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OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS COMMISSIONS

for 1947 - 1957 see

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
MAY 1947 - FEBRUARY 1951

Statement prepared by the Executive Secretary

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PART I
INTRODUCTION

1. The Statement submitted herewith has been prepared by the Executive Secretary; it has not been presented to the Economic Commission for Europe, which is scheduled to meet 29 May 1951. It should be borne in mind, however, that the Commission at its fifth session in May/June 1950 has already reviewed its past work and has approved the work programmes of the Committees after 1950. On the basis of a Report submitted by the Executive Secretary and separate reports of each Committee, the Commission discussed its future tasks, and following these discussions made its Annual Report to the Economic and Social Council. The Executive Secretary's "Report to the Fifth Session of the Economic Commission for Europe on the Future Work of the Commission"^{1/} and the Annual Report for 1950 of the Economic Commission for Europe submitted to the eleventh session of the Economic and Social Council^{2/} could usefully be read in conjunction with the present statement.

2. The Economic Commission for Europe, at its fifth session, was considering an appropriate work programme for the Committees after the year 1950, and did not explicitly discuss its own future. However, the Commission stated in its Annual Report to the Economic and Social Council referring to the general debate on the future programme of work of its Technical Committees, that "all Delegations felt that the Economic Commission for Europe should continue its work as an effective instrument of economic cooperation among European countries" (E/1674, paragraph 140).

^{1/} Document E/ECE/114/Rev.1, hereafter referred to as the Overall Report.

^{2/} Document E/1674.

PART II
HISTORICAL REVIEW

3. The principal source of the Historical Review which follows is the "Report to the Fifth Session of the Economic Commission for Europe, by the Executive Secretary, on the Future Work of the Commission". This basic and comprehensive document, requested of the Executive Secretary by a decision of the fourth session of the Economic Commission for Europe, contains detailed and amply documented material on the genesis, history, constitution and workings of the Commission, its subsidiary bodies and the Secretariat. The present historical narrative is therefore freely drawn, adapted and condensed from the Overall Report and supplemented by information on developments during the period since the fifth session of the Commission.

A. Genesis

(1) Origins and Mandate

4. The establishment of an Economic Commission for Europe was recommended in the Preliminary Report on Economic Reconstruction of Devastated Areas by the Temporary Sub-Commission on Economic Reconstruction of Devastated Areas, established on 21 June 1946 by the Economic and Social Council. On 11 December 1946 the General Assembly of the United Nations, at its fifty-fifth plenary session adopted a resolution recommending that "in order to give effective aid to the countries devastated by war, the Economic and Social Council at its next Session give prompt and favourable consideration to the establishment of an Economic Commission for Europe". In originally setting up the Economic Commission for Europe at its fourth session (28 March 1947) the Economic and Social Council provided for a special review, "not later than 1951", of the Commission's work "with a view to determining whether the Commission should be terminated or continued, and if continued, what modifications if any, should be made in its terms of reference" (paragraph 19).

5. The Commission's overriding objective was to be to "initiate and participate in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic reconstruction of Europe, for raising the level of European economic activity, and for maintaining and strengthening the economic relations of the European countries both among themselves and with other countries of the world" (paragraph 1 (a)). Within the framework of this broad formulation of primary operational functions, to which

/the further

the further important task of providing governments with both systematic and specialized economic and statistical information and analysis was added, ECE was called upon to "give prior consideration, during its initial stages, to measures to facilitate the economic reconstruction of devastated countries of Europe which are members of the United Nations" (paragraph 2).

6. An important provision of the terms of reference which follows from the regional character of the Commission requires it to "submit to the Council's prior consideration, any of its proposals for activities that would have important effects on the economy of the world as a whole" (paragraph 4).

7. It goes without saying that the entire activity of the Commission, which functions within the framework of the policies of the United Nations and under the general supervision of the Council, is subject to the proviso that the Commission "takes no action in respect to any country without the agreement of the Government of that country" (paragraph 1).

8. The Commission has to date held five sessions in Geneva at the European office of the United Nations, of which the first two were held in 1947, after which it assembled once a year in late spring.

(2) Participation

9. Paragraph 7 of the Commission's terms of reference designated all European members of the United Nations and the United States of America as members.^{1/}

10. With regard to the participation in a consultative capacity of European Nations not members of the United Nations, provided by paragraph 8 of the terms of reference, the Commission, at its first session, authorized the Executive Secretary to invite those European Nations non-members of the United Nations "whose cooperation would be of value to the carrying out of the work of the Commission according to its terms of reference". Since the second session of the Commission, the Executive Secretary has invited all non-member European Governments (with the exception of Spain) to participate in all meetings of the Commission, the Committees and their subsidiary bodies.^{2/}

^{1/} Consequently, the following countries are at present members of the Commission: Belgium, Byelorussian SSR, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Greece, Iceland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Turkey, Ukrainian SSR, United Kingdom, United States of America, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Yugoslavia.

^{2/} The following countries have thus been regularly invited: Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Rumania and Switzerland.

/11. As provided in

11. As provided in paragraph 11 of the terms of reference, Members of the United Nations not members of the Commission have taken part, in a consultative capacity, in certain committee meetings in which they showed special interest.

12. The Commission, which by virtue of paragraph 10 of the terms of reference "may consult with the representatives of the respective Control Authorities of the Occupied Territories, and be consulted by them for the purpose of mutual information and advice on matters concerning the economies of those territories in relation to the rest of the European economy", has conducted its work with regard to Germany directly with the Governments of the Occupying Powers.

13. United Nations Specialized Agencies, certain inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations have likewise the right to take part in the Commission's work in a consultative capacity and have in fact so participated.^{1/}

B. The Work of the Commission

(1) Structural Development

14. The first two sessions (2 May to 14 May; 5 July to 16 July 1947)

The main decisions taken at these two sessions, apart from matters of a procedural character, like the adoption of the Rules of Procedure, concerned the transfer to the Commission of the functions of the Emergency Economic Committee for Europe, the European Coal Organization and the European Central Inland Transport Organization; and the creation of subsidiary bodies to deal with the tasks set out in the Commission's terms of reference, in the domains of coal, electric power, industry and materials, inland transport and housing.^{2/}

15. The third session (26 April to 9 May 1948)

This session reviewed the activities of its subsidiary bodies during the past year and agreed to simplify their organizational structure. Accordingly the Timber Sub-Committee of the Industry and Materials Committee, as well as the Sub-Committee on Steel and Manpower, set up by the Industry and Materials Committee in November 1947, were raised to the status of full Committees, whilst the Panel on Housing Problems was transformed into the Sub-Committee on Housing of the Industry and Materials Committee.^{3/} The existing terms of reference for these bodies were

^{1/} See below, Part II, Sections C and D

^{2/} See chart showing organizational structure of ECE after the second session in Overall Report, Appendix III, page 12.

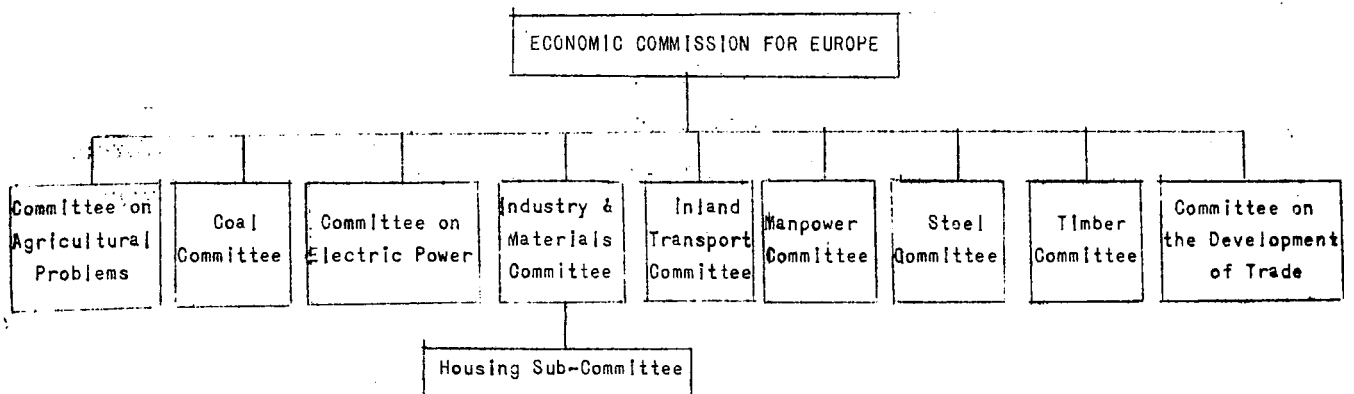
^{3/} See chart showing organizational structure of ECE after third session in Overall Report, Appendix III, page 13.

/continued.

continued. On the initiative of the USSR, it was decided to set up ad hoc Committees in the fields of Agriculture, and Industrial Development and Trade respectively.

16. The Fourth Session (9 May to 21 May 1949)

In the light of the recommendations of the two ad hoc Committees, the fourth session decided to establish the Committee on the Development of Trade and the Committee on Agricultural Problems. The resulting organizational structure which is presented in the chart below has not since changed.



However, the fourth session instructed the Committees^{1/} in close contact with the Executive Secretary, to review and, where necessary, to overhaul their respective terms of reference by "considering what activities need to be undertaken or continued beyond 1950, with a view to reporting thereon to the fifth session of the Commission", whilst the Executive Secretary was to prepare "on the basis of the above-mentioned reports, an Overall Secretariat Report, containing comments and views for an appropriate work programme for the Committees after the year 1950."

17. The Fifth Session (31 May to 15 June 1950)

The proceedings of this session centred round the Overall Report, and whilst the structural pattern of the Commission remained unaltered, Government

^{1/} With the exception of the Agricultural, Manpower and Trade Committees.

/representatives

representatives scrutinized the activities of the ECE's subsidiary organs thoroughly. Looking ahead to its continued activity beyond 1950 in the light of the changing economic situation, the Commission in particular approved fresh terms of reference proposed by the Steel and Timber Committees and took note of the intention of the Coal Committee to work out proposals for modifications of its terms of reference and present them for the approval of the Commission at its sixth session. As regards the Industry and Materials Committee, the Commission invited this Committee, concerning its activities other than housing (the proposed programme in this field having been approved), to have drawn up by a Working Party "a concrete and concise programme of work, taking into account recent changes in the economic situation...and in its next annual report to render an account of the programme adopted and the work undertaken under that programme." The Reports of the Electric Power and Inland Transport Committees on their future work programmes within the framework of their original Terms of Reference (which expressly provide for work on long-range and continuing problems) were noted.

(2) Problems before the Commission

18. The division of labour between the Commission and its Committees has followed a consistent pattern. The Commission has developed as a directing, supervisory and policy-making body, meeting as an annual public plenary assembly of European governments on economic problems. It reviews the work of the Committees, and redirects their activities on the basis of their reports, instituting new Committees, or terminating old ones as the occasion requires. It may endorse new lines of study by the Secretariat and draw the attention of the Committees to the importance of certain specific tasks.

19. The Committees themselves, on the other hand, being technical bodies (normally meeting in private and attended by interested government representatives fully authorized to act) pursue the fulfilment of their mandate between Commission sessions in a rather self-reliant way.^{1/}

20. The practice that votes are not, as a rule, taken in Committees or their subsidiary organs, is founded upon a common recognition of the fact that economic problems concerning sovereign governments cannot be solved by majority decisions, but only by agreements between as many governments as are willing to consent. Since voting rarely takes place, the participation of non-member governments has

1/ The Committees are also free to adopt their own rules of procedure.

developed on the basis of de facto equality of status.

21. The secretariat of the Commission was recruited and organized in the second half of 1947. During the last quarter of the year, the several Committees, set up by the second session of the Commission, met one after another, and began without delay to consider practical issues. The early period of the history of the Commission which coincided with the phase of post-war reconstruction and rebuilding was characterized by acute transport difficulties, and by the scarcity of most basic materials, including coal, steel and timber, and of many industrial products needed for reconstruction efforts and the recovery of industrial production. This succession of "bottleneck" problems, by their very nature, called for international co-operation, and it was soon recognized that such problems could most appropriately be tackled within a regional setting.

22. The work on these and other urgent and concrete economic questions established the approach of seeking practical results on limited issues, which continues in all Committees and is strongly emphasized in their past and new work programmes. Even during the first year the Committees began to approach urgent tasks in their long-range setting; in fact, the solution of tasks of this character had been envisaged in the terms of reference of the Commission and the Committees.

(3) The Work of the Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission

23. A detailed account of the work of the Committees is contained in their annual reports to the Commission and in the Commission's annual reports to the Economic and Social Council.^{1/} It is likewise described and analyzed in the Overall Report. By way of anticipating a general conclusion it can be stated that the Committees have continuously adjusted their work programme to conform with the changing situation, terminating activities which have reached their completion or become less useful, and redirecting their efforts towards what seemed to be the more important and urgent problems. The structural development of the Committees (which it would take too long to trace in detail in this brief Report) has followed this continuous readjustment. A brief summary of Committee activities, considered in the order of the English alphabet, is given below.

^{1/} Documents E/603, E/791, E/1074, E/1086, E/1328, E/1674. Originally the terms of reference of the Commission required it to submit Interim Reports to each regular session of the Economic and Social Council. Later this practice was discontinued in agreement with the Economic and Social Council.

(a) Committee on Agricultural Problems

24. At the first session (3 to 6 October 1949) unanimous agreement was reached by this Committee on problems to be studied urgently, particularly those of livestock production and animal feeding stuffs; the means of agricultural production; assistance to small and medium farmers; quality standards for perishable foodstuffs; and bread grains.

25. Between its first and second sessions a working party of the Committee (meeting from 14-16 November 1949) has, in collaboration with the Inland Transport Committee, carried forward the work on quality standards for perishable foodstuffs, called for by the resolution of its first session.

26. At the second session (20 to 25 March 1950) the Committee agreed to invite the Secretariat to prepare for its third session the Study on Assistance to Small and Medium Farmers, requested at its first session. The Secretariat had dealt with some elements of the study in documents presented to the second session but it was explained that it had not been found possible to present a complete study because of the shortage of both time and basic material essential to carrying out such a study. It was, therefore, agreed by the Committee that member governments be invited to assist the Secretariat in the preparation of this study for the third session. The Committee further agreed that the studies proposed at the first session should be completed and supplemented in consultation with government experts. Despite intensive discussion, however, the Committee was unable to agree at its second session on an appropriate procedure for undertaking work on intra-European trade in agricultural products.

27. The documentation requested for the third session of this Committee is well advanced. As agreed by the Committee at its second session, the provisional study with regard to assistance to small and medium farmers will be circulated to member governments requesting them to amplify or correct it where necessary, and if in a position to do so, to submit proposals concerning possible international action in this field. The completion of the required documentation and its transmittal to Governments at least two months in advance of the meeting is the pre-condition for convening the next session of the Committee.

