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SUPPORT

UNITED NATIONS TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ACTIVITIES

Other entities and programmes

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

In response to Governing Council decision 79/22, this addendum to the Secretary-General's report on United Nations technical co-operation activities provides an overview of the activities of the organizational entities other than the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development which also have responsibilities for technical co-operation programmes. It describes the main trends and activities undertaken during 1984 by the regional commissions, the Centre for Human Rights, the Division of Narcotic Drugs, the Office of Legal Affairs, the Centre for Human Settlements, the Centre on Transnational Corporations, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization. It also provides information on funding, with regard to source and volume, and gives an account of the major programme areas, as well as information on action taken in response to resolutions of the General Assembly and various governing bodies.

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INTRODUCTION

1. In response to Governing Council decision 79/22, the present addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on technical co-operation activities provides an overview of the work in technical co-operation fields of relevant organizational entities and programmes of the United Nations other than the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development.
2. It contains information on sources and volume of funding, major fields of activity and inter-agency co-operation, as well as information on action taken in response to resolutions of the General Assembly and various governing bodies.
3. It also contains information on the use of the resources of the United Nations Regular Programme of technical co-operation as these pertain to the programmes and activities of these entities.

I. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

4. By utilizing funds provided by the United Nations and multilateral and bilateral sources, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in 1984 continued to engage in diverse technical co-operation activities. United Nations Regular Programme funds amounting to \$1,481,000 provided support to 10 regional advisers and also to the subregional services of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCS). The regional advisory services covered the fields of economic co-operation, statistics, social development, manpower development, development of conventional and non-conventional sources of energy, public administration, public finance, transport communications and socio-economic research.
5. UNDP funds amounting to \$7,045,000 were utilized to finance projects in the fields of statistics, industry, national accounts, transport and communications and integration of women in development. UNDP funds were also utilized to provide support to the MULPOCS and research centres. Covered in the latter category are the Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre, the African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing, the African Regional Centre for Services in Surveying and Mapping, the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning and the Eastern and Southern Africa Management Institute. The contribution made available by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) during 1984 in the amount of \$3,295,000 was used to support ECA's population infrastructure, regional advisory services in demographic statistics, national workshops in population and development, the Institut de formation et de recherches démographiques and the Regional Institute for Population Studies.
6. Direct grants from donor Governments and organizations amounting to \$1,997,000 provided expert services under non-reimbursable loan arrangements and bilateral technical assistance programmes in the fields of agriculture, public administration management and manpower development, natural resources, industry, social

development, transport and communications, international trade, economic co-operation, socio-economic research and planning and information.

7. The Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women provided \$154,194 to strengthen national machineries for the integration of women in development, for training and to support the infrastructure of the African Training and Research Centre for Women. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) also provided \$158,300 for ECA's Environment Co-ordination Unit. The United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD) made available \$563,150 for the execution of projects in the fields of industry, agriculture, natural resources, public administration, trade, economic co-operation and socio-economic research and planning.

II. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

8. In 1984 the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) continued its regional operational projects in energy, transport and statistics with the financial assistance of UNDP. The secretariat also continued consultations with other regional commissions in order to improve its exchanges of economic data and expertise at the interregional level. With UNFPA funds, ECE has undertaken projects in the field of migration and the aging of populations. Following the regional meeting on population (Sofia, Bulgaria, October 1983), suggestions and recommendations were formulated for the International Conference on Population (Mexico, August 1984) and ECE, at its fortieth session, will examine these suggestions and recommendations to identify work which could be undertaken by ECE within existing resources, taking into account also the results of the International Conference on Population. With the financial support of UNEP, ECE continues its environmental protection activities.

III. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

9. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) continued in 1984 to provide a wide range of technical co-operation in response to requests from States members of the Latin American and Caribbean regions. As in previous years, efforts were made to strengthen regional and subregional inter-institutional co-operation with the integration process in Central America, with the secretariat of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and with the Latin American Economic System (SELA).

