

**UNITED NATIONS
DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME**

Distr.
GENERAL
DP/RP/21
10 April 1980
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GOVERNING COUNCIL
Twenty-seventh session
June 1980
Agenda item 7 (h)

UNITED NATIONS TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ACTIVITIES**Report of the Secretary-General****SUMMARY**

In response to the Governing Council decision 79/22, this report provides a broader coverage than previously of the technical co-operation activities of the United Nations. In addition to details on the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD), the report includes an overview of the work of the Centre on Transnational Corporations, the Human Rights Division and the Office of Legal Affairs; the five regional commissions; UNIDO; UNCTAD; and UNEP.

In round figures, the United Nations delivered a technical co-operation programme in 1979 totalling US\$ 213 million, of which US\$ 154 million came from UNDP; US\$ 19 million from UNFPA; US\$ 29 million from trust funds; and US\$ 12 million from the United Nations Regular Programme of Technical Co-operation. DTCD programme delivery was US\$ 100 million, of which US\$ 66 million came from UNDP; US\$ 15 million from UNFPA; US\$ 12 million from trust funds; and US\$ 6 million from the Regular Programme. Statistics on expenditures, as well as on experts, fellowships, and other details, appear in document DP/RP/22.

As requested in the Council's decision, the report makes proposals for the future orientation of DTCD's work, taking into account the basic objectives of each of its main sectors of activity and including suggested guidelines for the Regular Programme, with special reference to the least developed countries and TCDC. The report also draws attention to several topics of special concern to DTCD, including TCDC and other new dimensions, co-operation with regional commissions, support to country programming, evaluation, natural resources and energy, science and technology, and pre-investment and investment follow-up.

The Council is invited to give guidance on the various issues raised.

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>
I. INTRODUCTION.....	1-4
II. REGULAR PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION.....	5-32
A. Overview.....	5-6
B. Activities in 1979.....	7-22
1. Sectoral advisory services.....	7-18
2. Regional and sub-regional advisory services...	19
3. Industrial development.....	20-22
C. Future orientation of work of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development.....	23-32
1. Guidelines for the Regular Programme.....	23-27
2. Use of the Regular Programme for least developed countries and TCDC.....	28-32
III. DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT..	33-128
A. Introduction.....	33-36
B. Programme implementation in 1979, and future orientation of work.....	37-113
1. Overview of 1979 programme.....	37-43
2. Substantive areas:.....	44-94
Development issues and policies; Human settlements; Natural resources and energy; Ocean economics and technology; Population; Public administration; Rural development; Social development and humanitarian affairs; Statistics	
3. Support services:.....	95-111
Contracts and procurement; Recruitment; Reports; Training	
4. World Food Programme.....	112-113
C. Special concerns and new directions.....	114-128
IV. OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL ENTITIES.....	129
A. Centre on Transnational Corporations	
B. Economic Commission for Africa	
C. Economic Commission for Europe	
D. Economic Commission for Latin America	
E. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	
F. Economic Commission for Western Asia	
G. Human Rights Division	
H. Office of Legal Affairs	
I. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements	
J. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	
K. United Nations Environment Programme	
L. United Nations Industrial Development Organization	

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The report of the Secretary-General is submitted each year to the UNDP Governing Council, in keeping with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 2029 (XX). Hitherto it has described the activities of the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD) but at its twenty-sixth session, in June 1979, the Council adopted decision 79/22 suggesting that "the Secretary-General should consider extending the scope of future reports to the Council to include technical co-operation activities of the United Nations not covered in the [1978] report". Upon consultation with the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, it was agreed that DTCD would act as the focal point for preparing such a consolidated report.
2. The various entities of the United Nations already submit reports on technical co-operation to other intergovernmental bodies. Also, their work has been summarized in the status report on approvals and expenditures of the annual report of the Administrator of UNDP, and in the UNDP report on the regular and extra-budgetary programmes of technical co-operation of the United Nations system. Accordingly, the present report provides an overview of the work of the various entities, including cross-references to reports submitted to other intergovernmental bodies. Statistical information for 1979 appears in document DP/RP/22, the format for which corresponds to that of the UNDP reports currently before the Council in documents DP/461 and DP/488.
3. In its decision 79/22, the Council also requested proposals on the future orientation of the work of DTCD, which should contain guidelines for the orientation of the Regular Programme, indication of ways to increase the use of the Regular Programme for the benefit of the least developed countries and to promote TCDC, and basic objectives of the Department's work in each of its main sectors. Responses to this request pertaining to the Regular Programme are given in part II.C of the report, and to DTCD's main sectors of activity in part III.B and C. The Council also welcomed the proposal, made in 1979, to use, in consultation with UNDP, the resources of DTCD in support of the country programming exercises. Progress in this regard is reported in part III.C.
4. Constraints of space have been a governing factor in preparing this year's report. In addition to covering the activities of a dozen more entities than previously, and responding to the Council's other requests noted above, it has been necessary to comply with the recently enacted rules limiting the length of documents. It is hoped that the Council will take into account the effort made both to increase and to compress the information provided in this document.

II. REGULAR PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION

A. Overview

5. In response to the Council's decision 79/22 of June 1979, this section has been expanded to include all technical co-operation activities carried out under the Regular Programme of Technical Co-operation, and not merely those undertaken by DTCD.

6. The Regular Programme is carried out by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), the Division of Human Rights, DTCD, the regional commissions, UNCTAD and UNIDO. Some 44 per cent of its resources finance regional and sub-regional advisory services provided by the regional commissions, and industrial development activities provided by UNIDO. DTCD is responsible for programming and managing the remaining 56 per cent, which is shared among Habitat, the Division of Human Rights, DTCD and UNCTAD for the provision of sectoral advisory services. In 1979, total expenditures of the Regular Programme came to US\$ 12.4 million, of which US\$ 6.4 million was implemented by DTCD itself. Detailed statistical data on the Regular Programme appears in the tables of document DP/RP/22.

B. Activities in 1979

1. Sectoral advisory services

7. For DTCD, interregional advisory services represented the major type of assistance given, amounting to roughly one half of the total. Because requests from governments extend over a wide range of subject matters which cannot be met only through interregional advisers, DTCD has also used other expertise available among its staff, in order to meet requests effectively and promptly. As in past years, most requests related to development planning, energy, water and mineral exploration and development, public administration and finance and statistics. There was, however, increased demand in the fields of integrated rural development, energy (including renewable and non-conventional sources), and in the application of computer techniques to various development sectors. Advisory services in rural development have been particularly effective in the context of the ACC Task Force on Rural Development: in 1979, DTCD provided short-term consultants to the Government of Liberia (see para. 83), and advice in social planning to the Government of Somalia for a national workshop on rural development. Advisory services in energy included the development of a wind-energy project in the People's Republic of China; advice on solar energy to the Governments of Jordan and Turkey; and an energy-resource survey in Angola. Advice was provided to the National Bureau of Census and Statistics of the Philippines on the use of computers in preparing social indicators, and to several countries on their application to public administration. DTCD advisers also participated in economic review missions organized by the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions to four countries (Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Equatorial Guinea).

8. Various meetings and seminars were organized under the Regular Programme. More than 200 participants from both developed and developing countries, and from international organizations, exchanged experiences and ideas at an Interregional Symposium on Development Process and Technological Options in Developing Countries in Lomé, Togo.

9. DTCD organized for experts from developing countries a study tour in the People's Republic of China to enable them to benefit from its experience in the management and development of water resources. Another study tour permitted 20 energy experts from developing countries to observe China's experience in the development of biogas and to consider how that experience might be applied to their own countries.

10. Workshops aiming to foster self-reliance at the community level through TCDC have been organized through a multi-disciplinary project "Exchange of Experience and Training in Community Development and Appropriate Technologies", implemented through

Environmental Development Action (ENDA), a non-governmental organization based in Dakar, Senegal. Because of its access to ENDA's network of collaborators, the project has successfully pooled the experiences of a wide group of individuals from developing countries, especially in the field of basic human needs.

