commission;
2. Decides further to enable the Palestine Liberation Organization to avail itself of the Commission's services in connexion with the conduct of studies and the provision of advice and training, and in connexion with all other areas within the Commission's competence and capacity;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare a report on the requirements for the conduct of a general study of the economic and social situation and potential of the Palestinian Arab people in the region of Western Asia and to submit the report to the Commission at its next regular session.

5th meeting
9 May 1975

13 (II). Statistics

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Recognizing the need for adequate and comprehensive statistical information for use by planners, policy-makers and researchers at the national and regional levels,

Stressing the importance of the availability of statistical information on economic, social and demographic matters in the countries of the region,

1. Expresses its appreciation of the important work done by the Commission and the substantial assistance rendered by it to the countries of the region in connexion with censuses, studies and other statistical activities;
2. Invites the Executive Secretary to take the necessary steps to expand statistical activities, including the possible establishment of a separate statistics division.

5th meeting
9 May 1975

14 (II). Regional co-operation

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Recognizing the economic and social integration of the Arab countries,

Noting the existence of regional institutions serving their collective interests,

Considering that the membership of the Economic Commission for Western Asia excludes geographically some Arab countries,

Further recognizing the advantage of undertaking certain studies that would cover all the Arab countries,

Requests the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa and any other interested party, to initiate studies on a selective basis to encompass the entire Arab world and to undertake the necessary steps to achieve this objective within the capacity of the financial resources available to the Commission.

5th meeting
9 May 1975

15 (II). Mid-term review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 containing the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 2801 (XXVI) of 14 December 1971 concerning review and appraisal of the objectives and policies of the International Development Strategy and General Assembly resolution 3178 (XXVIII) of 17 December 1973, concerning preparations for the mid-term review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 3176 (XXVIII) of 17 December 1973, concerning the first biennial over-all review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1896 (LVII) of 1 August 1974, concerning regional co-operation, and 1911 (LVII) of 2 August 1974, concerning implementation of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order; mid-term review and appraisal of the International Development Strategy; special session of the General Assembly devoted to development and international economic co-operation,

Takes note with appreciation of the reports prepared by the secretariat of the Commission on the mid-term review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Decade in countries of Western Asia. 7/

5th meeting
9 May 1975

16 (II). A programme of action in favour of the least developed countries

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2768 (XXVI) of 18 November 1971 in which, inter alia, the Assembly approved the list of hard-core least developed countries identified by the Committee for Development Planning, and requested United Nations organs to initiate, as appropriate, action-oriented programmes, within their respective fields of competence, in favour of the least developed countries,

Also recalling General Assembly resolutions 3036 (XXVII) of 19 December 1972 3174 (XXVIII) of 17 December 1973, and 3214 (XXIX) of 6 November 1974, urging, inter alia, member States and organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their efforts in favour of the least developed countries,

Taking note of the review of the list of hard-core countries envisaged by the Committee for Development Planning at its eleventh session, in the context of the mid-term review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade,

1. Supports the findings of the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Western Asia and those of the Centre for Development Planning, Projections and Policies of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, for the inclusion of Democratic Yemen and Yemen in the 1975 revised list of the hard core least developed among developing countries; and urges the Economic and Social Council to endorse that position;

2. Urges the Executive Secretary to continue his efforts to provide additional services and activities to promote the economic and social development process in those countries.

5th meeting
9 May 1975

7/ E/ECWA/13 and Corr.1, E/ECWA/21 and Corr.1 and E/ECWA/21/annex,
E/ECWA/26.

17 (II). International Women's Year

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 3275 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974 requesting the regional economic commissions to implement fully the programme for the International Women's Year as approved by the Economic and Social Council;

Noting with appreciation the preparatory work carried out and contemplated by the secretariat of the Commission in the field of the integration of women in national development,

Requests the Executive Secretary to:

1. Continue and intensify the secretariat's activities in this field within the context of the International Women's Year proclaimed by the United Nations;

2. Give careful consideration to the world plan of action expected to be adopted by the World Conference of the International Women's Year, to be held in Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975.

5th meeting
9 May 1975

18 (II). Programme of work and priorities

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Recalling its resolution 1 (I) of 7 June 1974 on the programme of work and priorities of the Commission,

1. Endorses the programme of work and priorities of the Commission, 8/ bearing in mind the comments made by delegations;

2. Urges member States to co-operate fully with the secretariat of the Commission in the implementation of the programme of work.

5th meeting
9 May 1975

19 (II). The Standing Committee

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1818 (LV) of 9 August 1973, in particular paragraph 4,

8/ E/ECWA/17.

Bearing in mind its provisional rules of procedure, and in particular rules 16 and 63.

1. Decides, subject to the approval of the Economic and Social Council, to establish, pursuant to rule 16 of its provisional rules of procedure, a standing committee composed of representatives of all States members of the Commission which shall, for the purpose of giving advice on arrangements for the sessions of the Commission and meetings organized under the Commission's auspices as well as on other matters, perform the following functions:

(a) Examine requests received by the secretariat to participate in the deliberations of a session of the Commission and make appropriate recommendations to the Commission in respect of those requests;

(b) On the request of the Executive Secretary, give guidance to him on questions relating to attendance at meetings, seminars and workshops organized by the secretariat in connexion with the performance of the Commission's functions;

(c) On the request of the Commission, provide advice to it or to the Executive Secretary on any other matters referred to it by the Commission;

2. Further decides that the aforesaid Standing Committee, when established, should hold one regular annual meeting prior to the annual session of the Commission, to be devoted mainly to the function referred to in paragraph 1 (a), and ad hoc meetings as required, to be devoted to the functions referred to in paragraph 1 (b) and (c).

5th meeting
9 May 1975

20 (II). Languages and documentation

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Considering that all its members are Arab States,

Desiring to facilitate the work of the delegations of member States and ensure the most successful results,

1. Decides that Arabic shall be the original language in which all its resolutions shall be drafted;

2. Decides that all other technical and non-technical documents issued by the Commission shall be translated into Arabic promptly and accurately, where the original is not in Arabic;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to take the necessary steps in all cases to ensure complete accuracy in the translation of these documents from and into the three working languages.

5th meeting
9 May 1975

21 (II). Participation of the Economic Commission for Western Asia in the execution of the activities of the United Nations Development Programme and related matters

The Economic Commission for Western Asia,

Having considered the report of the secretariat on the Inter-Country Programme Proposals (1975-1980) of the United Nations Development Programme, 9/

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1896 (LVII) of 1 August 1974 on regional co-operation and General Assembly resolution 3252 (XXIX) of 4 December 1974 on decentralization of the activities of the United Nations Development Programme,

1. Notes with appreciation the recent developments aimed at designating the economic commissions as executing agencies for regional projects falling within the competence of the United Nations;

2. Urges Governments of member States to communicate to the Commission their comments on the regional project proposals submitted by the Commission to the United Nations Development Programme; 10/

3. Further urges Governments of member States to request the designation of the Commission as the executing agency for approved regional projects, as appropriate.

6th meeting
10 May 1975

9/ See document E/ECWA/24, part II.

10/ See E/ECWA/24, annex.

IV. PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES FOR 1976-1977

Introduction

43. At the first session of the Commission, held in Beirut in June 1974, the Executive Secretary indicated his intention to submit, in due course, a draft plan and programme for 1976-1977, developed in the same priority areas as those adopted by the Commission for 1975. He also requested guidance in this connexion from the members of the Commission.

44. In the light of the directives given by the Commission at its first session and subsequent discussions and consultations with member Governments and the relevant United Nations bodies, the format and substance of the programme of work and priorities for 1976-1977 have been carefully scrutinized and revised. The main objectives of the proposed programme are to:

(a) Develop a cohesive, multidisciplinary and action-oriented programme for ECWA representing an integrated approach to the region's development problems;

(b) Carefully select programmes and projects which are mutually reinforcing and have maximum impact on the development of the region; and,

(c) Ensure that specific activities lead to concrete results and directly relate to the relevant programme components and to the programme as a whole.

45. It was felt that the general objective assigned to ECWA, namely, to foster "economic reconstruction and development in Western Asia", can be achieved by the extension of ECWA services at both the country and regional levels. The member States also expressed the wish to receive assistance from ECWA in areas of their needs over and above that provided under other United Nations programmes. This type of assistance, based on specific needs, seemed especially relevant to the circumstances of the least developed among the countries of the region. It was also recognized that there were, of course, many development problems that could best be tackled by a regional approach. There was a need, therefore, to strike a balance between national and regional activities and to give the Executive Secretary sufficient indication of the relative emphasis it wishes to place on these two types of ECWA services.

46. It was noted that in the preparation of this programme, the Executive Secretary had followed the basic directives and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, as well as the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, regarding concentration, co-ordination, decentralization, programmes of work and priorities, pattern of conferences and related questions, and control and limitation of documentation. It was also noted that every attempt had been made to ensure that the programme of work constituted an effective regional contribution towards the implementation of the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order as envisaged in General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

47. The Economic Commission for Western Asia received a broad mandate spelt out in resolution 1818 (LV) of 9 August 1973 by the Economic and Social Council. Within the limits of this mandate, the Commission had to develop a work programme based on the needs of the member States at the present stage of their economic and social development. This was fully considered in the preparation of the 1976-1977 programme within manpower and budgetary constraints.

48. The Commission also noted that the Executive Secretary was of the opinion that ECWA should be highly selective in choosing its areas of activity and should concentrate on a few selected topics, rather than attempt to deal with a wide range of development issues. Consequently, with respect to studies, the proposals for the 1976-1977 programme and for the medium-term plan (1976-1979) were limited to selected fields where it was felt that a multidisciplinary approach may lead to concrete results within a reasonable time span.

49. Economic and Social Council resolution 1818 (LV) emphasizes the necessity for ECWA to co-ordinate and to avoid any overlapping with activities undertaken by the specialized agencies or with the United Nations Development Programme. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary was to maintain close liaison with all United Nations organs as well as with intergovernmental and regional organizations. ECWA had made substantial progress in co-ordinating its work programme with the Arab Funds, the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU), the League of Arab States and the Arab Labour Organization to avoid overlap and maximize the benefits from existing complementarities in the respective fields of concern.

50. The Commission recognized that, while it may be desirable to have a firm programme, unforeseen factors sometimes make it necessary to alter or abandon certain projects or to reorder their priorities. The Commission, therefore, left it to the discretion of the Executive Secretary to modify or defer projects or to establish different priorities within the framework of the approved work programme should he deem it necessary.

1. Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

1.1 Over-all management, including the provision of supporting services

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: The need for this activity is self-explanatory if the budget and plan objectives are to be attained. This activity would comprise:

(a) The daily management of the programme, including the detailed programming of future activities and programme evaluation;

(b) The preparation of reports to the Economic and Social Council and to FAO regional governing bodies, particularly the Near East Agricultural Planning Commission and the Regional Conference;

(c) The preparation of documents for, and servicing of, the subsidiary organs of the Commission;

(d) The finalization of studies for publication;

(e) Participation in various technical meetings and conferences;

(f) Supporting services, which would include participation in FAO, WFP and IBRD field and evaluation missions, at the request of the organization concerned; backstopping of experts in the field, substantive support to technical assistance projects; advisory services and assistance in agricultural planning to Governments, at their request, and the provision of various inputs into interdisciplinary activities of other ECWA programmes.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	24	24
General Service man-months	12	12	24
Travel		\$8,000	\$8,000

1.2 Sector review and appraisal

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: This activity would consist of keeping abreast with, and reporting on, developments in agriculture, fisheries and forestry in the various countries of the region. It would involve the compilation, processing and dissemination of statistical data, including the construction of adequate indicators, on developments in agriculture and fisheries and the review of annual developments in agriculture, fisheries and forestry (in April of each year) including in 1977 (second quarter) a contribution to the reporting on review and appraisal of progress in agricultural development and agricultural planning performance in fulfilling the Second United Nations Development Decade targets. This activity would also feed in the FAO State of Food and Agriculture and the annual ECWA survey on the economic and social situation in the region. (General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV)).

Purpose: Monitoring of agricultural development in the region, with particular stress on performance in relation to plans.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	24	-	24
General Service man-months	12		12
Travel	\$15,000		\$15,000

1.3 Agricultural sector studies

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: This activity would consist of the preparation of sector studies (national, regional) which would identify the most important development policies having an influence on agricultural development. These policies would be analysed in depth and a critical assessment made of their impact on such objectives as rural welfare, agricultural employment, income distribution and conservation of natural resources. An authoritative analysis would be extremely useful for clarifying

concepts, identifying possible conflicts among policies and objectives and providing the basis for needed adjustments at national and regional levels. It would also lead to a better formulation of country and regional development programmes and policies and eventually to the identification and formulation of concrete projects.

The agricultural sector studies would also provide a broad long-term outlook and discuss various policy alternatives for agricultural development in the country concerned. In 1976, sector studies would be conducted for Democratic Yemen and Yemen and, in 1977, for Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Purpose: To provide direct assistance to member Governments in agricultural development planning. These studies also constitute an essential prerequisite for agricultural perspective planning by delineating the demands put on the agricultural sector by the rest of the economy.

Publication of reports: One in the third quarter of 1976, one in the first and third quarters of 1977 and one in the first quarter of 1978. (Arabic/English).

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	24		24
General Service man-months	12		12
Travel	\$4,000		\$4,000

1.4 Agricultural planning course

Expected completion date: December 1979.

Description: This activity would consist of the substantive and administrative preparation of a two-week agricultural planning course to be held in the fourth quarter of 1976 and 1977, specifically addressed to the less developed among the developing countries of the region. The first course would centre on the general and basic techniques of agricultural planning, whereas the second course would be concerned with project preparation and analysis. Preparation of lecture notes and country case studies would be required. After each course, an evaluation report would be prepared, with a view to improving the next course and tailoring it more to the needs and requirements of the countries concerned.

Purpose: To improve the planning capacities in the less developed among the developing countries of the region.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	6	6
General Service man-months	6	-	6
Travel	-	\$5,000	\$5,000

1.5 Regional agricultural adjustment issues and plan harmonization

Expected completion date: December 1977.

Description: This activity would involve an in-depth analysis of the medium and long-term agricultural development plans of various countries in the region. An intercountry analysis should pinpoint major areas where adjustment would be needed in the form of plan harmonization. It would also entail in-depth analysis of the future demand requirements for agricultural products and the production potentials (data to be provided by FAO) to identify the scope for regional adjustments and to assess their impact on agricultural trade. Findings, views and experiences would be discussed by an ECWA/FAO sponsored intergovernmental meeting on agricultural adjustment and plan harmonization to be held in late 1977.

Purpose: To identify possible areas for agricultural adjustment and promote agricultural plan harmonization.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	30	-	30
General Service man-months	24	-	24
Travel	\$2,000	-	\$2,000

1.6 Schemes for multinational co-operation and studies for regional integration

Expected completion date: Reserve stocks for foodgrains: December 1976.
Studies of comparative advantages: December 1976.

Description: (a) Schemes for multinational co-operation would involve joint efforts at the subregional or regional level to achieve targets of common interest. A first pilot scheme would consist of a foodgrains reserve stock programme, which is to be a basic and major element in the elaboration of a national and regional food security policy. Various factors are in favour of such a programme, e.g., the sharp fluctuations in annual output, the large-scale imports by many countries in the region, the severe oscillation in world prices etc. Under this activity certain aspects of the pilot scheme would be studied, namely, the centralization of purchases, the establishment of reserve stocks, the management and organizational problems in operating such stocks, the cost and location of the storage facilities and the investment requirements for establishing the storages. The study findings would be discussed at an ECWA/FAO-sponsored intergovernmental meeting to be held in November/December 1976.

(b) Regional integration is a long process requiring sustained efforts and research. Product specialization and regional complementarities should be based on sound studies of comparative advantage. A study on selected commodities (livestock products, industrial crops, selected fruits and vegetables) is planned for certain parts of the region. The study will focus on the collection and analysis of cost of production data and selected analysis as a basis for assessing intercountry comparative advantage. A comprehensive pilot study for one or two commodities will be initiated with a view to determining the scope for, and limitations of, product specialization and regional complementarities. Co-operation with the CAEU is necessary.

Purpose: This activity should foster co-operation in, and integration of, agriculture in the region.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	30	18	48
General Service man-months	18	12	30
Consultant man-months	2	3	5
Travel	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$6,000
Computer time	\$ 500	-	\$ 500

1.7 Implementation of land and water development projects

Expected completion date: December 1979; intermediate target: December 1977.

Description: Land and water development projects assume high priority in the agricultural development plans of the region. However, the rates of implementation are relatively low and little is known about the factors accounting for poor performance. A case study will be undertaken on one or more irrigation projects in the region to examine in depth the factors hampering the implementation capacity. The application of network planning or systems analysis to the case studies will be demonstrated in a seminar in September 1977. A report on the case studies will be ready in the second quarter of 1977.

Purpose: More efficient implementation of projects will lead to better conservation and rational development of land and water resources.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	12	18	30
Consultant man-months	3	3	18
General Service man-months	18	-	6
Travel	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$4,000

1.8 Promotion of national and multinational investment in agriculture

Expected completion date: December 1979; interim target: December 1977.

Description: This activity is intended to explore key areas, given a high potential rating, for attracting national and, more particularly, multinational investment in agriculture. The exploration would be in the form of general situation analysis, demonstrating investment possibilities and presumably leading to pre-investment feasibility studies by prospective multinational investors. Three of the following key areas would be covered in the biennium:

(a) Integrated dry-farming: The medium rainfall areas of the region are generally earmarked for crop production activities, e.g. winter cereals and tobacco. They are rarely combined with livestock production activities through a rotation comprising fodder crops. With the rising demand for (and short supply of)

livestock products this shift in strategy offers significant opportunities in agricultural investment.

(b) Sheep fattening: Mutton production in the region is mainly based on sheep grazing in low rainfall areas. Present practices result in great losses due to overslaughtering in dry seasons. The significance of these losses is accentuated by the expected surge in mutton prices. Indeed, the preliminary estimates of the World Food Conference give a deficit of mutton of 1.5 million tons in 1985. Investment in sheep fattening operations should yield high returns.

(c) Integrated fruit and vegetable production for urban consumption: Rising urban population and incomes have caused sharp increases in urban demand for fruits and vegetables. Very often supplies are shipped from distant production areas, thereby leading to high cost and deterioration in quality. The development of supply sources in urban peripheries represents a potentially important investment area.

(d) Fisheries development in the Arabian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman and the Gulf of Aden. The waters bordering the countries of the southern tier of the region are known to be wealthy fishery grounds. However, fishing is generally only little developed and takes place according to traditional methods. Investment in fisheries development should provide excellent returns, particularly that the market for fish in the region is still to be developed. Reports will be made available to interested parties in December 1976, July 1977 and December 1977.

Purpose: Promotion of direct investment in agricultural development.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	18	36	54
General Service man-months	24	24	48
Consultant man-months	3	4	7
Travel	\$3,500	\$5,000	\$8,500

1.9 Rural exodus and rural development

Expected completion date: December 1979; intermediate target: December 1977.

Description: (a) Short-term missions to advise on the application of the integrated development strategy and the promotion of workshops to be organized by the national authorities with the assistance of ECWA in clarifying concepts and methodology and in encouraging co-ordination between the central level and the field level in the application of the approach.