10. Together with its two sister organizations, the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) and the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE), the Commission provided advisory services and conducted regional training courses in socio-economic planning and policy including regional planning and demographic analysis and population matters, with funding from UNDP, UNFPA, UNEP, the Netherlands and Canada. ILPES trained 36 fellows from 17 Latin American countries and CELADE awarded 36 fellowships to participants from 16 countries. As in previous years, the demand for training exceeded available resources.

11. Projects financed from the Regular Programme (sect. 24), multilateral financing such as UNDP, UNFPA, UNEP and voluntary trust fund contributions were carried out in social development, including the integration of women, economic integration and regional co-operation, international trade (particularly its financial and monetary implications, and export promotion and financing), water resources and energy, transport, industrial development, agriculture strategies and policies and economic and social documentation.

12. Several follow-up activities were carried out in connection with projects for the promotion of technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) that reached their final stages. This was the case in mineral resources development, drinking water supply, transport and communications and export financing. New TCDC promotional projects were initiated in the areas of water resources management and interior cargo terminals. At the same time ECLAC continued its activities for promoting and supporting horizontal co-operation in the fields of economic and social planning, particularly at the regional and municipal levels, academic co-operation among universities and research centres working in the area of international relations and environment in the context of development planning. In all these sectors ECLAC has been able to move from the initial stage of identifying opportunities for increased co-operation to the level of formulating specific TCDC promotional projects in close relationship with the pertinent regional and subregional institutional mechanisms. The strengthening of national focal points has continued to be a major guideline for ECLAC in this regard.

13. Interregional TCDC and economic co-operation among developing countries (ECDC) was again an area of special concern for ECLAC. The framework for joint action in this respect was Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/66. A progress report on the implementation of this resolution, which aims at the establishment of a programme for the promotion and support of interregional TCDC/ECDC was prepared by the regional commissions, under the leading role of ECLAC, for submission to the Economic and Social Council's summer session in July 1984. At the interregional level ECLAC and ECA worked out a joint project document for promoting TCDC/ECDC in the development of the mineral resources of both regions. The project has been submitted to UNDP for funding. At the same time consultations with the regional commissions have continued with regard to the process of setting up appropriate inter-secretariat arrangements for interregional co-operation.

IV. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

14. Under the United Nations Regular Programme of technical co-operation, during 1984 requests from 41 Governments for technical and advisory services were met by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) through 28 missions. The bulk of the requests were from Governments of least developed countries and island developing countries. Delays both in the recruitment process and in the confirmation of proposed timing and duration by requesting Governments had resulted in the bunching of requests over certain periods. As a result, some requests had to be deferred to 1985.

15. To enhance the effectiveness and capability of ESCAP to respond directly to requests from the Governments of developing island countries in the Pacific, the

United Nations Development Advisory Team for the South Pacific (UNDAT) at Suva and the ESCAP Pacific Liaison Office at Nauru were merged on 1 July 1984 into the ESCAP Pacific Operation Centre (EPOC) base in Port Vila, Vanuatu. In addition to acting as the liaison between the ESCAP secretariat and the Governments of the Pacific island countries, EPOC continued to provide short-term advisory services to the developing island countries of the Pacific. Twenty-one consultancy missions were fielded by short-term experts specifically recruited for the purpose, while resident UNDAT experts rendered advisory services in the fields of shipping, statistics, physical planning, public administration and social welfare. Co-operation between ESCAP, through EPOC, and the South Pacific Commission, the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation and the University of the South Pacific was also enhanced in the process.

16. Regional and subregional projects financed by UNDP continued to deal with manpower training and development, agricultural machinery, development of a system of interlinked econometric country models for short-term and medium-term forecasting of economic conditions, science and technology, trade promotion and co-operation, natural resources and energy, public administration, remote sensing, regional co-operation in shipping, ports and inland waterways, transport and communications and household survey training in connection with the development of national statistical capabilities relating to the National Household Survey Capability Programme. ESCAP also co-operated with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the International Trade Centre in the implementation of trade related projects in the region and in furthering economic co-operation among developing countries.