(b) Coal Committee

28. Until its 11th session (26-27 May 1950) the main operating function of the Coal Committee was the task of allocating in the common interest of Europe, coal made available for this purpose. Under this procedure, the Allocation

Sub-Committee recommended separate quarterly allocations of ten qualities and types of solid fuels.

29. During this period of scarcity, the allocations system ensured the fair distribution of available coal and played a direct part in the process of European industrial recovery. The important "Coke/Steel" agreement in 1948, which helped considerably to increase steel production in several countries, will be recalled in this connexion.

30. The Coal Committee has also been concerned with various technical problems related to the production, consumption and utilization of solid fuels. Thus, in the interest of maintaining increases in production and improvements in mining efficiency, the Committee has maintained a close review over the supply of and demand for mining equipment and pitwood, with the object of ensuring adequate supplies and assisting countries in their efforts to increase coal production. The Committee has done much work in the field of improved coal utilization, and has made considerable progress in evolving an international coal classification system.

31. The 11th session of the Committee was mainly concerned with proposals for the re-organization of part of its work. The Committee agreed to set up a Coal Trade Sub-Committee to replace the Allocations Sub-Committee and the Allocations Working Party.

32. The new Sub-Committee has continued to review European solid fuel availabilities, requirements, imports and exports, at quarterly intervals. It is empowered to make recommendations "on any matter affecting the European coal market including problems of price policy in their general economic aspects".

33. Despite the fact the Committee now has no allocation function, this new procedure enables it to keep the coal situation under review and to take measures to mitigate the effects of possible shortages and surpluses with a view to redressing any significant inequities in distribution.

34. At its 12th session (23 to 25 August 1950) the Coal Committee adopted a resolution on its future objectives, setting forth its aims as follows:

the promotion of sound competitive conditions in the coal market; the maintenance of a reasonable degree of equilibrium between supply and demand for solid fuel; the development of conditions conducive to the regular and economic operation of the European coal industry; and the assurance of adequate supplies fully available to all consumers on an equitable basis.

/35. The new system

35. The new system of review of the demand and supply situation of solid fuels, which replaced the old allocations procedure, underwent its first practical test during the last half of 1950 under conditions of a deteriorating supply position. It was appreciated that if unequal sacrifices and hardships were to be avoided, some adjustments would have to be made. Thus, at the meeting of 14 December 1950 which considered the position for the first quarter of 1951 there was a detailed discussion on the basis of a Secretariat paper containing suggestions for changes in existing trade patterns, and the Committee agreed to recommendations for the distribution of the available supplies. The distribution necessarily involved departures from trade agreements and contracts in certain cases, the voluntary relinquishment of certain quantities due to some countries in favour of others and exchanges of one type of fuel for another.

36. Within the framework of its Sub-Committee on Economic and Technical Problems, the Committee has pressed forward with studies on coal production and consumption trends, as well as on coal prices in general and the cost of coal to the consumer. With regard to the utilization of coal, a new programme of technical studies and the exchange of information was drawn up embracing such matters as coking practices, the utilization of low grade fuels and the whole subject of fuel efficiency.

37. Progress has been made in the field of coal classification towards final agreement both on a complete system of coal classification and on a simplified classification system for commercial use.

38. The modification of the Committee's terms of reference for submission to the sixth session of the Commission will come up for examination at one of the forthcoming meetings of the Coal Committee.

(c) Committee on Electric Power

39. The original mandate of the Committee contemplated work on both long-term and short-term problems. It will be recalled that this Committee was established as a forum for discussion and the exchange of information regarding problems of electric energy, and that it is empowered to initiate studies and make recommendations for the best utilization of available resources and the best means of effecting a co-ordinated development of Europe's electric power.

40. In conformity with this basic directive the Committee, during the initial stages of its work, was concerned with a series of emergency problems arising out of the aftermath of the war.

/41. Since, however,

41. Since, however, even emergency projects in the power field have long-range implications, the Committee has undertaken a series of fundamental studies, designed to provide certain criteria for practical decisions and which are concerned with the principal technical, economic and legal problems in connexion with European power development projects, particularly with those which have an international aspect.

42. In the interest of facilitating desirable power developments, the Committee has requested the Secretariat to offer its good offices in appropriate instances with a view to implementing projects which the Committee has examined and assisting governments to overcome legal or other difficulties in their power negotiations.

43. The Committee has also called attention to the desirability of adopting measures to assure the full employment of plants producing electrical equipment, so long as a serious shortage of such equipment exists in certain countries. This problem is of special importance to the development plans of several European countries.

44. After the fifth session of the Commission, the Committee on Electric Power has concentrated on the task of investigating possibilities of developing exchange of electric power between countries and on the legal aspects of hydro development. The latter task embraces problems in connexion with rivers and lakes of common interest and a study on comparative legislation governing the import and export of hydro-electric power. The Committee decided to proceed with work on framing appropriate draft conventions on these two matters for eventual submission to interested governments.

45. In the course of the discussion of the question of utilization of the capacity of power production plants, the wider problem of the distribution of electric energy was raised. The consideration of this subject is to be pursued by a group of rapporteurs.

46. Further, a number of countries agreed to appoint an expert group for the study of rural electrification.

47. Finally, a series of technical investigations, (such as for instance the studies on the gross potential water power resources and on the subject of daily pumping) were reviewed, and the compilation of annual basic statistics concerning capacities and inter-connexion lines under construction or planned agreed upon.

(d) Industry and Materials Committee

48. Since the decisions of the Commission entrusting work on steel, timber and manpower to separate committees, the Industry and Materials Committee has been primarily concerned with the following three broad areas of the European economy: the engineering industry, certain industrial materials and chemicals, and the field of housing and building.

49. In formal and informal meetings and consultations, the facilities of the Committee have been used by Government representatives and experts to formulate recommendations designed to resolve short-term limitations on the production of scarce materials and engineering products; to promote the exchange of trade information between importing and exporting countries; to facilitate the exchange of technical information on methods of increasing the production and improving the utilization of commodities in short supply; and in the field of housing, to establish a comprehensive programme of investigation and the interchange of knowledge and experience on many economic and technical aspects of the European housing and building problem designed to assist governments in expediting fulfilment of their housing programmes.

(1) Work on Engineering, Industrial Materials and Chemicals

50. At its first session the Committee decided to direct its immediate efforts to reducing shortages of certain engineering products, materials and chemicals needed in most industries, and to keep under review certain sectors of the engineering industry.

51. Subsequently, the Committee considered a preliminary secretariat survey of the engineering industry in Europe and requested it to review and continue its survey as well as to undertake more detailed studies of a limited number of specific sectors of the engineering industry which may give rise to market disequilibrium as a result either of a continued shortage or of a surplus capacity in relation to demand. The Committee thereafter considered studies on electric power plants and on agricultural tractors; and Government engineering experts nominated at the request of the Committee have assisted the Secretariat in the preparation of a survey of the industry as a whole, a provisional version of which has been circulated and which is now nearing completion.

52. To facilitate increased trade, the Committee has initiated the preparation and circulation of information on the availability of European engineering products for export.

/53. In the light

53. In the light of the changing economic situation the Commission at its fifth session invited the Committee to appoint a special working party with a view to formulating a new programme of work in fields other than housing and building. This working party met in Geneva from 1-8 September 1950 and agreed upon a programme of work in engineering and industrial materials and on arrangements for carrying out the programme.

54. In the engineering field, two tasks of immediate importance were agreed upon: the participation of experts of the Committee in arrangements to stimulate trade between Europe and Latin America in engineering products and, in particular, tractors and farm machinery; and the examination, by means of an ad hoc working party, of the possibility of unifying certain practices in international contracts for engineering equipment.

55. The Industry and Materials Division of the Secretariat has primary responsibility for direct collaboration with the Technical Assistance Administration in implementing the United Nations programme for Europe in this field.

(ii) Housing and Building

56. The Housing Sub-Committee's work has been carried out in both the economic and the technical fields.

57. In the economic field, broad estimates of European housing needs have been made and related to actual and possible housing programmes.

58. In the technical field, it has been recognized that there is considerable scope for improving methods in nearly all European countries, and that international collaboration on the exchange of information and the studying of problems on a co-operative basis can be particularly fruitful. On the initiative of the Sub-Committee an International Council for Building Documentation has already been established. At the Conference on Building Research held under the auspices of the sub-Committee from 13 to 18 November 1950, detailed technical recommendations were reached concerning international collaboration in studies and research on housing and building; and on the setting-up of an independent international organization to facilitate international collaboration and to co-ordinate building research.

59. The future work programme of the Sub-Committee, endorsed at the fifth session of the Commission, provides also for the collection and dissemination of technical and economic information and for a number of detailed economic and technical studies within its area of competence, in particular investigations of building
/costs

costs, rent policies, the financing of building operations, as well as work on the improvement of statistics.

(e) The Inland Transport Committee

60. The Inland Transport Committee has been developing steadily as the principal inter-governmental instrument through which the various European Governments are endeavouring to solve a great many problems in the field of inland transport.

61. Only relatively few of the tasks allotted to the Committee can be regarded as purely temporary, such as for instance problems arising out of the war. Under the auspices of this Committee, governments have successfully disposed of many of such problems. Thus they negotiated the restoration of the "Regulations on the reciprocal use of Wagons in international traffic" (RIV). They settled the difficult post-war problems connected with the substantial debt in wagons owed by certain countries to others, found a satisfactory solution after several years of negotiations to the problem of the restitution of rolling stock, and attended to various operational road transport problems.

62. The bulk of the Committee's tasks, however, as defined by its terms of reference, are either of a continuing or of a long-term nature. It is on these more permanent problems of international transport organization that the Committee has increasingly concentrated its attention.

63. Thus the keystone of the Committee's new work programme, approved at the fifth session of the Commission, is the instruction "to stimulate international co-operation in the field of inland transport in Europe" and "to promote agreement between governments on long-term inland transport policy in Europe".^{1/}

64. In view of the multifarious and complex nature of its tasks, the Committee, in addition to its two Sub-Committees on rail and road transport respectively, has set up subsidiary organs to deal with the many separate problems entrusted to it by governments. Some of the bodies are of an ad hoc character and they are dissolved when their particular task has been completed. In general, the Committee seeks to concentrate on the broad economic aspects of the transport problems referring the more strictly technical questions to the existing specialized transport organizations with which it co-operates closely.

^{1/} Section I, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the terms of reference of the Inland Transport Committee.

65. With respect to questions under examination in the field of rail transport, the Committee, through its appropriate subsidiary bodies, has been considering inter alia the preparation of two conventions, one for the simplification of frontier formalities for passengers, and the other for goods, the co-ordination of international tariff structures, the drawing up of a uniform accountancy system for main railway lines and the calculation of the true cost of transport. The Committee is also studying the problem of standardization of rolling stock including the introduction of automatic coupling, the modernization of long distance passenger trains facilities and a programme of renewal and construction of European railway rolling stock.

66. So far as road transport is concerned, the Committee, after having prepared the draft international customs convention on touring, on commercial road vehicles and on the international transport of goods by road has taken steps for their implementation through an agreement providing for their provisional application. Complementary European agreements within the framework of the 1949 Conventions on Road Traffic were also signed by several countries on 16 September 1950. A declaration on main international traffic arteries was drawn up and signed on the same date by certain governments. The problem of financing this international network is under study. The Committee is examining the possibility of establishing a regime for road transport, of drawing up a contract for road transport and of working out methods for preventing road traffic accidents. The introduction of an international system for the insurance of motorists against third-party risks is also under consideration.

67. Among the general transport problems with which the Committee deals, mention may be made of the problems of the co-ordination of transport, of the transport of perishable foodstuffs, of the collection and analysis of transport statistics which includes the publication of the quarterly and annual bulletin of transport statistics sponsored by the Committee, and the problems connected with the development of tourism.

68. Among the principal matters dealt with by the Committee at its sixth session (19 to 22 September 1950) was the draft agreement between international non-governmental railway associations whose aim it is to co-ordinate their activities and avoid duplication. The draft agreement was subsequently approved by the international non-governmental organizations concerned. The Committee also initiated work on the drawing up of an agreement on the transport of

/dangerous

dangerous goods by road, model regulations for the transport of dangerous goods by inland waterways, and model regulations covering the related operations of handling dangerous goods for all means of transport. Work on all these matters is under way. At the same session, the Committee decided that the responsibility for co-ordinating the work of its subsidiary bodies lay with the Committee itself.

(f) Manpower Committee

69. As a Sub-Committee of the Industry and Materials Committee, this body held its first session in March 1948, during which certain specific projects in the field of European manpower (concerning: training and retraining; labour surpluses and deficits; measures to accelerate manpower movements; and housing for workers) were singled out for consideration. All questions, except the latter, were referred by participating governments to the International Labour Organisation, the Governing Body of which agreed to incorporate them in the work programme of that organization.^{1/} Under this arrangement the ILO is to keep ECE informed of any action taken. The resolution of the Manpower Sub-Committee with respect to housing was implemented by the Housing Sub-Committee of the Industry and Materials Committee.

70. At the third session of the Commission the status of the Sub-Committee was raised to that of a full Committee. No further meetings have been held in view of the understanding with the International Labour Organisation. The Commission, at its fifth session, recalled that the whole of the activities of the Committee, and indeed of all other subsidiary bodies of the Commission, should be directed to the achievement of productive full employment in Europe.

(g) The Steel Committee

71. The original terms of reference for the Steel Committee were largely but not exclusively addressed to the acute steel shortage which restricted European recovery in 1946 and 1947. They required the Committee, inter alia, to undertake "the task of finding out all possible ways and means of relieving the present steel shortage in Europe by increasing the production of steel, improving its utilization, increasing where feasible the use of less scarce materials in place of steel, or by other measures."

72. The work of the Committee in this period of shortage contributed towards the release of suitable quantities of coke to the European steel industry - in which task the Coal and Steel Committees effectively co-operated - and towards increasing the supplies of scrap and rich iron ores.

^{1/} See also below, Section C.

73. When this period of shortage ended, the Committee directed its attention to certain long-term problems. New terms of reference, elaborated by government representatives participating in the Committee's work, were endorsed at the fifth session of the Commission. Under this new programme the Committee will sponsor a systematic exchange of knowledge on the techniques in the iron and steel industry, initiate comparative studies of productivity in order to reduce the cost of European steel, and facilitate increases in steel production planned by member governments. Further, it will keep the supply situation for steel-making raw materials under review, and promote measures designed to increase steel consumption, and will also initiate studies on consumption and production, costs and prices of steel and steel-making raw materials. Finally, the Committee will expand its work on statistics and give consideration to a uniform system for the classification of steel products.

74. At its seventh meeting (27-29 November 1950) the Committee recognized that supplies of coke, iron ore and scrap would be tight in 1951, and that the position as regards steel-making materials might well become more serious in the future.