(b) Long-term programmes on rural development and the need to tackle aggressively the problems of rural poverty have been advocated by leading planners and policy-makers. A pilot study is intended for the 1976-1977 biennium which would have a survey component to be repeated every two years (in some countries assistance in surveying may suffice). This study would assess the magnitude of urban migration in selected countries and the nature and scope of selected "push" and "pull" factors accounting for it. It would also explore ways and means of integrating the rural

sector with the urban sector. In this connexion, particular attention would be paid to agro-industrialization problems. Interim reports will be prepared at the end of 1976 and 1977.

Purpose: To accelerate the rate of rural development and reduce rural-urban inequalities.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	30	18	48
General Service man-months	18	-	18
Consultant man-months	-	6	6
Travel	\$4,000	\$2,000	\$6,000
Computer time	\$ 750	-	\$ 750

1.10 Meeting requirements

<u>Type of meeting(s)</u>	: <u>Ad.hoc</u> meeting
<u>Year</u>	: 1976
<u>Title</u>	: ECWA/FAO intergovernmental meeting on regional co-operation in the constitution of reserve stocks for food grains
<u>Place</u>	: Beirut
<u>Duration</u>	: Five working days
<u>Type and number of participants</u>	: Senior government officials of the Ministries of Economy and Agriculture; experts from regional and international organizations; 30, of which 24 from member countries

Justification: This meeting would provide an opportunity to exchange views and experiences with regard to the establishment of a scheme for food grains reserve stocks. The meeting would lead to bringing about the necessary collective endorsement and action to undertake pre-investment feasibility studies and later implement such a scheme of regional economic co-operation in agriculture, involving joint ventures. The meeting should highlight the scope for, and issue and limitations of, such co-operation and consider measures for the harmonization of action in the field of food security, particularly with regard to food grains, on the basis of the report submitted by ECWA and other reports and related information submitted by FAO.

	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Estimated cost:</u>	\$4,000	-	\$4,000

2. Natural resources, science and technology

2.1 Energy

2.1.1 Over-all management of the natural resources programme, including the provision of supporting services. 11/

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: The need for this activity is self-explanatory if the budget objectives of the programme are to be attained. This activity will service not only the energy component of the programme, but also the water and minerals components of the natural resources programme. The activity relates to:

- (a) The daily management of the programme, including detailed programming of future activities and programme evaluation;
- (b) The preparation of reports to the Economic and Social Council to meet its resolutions;
- (c) The preparation of documents for, and servicing of, the subsidiary organs of the Commission;
- (d) The finalization of studies or other documents for publication;
- (e) Participation in various meetings;
- (f) The provision of supporting services which includes support of experts in the field; substantive support to, and, eventually, supervision of technical assistance projects; and, advisory services and assistance to Governments and regional organizations, at their request.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	24	-	24
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Travel	\$5,000	-	\$5,000

2.1.2 Basic energy statistics and review of developments in the energy and oil sector

Expected completion date: December 1976. New activity, annual follow-up of six man-months necessary.

Description: The activity consists of the collection, processing and dissemination of basic energy statistics and other data on the countries of the region for the

11/ This activity caters for the management requirements of the three programme components of the natural resources programme, namely, water, minerals and energy, since in ECWA's organizational structure they are part of the same Division (Natural Resources, Science and Technology).

past 5 to 10 years. Background information on the other regions of the world will also be collected and processed. The information will be presented in tabular and graphical form and will include energy supply and demand, both total and broken down by components; annual production statistics; cost of production; consumption of energy, both total and broken down into oil, gas, hydroelectric power etc. together with the unit prices; oil reserves; annual discovery rate and the effort put into oil discovery; transportation of oil and gas by pipeline and tanker; annual investments in energy; energy development plans, etc. To collect this information a fact-finding regional survey will be undertaken through country visits with a view to collecting the information, pinpointing and identifying priorities and problem areas in energy development and discussing energy policies.

The statistical and other data will serve as an input to the annual (or bi-annual) review of developments in the energy sector in the region, including an analysis of energy development plans and indications of major policy changes. An annual (or bi-annual) publication The Energy Situation and Outlook in Western Asia will be issued. The publication will be directed to managers and energy specialists in the world, governmental officials of the concerned ministries in the region and interested individuals in, for example, university circles. The publication should provide guidance in policy-making in government and private business. Expected publication date is December 1976. The activity, as a starting point, is essential in that it provides the basis for further activities in the field of energy. An annual follow-up of six man-months is provided, including the preparation of the publication.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	18	-	18
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Travel	\$2,500	-	\$2,500

2.1.3 Medium- and long-term supply and demand projections for energy

Expected completion date: December 1977.

Description: The economies of the oil producing countries depend heavily on the income from oil. The growth of demand for energy, and more particularly for oil, is a crucial factor in determining the income of these countries and the speed with which the reserves are depleted. This information is basic for the development of a rational approach for planning purposes.

The activity will consist of assessing the past trend and present demand and supply of energy, undertaking medium- and long-term demand and supply projections for energy in all countries of the region and evaluating the policy implications of this outlook. The exercise will be limited to the countries of the region for the energy sector proper. However, for oil, consideration will be given to the global picture. Thus, particular attention will be paid in this exercise to collecting and analysing information on projections of the demand for oil from the countries of the region by the other regions of the world. Wherever relevant, the co-operation of the development planning, projections and policies programme will be sought. An analytical study of the results of the supply-demand outlook

for energy and oil will be published at the end of 1977. This study should be of assistance to governmental officials responsible for energy development in the countries of the region and in other regions, managers, planners in the countries of the region etc. This activity will also provide the basis for activities to be undertaken in the next biennium.

	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Resources required</u>			
Professional man-months	12	-	12
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Consultant man-months	1	-	1
Travel	\$1,000	-	\$1,000

2.1.4 Regional geological study specially oriented towards oil deposits and study of Arab oil reserves

Expected completion date: December 1977.

Description: The activity will provide information which is fundamental to understanding the "basis" of the oil economy of the region and to assessing its ultimate recoverable reserves. A considerable amount of information exists to allow a geological assessment to be made and a clear regional picture to emerge. It is also imperative to obtain as good an assessment as possible of the size of the dwindling reserves and to gain an understanding of the rate at which they will be depleted and the time horizon available to plan for and to develop an alternative economic basis for the region.

The project will consist of two parts. First, there is the collection, analysis and correlation of information (maps, reports etc.) concerning the oil geology of the region and the presentation of this information in tabular and graphical form showing cross-sectional correlation between basis and the relationship of each reservoir to its surroundings. This study, which is of a technical nature, will require a total of 48 man-months of professionals and consultants. The study, including maps, will be published in December 1977. Secondly, on the basis of available information and of the results of the above study, the present proven reserves of the oil-producing countries of the area will be assessed, the ultimate reserves of the area will be estimated, production profiles will be established for crude oil reserves of the area giving annual production reserves at the end of the year until the reserves are essentially depleted and an assessment will be made of the policy implications for planning and developing an alternative economic basis in the region and a set of recommendations in this respect will be formulated. This study, to be initiated in early 1977, will require a total of 12 man-months of professionals and consultants. The study will be published in the beginning of 1978.

The activity will assist government officials responsible for energy and oil development and planners in the countries of the region in getting a better understanding of the region's oil economy and in taking policy decisions regarding oil reserves and long-term planning of the region's economy.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	36	12	48
General Service man-months	6	24	30
Consultant man-months	-	12	12
Travel	-	\$12,000	\$12,000

2.1.5 Support industries and services for oil production and associated activities

Expected completion date: June 1979.

Description: The oil industry in the countries of the region still relies very heavily on the developed world in the conduct of its operation. Little, if any, supporting industries sprang up in the region to meet the challenges. The proposed study aims at studying the feasibility and ways and means of increasing the market share of local industries in supplying oil producing companies and at identifying other industries or services which are related to, or dependent upon, oil activity for establishment in the area or in other countries of the developed or developing world under the form of joint venture.

In 1977, this study will be initiated by surveying the materials and services used by the oil industry and in associated activities in the region, and by determining the sources of supply of these materials and services. The study will be continued through June 1979. Visits will be made to selected countries of the region to collect the information, to clarify issues and to create awareness about the magnitude of the problem. The study will be conducted in close co-operation with, and, eventually, participation of the industry programme. Also, the co-operation of UNIDO and the Industrial Development Centre for Arab States will be ensured.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	3	-	3
General Service man-months	6	-	6
Consultant man-months	3	-	3
Travel	\$2,000	-	\$2,000

2.1.6 Regional distribution arrangements for electrical energy

Expected completion date: December 1978.

Description: This activity will ultimately lead to the elaboration of regional distribution arrangements for electrical energy. It aims at scrutinizing possibilities, evaluating the technical and economic feasibility and promoting such arrangements through the exchange of information and experience.

The activities will be initiated in October 1977 by surveying the situation and collecting relevant statistics and information on the subject. In 1978 work will be intensified and the problem will be studied in depth and detail, with the help of a consultant for analysing the technical problems.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	3	-	3
Travel	\$500	-	\$500

2.1.7 Assessment of technical manpower requirements and training facilities in energy in Western Asia

Expected completion date: December 1976.

Description: The rapid development of the energy sector in the Member States, along with the recent steps taken by the oil producing and oil exporting countries to increase their participation in the management of their energy and natural resources and the successful implementation of these new policies will be largely determined by the availability of sufficient personnel at all levels. The training of such personnel will require adequate facilities.

It is aimed at undertaking a systematic assessment of short- and long-term trained manpower requirements and training facilities with a view to assisting in the strengthening of national training institutions and promoting co-operation among the countries both within and outside the region. The situation with regard to trained manpower and training facilities will be surveyed, manpower estimates and related analysis will be undertaken and policy implications will be derived. Possibilities for regional co-operation in this field will also be scrutinized. Country visits and missions to national, subregional and regional training institutions will be necessary with a view to evaluating their potential for broadening their scope or for introducing more specialized training.

A report on the subject will be published in December 1976 and distributed to responsible officers in the energy sector, directors of training institutions in the region and international and regional organizations concerned.

It is expected that this activity will lead to the improvement of training facilities for technical manpower in energy and to the adoption or strengthening of manpower planning in this field and enforcement of policies conducive to ensure the required technical manpower. This activity will be conducted in co-operation with the manpower, management and employment programme at ECWA.

The implementation of projects on technical manpower and training facilities in energy, water and minerals will be closely co-ordinated.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	12	12
General Service man-months	-	12	12
Consultant man-months	-	3	3
Travel	-	\$3,000	\$3,000

2.1.8 Structure and functions of energy institutions in Western Asia

Expected completion date: December 1977.

Description: The Governments of the Member States have, in recent years, gradually secured greater control over the development and management of their natural resources in general and energy resources in particular. The increasing participation of Governments in energy affairs has already led to the establishment of energy institutions such as national oil companies.

The activity will consist of a detailed analysis of the structure and functions of national energy institutions such as petroleum ministries, national oil companies and electricity authorities and of an evaluation of their performance. Areas where these institutions need strengthening will be identified and proposals for action will be elaborated. The establishment of national institutions for co-ordination in energy planning and policies will be encouraged and the exchange of experience at the regional level among these institutions will be promoted. At Governments' request, short-term problem-solving missions may be undertaken to solve problems in establishing or strengthening such institutions. The activity will be undertaken in close co-operation with the institutions concerned and with the Centre for National Resources Energy and Transport.

A report on the subject will be published in December 1977 and distributed to governmental officials responsible for the development of the energy sector. managers of energy institutions, international and regional organizations concerned.

It is expected that this activity will lead to policy decisions concerning the establishment or strengthening of energy institutions and to increased co-ordination of energy policies at the national level and exchange of experience at the regional level.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	12	12
General Service man-months	-	12	12
Consultant man-months	-	3	3
Travel	-	\$5,000	\$5,000

2.2 Mineral resources

2.2.1 Survey of the situation pertaining to the development of mineral resources in the countries of the region

Expected completion date: First quarter of 1975; continuing activity.

Description: This is the first and basic activity of the mineral development programme. It is essentially an orientation and fact-collecting survey which will require a considerable amount of travel and discussion with the Government mining authorities of the member States (to be initiated in January 1975). It is aimed at collecting all technical information on selected minerals with a view to analysing the situation in the mineral sector and the basic information for establishing staff and equipment requirements in each country. The needs for the creation of a regional mineral development council will be investigated and recommendations for follow-up action will be elaborated and submitted to the Commission or one of its subsidiary organs. This activity will require continuous follow-up. A report on the survey will be prepared and ready for distribution in the first or second quarter of 1976.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	3	-	3
General Service man-months	3	-	3
Travel	\$1,000	-	\$1,000

2.2.2 Analysis of technical documentation and collection and processing of mineral economic information with regard to present and future supply and demand

Expected completion date: Second quarter of 1976. New activity (this activity will require, as of 1977, three man-months per year).

Description: The activity will mainly consist of the study, processing and evaluation of the technical reports, publications, maps and statistical data obtained through the situation survey. Statistical and technical information will be processed and grouped by commodity, member country and for the region as a whole.

The statistical data will supply information concerning, for example, shortage of mineral raw materials in the individual member countries and immediate supply possibilities within the region. The processing of the available technical documentation will avoid the danger of duplication of efforts, provide essential basic information concerning the mineral potential on a national and regional basis, locate selected areas for exploration etc. Work will also be initiated, in co-operation with the development planning, projections and policies programmes of ECWA, on regional supply and demand projections for minerals, taking into account any work undertaken at the global level (as, for instance, by UNCTAD). The activity will require continuous follow-up and will result in the publication of periodical, preferably biennial, reports on the mineral situation, problems and outlook. These reports will be addressed to governmental officials, regional organizations, and interested individuals.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	12	-	12
General Service man-months	6	-	6
Travel	-	-	-

2.2.3 Short- and long-term requirements for skilled manpower in the mineral resources sector

Expected completion date: Second/third quarter of 1976.

Description: The activity aims at assessing the short- and long-term staffing requirements for efficient operation of government services and institutions responsible for mineral development as well as the manpower needs in private and mixed sectors in all member countries, e.g., for economic geologists; mining geophysicists (electromagnetism, induced polarization, electrical methods), geochemists and analytical chemists (in organic chemistry, trace elements techniques) and medium-level technicians. To know the situation of employment

in the mineral sector, its composition in terms of skilled and non-skilled, expatriate and local personnel etc. is of primary interest from the economic standpoint. The study is also expected to lead to the consideration of training requirements in the mineral sector. This activity will be co-ordinated with the labour management and employment programme of ECWA.

The analysis of skilled manpower requirements will substantially contribute to the evaluation of the current status of the institutions dealing with mineral resources and will result in recommendations for follow-up action with a view to improving these institutions and strengthening training facilities. An ad hoc report will be addressed to the governmental authorities as well as the regional organizations concerned.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	6	-	6
General Service man-months	3	-	3
Travel	\$1,000	-	\$1,000

2.2.4 Appraisal of the existing mining codes and study of the current status of existing media to enforce the mineral legislation in the member countries

Expected completion date: Second quarter 1977.

Description: Action will consist of the thorough examination of the mining legislation in the member countries and the ways and means for enforcing the law, with emphasis on: (a) type of concessions for reconnaissance, exploration, exploitation; (b) fiscal policies followed in the exploitation (royalties), processing (concentration, refining and smelting) and marketing of minerals; (c) governmental participation in mining enterprises; (d) obligations of the mining industries toward the Government with regard to the submittal of technical information and production data; (e) quality control in the mining process; (f) mining safety measures; and, (g) safeguard of environmental conditions.

This activity will lead to the pinpointing of weaknesses and shortcomings in the existing mining codes and to exploiting the means to enforce the law.

A comprehensive evaluation report will be prepared on the existing mining laws and the application of these laws in the member countries. It will be prepared on a comparative basis and include specific recommendations for improvement of mining laws.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	15	-	15
General Service man-months	6	-	6
Consultant man-months	-	4	4
Travel	-	\$4,000	\$4,000

2.2.5 Identification and promotion of investment in mineral resources development

Expected completion date: The activity will be initiated in the third quarter of 1976 and completed in December 1979. Intermediate target: December 1977.

Description: This activity aims, in the first instance, at providing support with regard to the identification and promotion, in a broad sense, of investment in mineral resources development (projects in mineral exploration, mining and mineral processing to be financed by the Governments, regional organizations, bilateral assistance or UNDP funds). Background information will be obtained from basic documentation and intensive contacts with the national authorities and regional organizations dealing with mineral resources development will be arranged.

Action will consist of the provision of information and guidelines concerning the identification and selection of specific projects for the development of mineral resources and the establishment of priorities for follow-up action in the region. Activities will be highly selective and some possible areas of concentration for study are given below. Selection will be made on the basis of information and findings resulting from the activities undertaken in 1976-1977.

In the domain of mineral exploration, information and guidance may be provided to:

(a) Establish favourable areas for regional exploration, (stream sediment geochemistry, airborne or pedestrian radiometric prospecting, airborne geophysics, photogeology);

(b) Pinpoint favourable zones for detail prospecting (geological mapping, ground and geophysical work, soil and rock geochemical surveys) in areas where the existence of mineral indications has been confirmed, or following specific geological concepts (e.g. stratiform mineralization)

(c) Locate promising non-metallic or low-grade metallic occurrences which should be evaluated in terms of quality (grade) and volume (tonnage) through sampling by diamond drilling and/or trenching; and,

(d) Delineate favourable areas for off-shore exploration.

Follow-up operations would normally imply feasibility study and, eventually, implementation of large-scale projects to be undertaken by the Governments, possibly with technical assistance from UNDP or other organizations. In the case of mining operations, entirely or partly owned by the Governments of the member States, the activity would aim at providing recommendations for follow-up operations concerning, for example:

(a) Mines using uneconomical exploration or processing (ore-dressing) techniques, liable to be improved by the application of more efficient methods;

(b) The rehabilitation of abandoned mines;

(c) Correcting mining activities which are inconsistent with the maximum welfare of the country or region, or affect the environment and ecosystem; and,

(d) The organization of co-operatives in small-scale or artisan mining operations in order to improve the exploration and ore-dressing methods for the benefit of the region, and to avoid mining piracy.

Follow-up operations would generally consist of small-scale projects (one or two experts) including short-term consulting services, to be financed locally, through UNDP or through any other technical assistance programme.

This activity is a key element in assisting the efforts of the Governments directed towards the development, processing and marketing of mineral resources in the countries of the region. It is an activity which is very demanding in terms of professional and financial inputs, but which is expected to yield concrete and tangible results in a short period of time and to lead to the diversification of the national and regional economies. Activities during the biennium will, of course, be highly selective and concentrate on promising projects only. The preparation and follow-up of project proposals for detailed feasibility study or implementation will receive adequate attention.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	24	-	24
General Service man-months	21	-	21
Consultant man-months	-	4	4
Travel	-	\$12,000	\$12,000

2.2.6 Study of the economic aspects of mineral resources exploitation and processing in the region

Expected completion date: December 1979.

Description: This activity will be initiated during the first half of 1977 and will consist of two parts, namely, mineral resources exploitation and mineral resources processing.