11. A multi-disciplinary team of experts continued to assist the Organization for the Development of the Senegal River Valley. Support for the development of the northern areas of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen ended in 1979, when UNDP financing became available.

12. In response to the Mar del Plata Action Plan, the interregional project Technical Assistance in the Use of Computers for Water Resources Development continued to help the Argentine authorities to develop a national water-resources management and planning information system in Ezeiza. On the basis of the needs and existing capacities in the region for data storage and retrieval systems already identified by the project Co-ordinator, regional training programmes and seminars will be set up at Ezeiza, using expertise from the project when possible. A second project launched in 1979, "Water Resources Development of Small Islands", to review existing resources, evaluate present and mid-term needs, and increase water availability, responds to the priorities of the Mar del Plata Water Conference. Because island countries share special characteristics and problems, TCDC approaches are particularly appropriate. This pilot undertaking is to become an interregional project, and an exploratory mission has defined how it can be extended to the Indian Ocean.

13. To further the integration of women in the development process, DTCD in 1979 engaged a consultant to identify how women could participate in on-going DTCD projects and benefit from them. The consultant's proposals for additions to such projects have been sent to resident representatives and submitted to governments. Also, a project in Swaziland, Economic Roles of Women in Development is promoting income-generating activities by rural women through training and cooperatives, combined with the introduction of village technologies to ease domestic workloads. The project draws on expertise in other developing countries, has a national project co-ordinator, and works closely with other institutions and projects in rural development. Because it may not be possible to continue Regular Programme support beyond 1980, alternative financing resources are urgently needed. At the request of CSDHA/DIESA, the participation of developing country representatives in three regional meetings preparatory to the 1980 World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women were also financed.

14. Under the non-convertible currency component, a series of training courses and seminars was organized in the Soviet Union, including such varied subjects as the development of pre-Cambrian mineral deposits, economic statistics, orthopedic devices, and aging.

15. The Division of Human Rights, in response to General Assembly resolution 926 (X), gave assistance through advisory services of experts, seminars and fellowships. ECOSOC resolution 1978/14 further calls for two seminars, one training course and at least 25 fellowships annually.

/...

16. In 1979, a regional seminar met in Liberia on the establishment of a Regional Commission on Human Rights, with special reference to Africa. Due to limited funds, no training course was held, but fellowships were granted to candidates from 25 Member States. If funds are available, the Division will implement its mandate to the full.

In his reports on advisory services, to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, the Secretary-General has pointed out that funds have decreased to the point where the programme can only be partially implemented. ECOSOC resolution 1978/14 requires an expenditure of approximately US\$ 460,000 annually but the Regular Programme can budget in 1980-1981 only US\$ 267,400, or US\$ 133,700 annually, for human rights activities.

17. UNCTAD has used resources from the Regular Programme to provide interregional advisory services in support of economic co-operation among developing countries, mainly for short-term assistance to economic integration movements, on trade expansion programmes, techniques of trade liberalization, monetary and payment arrangements, and investment programmes. More detailed information is available in UNCTAD's report to the Trade and Development Board (TD/B/WP/2, and TC/B/WP/2/Add.1).

18. Owing to late receipt, information on the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) will be issued as an addendum to the present report.

2. Regional and subregional advisory services

19. ECWA provided regional advisory services to member countries in development planning, industrial and agricultural projects identification and formulation, etc. Owing to late receipt, information on ECA, ECLA, and ESCAP will be issued as an addendum to this report.

3. Industrial development

20. UNIDO's technical co-operation activities in 1979 conformed to a programme approved by the Industrial Development Board at its eleventh and thirteenth sessions, and totaled US\$ 5,887,700. As in the past, training projects, particularly group training, predominated. In addition to short-term fellowships, activities included in-plant group training in quality improvement of industrial products, iron and steel, furniture and joinery, printing, etc. Particularly encouraging was the initial implementation of projects aimed at establishing and strengthening training facilities in developing countries.

21. The special needs of the least developed countries have become a particularly important part of Regular Programme activities, complementing those funded by UNDP or the UN Industrial Development Fund. In 1978-1979, 365 projects were providing assistance in many fields, such as the operation of industrial plants, feasibility studies, extension services and industrial promotion.

22. The remaining Regular Programme resources financed five interregional advisers covering the metallurgical, chemical, petrochemical, fertilizer, engineering and energy-related industries, and five regional advisers in industrial economics, strategies, plans and policies for industrialization, industrial sector development and engineering industries who were assigned to the joint industry divisions established by UNIDO and the regional commissions. High-level consultations with government officials at UNIDO headquarters were also financed, as well as activities promoting technical and economic co-operation among developing countries, which grew dramatically from US \$66,000 in 1976-1977 to US\$ 450,000 in 1978-1979.

C. Future orientation of work of the Department of
Technical Co-operation for Development

1. Guidelines for the Regular Programme

23. This section relates only to activities for which DTCD has direct responsibility. Indeed, the guidelines approved by the Council in 1976 related only to the Office of Technical Co-operation (OTC), which is now part of DTCD. They called for increased interregional advisory services to governments and projects responding to priorities of the Programme of Action for the Establishment of a New Economic Order, mainly through TCDC. The 1976 guidelines were couched in very general terms, and in its decision 79/22, the Council indicated its wish to review them in the context of proposals on the future orientation of DTCD's work. DTCD would welcome some clearer definition and accordingly some thoughts and suggestions are offered in the following paragraphs.

24. In reformulating the guidelines, some basic considerations need to be taken into account:

(a) The Regular Programme must in some fundamental way be "different" from technical co-operation activities financed under other funds - e.g., UNDP, UNFPA. This in fact is - implicitly or explicitly - already stated, for current directives ^{1/} suggest that these resources be concentrated in those fields of activity considered as high priority by the international policy making bodies but less favoured in other programmes of technical co-operation.

(b) It follows that the Regular Programme might continue in two main types of functions:

(i) As a "trail-blazer", opening new activities, on a pilot or experimental basis, which might then be taken up by other better-endowed funds, once viability has been shown;

(ii) Filling gaps where funds from other sources are insufficient to cover special areas - the inclusion of activities of interest to women in UNDP-funded projects is a good example [^{2/} see para. 26 (c) (i)];

(c) The Regular Programme however suffers from some critical restraints:

(i) The overall level of resources available to DTCD is low (less than US\$ 5 million a year) ^{2/};

(ii) It is a "diminishing asset". Although an inflation factor has been built in, over the years the real value of the Regular Programme is declining;

(iii) Funds are divided among a number of organizations, and constant calls are made upon it, both from organizations already receiving funds from this source and from new ones. In 1980/81, as part of the decentralization process, the funds for five more advisory posts are being allotted to the regional commissions in sectors determined by them.

^{1/} DP/RP/16, Economic and Social Council resolution 1434 (XLVII), General Assembly resolution 2514 (XXIV).

^{2/} DTCD's share of the 1980-1981 Regular Programme stands at \$9.8 million.

25. Against this background, the following criteria may be appropriate:

(a) Given the constraint of resources, their optimum use is more important than ever;

(b) They must be directed to activities likely to have significant impact on the development process;

(c) By the same token, they must have a demonstrated multiplier effect;

(d) They must reflect the global development policies enunciated by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other legislative bodies, concerning implementation of a New International Economic Order, the International Development Strategy, TCDC and related concerns;

(e) They must also accord with the development needs and priorities of individual countries;

(f) However, because they are so limited, resources will not normally be invested in country projects unless these are clearly of a pilot and innovative character, the results of which can be given wider application;

(g) Specific projects should have a limited duration so that funds are not tied up for prolonged periods. This underlines the need for bridging arrangements with other, better-endowed funds (e.g. UNDP) once the "trail-blazing" activity has produced positive results. Such linkage occurred successfully in the Senegal River Basin project, where UNDP now supplements the Regular Programme. In the case of the development of the northern areas of Democratic Yemen, UNDP has completely taken over funding, but the negotiations were lengthy, with the result that, successful as the project was, regular funds were tied up for longer than necessary;

(h) Emphasis should be laid on assisting the least-developed countries;

(i) Regular Programme funds should go to improving specific "process" aspects of technical co-operation in response to General Assembly or Economic and Social Council resolutions or UNDP Governing Council decisions;

(j) While the special and separate character of the Regular Programme must be observed, it may be necessary, because its funds are so limited, to use them in mutually complementary fashion, and even inter-changeably, with other sources.