75. With regard to scrap, the Committee decided to revive the Panel on Scrap. It also decided to appoint a Group of Iron Ore Experts to study measures designed to ensure adequate supplies for the steel industry in the longer term.

76. The Committee reviewed the first issue of the Quarterly Bulletin of Steel Statistics. It also initiated the preparation of a report by an outside expert reviewing the latest developments in iron and steel techniques.

(h) Timber Committee

77. The original terms of reference of this body related to serious shortages of the immediate post-war period, which problem dominated the Committee's four meetings prior to September 1949.

78. The Committee's first contribution to this problem was an agreed procedure for the observance by importing countries of buying limits, which helped to produce a fair distribution of available supplies of sawn softwood during the period of acute shortage.

79. The Committee also recommended policies designed to increase European timber production and took a substantial interest in a programme of timber loans. While the full plan developed by the Committee did not materialize, equipment loans by the International Bank were made to two countries, based on timber purchase commitments from five countries.^{1/}

^{1/} See below, Section C.

/80. The Committee

80. The Committee, in co-operation with the Housing Sub-Committee, approached the problem of shortage in yet another way, through the sponsorship of, and participation in, a study on rationalization in the use of wood. All these activities have required a systematic collection and publication of statistical data and market analyses.

81. At its fifth session (19 to 23 September 1949) the Committee found that the period of acute post-war timber shortage had given way to a situation of unstable and precarious equilibrium between supply and demand. The device of buying limits was therefore abandoned.

82. In view of this inherent instability of the timber market, the Committee at its fifth session agreed that its "continuing existence was obviously necessary, both in the interests of producing and consuming countries and in view of the importance of the timber problem in the economy of Europe". The main item on its programme is a review of the market position and the framing of recommendations to governments arising therefrom.

83. At its seventh session (30 October to 1 November 1950), the Committee, after examining the European timber situation and outlook, came to the conclusion that (i) the equilibrium established in 1949 would continue in 1950, but that (ii) as regards the outlook for 1951, a deficit in sawn softwood imports of the order of some 445,000 standards was to be expected even if exporting countries were to reach their maximum availability estimates. The Committee also considered a number of technical matters and heard a progress report by the Secretariat on the timber consumption trends study.^{1/}

(1) Committee on the Development of Trade

84. This Committee met on a provisional basis for its first session in February 1949. It met in full status for its second session in May of that year, primarily to discuss possibilities for increasing "East-West" trade. Discussion at this meeting showed that the Western Countries considered the first task of the Committee was to form a clearer conception of the goods available for "East-West" trade and of the requirements for these goods. The Eastern group of countries, on the other hand, stressed as their opinion that the export licensing policy practiced by the United States and some Western European countries implied a major discrimination against them, which made any efforts to develop "East-West" trade

^{1/} See also Section C.

futile. As long as this alleged discrimination was maintained they saw no purpose in exchanging information. This difference of approach remained unresolved.

85. After that meeting the Executive Secretary undertook certain informal and unofficial steps in order to explore a new approach to the problem. A Secretariat memorandum concerning the possible procedures for an expansion of intra-European trade was circulated to participating governments in August, 1949, without a general response.

86. Later, a somewhat differing starting point was put forward by the Executive Secretary in his Aide-Mémoire, dated 2 November 1949. The essence of the suggestion was the idea of a multilateral trade agreement. Three points were put forward for consideration as possible elements of such an agreement, viz: relatively long-term purchase commitments by the Western countries for cereals (and possibly other supplies) from the Eastern countries, framed somewhat on the model of the International Wheat Agreement; a commitment on the Western side that the proceeds of the sale of these products could be used for the purchase of goods on lists to be agreed upon; and, if desired, arrangements for increased flexibility in the payments provision for goods contracted for within the general framework of this agreement.

87. In the course of prolonged correspondence^{1/} and consultations with governments, this proposal underwent certain modifications and eventually gave rise to a "Proposal for an ad hoc Meeting of European Countries interested in Increasing their Trade in Certain Grains", which was despatched by the Executive Secretary to all participating governments in August 1950.

88. As a result of the latter initiative, a meeting was held from 14 to 20 November 1950 between European countries interested in increasing their trade in grains, in the form of an ad hoc gathering outside the Commission's Committee structure. After a useful exchange of views and information on the requirements and availabilities for the current crop year and on the possibilities of negotiating some form of longer-term arrangements, the meeting initiated a series of bilateral conversations. In the course of these talks the ground was prepared for the negotiation of agreements which should help to meet part of the importing countries' requirements for the current crop year. The meeting also

^{1/} This correspondence is reproduced in Appendix IV of the Overall Report and in Document E/ECE/114/Rev.1, Appendix IV (continued).

/agreed

agreed that the Executive Secretary should consult governments as to the usefulness and timing of another meeting and, if sufficient interest were shown, take the initiative of convening such a meeting in the spring or in the summer of 1951.

(j) Participation in, and appraisal of, the work of ECE Committees by governments

89. The terms of reference of the several Committees provide that members of the Committees are the "interested" members of the Commission. The Committees are thus placed by the Commission, acting as an agency of the United Nations, at the disposal of governments in Europe which wish to make use of them. In fact certain governments have been able to participate on a smaller scale than others. Practically all Governments have, however, participated in the annual review and discussion of the Committees' work which occurs at each session of the Commission. The record of these periodic scrutinies shows that the formal approval of the work of the Committees does not always stem from unanimity in the appraisal of their accomplishments. In this respect different governments have placed different emphasis on certain aspects of the Committees' programmes. There has also been some considerable disagreement in the process of defining the terms of reference of the Committee on the Development of Trade. But there has on the whole been agreement among governments, despite these differences in outlook and appraisal, on keeping intact and developing a Committee structure, capable of dealing with the various economic problems of the European region.

(4) The Secretariat

90. The Commission, its committees and expert groups are serviced by a Secretariat which forms part of the Department of Economic Affairs of the United Nations. The Secretariat serves governments principally in connexion with the technical work carried on in the Committees, for which it prepares the necessary documents as well as comprehensive statistical and technical studies on particular and general aspects of the European economy.

91. The structure of the Secretariat by and large reflects the organizational pattern of the Commission.^{1/} In addition to the Divisions servicing the Committees, there is a Research and Planning Division which plans the Secretariat's overall

^{1/} See Section C for description of FAO/ECE joint Agricultural and Timber Divisions.

research programmes, processes statistical data, prepares periodic analyses of the economic situation in Europe and co-operates with the other Divisions on specific problems in particular industries and commodities.^{1/} A major task of this Division has been the preparation of the annual "Economic Survey of Europe", of which so far the first three of the series have been published whilst a fourth will be in the hands of the governments before the sixth session of the Commission. Since 1 July 1949, this Division has also published a quarterly Economic Bulletin for Europe which contains an analysis of economic developments during the preceding quarter and, in addition, special studies.

92. The Office of the Executive Secretary has developed as a policy-making unit as well as one of co-ordination, administration and general liaison with governments, Specialized Agencies, Inter-Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations, as well as with the Department of Economic Affairs at Headquarters.

93. The major part of the administrative and financial servicing of the Commission as well as the translation, précis writing, interpretation, documentation and distribution services, is provided by the staff of the European Office of the United Nations.

94. The entire documentation of the Commission and the Secretariat is being issued in English, French and Russian, its three working languages.

C. Relations with Specialized Agencies

95. From its very inception, the Economic Commission for Europe established relations with the Specialized Agencies and has since maintained and developed close collaboration. The original authority for what has now become a fairly ramified and complex network of co-operative links and arrangements resides in paragraphs 12 and 13 of the terms of reference given to the Commission by the Economic and Social Council. These provisions require the Economic Commission for Europe "to invite representatives of Specialized Agencies ... to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that agency" (paragraph 12) and "to ensure that the necessary liaison is maintained ... with the Specialized Agencies". (paragraph 13).

^{1/} For the current work programme of the Secretariat, see Part III.

96. Within the framework of this general directive the Commission at its first session (May 1947) agreed "to invite the Specialized Agencies and those inter-governmental bodies qualified to become Specialized Agencies^{1/} to participate in its work in a consultative capacity". Accordingly, the following Specialized Agencies have participated in various ways in the work of the Economic Commission for Europe:

Food and Agriculture Organization;
Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization;
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development;
The International Civil Aviation Organization;
The International Labour Organisation;
The International Monetary Fund;
The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization; and
The World Health Organization.^{2/}

97. By its very nature the Economic Commission for Europe is an organization whose work brings it into continuous contact with most of the existing Specialized Agencies. Much of the work of the Commission's subsidiary bodies, as it has developed, is of a highly specialized and technical nature. This being so, the Commission enters into relation at many points with the different Specialized Agencies and it does so both at the level of inter-governmental discussion, negotiation, recommendation and agreement, as well as on the Secretariat level.

98. Relations with each Specialized Agency (taken in order of the English alphabet) are described separately.

(1) Food and Agriculture Organization

99. From the early stages of the ECE's activities, the Executive Secretary of the ECE and the Director-General of FAO have worked together to evolve a system of co-operation between the two organizations which, whilst taking due account of the differences in their respective purposes and functions, would permit the solution of problems of common concern in the most economic and efficient manner.

1/ Under the latter category were comprised those organizations which at the time of the decision had not yet concluded the appropriate agreements with the United Nations.

2/ The record of representation of Specialized Agencies at meetings of the sessions of the Commission, its Committees and the latter's principal subsidiary bodies is attached as Appendix D.

3/ The Executive Secretary's appraisal of the working arrangements entered into with the Specialized Agencies is given in Part IV, Section 11.

/Thus,

Thus, the Timber Committee, established by the Commission at its second session, on the recommendation of the Executive Secretary and in the light of the findings of the European Timber Conference organized by FAO in May 1947, is serviced by a joint Secretariat consisting of FAO technical experts and of ECE non-technical staff.^{1/} Care has been taken to draw a clear line of demarcation between the ECE Timber Committee and the FAO Forestry Commission.

100. In Agriculture, following a joint statement by the Director-General of FAO and the Executive Secretary of ECE, the ad hoc Committee on Agricultural Problems of Common Concern to FAO and ECE, established at the Commission's third session, recommended that a Committee on Agricultural Problems be established within the ECE, serviced by a joint Secretariat, functioning on a basis identical with that of the ECE/FAO Timber Division.

101. Within the framework of this co-operation, joint consultations with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development were conducted in connexion with the Timber Equipment Loan Scheme (see below under 3) and common work on routine, recurrent and special studies has proceeded. Notable examples of major co-operative efforts in this field are "European Agricultural Programmes Development - 1948", published in 1949, and the joint study on Timber Consumption Trends, currently in progress. ECE and ECLA are also co-operating with FAO in a study of trade between Europe and Latin America.

(2) Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization

102. Secretariat liaison between ECE and ICITO has been maintained in the field of commercial policy of European countries, and ICITO has been kept informed of ECE's work on trade.

(3) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

103. Contact with the Bank has been continuous from the very beginning of the Commission's activities, both at the level of research and also operationally. Initially, contact with the agency was maintained by the stationing of a member of the Bank's staff in Geneva. More recently, attendance by the Bank's representatives at sessions of the Commission and of certain of its subsidiary bodies, and direct contacts with the Bank's office in Europe, as well as with its headquarters, have been found adequate to ensure day-to-day liaison. At the

^{1/} Details of this arrangement will be found in document E/1684 (pp 6 et seq.)

request of governments associated with specific decisions adopted by ECE's Technical Committees, the Executive Secretary has brought certain projects to the Bank's attention. Mention has already been made of the Timber Equipment Loan Scheme initiated by the ECE Timber Committee, which necessitated intensive collaboration among the Secretariats of the Bank, the FAO and the ECE and which resulted in the signing of loan agreements between the Bank and the Governments of Finland and Yugoslavia. The Bank is likewise being kept informed on projects in the field of international electric power development of potential interest to the Bank. A representative of the Bank made a statement at the Inland Transport Committee's Working Party on Main International Traffic Arteries as to the Bank's functions and policies with particular reference to the possibility of assisting international road construction programmes. The role of the ECE Secretariat has been to identify bankable projects of all-European significance and to support them by appropriate documentation. The Commission's Secretariat, however, does not and cannot participate in any actual negotiations between the Bank and interested governments which may subsequently ensue. The Secretariat has also co-operated with the Bank in recommending experts for the Bank's missions abroad.

(4) International Civil Aviation Organization

104. Consultation with ICAO has taken place on problems of common concern, such as the drawing up of a carnet de passage en douane for aircraft incorporated in the Draft International Customs Convention on Touring.

(5) International Labour Organisation

105. In February 1948, after examining certain specific projects in the field of European manpower, the ECE Manpower Sub-Committee (subsequently raised to the status of a full Committee) requested the ILO to undertake a number of tasks in this field, and to keep the ECE currently informed of action taken. At its 104th Meeting, the ILO Governing Body agreed to incorporate these tasks in the ILO's work programme. Co-ordination and collaboration with the ILO, with regard, principally, to the social aspects and implications of Committee action, notably in the domain of inland transport, coal, engineering, housing and building, has been maintained throughout. Special assignments in the preparation of ECE Committee documentation have been taken on by the International Labour Office in the field of agriculture and timber. A routine pattern of continuing co-operative relationships in research, as well as with respect to an exchange of information

/and statistics

and statistics on coal, engineering, housing and building, steel and labour productivity, has been set up and is functioning to the mutual satisfaction of both organizations.

(6) International Monetary Fund

106. Particularly close co-operation has been developed in the research field, especially in the preparation of balance of payment estimates and similar data and in the exchange of other research materials.

(7) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

107. In the case of this agency, inter-Secretariat liaison was established, upon the initiative of the Director-General of UNESCO, with respect to a UNESCO project aiming at increased production and improved distribution of scientific, cultural and educational supplies and materials. The ECE Secretariat renders practical assistance to UNESCO by analyzing the supply situation in Europe in this field. Liaison is likewise maintained between the two Secretariats on engineering as well as on housing and building, bearing in mind UNESCO's special interests in this field.

(8) World Health Organization

108. ECE and WHO have collaborated in all those matters which concern the "industrial" aspect of the work of the Agency and the "health" side of the activities of the Commission. Thus, ECE experts investigated the possibilities of increasing penicillin production and the supply position of certain chemical products, like insecticides. Relations between health and housing and the effects of alcohol on drivers were jointly considered at ECE meetings dealing with Building Research and the Prevention of Road Accidents respectively.

D. Relations with other Organizations

(1) Inter-Governmental Organizations

109. Paragraph 12 of the terms of reference of the Commission states that the Commission "may invite representatives of any Inter-Governmental Organizations to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of concern to that ... organization, following the practices of the Economic and Social Council". At its second session the Commission laid down the principles according to which Inter-Governmental Organizations, other than Specialized Agencies and those qualified to become Specialized Agencies, should be invited to attend the session. These principles are identical with those governing

/invitations

invitations to European nations not members of the United Nations, and state that such Inter-Governmental Organizations "should be invited whose co-operation would be of value in the carrying out of the work of the Commission according to its terms of reference. The decision should be made on the basis of technical considerations". A number of Inter-Governmental Organizations, such as the International Technical Standard Conference, the Central Office for International Railway Transport and the Permanent International Association of Road Congresses, and the Central Commission for Navigation on the Rhine have participated in the work of the Inland Transport Committee.