It is well known that competitive exploitation of any depletable resource is inconsistent with the socially optimum rate of exploitation. It is also acknowledged that resource exploitation must be co-ordinated with the over-all development objectives of the countries in the region and the region as a whole. The problem can be dealt with more efficiently in the ECWA region because the development process is still in its initial stages. Apart from analysing and evaluating the general economic aspects of mineral resources development, this part of the study aims at estimating the socially optimal rate of exploitation of the natural resources in the member countries, evaluating the degree of processing of these resources consistent with the maximum welfare of the member countries and of the region as a whole, assessing the impact on economic development of alternative types of resource exploitation and co-ordinating the rate and method of resource exploitation with plans for growth in the manufacturing sector, the agricultural sector and the foreign trade sector. Appraising the optimum rate of exploitation of mineral resources will comprise an important component of methodological research.

With regard to processing, it is pointed out that much of the mineral wealth of the countries of the region is exported in crude form, although some advance has been made in the direction of processing. Processing is of dual usefulness - it brings in a larger net return per unit of mineral mined and it advances the course of industrialization. With regard to processing, it is aimed at studying the

economics of processing; the modalities for regional co-operation in processing order to avoid wasteful duplication; marketing of minerals in crude and processed form; and the question of production planning and programming at the regional level with a view to reaping the benefits of co-ordination and co-operation. This part of the activity will be carried out in close co-operation with UNIDO and with ECWA's industry programme.

During the biennium, work will be initiated on minerals exploitation. In December 1977, a first draft of the study will be ready for distribution to Government officials responsible for mineral resources development, managers of mining companies in the region and other interested Government officials. The proposed studies should have significant impact on exploitation and processing of mineral resources in the countries of the region.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	12	-	12
General Service man-months	9	-	9
Consultant man-months	2	-	2
Travel	\$2,000	-	\$2,000

2.3 Water

2.3.1 Evaluation and analysis of information on the water resources of the region

Expected completion date: This is a continuing activity. First report 1977 and second report 1979.

Description: Far too little information is known or has been collected about existing or potential water resources in the region. This activity is the first step towards achieving the long-term goal and objective 1 and is a pre-condition and essential base for the development of water resources and for carrying out the water resources programme for the region.

The activity is aimed at collecting all available economic and technical information and statistical data on water resources of the region, including reports, studies, surveys, manuals etc., prepared by all United Nations bodies, other international governmental and non-governmental organizations, private firms and consultants and by national public and private organizations in each country of the region.

The aim is to analyse and utilize existing information in order to avoid unnecessary and costly duplication which would otherwise occur if investigation were to be initiated concerning certain aspects of water resources when these aspects may already have been studied and adequate information is available in various other sources.

Parallel with the collection of information from various sources, a report will be prepared containing an evaluation and analysis of the information gathered on the water resources of the region. This will be a valuable tool for the analysis of the water resources situation in the region and it will identify information gaps and the specific information which needs to be gathered in

future years on a regular basis. Furthermore, the activity will be useful in that it will provide the information base required to carry out the various other activities proposed in the water resources component. It will also help to identify new activities and priorities to be carried out by ECWA.

The report on evaluation and analysis of information will be published every two years (end of 1977 and 1979). It should have wide circulation and should be distributed in particular to regional organizations, senior governmental officials responsible for the development of water resources in member states of ECWA, and to the United Nations system of organizations. It will also serve as an important source of information in the ECWA Documentation Centre.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	24	-	24
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Travel	\$ 5,000		\$ 5,000

2.3.2 Projections of water demand

Expected completion date: This activity will be initiated in 1975. The expected date of completion is December 1977.

Description: The steps to be followed in carrying out this activity are as follows:

(a) To outline the conceptual and procedural frameworks for water resources demand forecasting, adapted to conditions in the region;

(b) To review basic methodological approaches and techniques applicable to the region for forecasting the various categories of water demands and for comparing them with the applicable supplies in an integrated manner;

(c) To review indicative data on specific water uses and demands in the region to facilitate tentative projections where local data is lacking or inadequate;

(d) To gather information in the field on present and future water demand through missions in each country in the region; and,

(e) To estimate future water demand for the member countries in the ECWA region.

The purpose of undertaking this activity is to determine the magnitude and distribution of the persistent increase in water demand for the medium- and long-term (up to 1990, at least) in relation to all possible sources of water supply. Furthermore, projections of water demand is the basis for long-range water resources planning, management and policy formulation.

The study will contribute towards assisting national and regional organizations in establishing or strengthening the institutional frameworks and data base for assessing and projecting the demands for water on a regular basis in the future. It will also make available preliminary estimates of water demand in the region.

The final report, which will be published at the end of 1979, should be distributed to all senior governmental officials concerned in water resources planning and management in each country in the region as well as to the United Nations system of organizations.

It should be stressed that the United Nations and its specialized agencies concerned with water resources are carrying out work in the field of water resources projection. It is therefore essential that close consultation and co-operation be established between ECWA, the United Nations and other interested specialized agencies in order to avoid duplication. Participation of one staff member responsible for this activity in meetings of the Committee on Natural Resources as well as in meetings of the ACC Sub-Committee for Water Resources would serve a useful purpose. In addition, the preparatory work and documentation of the United Nations Water Conference should provide useful information for carrying out this activity.

In the light of progress and decisions taken regarding appropriate and standardized methodologies to be applied and adapted to the region, missions to the member countries of ECWA will be required for the purpose of gathering information for the study.

Reference should be made to the visit of one or two United Nations consultants to ECWA in 1975 to gather information on water resources availability in a number of selected countries of the region. This on-the-spot data collection mission, under ECWA and Headquarters guidance, is part of the preparatory work for the United Nations Water Conference to be held in Argentina in 1977. This activity should be co-ordinated with the water resources programme of ECWA.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	30	-	30
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Travel	\$2,500	-	\$2,500

2.3.3 Projections of water supply

Expected completion date: This activity will be started in 1975, continued in 1976 and completed in December 1977.

Description: Although projection of water demand may be undertaken independently, at least as a first step, it must be accompanied by projections of water supply for each country or region.

Projections of water demand and supply are pre-conditions for preventing or alleviating water shortages and developing an adequate water resources base for economic and social development. They constitute the basis for national and regional long-range economic planning, management and policy formulation. The steps to be followed in carrying out this activity are as follows:

(a) To outline the conceptual and procedural framework for water resources supply forecasting adapted to conditions in the region;

(b) To review basic methodological approaches and techniques applicable to the region for forecasting the water supply from all sources, including desalinated water. Account should be taken of water supplies resulting from water projects both under construction and planned. Emphasis should be placed on possibilities for the

application of water saving techniques such as recycling, treatment and re-use of contaminated water;

(c) To review available data on the water supply situation and potential of the region; and

(d) Gather information in the field on present and future water supply in each country in the region.

The additional information provided in describing the activity on projection of water demand (specific activity 2.3.2) is also applicable and directly relevant to this activity. Two additional points should be noted: (a) that UNESCO and WHO have offered to prepare for the United Nations Water Conference the necessary document on the water supply situation, which may include useful information concerning the ECWA region, but will probably relate to hydrological and hydrometeorological data; (b) that the carrying out of the activity concerning projections of water supply can lead to the initiation in each country of activities concerning the evaluation of water supply and their integration with water policies and planning; the identification of the minimum level of institutional requirements and technical expertise to carry out the required activities; and the identification of the role which ECWA can play in helping to set up the required machinery, through studies, technical assistance, guidance in methodology and its application within a broad water resources planning framework.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	30	-	30
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Consultant man-months	4	-	4
Travel	\$2,500	-	\$2,500

2.3.4 Study on manpower training needs and problems

Expected date of completion: End of 1977.

Description: The lack of trained personnel in different vocational and professional occupations is one of the most serious obstacles to the development of water resources. An assessment of the training needs in each country is an essential first step in determining the type and scope of the training required for the efficient and effective development of water resources in the region. This activity is intended to study the needs as well as the existing facilities for training problems encountered and to make recommendations concerning the means which can be used to train the various categories of personnel required. This can range from on-the-job training in field projects, vocational courses, seminars and university education, to the strengthening of national regional institutes and academic institutions.

This activity should be co-ordinated with the programme carried out by the ILO, UNESCO, FAO and the United Nations Centre for National Resources, Energy and Transport, as well as relevant organizations in the ECWA region.

The report should be widely distributed to governmental officials responsible for training as well as for planning and managing the policies related to water resources development.

The activity is expected to contribute to increasing the number of trained personnel including planners and managers in the region. This in turn will facilitate the speedy and efficient implementation of water resources projects resulting in an increase in the supply of water.

<u>Resources required:</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	12	-	12
Consultant man-months	-	2	2
Travel	-	\$2,000	\$2,000

2.3.5 Expert reports on the identification and formulation of water resources projects

Expected completion date: Continuing activity.

Description: This activity is intended to identify water resources projects whose implementation is constrained by the lack of financial resources. The reports will include evaluation of such projects in each country, including pre-investment studies and consultants' reports. Where appropriate and necessary, discussions with interested Governments may lead to formulating these projects in the form required for consideration by various regional and international financial institutions. The purpose is to assist Governments in the region in implementing water resources projects, particularly costly ground-water projects, water distribution and transportation networks in urban and rural areas, as well as water treatment plants.

During the first year, information concerning water projects which have reached the implementation stage will be gathered and analysed. Missions to countries in the region will be required to discuss specific projects with appropriate governmental officials. A progress report will be prepared at the end of each year for presentation to the governing body of the Commission.

A detailed and comprehensive survey report will be prepared and published every two years (1977 and 1979). The reports will be distributed to senior governmental officials responsible for the implementation and planning of water resources projects in all the countries of the region. The findings are expected to generate interest in the implementation of more water projects. This activity could become one of the major contributions of ECWA to the water resources development of the region and to its economic growth.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	24	-	24
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Consultant man-months	-	12	12
Travel	-	\$8,000	\$8,000

2.3.6 Meeting requirements

Type of meeting(s): Expert group meeting

Year: 1976

Title: Regional Meeting on Water Resources Development, Problems and Prospects

Place: Beirut

Duration: 6 working days

Number and type of participants: One senior governmental official from each country in the region. Two consultants.

Justification: Among the preparatory activities envisaged within Economic and Social Council resolution 1761 C (LIV) of 18 May 1973 is the convening of regional meetings as part of the preparatory process for the United Nations Water Conference to be held in Argentina in 1977. The objective of the regional meeting is:

(a) To review the documents which will have to be prepared for the conference by a number of ad hoc experts and consultants on various water resources subjects. These include review and evaluation of known technology, policy formulation and legislation. Demand and supply future outlooks which are directly related to the medium-term objectives of the water resources programme component will also be considered;

(b) To serve as a forum for a review of the major obstacles currently existing in the field of water resources development in each of the participating countries in the region and prepare the way for the introduction of new policies, legislation and technology in order to meet the water demand requirements of the future.

Each participating country will be expected to identify major water resources gaps and problems such as lack of data, technological know-how, survey data gathering capabilities, institutional infrastructure, training requirements, and priority water resources development needs. All these areas are directly related to the medium-term objectives and should be closely co-ordinated with the activities proposed in the water resources programme component of ECWA.

The meeting is expected to provide useful information to governmental officials responsible for the planning, management and policy formulation in the field of water resources development. The report on the regional meeting will be part of the documentation for the United Nations Water Conference and will be available for distribution to national and regional organizations concerned with water resources development.

It is expected that the regional meeting may contribute to the strengthening of the activities of existing national water resources committees and possibly to the establishment of a regional water resources committee.

2.4 Science and technology

2.4.1. Programme development, management and support

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: (a) Over-all responsibilities of a continuing nature:

- (i) Management of the programme, including assessment, formulation and implementation of future plans of activities.
 - (ii) Service the annual regional (ECWA) group meeting of the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development (ACAST) including the preparation of background papers and follow-up when required.
 - (iii) Report to the Committee on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) and to ACAST when required.
 - (iv) Participate in regional and national activities (meetings and seminars) in the field of science and technology and preparing such briefs and reports as may be required.
 - (v) Disseminate information pertaining to the application of science and technology to development, as may be requested by Governments and others concerned.
- (b) Review and analysis of developments:
- (i) Review and assess the situation in the field of science and technology including stock-taking of the available science and technology infrastructure.
 - (ii) Monitor progress in the field of science and technology through appropriate indicators requiring quantification of scientific and technological activities.
 - (iii) Keep under continuous review the Regional Plan of Action for the Application of Science and Technology to Development in the Middle East and to promote and encourage regional and national action to implement the recommendations contained in the Plan through consultations with Member States and national science institutions and participate in regional and national activities in this regard.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	6	-	6
General Service man-months	6	-	6
Travel	\$1,250	-	\$1,250

2.4.2 Regional co-operative research and technology

Expected completion date: End 1977.

Description: Actions and outputs

Specific activity will consist of (a) a review of the objectives, principles and methods of national and regional co-operative research and technology undertaken in the ECWA region by Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector; (b) an assessment through case studies of co-operative research and technology projects; (c) identification of areas for regional co-operation in research and technology, particularly focusing on land and water resources development and management and agricultural technology, the topics of ECWA's medium-term plan; (d) the selection of co-operative research and technology projects through a Seminar on Co-operative Research and Technology Projects in the ECWA Region, in which experts from the region as well as international expertise are brought in contact with government officials responsible for the development of science and technology. ECWA's preparation for this meeting as well as its results will constitute the preparatory work for CAST ARAB, the UNESCO/ECWA Conference on Science and Technology by Arab Ministers responsible for science and technology to be held in 1976.

Concrete outputs (regular budget only) of this activity in terms of publications will consist of:

- (a) Assessment Report on Current Co-operative Research and Technology in the ECWA Region (1976);
- (b) Report on Possible Areas for Co-operative Research and Technology (1977);
- (c) Report of the ECWA Seminar on Co-operative Research and Technology Projects in the ECWA Region (1977);
- (d) Various Projects in Selected Areas of Co-operative Research and Technology (1977);

The specific activity requires the close co-operation with the United Nations Office for Science and Technology and the concerned United Nations specialized agencies, in particular, the UNESCO Regional Office for Science and Technology in Cairo. Close working relationships will be established with existing regional organizations working in the field of science and technology, while from the outset contacts will be established with the regional financing institutions so as to ensure their possible future involvement in regional projects. In addition, links will be established with international research centres and institutions engaged in science and technology application so as to secure the required international linkage and feedback.

Purpose: The purpose of the activity is to promote and initiate regional, bilateral and multilateral co-operative research and technology projects in the ECWA area.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	6	-	6
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Consultant man-months	6	-	6
Travel	\$1,250	-	\$1,250

2.4.3. The application of new technologies to land and water resources development and management

Expected completion date: End 1977.

Description: Action and outputs

Specific activity will consist of ECWA taking the initiative to mobilize thinking and action with regard to the establishment of regional land and water management systems. The Commission will prepare preliminary reports on such matters as: (a) new technological applications for the use of underground water resources; (b) the use of space technology (remote sensing) for land management and inventorying mineral resources; (c) the prospects for weather modification (cloud seeding); (d) the recycling of water resources. Surveys from space are expected to become operational toward the mid-1970s and possible areas of application of particular interest to the ECWA region, pertaining to hydrology and water resources, inventorying and classifying agricultural resources and the efficient use of land. The advent of meteorological satellites marks a turning point in science and meteorology, and weather modification becomes a distinct reality for the ECWA countries. The activities of ECWA in these advanced technological applications will initially be directed toward over-all investigations into their potentialities and limitations. In particular the relationships between ground and space requirements of new space application systems need to be considered. ECWA's initiatives in these fields will aim at the mobilization of Governments to consider new technologies and commence planning for meeting the organizational, political and manpower requirements for future usage of and participation in space application systems.

Concrete outputs (regular budget only) in terms of publications will consist of:

(a) Report on Selected Aspects of the Application of New Technologies for Water Resources Development and Management: regional and national implications (1976);

(b) Report on Selected Aspects of the Application of New Technologies to the Development and Management of Land Resources: utilization of earth satellite data.

Purpose: To initiate action by Governments of the countries in the ECWA region to plan for the application of new technologies in land and water resources development and management requiring regional and multilateral co-operation.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	18	-	18
General Service man-months	18	-	18
Travel	\$1,250	-	\$1,250

2.4.4 The application of science and technology at the farm level

Expected completion date: End 1977.

Description: Actions and outputs

Specific activity will consist of: (a) an assessment of the state of technology at the disposal of the average Arab farmer; (b) an analysis of the available technology and its level of application at the farm level; (c) the ways and means to diffuse agricultural technology at the farm level.

ECWA's concrete outputs (regular budget only) in terms of publications will consist of A Progress Report on Diffusion of Agricultural Technology at the Farm Level (1977).

Close co-ordination will be established with FAO and other United Nations specialized agencies.

Purpose: To guide the Governments of the countries in the ECWA region in their efforts to increase the level of agricultural technology available to Arab farmers.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	18	-	18
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Travel	\$1,250	-	\$1,250

2.4.5 Meeting requirements

Type of meeting: Seminar

Year: 1976

Title: Seminar on Co-operative Research and Technology Projects in the ECWA Region

Location: Beirut

Duration: 7 days

Type and number of participants: 50. 20-30 experts in selected fields of science and technology applications drawn from national science bodies, universities, governmental and intergovernmental organizations engaged in science and technology applications; and 5-10 experts from international research centres and institutions. Representatives from international organizations and member Governments.

Justification: Meeting is essential to facilitate the selection of regional co-operative research and technology projects and to initiate regional action towards their programming and establishment.

	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Estimated cost:</u>		\$60,000	\$60,000

3. Transport, communications and tourism

3.1 Programme formulation and management

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: This activity is concerned with developing the work programme in transport, communications and tourism and ensuring its effective implementation. It involves organizing, directing and supervising activities, and assuring liaison, co-operation and co-ordination, as appropriate with other organizations within and without the United Nations system concerned with transport, communications and tourism.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	15	-	15
General Service man-months	11	-	11
Travel	\$1,000	-	\$1,000

3.2 Collection and dissemination of data on transport, communications and tourism

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: In the countries of Western Asia only rudimentary data and information are available on transport, communications and tourism. Moreover, such data and information are deficient with respect to coverage and quality, and generally are not readily accessible to the research worker and policy-maker. The effective development of the transport, communications and tourism sectors will largely depend on the elaboration and implementation of sound policies and programmes for which basic research and, hence, the availability of adequate and reliable information is imperative.

The initial purpose of this activity is to collect and process quantitative and qualitative information on networks, facilities, services and other aspects relative to transport, communications and tourism, drawing on published and unpublished material from national sources or other material. In this respect especially relevant are country and regional studies and surveys. Subsequently a process of standardization will be introduced in co-operation with other regional commissions, the United Nations Statistical Office and UNCTAD so as to take into account internationally approved methods, practices and models and to avoid any duplication of effort. The results of these efforts should facilitate the future research work and decision-making process at national and regional levels.

The collected data and information, reviewed and processed by the Secretariat as may be necessary, will be published annually in mimeographed form, starting with 1976. Summarized data from the material will be included in the Annex of the Secretariat's publication entitled: Studies on Development Problems in Countries of Western Asia.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	18	-	18
General Service man-months	11	-	11
Travel	\$1,000	-	\$1,000

3.3 Development of tourism

Expected completion date: 1977.