26. The 1979 activities cited above show how these considerations and criteria apply, but the following more general points may also be useful:

(a) The interregional advisory programme can produce a multiplier effect through identification and formulation of projects for submission to potential donors, and further reinforces this function by assisting UNDP country programming exercises. The direct, flexible and rapid provision of high-level specialists who cover a wide range of development questions is unique to the Regular Programme.

(b) There are many examples of the Programme reflecting global policies and resolutions. Typical are those of multi-disciplinary approaches to integrated rural development, TCDC, and the development of water resources.

(c) DTCD aims to strengthen this trend in its 1980-1981 Programme. Thus:

- (i) A specific project will finance the application of the recommendations that have emerged from the activities undertaken in 1979 to improve the participation of women in on-going DTCD projects (see para. 13), as a supplement to UNDP funding;
- (ii) Another project will finance missions to assess energy and mineral resources in response to General Assembly resolution 34/201;
- (iii) A rural development project will provide prompt and flexible advisory services and training on request, in areas of United Nations competence (rural development planning, administration, natural resources planning, rural energy and population), in support of national efforts.

(d) As regards "process" aspects, the improvement of country programming as envisaged in paragraph 33 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197 and paragraph 4 of Governing Council resolution 79/22 is a case in point which will be dealt with elsewhere (see para. 119). Evaluation is a similar area (see para. 120).

27. The following illustrate other specific aspects conforming to the above criteria:

- (i) Improving links between pre-investment and investment. While any general improvement must depend on the development of special relationships with financial institutions or of an arrangement with UNDP similar to that enjoyed by FAO, it might help if a portion of the Regular Programme were set aside for contingency purposes, such as additional low-cost studies requisite to an investment or loan. For example, in the Mekong River project, a feasibility study costing some \$US 200,000 is required to complete earlier work;
- (ii) Improving the link between global development targets and individual country goals by making available to governments, upon request, interregional advisers to assist them, when preparing their development plans, to assess the relevance of the targets of the International Development Strategy to their own situations and the best ways of incorporating them, and measures for their implementation, into national plans.

In considering such additional activities, however, the limit on resources is an ever-present factor.

2. Use of the Regular Programme for least developed countries and TCDC

28. The Governing Council, at its twenty-sixth session, asked how the Regular Programme could increase its benefits to least developed countries and TCDC.

29. Requests from LDCs for Regular Programme assistance always receive priority. However, in proposing a reorientation of the Regular Programme in 1976, the Secretary-General's report (DP/RP/17) recommended that its limited resources no longer be used to finance country projects which had lately become eligible for UNDP support under the latter's decision to give preference to LDCs and embark on innovative and risky projects. Since 1976, the Regular Programme has accordingly concentrated on developing innovative TCDC projects in response to the Programme of Action for the NIEO, including the needs of least developed countries, rather than on country projects.

30. To increase the benefits for LDCs, DTCD has informed UNCTAD that the interregional advisory programme is ready to help analyze their needs and formulate recommendations for the 1981 Conference on LDCs. The Regular Programme should also finance joint the United Nations multi-bilateral projects in LDCs in special impact areas, such as improving linkages between pre-investment and investment. Likewise it should continue to finance selective participation of LDCs at interregional workshops, seminars and specialized meetings on development subjects significant to them and which promote exchanges among LDCs on shared problems.

31. TCDC has been a dominant theme of the Regular Programme since 1976. DTCD intends to continue this emphasis in training and in pilot and demonstration projects which pioneer approaches in new dimensions.

32. DTCD would welcome the Council's suggestions for increasing the use of the Regular Programme in both the above areas.

III. DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

A. Introduction

33. In line with General Assembly resolution 32/197, most of the entities involved in technical co-operation, which had been scattered among different departments of the Secretariat, have been integrated into DTCD. The Department's internal structure was realigned in 1979 to respond better to the needs of developing countries, to carry out relevant legislative mandates and priorities more effectively and to improve the management and support of technical co-operation projects. In addition, guidelines have been set for matching functional and programme responsibilities to the appropriate funds, whether regular budget or extra-budgetary, for the most effective use of resources.

34. DTCD's fields of competence make it the main agency in the United Nations system dealing with the general infrastructure for economic and social development. Many of its projects are of an institution-building nature, involving planning, managing, and training activities, or aim to promote investment. The realignment seeks to consolidate and strengthen DTCD's work in these areas.

35. The principal features of the new structure, its rationale and its new work methods, are described in the second progress report by the Secretary-General for 1979, on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system . The Department now comprises four major units:

(a) Central staff services: The Office of the Under-Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General; the Division of Policies and Resources Planning; the Executive Office; and the liaison office of the World Food Programme, provide executive direction and management.

(b) Substantive divisions: (i) The Division of Development Administration and Finance deals with institutional infrastructure and human resources development. (ii) The Division of Natural Resources and Energy deals with energy, minerals and water resources, cartography, remote sensing, and aspects of physical infrastructure. Both divisions provide substantive backstopping of projects, interregional advisory services, training materials and support to training institutions. They do research, publish, and organize seminars and information exchanges as mandated under General Assembly resolution 32/197.

(c) Division of Programming and Implementation: (i) Four geographic branches are responsible for programme management and timely implementation of projects. (ii) The Development Advisory Services plays a central role in country programming, substantively backstops projects in development planning, provides interregional advisory services, and assists governments and UNDP in assessing technical co-operation needs.

(d) Division of Field Operations: This Division provides logistical support services for project implementation, including contracts and procurement; recruitment and servicing of experts; fellowships; administrative operations; and the processing of reports.

36. New work methods adopted by the Department include task forces for multi-disciplinary activities and a team approach to the implementation of major projects. A computer-based management information system continuously monitors and provides an early warning system to identify bottlenecks and problems before they become serious.

B. Programme implementation in 1979, and future orientation of work

1. Overview of 1979 programme

37. In 1979 DTCD delivered a programme amounting to US\$ 100 million, which in broad terms was divided as follows: UNDP-financed projects totaled US\$ 66 million and represented almost two-thirds of total delivery. More than US\$ 15 million were delivered with UNFPA resources, and US\$ 12 million from trust funds. Expenditures under the Regular Programme totaled more than US\$ 6 million.

38. The Africa programme was the largest, amounting to US\$ 35 million; in Asia US\$ 25 million was spent and in the Americas US\$ 21 million, while expenditures in the Middle East, North Africa, Europe, combined with interregional activities, totaled US\$ 19 million.

39. Almost 39 per cent of expenditures were in natural resources and energy (US\$ 38.8 million). In development planning, projects worth US\$ 19 million were delivered, about 19 per cent of DTCD's activities. In statistics, including censuses, US\$ 18 million was spent; and another US\$ 6 million were for population and demographic activities. Projects in public administration and finance totaled US\$ 9 million. Social development accounted for US\$ 3 million, and others US\$ 2.7 million. The Education and Training Programme for Southern Africa expended US\$ 3.5 million.

40. The share of the various components of the programme was 57 per cent for experts and consultants, 25 per cent for equipment and sub-contracts, and about 14 per cent for fellowships.

41. The Department's performance compares favourably with 1978, when total delivery amounted to US\$ 97.6 million, given that in 1979 DTCD transferred a programme worth some US\$ 15 million to Habitat and decentralized a further \$ 5 million to regional commissions. This \$ 20 million was offset by delivery in other areas.

42. Compared to 1978, the positive evolution of the Department's activities is illustrated by the increase of US\$ 6.8 million in development planning; 6.1 million in statistics and censuses; 3.6 million in natural resources and energy and of about 1 million in public administration. The Education and Training Programme for Southern Africa and population activities (censuses excluded) remained at about the same level, while social development decreased by US\$ 1.7 million.

