1. Since the beginning of the first development co-operation cycle in 1972, Annual Reports of the UNDP Administrator have relied on a basically consistent series of data showing the Programme's quantitative performance on a year-to-year basis. Many of the tables in DP/1982/6/Add.2 (Basic Programme Data) and DP/1982/6/Add.3 (Supplementary Programme Data) provide ten-year, two-cycle summaries in this respect.

2. As the Annual Report of the Administrator for 1981 (DP/1982/6 and Add.1) indicates however, major changes have characterized the scope and function of UNDP since 1972. At the same time, new management information systems have been developed (DP/1982/6/Add.1, paragraphs 91-94) to provide the capacity for more up-to-date and higher quality data for the Programme. In addition, a general shift in Programme orientation from quantitative inputs to qualitative outputs has also taken place.

3. Accordingly, in 1981, a UNDP Working Group on Annual Report Data was convened with the task of providing recommendations to the Administrator on: (1) improvements in existing Annual Report data; and (2) the possible extension of the Annual Report's data base to reflect changes in UNDP's role and activities, such improvements and changes to be reflected in Annual Reports for the third cycle beginning with the Report of the Administrator for 1982.

4. The purpose of this brief note is simply to inform the Governing Council on these matters. No reporting requirement mandated by the Governing Council will be affected by any revision undertaken in the data base for Annual Reports.