Description and purpose: This activity represents an amplification of work programmed for 1975 and covering Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic and its extension to involve other country-groups, namely, Democratic Yemen and Yemen.

In co-operation with international, regional and national bodies (both private and public) concerned with tourism, ECWA will intensify its efforts aimed at identifying opportunities and suggesting modalities for co-operation and joint investment and in helping to bring about the necessary collective endorsement and action. The purpose is to formulate action-oriented proposals for the most promising areas of co-operation and indicate feasibility studies to be undertaken which could eventually lead to actual investment; and, define the most appropriate modalities of co-operation and means of financing, with a special emphasis placed on possibilities of launching joint ventures involving specific countries and based on social cost-benefit analysis, taking into consideration the opportunity cost of investing in tourism.

To achieve the stated purpose, in-depth country studies covering Democratic Yemen, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen will be undertaken, focusing on co-operative aspects as well as on the significance of tourism in the national economy, the main factors - national, regional and international in scope - which influence the industry's development prospects, especially within a regional or sub-regional perspective.

Two studies are expected to be produced; one relating to the investigation covering Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic, and the other covering Democratic Yemen and Yemen. These studies would serve as a basic source of information on the tourism situation in the countries considered and should prove useful to national, regional and international bodies concerned with the formulation of policies and programmes and in elaborating country and/or multinational technical assistance programmes in tourism. These studies should also be of use to regional financial institutions interested in investing in tourism, as well as private concerns active in that field. Therefore, it is proposed to convene a seminar for senior governmental officials to prepare recommendations for consideration and adoption by the Commission.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	24	-	24
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Travel	\$1,250	-	\$1,250

3.4 Development of integrated transport and communications network in the ECWA region

Expected completion date: 1977.

Description and purpose: This activity represents a continuation and deepening of work programmed for 1975. It envisages reviewing plans, policies and practices in the field of transport and communications as they relate to intercountry traffic; studying major commodity flows, trade routes, modes of transport and transport costs in the trade of countries of the region with each other and with the outside world; and assessing future demand for various transport modes and facilities in the light of regional and world growth perspectives, taking into account the spatial distribution of economic activity in the region.

These reports would be consolidated for consideration by an ad hoc committee of the Commission, where national authorities responsible for planning and for the administration of the transport sector would take part. The committee may recommend preparation of feasibility studies of infrastructure projects or of transport services required for an integrated transport system in the region.

The findings and recommendations of these studies should serve as a basis for the elaboration of guidelines to assist governments, regional and international institutions and organizations concerned with the formulation of policies and programmes aimed at the development of integrated transport and communications systems serving the region.

It is also envisaged to organize teams to work in the field and submit reports to Governments which would highlight the following areas:

(a) Transport situation of the country in regard to regional trade, including transit trade, the trade of the country with the rest of the world, and tourism;

(b) Transport situation for national development and problems in the sector which could be more efficiently solved in co-operation, or sharing experience with other countries of the region; and,

(c) Presentation of recommendations on ways of solving the main problems encountered.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	39	12	51
General Service man-months	20	12	32
Consultant man-months	-	12	12
Travel	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$9,000

3.5 Economic and social implications of the introduction of containers and other unitized methods of transport

Expected completion date: 1977.

Description and purpose: Countries of the region need to become aware of the extent and rate at which they could beneficially participate in the new transport technology as it relates to containerization and other methods of intermodal transport.

The successful implementation of steps in that direction presupposes that certain requirements of a financial, manpower, organizational, institutional and infrastructural or physical nature are met - or can be met - both at the country and regional/subregional levels, encompassing the entire transport sector, as well as other aspects of economic life.

The purpose of this activity is to study the economic and technological aspects of introducing unitized methods of intermodal transport with a view to formulating guidelines that would assist countries of the region in deciding on the most appropriate strategies for the development of transport facilities and ancillary services, at the national as well as the regional/subregional levels. This will be a phase towards achieving the plan objective on the implications for countries of the region of the transfer of new scientific knowledge, technology and experience in transport and communications.

The successful implementation of this activity will assist the operations of UNDP and UNCTAD. In particular, this is expected to contribute to a more precise definition of projects on maritime transport capability and co-operation amongst ports of countries in the ECWA region, in UNDP planning for the period 1976-1981.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	18	6	24
General Service man-months	6	-	6
Consultant man-months	4	-	4
Travel	\$1,250	\$2,500	\$3,750

3.6 Development of shipping services and port facilities

Expected completion date: 1977.

Description and purpose: Countries of the region depend heavily on foreign trade - a dependence which will be accentuated in the foreseeable future. Except

for a relatively insignificant share, this trade is carried by extra-regionally owned ships, involving substantial foreign exchange outlays. At the same time, these countries hardly make any use of coastal shipping services in trade among themselves.

The establishment/expansion of shipping fleets in the region may be justifiable by the availability of financial resources, the volume of trade and the need to diversify the sources of income and foreign exchange. In co-operation with UNCTAD, IMCO, the League of Arab States, regional financial institutions and other concerned regional and international organizations, ECWA's efforts will be directed towards studying the development of shipping fleets suitable for the trade and economic conditions of the countries of the region, to enable them to increase their participation in the movement of goods, especially those generated by their own trade, through the following measures:

- (a) Studying commodity flows and important trade routes inter- and intraregionally;
- (b) Undertaking a survey and analysis of existing shipping fleets owned by countries in the region, and national and regional plans in this field;
- (c) Preparation of guidelines on the acquisition and financing of ships; and,
- (d) Studying the implications of establishing and operating multinational shipping enterprises.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	18	3	21
General Service man-months	6	12	18
Consultant man-months	4	20	24
Travel	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,500

3.7 Facilitation of transit traffic

Expected completion date: 1977.

Description and purpose: This activity is a key element in the formulation of a regional system of commercial goods transport by road, including combined transports for trade within the region and trade of the countries of the region with the rest of the world. Its necessity has been further highlighted in the preliminary findings of a study by the Secretariat on the transport situation in the region, planned to be completed before the end of 1974.

The programme will provide a detailed analysis of the present situation complemented by alternatives, whereby Governments may harmonize their action, ensuring an equitable distribution of costs and benefits involved in granting transit facilities for commercial goods transport by road. The activity requires co-operation with the League of Arab States and its subsidiary bodies as well as the Council of Arab Economic Unity. It will be co-ordinated with the objectives of other international agreements concluded under the auspices of the United Nations.

It is envisaged that a report will be prepared for discussion at a meeting to be held in 1977, grouping development and transport planners in the member countries of the Commission. The recommendations agreed upon at the meeting will serve for the further facilitation of measures for the international movement of persons and goods.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	12	3	15
General Service man-months	6	-	6
Travel	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,500

3.8 Development and co-ordination of air transport

Expected completion date: 1978 (New).

Description: Most if not all the countries of the region are adequately served by their airlines. Indeed it can safely be said that many airlines suffer from excess capacity which is not economically utilized. Air transport is a heavily capital-intensive industry in the provision of modern aircraft, spare parts maintenance and overhead facilities, handling equipment and advertising and publicity costs.

There seems to be a great need for co-operation between the national airlines to co-ordinate their activities and pool their resources in this field so as to avoid harmful competition and duplication of efforts.

The Secretariat intends, in co-operation with regional and international organizations competent in this field and through extrabudgetary resources from within and outside the region, to undertake a study aimed at highlighting areas where co-operation between national airlines can be achieved to eliminate harmful competition and reduce unnecessary overhead charges which will not only benefit the airlines themselves but the public at large.

A conference of airlines representatives will be convened in 1978 to review the above-mentioned study and agree on appropriate measures to solve these problems.

It may be necessary to establish a permanent regional organization to deal with the problems inherent in this field and to seek ways and means to accelerate intraregional co-operation between member countries so that air transport with its multiple use in the movement of passengers, goods and mail will be accessible to the public at economical rates.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	12	12
General Service man-months	-	-	-
Consultant man-months	-	24	24

3.9 Development of telecommunication services

Expected completion date: New.

Description: The role that telecommunications can play in the economic and social development of the region cannot be over emphasized. It is essential, therefore, that member countries should develop their telecommunication services (telephones, telegrams, telexes, radio and satellite communications) with modern and standardized equipment so as to be able to communicate with each other and the rest of the world through a well co-ordinated network of these services.

It is intended to make a survey of existing facilities and links between the member countries of the region and between the region and the outside world, with a view to improving these services and establishing new co-ordinated links where these do not exist. The survey will also deal with existing tariffs and rates and recommend ways and means to standardize these rates so that the services can be made available to the masses of the population at reasonable rates.

The survey which is planned to be conducted in close co-operation with and with assistance from ITU (International Telecommunication Union) will, it is hoped, be financed through extrabudgetary sources from inside and/or outside the region.

A conference will be held in 1979 to examine the findings of the survey and will make appropriate recommendations to Governments for the modernization of the existing services and the network which will link the countries of the region and means of financing such network.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	12	12
Consultant man-months	-	24	24

3.10 Meeting requirements

Type of meeting(s): Working Group

Year: 1977

Title (subject): Facilitation of Transit Traffic

Place: Beirut

Duration: Two weeks

Number and type of participants: Officials responsible for transport development planning, highway construction and administration.

Coming from: All member countries of the Commission

Number of substantive staff attending: Four

Justification: Because of the problems facing the movement of goods and persons in transit in the region, the meeting is essential to harmonize country policies with a view to reaching an agreement governing the facilities of international road transport.

Estimated cost: \$4,000

4. Development planning

4.1 Development planning, projections and policies

4.1.1 Programme formulation and management

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description:

(a) Daily management of the programme, including detailed planning of future activities, and programme co-ordination and evaluation;

(b) Reporting to and responding to requests from governing bodies, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations Secretariat and other United Nations bodies;

(c) Preparation of documents for and servicing of the subsidiary organs of ECWA;

(d) Preparation for and participation in various technical meetings and conferences;

(e) Backstopping of technical assistance projects and experts in the field;

(f) Preparation for, and participation in, various missions to member countries, organized by ECWA, the Headquarters of the United Nations or the specialized agencies;

(g) Supervision of consultancy work;

(h) Finalization of studies, reviews and reports;

(i) Over-all responsibility for the annual publications of ECWA; and

(j) Provision of various inputs into interdisciplinary activities at ECWA.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	36	-	36
General Service man-months	20	-	20
Travel	\$2,000	\$6,500	\$8,500

4.1.2 Review of recent economic trends and analysis of current development in Western Asia

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: This activity consists of keeping abreast with the reporting on economic developments in Western Asia. It will be undertaken in close co-operation with all the substantive divisions of ECWA, under the general supervision and co-ordination of the Development Planning Division.

The purpose of this activity is to review recent economic trends and to analyse current developments in Western Asia, including an annual appraisal of progress during the Second United Nations Development Decade and an assessment of the short-term outlook at the global and sectoral levels, in a national and regional context. More specifically, it will involve the annual preparation of statistical indicators, country "briefs" and a regional review, covering as many fields as there are substantive programmes at ECWA. Each division will be responsible for the preparation of the statistical indicators (in co-operation with the Statistics Programme of the Development Planning Division), country "briefs" and regional reviews relating to its programme(s). The Development Planning Division will be responsible for the preparation of the following: over-all developments, development planning and policies, statistics, international trade, development finance and administration, and labour and employment. The development planning, projections and policies programme will assume over-all responsibility for this ECWA activity, the product of which will be published annually by ECWA under the title Economic Survey of Western Asia. This publication, which will appear during the summer, is intended to replace the Annex on "Sectoral developments and development indicators" to ECWA's annual publication entitled Studies on Development Problems in Countries of Western Asia.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	22	-	22
General Service man-months	16	-	16
Travel	\$2,000	-	\$2,000

4.1.3 Third review and appraisal of progress towards achieving the objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade in Western Asia

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: As per General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV), the third biennial review and appraisal of progress towards achieving the objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade will be completed in 1977 for submission to the summer session of the Economic and Social Council in that year. This exercise, which will draw on the work and findings of the annual activity entitled "Review of recent economic trends and analysis of current developments in Western Asia" and on the findings of the mid-term review and appraisal exercise to be completed in 1975, will cover the first half of the Second United Nations Development Decade (1971-1975) and will include the outlook and recommendations for the balance of the Decade, in the fields of over-all growth performance and development planning and policies, at the national and regional levels.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	6	-	6
General Service man-months	6	-	6

4.1.4 Review and appraisal of progress achieved in Western Asia towards implementing the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI), and particularly section IX of the latter resolution, and to Economic and Social Council resolutions 1896 (LVII) and 1911 (LVII), ECWA will, on a continuing basis, take measures to submit suggestions to member States and also to submit to the Council, at least once a year, reports on the progress made in the implementation of the goals and measures specified in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order. Moreover, as per paragraph 7 of section X of General Assembly resolution 3202 (S-VI), ECWA will be ready to assist the Ad Hoc Committee on the Special Programme in performing the functions assigned to it, and to help, as appropriate, in the operations of the Special Fund.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	4	-	4
General Service man-months	4	-	4

4.1.5 Regional financial resources

Expected completion date: 1977.

Description: The effects of the recent developments in the world oil situation have been to bring about a sharp rise in oil revenues accruing to the oil-producing countries in the ECWA region. While the utilization of these large resources is primarily the concern of the oil-exporting countries themselves, the issue is also of great concern to other countries in the region and to the international community at large. It is, therefore, of crucial importance that these financial resources be put to productive use to promote a more rapid development of the countries of Western Asia, other Arab countries, as well as the rest of the developing world, within the framework of a stable international economic order and monetary system.

Under this activity, work will be directed towards: (a) assessing the prospects for the accumulation of financial resources in the region arising from higher oil revenues over a period of 10 to 15 years; (b) analysing the effects of these surpluses on the economies of the region, taking into consideration the absorptive capacities of member countries and means to expand them; and (c) exploring alternative uses for the surplus funds, including an assessment of the implications of diverting funds outside the region, and suggesting methods and channels for optimum investment in the region. The findings under this activity will be incorporated in a study to be completed in 1977.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	36	36
General Service man-months	-	24	24
Travel	-	\$12,000	\$12,000

4.1.6 Regional finance availabilities and the capital needs of the deficit countries in Western Asia

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: Work started in 1973 under this activity will continue on an annual basis. Its purpose is to undertake, and continuously revise and up-date, in the light of new developments and data, projections of the balance of current payments of member States for the following 10 years. Attempts will also be made to provide orders of magnitude of future capital movements and the over-all financial position of each country. To be completed during the second quarter of each year.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	6	-	6
General Service man-months	4	-	4

4.1.7 Perspective planning for countries in Western Asia

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: ECWA will undertake research to assist member States, on a continuing basis, in developing perspective plans with a view to delimiting their broad growth potentials for the next 10 to 20 years, in order to establish the framework on which feasible medium-term plans and short-term operational programmes can be based. Perspective planning techniques and growth models suitable for the oil-producing countries, the least developed countries, and the other countries in the region will be developed, with the purpose of preparing prospective studies on the growth potentials and development perspectives of member States and on the alternatives and options available to them. Such studies will then be used for in-depth sectoral (perspective) plans, with the co-operation of the relevant substantive programmes of ECWA and the specialized agencies. Particular attention will be devoted to the least developed countries in Western Asia and to those countries in the region which have not yet prepared formal development strategies. Work under this activity, which is scheduled to start in 1975, will produce one study annually (to be completed during the last quarter).

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	12	-	12
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Travel	\$2,000	-	\$2,000

4.1.8 Assessment of development opportunities in Western Asia, including project evaluation

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: ECWA will systematically and continuously survey the development problems and needs of member States and of the region as a whole, identify development opportunities in the context of the countries' general development

strategies or plans, and assist in preparing pre-feasibility studies, undertaking project evaluations, studying joint venture schemes and, in principle, looking into all aspects - financial, legislative, institutional, co-operative and organizational in nature - which are essential to the success of such projects. In doing so, ECWA will study and present the options available to the Governments of member States for investment and policy decisions. Work under this activity, which is scheduled to start in 1975, will produce one study annually (to be completed during the last quarter).

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	10	-	10
General Service man-months	10	-	10
Consultants man-months	6	-	6
Travel	\$2,000	-	\$2,000

4.1.9 A regional perspective to resource formation and allocation

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: The purpose of this activity, under which research started in August 1971, is to suggest ways and means of harmonizing national plans and improving the utilization of existing national industrial production capacities, in order to achieve a more efficient allocation of regional investment resources. Significant progress was achieved in 1972 and 1973, culminating in the application of the theoretical considerations, which demonstrated the superiority of the use of social cost-benefit analysis as compared to alternative approaches to regional co-ordination, and the empirical findings, which provided estimates for the cost of essential industrial inputs and transport to the cement and sugar industries.

Work under this activity, which was disrupted in 1974 because the post (from the Dutch Trust Fund) could not be filled, will resume in 1975 and continue through 1976 and 1977, with research particularly directed towards providing information and guidance on the range of options available for the implementation of regional economic co-operation schemes and joint ventures in various sectors, and suggesting arrangements for appropriate multinational action.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	24	24
Travel	\$2,000	-	\$2,000

4.1.10 Studies on important aspects of development in the countries of Western Asia

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: Various important economic and social aspects of the development of member States will be analysed and often regionally compared. Such studies will provide guidance and outlook on economic policy and will contribute to the promotion

of a better mutual knowledge and understanding in the region of national economic and social systems, structures, performances, problems, possibilities and needs. Examples of such aspects of development, which will be studied, are the following:

- (a) Role and importance of the public sector;
- (b) Absorptive capacity of public administration and services;
- (c) Social services and welfare systems;
- (d) Educational systems;
- (e) Land reform systems;
- (f) Banking and monetary systems;
- (g) Fiscal systems;
- (h) Regulation and control of the operations of transnational corporations;
- (i) Restrictive business practices;
- (j) Income distribution and consumption patterns;
- (k) "Quality" of growth;
- (l) Prices, wages and productivity; and,
- (m) Cost of living and purchasing power.

Such studies will be prepared twice a year by consultants under the supervision and co-ordination of the development planning, projections and policies programme, with the co-operation, as appropriate, of other relevant ECWA programmes.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	24	24
General Service man-months	-	12	12
Travel	-	\$4,000	\$4,000

4.2 Development finance and administration

4.2.1 Programme formulation and management

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: The purpose of this activity is to plan, manage and co-ordinate effectively the available resources to achieve the objectives envisaged in the field of development finance and administration. Efforts to this effect are concentrated mainly on:

- (a) Formulating and directing the activities of the programme;
- (b) Managing the resources available to it;
- (c) Co-ordinating the work of the programme with other programmes at ECWA, related units within the United Nations system, the specialized agencies and international, regional and national organizations;

(d) Preparing reports to governing bodies and substantive divisions of the United Nations on various issues pertaining to development finance and administration, as may be requested;

(e) Participating in meetings and preparing briefs and reports, as may be necessary;

(f) Reviewing current developments in the field of finance and administration in all the countries of the region, in connexion with the review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade;

(g) Preparing quantitative indicators in the field of public finance, along with the analysis of developments in this sector, for inclusion in the annual publication of ECWA.