43. These positive trends should continue in 1980. Special efforts will be devoted to overcome the bottlenecks in difficult sectors so that both the value of the 1980 programme and its rate of implementation may progress.

2. Substantive areas

Development Issues and Policies

44. Development planning has traditionally been a major mandate of DTCD and its forerunner, and considerable experience has been gained in providing technical co-operation in this key area. Particular care has been taken, in realigning DTCD's structure, to give full weight to this important strength by placing the Development Advisory Services in a central position, within the Division of Programming and Implementation. Accordingly, it has been noted with concern that other organizations within the United Nations system are increasingly assuming responsibility for UNDP-financed projects in development planning. A clear **definition and demarcation** of respective roles is needed to avoid overlap and to make the best use of resources.

45. In Africa, development planning accounted for more DTCD projects than any other field. The Department is assisting with planning activities in roughly thirty countries, or about three-fifths of the total in the region; more than a quarter of the Department's development planning activities worldwide are in Africa. Delivery has been hindered by the growing difficulty in offering competitive terms to experts willing to serve in the least developed countries. Activities in 1979 continued to concentrate on general and regional planning and project formulation and evaluation; in the latter field the Department has assisted several countries in establishing and operating special government agencies. This led to the creation of a Central Bureau of Projects in several countries (Benin and Rwanda) or, less formally, to the inclusion of a special project preparation and evaluation component in planning projects (United Republic of Tanzania and Zaire).

46. In Asia and the Pacific, and in the Middle East, development planning continued to occupy the attention of policy makers and planners, with a noticeable shift toward comprehensive planning techniques. With emphasis on "growth with more equitable income distribution", governments have shown greater interest in regional (intracountry) planning and in regional co-operation, primarily on a sub-regional basis. During 1979, both new requests and those for extending existing projects have emphasized the need to help governments not only to accelerate the rate of growth but to alleviate local poverty (regional development) by creating employment and social services. Of 24 projects in Asia and the Pacific, 9 are regional planning projects, of which those in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Fiji, Cook Island, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands are the most important. The training aspect also received greater attention as most training institutes are increasing their regional planning capacities. The United Nations Centre for Regional Development, funded by Japan and supervised by DTCD, recently revised its programme to meet the increased emphasis on regional planning. There is a clear interest in regional co-operation and countries are seeking ways to overcome such constraints as limitation of domestic markets and shortage of foreign exchange, by harmonizing national plans and policies. Aside from regional groupings which receive technical co-operation from ESCAP and ECWA, United Nations Headquarters has been assisting a project for exploring regional co-operation in the Arab world.

47. In the Americas, more than one-quarter of DTCD's 1979 programme was in development planning and concentrated on specialized rather than general aspects, particularly regional planning, in which there are projects in Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela. Innovative and modern techniques are being applied. For example, the development of the Aguan Valley in Honduras presents a variety of complex technical, economic and social problems which have to be solved in an integrated manner and DTCD is therefore providing multi-disciplinary expert services in a broad range of areas, both technical and socio-economic. Governments have also recognized the need for both operational annual plans and medium-term plans. Projects emphasizing operational planning are being carried out in Ecuador, Honduras, Bolivia and Panama. In Panama studies are underway for developing the Canal Zone. Computer-based methods are being successfully introduced to manage the information required for economic decision-making.

48. A pilot project for strengthening technical co-operation systems in Central America and Panama, begun in October 1979, aims to elaborate a methodology for regional and country projects with a TCDC dimension and create a sub-regional system of technical co-operation, supported by the United Nations (DTCD-UNDP). The expected results are: increasing uniformity in national and sub-regional structures of technical co-operation; a suitable mechanism for joint programming and joint negotiations vis-à-vis possible multilateral or bilateral donors; the promotion of TCDC in the region; and a data bank for sub-regional TCDC. In the Caribbean, DTCD is providing planning experts to four of the least-developed countries, including Dominica, which was devastated by a hurricane in August 1978. These advisers assist governments not only in development planning but also in co-ordinating multilateral assistance. In addition, DTCD is helping the Eastern Caribbean Common Market Secretariat to strengthen its capabilities to assist its member countries and contribute to greater economic integration in several key areas.

49. DTCD has substantive responsibility for two important TCDC projects. The first is a continuing interregional project called the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation among Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (APEC) in Trade, Transport and Industry, based in Georgetown, Guyana, in which interregional co-operation in pharmaceuticals, involving an inter-agency task force in which UNCTAD, UNIDO and WHO also participate, has been of particular note. The Government of Guyana's report on this work was endorsed in a special resolution by the Sixth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries in Havana in September. As Guyana was charged with its implementation, a new project, involving a series of high level workshops, is being formulated. In 1979, APEC also published studies on inter-country co-operation in the fertilizer, pesticide and food-processing industries. The second is a global project (APTEC) established in Africa in 1979, related to community development and appropriate technologies. Through seminars, representatives of rural communities of developing countries world-wide exchange their experiences in such fields as: basic needs in rural areas; rural development; transfer and adaptation of technologies; use of medicinal plants; development of productive activities for women; training of cadres for community development; land-use management in forest and arid environments; correction of regional disparities; orientation of civil servants to basic needs problems at the community level; organization and management of urban districts by the inhabitants; and the improvement of shanty towns.

Human settlements

50. DTCD's responsibilities in housing, building and planning, and some resources, were transferred to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS) in October 1978. During 1979, DTCD continued to provide certain support services, including procurement, fellowships placement and administrative services to project personnel, pending development of adequate capacity in Nairobi. DTCD and UNCHS also cooperated in the execution of some inter-disciplinary projects.

Natural resources and energy

51. Technical co-operation in the many sectors of this field were aimed to assist governments to explore, develop and manage their natural resources and to strengthen the requisite national infrastructure to develop such resources.

52. In the energy sector, requests for technical co-operation noticeably increased, reflecting the serious situation confronting many developing countries and their desire to expedite identification and development of indigenous resources. Attention increasingly focused on new exploration for hydrocarbons, the re-evaluation of petroleum exploration data, the application of modern methods in reservoir engineering and deep drilling, and appropriate management and policy formulation in petroleum matters. Countries assisted included Bangladesh, India, Syria, Malta, the Seychelles and the United Republic of Tanzania. Support of electric power projects also continued, particularly in institution building (Guinea-Bissau), electric system planning (Angola) and training (India, Mozambique). Increasing interest in coal was evidenced at the United Nations Symposium on World Coal Prospects, held in Katowice, Poland, in October 1979, and organized by DTCD in co-operation with UNDP and the Government of Poland, which brought together experts from 46 developed and developing countries.

53. Not only did DTCD support the technical preparations for the 1981 United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, but governments expressed increasing interest in projects in these fields - a trend that is expected to continue. DTCD assisted projects in geothermal energy in Djibouti, Ethiopia, India, Jordan, Kenya, Madagascar and Mexico; solar energy in Pakistan, Turkey and Cyprus; oil shale in Yugoslavia; and wind-biomass in Mongolia. In two cases (hydropower in Bolivia and geothermal energy in Kenya), significant investment commitments were made by the World Bank. Requests for help in formulating energy plans and policies, including the establishment and strengthening of energy planning institutions, increased. DTCD supported projects in Angola, Belize, Bolivia, Jamaica, Kenya and Uganda and others were planned for Ecuador, Ethiopia and Peru.

54. The Department co-operated closely with the regional commissions, for example, in planning, with ESCAP and UNDP, a regional energy development programme for the countries of Asia and the Pacific. DTCD continued to support, jointly with ECLA, the energy programme for the Central American Isthmus (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama), financed by UNDP and the OPEC Special Fund. The primary objective is to reduce the dependence of the Central American Isthmus on external energy sources by replacing them with indigenous sources and to develop a comprehensive regional approach to this end, including strengthened mechanisms for regional co-operation. DTCD aspects have been noteworthy. El Salvador's experience in geothermal energy (originally developed with DTCD assistance) has been shared with other Central American countries by training personnel; similarly, Peru's experience in preparing energy balances has benefitted Central American personnel through exchange visits; that of Brazil has been drawn upon in a pre-feasibility study for the production and use of gasohol in Guatemala.