(2) Non-Governmental Organizations

110. The special character of the Economic Commission for Europe of being not only a research centre and a forum for discussion, but through its various subsidiary bodies also an operational agency in practical technical work, implies that its relationship with the Non-Governmental Organizations, in particular those specialized in different economic fields, is bound to be very close.

111. In the terms of reference of the Commission no specific reference was made to consultations with Non-Governmental Organizations. At the first session of the Commission however, there was a preliminary discussion concerning future relations with the Non-Governmental Organizations and a decision was taken to invite a number of non-governmental transport organizations to take part in a meeting of transport experts.

112. At the second session of the Commission the Rules of Procedure were adopted governing the participation of Non-Governmental Organizations in the work of the Commission and in that of its subsidiary bodies. They are the Rules 47 and 48 regarding consultation with the Non-Governmental Organizations, similar in character to the corresponding provisions of the Economic and Social Council, and Rule 52 concerning consultations with Non-Governmental Organizations with committees, sub-committees and working parties.

113. Since the inception of the practical work of the Commission, well over fifty Non-Governmental Organizations have attended meetings of the Committees, Sub-Committees and technical working groups on various occasions up to the present time.^{1/} A few such participating organizations have not been among those granted status by the Economic and Social Council in either Category A or B.

^{1/} A list of Non-Governmental Organizations which have at various stages participated in the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies is attached as Appendix B.

This matter has from the beginning raised some issues not envisaged by the Rules of Procedure. These problems have been worked out by delegates and the Secretariat as the occasion demanded, on an ad hoc basis which has developed into a definite pattern. A consistent administrative practice, has been to arrange consultations with the Non-Governmental Organizations whose participation was deemed of value to the work of the Commission.

114. The presence of Non-Governmental Organizations has assisted in the deliberations of various Committees, notably the Inland Transport Committee, the Electric Power Committee and the Housing Sub-Committee. On a number of occasions Non-Governmental Organizations have at the request of the Committees and the Secretariat, undertaken work designed to further the Commission's programmes in various fields.

PART III
CURRENT WORK PROGRAMME

115. The current work programme of the Commission is based mainly upon the series of Committee reports on their future programme of work presented to and approved by the Commission at its fifth session. A list is given below of some of the major projects arising out of the programmes approved by the Commission in June 1950 and currently being carried out by the Secretariat and the Committees. Because the Commission did not indicate its views on the question, and the Committees regularly meet to consider the progress made on each project in the light of changing circumstances, no specific indication is made of project priorities. Staff and budgetary limitations, as well as emergency situations (as, for example, in coal at present) have obliged the Committees and the Secretariat frequently to change the emphasis given to particular projects included in the work programmes.

General Projects

(1) Economic Survey of Europe in 1950 -

A major study continuing the series of annual surveys already issued.

(2) Economic Bulletins for Europe (three issues annually)

This year's volume is to include in addition to the quarterly reviews of the economic situation, at least three special studies of considerable scope covering agriculture; transport and housing. There is also envisaged a major study on energy and a further analysis on European taxation continuing the series already started. Plans are being made for studies to be included of the economic problems of individual European countries.

(3) Trade Between Europe and Latin America -

A joint study with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Food and Agriculture Organization.

(4) Trade Between Europe and the Far East -

A joint study with the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East.

(5) Long-run Tendencies in the European Economy -

A study of basic economic trends.

(6) Standard International Trade Classification -

A project undertaken at the request of and in co-operation with Headquarters and concerned with aiding European countries in the application of, and pursuant to its adoption by the Economic and Social Council.

/(7) The Energy

(7) The Energy Resources of Europe and their Use

A study, the first part of which is to be completed in 1951, and the second in 1952.

Agriculture

(8) Grains

Enquiries are being made with governments on the possibility of convening a second Ad Hoc Meeting on the Grains Trade in 1951.

(9) Assistance to Small and Medium Farmers

A study covering extension services, and education and research facilities; credits; and study of métayage and tenant farming regulations.

(10) Price Survey

Relationship between prices of coarse grains and those of principal animal products; and relationship between prices of fertilizers and those of principal vegetable products.

(11) Quality Standards of Perishable Foodstuffs

A study carried out by a Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Foodstuffs. Individual reports to be submitted by rapporteurs on tomatoes, potatoes, salad, pears and apples, peaches, apricots, plums, grapes, citrus fruit, cheese, eggs.

Coal

(12) Coal Trade Surveys

Detailed forecasts of production, consumption requirements and trade in solid fuels in Europe, made for each quarter of the year; other studies and proposals regarding particular aspects of the flow of solid fuels in Europe.

(13) Solid Fuel Utilization

The study of combustion problems, economies in carbonization, the utilization of low grade fuels and fuel efficiency in general; the promotion of the exchange of technical information between member countries on efficient utilization of solid fuels.

(14) Coal Classification

The continuance of work aimed at evolving an international coal classification and the practical application of such a classification. Revision of the three volumes dealing with methods of the classification, analysis and sampling of coal for a definitive, and if possible, printed issue.

/(15) Study of Coal

(15) Study of Coal Production Trends

A series of surveys of production prospects in coal producing countries.

(16) Study of Solid Fuel Consumption Trends

A series of studies of consumption trends in a number of European countries.

(17) Study on the Cost of Coal to the Consumer

A detailed study of the chain of factors affecting the price of coal as it moves from the pithead to the ultimate consumer, in both coal producing and coal importing countries.

(18) Forecasts of Annual Production, Imports, Exports and Consumption of Coal and Coke

Separate forecasts for coal and coke, made at regular intervals for a year ahead at a time.

(19) Coal Statistics

This includes the preparation of the Monthly Bulletin of Coal Statistics, the Monthly Statistical Summary giving advance provisional coal statistics, regular statements of imports from main sources of supply, and other statistics required by the Coal Committee for particular purposes from time to time.

Electric Power

(20) The Situation and Future Prospects of Electric Power in Europe

A study analyzing the development of this industry in the light of its capacity to meet present and future needs.

(21) The Water Power Resources of Europe

The object of this continuing study is to obtain, for the first time, a consistent appraisal of the main hydro-development possibilities in European countries.

(22) Measures to Facilitate International Trade in Electric Power in Europe and the Development of Resources of Joint International Interest

A project undertaken by the Juridical Working Party of the Committee of Electric Power, based on Secretariat studies of comparative legislation.

(23) Possibilities of Export of Electric Energy from certain countries

A study of the technical and financial aspects of power development in certain countries.

(24) Rural Electrification

A project designed to improve and augment inter-governmental co-operation in developing electrification of rural areas.

/(25) Utilization

(25) Utilization of the Capacity of Electric Power Production Plants in Distribution Networks

A study of economic practicability of this method of improving power distribution.

(26) Procurement and Publication of Annual Statistics on Power Stations brought into operation in Europe and other Statistics

Statistics of economic importance, complementary to those being published by technical organizations in this field.

Engineering

(27) Unification of Contract Practices in the Field of Engineering Equipment

A project primarily designed to determine whether more uniform contract practices can be established so as to facilitate trade in engineering products.

(28) Review of Trends in Production, Demand and Trade of Engineering Products

Revision and completion of the "General Survey of the European Engineering Industry"; preparation of a report on "The Agricultural Tractor Industry in Europe".

(29) Promotion of Trade in Engineering Products between Europe and Overseas Areas

An assessment of the technical and commercial factors affecting European exports of selected engineering products to Latin America and to Asia and the Far East.

(30) Preparations for Improving the Availability and Comparability of Engineering Statistics

A project eventually aiming at the collection and periodical publication of engineering industry statistics.

Housing

(31) Building Research

Preparation for and servicing of meetings of the Organizing Committee charged with establishing an International Building Research Council; initiation of exchange of information on national Building Research Organizations and on research projects in progress or to be undertaken by them.

(32) Building Documentation

Assistance to the International Council for Building Documentation established on the initiative of the Housing Sub-Committee.

(33) Building and Housing Investment

A study being carried out primarily by a Rapporteur, intended to provide a basis for a review by governments of their investment policies in this field.

/(34) Financing

(34) Financing of Housing

A study being undertaken primarily by Rapporteurs, giving comparative data on financial facilities available for housing construction.

(35) Cost and Productivity of Building Operations

Studies undertaken primarily by Rapporteurs, designed to assist in making comparisons between countries of the cost of house building, by both traditional and non-traditional methods.

(36) Utilization of Space in Typical Dwellings

The primary responsibility of a Rapporteur, this study is aimed at improvements in the design of housing, with particular reference to internal lay-outs.

(37) Strength and Stability

This study, being prepared by a Rapporteur, is intended as a contribution to the analysis of strength and stability factors in house construction, in the light of inter-country comparisons.

(38) Housing and Building Statistics

Preparations for the collection and periodical publication of housing and building statistics.

Inland Transport - General Problems

(39) Co-ordination of Transport

This comprises, inter alia, studies on true costs of transport, tariff structures, the organization of the transport industry and conditions of employment.

(40) Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs

Studies on Standardization of packaging conditions of transport, transport charges, equipment problems, including the standardization of refrigerated road transport equipment.

(41) Dangerous Goods

Model regulations governing the related operations of handling dangerous goods.

(42) Combined transport contract

The Committee studies the possibility of drawing up uniform rules for a combined transport contract.

(43) Development and Publication of Statistics

This covers development of statistics on the movement of goods in

/international traffic,

international traffic, statistical sampling surveys for road traffic, international road transport statistics, comparability of transport figures in national accounts, etc., as well as collection, tabulation and analysis of statistics and issuing of annual and quarterly bulletin of transport statistics.

Railway Problems

(44) Simplification of Frontier Formalities

Two draft conventions have been prepared, one for the simplification of frontier formalities for goods and the other for passengers for submission to the Sub-Committee on Rail Transport.

(45) Currency Problems

The Working Party on Currency Problems is endeavouring:

- (a) to remove the difficulties still impeding complete freedom in paying transport charges in accordance with the International Convention concerning the Transport of Goods by Rail (CIM), and
- (b) to re-introduce in international traffic disbursements and cash on delivery facilities.

(46) Tariff Questions

The Sub-Committee on Rail Transport has set up a Working Party on Tariffs whose task it is to endeavour to co-ordinate international tariff structures.

(47) Standardization of Rolling Stock

This project includes studies on the possible introduction of automatic coupling and the standardization of brakes on rolling stock in order to increase the safety of rail transport and to diminish delays due to defective brakes.

(48) Programme of Renewal and Construction of European Railway Rolling Stock

The object of this study is to draw up a long-term programme of construction and renewal of rolling stock.

(49) A Uniform System of Accountancy for the Main Line Railway Systems

Studies are being made of the possibility of obtaining international agreement on a uniform accountancy system which would facilitate the administration of railway undertakings and render possible a closer supervision by public authorities.

Road Problems

(50) Future Regime of the Road

This project comprises studies on the problems concerning the development and improvement of transport of passengers and goods by road in Europe with a view to the preparation of an international regime for such transport.

/(51) Road Transport

(51) Road Transport Contract

A Working Party is examining the possibility of drawing up uniform rules governing the contract for international transport by road of passengers and goods.

(52) Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road

An agreement on this subject is being drawn up.

(53) Insurance of Motorists against Third Party Risks

A scheme is being prepared providing uniform arrangements for motorists to be adequately insured against road risks when entering countries where insurance against such risks is compulsory.

(54) Prevention of Road Traffic Accidents

A Working Party has been entrusted with the task of studying developments in the design of road construction, in the system of road signs and signals and in traffic regulations likely to effect a marked improvement in road safety and also first aid on the road.

(55) Main International Traffic Arteries

This consists of the study of the building and financing of a network of main international traffic arteries and consideration of the problems relating to international assistance in providing the labour and materials required to complete such a network.

(56) Safety at Level Crossings

A Working Party of road and rail experts is engaged in this study.

Inland Waterways and Port Problems

(57) Transport of Dangerous Goods by Waterways

A Working Party of experts is drawing up model regulations for the transport of dangerous goods by inland waterways.

Steel

(58) The Long-term Demand and Supply Prospects for Iron Ore in Europe

Several studies are being prepared and a working group of the Steel Committee is considering what policies and practical measures should be adopted to meet the problems arising in relation to supplies of each quality of iron ore required by the steel plants in Europe.

(59) European Scrap Supplies

A Panel of Experts from the Steel Committee is studying problems faced by European governments in ensuring a regular and adequate flow of scrap for the
/steel industry

steel industry, particularly measures for improvement in collection and distribution.

(60) The European Steel Industry in the Setting of the World Market

This basic study, published in 1950, is being brought up to date.

(61) Economic Implications of Current Technological Developments in Iron and Steel Metallurgy

A report by outside experts in response to the request of the Steel Committee.

(62) Statistics on Steel Consumption by Industries

A study designed to provide the basis for a more refined analysis of consumption trends.

(63) Statistical Bulletin

A regular quarterly publication including statistics on steel production, consumption and trade.

Timber

(64) European Timber Consumption Trends Study

A basic study, jointly with the FAO of the timber industry in its relations to other industries and the historical development of the world's economy, as a basis for proposals on policies designed to improve the use of timber resources.

(65) More Rational Utilization of Wood

A series of studies carried out by the Secretariat and an outside expert, also includes investigation of the possibility of establishing an International Timber Documentation Centre.

(66) Investigation of Possibility of Preparing and Publishing Regularly Timber Price Indices and other Data on Prices

An inquiry conducted by the Secretariat in co-operation with participating governments.

(67) Collaboration between Wood Working Schools

An investigation being conducted in collaboration with the International Labour Organisation.

(68) Quarterly Timber Statistics and Quarterly Market Reports

A publication based on information supplied by major timber-exporting and importing countries of Europe.

PART IV
GENERAL APPRAISAL OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE COMMISSION
AND THE SECRETARIAT

116. In the Report to the fifth session of the Commission an appraisal was given by the Executive Secretary of the achievements of the Commission and the Secretariat as at May/June 1950. This appraisal, taken into account by the Commission when it made its annual report to the Council, does not now seem to require any fundamental modification. Indeed, it can be said that the events of the past year have supported the view therein expressed that while there is a genuine need for a regional economic agency which will apply the principles and policies of the United Nations to the special problems of particular areas, there does not unfortunately yet exist in Europe a unity of purpose which would enable an international institution like the Commission to cope with the fundamental economic problems to the extent and with the effectiveness that would be desirable.

117. The remarks which follow are thus not so much a re-appraisal of the achievements of the Commission as an addition to the "tentative and summary appraisal" presented by the Executive Secretary in his Report to the Commission's fifth session.