(h) Collecting, analysing and disseminating basic data on various aspects of development administration and finance in member States of ECWA and in the developing countries outside the region; and,

(i) Providing substantive support to United Nations technical co-operation projects and to individual field experts serving the region in the field of development finance and administration.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	12	-	12
General Service man-months	12	-	12

4.2.2 Development planning and mobilization and management of financial resources

Expected completion date: 1977.

Description: This activity, under the development finance and administration programme of ECWA, encompasses efforts to provide guidelines and information aimed at promoting the efficiency of the budgetary, financial and monetary systems. It is particularly directed to strengthen budget-plan harmonization and management, develop appropriate and feasible tax systems, with relevant policies and efficient administration adapted to changes in the economic structure and objectives of national development programmes, especially those relating to the mobilization and allocation of resources, stabilization and growth of the economy and equitable distribution of income and wealth.

During the 1976-1977 biennial work programme, efforts will be directed towards the achievement of part of the objectives envisaged under the medium-term plan period. Priority will be given to the examination of the budgetary systems, practices and problems, budgetary classification of governmental transactions and their economic and social impact, accounting and budgetary procedures and budget-plan harmonization and management. Efforts will also be made to assess and evaluate existing patterns of income distribution and examine measures and policies aimed at achieving redistribution objectives.

In this connexion, the following projects will be carried out during the period concerned:

(a) Survey and evaluation of government budgetary systems and practices in member States of ECWA and preparation of a methodological framework as a guide to reform;

(b) Survey of the existing patterns of income distribution in selected countries of the ECWA region, study of the impact of structural changes in the economy, and examination of measures pertaining to distribution policy; and,

(c) Initiation and completion of the 1975-1976 biennial review and appraisal of progress in public finance in connexion with the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade.

These studies are expected to provide adequate information and guidelines which should help in the improvement of existing systems and practices in the countries of the region and serve as the basis for sound policy formulation in these areas. They will also be presented to meetings scheduled to be held at the national and regional levels in order to examine some of the pressing problems of reform in these fields and contribute towards establishing further guidelines for the follow-up action required.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RE</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	18	-	18
General Service man-months	18	-	18
Consultants man-months	6	-	6
Travel	\$1,500	-	\$1,500

4.2.3 Administrative capability for economic and social development

Expected completion date: 1977.

Description: This activity entails efforts directed towards increasing administrative capability at all levels, with a view to accelerating the process of planned economic and social development and achieving development goals. In particular, it is designed to provide guidelines for and assistance in establishing and strengthening of the institutional framework required to initiate administrative reform planning, improve work methods, procedures and practices, and develop public personnel systems with adequate guidelines for effective use of personnel resources accompanied by staff training, and motivation programmes at all levels of administration, central, regional and local. Special emphasis will be placed on the pressing problems and needs of the least developed, the small and the newly independent countries of the region.

During the 1976-1977 biennial work programme, efforts will concentrate on action-oriented research to develop guidelines for and provide assistance in dealing with the administrative problems of governmental organizations, procedures, work methods, personnel policies and other aspects of the civil service system in selected countries of the region. Efforts will also be made to initiate pilot

exercises aimed at examining the administrative and managerial requisites of development programmes and projects, including public enterprises, and contributing towards the formulation of an over-all administrative plan, consistent with the national socio-economic development plans.

The following projects will be carried out during the coming two years:

- (a) Survey and evaluation of the administrative infrastructure and civil service systems and needs in selected countries of the region, with special reference to the least developed and the small and newly independent among them;
- (b) Study and establishment of the guidelines for the formulation and implementation of the administrative reform planning as part of the over-all national economic and social development plans;
- (c) Study on public personnel planning, training and development programmes in selected countries of the ECWA region;
- (d) Initiating and completing the 1975-1976 biennial review and appraisal of progress in public administration in connexion with the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade.

These projects will be carried out in close collaboration with the appropriate national organizations responsible for administrative reform programmes. The findings will be made available to Governments concerned to help in the formulation of policies and actions to be taken towards the improvement of the situation. They will also be submitted to meetings to be held at the national and regional levels, with a view to contributing to the establishment of further policy guidelines and follow-up action required.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	18	-	18
General Service man-months	18	-	18
Consultants man-months	-	6	6
Travel	\$15,000	-	\$15,000

4.2.4 Meeting requirements

Type of meeting: Working group meeting.

Year: 1977.

Title: Working group meeting on budget classification, budget-plan harmonization and management.

Place: Beirut.

Duration: One week.

Type and number of participants: Two senior governmental officials.

Justification: This meeting is designed to bring together participants from member States, with a view to examining national and regional efforts made over the last six years towards the reform and improvement of the budgetary systems and review progress made and difficulties encountered in applying the suggested simplified scheme of budgetary classification and its integration with the system of governmental and national accounts. It will also invite participants to evaluate the role of the budget in facilitating the process of plan formulation, implementation and evaluation of achievements. In this connexion, it is particularly intended that the meeting would provide guidelines as regards the use of the budget and the over-all financial plan as instruments in the preparation of annual co-operation plans and programmes and the formulation and execution of the short-term socio-economic policies needed.

This meeting will be sponsored by ECWA and will be carried out under the joint auspices of UNDP and the Division of Public Administration and Finance of the United Nations Headquarters.

	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Estimated cost:</u>	\$4,000	-	\$4,000

4.3 Statistics

4.3.1 Comparative study of real income in the ECWA countries

Expected completion date: 31 December 1978.

Description: This activity examines the international real income comparisons of the ECWA countries.

A study will be initiated in January 1977 and will last for a period of two years. Results will be published in phases; results for the countries are expected to be published during the budget period.

The study is designed to compare the gross domestic product and its components in a common unit value and the purchasing power of currencies. It will be co-ordinated closely with the International Comparison Project, being carried out by the Statistical Office of the United Nations, IBRD and the University of Pennsylvania. The study will apply to methodology developed in the first stages of the International Comparison Project, to the international comparison aggregates of the domestic product and expenditure of the member States of ECWA. (This study will be carried out in co-operation with the Statistical Office of the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund and the Governments of the region.)

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	12	12
General Service man-months	-	12	12
Travel	-	\$1,000	\$1,000

4.3.2 Comparative costs of living in the ECWA countries

Expected completion date: 31 December 1976.

Description: This activity examines the cost of living and indices pertaining to it in the countries of the ECWA region.

In 1976, a study will be conducted on the living conditions including both earnings and cost of living, in the ECWA member States. The study will confine itself, at the first stage, to living conditions in the capitals of the countries and to certain strata of people or income groups. The study for each capital could be based either on information and surveys already conducted in the places concerned or on the basis of some limited new sample surveys to be conducted with the approval, advice and co-operation of the countries concerned. (The study will be conducted in co-operation with the Statistical Office of the United Nations, the International Labour Organisation and the Governments of ECWA member States.)

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	12	12
General Service man-months	-	12	12
Travel	-	-	-

4.3.3 Development of national and regional statistics

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description:

(a) To study national statistical systems and methodological practices in relation to international standards and to provide assistance to the countries of the region in organizing and expanding statistical services and in the formulation and implementation of national statistical programmes;

(b) To provide assistance to the countries in the region in the establishment of modern facilities and systems for the efficient and rapid processing of economic and social data;

(c) To contribute towards the international co-operation of national and international statistical programmes.

Objective: During the budget period, the Regional Adviser in Statistics attached to ECWA will continue to meet requests for short-term assistance in statistics of the countries of the region.

ECWA will continue to co-ordinate its statistical activities closely with those of similar United Nations and other regional institutions.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	12	-	12
General Service man-months	36	-	36

4.3.4 Annual statistical abstract of the Arab world (or ECWA region)

Expected completion date: Continuous.

Description: Following the process of compilation and dissemination of statistics in the Arab world on agriculture, energy and primary commodities, industry, construction, international trade, prices and finance, national accounts, housing, labour, education, health and population, a yearbook will be published. The yearbook will primarily serve the interests of all the divisions of ECWA, as well as regional institutions and member countries. The Statistical Section would service, through this publication as well as directly, the different divisions by providing them with the necessary statistics and data they need.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	36	-	36
General Service man-months	36	-	36

4.3.5 Working group on production accounts, commodity balances and input-output analysis at current and constant prices

Type of meeting: Meeting of a group of experts.

Year: 1977 (1976).

Place: ECWA headquarters.

Duration: Five days.

Type and number of participants: 24 participants; 2 each from an ECWA member country. a statistician and a planner.

Justification: More than five years have passed since the publication of the revised System of National Accounts (SNA). As national accounts are an indispensable tool for the elucidation of many problems of development planning, a meeting on production accounts, commodity balances and input-output analysis would contribute greatly towards obtaining an equilibrium between available resources and their uses and towards a balanced growth in all sectors of the economy.

The meeting will (a) review the state of national accounting in the countries of the regions, and (b) study the nature of the production, consumption and capital formation accounts and tables in current and constant prices and input-output analysis.

Methodological work on national accounts and related subjects is done by the Statistical Office of the United Nations. Regional Economic Commissions, such as ECWA, can advance methodological application only through expert meetings such as the one proposed here.

	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Estimated cost:</u>	\$4,000	-	\$4,000

4.4 Labour, management and employment

4.4.1 Programme development and support

Expected completion date: 1976-1977, continuing.

Description: This specific activity is required:

(a) To conceive, plan and formulate any short-, medium- or long-term programme;

(b) To review and assess the situation with respect to labour and employment within the context of the International Development Strategy for the United Nations Second Development Decade and to report on labour, training and employment trends and developments in the region;

(c) To provide advisory services to Governments whenever requested;

(d) To provide substantive support to ongoing technical co-operation in the field of labour, management and employment (such as the Kuwait Institute for Economic and Social Planning and the Damascus Institute and the Assistance in Development Planning and Execution project in Iraq);

(e) To participate in short-term interagency missions and exploratory teams and to prepare relevant reports; and,

(f) To participate in conferences and meetings, as relevant, and to report on them.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	12	-	12
General Service man-months	6	-	6
Travel	\$1,000	-	\$1,000

4.4.2 The employment situation in the countries of the ECWA region: analysis and appraisal

Expected completion date: One year, starting January to the end of 1976.

Description: The purpose of this study is to throw light on the employment situation in the countries of the ECWA region, with particular reference to the participation rate and its evolution, the various structures of employment, the extent and structures of unemployment, the extent, forms and locations of underemployment, other forms of labour underutilization, the place and nature of employment policy in national development plans and the institutional framework dealing with the employment and manpower problems.

Very little is known about the employment problems and situations in the least developing countries of the ECWA region - such as Democratic Yemen, Oman and Yemen - as well as in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. In these

countries, the labour force statistics are not yet well developed and no general census, yielding satisfactory data on the labour force, or an over-all manpower survey, has been undertaken. Knowledge of the employment problems in Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan and Qatar is still inadequate. Even in countries like Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic, the labour force statistics are still below requirements and adequate studies on the employment problem are absent.

The above proposed diagnosis is a necessary first step in order to build up the knowledge required for the understanding of the employment problem in the countries of the ECWA region.

In the preparation of this study, account will be taken of the recommendations of the Arab Countries' Seminar on Manpower and Employment Planning (April 1975) regarding the conduct of such research.

Output: Four papers of about 100 pages each relating to one of the following groups of countries:

- (a) The least developing countries of the ECWA region;
- (b) The Gulf oil-producing countries: Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates;
- (c) Other oil-exporting countries: Iraq and Saudi Arabia; and,
- (d) Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	18	-	18
General Service man-months	18	-	18
Travel	\$2,000	-	\$2,000

4.4.3 The levels and structures of wages and other incomes from work in the various countries of the ECWA region

Nature of activity: A joint activity between the labour and statistics programmes in ECWA and eventually the ILO.

Expected completion date: January 1976 to end of 1976.

Description: The purpose of this study is to collect, analyse and assess data and other relevant information concerning the general, sectoral, geographical, occupational and skill levels of wages and to find out the wage and salary structures and differentials. Its purpose is also to collect information on the patterns and levels of income from work in the informal sector of the urban areas and in the traditional sector of the rural areas.

This information would constitute the knowledge base for ECWA's future studies on the distribution of income and on the relationship between wages, prices and productivity. It will also serve to explain various aspects of the labour

mechanism, the educational and occupational choices, as well as the occupational and geographical mobility of labour.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	24	24
General Service man-months	6	12	18
Consultant man-months	-	4	4
Travel	-	\$2,000	\$2,000

4.4.4 Manpower supply and demand in the ECWA countries: present situation and future evolution (up to 1990)

Expected completion date: One year starting January 1977 to end of year.

Description: The purpose of this study is to assess the supply and demand of manpower at present and in the future, with a view to evaluating the magnitude and nature of the present imbalances and to examining the conditions of establishing in the future a relative equilibrium within a general equilibrium model of development.

This study will fill an important gap in the knowledge of present and future (expected) employment and manpower problems. It constitutes one of the necessary steps required for the build-up of knowledge in the field of employment and manpower.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	18	12	30
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Consultant man-months	4	-	4
Travel	\$2,000	-	\$2,000

4.4.5 Measurement and analysis of productivity, wages and prices in the industrial sectors in selected countries of the ECWA region

Expected completion date: End 1977.

Objectives: This specific activity is expected to contribute to a better understanding of current and future performance of the labour force and the economy in general. It gives the Governments of member countries a guideline on how productivity is behaving which in itself is an incentive for further improvement. Furthermore, this activity throws some light on how well labour and capital are doing in different manufacturing activities in the industrial sector of a country which is important because of its policy implications at the national level. Similarly, the comparison of productivity between countries for a specific manufacturing activity would have some policy implications at the regional level.

This activity finally makes it possible for Governments to establish a relationship between prices, wages and productivity which contributes to a better understanding of the performance of the economy.

Justification: The choice of this activity can be best explained in terms of its main objectives as well as its subobjectives which consist of:

- (a) Devising ways for measuring and increasing productivity in the industrial sector of some of the member countries;
- (b) Assessing and evaluating the gains in terms of higher labour force of the industrial sector;
- (c) Comparing productivities of the industrial sector of some member countries;
- (d) Identifying the regions that have the lowest labour productivity and hence giving priority to these regions;
- (e) Comparing productivity between different manufacturing activities in some member countries;
- (f) Comparing productivity in some manufacturing activities between member countries;
- (g) Tracing and forecasting the future trend in productivity taking into account technical progress affecting both labour and capital; and,
- (h) Suggesting economic policies for Governments of member countries to maintain an equilibrium and stable relations between wages, prices and productivity.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	12	12
General Service man-months	6	12	18
Travel	-	\$5,000	\$5,000

4.5 Trade

4.5.1 Over-all management, including the provision of supporting services

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: This activity comprises the following:

- (a) Management of the programme including the detailed programming of future activities and programme evaluation;
- (b) Preparation of regular reports;
- (c) Preparation of documents for, and servicing of, the subsidiary organs of the Commission;

(d) Finalization of studies for publication;

(e) Participation in technical meetings;

(f) Provision of supporting services, including support of experts in the field, substantive support to technical assistance projects; and,

(g) Advisory services and assistance to Governments and regional organizations on request.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	24	-	24
General Service man-months	12	-	12

4.5.2 Restrictive business practices in manufacturing in the ECWA region

Expected completion date: New.

Description: This specific activity will consist of a general market survey of the member countries to identify the degree and seriousness of restrictive business practices, listing and classifying the types of restrictive practices existing in each country, assessing the effects of these restrictions on the volume of trade and development and suggesting ways and means of minimizing their adverse effects on the economies of these countries and co-ordinating the work of ECWA with that of UNCTAD in attempting to construct an international code of conduct that safeguards the rights of both the parent company and its subsidiaries.

The purpose of this activity is to suggest methods to remove the maximum number of obstacles to the expansion of trade and development in the member countries arising from restrictive business practices. It is intended for the benefit of governmental officials responsible for trade and development in the member countries, business managers whose companies are likely to be subsidiaries of transnational companies, international law experts who can advise member countries on new legal organization schemes concerning the relationship between local and parent companies and the academic and professional community engaged in trade, transfer of technology and development.

This activity is expected to lead to:

(a) Government examination of the different clauses and restrictions that the parent companies are imposing on local companies, as well as their implication for trade and development resulting in a more selective and careful way of granting licences and patents to local companies that are subsidiaries of transnational companies;

(b) Co-ordination between member countries to deal with restrictive business practices at the regional level; and,

(c) A close co-operation of member countries with UNCTAD with a view to constructing an international code of conduct and reorganizing the relationship between the parent company and its subsidiary at the international level.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	24	24
General Service man-months	-	24	24
Travel	-	\$6,000	\$6,000

4.5.3 Arab payments arrangements

Expected completion date: New.

Description: This activity consists of ECWA taking the initiative in mobilizing thinking and conducting studies with a view to establishing a workable payments scheme among the Arab countries. The results will be brought to the attention of governmental officials in charge of trade and development, regional financial institutions, international research centres and institutions working on international monetary problems, and academic and scholarly institutions. This activity is expected to lead to governmental action that would culminate in the foundation of an Arab payments scheme to help finance over-all payments deficits and co-ordinate regional monetary policies.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	24	24
General Service man-months	-	24	24
Travel	-	\$6,000	\$6,000

4.5.4 Liberalization of non-tariff barriers

Expected completion date: 1977.

Description: Non-tariff barriers in the developed countries constitute an important obstacle to the expansion of exports of manufactures and semi-manufactures, including processed and semi-processed products from ECWA countries. Furthermore benefits which ECWA member States could derive from the generalized system of preferences may be adversely affected by the non-tariff barriers relating to their exports.

A study on liberalization of non-tariff barriers would include the following components:

- (a) Identification of products or groups of products exported by ECWA countries, which are affected by non-tariff barriers;
- (b) Preparation of a document containing an up-to-date and detailed inventory of non-tariff barriers affecting the trade of ECWA countries with individual developed countries;
- (c) Identification of these products which are of export interest to ECWA countries, with a view to proposing measures for the expansion of trade of manufactures and semi-manufactures of ECWA countries to the socialist countries of Eastern Europe;

(d) Identification of products covered by the generalized system of preferences which are affected by non-tariff barriers; and,

(e) Proposal of concrete measures for the reduction and the eventual elimination of non-tariff barriers affecting the exports of the ECWA countries.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	24	-	24
General Service man-months	18	-	18
Travel	\$3,000	-	\$3,000

4.5.5 Trade expansion and economic integration

Expected completion date: 1977. New.

Description: Considerable work still needs to be done before countries of the ECWA region could achieve a relatively advanced degree of economic co-operation and integration associated with a substantial increase in the relative importance of intraregional trade. A major study, to be completed in 1977, on trade expansion and economic integration in the region would cover the following areas;

(a) Identification and analysis of existing bilateral and multilateral trade agreements in the region and an assessment of the rationale and performance of these agreements;

(b) An evaluation of the impact of the above agreements on the proposed integration schemes; and,

(c) Suggestions of alternative forms of co-operative agreements based on considerations of efficiency and equity consistent with the attainment of economic co-operation and integration.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	24	-	24
General Service man-months	18	-	18
Travel	\$3,000	-	\$3,000

5. Industry

5.1 Co-ordination of industrialization plans and programmes

Expected completion date: December 1977.