17. UNFPA continued to provide institutional support to the ESCAP Population Division and its population information services. Funds were also made available to ESCAP to provide regional advisory services on population census and surveys and data preparation and processing to countries of the region, technical assistance and training in demography and population statistics, to support fellowships for demographers for certificate and diploma training courses at the International Institute for Population Studies in India and to carry out studies on fertility levels and trends, on the impact of family planning programmes, on international migration policies in Asia and the Pacific, on demographic-economic relationships of selected countries and the analysis of mortality trends and patterns in the ESCAP region.

18. Extrabudgetary assistance extended by donor countries both from within and outside the region continued to contribute significantly to the implementation of ESCAP's work programme. In addition, institutional and programme support was also received from these sources for the regional institutions. In particular, contributions in cash were received from Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Burma, Canada, China, Denmark, Fiji, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Kiribati, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Vanuatu and Viet Nam. Experts were also provided on a non-reimbursable loan basis by Belgium, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea and the Union of Soviet

Socialist Republics. Host facilities and conference services were also offered by several countries in which ESCAP activities took place.

19. In implementing its technical co-operation activities in the region, ESCAP continued to place greater emphasis on the important role which TDCD could effectively play in bringing about development to the countries at the least cost to the organization as a whole.

V. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA

20. The Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) continued to undertake technical assistance co-operation activities in the region through the provision of short-term regional advisory services and monitoring and backstopping of technical assistance projects.

21. Under the UNDP support programme the Commission continued to provide regional advisory services to States members of the region in such areas as development planning, industrial project identification, formulation and appraisal, financial management, human resources development, household surveys and demography, national accounts and economic statistics, transport and communications, new and renewable sources of energy and industrial and mechanical engineering.

22. During the period under review, a number of UNDP-financed projects were in progress, including the ongoing regional project for the National Household Survey Capability Programme, a project on statistical services development in Yemen, a preparatory assistance project for intra-regional maritime information, and the final phase of the Arab Planning Institute project in Kuwait.

23. A number of activities were also undertaken in co-operation with the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women. These include case studies of the position of women in the national plans of Democratic Yemen, Egypt, Iraq, and the Syrian Arab Republic, and a case study and project proposal on women workers in national handicrafts in Democratic Yemen; a project in institutional development for rural women in southern Lebanon, training activities for income-generation in Lebanon and a research project on identification of priority services for development planning for women in Bahrain.

VI. CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

24. Under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights and pursuant to the relevant General Assembly resolution, an international seminar on the encouragement of understanding, tolerance and respect in matters relating to freedom of religion or belief was held at Geneva from 3 to 14 December 1984.

25. Twenty-six individual fellowships were granted in 1984 to candidates from 26 Member States. These provided instruction in the protection and promotion of human rights as related to law, development, science and technology and other fields.

26. In accordance with resolutions 1984/32 and 1984/36 and decision 1984/143 of the Economic and Social Council, and with resolution 1984/45 of the Commission on Human Rights, the Secretary-General was requested to provide technical assistance in the field of human rights to the Governments of Bolivia, Equatorial Guinea, Haiti and Uganda, respectively. At the end of 1984, discussions with the Governments were still in progress for the provision of this assistance.

VII. DIVISION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS

27. In 1984, which was the third year in a five-year programme of action to implement the International Drug Abuse Control Strategy, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 36/168, the Division of Narcotic Drugs undertook a variety of technical co-operation activities.

28. The Division of Narcotic Drugs, as the principal adviser in drug control matters, provided advisory services, programme support, equipment and fellowships in the field of drug control and also supported national, regional, and multilateral efforts to cope with abuse of dependence-producing drugs placed under international control.