55. In the minerals sector, DTCD continued to support 53 UNDP-financed projects in Asia, Africa and the Americas, directed to the discovery of economic mineral deposits, combined with training and the strengthening of national institutions. Exploration efforts had resulted in several important mineral discoveries in the past, and in 1979 a promising copper-molybdenum deposit was found in southwestern Colombia. The United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration continued to receive DTCD support, six projects being entirely supported by the Department's technical staff.

56. Refinement of exploration methodology continued, made increasingly necessary by the sub-surface search for ores, since easy surface finds are a thing of the past. The use of satellite imagery - and where appropriate its processing and interpretation by computer-based methods - has become routine in mineral exploration projects. Geochemical surveys in the search for ores supported by comprehensive analysis, are increasingly valued in agriculture and animal and human health. In geophysical prospecting, ground methods with greater depth penetration, and computer processing of aerogeophysical data also improved effectiveness.

57. Some countries with an independent operational capacity for mineral resource investigations still have technological gaps; these are being progressively filled by short-term specialist consultants. Some projects operate on this basis, with national directors increasingly assuming operational responsibilities. This trend will continue, but more slowly in those countries where professional geoscientists are in short supply or are difficult to retain at government salary levels.

58. The involvement of DTCD in investment follow-up activities such as preliminary feasibility studies demonstrates the wish of countries to proceed rapidly to bankable mining projects. In Tanzania, a massive sulphide deposit was discovered which contains nickel of economic grade and has attracted interest for follow-up investment which will probably lead to a major new mining project. Discovery of this important nickel province opens up the possibility of other new finds.

59. Looking to the future, as economic mineral deposits are discovered, the need for further "downstream" activities increases, including economic evaluation and feasibility studies; technical and legal services for the mining industry; assistance in mining and mineral processing to state corporations; and infrastructure planning in support of specific deposits. In exploration, non-metallic industrial minerals, such as construction materials for local use, need greater emphasis.

60. In the water-resources sector, assistance continued in water-resources management and planning, ground-water exploration, assessment and development, and the application of modern technologies to the spectrum of water-related activities.

61. In water resources management and planning - including policy formulation and implementation - the main emphasis was on strengthening the institutional and legal framework for water-resources administration. e.g., in the Philippines, Burma and Ethiopia. Work progressed toward the creation of water data banks in the Philippines, Burma and Bangladesh. In Papua New Guinea, assistance was provided in drafting a water law, including institutional arrangements for water-resources management.

62. Assistance in ground water consisted of (a) exploration and development in West Africa and the Sahelian region, and (b) exploration and assessment in Turkey, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Bolivia.

63. New managerial concepts and technologies were applied in water development, with emphasis on joint management of surface-and groundwater resources (The Bahamas and India). In India, experiments with artificial recharge aquifers are in progress. A unified approach to the managerial problems peculiar to small island countries was also developed.

64. Following a study tour on water resources management in China, and the workshop on institutional arrangements for water-resources planning in Rome in June 1979, the first Interregional Meeting of representatives of international river, lake or basin organizations, and of interested governments, will take place in Dakar, Senegal, in October 1980.

65. DTCD has promoted the use of experts from developing countries in its water projects. Governments also directly executed some projects, e.g., in the Philippines.

66. Coastal zone conservation programmes received priority in areas experiencing rapid deterioration. In India, a coastal engineering research centre was established; in Sri Lanka, plans were made to train local personnel and develop the infrastructure necessary for a comprehensive programme of coastal conservation.

67. DTCD provided assistance in surveying, mapping, hydrography, photo-grammetry and map production in Benin, Burundi, Ethiopia, Fiji, Guyana, Honduras, Iran, Jordan, Laos, Madagascar, Nepal, the Philippines, Trinidad and Tobago, Sri Lanka, Saudi Arabia, and the Upper Volta. Special efforts were made to enhance national cartographic capabilities through strengthening surveying and mapping agencies, facilitating the purchase of equipment, and training both through the establishment of training institutions and the provision of fellowships.

68. The second United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas, held in Mexico City in September 1979, brought together 139 representatives from 33 countries. Considering particularly the 200-mile exclusive-rights economic zone, the Conference recommended that countries establish or strengthen hydrographic services and take full advantage of all technical co-operation available.

Ocean economics and technology

69. The Ocean Economics and Technology Branch/DIESA provided substantive support to DTCD for workshops, training activities and support to projects. In Asia, a Workshop on Coastal Area Development and Management, convened in Manila, formed part of the project for regional off-shore prospecting in East Asia. A consultant was provided to Sri Lanka who will continue in 1980. In Africa, a UNESCO-DTCD workshop met on coastal-erosion problems in Togo and Bénin. Preparations were also begun, with UNEP funding, for a workshop on coastal area management and development to be held in the Gulf of Guinea in 1980. In the Americas, support continued to the Institute of Marine Affairs of Trinidad and Tobago. A training workshop on coastal-area management in the Caribbean and adjacent regions was arranged in Mexico City jointly with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Association for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions and the Government of Mexico, and financed by UNESCO/IOC and the United Nations University. Preparations also began for a national coastal-area management-training workshop in Ecuador in 1980.

70. Under the UNEP Regional Seas Programme, the Branch participated on behalf of DTCD in a meeting of government-nominated experts in Kuwait, to which it submitted implementation plans for the four projects for which it is responsible under the Kuwait Action Plan, and in an interagency meeting in Rome in which the entire programme was examined and possible co-operative activities were discussed.

71. The increase in requests for technical co-operation in the marine field, already in evidence in 1979, may be expected to accelerate. International interest in uses of the sea and the development of marine resources is growing. As a result of the third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, and the extension of marine jurisdictions by a growing number of coastal States, many countries have acquired additional responsibilities. Recently, both Colombia and Uruguay requested assistance and in general there is a greater impetus towards regional and sub-regional co-operation in marine affairs.

Population

72. In response to increased government awareness since the World Population Conference, of the need to incorporate population policies in development strategies, DTCD continued assistance to governments in carrying out the World Population Plan of Action, focused on building institutional capabilities in demographic analysis, formulation of population policies, and in training.

73. Emphasis was given to demographic evaluation, and analysis of census and survey data as components of such operations: assistance was given in obtaining demographic estimates, particularly for total and sectoral population projections. Research into the relations between demographic and socio-economic variables and between population policies and the general planning system was also stressed. In training, new trends emphasized the interdisciplinary approach, with intensified efforts to enhance national capabilities.

74. Demographic analysis continued as the major area of assistance in Africa, following the many censuses taken under the African Census Programme, and also in Asia and the Pacific and in Western Asia. In Latin America and the Caribbean, projects in population and development outnumbered those in demographic analysis. National training facilities were assisted in all regions, particularly Asia and the Pacific, and are increasing in importance in Africa, although the primary emphasis is on regional demographic training institutions. In Latin America, the United Nations-sponsored Demographic Centre (CELADE) is important in assisting governments of the region in various population activities.

75. These trends are expected to continue and the Department will particularly emphasize the analysis of the censuses taken in the 1970s and the incorporation of an analytical component in planning the 1980 round of censuses. Computer software packages will be used increasingly for complex demographic analyses and population projections. More co-operation will be given to governments in analysis the determinants and consequences of population and development factors and in promoting training. Finally, administrative aspects will be stressed so as to focus attention on the role of public institutions in dealing with population policies and programmes.