Description: New development plans are being or will be formulated at the beginning of the biennium for Iraq (present plan 1970-1974), Jordan (present plan 1973-1975), the Syrian Arab Republic (present plan 1971-1975) and Yemen (present plan 1973-1976). Substantial investments are planned for the next few years in

the establishment of industrial enterprises. These, as well as other programmes and project proposals, will be analysed and presented in functional form with a view to determining possible areas of multinational co-operation in specific enterprises as well as over-all co-ordination of industrialization plans and programmes.

As a result of these efforts it is envisaged to develop practical arrangements for continued co-ordination of industrialization programmes and the formulation of regional and multinational projects, particularly as regards major industrial enterprises and complexes.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	72	24	96
General Service man-months	48	12	60
Travel	\$3,000	-	\$3,000

5.2 Development of branch industries - I. Engineering

Expected completion date: December 1977.

Description: The engineering industries are assuming greater importance in the industrialization efforts of the countries of the ECWA region as they expand their industrial base and move into heavier and new industries, such as shipbuilding and road transport equipment. The planned survey and meeting of experts to investigate problems faced by the industrial branch as a whole and recommended measures to solve them will contribute to the further development of the branch and its related services.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	64	30	94
General Service man-months	48	12	60
Consultant man-months	9	-	9
Travel	\$3,000	-	\$3,000

5.3 Development of branch industries - II. Petrochemicals

Expected completion date: December 1977.

Description: Substantial investments are planned in the petrochemical field in the oil-rich countries of the ECWA region as a result of the availability of raw materials, funds and the desire to diversify their sources of national income. Recently, the Arab Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (AOPEC) decided to establish a \$1.1 million fund for the development of oil-related industries in member countries. ECWA activity in this field is directed at assisting the countries concerned in achieving a co-ordinated and economical development of their petrochemical industries.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	48	30	78
General Service man-months	48	12	60
Consultant man-months	3	-	3
Travel	\$2,000	-	\$2,000

5.4 Development of infrastructure - Training

Expected completion date: December 1977.

Description: The promotion of training possibilities in industrial project formulation, evaluation and investment is urgently needed to provide national personnel with the necessary expertise to cope with growing investment possibilities in the region. Furthermore, follow-up action will be undertaken on the 1975 survey and meeting for a regional co-ordinating machinery for training needs and placement.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	32	12	44
General Service man-months	24	12	36
Travel	\$2,000	-	\$2,000

5.5 Public sector industrial enterprises

Expected completion date: December 1977.

Description: In a number of countries in the ECWA region, public sector industries constitute a large part of the industrial sector whether as a result of national policies or the large investment of governmental funds in industry. These public sector industries are, in one form or another, integrated within the Government's administrative machinery which in some cases experience problems relating to co-ordination, flexibility and speed of decision-making necessary for the efficient running of the enterprises. The project aims at investigating the administrative and managerial set-up of public sector industries in selected countries in the region with a view to increasing their efficiency. The project will include a field survey mission to identify these problems and with the help of consultants formulate recommendations for the Governments of the countries concerned.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	36	36
Consultant man-months	-	12	12
Travel	-	\$9,000	\$9,000

5.6 Industrial administration and management in the less developed countries

Expected completion date: December 1977.

Description: Following an investigation into the industrialization problems faced by Democratic Yemen, Oman and Yemen during the biennium 1974-1975, it became apparent that one of the problems faced by the industrial sector was the weakness in the administrative and managerial field. The project will, during the biennium 1976-1977, undertake a field survey of administrative and managerial problems of the existing industrial sector. On the basis of the survey, recommendations will be made, with the help of consultants, for the most efficient use of the scarce administrative and managerial resources, including an investigation into possible forms of intersectoral administration and cross-enterprise management, which would pool existing resources and maximize their efficiency.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	18	18
Consultant man-months	-	9	9
Travel	-	\$4,000	\$4,000

5.7 Planning meeting

Meeting requirements

Type of meeting(s): Planning meeting

Year: 1976

Title: Industrial Branch Development - Petrochemicals

Place: Beirut or Kuwait

Duration: five days

Number and type of participants: 30 representatives of Government, regional organizations and consultants.

Justification: The meeting is required to bring together governmental planners and experts in the field of petrochemicals to recommend on the basis of a study prepared by ECWA specific arrangements for the co-ordination of investment plans and the formulation of regional and multinational projects in this field.

	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Estimated Cost:</u>	\$4,000	-	\$4,000

5.8 Promotional meeting

Type of meeting(s): Promotional meeting

Year: 1977

Title: Industrial Branch Development - Engineering Industries

Place: Beirut or Baghdad

Duration: five days

Number and type of participants: 50 representatives of Government and industry and international consultants

Justification: The meeting is required to bring together planners and experts from participating countries and international consultants to examine the status and problems of the industrial branch presented in the survey reports, to exchange views on the solution of these problems and to recommend measures and projects for the further development of the branch industry.

	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Estimated cost</u> :	\$4,000	-	\$4,000

6. Social development and human settlement

6.1 Social development

6.1.1 Programme development and management

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description:

(a) Over-all responsibilities of a continuing nature: Management of the programme, including assessment, formulation and implementation of future plan of activities in the field of social development; reporting to the Commission for Social Development, on a regular two-year basis, on social trends and developments in the region and on work programmed and accomplished; participation in meetings and preparation of such briefs and reports as may be requested in the field of social development; (b) Review and analysis of the social situation and development prospects: Review and assess the situation with regard to social development within the context of the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade; monitor progress in social development through quantitative and qualitative indicators and to develop appropriate social indicators for inclusion in the annex to the annual publication of ECWA; review and analysis of the social situation in the region with a view to preparing ECWA's contribution of a regional chapter to the periodic Report on the World Social Situation; and collect, analyse and disseminate information pertaining to social development as may be requested by Governments and others concerned; (c) Advisory services and substantive support: Provide advisory services to meet requests by

Governments in the ECWA region in such fields as social policy and planning, social welfare and youth programmes, and women's programmes and social aspects of rural development; provide substantive support to ongoing technical co-operation activities (such as the Kuwait Institute for Economic and Social Planning, the Hadramout Project in Yemen, and the Centre for Training and Applied Research in Community Development, Dariya, Saudi Arabia), including support of United Nations experts in the field of social development; and maintain contacts with Member States and national institutes (e.g. the Institute of Social Work in Jordan and the Lebanese Centre for Training in Social Service and Development) and co-operate with the United Nations specialized agencies and other organizations with regard to social development programmes.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	24	-	24
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Travel	\$1,000	-	\$1,000

6.1.2 Preparation of youth for development

Expected completion date: End 1977.

Description:

Actions and outputs

Specific activity will consist of (a) a regional statistical survey of youth in general and youth categories such as unemployed youth, school leavers, school drop-outs, labour market entrants in particular and availability of services to deal with such groups; (b) surveying the existing institutional machinery for dealing with youth in all ECWA countries; and (c) an empirical investigation in a selected ECWA country of the needs and aspirations of youth concentrating on the process of gaining employment, utilization of skills, job patterns, structural extra-familial sources of job-counselling and job findings.

Concrete outputs of the specific activity during the budget period in terms of publications will consist of (a) a regional statistical survey of youth, youth categories and youth services (1976); (b) a regional survey of institutional requirements for youth development and youth participation (1976); and (c) a report on developmental youth services: guidance, supervision, counselling; pre-career and pre-employment services (1977).

Outputs will constitute the working papers for an ECWA sponsored Seminar on Developmental Social Welfare in 1978 aiming, among other things, at the formulation of an action programme for the preparation of youth in development in the ECWA region. Hence, ECWA's outputs will be action- and policy-oriented and geared towards this seminar. Close co-operation will be established with UNICEF, UNESCO and the ILO and relevant regional organizations so as to avoid any duplication and to achieve maximum possible benefits.

Purpose: To guide Governments, relevant national and regional institutions and organizations in the establishment of developmental youth services as a measure and means to achieve greater participation of youth and facilitate their effective integration in the production processes and in society.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	18	-	18
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Consultant man-months	3	-	3
Travel	\$1,000	-	\$1,000

6.1.3 Participation and integration of Arab women in industrial development

Expected completion date: End 1977.

Description:

(a) A survey of female activity rates in industrial sectors of the countries of the ECWA region;

(b) Investigations into selected industries regarding division of labour along sex lines, recruitment policies and practices, wage and salary scales structures;

(c) An empirical analysis in a selected ECWA country of the social factors impeding women in seeking industrial employment and factors inducing women to take on industrial jobs requiring information on the educational level, training and skill of women employed in representative industries in the country selected for the study; attitudes and problems of women employed in such selected representative industries, particularly the problems of married women; the effects of women's occupation outside the home on family structures; the participation of women in trade union activities etc.

Concrete outputs of the specific activity during the budget period in terms of publications will consist of (a) A Social Survey of Arab Women in Industries in the ECWA Region (1976); and (b) An Assessment Report: Social Factors Determining Women's Employment in the Industrial Sector in Selected ECWA Countries (1977).

Outputs will constitute the working papers for an ECWA-sponsored Seminar on Developmental Social Welfare in 1978 aiming, among others, at the formulation of action programmes for the promotion of industrial employment opportunities for women. ECWA's outputs will be geared towards such action programmes. Close co-operation will be sought with the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, United Nations specialized agencies concerned with this issue like the ILO and UNESCO, as well as with relevant regional organizations.

Purpose: To guide Governments in the formulation of social welfare policies, programmes and projects including increased women's employment in the industrial sector.

To mobilize the private sector in establishing industrial welfare services for women. The specific activity will provide Governments with the necessary material on which to base the planning of services envisaged (budget objectives).

Resources required

Professional: 18 man-months
General Service: 12 man-months
Travel: \$1,000

6.1.4 Social welfare planning and programming

Expected completion date: End 1977.

Description: Specific activity will consist of (a) compilation and collection of training material in social welfare planning and programming; (b) progress report on social welfare trends in the ECWA region and assessment in relation to desirable regional standards; (c) an analysis of social welfare needs in a selected ECWA country focusing on the nature and adequacy of social welfare services, reorientation of existing programmes, redeployment of social welfare resources; the identification of disadvantaged and special groups and the formulation of package planning for such groups; administrative structures, training requirements, public and private sector role, financial targets, funds mobilization.

Concrete outputs of specific activity in terms of publications will consist of: (a) A Regional Survey of Social Welfare Trends (1976); (b) An Assessment Report on the Needs for Social Welfare Services in Selected ECWA Countries (1977).

ECWA's outputs will constitute the training material for the proposed ECWA's Training Workshop in Social Welfare Planning and Programming scheduled for 1977. Information exchange results should be obtained through this workshop so as to finalize the first part of the Manual and Guideline for Social Welfare Planning and Programming.

Close co-operation will be established with the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (Social Welfare Branch) and relevant regional organizations.

Purpose: To provide training material and impart knowledge on comprehensive social welfare planning and programming. Specific activity aims at the creation of expertise in this field in the ECWA region (budget objective).

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	21	-	21
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Travel	\$1,000	-	\$1,000

6.1.5 Drug abuse and drug control

Expected completion date: End 1976.

Description: The specific activity consists of a study and assessment of drug problems focusing on utilization of drugs by specific categories of the population, interrelationships between crime and use of drugs, traffic in drugs, drug abuse prevention and drug control measures and enforcement means. The general assessment should lead to the identification of the most important drug problems in the ECWA region and the measures taken thus far to deal with them.

Concrete outputs of the specific activity in terms of a publication consist of: Report on Drug Abuse Problems and Drug Control Measures in the ECWA Region (1976).

ECWA's output will constitute the working paper for an Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Drug Abuse to be organized by ECWA during 1976.

Purpose: To guide Governments in the region on the institution of drug abuse control measures, policies and programmes.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	12	-	12
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Consultant man-months	3	-	3
Travel	\$1,000	-	\$1,000

6.1.6 Social aspects of integrated rural development

Expected completion date: End 1977.

Description: Specific activity will consist of (a) collection of data and information on the extent of popular participation in rural development projects in the ECWA region; (b) evaluation of a cross-section of rural community development programmes and projects in the ECWA region; (c) an analysis of the use of incentives for mobilizing rural population groups in community development programmes; (d) study on the relationships between participation in and progress of rural development projects; and (e) a study of the social benefits of land-reform policies focusing on the type of beneficiaries of such policies and the impulses it has given to self-generated development in a specific land reform area, its effect on the class structure in this area and its impact on the rural exodus.

Concrete outputs of this specific activity in terms of publications will consist of (a) a survey of programmes and requirements for the mobilization of rural population groups in development (1978); (b) an analysis of social aspects of land-reform policies and programmes in the ECWA region (1977). Close co-operation will be sought with the joint ECWA/FAO division which also pursues the objective of integrated rural development. ECWA's output constitutes the working papers for an ECWA/FAO Workshop on Human Settlements in New Lands scheduled for 1979.

Purpose: To guide Governments in the formulation and institution of incentives for greater popular participation in rural development projects and to develop actions to achieve greater social benefits of land-reform policies.

Specific activity relates directly to budget objectives since it aims at greater integration of rural development through popular participation and greater social integration of all sectors of the rural population group through land-reform measures.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	21	-	21
General Service man-months	9	-	9
Travel	\$1,000	-	\$1,000

6.1.7 Social factors as a constraint on absorptive capacity

Expected completion date: End 1977.

Description:

(a) Actions and outputs: Specific activity will consist of (a) a study and assessment of social factors which act as a constraint on the absorptive capacity of the countries in the ECWA region. The assessment should suggest ways and means to deepen this absorptive capacity, which reflects the availability of administrative skills, and the efficacy of business and governmental organizations, as well as institutional, social, cultural and political factors. The absorptive capacity of a country limits the influence of availability of capital or other direct inputs upon the rate of growth.

Concrete output of the specific activity in terms of publication consists of: Report on Social Factors as a Constraint on Absorptive Capacity in the ECWA Region (1977);

(b) Purpose: To guide Governments in the region on the possibility of reducing the constraining influence of social factors on absorptive capacity.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	6	-	6
General Service man-months	3	-	3

Note:

This specific activity may be expanded into a multidisciplinary study to include, inter alia, economic factors impeding absorptive capacity. The activity in its broader version will be financed by extrabudgetary resources. These resources are estimated as follows:

Professional	24 man-months
General Service	12 man-months
Consultant	12 man-months
Travel	\$10,000

6.1.8 Meeting requirements

Type of meeting(s): Training Workshop

Year: 1977

Title: Training Workshop in Social Welfare Planning and Programming

Place: Beirut

Number and type of participants: 36 to 50 social welfare officers from the ECWA region. Number of substantive staff attending: 3.

Justification: In so far as planning is interpreted as the translation of categorized aims into specific targets, the delineation of priorities and the provision of means, social welfare planning does not exist in the ECWA countries. Yet it is an essential requirement to achieve greater social justice and integration into society of disadvantaged groups. No training facilities in social welfare planning and programming exist in the ECWA region. Hence the workshop fills an important gap in this regard. A gradual introduction of social welfare planning is expected at the national level as the outcome of the special training workshop.

	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Estimated cost</u> :	\$4,000	-	\$4,000

6.2 Human settlements

6.2.1 Programme development and management

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description:

(a) Over-all responsibilities of a continuing nature: Management of the programme, including assessment, formulation and development of future plan of activities in the field of human settlements; report to the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning and the Governing Council of UNEP on a regular basis, on matters pertaining to human settlements; and attend and/or prepare briefs and reports for meetings other than those organized by ECWA in the field of human settlements;

(b) Review and analysis of developments: review and assess the situation in the field of human settlements within the context of the International Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade (the mid-term review and appraisal of progress); monitor progress in the development of human settlements through indicators and develop appropriate indicators with analysis for inclusion in the annex to the annual publication of ECWA; disseminate information pertaining to various areas in human settlements as may be requested by Governments and others concerned;

(c) Advisory services and substantive support: provide advisory services to Member States on matters pertaining to housing, building, urban and rural settlement and others, when requested, within the framework of the resources available for this purpose; provide substantive support to ongoing technical co-operation activities in the countries of the region, such as the Jordan Housing Corporation, the Building Research Centre in Iraq and the Regional Planning Project in Saudi Arabia, including the support of United Nations field experts in the realm of human settlements.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	24	-	24
General Service man-months	12	-	12
Travel	\$1,000	-	\$1,000

6.2.2 Low-cost housing development - Part I and Part II a. and b.

Expected completion date: End 1977.

Description: Specific activity consists of (a) a regional survey of housing conditions, housing supply and housing demand; (b) analysis of institutional requirements for housing development with particular reference to low-cost housing; (c) a country study on housing needs, targets, priorities and investment criteria within the context of long-term planning for housing needs; (d) studies on investment promotion in low-cost housing by the public sector.

Concrete outputs of the specific activity during the budget period in terms of publications will consist of:

(a) A regional survey of housing conditions, demand and supply (1976);

(b) A Report on Institutional Aspects of Housing Development (1977);

(c) Long-term Housing Planning in the ECWA Region: Priorities, Targets, Investment Criteria and Projections (1977);

(d) Housing finance mechanisms: public sector.

Outputs will constitute the working papers for a proposed Ad Hoc Working Group on Low-Cost Housing Promotion to be organized by ECWA in 1977.

Close co-operation will be established with the United Nations Centre for Housing, Building and Planning, UNEP and Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements.

Purpose: To guide Governments, relevant national and regional institutions and organizations in the formulation of low-cost housing policies, programmes and projects and to promote increased resource mobilization for this purpose.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	32	-	32
General Service man-months	18	-	18
Consultant man-months	2	-	2
Travel	\$2,000	-	\$2,000

6.2.3 Planned metropolitan development

Expected completion date: End 1977.

Description: The specific activity will consist of (a) a survey of metropolitan growth patterns and trends in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic; (b) a report and analysis/assessment of the institutional/administrative and financial problems faced by the city councils of Amman, Baghdad, Beirut and Damascus focusing on planning machineries, management aspects and financing of metropolitan infrastructure; (c) a regional study of national urbanization patterns and policies affecting the emergence of such patterns focusing on urban patterns under the different growth policies applied in the region and their implications.

Concrete outputs in terms of publications will consist of (a) Survey of Institutional and Administrative Requirements for Planned Metropolitan Growth (1976); (b) Urban Distribution Patterns in the ECWA Region under Different Policy Options (1977).

The Survey of Institutional and Administrative Requirements for Planned Metropolitan Growth will constitute the working paper for an Ad Hoc Expert-Group Meeting on Institutional and Administrative Aspects of Metropolitan Development to be organized by ECWA in 1976.

Close co-operation will be established with the United Nations Centre for Housing, Building and Planning and UNEP and Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements.

Purpose: To guide Governments, relevant national and regional institutions and organizations in the formulation of urbanization policies in general and on metropolitan development in particular.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	32	-	32
General Service man-months	24	-	24
Consultant man-months	2	-	2
Travel	\$1,500	-	\$1,500

6.2.4 Rural settlement planning

Expected completion date: End 1977.