29. It provided training in methods for the identification and analysis of drugs of abuse seized in illicit traffic; disseminated technical information and supplied reference drug samples; organized or participated in conferences, workshops and seminars in various regions to improve international drug control programmes; organized study tours; and awarded fellowships. The Division of Narcotic Drugs reported on all activities and programmes of the Division to the Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs, who is responsible for the overall co-ordination of all United Nations drug control-related activities, including those of the Division of Narcotic Drugs, the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC) and of the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB).

30. The Division assisted individual Governments in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of multi-sectoral programmes to reduce the illicit supply of drugs, interdict illicit drugs and lower the demand for them.

31. With support from UNFDAC, assistance was given to national authorities in law enforcement, communications training, research, drug demand reduction, dissemination of information and encouragement of community participation of relevant bodies and agencies of the United Nations system in the Division's programme.

32. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burma, China, Cyprus, Egypt, India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Turkey and Zambia received assistance through specific technical co-operation projects, and 18 fellowships in the identification and analysis of drugs of abuse were awarded to nationals of 12 countries.

VIII. OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

33. The Office of Legal Affairs advised and assisted units within the Secretariat at Headquarters, such as the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development as well as UNDP, the regional commissions and other United Nations bodies, on matters pertaining to the establishment and application of legal rules through which co-operation programmes proceed. Most of this work is of a continuing nature and includes (a) drafting and interpreting constitutive instruments as well as financial and other regulations, rules and directives of United Nations bodies; (b) advising on basic agreements and project documents with Governments, executing agencies and sources of co-financing for technical co-operation projects; and (c) advising on operational questions (administrative, personnel, financial and contractual), as well as problems of privileges and immunities and the terms of reference of technical co-operation bodies proposed to be established.

34. The Office also provided substantive backstopping in 1984 for technical co-operation projects executed by the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development in the legal field in Barbados, Grenada, St. Christopher and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago and Zimbabwe. The Office collaborated with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in the Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law. Other activities included 15 fellowships in the United Nations/UNITAR Fellowships Programme in International Law. The Office also administered programmes sponsored by the Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowships on the Law of the Sea, in collaboration with the Law of the Sea secretariat.

IX. UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

35. During 1984, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT), had under execution 145 projects in 77 countries. Of these, 49 were located in least developed countries. Of the total, 80 were financed by UNDP, representing approximately 72 per cent of the funds budgeted for technical co-operation during the year by HABITAT. A total of 18 projects were also supplemented by trust-fund contributions in the form of associate experts.

36. The total number of associate experts provided during the year was 14. They concentrated on the development of human settlement policies, the formulation of human settlement development plans, low-cost shelter, infrastructure and supporting services and the building-up of institutions and their management. The HABITAT and Human Settlements Foundation funded 30 small-scale projects and missions designed to meet human settlements needs. These missions covered low-cost housing design and construction, building materials and construction technologies, slum and squatter settlements upgrading, human settlements finance, planning for disaster-prone areas, data management systems, and training. The limited resources of the Foundation are generally used for preparatory assistance and activities with a demonstrated multiplier effect, as well as those which are likely to have a significant effect on the overall development of human settlements. As such they augment other sources of funding.

37. The limited Regular Programme funds were used for special advisory services and training with emphasis on supporting human settlements activities in the least developed countries. In 1984, 42 missions were fielded. Some of the special advisory missions resulted in project documents for funds-in-trust financing. Special advisory services were provided in the areas of data-management systems, building materials and construction technology, human settlement financing and human settlements improvement and rehabilitation. Fellowships were provided for training in human settlements planning, development and finance.

38. Modest resources were provided under UNDP sectoral support to HABITAT for identifying national technical co-operation needs in human settlements and for formulating project documents and proposals for financing by UNDP and other sources. These resources were used for the preparation of integrated human settlements project documents for presentation to donor Governments and agencies, and for the preparation of recommendations on the development of inter-sectoral projects for submission to UNDP.