Public administration and finance

76. The scope of work expanded in 1979, reflecting the changing role of government in the development process. Training, administrative improvement, and institution-building continued and projects have explored new approaches and strategies. Emphasis was placed on more sophisticated techniques, on review and evaluation of institutional effectiveness, and on research. In some countries (Argentina, Ecuador), practical research methodologies were developed, and in others (Thailand, Indonesia), local teaching materials were based upon local experiences and conditions. Growing

/...

concern for effective management of public enterprises and investments has been reflected in some national projects and, at the interregional level, in the International Centre for Public Enterprises. Other projects stressed financial management, including accounting and auditing systems (Sudan, Malaysia) and the United Nations sponsored, with the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions, an interregional seminar on government auditing, including performance auditing.

77. DTCD continued to support regional and sub-regional institutions in development administration and to assist them in developing TCDC. Information exchanges were increasingly emphasized at all levels. The usual interregional advisory services were provided, upon request, in government budgeting and financial management, tax administration, management of public enterprises, personnel administration and training, and information management and use of computers.

78. Under the research programme in support of technical co-operation, the following technical guides were published: Organizational Systems for National Planning (E.79.II.H.2), and Handbook on the Improvement of Administration Management in Public Administration (E.79.II.H.3); the former discusses models of organizational systems, while the latter deals with organization and methods.

79. The 5th meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance, held at Headquarters in January 1980, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolutions 1979/75 and 1979/76, set guidelines for the orientation of work designed to: (a) strengthen institutions for formulating and implementing development plans, and for participating in international economic relations and execution of international agreements, including strengthened sovereignty over natural resources; (b) promote education and training of managers and technicians for public service; (c) improve productivity and effectiveness of public sector enterprises; (d) strike a better balance between centralized and decentralized functions to maximize development efforts; (e) improve financial management, including accounting; and (f) improve programmes to meet growing demands. The Meeting stressed that the creation of requisite country capabilities will call for more resources and creative international measures to respond to changing needs. In order for countries to make better use of the many technical co-operation programmes available, the Meeting recommended that the United Nations increase assistance to national co-ordination mechanisms, and promote co-ordination among international programmes in public administration and finance by collecting and monitoring information on on-going technical co-operation and related research. Such measures should foster greater self-reliance and TCDC, and to this end DTCD will jointly plan and implement activities with the regional commissions.

80. Two recent legislative decisions have major implications for technical co-operation at the country, regional and interregional levels. General Assembly resolution 34/137 invites UNDP and other organizations to consider, in accordance with national development priorities, technical co-operation designed to strengthen the public sector and improve the performance of public enterprises. It also asks the Secretary-General to facilitate the exchange of experience and information among developing countries on the role of the public sector, e.g., through seminars and handbooks on national experiences. Similarly, the Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/47 requests UNDP to provide technical co-operation in public accounting and auditing for development and asks the Secretary-General to study the feasibility of organizing national, regional and interregional training activities in these fields.

81. DTCD has already begun to develop the new modalities for technical co-operation envisaged in these resolutions, and would appreciate the Council's guidance.

Rural Development

82. Within the definition used by the ACC in preparing its cross-organizational analysis of rural development (E.AC.51/1980/4), DTCD was executing 71 projects in 1979 whose primary intended beneficiaries are less-advantaged rural inhabitants. They deal with national, regional and local development planning and the exploration and management of water resources, particularly ground water. Some are multi-disciplinary projects designed to bring to harness a wide variety of expertise, particularly for elaborating national rural development plans and strategies. They include several projects to train rural development planners and administrators.

83. DTCD works closely with other organizations of the system and co-operates formally with them in 20 percent of its rural development projects. There are good examples in Liberia and Bolivia. In Liberia, the aim is to integrate rural development more effectively to national planning and decentralize administrative decision-making as a pre-requisite to sound management of rural development programmes. In Bolivia, the government is being assisted in drawing up a national rural development strategy, as well as in undertaking regional-level rural development planning and formulating multi-sectoral rural development projects.

84. Other technical co-operation aims to strengthen governmental capacity in multi-sectoral local-level planning and promotion of popular participation. In the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, the development of new water resources for the Bedouin population is accompanied by an effort to improve local and regional planning so that Bedouins can themselves participate in making and implementing development decisions. Rural development is also strongly supported by the Regular Programme, as indicated elsewhere in this report.

Social Development

85. Four broad themes predominate: social planning, community development; social integration and welfare; and crime prevention and criminal justice. About a quarter of the 50 projects executed by the United Nations were in social planning and substantively supported by the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA) of DIESA, in Vienna. Responsibility for another third in community development was shared between DTCD and CSDHA.

86. Technical co-operation in social planning was provided in the context of national planning and of planning rural social development with a view to integrating them into a unified approach. Much of this work in social planning is not, therefore, classified as social development, but is included under general development planning. Major new projects have included assistance to Ecuador in formulating social plans and programmes, and to the Central American Economic Integration Bank in designing criteria for a lending programme in social development.

87. Work in social integration and welfare includes assistance in ensuring the participation of less-advantaged groups, including the disabled, in development. Under crime prevention and criminal justice, assistance aimed to develop cost-effective and humane programmes for prevention of crime and treatment of offenders through the formulation of policy options, planning techniques and implementation methodologies. Noteworthy projects included assistance to Namibia in planning

its criminal justice system and for the establishment of the Latin American Institute for Crime Prevention and Treatment of Offenders, in Costa Rica.

88. Work in community development continued to centre on training front-line workers, particularly in Western Asia.

89. The gradual decrease in social development projects reflects increasing national capacity and the need to explore new modalities of technical co-operation. Because most social experts come from developing countries, TCDC has historically been a major modality; that trend is expected to increase in the future, along with a more pronounced regional approach. DTCDC has begun preparations for such a project in rural development.

Statistics

90. The primary emphasis in 1979 was on strengthening existing national services, and establishing new ones equipped to produce, tabulate, publish and use the statistics needed for socio-economic, administrative, and other development planning.

91. UNDP-funded projects in Africa and the Middle East still mainly covered single-subject activities, but in Latin America multi-subject projects increased. National computer capabilities for processing statistical data and equipment costing over US\$ 3 million was supplied to the national computer centres in Egypt, Nepal and Mongolia.

92. The level of UNFPA and other trust funds increased significantly in 1979, leading to an increase in activities designed to improve preparations for population censuses, including the provision of advisers and equipment. Most census projects were in Africa. In contrast to earlier projects, emphasis was placed on both data collection and analysis of economic and demographic variables. China started to prepare for a complete census in July 1981, with UNFPA financial assistance with which US\$ 12 million worth of computer and ancillary equipment is being purchased. Use of computers in processing census and other data is increasing as technology provides inexpensive but efficient mini-computers suitable for small countries, for which the demand is increasing.

93. Packages for editing and tabulating census and survey data were provided to 15 countries and a new package for supporting logistics management and planning should be available in 1980. New capabilities for existing packages continued to be developed for use on wider varieties of computers. A trend is also growing for countries to embark on vital registration system improvements, and to request assistance.

94. The National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP), a major technical co-operation effort, began in 1979. It seeks to help interested developing countries obtain, through surveys, and in conjunction with population censuses and other sources, a continuing flow of the integrated statistical information needed for development plans and programmes. The NHSCP is co-sponsored by the United Nations, UNDP and the World Bank and is actively supported by the UN agencies and donor agencies in developing countries. Several developing countries have expressed interest in the programme and their participation is expected to increase in the 1980s.

3. Support services

Contracts and procurement

95. As a result of restructuring, DTCD assumed responsibility for all purchasing and contracting related to technical co-operation projects and therefore established a Contracts and Procurement Branch in September 1978. During 1979, the Branch made considerable progress towards creation of a purchasing and contracting operation responsive to the needs of technical co-operation.

96. Delivery of equipment and contractual services in 1979 reached an unprecedented level and increased by more than 20 per cent over 1978. Total delivery in terms of new purchase orders placed and new contracts awarded was US\$31.2 million compared to US\$26.2 million in 1978. The principal types of equipment purchased were computers (hardware and software), drilling equipment, vehicles, laboratory equipment and survey instruments. Contractual services included feasibility studies, engineering services, aerial photography and mineral explorations.