118. The Economic Commission for Europe is an instrument designed to serve its participating governments and to foster their collaboration. Its achievements, therefore, ultimately depend on the degree to which governments are willing to work together.

119. The Commission has survived difficult times and has, I think, with regard to certain of its activities, even grown in stature and in scope precisely because it is a barrier against the divisive factors in the world today. Despite their differences and competing interests - indeed perhaps because of them - its participating governments have felt the need to maintain and enlarge their efforts to avoid international disintegration.

120. Whatever success has been attained by the Commission in helping governments to reach agreements is largely due to the techniques it has developed for isolating and as it were depoliticizing economic problems. This goal is sought in a number of ways. First of all, problems are looked at in the light of objective economic studies and analyses which emphasize the long-term trends and thereby put the immediate crisis problems in a proper focus. The Commission has also been content to progress one step at a time, avoiding the pitfalls of vague resolutions and

/fruitless

fruitless discussion of general principles, and has been able to adapt its organizational structure to the problems at hand. Finally, at the meetings of the Committees and their working parties, attended in the main by experts, voting is rarely resorted to and the aim has rather been to reach technical agreements on as broad a scale as possible.

121. It is, of course, difficult to answer the question whether the Commission has been a success. Perhaps the most that can be said is that the Commission seems to be filling an organic need, that it is working in the right direction, that it is achieving a number of positive results, and that it has taken root despite the adverse climate not merely as a decoration or an ornament but as a fruitful part of the European landscape. Not every bud has blossomed; we have had our failures as well as our successes.

122. In the comments which follow, a still tentative and, it is hoped, not immodest appraisal is given of the Commission's operations in each major field of endeavour.

(1) Agriculture

123. The Commission's work in agriculture has been mainly concerned with the possibility of stimulating the East-West trade in cereals. The Ad Hoc Meeting which was held in November last year was a successful start in this direction. The discussions took place in a business-like manner and the delegates seemed to be interested in exploring the possibility of further meetings in the current year. The amount of grains available for export from Eastern Europe was relatively small in 1950, but it is hoped that in 1951 a significant increase in this trade and possibly even long-term agreements will be attained. The Committee on Agricultural Problems has not been very active, but methods of increasing its effectiveness as an international instrument are under active consideration.

(2) Coal

124. I do not think it is an exaggeration to say that our Coal Committee has become the focal point for the solid fuels trade of all of Europe. Although it no longer has formal allocations functions in respect of German coal, and, indeed, never has had any formal authority over governments, at its quarterly meetings the experts of the exporting and importing countries meet to discuss and agree upon their trading plans for the period ahead. Despite the deteriorating supply picture and the fact that it cannot compel governments to accept its recommendations, the Committee has never failed to reach unanimous agreement and to see its agreements

/executed

executed by the participating governments. This achievement is all the more remarkable when we consider that solid fuels are the basic raw material of modern industry, and that their supply determines to a major extent the whole tone and tempo of a country's economy. This particular task of the Coal Committee, though perhaps the most immediately important, is, as can be seen from the description of its activities, by no means the only or not even in the long run necessarily the most decisive. Taking a broader perspective of the Committee's role as a permanently functioning regional body, dealing with all aspects of Europe's coal economy and looking beyond the need for current adjustment of the coal market, the other activities of the Committee, both in the economic and technical fields, stand out in sharper relief and assume greater significance. In the economic field, the Committee is working on the analysis of production and consumption trends and hopes ultimately to be able, by the development of this technique, to give forewarning of any serious disequilibrium between solid fuel supply and demand and to indicate measures which would be conducive to avoiding excessive market fluctuations. This is indeed an ambitious but, I believe, practicable undertaking. In the domain of technical studies the results of investigations into coal utilization problems should be of very practical value to governments and the industry, whilst the completion of the work on an international coal classification system within the next two years will represent a unique and beneficial accomplishment.

125. There is still a need to obtain and put before governments information on certain aspects of the coal situation which hitherto have not been given all the attention they deserve. For a true appreciation of the supply position, more complete figures of current stocks of solid fuels are desirable; and from a long-term point of view, a full understanding of the relationship between solid fuels and other forms of energy is essential. Progress has been made in these directions recently governments have supplied further statistics of stocks, and studies launched on coal consumption in relation to other forms of energy are proceeding.

(3) Power

126. The attention of the Committee and the work of the Secretariat have recently been focussed on the flow and development of electric power across national frontiers. Studies on the legal and administrative barriers to such flow and development are being completed, and it is hoped shortly to reach a position where concrete results should be attainable through international agreements. These

/agreements

agreements should simplify the complex procedures which have hitherto prevented full exploitation of Europe's power resources. While devoting more attention than in the past to such immediate problems, it would be of the greatest importance to present to governments a long-term view of Europe's energy resource development, to study the dynamics of the changes which have been occurring as between the use of the various forms of energy now available and ripe for development. The Secretariat's basic energy study has been well started by the assembling of statistical data of a regional character, and the work of analysis is now being done. In my judgment, it is important for us to augment our services to European governments by emphasizing problems which lend themselves to inter-governmental agreement. The Commission's work in this field should enable governments not only to reach inter-governmental agreements, but also help them to re-appraise their policies toward this basic industry in the light of the general development of European economy.

(4) The Engineering Industry

127. The undoubted difficulties which the Commission has experienced in stimulating international co-operation in the engineering industry arise partly from the diversity of the products of this industry; and partly because the work which might well be done in stimulating intra-European trade and in promoting production for export of engineering equipment is hampered by political factors. The Secretariat is, however, completing a basic survey and is dealing with certain special problems of considerable importance particularly related to trade in engineering products. The Secretariat has been reduced in size and its resources adapted to a concentrated new programme of work now adopted. Special attention is being paid to the problem of tractors and farm machinery, particularly from the point of view of promotion of exports to areas in Europe and outside Europe where there are unfilled requirements. A start has been made on an effort to standardise certain contract practices for engineering products, a task of considerable technical complexity but one which, if carried out with some success, would undoubtedly be of considerable value. At the request of the Technical Assistance Administration and with the general endorsement of the Industry and Materials Committee, the Secretariat has also begun a large programme of work on the technical assistance programme, particularly as it relates to requests made by participating European governments.

/(5) Housing

(5) Housing

128. The initiatives taken by the Commission in the housing field have met with a warm reception on the part of Governments and have filled real needs for the European community. The building industry is an aggregate of many separate industries, many of which are basically local in character, and consequently the main problem before the Commission has been to stimulate international co-operation in a field where such co-operation has not traditionally occurred. The Housing Sub-Committee has had some notable successes in this endeavour: the International Council for Building Documentation has been launched and preparations for a building research council, a more difficult task, are being made. These organizations have been or are being set up outside the structure of the Commission, and this deliberately in order not to build up the large technical Secretariat required to service them. Recently close liaison has been established by the Secretariat with the housing work which is now being begun in the Headquarters of the United Nations, and it is hoped that thereby a contribution can be made to an expansion of housing development in other regions. Further efforts are also planned to help augment and improve the application of research and documentation to the day to day operations of the building industry itself. Finally, a number of practical studies, both of an economic and a technical character, have been completed or are in progress, much of the work being done by Government experts acting as Rapporteurs.

(6) Transport

129. The Commission, through the work of the Inland Transport Committee and its Secretariat, is making substantial progress in helping governments create an integrated international transport system in Europe. Hardly a day passes without a meeting in Geneva of a sub-committee or working party dealing with the many intricate transport problems requiring solution. Out of these meetings have emerged a large number of international agreements and arrangements on such problems as the lifting of restrictions on the freedom of the road, the standardization of rolling stock and plans for the creation of an integrated European highway network. Regional agreements have also been concluded on traffic conditions, on road customs problems, while others are in preparation, such as, for instance, an agreement on the transport of dangerous goods and those on the simplification of frontier formalities for rail transport. The main drawback is that we do not always have the full participation of all governments and the

/Committee's

Committee's work would substantially benefit if a greater degree of participation could be obtained.

(7) Steel

130. New and urgent problems have recently arisen as a result of the increased requirements for steel. The Steel Committee, which contributed to solving of the immediate post-war shortage problems, is now once again concentrating its attention on measures for increasing the availability of the basic raw materials for steel-making. There seems to be a real long-term need to increase the supplies of these raw materials and it would appear to be in the interest of all governments to co-operate to this end. The Study on "The European Steel Industry in the Setting of the World Market", which was published early in 1950, has, by giving a fresh perspective, made a real contribution to a better understanding of the steel industry in Europe. Like all studies in economic dynamics, it requires modification in the light of later developments and the revision of this document is likely to be a recurring need. The Commission's work in this field has suffered to some extent because of a lack of full participation by all European countries. The steel industry in Europe is also passing through a phase of structural reorganization, and this may bring new and complex problems before the Committee.

(8) Timber

131. In this field (where work is done jointly with the Food and Agriculture Organization, which furnishes the Secretariat's professional staff), the supply and demand position appears at present to be in precarious balance; the long-term trend is likely to be one of deficit for Europe. The main immediate problem, and one which I am sorry to say we have not yet solved, is to help revive the large scale East-West trade in timber. The main long-range problem is to promote the rational development and use of Europe's timber resources in the light of the considerable technical progress made in recent years which could be applied to reduce waste and maximize output. Steps have been taken to meet both problems. This year a basic study on timber consumption trends should be completed, and from this study should emerge useful suggestions for the future of the industry. Also, countries rich in timber should be helped to develop their resources and eliminate waste by the introduction of machinery whose importation on credit might be arranged through payment in forest products, and the Timber Committee should give this problem its early attention.

/(9) Trade

(9) Trade

132. Although the Commission's efforts through the organization of a Committee on the Development of Trade to help augment the commerce of Europe have not yet succeeded, the promotion of trade continues to be one of the main preoccupations of the Committees on Coal, Industry and Materials, and Agriculture, and of the Secretariat's Research and Planning Division. Such a piecemeal approach to this problem is, of course, a great handicap. Trade by its very nature requires exchanges of different commodities. The Secretariat is constantly exploring means of helping the governments of Europe to achieve, through their common interest in raising the living standards of their peoples, a unity of purpose which will permit an expansion of trade.

(10) Research

133. Research is a tool used in all of the Commission's operations, but there are certain studies of a broad nature, like the Annual Survey, the Economic Bulletins for Europe, and the studies on inter-regional trade which are designed to give participating governments a background perspective for the determination of their economic policies. I think it can fairly be said that our research studies have met with a cordial reception even though in some instances certain uncomfortable facts or analyses may have been presented, that they have achieved a high level of competence and that they have won for themselves great authority. In the future it is planned to give more emphasis to inter-regional trade problems than has been done in the past; after the Survey of Europe's Trade with Latin America is completed, a similar inter-regional study is planned jointly with the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East. The scope of our research work should also be enlarged to cover more intensively than has been so in the past agriculture, transport, housing, and energy, this work being undertaken in co-operation with the technical divisions concerned with these particular subjects. A series of analyses of European taxation systems, one of which has already been published, will be carried out. Increasing attention should be given to other institutional factors if a proper understanding of economic operations and an improvement in policy is to be reached. In our future research work due attention should also be given to this particular aspect in studies of individual countries.

(11) Relations with other Organizations

134. The following comments should perhaps be prefaced by the observation that the Secretariat of the Commission has always operated as an integral part of the

/Economic

Economic Affairs Department. Co-ordination of work has become a matter of routine. The new responsibilities given to the Commission by the Technical Assistance Administration are an additional link between the Headquarters' Secretariat and its regional outpost.

135. Co-operation with other regional commissions has been increasingly close, but must be continually developed and intensified. I am convinced that the future effectiveness of the Council's Regional Commissions will increasingly hinge on an intensification of co-operation between them. Joint studies are being prepared by the Secretariats of the regional commissions and these should facilitate a greater co-ordination of policy on the inter-regional level, as for example in the promotion of trade, technical assistance, and financial co-operation for economic development.

136. In their relations with the Specialized Agencies, the Commission and the Secretariat have been conscious of the need expressed by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for more effective co-ordination particularly because of the many points of contact that exist and the consequent potential danger of overlapping and duplication. Although there is no doubt still room for improvement, the existing arrangements for co-operation with the Specialized Agencies do seem to be working well. The Commission's work programme relates most closely to the work of the FAO, the International Bank and Fund, and the International Labour Organisation. These relations have been increasingly developed and several projects shared out so as to avoid proliferation.

137. As will be seen from the list in the Appendix, many Non-Governmental Organizations play an important role in the work of the Commission. A deliberate effort has been made by the Commission to secure the help of such organizations in its work programme. This collaboration has involved not only attendance by these organizations at Committee meetings, but also the joint preparation of studies and of draft agreements. These arrangements have not been on a formalistic basis. They have taken the form of co-operation on specific technical problems, the solution of which has been sought by obtaining the advice and using the technical services of the Non-Governmental Organizations in programmes related to their own fields of endeavour.

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138. From this appraisal of the Commission's operations in each field it will be
/seen that

seen that the record is a somewhat chequered one. Some of the results have been disappointing; many things have gone undone. But some valuable contributions have, I think, been made and, given proper conditions for work in the future, the Commission should be able to serve the European and the world community as a well-tested and well-weathered instrument for international collaboration.

PART V
SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

(1) With respect to the Commission's Terms of Reference

139. Certain of the terms of reference of the Commission have now only historical interest as, for example, Item 3, concerning the absorption by the Commission of the activities of the Emergency Economic Committee for Europe, the European Coal Organization, and the European Central Inland Transport Organization. But it would seem to be unnecessary and undesirable to make any formal amendments. Agreement on the Terms of Reference was reached after long and difficult discussions, and the equilibrium obtained might be upset if certain of the fundamental points were raised again.

140. Amendments would be necessary only if the wording of the existing Terms of Reference hampered the development of the Commission's activities. This does not appear to be so: the terms of reference in their present form permit the programme of work agreed at the fifth session of the Commission to be satisfactorily carried forward and, so far as can now be foreseen, provide a framework of sufficient scope for the future work of the Commission.

(2) With respect to the Commission's Rules of Procedure

141. No changes in the Rules of Procedure would appear to be necessary. The existing Rules have proven to be entirely workable and satisfactory. In point of fact, no government has ever proposed a revision of the Rules of Procedure, and no difficulties or protests have arisen. Under present circumstances, any attempt to make a general revision of the Rules might raise issues of an extraneous character.

142. Small drafting changes in the Rules of Procedure appear necessary only with regard to the relations of the Economic Commission for Europe with the Non-Governmental Organizations. The Economic and Social Council, in its Resolution of 27 February 1950, has adopted new rules governing the consultative relationship between the Non-Governmental Organizations and the Council and its functional commissions in which the Category C organizations have been replaced by a new category of organizations to be entered on a Register.