39. The sectoral support funds provided by UNDP filled an important need in the HABITAT programme of technical co-operation. Without them it would not have been possible for HABITAT to respond to Governments' requests for timely sectoral support. Because the sectoral support resources provided by UNDP were drastically reduced in 1984, HABITAT was able to field only four missions during the year for lack of resources, although there were several requests from Governments.

40. HABITAT continued active collaboration in the field of human settlements with other agencies. Collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP) continued with the WFP/UNCHS Co-ordinator assisting in appraisal and project development missions. Collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) continued through the assistance of a UNHCR/UNCHS human settlements officer in project development in the area of refugee settlements.

41. In order to strengthen the operational linkages between the World Bank and HABITAT so as to assist Governments more effectively in defining, formulating and implementing innovative programmes in human settlements, the Bank is co-operating with HABITAT by seconding a staff member of the Bank outposted to HABITAT on a cost-sharing basis. The primary task of this staff member is to assist the Bank and HABITAT to take full advantage of potential opportunities for co-operation and complementarity between the programmes and bilateral initiatives, with particular reference to shelter and related services.

X. UNITED NATIONS CENTRE ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

42. The United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations implements advisory, information and training services aimed at strengthening the ability of developing countries to deal with the economic, financial, fiscal, technical, legal and operational issues that arise from their interaction with transnational corporations (TNCs). The advisory and information services of the Centre fall into two general categories: assistance to developing country Governments in drafting or revising foreign investment legislation, model contracts and administrative

procedures and in establishing appropriate institutional arrangements related to TNC involvement in the national economy; and assistance to developing country Governments in negotiating specific contractual agreements with TNCs. The training services of the Centre are comprised of three main activities: training workshops; study tours for developing country government officials; and support to national institutions of higher learning in developing countries on matters related to TNCs.

43. In 1984, 90 advisory and information projects were completed or initiated in 33 developing countries. Approximately half of these were to help Governments to draft or revise foreign investment legislation, model contracts or related administrative and institutional arrangements, while the remaining half were to assist Governments or State enterprises in negotiating specific contractual arrangements with TNCs in the petroleum, mining, forestry, agriculture, chemical, banking, hotel and airline industries. Many of these services were delivered to countries which had per capita incomes of less than \$600.

44. Also in 1984, 13 training workshops were organized by the Centre involving some 500 government officials. Three workshops were on cross-sectoral issues that arise between Governments and TNCs and the remainder examined issues specific to petroleum, mining, loan negotiations, technology acquisition, accounting and reporting and international leasing. Seven of the training workshops were organized at the national level for officials from China, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Nepal, Thailand and SWAPO. The remaining six workshops were regional or subregional programmes for officials from Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America, least developed Arab States, the countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Pacific islands.

45. The Centre also organized study tours in 1984 for officials of the Government of Pakistan to study foreign investment and technology-screening practices in Malaysia, the Philippines and the Republic of Korea and for officials of the Government of Ghana to study tax and accounting issues related to transnational transactions in New York and Washington. In continuation of its programme of support to institutions of higher learning, the Centre prepared detailed course curricula (and related bibliographies) on matters related to TNCs for consideration by participating institutions. Finally, in 1984, the Centre also participated in a number of training seminars organized by governmental or intergovernmental organizations in developing countries through the submission of technical papers or the provision of staff or expert lecturers.

XI. UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

46. The UNCTAD technical co-operation programme is designed to assist developing countries by strengthening their external sectors, including planning and monitoring; fostering economic co-operation; introducing improved trade mechanisms, procedures and related supporting services; and enhancing participation in international trade deliberations and negotiations. In 1984 the volume of the UNCTAD technical co-operation programme showed a further decline. While UNDP still remains the largest source of funding, there has been a gradual shift toward multi-bi financing.