97. A special effort was made to increase purchases in developing countries (now representing 14 per cent of the total), and greater use of accumulated currencies (up by about 25 per cent compared to 1978) and a more balanced geographic purchasing pattern. Given that most purchases involve highly sophisticated technical equipment, available only from a limited number of suppliers, the results are considered quite satisfactory.

98. Attention was also given to improving operational procedures and streamlining the entire purchase and contract operation. The Branch is well under way to becoming an effective and dynamic operation, fully integrated with other related units of the Department. Several major improvements have been initiated, the most note-worthy being the plan to computerize the entire operation. The systems design work was more than half completed by the end of 1979 and its full implementation in 1980 should considerably improve management control as well as the reliability of statistical reports.

Recruitment

99. In 1979 the Technical Assistance Recruitment Service (TARS) continued to devote special attention to the quality and timely delivery of experts in the face of evolving government needs and a fluctuating market of scarce, high-level skills.

100. With a total of 948 experts appointed, 1979 was the most successful of the past four years and the third best year in the last decade. In spite of budgetary and staffing constraints, TARS further reduced recruitment time. In 1979, 517 or 55 per cent of all posts were filled within four months or less, while 78 per cent were filled by the target date. Delays in fielding the remaining 22 per cent were the result of the general constraints already mentioned, and such factors as delays in governmental acceptance of candidates, in obtaining release of experts from employers, or in the allocation of funds; postponement of projects at government request; non-availability of approved candidates at the time desired; and deterioration in the ability of United Nations salary scales to compete for qualified professionals in certain specializations.

101. TARS introduced a basic new procedure in 1979, involving increased reliance on its computerized roster, coupled with its closer adjustment to the identified needs of the programme. For the first time a forecast of manpower needs of projects scheduled for implementation within each succeeding twelve-month period was distributed to all main recruitment sources and this will be repeated at least annually. This forecast, accompanied by standard job descriptions, aims to help recruitment sources to nominate candidates more akin to the needs and trends of the programme; to perfect the roster as an essential recruitment tool; and to reduce the need to circulate individual vacancy notices, which adds three months to lead time. In 1979, more than half of all candidates appointed were drawn from the roster.

102. Efforts to recruit more candidates from developing countries continued. Despite budgetary and staffing constraints which have so far prevented the establishment of a TARS office for Africa, those in Kuala Lumpur and Lima were able to help 12 Asian countries and 9 Latin American countries establish national "focal points" for a more systematic prospection of candidates and many potential sources in the private sector were also contacted. The proportion of experts from developing countries actually appointed rose from 287 in 1978 to 364 in 1979 representing a 27 per cent increase. Further improvements would, however, require increased budgetary and staffing resources in 1980-81.

103. Another priority is the recruitment of women. In absolute terms, the number of women appointed rose from 37 in 1978 to 47 in 1979, a mere 5 per cent of total 1979 appointments, although a rise of 25 per cent over 1978. Clearly much more needs be done. National recruitment sources were urged to make a special effort to provide women candidates both for the roster and individual posts, but the response has been disappointing. In some cases, also, there has been reluctance at the field level to accept women candidates.

Reports

104. The year 1979 marked a critical phase in the organizing, presenting, and disseminating of information gathered from project operations. Several problems are evident after the first full year wherein primary reporting responsibility was shifted from Headquarters to local project management, and funding for it became optional, by actual costing, rather than mandatory, by standard costing.

105. Headquarters edited, printed and distributed 69 terminal, technical, seminar and contractors' reports (listed in DP/RP/22). This does not accurately reflect the total of DTCD's project activities because, for many projects, either the locally produced reports were not adequately distributed, or needed reports were not issued at all because no funds had been budgeted for reporting.

106. The programme to obtain microfiches of final reports and to provide computerized information storage and retrieval capabilities continued, but with varied difficulties: climbing costs, divided support, and desultory interest on the part of potential users. Through 1979, a total of 133 reports has been microfiched, and 457 DTCD reports entered into the computerized Development Information System of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs.

107. To improve matters it is proposed that current and future project documents should: (1) distinguish between progress reporting and terminal reports because they are budgeted separately; (2) require a microfiche and entry at Headquarters of at least one end-of-project document into the computerized information storage and retrieval system; and (3) provide for an irreducible minimum budget allocation for reporting costs.

Training

108. Training activities have been described in parts II.B and III.B.2, and statistical data appears in document DP/RP/22. Special mention should be made, however, of the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (UNETPSA); training related to TCDC; and of the Directory of Training Courses and Programmes in Europe and Neighbouring Areas.

109. The General Assembly has urged the expansion of UNETPSA as a significant and worthwhile effort of the international community. Contributions increased in 1979 to US\$3,692,146, enabling UNETPSA to grant 409 new awards - 45 to Namibians, 181 to South Africans and 183 to Southern Rhodesians ^{4/} and to sponsor more on-going students. The programme continued to emphasize training for professional and technical degrees reflecting manpower needs of Southern Africa; for post-graduate study; and for women candidates (33 per cent of new awards in 1979 went to women). At the General Assembly's request, the Advisory Committee on UNETPSA will evaluate the programme in 1980, in the light of developments in Southern Africa since the last evaluation in 1975. Heretofore DTCD has administered the programme from its existing staff resources, but the expansion of the programme, and the increasing workload, makes it necessary to ask for additional resources in order to handle it effectively.

110. As regards TCDC, over a thousand fellows were studying in developing countries in 1979 (most of them UNETPSA Fellows). The training resources of developing countries will probably be used to an even greater extent in future.

111. The annual Directory of Training Courses and Programmes in Europe and Neighbouring Areas, included, in 1979, more than 350 courses in all fields of United Nations competence, with emphasis on such relatively new branches as human settlement, population, development administration, computer science and youth development, and special reference to training institutions and programmes (some United Nations-sponsored), in countries now becoming industrialized and therefore of special interest to developing countries.

4. World Food Programme

112. As co-founder of the World Food Programme (WFP) with FAO, the United Nations provides technical support to WFP projects through DTCD, the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, and the Centre for Human Settlements. In 1979, these offices, represented by technical advisers, participated in ten appraisal and evaluation missions, and in the review and desk evaluation of 86 projects. The main fields were general economic and regional planning, natural resources, infrastructure

^{4/} See document A/34/571 for detailed information.

development, community and rural development and human settlements. Some specific projects provided technical support to WFP projects particularly in infrastructure, natural resource development and human settlements, in countries such as Bolivia, Bangladesh and Guinea.

113. During 1979, conversations were held in Rome between officials of the World Food Programme and DTCD with a view to improving working relations and strengthening the technical support provided by DTCD. These discussions culminated in a United Nations/WFP Inter-Secretariat Meeting at Headquarters in March 1980, at which measures to improve collaboration were agreed. These include the involvement of DTCD at an earlier stage in a project's formulation and also during implementation. It is hoped that a key element in this process will be the closer involvement of United Nations field experts in the countries concerned and, as a first step to bring this about, two countries in each WFP region were selected for a pilot experiment.

C. Special concerns and new directions

114. General Assembly resolution 32/197 on restructuring envisages DTCD as the principal arm for operational activities for development in the United Nations Secretariat. The Department must therefore be concerned with two themes: (a) improving the delivery, quantitatively, qualitatively, of the "traditional" components of technical co-operation, including experts, fellowships, equipment, and training materials; and (b) breaking new ground and preparing for the future by developing and complementing innovative approaches to technical co-operation. The second theme is particularly important for in the final analysis, the DTCD's performance will be judged by the quality of its programme and its impact on economic and social issues in developing countries. This section describes some of the Department's efforts to meet this challenge.

TCDC and new dimensions

115. Examples of projects promoting self-reliance through TCDC and other New Dimensions appear throughout the report; the following merely supplements those references.

116. TCDC also requires the use of experts from developing countries. While the average proportion of such experts employed in United Nations-executed projects financed by UNDP is 36 per cent, it is much higher for development planning projects - 52 percent. The regional variations are considerable: in Latin America 84 per cent of DTCD's development planning experts are Latin Americans; in the Arab countries, 57 per cent are Arabs and 21 per cent come from other developing countries; in Asia and the Pacific, 35 per cent are Asians. In non-Arabic-speaking countries of Africa, the 39 per cent of development planning experts come from developing countries, but none are from the region.

