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S U P P O R T

UNITED NATIONS TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ACTIVITIES

Other entities and programmes

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

This addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations technical co-operation activities provides an overview of the work of organizational entities other than the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development which also have responsibility for technical co-operation programmes. It describes the main trends and activities undertaken during 1985 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.

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Introduction

1. This addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on technical co-operation activities provides an overview of the work of relevant organizational entities and programmes of the United Nations other than the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (TCD). The information provided by the offices concerned includes details on major fields of activity and inter-agency co-operation and information on action taken in response to resolutions of the General Assembly and various governing bodies. The addendum also includes information on the United Nations regular programme of technical co-operation as it pertains to the programmes and activities of the reporting entities.

I. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

2. In 1985, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) continued to engage in diverse technical co-operation activities. Regular programme funds amounting to \$1.5 million provided support to ten regional advisers and also to the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCS) regional and subregional services covering the fields of economic co-operation, statistics, social development, manpower development, development of conventional and alternative sources of energy, public administration, public finance, transport and communication, socio-economic research and administration and common services. The Commission delivered \$6 million for UNDP projects in statistics, industry, national accounts, transport and communications, integration of women in development and research centres. United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)-financed projects amounting to approximately \$3.4 million for projects in demographic statistics and in demographic, population and census research and training.

3. Donor Governments and organizations provided direct grants of \$3 million for expert services under non-reimbursable loan arrangements and bilateral technical assistance programmes in agriculture, public administration management and manpower development, natural resources, industry, social development, transport and communications, economic co-operation, socio-economic research and planning and information statistics.

4. The Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women (now the United Nations Development Fund for Women) provided \$212,000 to strengthen national machineries for the integration of women in development and to support the infrastructure of the African Training and Research Centre for Women. The ECA environmental co-ordination unit carried out activities during the year with \$160,000 provided by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Other work in the fields of industry, agriculture, natural resources, public administration, trade, economic co-operation and socio-economic research and planning was carried out with \$101,000 provided by the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development.

II. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

5. In 1985, 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 and to supplement the activities of the other commissions in promoting economic and technical co-operation among developing countries. With UNFPA funds, ECE has continued its work on

projects in the field of migration and the aging of populations. With the financial support of UNEP, ECE also continued its environmental protection activities.

III. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

6. During the year, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) provided a wide range of technical co-operation activities in response to requests from Member States. Efforts were also made to strengthen regional and subregional inter-institutional co-operation.

7. The ECLAC system, which includes the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) and the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE), provided advisory services and conducted regional training courses in socio-economic planning and policy, including regional planning and demographic analyses and population matters, with funding from UNDP, UNFPA, UNEP, the Netherlands and Canada. ILPES trained 40 fellows from 17 Latin American countries, one from Equatorial Guinea and one from Spain. CELADE awarded 26 fellowships to participants from 18 countries.

8. Projects financed from the regular programme, multilateral sources and voluntary trust funds 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 as well as export promotion and financing; water resources and energy; transport; industrial development; agricultural strategies and policies and economic and social documentation.

9. Follow-up activities were carried out in connection with projects for the promotion of technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) in the spheres of water resources management and interior cargo terminals. In addition, ECLAC continued its co-operation with the other regional commissions in support of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries, as well as its activities for promoting and supporting horizontal co-operation in the fields of economic and social planning, particularly at the regional and municipal levels.

IV. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

10. During 1985, 44 requests for technical and advisory services from 20 countries were met by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) through 37 missions under the United Nations regular programme of technical co-operation. As in the past, the majority of the requests were from the Governments of least-developed countries (LDCs) and the island developing countries in the Pacific.

11. The ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre (EPOC) at Port Vila, Vanuatu, continued to provide short-term advisory services to the developing Pacific island countries under the United Nations Development Advisory Team for the South Pacific (UNDAT) and the UNDP programme. Also, the South Pacific Commission (SPC) at Suva as well as the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation (SPEC) at Noumea were involved in this advisory services project for which ESCAP provided the necessary funding. During 1985, thirty consultancy missions were fielded by short-term experts specifically recruited

for the purpose, while the four resident UNDAT experts rendered advisory services in the fields of social welfare, statistics, physical planning, and public administration.

