Chapter III reviews economic growth in real terms after eliminating the effect of price inflation. In order to facilitate the interpretation and use of these accounts, ESCWA has unified and recalculated these accounts in United States dollars, taking 2000 as a standard base year for all countries, based on the fact that original official base years vary from one country to another and sometimes from one year to the next.

Official tables of GDP by expenditure and economic activity at the current and constant prices of original base years were used to compile the tables presented in this chapter. In this regard, deflators for each component of GDP were first calculated, based on available data at current and constant prices. These deflators were then rebased to the standard base year. Components of GDP were subsequently derived at constant 2000 prices in national currencies and then converted to United States dollars using the standard base year exchange rate.

In cases where data were unavailable, ESCWA produced estimates using various statistical methods.