143. The Rules of Procedure of the Economic Commission for Europe relating to the Non-Governmental Organizations should, therefore, be modified accordingly.

144. If, furthermore, it is desired to standardize the Rules of Procedure of the regional economic commissions in this respect, it might be possible to consider
/an amendment

an amendment relating to relations with Non-Governmental Organizations, along the following lines:

Delete Rule 52 and replace Rules 47 and 48 by the following text:

"The relationship of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies with the Non-Governmental Organizations in Categories A and B and on the register is governed by the principles adopted by the Economic and Social Council for consultation between the Non-Governmental Organizations and its functional commissions".

(3) With respect to the Work Programme and Priorities

145. It is now becoming clear that the world is entering a period of economic stringency. Most of the Commission's life has, in fact, been spent in such an atmosphere. True, the shortages which until the middle of last year were its preoccupations arose directly out of the war, whereas the difficulties now faced are of a new kind. Many basic raw materials are being made subject to allocation; many of the programmes, like housing, which were in the forefront of governmental consideration, may possibly be given lower priority. Much of the thinking and planning which went into the consideration of long-range problems is now being devoted to problems of immediate urgency.

146. In my opinion this change in the economic climate makes the work of the Commission more important than ever; it would be an unwise policy for Europe and for the world as a whole to lower its sights and to fail to give thought to the permanent implications and long-range course of its economic evolution.

147. New organizations have been set up to deal with some of these problems of crisis, and to deal with them in what might be called political terms. It falls outside my official duty to express any judgment on these endeavours but, taking the purely technical point of view, I do not believe that there is any real overlapping in functions. The Commission has been careful to avoid this and also to avoid any compromise of its basic principle that its duty is to serve the European community and the United Nations as a whole.

APPENDIX A

I. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE
COMMISSION

The following terms of reference were agreed during the Fourth session of the Economic and Social Council, and issued as document E/CN.10/1, dated 3 April 1947:

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

HAVING considered the resolution adopted at the fifty-fifth plenary session of the General Assembly on 11 December 1946, namely, that the General Assembly "recommends that, in order to give effective aid to the countries devastated by war, the Economic and Social Council, at its next session, give prompt and favourable consideration to the establishment of an Economic Commission for Europe...",

A. ESTABLISHES AN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE, with terms of reference as follows:

1. The Economic Commission for Europe, acting within the framework of the policies of the United Nations and subject to the general supervision of the Council shall, provided that the Commission takes no action in respect to any country without the agreement of the government of that country:
 - (a) initiate and participate in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic reconstruction of Europe, for raising the level of European economic activity, and for maintaining and strengthening the economic relations of the European countries both among themselves and with other countries of the world;
 - (b) make or sponsor such investigations and studies of economic and technological problems and of developments within member countries of the Commission and within Europe generally as the Commission deems appropriate;
 - (c) undertake or sponsor the collection, evaluation and dissemination of such economic, technological and statistical information as the Commission deems appropriate.
2. The Commission shall give prior consideration, during its initial stages, to measures to facilitate the economic reconstruction of devastated countries of Europe which are Members of the United Nations.
3. Immediately upon its establishment, the Commission shall consult with
/the member

the member governments of the Emergency Economic Committee for Europe, the European Coal Organization and the European Central Inland Transport Organization with a view to the prompt termination of the first, and the absorption or termination of the activities of the second and third, while ensuring that the essential work performed by each of the three is fully maintained.

4. The Commission is empowered to make recommendations on any matter within its competence directly to its member governments, governments admitted in a consultative capacity under paragraph 8 below, and the specialized agencies concerned. The Commission shall submit for the Council's prior consideration any of its proposals for activities that would have important effects on the economy of the world as a whole.

5. The Commission may, after discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same general field, and with the approval of the Council establish such subsidiary bodies as it deems appropriate for facilitating the carrying out of its responsibilities.

6. The Commission shall submit to the Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, once a year and shall make interim reports at each regular session of the Council.^{1/}

7. The Members of the Commission are the European members of the United Nations and the United States of America.

8. The Commission may admit in a consultative capacity European nations not Members of the United Nations and shall determine the conditions in which they may participate in its work.

9. The Commission shall invite representatives of the Free Territory of Trieste (when it is established) to participate in a consultative capacity in the consideration by the Commission of any matter of particular concern to the Free Territory.

10. The Commission may consult with the representatives of the respective Allied Control Authorities of the occupied territories, and be consulted by them for the purpose of mutual information and advice on matters concerning the economies of these territories in relation to the rest of the European economy.

^{1/} At its ninth session, resolution 232 (IX), the Economic and Social Council decided that it did not, for the present require the Commission to submit such interim reports and left it to the discretion of the Commission to submit such reports additional to the annual report as it considers desirable.

/11. The Commission

11. The Commission shall invite any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that non-member.

12. The Commission shall invite representatives of specialized agencies and may invite representatives of any inter-governmental organizations to participate in a consultative capacity in its consideration of any matter of particular concern to that agency or organization, following the practices of the Economic and Social Council.

13. The Commission shall take measures to ensure that the necessary liaison is maintained with other organs of the United Nations and with the specialized agencies.

14. The Commission shall adopt its own rules of procedure, including the method of selecting its Chairman.

15. The administrative budget of the Commission shall be financed from the funds of the United Nations.

16. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall appoint the staff of the Commission, which shall form part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

17. The headquarters of the Commission shall be located at the seat of the European Office of the United Nations.

18. The first session of the Commission shall be called by the Secretary-General of the United Nations as soon as practicable after the Commission has been created by the Economic and Social Council.

19. Not later than 1951 the Council shall make a special review of the work of the Commission with a view to determining whether the Commission should be terminated or continued, and if continued what modification if any should be made in its terms of reference.

B. DRAWS THE ATTENTION of the Economic Commission for Europe to those parts of the first report of the Transport and Communications Commission relating to functions in the field of European inland transport.

REQUESTS the Economic Commission for Europe to convene at the earliest possible date a meeting of transport experts drawn from its Member governments, from other European governments admitted in a consultative capacity, and the Allied Control Authorities of the occupied countries and from appropriate European inter-governmental transport organizations, to formulate recommendations which shall

/form the basis

form the basis of a report by the Commission to the Council at its fifth session, if possible, on the functions and organizational arrangements within the framework of the Commission required to deal with European inland transport problems in general."

II. RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE COMMISSION

The following rules of procedure were adopted by the Economic Commission for Europe on 14 July 1947:

CHAPTER I - SESSIONS

Rule 1

Sessions of the Commission shall be held

- (a) on dates fixed by the Commission, after consultation with the Executive Secretary, at previous meetings,
- (b) within thirty days of the communication of a request to that effect by the Economic and Social Council,
- (c) at the request of the majority of the members of the Commission, after consultation with the Executive Secretary,
- (d) on such other occasions as the Chairman, in consultation with the Vice-Chairman and the Executive Secretary, deems necessary.

Rule 2

Sessions shall ordinarily be held at the European Office of the United Nations. The Commission may, with the concurrence of the Secretary-General, decide to hold a particular session elsewhere.

Rule 3

The Executive Secretary shall, at least twenty-one days before the commencement of a session, distribute a notice of the opening date of the session, together with a copy of the provisional agenda.

Rule 4

The Commission shall invite any member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission to participate in a consultative capacity in the consideration of any matter of particular concern to that member.

CHAPTER II - AGENDA

Rule 5

The provisional agenda for each session shall be drawn up by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chairman.

Rule 6

Rule 6

The provisional agenda for any session shall include

- (a) items arising from previous sessions of the Commission;
- (b) items proposed by the Economic and Social Council;
- (c) items proposed by any member of the Commission;
- (d) items proposed by a specialized agency in accordance with the agreements of relationship concluded between the United Nations and such agencies; and
- (e) any other items which the Chairman or the Executive Secretary sees fit to include.

Rule 7

The first item upon the provisional agenda for each session shall be the adoption of the agenda.

Rule 8

The Commission may amend the agenda at any time.

CHAPTER III - REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Rule 9

Each member shall be represented on the Commission by an accredited representative.

Rule 10

A representative may be accompanied to the sessions of the Commission by alternate representatives and advisers and, when absent, he may be replaced by an alternate representative.

Rule 11

The credentials of each representative appointed to the Commission, together with a designation of alternate representatives, shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary without delay.

Rule 12

The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman shall examine the credentials and report upon them to the Commission.

CHAPTER IV - OFFICERS

Rule 13

The Commission shall, at its first meeting of each year, elect from among its representatives a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman who shall hold office until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election.

Rule 14

Rule 14

If the Chairman is absent from a meeting, or any part thereof, the Vice-Chairman shall preside.

Rule 15

If the Chairman ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the Vice-Chairman shall become Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term. In that case, or if the Vice-Chairman ceases to represent a member of the Commission, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the Commission shall elect another Vice-Chairman for the unexpired portion of the term.

Rule 16

The Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairman.

Rule 17

The Chairman or the Vice-Chairman acting as Chairman shall participate in the meetings of the Commission as such and not as the representative of the member by whom he was accredited. The Commission shall admit an alternate representative to represent that member in the meetings of the Commission and to exercise its right to vote.

CHAPTER V - SECRETARIAT

Rule 18

The Executive Secretary shall act in that capacity at all meetings of the Commission and of its sub-commissions, other subsidiary bodies and committees. He may appoint another member of the staff to take his place at any meeting.

Rule 19

The Executive Secretary or his representative may at any meeting make either oral or written statements concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 20

The Executive Secretary shall direct the staff provided by the Secretary-General and required by the Commission, its sub-commissions, any other subsidiary bodies and committees.

Rule 21

The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for the necessary arrangements being made for meetings.

/Rule 22

Rule 22

The Executive Secretary in carrying out his functions shall act on behalf of the Secretary-General.

CHAPTER VI - CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 23

A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

Rule 24

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him elsewhere by these rules, the Chairman shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Commission, shall direct the discussion, ensure the observance of these rules, and shall accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The Chairman may also call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Rule 25

During the discussion of any matter a representative may raise a point of order. In this case the Chairman shall immediately state his ruling. If it is challenged, the Chairman shall forthwith submit his ruling to the Commission for decision and it shall stand unless over-ruled.

Rule 26

During the discussion of any matter a representative may move the adjournment of the debate. Any such motion shall have priority. In addition to the proposer of the motion, one representative shall be allowed to speak in favour of, and one representative against the motion.

Rule 27

A representative may at any time move the closure of the debate whether or not any other representative has signified his wish to speak. Not more than two representatives may be granted permission to speak against the closure.

Rule 28

The Chairman shall take the sense of the Commission on a motion for closure. If the Commission is in favour of the closure, the Chairman shall declare the debate closed.

Rule 29

The Commission may limit the time allowed to each speaker.

Rule 30

Principal motions and resolutions shall be put to the vote in the order of their submission unless the Commission decides otherwise.

Rule 31

Rule 31

When an amendment revises, adds to or deletes from a proposal, the amendment shall be put to the vote first, and if it is adopted, the amended proposal shall then be put to the vote.

Rule 32

If two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Commission shall vote first on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal, then if necessary, on the amendment next furthest removed and so on, until all the amendments have been put to the vote.

Rule 33

The Commission may, at the request of a representative, decide to put a motion or resolution to the vote in parts. If this is done, the text resulting from the series of votes shall be put to the vote as a whole.

CHAPTER VII - VOTING

Rule 34

Each member of the Commission shall have one vote.

Rule 35

Decisions of the Commission shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.

Rule 36

The Commission shall take no action in respect of any country without the agreement of the government of that country.

Rule 37

The Commission shall normally vote by show of hands. If any representative requests a roll call, a roll call shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members.

Rule 38

All elections shall be decided by secret ballot.

Rule 39

If a vote is equally divided upon matters other than elections, a second vote shall be taken at the next meeting. If this vote also results in equality, the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

CHAPTER VIII - LANGUAGES

Rule 40

English, French and Russian shall be the official and working languages of the Commission.^{1/}

Rule 41

Speeches made in any of the working languages shall be interpreted into the other working languages.

CHAPTER IX - RECORDS

Rule 42

Summary records of the meetings of the Commission shall be kept by the Secretariat. They shall be sent as soon as possible to the representatives of members and to the representatives of any other government agency or organization which participated in the meeting concerned. Such representatives shall inform the Secretariat not later than forty-eight hours after the circulation of any summary record of any changes they wish to have made.

Rule 43

The corrected version of the summary records of public meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible in accordance with the usual practice of the United Nations. This shall include distribution on appropriate occasions to consultative members.

Rule 44

The corrected version of the summary records of private meetings shall be distributed as soon as possible to the members of the Commission, to any consultative member participating in the meeting concerned and to the specialized agencies. They shall be distributed to all the Members of the United Nations if and when the Commission so decides.

Rule 45

As soon as possible the text of all reports, resolutions, recommendations and other formal decisions made by the Commission, its sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and its committees shall be communicated to the members of the

^{1/} Chinese and Spanish have been excluded as official languages and Russian has been included as a working language, subject to such decisions as it may be necessary for the General Assembly to take. The above decision of the Commission has been made for practical reasons and in view of the membership of the Commission.

Commission, to the consultative members concerned, to all other Members of the United Nations and to the specialized agencies.

CHAPTER X - PUBLICITY OF MEETINGS

Rule 46

The meetings of the Commission shall ordinarily be held in public. The Commission may decide that a particular meeting or meetings shall be held in private.

CHAPTER XI - RELATIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rule 47

Non-governmental organizations in Categories A, B and C may designate authorized representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Commission. Non-governmental organizations in Category A may circulate to the members of the Commission written statements and suggestions on matters within their competence. Non-governmental organizations in Categories B and C may submit such statements and suggestions to the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary will prepare and distribute at each session of the Commission a list of such communications received, briefly indicating the substance of each of them. On the request of any member of the Commission the Executive Secretary will reproduce in full and distribute any such communication.

Rule 48

The Commission at its discretion may consult with non-governmental organizations in Categories A, B and C on matters in which the Commission regards these organizations as having special competence or knowledge. Such consultations may be arranged on the invitation of the Commission or on the request of the organization. In the case of non-governmental organizations in Category A consultations should normally be held with the Commission itself. In the case of non-governmental organizations in Categories B and C consultations might be effected either directly or through ad hoc Committees.

CHAPTER XII - SUB-COMMISSIONS, OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND COMMITTEES

Rule 49

After discussion with any specialized agency functioning in the same general field, and with the approval of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission may establish such continually acting sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies

/as it deems

as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions and shall define the powers and composition of each of them. Such autonomy as may be necessary for the effective discharge of the technical responsibilities laid upon them may be delegated to them.

Rule 50

The Commission may establish such committees and sub-committees as it deems necessary to assist it in carrying out its tasks.

Rule 51

Sub-commissions or other subsidiary bodies and committees and sub-committees shall adopt their own rules of procedure unless otherwise decided by the Commission.