12. Regional and subregional projects financed by UNDP continued to address a broad variety of development sectors. ESCAP also co-operated with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the International Trade Centre (ITC) in the implementation of trade-related projects in the region and in furthering economic co-operation among developing countries. The Commission worked with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in the implementation of energy-related projects and a project on research and development of food legumes and coarse grains in the tropics and sub-tropics of Asia.

13. UNFPA continued to provide institutional support to the ESCAP Population Division, albeit on a reduced scale. Institutional support continued to be provided for the population information services section of the Division to enable it to render technical assistance and training (in-service and in-country) in the development of national population information centres in the region. Funds were also made available to ESCAP to provide regional advisory services on population censuses and surveys and on data preparation and processing to countries of the region.

14. Extrabudgetary funding was provided for the implementation of projects as prioritized under the ESCAP work programme by 33 countries both from within and outside the ESCAP region.

15. In implementing its technical co-operation activities in the region, ESCAP has incorporated technical and economic co-operation among developing countries (TCDC/ECDC) modalities in the formulation of its projects. In addition, the provision of supplementary TCDC funding directly to developing member countries to cover the international foreign exchange component of the total TCDC costs has contributed to an increase in the number of TCDC activities by member countries concerned.

V. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA

16. The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) continued to undertake technical co-operation activities in the region during 1985 through the provision of short-term regional advisory services and the monitoring and backstopping of technical assistance projects.

17. Within the framework of the ESCWA regular programme of regional advisory services, assistance to Member States was rendered in the areas of development planning, electronics and information processing, human resources development, industrial project identification, formulation and appraisal, household surveys, transport and communications and new and renewable sources of energy.

18. Under UNFPA-funded regional advisory services, assistance was provided to two countries in the field of demography and to four countries in population statistics. Advice was provided to three countries through the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)-sponsored regional advisory services in industrial and mechanical engineering.

19. Technical co-operation projects carried out by ESCWA included the

National Household Survey Capability Programme, which provided assistance to participating Governments to develop continuous and integrated household surveys to provide vital information required for national development planning, policies and programmes. A tripartite review meeting on the project, held in Baghdad, recommended, inter alia, that the project be extended for another three years.

20. Other project activities included the development of statistical services in the Yemen Arab Republic, assistance to the Arab Planning Institute in Kuwait, and work related to the role of women in national development efforts of the ESCWA region, funded by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNISEM), formerly the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women.

VI. CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

21. In 1985, under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights and pursuant to the relevant General Assembly resolution, two international seminars were organized, one on community relations commissions and their functions and a second on the exploitation of child labour.

22. Thirty-two individual fellowships were granted in 1985 to candidates from 29 Member States providing instruction in the protection and promotion of human rights as related to law, development, science and technology and other fields.

23. By resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and 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. In 1985, an expert field mission was sent to Equatorial Guinea. Discussions with the other Governments are continuing.

VII. DIVISION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS

24. In 1985, which was the fourth year in the five-year programme of action to implement the International Drug Abuse Control Strategy, the Division of Narcotic Drugs undertook a variety of technical co-operation activities, including provision of advisory services, programme support, equipment and fellowships in the field of drug control and support for regional, and multilateral efforts to cope with the abuse of dependence-producing drugs placed under international control.

25. Assistance, through specific technical co-operation projects, was provided to 22 Member States. Five regional training seminars on drug control were organized in co-operation with the Government authorities and international organizations concerned, as well as 19 fellowship programmes and 21 study tours relating to the control of drugs. In connection with technical co-operation projects, the Division prepared 11 fact-finding, feasibility, consultative and evaluation missions.

26. The Division helped to organize a co-ordinated international response to drug problems through close co-operation with relevant United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and other international organizations involved in drug control activities, as well as with Government authorities in planning and implementing interregional, regional and national drug abuse control programmes.

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VIII. OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

27. The Office of Legal Affairs advised and assisted units within the Secretariat at Headquarters, such as TCD and 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) drafting, interpreting and advising on basic agreements, loan agreements, project documents, trustee fund arrangements and other legal instruments with Governments and executing agencies; 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.