117. The continuing importance that DTCD gives to the use of qualified national personnel in their own countries, and in the region, obviously helps in this process. Several projects assisted by DTCD are now run by national project co-ordinators: there are four such projects in Turkey; three in Yugoslavia; and an Indian national project co-ordinator is in charge of five related projects in water research and hydraulic instrumentation. In 1979, national consultants were frequently used in the Americas region: in Peru, eight local consultants were employed to undertake energy surveys; and four local consultants lectured at a post graduate course at the

Centre for Development Studies of the University of Venezuela. In Sri Lanka, a national consultant co-ordinated training programmes for planners, administrators and technical officers.

Co-operation with regional commissions and decentralization

18. DTCD has continued carrying out the directives of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on strengthened co-operation with the regional commissions and the decentralization of certain operational activities ^{5/}. One of the first priorities of the new Department was to develop a framework for closer co-operation with the commissions. Considerable progress was made in 1979 as a result of meetings held both at the seats of the commissions and at Headquarters. The process, begun in 1978, of decentralizing all regional and sub-regional projects for which DTCD had executing responsibility advanced apace, according to the agreed schedules. Only a few such projects remain with the Department, at the express wish of the government, the funding organization or the commission itself, and with the agreement of all concerned. In order to help strengthen backstopping of technical co-operation in the commissions, funds have been transferred from DTCD's allotment under the Regular Programme, to those for the commissions, to finance one regional adviser post each, in the commission's own preferred sectors. Assistance has also been given to the commissions, upon request, in strengthening other services (e.g., to ECE, in administrative and financial matters). The Department will continue to do all it can to co-ordinate its work with that of the commissions and to co-operate with them.

Support to country programming

19. Paragraph 4 of Governing Council decision 79/22 welcomed the proposal (in paragraphs 110 and 111 of DP/RP/20) to use the resources of DTCD, in consultation with UNDP, to improve the country-programming process and develop it as a frame of reference in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/197 (para. 33 of annex). After consultation with UNDP it has been agreed to undertake a pilot experiment in those countries expected to present country programmes to the Governing Council in June 1981. Resident representatives in those countries have been asked to inform the government that DTCD stands ready, upon request, to provide advisory services, at the time of the preparation of national development plans, which could assist in developing a systematic approach to the identification of technical co-operation needs, and so provide a firmer base for the subsequent UNDP country programming exercise, as well as for discussions with other sources of technical co-operation. Several governments have already evinced interest.

Evaluation

20. The Department continues to participate in tripartite reviews of projects and the joint UNDP/Agency programme of evaluation, and looks forward to working with UNDP in the evaluation on public administration proposed in DP/448 (para. 7). In addition, the departmental realignment emphasizes attention to evaluation, both quantitative and qualitative. The Sub-Committee on Technical Co-operation, set up

^{5/} General Assembly resolutions 32/197 of 20 December 1977, 33/202 of 19 January 1979, and 34/206 of 19 December 1979; Economic and Social Council resolutions 1978/74 of 4 August 1978 and 1979/64 of 3 August 1979.

at the end of 1979 under the chairmanship of the Assistant Secretary-General, has as a major function the substantive and quantitative evaluation of the Department's technical co-operation activities, and has started work. Moreover, within the new structure, the Division of Programming and Implementation is to monitor and evaluate implementation of the overall programme of technical co-operation of the Department and a special unit to do so has been set up.

Natural resources and energy

121. There is a rapidly expanding demand for technical co-operation and pre-investment activities in two key areas of the Department's mandate, the development of natural resources (especially minerals and water) and energy. As indicated in paragraph 26 above, modest resources have been set aside in the 1980-1981 Regular Programme to finance assessment missions but clearly larger resources are required if the increasing and urgent needs in these two fields are to be satisfied. In this connection the Department awaits with keen interest the outcome of the review of the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration in 1981, and of the discussion of the Administrator's proposals for an energy fund (DP/438) at the Governing Council's present session. The Department has already indicated to the Administrator its readiness, as in the past, to place all its technical capability at the disposal of UNDP in support of both funds, and looks forward to an expanding scope of activity in these areas of vital importance to development. As in development planning (see para. 44 above), other organizations of the United Nations system have recently become increasingly involved in these fields and a clear definition and demarcation of roles is essential.

Science and technology

122. DTCD deals with science and technology for development within its various substantive programmes, and has been participating with other agencies in preparation for the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development. In anticipation of an active role in carrying out the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, the Department has made various project proposals to UNDP for financing by the Interim Fund. These projects would aim to strengthen the indigenous scientific and technological capacities of developing countries.

Pre-investment and investment follow-up

123. A recent study by DTCD shows a marked decline in the Department's pre-investment activities, for 1972-1978, and in follow-up investments generated by these activities, which parallels the overall decline for the entire UNDP-funded development system noted in the report to the UNDP Administrator also being submitted to the Council's twenty-seventh session (DP/472).

124. The number of investment-oriented projects executed by the Department fell from 20 in 1972 to 4 in 1978. UNDP resources allocated to such projects over the same period also fell from nearly US \$ 17 million to slightly less than US \$ 4.5 million, while the ratio of investment-oriented projects to all projects approved for execution by the United Nations dropped from 1:19 to 1:57. The investment-oriented projects approved in 1972 represented 5.4 per cent of all the projects approved for execution by the United Nations; in 1978 they came to no more than 1.8 per cent. For overall cost, as distinct from the number of projects, the percentage of investment-oriented projects fell from 26.6 per cent in 1972 to 7 per cent in 1978.

125. As to follow-up investment, in 1972 US \$308.3 million was reported as being generated on eight projects costing a total of US \$6.2 million. In 1978, after a steady decline, an investment commitment of US \$10.8 million was reported as being generated on a single project which had cost US \$164,000.

126. The general reasons for the decline, both in the level of pre-investment activities and of resulting investment, have been set out in the overall UNDP report before the Council and will not be repeated here. Some factors may be identified, however, which relate specifically to DTCD:

(a) The UNDP financial crisis in 1975/76 restricted the flow of new projects and, although the programme revived from 1977 onwards, large-scale projects in mineral development did not rise proportionately in real terms.

(b) The world market has seen depressed prices for base metals in recent years.

(c) The number of UNDP-funded large-scale projects in natural resources, traditionally assigned to the UN for execution, has declined. Many integrated river basin studies, for example, which for nearly two decades were carried out by the Water Resources Branch of the UN, are now more frequently undertaken by other agencies in the form of a "package deal" including pre-feasibility and feasibility studies and even investment follow-up.

(d) A systematic representation of DTCD's substantive and technical views has often been lacking during the country-programming process. Consequently full weight has not been given to pre-investment possibilities in natural resources and energy and in other sectors.

(e) Close and systematic linkages with financing agencies, such as FAO and other specialized agencies enjoy with the World Bank, have been lacking.

127. Various steps are being taken to remedy this situation:

(a) The realigned structure of the Department includes a section which will deal, inter alia, with pre-investment and investment follow-up.

(b) Arrangements are being made to ensure that appropriate technical advice in DTCD's fields of competence is more readily available to the resident representative (who is the Department's own representative) at the time of country programming.

(c) Natural resources and energy-assessment missions are being sent to a number of countries, at their request, and "profiles" of potential mineral resources are being drawn up country by country.

(d) Contacts are being made with the World Bank and other financing institutions in order to forge closer links.

(e) The Department is interested in pursuing with UNDP a co-operative arrangement similar to that between UNDP and FAO, as described in DP/422 (paras. 4-8).

Future directions

128. The Department will not only intensify its efforts in the areas indicated above but will also embark on new ones as priority needs arise and resources permit. Suggestions from the Governing Council in this regard will be welcomed.

IV. OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL ENTITIES

129. Information under this heading will be provided in an addendum to the present document, owing to late receipt of several contributions.