Description: Specific activity consists of (a) a survey of settlement planning in land and resettlement projects in the ECWA region; (b) a survey of the social factors determining the success and effectiveness of rural settlement design taking into account the needs and aspirations of local population groups; (c) an assessment of the optimal distribution patterns of settlements with integrated rural development projects; (d) a survey and evaluation of nomadic settlement projects in the ECWA region and of the specific needs of nomadic groups as determinants of the type and distribution of nomadic settlements.

Concrete outputs in terms of publications will consist of (a) Settlement Design and Distribution of Settlements in New Lands (1976); (b) Settlement Design and Distribution of Settlements for Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Groups (1977)

ECWA's outputs will constitute the working papers for an ECWA Symposium on Human Settlement in New Lands scheduled for 1979.

Close co-operation will be maintained with the United Nations Centre for Housing, Building and Planning, UNEP and Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements.

Purpose: To guide Governments in the implementation of an integrated rural development approach with particular reference to the human settlements aspects of this approach.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	32	-	32
General Service man-months	18	-	18
Travel	\$1,500	-	\$1,500

6.2.5 Meeting requirements

Type of meeting: Ad hoc working group

Year: 1977

Title: Working Group on Low-Cost Housing Promotion

Place: Beirut

Number and type of participants: 36 participants. 3 from each ECWA country to be drawn from Ministries of Housing and the private sector dealing with housing financing.

Justification: Meeting is required to draw up guidelines for the intensification of low-cost housing development. The medium-term plan seeks to provide information and data on resource mobilization for low-cost housing. Impact of this effect can only be secured through promotion activities.

	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Estimated cost:</u>	\$4,000	-	\$4,000

7. Population

7.1 Programme formulation and management and expert advisory services and support

Expected completion date: Continuing.

Description: This specific activity aims at achieving some of the over-all objectives of the population programme of ECWA. It will also help in the elucidation of programmes and in the formulation and implementation of regional and country projects in the population field.

The management of the programme comprises the following three main responsibilities:

(a) Over-all responsibilities of a continuing nature, including detailed planning of future activities, the preparation of reports and the organization, servicing and participation in regional and/or multinational meetings in the population field;

(b) Review and assessment of current developments, including the review and analysis of the current situation in the population field in all the countries of the region, the collection, analysis and dissemination of information and the preparation of the Population Bulletin of ECWA, a periodical on population matters issued twice a year, in January and July;

(c) Advisory services and substantive support, including the provision of technical advisory services to Governments, upon their request, and substantive support to United Nations technical co-operation programmes, in connexion with strengthening civil registration systems and organizing population censuses and sample surveys, and maintenance of contacts with Member States and participation in regional and national activities in the population field.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	72	36	108
General Service man-months	24	24	48
Consultant man-months	-	9	9
Travel	-	\$10,000	\$10,000

7.2 Migration survey in the major cities of Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates

Expected completion date: 1977.

Description: In the Gulf States and Emirates, large proportions of the population consist of expatriates. The situation is particularly important in Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, where the natives make up less than 50 per cent of the total population. Both Governments are very keen to encourage economic growth by permitting the expatriates to work freely but not to the point of losing the identity of the country. Both Governments are interested in undertaking a pilot survey on migration to determine the size, sex, age, nationality, marital status, occupation, level of education, place and duration of residence and other characteristics of the migrants. The findings will help national Governments in formulating the necessary population policies.

The project aims at determining the causes and effects of migration, with a special emphasis on the movement of educationally qualified persons among the countries of the region.

The project will start in 1975 and is expected to be completed in 1977.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	8	8
General Service man-months	-	58	58
Travel	-	\$4,000	\$4,000

7.3 Census analysis - country profile

Expected completion date: 1977.

Description: The results of the 1970 census round in the region are being published by central statistical offices. So far the censuses of Kuwait and the Syrian Arab Republic have been published. The census of Democratic Yemen will be published soon. The census returns of Yemen are expected to come out early in 1976.

The Population Division of ECWA will continue to assist countries of the region in the analysis of their censuses and in the preparation of country profiles.

Census data and the demographic parameters derived from them are essential tools for planning and policy formulations. This information will permit countries of the region to prepare adequate development plans and to formulate programmes and policies in the population and related fields.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	25	25
General Service man-months	-	60	60
Travel	-	\$8,000	\$8,000

7.4 Survey on the demographic characteristics of selected groups of nomadic populations

Expected completion date: 1977

Description: In the Middle East large groups of nomads still exist, a factor which contributes to the difficulties of assessing the actual population. The nomadic population is often not clearly determined, either because of their modes of life or because they are undergoing partial assimilation or because they are outside the influence of the central authorities.

Substantial concern has been expressed with the problem of nomadic populations in some countries in the region and with its economic and social repercussions. However, no systematic and comprehensive analysis of the problem has yet been made.

This project constitutes an empirical survey on two or three different groups of nomads living in countries of the ECWA region with the aim of identifying some of their demographic characteristics.

The survey returns will help planners and policy-makers to identify nomadic problems and in the formulation of appropriate policies.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	10	10
General Service man-months	-	25	25
Travel	-	\$4,000	\$4,000

7.5 Survey on intraregional migration in ECWA

Expected completion date: 1976

Description: Intraregional migration is caused by the difference in the level of education and economic development of the member countries of ECWA. Since the discovery of major oil fields in the south of the region in the early 1950s this part of the area has been the focus of and much of the driving force behind Middle Eastern economic development.

With the expansion of their oil-industries and the diversification of their economies the States of the Gulf have attracted a considerable flow of immigrants. They are, in the majority, skilled workers and technicians, responding to offers of higher wages and better employment possibilities.

Their influx constitutes an important stimulus for the economy of the country of destination as well as a significant factor in the dissemination of modern skills and values. Furthermore, the mobility of a growing part of the labour force will affect the demographic situation in the host countries as well as in the home countries, changing the size and composition of the active population, influencing consequently the social cost of the population and the economic growth rate of the countries concerned.

The patterns of migration are subtle and vary constantly in response to external factors, such as the situation in the home country, and in response to internal factors, such as attitudes to immigrants amongst host Governments who tend to segregate the immigrants through legislation or institutional barriers preventing their assimilation and integration in order to preserve the status of the indigenous population. Other variables are equally important and include the level of development achieved, the size of the country and the location of the receiving country vis-à-vis the migrant's source.

The explanation of the pattern of migrant flow and of its causal factors would be of considerable help in evaluating the local, regional and international impacts of the phenomenon of intraregional migration and in predicting and, if necessary, influencing future trends.

Remarks: The project will be implemented jointly by the Population Division and the Development Planning Division of ECWA.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	10	10
General service man-months	-	15	15
Travel	-	\$4,000	\$4,000

7.6 Socio-demographic survey of Hodeida and Taez in Yemen

Expected completion date: 1977

Description: In 1972, a socio-demographic survey was jointly implemented by the then UNESOB and the Government of Yemen in order to obtain data for planning and policy formulation.

This survey was considered as a pilot exercise for the census and for estimating its cost and personnel requirements. In 1975, ECWA will organize in co-operation with the Government, the same type of survey in Hodeida and Taez. The survey will start early in 1975 and the results are expected to be ready early in 1977.

<u>Resources required</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional man-months	-	7	7
General Service man-months	-	20	20
Travel	-	\$906	\$906

7.7 Study on nuptiality trends and patterns in selected countries in the region

Expected completion date: 1977

Description: The 1970 round of population censuses has provided some information on nuptiality, which will be compiled and analysed by a consultant in order to determine the nuptiality trends and patterns in countries of the region. This study is of particular importance for the determination of fertility trends and for the formulation of appropriate policies in the population field.

<u>Resources required:</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Consultant man-months	9	9

Meeting requirements

7.8 Expert group meeting

Type of meeting: Expert group meeting

Year: 1977

Title: Expert Group Meeting on Census Analysis

Place: Beirut

Duration: 5 days

Type and number of participants: Two government officials from each of the countries served by ECWA will be invited to attend.

Justification: This expert group meeting is planned with the purpose of making available the views and experiences of experts in the field of census analysis, expressed on a regional platform in order to benefit all member countries. The discussions will reveal relevant problems of research and action in regard to the analysis of census results and will influence the decision of Governments to carry out national projects of census analysis. Analytical studies of population census results are essential, particularly as they relate to important national problems of economic and social development and to questions of national demographic, economic and social policies.

	<u>RB</u>	<u>XB</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Estimated cost:</u>	-	\$32,500	\$32,500

7.9 Regional seminar

Type of meeting: Regional seminar

Year: 1978

Title: Seminar on Regional Co-operation in the Population Field

Location: Beirut

Duration: 5 days

Type and number of participants: Two government officials from each of the countries served by ECWA will be invited to attend.

Number of substantive staff attending: 5

Justification: The regional seminar will be attended by senior officials from the national population committees, which by 1978 are expected to be in existence in all the countries of the region. The meeting will be a forum for the participants, allowing them to voice the problems their countries face in regard to population,

and it will also offer them the opportunity to exchange views and experience. The reunion of governmental officials and experts in the field of population can do much to overcome handicaps such as shortage of technically trained personnel and of experience in demography and related fields which affect the development of needed demographic data, research, experimental work and programmes of action relating to population problems in many countries of the region. Furthermore, the regional seminar will demonstrate the interdependence of interests of all the Member States and will facilitate concerted national actions and co-ordinated policies in the field of population, strengthening the relations among the member countries and raising the level of activity in Western Asia.

7.10 Regional population conference

Type of meeting: Regional Population Conference

Year: 1979

Title: The Second Regional Population Conference of ECWA

Location: Beirut

Duration: 11 days

Type and number of participants: A delegation consisting of three senior Government officials from each of the 12 countries served by ECWA will be invited to attend

Number of substantive staff attending: 15

Justification: Conferences are one way of focusing attention on different aspects of the population problems and of expediting the implementation of national population programmes and policies. The First Regional Population Conference of countries of the ECWA region, which was held in Beirut, Lebanon, between 18 February and 1 March 1974, recommended that regional conferences be held at five-year intervals, endorsing the idea of a quinquennial regional review and discussion of population programmes and action. The conference will provide high level training through the exchange of knowledge and experience. It will broaden the impact of national programmes and will highlight issues centring on population trends and structures which are relevant to all countries of the region and to the regional community. By means of this conference the Member States of ECWA will realize their interdependence and mutual interests and they will succeed in discerning a common strategy concerning population activities.

V. ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION SINCE 9 JUNE 1974

A. Development Planning Division

51. During the period under review, the activities of the Development Planning Division of ECWA were directed towards assisting national and regional efforts in the fields of economic and social development planning and policies, development finance and administration, labour and employment, trade and development, and statistics. More specifically, and as envisaged under the 1974 interim period and the 1975 work programmes, the following is an account of the major activities carried out under the various substantive programmes of the Division.

52. ECWA's obligations in connexion with the medium-term review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second Development Decade and the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order were studied and guidelines were established to assist the various Divisions in making their contribution.

53. Work on the evaluation of development performance in the region continued, in connexion with the implementation of the International Development Strategy and culminated in the updating and revision of the study on "over-all growth performance in the countries of Western Asia" as ECWA's contribution to the mid-term review and appraisal exercise. The study, which analyses major growth indicators, highlights achievements during the first half of the 1970s, as compared to the objectives envisaged under the Second Development Decade. Moreover, the first comprehensive biennial review and appraisal report of progress in the implementation of the Strategy was revised and edited, where appropriate, for submission as a background document to ECWA's report on the mid-term review and appraisal of progress in the countries of the region.

54. In addition to the review and appraisal exercise, work was undertaken for the preparation of the 1975 ECWA publication entitled "Studies on Development Problems in Selected Countries of Western Asia". Work in this connexion included the selection, finalization and editing of studies, as well as the preparation of the annex, "Sectoral development and development indicators", to the 1975 annual publication.

55. The provisional study entitled "Regional finance availabilities and the needs of various countries in Western Asia (1974-1975)", the projections and analytical framework of which were completed late in 1973, was finalized and issued as an ECWA document (ECWA/DPP/L.1).

56. The Division undertook preparatory work for and participated in ECWA's discussions with the Lebanese Government and with United Nations Headquarters in connexion with the forthcoming Interregional Symposium on Co-operation in Petroleum among Developing Countries.

57. Preparatory work for the joint ECWA/ILO Seminar on Manpower and Employment Planning in the Arab Countries continued under the Labour, Employment and

Management Programme of the Division. This has included the review, perusal, translation and reproduction of more than 10 papers prepared by consultants on various aspects of manpower and employment, as well as those prepared by nominees from participating countries and regional organizations. The Seminar is scheduled to be held in Beirut from 12 to 24 May 1975.

58. With respect to regional co-operation and trade expansion, the Development Planning Division in co-operation with UNCTAD and UNDP finalized the regional project document on multilateral trade negotiations. The project, which aims at assisting ECWA member countries in their preparations for and participation in multilateral trade negotiations, has been approved, and preparations are being made for its implementation.

59. Work continued towards the finalization of the preliminary drafts of the following four consultancy studies: (a) "Restriction on exports in foreign collaboration agreements in Lebanon": the purpose of this study is to identify, analyse and functionally classify both tariff and non-tariff barriers which manifest themselves in such collaboration agreements and hamper the exports of the manufacturing sector in Lebanon; (b) "The trade régime in Lebanon": this study examines certain aspects of the commercial policy of Lebanon, particularly as they relate to the external sector of the economy, the industrial sector and to Lebanon's role in transit trade within the region; (c) "Intra-Arab transit trade": the purpose of this study is to identify and analyse the problems confronting the development and efficiency of transit trade among countries and examine its prospects for the region; (d) the study entitled "Actual and anticipated payments surpluses of selected Middle Eastern countries: their alternative uses in the context of the evolving international monetary system" examines the major developments in the international monetary system since 1971 as they affect the economies of the countries of the region.

60. During the period under review, a variety of contributions were made in support of United Nations technical co-operation activities and advisory services to Governments in the field of development planning, finance and administration, international trade, labour and employment, and statistics. The Development Planning Division has been working, through its development finance and administration programme, in close collaboration with the Regional Project for Training in Public Finance and Administration (PROPFAD). Substantive contribution was made to the Beirut-based training programme of the Project, which is designed to offer training to senior officials of the Ministries of Finance and the Treasury of Democratic Yemen, Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen. In addition to briefing and debriefing UNDP experts assigned to the region and providing substantive review and comments on their reports, as well as the reports of the three Special Fund projects (i.e., the Arab Institute for Economic and Social Planning in Kuwait, the Planning Institute in Damascus and the Assistance in Development Planning and Execution Project in Baghdad), the Development Planning Division of ECWA contributed to preparations for and active participation in the following meetings and seminars:

- (i) The Twelfth FAO Regional Conference for the Near East (Amman, September 1974);
- (ii) The United Nations World Food Conference (Rome, November 1974);

- (iii) The Round Table Conference on Tax Administration (Beirut, November 1974);
- (iv) The preparatory meeting of the Committee on the Formulation of Development Strategy for the Arab World (Cairo, February 1975);
- (v) The seminar on human resources development in the Gulf States (Bahrain, February 1975);
- (vi) The Fourth Arab Labour Organization Conference (Tripoli, March 1975).

61. At the request of the Government of Jordan, preparations were made to assist in the country's efforts to introduce the concept of "regional planning" into the over-all planning exercise of Jordan along with the appropriate machinery for the formulation and implementation of regional (subnational) development plans and programmes.

62. At the request of Governments, the Regional Adviser in Statistics visited Democratic Yemen, Qatar and the Syrian Arab Republic, where he assisted in the setting up of the new system of national accounts and the developing of production accounts of various economic sectors and of input-output tables of various industries, while advising on various other matters in the field of statistics. The Adviser also represented ECWA at the eighteenth session of the Statistical Commission, held in Geneva in October 1974.

63. The Regional Adviser in Trade Promotion, who joined ECWA late in 1974, visited Iraq to participate in the National Seminar on the Generalized System of Preferences, and to assist in the establishment of a Research and Training Centre in Export Promotion.

B. Public finance and administration

64. During the period under review the Project for Public Finance and Administration in Beirut revised the work programme of the second half of 1974 and prepared a detailed programme for the first half of 1975.

65. In its effort to supply the Governments of its region with the necessary advisory services, the Project, upon a request from the Governments of Democratic Yemen and Yemen recommended two experts in the field of customs, who are being recruited.

66. Upon the request of Yemen for an expert in the field of fiscal control and auditing to help in the setting up of the newly established "Central Organization for Fiscal Control and Auditing", the Project recommended one expert, who was accepted by the Government. In fact the said expert finished the first part of his assignment during the period under review.

67. The Project prepared a detailed programme for the second Beirut-based training programme, which is designed to train senior government officials holding key positions in their countries. The programme took place during the period 22 October to 20 December 1974 inclusive. Following consultations with the Governments concerned, five candidates from each country of the region were chosen. The United Arab Emirates, as was the case in the first Beirut-based training programme, sent four participants at its own expense.

68. PROPFAD prepared detailed programmes for the locally-based training programmes in Democratic Yemen, Oman and Yemen. These programmes are designed for government officials at the medium level holding supervisory posts chosen by the Governments concerned in consultation with PROPFAD. The first programme was scheduled for Aden during the period from 26 January through 1 March 1975. The second and third programmes are scheduled to be held later in the year in Muscat and Sana'a respectively.

69. PROPFAD is continuing to build up its library in public finance and to acquire data and reference materials on the countries of the region, as well as on countries at comparable stages of development, for the use of its staff members and the participants in its different programmes.

70. A manual of Arabic/English terminology in the field of public finance was put into the hands of the participants following the first one, which was an English/Arabic manual. PROPFAD's ultimate aim is to issue a comprehensive manual containing a unified Arabic terminology in the field of public finance with the original English and French terms.

C. Social Development and Human Settlements Division

71. The Social Development and Human Settlements Division is charged with the responsibility of implementing the 1974 and 1975 ECWA work programmes in the fields of social development and human settlement. These fields include programmes for youth and for women, the social aspects of integrated rural development, developmental social welfare, housing, building, urban planning and urbanization. Continuing co-operation with the specialized agencies and other intergovernmental or regional bodies is especially necessary in the social field, which, by its very nature, is cross-sectoral and involves different agencies. Therefore, during the reporting period the Division has developed very close working relations with UNESCO, FAO, ILO, WHO, UNICEF, UNRWA, UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA and other bodies at the regional level including the League of Arab States and its specialized agencies, other Arab organizations and government departments working in the social field.

72. In the field of youth, a general survey of the participation of youth in development in the ECWA region was initiated and will be completed by June 1975. The reports of the survey and of the case study will be presented to the Second Regional Conference on Children and Youth in National Planning and Development in the Arab States, to be held in Cairo in November 1975. ECWA is sponsoring this conference, together with UNICEF and the League of Arab States.