47. Assistance to the least developed countries has continued to occupy a prominent place in UNCTAD's technical co-operation programme. Direct support, advisory services and training were provided to many least developed and island developing countries, aiming at strengthening their external sectors by an expansion of visible and invisible export earnings, minimizing the procurement costs of imports and improving the system of formulation and management of price policy, as well as the structure of distribution. Assistance was also provided to nearly all land-locked countries with regard to the main bottlenecks that hinder transport and communications, in an effort to reduce the real cost of access to the sea and to world markets. Through these projects, co-operation was promoted between land-locked countries and their transit neighbours for the development of transit infrastructure and facilitation of the movements of goods in transit.

48. In 1984, UNCTAD continued to assist government shipping companies, port authorities and shippers' organizations in several developing countries and through subregional organizations. Moreover, a major effort was under way to enhance the management capacity of the maritime transport sector of developing countries through two innovative training programmes. The programme on training development in the field of maritime transport (TRAINMAR) emphasizes the preparation of training material by national or subregional institutions for local delivery to middle-level and junior managers and the promotion of co-operation among training institutions through the interchange of instructors and training materials. The training programme on improving port performance concentrates on the preparation of material by specialized institutions for worldwide dissemination to senior managers. Multimodal transport has been added as a new area of assistance.

49. Other areas of assistance included the improvement of procurement of food commodities through improved market knowledge, skilful trading and import management; the improvement and strengthening of customs administration; the simplification and harmonization of trade formalities and procedures and the standardization of trade documents; the establishment of export credit guarantees and export credit insurance schemes; the dissemination of information on GSP schemes of preference-granting countries including trade laws affecting the exports of developing countries; the strengthening of technological capacity through the formulation of appropriate policies, laws and regulations and the preparation of overall and sectoral technology plans; the establishment of computerized debt management systems and the improvement of external financial planning and management; the development of trade between developing countries and Socialist countries of Eastern Europe through a better knowledge of trading systems and procedures; and the promotion of insurance markets through the formulation of appropriate legislation and the establishment of national or regional insurance and reinsurance institutions.

50. In the area of economic co-operation among developing countries UNCTAD continued in 1984 to assist regional and subregional organizations and secretariats of integration movements in analysis of trade liberalization schemes, establishment of common external tariffs, reform of customs practices, fiscal harmonization and financial and monetary co-operation. Direct support has also been provided to the secretariats of a number of commodity associations. Several interregional projects were geared directly to the priority areas of the Caracas programme on ECDC,

including co-operation between State trading organizations and the establishment of a supporting trade information system involving the collection and dissemination of data on trade barriers. Increased attention has been paid to the development and implementation of TCDC activities. Some of these initiatives have already borne fruit, while the modalities for implementation of others are under active consideration.

51. With limited Regular Programme resources, UNCTAD in 1984 continued to provide interregional advisory services in support of ECDC, mainly for short-term assistance to economic integration movements, trade expansion programmes, techniques of trade liberalization, monetary and payment arrangements and investments programmes. Sectoral support advisory service was also provided under UNDP funding.

XII. UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

52. The technical co-operation programme allocation of UNEP amounted to \$2.6 million in 1984, of which \$2.1 million was committed. In collaboration with its regional offices and the regional commissions, UNEP provided advisory services and programme support to the regional environmental co-ordination units. Technical assistance has also been provided to developing countries at their request through the services of the regional offices, and the use of consultancy funds provided in the regional advisory services budget.

53. A UNEP-DTCD-UNDP-sponsored transnational project covering Egypt and the Sudan is progressing in evaluating the Nubian sandstone aquifer as a source of water to combat desertification. UNEP and UNSO provided technical assistance to a number of developing countries in Africa and Asia in developing anti-desertification projects which will be submitted for consideration by the Consultative Group for Desertification Control at its fifth session in July 1985.