Rule 52

Committees, Sub-committees and Working Parties should, as in rules 47 and 48, consult non-governmental organizations in Category A, which because of their importance as regards their activity and the number of their members in Europe, play a part in the economic life in Europe, on questions within the competence of the Commission and deemed of interest to such organizations. These organizations could in appropriate cases be invited to be represented at meetings of Committees, Sub-committees and Working Parties.^{1/}

CHAPTER XIII - REPORTS

Rule 53

The Commission shall submit to the Economic and Social Council a full report on its activities and plans, including those of any subsidiary bodies, once a year and shall make interim reports at each regular session of the Council.

CHAPTER XIV - AMENDMENTS AND SUSPENSIONS

Rule 54

Any of these Rules of Procedure may be amended or suspended by the Commission provided that the proposed amendments or suspensions do not attempt to set aside the terms of reference laid down by the Economic and Social Council.

^{1/} This rule cannot be considered as implying between the Non-Governmental Organizations in Category A, any discrimination contrary to the decision and rules of the Assembly or the Economic and Social Council.

APPENDIX B

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMISSION'S PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY ORGANS

CONTENTS

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1. The Committee on Agricultural Problems

The following terms of reference were agreed at the fourth session of the ECE, and issued in document E/1328 (Resolution 1), dated 24 May 1949:

"THE COMMISSION,

HAVING CONSIDERED the Reports of the ad hoc Committee on Agricultural Problems (E/ECE/AGRI/5 and E/ECE/AGRI/7) together with the Note by the Executive Secretary supplementing the report of the ad hoc Committee on Agricultural Problems (E/ECE/97);

APPROVES the resolution adopted by the ad hoc Committee on Agricultural Problems, on 2 October 1948, together with the Terms of Reference therein included for the Committee on Agricultural Problems. (See Appendix)

REQUESTS the Committee on Agricultural Problems:

- (1) to take into account the suggestions and proposals made in the course of the discussion on the terms of reference of the Committee on Agricultural Problems at the Fourth Session of ECE, particularly in regard to the attention to be given to problems of special interest for small and medium farmers, and
- (2) to bear in mind resolution No. 202 (III) of 8 December 1948 of the General Assembly of the United Nations, particularly in regard to paragraphs 3 (b)(d);

HAVING REGARD to the possibility of duplication of the work already undertaken or to be undertaken by other Committees of the Economic Commission for Europe in the sphere of agricultural products and requisites;

INSTRUCTS the Executive Secretary to take appropriate steps to secure between the Committee on Agricultural Problems and the other Committees of the ECE the necessary co-operation in order to avoid any duplication of work.

APPENDIX

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE
ON AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS

"The Committee on Agricultural Problems, while recognizing the responsibility entrusted to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations concerning matters of agricultural and food policy and technique, under the terms of the agreement concluded between the United Nations and the above-mentioned specialized agency,

/SHALL provide

SHALL provide a forum for discussion and the exchange of information to ensure close collaboration between the Governments of Europe in the agricultural aspects of the overall problem of European reconstruction and development; be empowered to initiate studies and make recommendations on the best practical means of European co-operation to develop the production of agricultural commodities in Europe and to facilitate the exchange of such commodities, co-operate with other organs of the Economic Commission for Europe regarding both industrial requisites for agricultural production and the exchange of industrial goods against foodstuffs.

The Committee shall, however, take no action in respect to any country without the agreement of the Government of that country."

2. The Coal Committee

The following terms of reference were agreed at the second session of the ECE, and issued as document E/ECE/42/Rev.5, dated 14 July 1947:

"THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE, in conformity with its decision taken at the First Session, and considering also the general principles contained in the Executive Secretary's Report to the Governments Members of the Commission, relating to the transfer of the functions of the European Coal Organization (Document E/ECE/35),

RESOLVES

- (1) To establish a Coal Committee within its framework.
- (2) That the Coal Committee shall
 - (a) not later than 31st December, 1947, begin to conduct the activities at present performed by the European Coal Organization, such as allocation, promotion of increased supplies of coal, economic and statistical research, and the study of coal in relation to other economic problems;
 - (b) consider the long term problem of coal, giving due consideration to the possible development of other sources of power.
- (3) That the Coal Committee shall act in a consultative capacity, report on its activities and submit its recommendations to the Commission on all matters excepting allocations, where recommendations may be made direct to governments provided that any decision concerning

/allocation is

allocation is taken with the approval of all governments directly concerned. The Committee shall also be authorized to present recommendations which fall within its technical field of competence and do not involve any general principle or policy direct to interested governments.

- (4) That the following shall be members of the Coal Committee:
 - (a) Member Governments of the Commission, which are interested;
 - (b) Those Governments not Members of the United Nations which shall be invited by the Executive Secretary on behalf of the Committee in accordance with the decisions already taken by the Commission.
- (5) That the Coal Committee may, with prior or subsequent authorization of the Commission, establish sub-committees to deal with special problems such as the allocation of coal, pitwood, pitch and the procurement of mining equipment. That the Committee and its sub-committees be empowered to set up working parties or study groups to deal with special problems.
- (6) That the Coal Committee and its sub-committees shall be free to frame their own Rules of Procedure, which should as far as possible follow the general pattern laid down by the Commission. Recommendations for allocations made with the approval of all governments directly concerned will, however, be regarded as final.

INSTRUCTS

- (7) The Executive Secretary
 - (a) to convene the first meeting of the Coal Committee within three months from the close of the Second Session of the Commission;
 - (b) to prepare, in consultation with the Chairman of the European Coal Organization, a report on the organizational arrangements and plan of work necessary for the maintenance of the essential functions of the European Coal Organization.

NOTES

- (8) The intention of Governments Members of the European Coal Organization to declare that organization terminated on 31st December 1947."

/Draft of For

Draft of New Terms of Reference To Be Submitted by the Coal
Committee for Approval by the Sixth Session of
the Economic Commission for Europe

- I. The activities of the Coal Committee shall embrace the following fields:
- (a) coal production and consumption and the study of production and consumption trends in Europe;
 - (b) the European coal trade, including questions of price policy in their general economic aspects, and the equitable distribution of coal;
 - (c) the utilization of coal and the dissemination of information on utilization techniques;
 - (d) coal classification and the establishment of an international classification system;
 - (e) the compilation of coal statistics;
 - (f) the study of coal in relation to other economic problems, with particular reference to the utilization of other sources of power.
- II. The Coal Committee shall act in a consultative capacity and report on its activities to the Commission. Provided that the approval of all governments directly concerned is given, the Committee may make recommendations direct to interested governments on any questions which fall within its technical field of competence and do not involve any general principle or policy.
- III. That the following shall be members of the Coal Committee:
- (a) Member Governments of the Commission, which are interested;
 - (b) Those Governments not Members of the United Nations which shall be invited by the Executive Secretary on behalf of the Committee in accordance with the decisions already taken by the Commission.
- IV. The Coal Committee may, with prior or subsequent authorization of the Commission, establish sub-committees to deal with particular subjects. The Committee and its sub-committees may set up working parties or study groups to deal with special problems.
- V. The Coal Committee and its sub-committees shall be free to frame their own rules of procedure, which should as far as possible follow the general pattern laid down by the Commission.
3. The Committee on Electric Power, the Committee on Industry and Materials and the Timber Committee

The following terms of reference were agreed at the second session of the ECE, and issued as document E/ECE/43/Rev.3, dated 12 July 1947.

The status of the Sub-committee on Timber was raised to that of a full Committee at the Third Session of the ECE, without change in its terms of reference (document E/791, Annex I):

"The COMMISSION, in conformity with its decision taken at the first Session, and considering also the general principles contained in the Executive Secretary's Report to the Governments Members of the Economic Commission for Europe, relating to the transfer of the functions of the Emergency Economic Committee for Europe (Document E/ECE/35).

RESOLVES

- (1) to establish within its framework
 - (a) a Committee on Electric Power
 - (b) a Committee on Industry and Materials
 - (i) a Sub-Committee on Timber
 - (ii) a Sub-Committee on Fertilizers
 - (iii) a Sub-Committee on Alkalis
 - (c) a Panel on Housing Problems
- (2) that the COMMITTEE ON ELECTRIC POWER shall
 - (a) provide a forum for discussion and the exchange of information regarding all electric power and energy problems;
 - (b) be empowered to initiate studies and make recommendations on the best utilization of available resources and on the best means of effecting the co-ordinated development of Europe's electric power, provided the Committee takes no action in respect to any country without the agreement of the Government of that country;
- (3) that the COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY AND MATERIALS and its various sub-committees, each within its field of competence, shall provide a forum for discussion and the exchange of information on industrial problems which do not fall within the scope of activities of the Committees on Coal, Electric Power, Transport and any other Committees which may be set up by the Commission; be empowered to initiate studies and make recommendations on the means whereby the European production of certain scarce commodities and equipment may be increased, their utilization improved, and further economy in their consumption achieved, provided the Committee takes no action in respect of any country

/without the

without the agreement of the Government of that country, and provided that the division of responsibility between these Committees and other international organizations concerned in similar functions be respected;

be empowered to recommend, where appropriate through or in consultation with other international organizations concerned in similar functions, the allocation of materials in short supply for which the Committee or the Commission itself feel that this procedure should be adopted and which are declared available for allocation.

(4) that the PANEL ON HOUSING PROBLEMS shall:

study housing problems of common interest to European countries and advise the Commission on the means, technical and economic, of assisting and expediting the housing programmes of the Member countries;

collect, analyse and disseminate statistical and other information.

(5) that these Committees shall act in a consultative capacity, report on their activities and submit their recommendations to the Commission on all matters excepting allocation, where recommendations may be made direct to governments provided that any decision concerning allocation is taken with the approval of all governments directly concerned. The Committees shall, however, be authorized to present recommendations which fall within their technical field of competence and do not involve any general principle or policy direct to interested governments.

(6) that the following shall be members of the Committees, Sub-Committees and Panels:

(a) Member governments of the ECE which are interested

(b) Those governments not members of the United Nations which shall be invited by the Executive Secretary on behalf of the Committees or Sub-Committees, in accordance with the decisions already taken by the Commission.

(7) That the Committees, with prior or subsequent authorization of the Commission, may establish sub-committees; that committees and sub-committees be empowered to set up working parties or

/grc

groups to deal with special questions

(8) that the Committees and Sub-Committees shall be free to frame their own Rules of Procedure, provided that no decision concerning allocations be taken without the approval of all governments directly concerned. Except with regard to allocating functions these Rules of Procedure should, as far as possible, follow the general pattern adopted by the Commission.

INSTRUCTS

(9) the Executive Secretary to convene, as soon as he deems appropriate, the Committees, Sub-Committees and Panel hereby established.

NOTES

(10) the intention of Governments Members of the Emergency Economic Committee for Europe to declare that organization terminated forty-five days after the end of the 2nd Session of the Commission."

4. The Inland Transport Committee

The following terms of reference were agreed at the Second Session of the ECE, and issued as document E/ECE/45, dated 10 July 1947:

"THE COMMISSION

RESOLVES to establish an inland transport committee as a subsidiary body, to be known as the Inland Transport Committee of the ECE, specially qualified to deal with inland transport problems, and enjoying such autonomy as is determined by the following provisions:

I. SCOPE AND PURPOSE

THE COMMISSION

RESOLVES that the Committee, acting in a consultative and advisory capacity in the field of international inland transport in Europe^{1/} and taking no action in respect of any country without the agreement of the Government of that country shall:

1. Provide a forum for the discussion among governments of subjects

^{1/} Hereafter in this document international inland transport in Europe will be referred to as "European transport".

of a common interest in the field of inland transport in Europe.

2. Stimulate international co-operation in the field of inland transport in Europe.

3. Promote agreement between governments on long-term inland transport policy in Europe.

4. Complete the essential tasks of ECITO not terminated at the dissolution of that organization.

II. FUNCTIONS

THE COMMISSION

RESOLVES that the Committee within its scope and purposes shall have the following functions:

1. To draw the attention of the Economic Commission for Europe to any questions connected with inland transport which it may consider likely to have a direct bearing on the general economy of Europe and to suggest to the Economic Commission for Europe such general economic measures as it considers likely to affect the European inland transport situation.
2. To request and collect the views of organizations in the field of international inland transport in Europe^{1/} on matters with which they are concerned, and to establish co-operation with such organizations under conditions to be agreed upon with these organizations.
3. To study the co-ordination of the different forms of international inland transport, and to make recommendations for the promotion of action in this matter where desirable.
4. To make such recommendations as it considers likely to encourage the removal of discriminatory action and unnecessary restrictions in the field of European transport, including transit. Recommendations should not be made under this provision in respect of the regimes of inland waterways of Europe.
5. To provide for the exchange of information among governments, with their consent, on matters within the competence of the Committee; to collect existing documentation with the consent of the Governments concerned, and to promote the standardization and extension of

^{1/} Hereafter in this document organizations in the field of European inland transport other than the Inland Transport Committee of ECE will be referred to as "European transport bodies".

statistics and documentation; to undertake the study of problems in the field of European transport, and to formulate the results of these studies as concrete proposals.

6. To advise Governments, at their request, on matters of European transport requiring conciliation and arbitration.
7. If so requested by the Governments concerned, to advise on
 - (a) the revision of existing conventions in the field of European transport,
 - (b) the conclusion of new conventions in that field.
8. To make recommendations on
 - (a) the advisability of and procedure for modifications in the structure of European transport bodies, if so agreed with the ECE and with the organizations themselves,
 - (b) the creation of new European transport bodies.
9. To give the Economic Commission for Europe such advice as it may require in the field of European inland transport and to carry out such tasks as the ECE may assign to it.

III. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

1. MEMBERSHIP

THE COMMISSION

RESOLVES THAT

- (a) Membership on the Inland Transport Committee shall be open to all Governments members of ECE.
- (b) Other European Governments could be invited by the ECE to participate in the work of the Transport Committee in a capacity and on conditions determined by the ECE; the Inland Transport Committee may give its advice to the ECE on these matters.

2. CHAIRMANSHIP

THE COMMISSION RESOLVES THAT

- (a) A Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be elected for one year
- (b) A person who has held the post of Chairman or Vice-Chairman for one year shall be re-eligible for the same post for a second consecutive year but thereafter only after a lapse of one year.

3. SESSIONS

THE COMMISSION RESOLVES THAT

/the Inland

the Inland Transport Committee shall hold its session as frequently as the work necessitates and shall ordinarily hold them at the seat of the ECE.

4. METHOD OF WORKING

THE COMMISSION RESOLVES THAT

(a) The work of the Inland Transport Committee will derive in three ways:

- (1) From matters referred to the Inland Transport Committee by ECE for study and report
- (2) From matters within its competence raised at the Inland Transport Committee
- (3) From such matters as other European transport bodies may desire to refer to the Inland Transport Committee and which the Inland Transport Committee considers desirable and which are within its competence to consider.