73. Concerning the participation of women in development, the Division completed two studies, initiated a third one, and took part in a number of meetings. The first study entitled "A Preliminary Report on the Status and Participation of Women in Development in Selected Countries of the ECWA Region" (ECWA/HR/L.2), dealt mainly with Iraq, Kuwait and Lebanon. It indicated areas for future action with regard to the legal, educational and employment status of women in those countries and in the ECWA region. The second study, entitled "Institutions and Organizations Concerned with the Participation of Lebanese Rural Women in Development" (E/ECWA/SDHS/1), identified the institutions and organizations which sponsor programmes for rural women, the type of such programmes and the extent of their coverage. In addition, the study attempted to determine the nature of the

problems confronting these organizations in implementing their programmes and suggested some practical measures to solve such problems and increase the effectiveness of the organizations. The Division cosponsored, assisted in organizing and participated in the Near East Seminar on the Participation of Women in Integrated Rural Development, held in Cairo from 26 October to 3 November 1974. At the Seminar, which was also sponsored by FAO, UNICEF, and the League of Arab States, the Division, inter alia, presented the two studies mentioned above.

74. The Division also participated in the formation of the United Nations Interagency Working Group for International Women's Year. The Working Group brings United Nations agencies in the Middle East together with a limited number of other organizations having regional programmes for women. The Working Group has prepared a report based on the programmes of the member agencies which included a chart showing the activities planned by the agencies for International Women's Year. The Division played an important role in the formation of this Group; it kept records of the meetings and provided members with essential documents.

75. Within the context of the International Women's Year, other activities have been initiated by the Division. Preparations have been made for the Regional Seminar on the Role of Women in National Development with Special Reference to Population Factors. This Seminar, to be organized under the auspices of ECWA, is expected to take place in September 1975. Also, a study has been initiated to evaluate the effectiveness of home-based employment programmes for women in rural areas of Lebanon. This study is a follow-up to a study completed in 1974 and entitled "Institutions and organizations concerned with the participation of Lebanese rural women in development".

76. In the field of integrated rural development, a study on rural industrialization trends and prospects in countries of the ECWA region is nearing completion. The study analyses the problems as well as the effects of rural industrialization on development and proposes some policy guidelines, with particular reference to the social aspects.

77. The Division also participated in Oman's first conference on local community development, held from 7 to 13 December 1974. The conference discussed the problems of the development of local communities in Oman, especially with regard to the provision of government services. The Division is also involved in conducting, jointly with the FAO Division of Information, two training and orientation seminars in the field of rural development communication. These two workshops, of one month's duration each, are being held in Baghdad, Iraq, during the period of March to June 1975. They are prerequisites for the establishment, on 1 January 1976, of a Rural Development Support Communication Centre by the Iraqi Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform.

78. As part of its contribution to social reporting, the Division prepared a report entitled "Review and appraisal of progress in social development in countries of Western Asia". In addition, it prepared a series of social indicators, based on available statistics for the countries of the region, for the sectors of housing, education and health. The Division prepared two reports, dealing respectively with the work programme and with social indicators, for the twenty-fourth session of the Commission for Social Development, held in New York from 6 to 24 January 1975, and participated fully in this session.

79. In the area of human settlement, the Division completed a report on "Review and appraisal of progress in human settlements in countries of Western Asia". It also initiated a study on rent-control practices and policies in the ECWA region. A report was prepared on the co-ordination of building research in the countries of the region, emphasizing the need for this type of activity and indicating the desirability of a regional centre for building research. A study on building costs in the region is under way.
80. Work was initiated on a number of meetings in the field of human settlements which were being organized by the Division. In co-operation with the United Nations Centre for Housing, Building and Planning, the Division organized an Expert Group Meeting on the Co-ordination of Building Research in Western Asia. The Meeting was held from 11 to 15 November 1974 in Beirut and was attended by high-level experts on building research from seven countries in Western Asia and by a number of international agencies. The Meeting produced a series of recommendations designed to advance the co-ordination of building research in the region.
81. ECWA, jointly with the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT) and ESCAP, is organizing and sponsoring a regional seminar on human settlement, to be held in June 1975 in Teheran. This seminar will serve as part of the preparatory work for the Conference, scheduled for June 1976 in Vancouver, Canada. An additional activity in connexion with HABITAT was ECWA's participation in an induction seminar sponsored by the Secretary-General of HABITAT in New York in September 1974 and in the first formal meeting of the preparatory committee for HABITAT, held in New York in January 1975.
82. The Division participated in the ECWA Expert Group Meeting on Demographic Aspects of Urbanization and Internal Migration, held in Beirut in December 1974, and was responsible for a presentation on problems and policies relating to urbanization in the ECWA region.
83. The Division participated in an intergovernmental meeting on the protection of the Mediterranean Sea which was held in Barcelona, Spain, from 28 January to 5 February 1975.
84. The Regional Adviser on Human Resources Development undertook, at the request of Governments, advisory missions to assist in: the formulation of social sectoral plans and programmes as part of forthcoming national development plans (Iraq and Kuwait); the assessment and development of human resources (Yemen); programmes for children, youth, and women (United Arab Emirates and Lebanon); and community and rural development (Oman). In co-operation with UNDP and UNICEF, the Adviser assisted in drafting government requests for technical assistance (Jordan, Oman and Saudi Arabia). He also assisted in regional training workshops and programmes at the UNESCO Regional Office in Beirut and at the Arab Institute for Economic and Social Planning, Kuwait.

D. The Joint ECWA/FAO Agriculture Division

85. The Joint ECWA/FAO Agriculture Division became operational on 1 January 1975. Primary attention has been paid to:

(a) The administrative set-up and staffing of the Division;

(b) The preparatory activities and the groundwork for the implementation of the projects included in the 1975 work programme, including a detailed implementation schedule. Concerning the implementation of the 1975 projects, extensive contacts took place between FAO and other international and regional organizations, on the one hand, and the Division on the other, with a view to assuring the smooth implementation of programme. Thus, for example, the project on Integrated Rural Development will be implemented in close co-operation with the FAO Regional Office in Cairo. While in the main the FAO approach will be followed, special consideration will be given to the organizational and implementation problems of integrated rural development at all levels;

(c) The preparatory activities for undertaking an agricultural sector study, which will focus on major agricultural development policy options within a broad macro-economic framework and under alternative growth patterns and will emphasize the link between policy and programming;

(d) The preparation and finalization of the mid-term review and appraisal of progress in agriculture in countries of the ECWA region;

(e) The preparation of a review on developments in agriculture and fisheries in 1973-74 in the ECWA countries and the construction of indicators of agricultural development for inclusion in the annex to the annual publication Studies on Development Problems/Selected Countries of Western Asia.

E. Natural Resources, Science and Technology Division

86. The Natural Resources, Science and Technology Division became operational on 16 August 1974. The following activities comprise the Division's accomplishments:

(a) The administrative set-up and staffing of the Division;

(b) The preparatory work for the implementation of the projects included in the 1975 work programme;

(c) The preparation and finalization of the mid-term review and appraisal of projects in raw materials and development, and science and technology in countries of the ECWA region;

(d) Participation in the Second Arab Conference on Mineral Resources, organized by the League of Arab States and held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, from 2 to 8 November 1974.

87. The Science and Technology Programme within the Natural Resources, Science and Technology Division is expected to become fully operational only after 1 January 1976. Thus, during the period under review the programme activities - based on a staff establishment of one professional for this period - consisted mainly of: (a) continuing activities of an administrative nature; (b) preparatory work for the envisaged activities during the 1976-1979 planning period; and, (c) follow-up on the regional plan of action for the application of science and technology in the Middle East. No specific ad hoc projects were included in the 1974 and 1975 work programme.

88. The Division also provided, through a consultant working at the expense of ECWA, a wide range of advisory services on oil and mineral resources matters to the Governments of Yemen and Democratic Yemen.

89. A preliminary assessment of the status of science and technology in the ECWA region undertaken with a view to the identification of areas for regional co-operative research and technology projects, focusing in particular on research and development efforts in various sectors, science and technology services, and science and technology education as well as the application of new technologies for development, institutional procedures for technology assessment and transfer, and arid zone research.

90. With regard to follow-up on the regional plan of action for the application of science and technology to development in the Middle East - which was prepared by the erstwhile UNESOB and endorsed by the Economic and Social Council - it will be submitted as a guideline to Governments in the region with a view to obtaining their suggestions and proposals concerning areas for regional co-operative research and technology as outlined in the plan. In addition, the operational aspects of the plan are also the subject of discussions and consultations with research and development institutions in the region in a variety of fields.

F. Population Division

91. Activities in the population field were aimed at building up the knowledge and the capacity to respond to needs in the population fields, to promote co-operation and co-ordination, to increase awareness of population problems, its correlates and possible strategies, and to provide assistance in forms and means requested by any member Government. At the same time, ECWA managed to meet an increasing number of government requests for advisory services on demographic issues and population problems. Short-term advisory services were rendered in the elucidation of population problems and in the formulation, execution and evaluation of projects.

92. During the period under review, ECWA completed the processing of the socio-demographic survey of Sana'a city, a project which was implemented jointly by the United Nations and Yemen. This project aimed at providing an over-all view of the socio-demographic features of the capital city, particularly with regard to data on the size, structure, composition, economic characteristics and components of the population of Sana'a city. During the period, ECWA launched a similar survey in five cities in Oman. The latter survey served as a pilot exercise for the census and for estimating its personnel requirements. ECWA also co-operated with the Government of Lebanon in the analysis of data pertaining to the sample survey on migration. This survey provided useful information on the socio-demographic characteristics of the migrants, their reasons for moving and their plans regarding their future place of residence.

93. The seventh and eighth issues of the Population Bulletin of ECWA were published in July 1974 and January 1975 respectively and covered activities in this region on population matters. The first issue of the Arabic version of the Bulletin was also published.

94. An Expert Group Meeting on the Demographic Aspects of Urbanization and Internal Migration was held in Beirut in December 1974. The main objectives of the meeting were to provide a forum for the exchange of knowledge, experience and views on the situation, levels and trends of urbanization and internal migration in countries of the ECWA region. Senior government officials from the ECWA region and representatives from United Nations bodies participated in the meeting. The meeting made a number of recommendations which were taken into account in the formulation of ECWA's long-term work programme in the demographic field.

95. During the period under review ECWA participated in the World Population Conference, which was held in Bucharest, Romania, in August 1974, and the meeting of the ACC sub-committee on population which was held in New York in December 1974. Of particular concern to ECWA was the World Population Plan of Action adopted by a consensus in Bucharest. This Plan of Action was to bring population policy out of the confines of demographic concern into the wider context of socio-economic development. The Plan emphasized the role of national efforts to solve population problems and reaffirmed that population policy was a legitimate area for government actions designed to effect the six major demographic variables: natality, mortality, migration, population growth, population distribution and age/sex composition.

96. In order to initiate effective implementation of the World Population Plan of Action and the resolutions of the World Population Conference, a decision was taken to organize a Post-World Population Conference Consultation for the ECWA region, which was held in Doha in March 1975 at the invitation of the Government of Qatar.

G. Transport, Communications and Tourism Division

97. The Transport, Communications and Tourism Division is now in the formative stage and it is hoped that by the middle of the year it will be fully staffed. The Chief of the Division was appointed in September 1974 and has participated in the Conference on Low-Cost Roads organized by the Arab Engineers Federation and held in Kuwait in November 1974. He also represented the secretariat at the Round Table Meeting on the Use of Containers in the ECWA Region, organized by the National Lebanese Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce and the Federation of Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture and held in Beirut in January 1975.

98. A draft of the consultants' survey on the transport situation in the region, referred to in the programme of work and priorities adopted by the Commission at its first session, was completed in December 1974.

H. Joint ECWA/UNIDO Industry Division

99. Commencing on 1 January 1975, the activities of ECWA in the field of industry were undertaken by the Joint ECWA/UNIDO Industry Division, which superseded the 1974 organizational unit with outposted UNIDO staff.

100. In their desire to strengthen the co-operation between the two organizations and evolve a more effective and co-ordinated programme of industrial development in the countries of the ECWA region, the Executive Secretary of ECWA and the

Executive Director of UNIDO entered into an agreement on 27 June 1974 for the establishment of the joint division. The Division, which constitutes an integral part of the ECWA secretariat, is staffed by both ECWA and UNIDO personnel and its work programme is formulated in consultation between the two organizations.

101. A joint ECWA/UNIDO meeting on special problems and requirements of industrial development in selected countries of the Middle East was held in Beirut in November 1974. The meeting was held in response to the need for special assistance in respect of the least developed countries in the ECWA region, and of co-operation among developing countries in their economic and social development in pursuance of recommendations and resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Industrial Development Board, among others.

102. In its programme of industrial branch development, the Division concentrated, in the period under review, on the food processing industries in the countries of the region. Surveys were conducted through national consultants on: (a) sugar; (b) vegetable fat and oils; and (c) the fruits and vegetable canning and preservation industries in preparation for a joint ECWA/UNIDO meeting in Beirut in March 1975 on the food processing industry in the ECWA region.

103. The Division initiated work on the 1975 work programme project in fertilizers by formulating a joint work plan for its implementation in collaboration with IDCAS and UNIDO. The three-stage work plan for the project, which identifies the timing and inputs of each implementing organization, envisages: (a) a comprehensive survey of the industry in the Arab countries by three teams of experts; (b) an over-all plan for the development of the industry on the national and multinational levels, to be prepared by international consultants on the basis of the survey; and (c) a meeting, jointly sponsored by the three organizations, on co-ordination and the promotion of the industry in the Arab States with a view to the consideration of an over-all plan. Stages (a) and (b) of the project will be completed in 1975 and the meeting is scheduled for February 1976.

104. Direct advisory services were provided during the period under review to a number of countries in the region. At the request of these countries the Regional Industrial Adviser undertook short-term missions to Bahrain, Iraq, Syria and Yemen, where he carried out consultations on the appraisal of a number of project proposals incorporated in their development plans. These included projects in fertilizers, pesticides, sugar, vegetable oils, cement and petroleum refining. He also advised the authorities concerned on various matters pertaining to the organization and operation of a number of existing industrial institutions. In the area of training the Regional Industrial Adviser participated as a lecturer in a course on project formulation and evaluation at the Arab Planning Institute, Kuwait.

105. The Division also participated in, and contributed to, the formulation of ECWA's proposals for the 1976-1981 UNDP intercountry programming exercise and ECWA's own 1976-1977 biennium programme budget and the 1976-1979 medium-term plan. The preparation of the industry sector of these programmes was the subject of consultations between ECWA and UNIDO for the purpose of co-ordinating the programme proposals of both organizations.

I. Information Services

106. The period under review witnessed a marked increase in the work of the Information Services following ECWA's first session, the convening of the first special session and the conclusion of several agreements between ECWA and Arab organizations. A new approach for dealing with the press by establishing personal and ready contacts with focal points in every leading newspaper as well as in radio and television was established so as to ensure adequate media coverage.

VI. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

107. At its 6th meeting, on 10 May 1975, the Economic Commission for Western Asia adopted its draft report to the Economic and Social Council on its second session, as amended during its discussions.

Annex I

STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS BEFORE THE COMMISSION

1. As indicated earlier, rule 24 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Commission requires that a statement be submitted on the financial implications, if any, of any draft resolution.
2. Most of the draft resolutions before the Commission (E/ECWA/L.6 to 20) can be implemented from within the available resources and therefore do not require additional financing. However, the following draft resolutions will call for additional resources or need explanations:

- (a) Draft resolution on preparatory meetings for sessions of the Governing Council of UNDP (E/ECWA/L.8) submitted by Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon and Syria

On the understanding that these meetings will be limited to the member States of ECWA and that UNDP documents will not have to be translated into Arabic, the Executive Secretary will be able to implement the request contained in the draft resolution without additional resources. The proposed meetings can be held at ECWA headquarters and in Arabic.

- (b) Draft resolution on the Voluntary Fund (E/ECWA/L.10) submitted by Iraq

The Chairman of the second session and the Executive Secretary are invited to consult with ECWA member States with a view to exploring the possibility of establishing the proposed Voluntary Fund. It is understood that the Chairman and the Executive Secretary will visit jointly all 12 ECWA member States for a minimum of two to three days in each country. Additional resources required will be in the amount of \$16,000.

- (c) Draft resolution on statistics (E/ECWA/L.11) submitted by Iraq

With a view to realizing the request contained in the draft resolution, the Executive Secretary will make every effort to expand the statistical programme of ECWA to accommodate the needs of member States for statistical information on economic, social and demographic matters. To this end, he will seek extrabudgetary financing.

- (d) Draft resolution on the Palestine Liberation Organization (E/ECWA/L.18) submitted by all ECWA member States

The relevant financial implications of this draft resolution are estimated as follows:

(i) <u>Staff</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
2 Professionals and 2 local level	
1 P-5 at \$50,000	\$50,000
1 P-4 at \$40,000	\$40,000
2 Local level supporting staff at \$10,500 each . .	\$21,000
Total	\$111,000
(ii) <u>Temporary assistance</u>	
Consultant for 3 man-months	\$10,000
Total	\$10,000
(iii) <u>Travel</u>	\$30,000
Total	\$30,000
(iv) <u>Equipment</u>	
1 typewriter and 1 calculator	\$1,200
Total	\$1,200
(v) <u>Miscellaneous</u>	
Reproduction supplies and materials	\$1,000
Cost of translation of official documents	\$1,000
Overtime	\$500
Cables	\$1,000
Total	<u>\$3,500</u>
Grand Total	<u>\$155,700</u>

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS ISSUED FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
E/ECWA/13 and Corr.1*	Mid-term review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second Development Decade in countries of Western Asia: over-all growth performance
E/ECWA/14	Provisional agenda
E/ECWA/14/Add.1*	Provisional annotated agenda
E/ECWA/15	Proposal by the Government of Democratic Yemen to amend rule 12 of ECWA's provisional rules of procedure: note by the secretariat
E/ECWA/16*	Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly
E/ECWA/17	Programme of work and priorities for 1976-1977 and medium-term plan for 1978-1979
E/ECWA/18*	Report on the capacity of the regional economic commissions for a unified approach to development: note by the secretariat
E/ECWA/19	Progress report (9 June 1974-20 April 1975)
E/ECWA/20	Organizational and financial matters
E/ECWA/21 and Corr.1	Mid-term review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second Development Decade in countries of Western Asia: highlights of over-all review of growth performance and sectoral trends and development issues
E/ECWA/21/annex*	Mid-term review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Second Development Decade in countries of Western Asia: sectoral trends and development issues (background document)

* Available in English only.

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
E/ECWA/22	Application by the Palestine Liberation Organization to participate as observer in the second session of the Commission: note by the secretariat
E/ECWA/23*	Co-operation with other United Nations and regional and international organizations
E/ECWA/24 and Add.1*	Follow-up action on resolutions 3 (I), 4 (I) and 7 (S-I), adopted by the Commission at its first session in June 1974 and at its first special session in September 1974
E/ECWA/25	Site of the headquarters of the Commission: note by the secretariat
E/ECWA/26*	ECWA report on the implementation of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order
E/ECWA/27	Invitation to States Members of the United Nations to participate in a consultative capacity in the work of the Commission
E/ECWA/INF.6*	Information for delegations
E/ECWA/INF.7 and Rev.1*	List of participants
E/ECWA/INF.8*	List of documents
E/ECWA/L.5 and Add.1 and 2	Site of the headquarters of the Commission
E/ECWA/L.6-20	Draft resolutions
E/ECWA/L.21	Statement on financial implications of draft resolutions before the Commission
E/ECWA/L.22	Draft report of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council
E/ECWA/L.23	Draft resolution