54. In 1984, UNEP also provided technical assistance to Peru and Democratic Yemen to begin implementing two high priority, anti-desertification projects in those countries. A UNEP mission assisted the Government of Tunisia in formulating a national plan of action to combat desertification.

55. During 1984 UNEP also collaborated with Governments in projects in the Global Environment Monitoring System (GEMS), the Regional Seas Programme, the International Referral System for Sources of Environmental Information (INFOTERRA), the International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals (IRPTC) and the general area of conservation and desertification control.

56. Apart from routine support of global monitoring networks in fields of air and water pollution, GEMS contributed to ecological survey and monitoring technique development, in, inter alia, Kenya and Peru. Various experts were sent by GEMS to advise on specific problems such as soil degradation in Algeria.

XIII. UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

57. The UNIDO Programme of technical co-operation amounted to \$87.2 million in 1984 with 64.9 per cent of these activities funded from UNDP main programmes and 4.2 per cent from UNDP administered trust funds, 25.9 per cent from the United Nations Industrial Development Fund and various other trust funds and 4.2 per cent from the Regular Programme. The main areas of implementation were the chemical and engineering industries and industrial infrastructure as well as agricultural and industries. Some 633 new projects with a total value of \$73.5 million were approved in 1984, compared to last year's figure of 509 new projects with a value of \$70.5 million. The total value of new project approvals for least developed countries exceeded \$20 million, compared to \$11.1 million in 1983, representing an increase of approximately 80 per cent.

58. Asia and the Pacific accounted for 35.8 per cent of project delivery; Africa, including African Arab States, 34.5 per cent; Arab States, excluding African Arab States, 4.7 per cent; the Americas, 10.3 per cent; and Europe 4.2 per cent. Global and interregional projects accounted for 10.5 per cent. Of 1,132 experts newly appointed, 22.8 per cent or 258 experts came from developing countries. A total of 2,166 placement arrangements were made for 1,387 fellowship and study-tour candidates; 448 or 20.7 per cent of these placements were arranged in developing countries thus contributing to TCDC. Of the 1,387 candidates, 192 or 13.8 per cent came from least developed countries and 151 or 10.9 per cent were female.

59. The least developed countries received assistance on the order of \$14.2 million, compared to the actual delivery in 1983 of \$18 million, a decrease of 21 per cent. In keeping with recommendations of the Conference on the least developed countries in 1981, the main thrust of technical co-operation programmes continued to be on industrial planning and programming (including the preparation of pre-feasibility and feasibility studies), industrial manpower development, industrial infrastructure, agro-based industries, promotion of small- and medium-scale as well as rural industries based on the utilization of local resources.

60. UNIDO's activities in 1984 under the Regular Programme amounted to \$3.7 million. The UNIDO Regular Programme is being utilized essentially for the training of personnel from the developing countries in various industrial fields with emphasis on the least developed countries. Group training and related activities were held in the fields of the iron and steel industry and industrial information and documentation in the USSR, both utilizing the rouble allocation to the Regular Programme as well as in the field of textile industries in Belgium, in management of industrial public enterprises in Madagascar, in energy-efficiency for least developed countries in the Philippines, in industrial utilization of medicinal herbs in Romania and in the managerial and technical aspects of the expansion of small industrial enterprises in the United Republic of Tanzania. Nine projects related to the identification and development of industrial training institutions in developing countries were approved. The objective of these projects was to strengthen and enlarge the institutions' own training capabilities and enable them to conduct training programmes for other developing countries.

61. UNIDO received in 1984 an additional allocation of \$1 million from the regular budget for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and for assistance to African countries and intergovernmental organizations in the formulation and implementation of their programmes for the Decade.

62. There have been encouraging developments with regard to trust funds. Increased interest in this type of arrangement has been shown by Arab countries and countries in the Latin American region to permit co-operation with UNIDO in generating innovative projects where trust funds, with or without self-financing, could be utilized. In 1984, a total value of \$20 million was approved for trust-fund projects.