Recommendations of the Inland Transport Committee shall be submitted to the ECE. However, in the case of recommendations not affecting other spheres of activity of the ECE and not involving inter-governmental instruments on long-term transport policy, these may be submitted directly to governments by the Inland Transport Committee unless instructions to the contrary are given by the ECE in particular cases. In cases where divergent views are expressed, any member shall be entitled to bring the matter to the notice of ECE at its next Session or not later than thirty days after the Session of the Inland Transport Committee. Full details of divergent views shall be forwarded to governments together with all recommendations.

(b) The Inland Transport Committee shall be free to consult and have joint meetings with other subsidiary bodies of ECE by arrangement with the Executive Secretary.

5. WORKING PARTIES

THE COMMISSION RESOLVES THAT

the Committee shall be entitled to convene working parties

(a) of its members to examine special problems between sessions of the Committee, each member being entitled to be assisted by one or

/more

more experts, at his discretion

(b) of experts specially nominated by governments for a given purpose, at the invitation of the Economic Commission for Europe or the Inland Transport Committee according to the character of the question.

Working Parties should elect their own Chairman and report to the Inland Transport Committee.

6. SECRETARIAT

THE COMMISSION NOTES THAT

in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the ECE the Secretariat of the Committee will be provided by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and will work under the direct guidance and supervision of the Executive Secretary of the ECE, who will ensure that his staff carry out efficiently the functions which are entrusted to them by the Inland Transport Committee.

IV. RESIDUAL FUNCTIONS OF ECITO

1. THE COMMISSION RESOLVES THAT

(a) the work detailed below requires to be continued without interruption:

- (i) Completion of work of census and identification and restitution of railway rolling stock and waterway and Harbour craft.
- (ii) Co-ordination of movements.^{1/}

^{1/} This refers to the functions described in the following extract from the Memorandum on the European Central Inland Transport Organization submitted to the ECE by the Executive Board of ECITO (Document E/ECE/7):

Part II Functions

9. First Category

.....

- (c) co-ordination of movements and routing of essential international traffic with the limited means of transport available as long as shortages persist (Agreement concerning the Establishment of a European Central Inland Transport Organization, Article VII, 9, 10, 15 and 16); through the promotion, where necessary, of the establishment of appropriate machinery for co-operation between railways administrations; and
- (d) the provisional organization of certain forms of international road transport (Agreement concerning the Establishment of ECITO, Article VII, 16).

/(b) other work

(b) other work of ECITO which the Inland Transport Committee considers desirable to take over, and which is within its competence, could be taken over by the Committee.

2. THE COMMISSION

In view of the situation of ECITO as explained by the Chairman of the Executive Board of ECITO to the Meeting of Transport Experts, STRESSES the desirability for ECITO to take every

measure to ensure with an absolute priority that the activities of ECITO mentioned above should be continued without interruption until they are transferred to the Inland Transport Committee; and agrees that such steps as may be necessary should be taken for the earliest possible assumption of these activities by the Inland Transport Committee, taking into account the opinion previously expressed by the ECE in its Resolution adopted on 15 May 1947, that ECITO should be liquidated not later than 27 September 1947.

V. FIRST SESSION OF INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

THE COMMISSION

REQUESTS its Executive Secretary to convene the First Session of the Inland Transport Committee as soon as its establishment has been approved and before 27 September 1947."

5. The Steel Committee

The following terms of reference were agreed at the First Session of the Committee on Industry and Materials, and issued as document E/ECE/IM/9/Rev.1, dated 26 November 1947.

The Status of the Sub-committee on Steel was raised to that of a full committee at the Third Session of the ECE, without change in its terms of reference (document E/791, Annex II):

"THE INDUSTRY AND MATERIALS COMMITTEE

having discussed in a general way the Report submitted by the Executive Secretary on the question of steel

THANKS the Executive Secretary for the study which he has undertaken;

RESOLVES to establish a permanent Sub-Committee on Steel;

ENTRUSTS this Sub-Committee with the task of finding out all possible ways and means of relieving the present steel shortage in Europe, by

/increasing

increasing the production of steel, improving its utilization, increasing where feasible the use of less scarce materials in place of steel, or by other measures. To this end the Sub-Committee shall

- (i) Consider the conclusions contained in the Report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/IM/2/Rev.1) and examine the possibility of implementing these measures from the technical and economic point of view, and the financial obstacles that may be encountered;
- (ii) Suggest further measures which would alleviate the shortage of steel in the immediate future, and in particular (a) give to the Coal Committee all useful information regarding requirements for metallurgical coke for the European iron and steel industry, taking into account existing productive capacity, and make to that Committee any useful suggestions, and (b) recommend what action can be taken to provide equipment for steel mills and blast furnaces which would make possible an early increase in steel output;
- (iii) Obtain the necessary quantitative data regarding the practical possibilities of increasing the supplies of coke to the steel industry, utilizing more fully the existing coking capacity and increasing the effective amount of coking capacity, and increasing the supply of rich iron ores, increasing the supply of scrap, and securing equipment needed for the steel mills and blast furnaces;
- (iv) Appoint a small team of experts to survey the amount of old scrap that exists, and to make recommendations as to the amount of this scrap which it is economically feasible to salvage, the methods of effecting the salvage and the requirements for transport, labour and equipment needed to implement the programme;
- (v) Keep under review the situation regarding refractory linings and take such action in this field as the Industry and Materials Committee may from time to time request;
- (vi) Investigate the possibilities of arrangements for technical services in the field of steel production with special emphasis

/on the

on the better utilization of steel-producing installations and the possibilities of substitution of less scarce materials for steel;

REQUESTS the Sub-Committee to carry out its work in close contact with other interested bodies of the ECE, and particularly the Coal Committee and the Committee on Inland Transport. The Sub-Committee shall keep in close touch with industry, and obtain all necessary advice from technical experts."

6. The Committee on the Development of Trade

The following terms of reference were agreed at the Fourth Session of the ECE, and issued in document E/1328 (Resolution 2) dated 24 May 1949:

"THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

HAVING CONSIDERED the report on the meeting of the ad hoc Committee on Industrial Development and Trade (E/ECE/83) and the Terms of Reference for a Committee on the Development of Trade submitted to the ECE by the above-mentioned ad hoc Committee (E/ECE/IDI/5)^{1/}, together with the report of the

1/ The following is the relevant text:

"Terms of Reference

- (1) The Committee, acting as a consultative body, shall serve as a forum for discussion of and exchange of views on questions which fall within its competence;
- (2) The Committee shall study, consult on and submit recommendations on measures that will result in an expansion of trade between the European countries and also between those countries and countries outside Europe;
- (3) The Committee shall draw the attention of the appropriate committees of ECE to problems of agricultural and industrial development which are of importance to intra-European trade and shall collaborate as may be necessary with these committees in expanding production and trade;
- (4) The Committee shall, whenever necessary, approach the various Specialized Agencies of the United Nations with requests for assistance in achieving its task, in accordance with the agreements between the United Nations and the Agencies;
- (5) The Committee shall not make recommendations leading to an infringement of the sovereign rights of any government, its task being to facilitate economic agreements between countries on the basis of equal rights and mutual advantages of the contracting parties."

/First Session

First Session of the Committee on the Development of Trade (E/ECE/99)

APPROVES the Terms of Reference proposed for the Committee on the Development of Trade; and

REQUESTS the Committee on the Development of Trade to continue and to develop the work it has already begun."

APPENDIX C

LIAISON PROCEDURES BETWEEN ECE AND
PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS

1. The following countries have appointed Permanent Delegates or Observers to the Economic Commission for Europe or to the European Office of the United Nations at Geneva:

Austria	Norway
Belgium	Poland
Denmark	Sweden
Finland	Turkey
France	United Kingdom
Greece	United States of America
Italy	Yugoslavia
The Netherlands	

2. The Secretariat of the Commission maintains relations with the following countries on day-to-day problems through the Ministers and members of their Legations or general Consulates in Switzerland:

Czechoslovakia	USSR (also Byelorussian SSR, Ukrainian SSR)
Hungary	

3. The Permanent Representatives of the following non-European countries to the European Office of the United Nations at Geneva show active interest in and follow closely the work of the Commission:

Canada
Israel

APPENDIX D

TABLE I. ATTENDANCE RECORD OF REPRESENTATIVES OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AT SESSIONS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE AND ITS COMMITTEES

	BANK	FAO	ICAO	ICITO	ILO	IMF	IRO	UNESCO	UNRRA	WHO
(1) Commission Sessions										
1st session		x	x			x	x			x
2nd "		x	x			x	x	x		x
3rd "		x	x	x		x	x	x		x
4th "						x		x		
5th "		x	x		x	x	x			x
(2) Cttee. on Agricultural Problems										
1st session						x				
2nd "						x				
(3) Coal Committee										
1st session						x				
2nd "						x				
3rd "						x				
4th "						x				
5th "						x				
8th "						x				
9th "						x		x		
10th "						x				
11th "						x				
12th "						x				
13th "						x				
(4) Electric Power Committee										
1st session						x				x
2nd "						x				
3rd "										x
4th "										x
7th "										x
(5) Industry and Materials Committee										
1st session						x		x		x
2nd "										x
3rd "										x
4th "										x
(6) Inland Transport Committee										
1st session						x				
2nd "						x				x
3rd "										x
5th "										x
6th "										x

/(7) Manpower

TABLE I
(Continued)

	BANK	FAO	ICAO	IGLLO	ILLO	IMF	IRO	UNESCO	UNRRA	WHO
(7) <u>Manpower Committee</u> ^{1/}										
1st session		X	X			X		X		
(8) <u>Steel Committee</u>										
2nd session						X				
3rd "						X				
6th "						X				
7th "						X				
(9) <u>Timber Committee</u>										
1st session		X	X			X				
2nd "		X	X			X				
3rd "		X	X			X				
3rd (reconvened)		X	X							
4th session		X	X							
5th "			X							
6th "								X		
(10) <u>Committee on Development of Trade</u>										
1st session						X				
2nd "							X	X		

^{1/} Meeting as a Sub-Committee of the Industry and Materials Committee.

TABLE II. ATTENDANCE RECORD OF REPRESENTATIVES OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AT MEETINGS OF THE PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF ECE COMMITTEES

	BANK	FAO	ILO	UNESCO	WHO
(1) Agricultural Problems Committee					
(a) Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Foodstuffs, 1st session				X	
(b) ad hoc Grain Meeting				X	
(2) Coal Committee					
(a) Allocations Sub-Committee					
2nd session					X
3rd "					X
4th "					X
5th "					X
6th "					X
8th "					X
10th "					X
11th "					X
(b) Production Sub-Committee					
2nd session					X
3rd "			X		
4th "					X
5th "					X
(c) Sub-Committee on Economic and Technical Problems					
1st session					X
3rd "					X
4th "					X
5th "					X
6th "					X
7th "					X
(3) Industry and Materials Committee					
(a) Working Party on Programme of Work			X	X	
(b) Housing Sub-Committee					
1st session		X			X
2nd "				X	
3rd "				X	
4th "				X	
(c) Conference on Building Documentation 6-15 Oct. 1949		X	X	X	
(d) Conference on Building Research 13-18 Nov. 1950		X		X	

TABLE II
(Continued)

	BANK	FAO	ILO	UNESCO	WHO
(4) Inland Transport Committee					
(a) Sub-Committee on Road Transport					
1st session	X	X	X		
5th				X	
(b) Sub-Committee on Rail Transport					
3rd session				X	
4th				X	
(c) W.P. on Road Transport (short term problems)					
3rd session	X				
(d) W.P. on Transport by Rail					
1st session	X				
(e) W.P. of Experts on Statistical Information					
1st session				X	
4th				X	
(f) W.P. on Highways, 1st session	X				
(g) W.P. on Legal Questions, 3rd session				X	
(h) W.P. on Co-ordination of Transport, 1st session				X	
(i) W.P. on the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road					
2nd session				X	
(j) W.P. on Main International Traffic Arteries					
1st session	X				
(k) W.P. on Transport of Dangerous Goods by Inland Watersays, 1st session				X	
(5) Steel Committee					
Sub-Committee on Steel, 1st session				X	

APPENDIX E

ATTENDANCE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AT MEETINGS OF ECONOMIC
COMMISSION FOR EUROPE AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

The following is the list of the non-governmental organizations who, at various stages, have attended meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

COMMISSION

Category A

World Federation of Trade Unions
International Co-operative Alliance
American Federation of Labour (now part of an affiliate of the
International Confederation of Free Trade Unions)
International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
International Chamber of Commerce
International Federation of Agricultural Producers
International Federation of Christian Trade Unions
Inter-parliamentary Union
International Organization of Employers
World Federation of United Nations Associations

Category B

International Union of Catholic Womens Leagues

Register

League of Red Cross Societies

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS

Category A

International Federation of Agricultural Producers

COAL COMMITTEE

Category A

International Co-operative Alliance
Inter-parliamentary Union

Category B

International Organization for Standardization

Register

International Conference of Large Electric Systems
International Union of Producers and Distributors of Electric Power

Without Consultative Status

International Gas Union

/COMMITTEE ON

COMMITTEE ON ELECTRIC POWER

Register

International Conference of Large Electric Systems
International Union of Producers and Distributors of Electric Power
World Power Conference

INDUSTRY AND MATERIALS COMMITTEE

Category A

International Chamber of Commerce

Category B

International Organization for Standardization

HOUSING SUB-COMMITTEE AND SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Category A

World Federation of Trade Unions
International Co-operative Alliance

Category B

International Committee of Scientific Management
International Federation for Housing and Town Planning
International Organization for Standardization
International Union of Architects
International Statistical Institute
World Engineering Conference

Register

International Congresses for Modern Architecture
International Federation of Building Trade Employers
International Federation for Documentation

Without Consultative Status

Cement Statistical and Technical Association
International Association of Sociologists
International Congress of Research Laboratories
International Council of Building Documentation

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Category A

World Federation of Trade Unions
International Chamber of Commerce

/Category B

Category B

International Carriage and Van Union
International Organization for Standardization
International Road Transport Union
International Transport Workers' Federation
International Union of Official Travel Organizations
International Union of Railways
International Wagon Union
World Touring and Automobile Organization (Replacing International
Automobile Federation and International Touring Alliance)

Register

League of Red Cross Societies
International Air Transport Association

Without Consultative Status

Bureau International des Containers (no English title)
Central Council of International Touring
European Conference on Time-Tables
European Union of Coachbuilders
International Association of Manufacturers of Rolling Stock
International Census and Identification Commission
International Goods Train Timetable Conference
International Rail Transport Committee
International Road Federation 1/
Permanent International Bureau of Motor Manufacturers
Wagon Exchange Commission, Paris
Wagon Exchange Commission, Prague

STEEL COMMITTEE

Category A

World Federation of Trade Unions
International Chamber of Commerce

1/ Recommended by the NGO Committee of the Economic and Social Council for Category B.