28. The Office also provided substantive backstopping in 1985 for technical co-operation projects executed by TCD in the legal field in Barbados, Guyana, St. Christopher and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago and Zimbabwe. The Office performed various functions connected with the goals of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law: It participated with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in conducting the United Nations/UNITAR Fellowship Programme in international law. Eighteen fellowships were awarded in 1985, fifteen financed from the regular budget and three from voluntary contributions. The Office also received a number of interns for training, under no financial obligation for the Organization. It also co-operated with the Department of Public Information in lectures by members of the office to groups of foreign service officials and university students. The Office also participated in programmes of training and assistance sponsored by the Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and it co-operated with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Law of the Sea in activities connected with the preparation of the launching of the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, which will be financed from a trust fund of voluntary contributions.

IX. UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

29. During 1985, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS) (HABITAT) had under execution 151 projects in 77 countries. Of these, 51 were located in least developed countries. Of the total, 88 were financed by UNDP, representing approximately 70 per cent of the funds budgeted for technical co-operation during the year by HABITAT. A total of 16 projects were also supplemented by trust-fund arrangements.

30. The United Nations HABITAT and Human Settlements Foundation funded 43 small-scale projects designed, *inter alia*, to provide assistance in preparing project documents for submission to UNDP, donor Governments and donor agencies.

31. Regular programme funds were used for special advisory services and training with emphasis on supporting human settlements activities in the least developed countries. In 1985, 51 missions were fielded. Some of the special

advisory missions resulted in project documents for funds-in-trust financing. Special advisory missions were provided in the areas of human settlements data management, building materials and low-cost construction technologies, human settlements finance and the rehabilitation of existing housing stock.

32. Resources were provided under UNDP sectoral support to HABITAT for identifying national and technical co-operation needs in human settlements and for formulating project documents and proposals for financing by UNDP and other sources.

33. 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.

X. UNITED NATIONS CENTRE ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

34. The technical co-operation programme of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations (UNCTC) consists of advisory, information and training projects undertaken in response to specific requests of host country Governments. During 1985, the Centre had under execution 113 advisory and information projects. Of these, 37 per cent related to general regimes for foreign direct investment and technology or special regimes for the participation of transnational corporations in specific sectors. Most focused on formulating or revising existing policies, laws and regulations dealing with foreign direct investment and transfer of technology transactions. A few dealt specifically with the design and establishment of institutional arrangements for the acquisition and adaptation of imported technology and with developing mechanisms for controlling transfer pricing abuses in the economies of the relevant countries.

35. UNCTC also provided assistance to Governments in evaluating financial, fiscal, economic, legal and other technical issues contained in feasibility studies prepared for particular projects involving the participation of transnational corporations, in proposals submitted by transnational corporations for wholly-owned direct investments; and in joint-venture, technology, management, turnkey, financing and other contracts with transnational corporations in the context of specific domestic projects. The Centre also provided experts to assist in preparing for negotiating or re-negotiating these arrangements with transnational corporations.

36. About 70 per cent of the projects carried out by UNCTC concerned assistance in specific sectors. The Centre carried out 57 projects in the natural resources sector and 22 in the manufacturing and service sectors. Of the 113 advisory and information projects carried out for 1985, 70 were undertaken for 18 African countries or areas, 35 for Asian and Pacific countries or areas, six for Latin America and the Caribbean and two for a country in Western Asia.

37. In 1985, the Centre organized 19 training projects comprised of workshops and seminars, roundtables and study tours for Government officials, executives

of state enterprises and managers from the private sector of various developing countries. These were attended by about 500 participants. Nine were held in Asia and the Pacific, five in Latin America, three in Africa and one each in Western Asia and Europe. Fourteen of the workshops aimed at strengthening indigenous capabilities of developing countries on matters related to the activities of transnational corporations.

38. Under the UNCTC fellowship programme, arrangements were made for senior Government officials from Pakistan to participate in a training programme organized on export processing zones by the Irish Industrial Authority in Dublin, Ireland. The Centre was also engaged in making arrangements for a study tour by senior Government officials from Sierra Leone to visit institutions dealing with the screening, monitoring and approval of transfer of technology transactions in selected Asian countries.

39. The Centre also completed another phase in its programme of assistance to institutions of higher learning in selected countries of Asia and the Pacific and the second phase of its assistance to institutes of management and public administration in selected African countries.

40. Also during 1985, the Centre expanded its links with regional and subregional entities to facilitate ECDC and TCDC. Numerous requests were received from these bodies to provide advisory, information and training services related to the local activities of transnational corporations.

XI. UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

41. Total project expenditures by UNCTAD in 1985 amounted to \$7.3 million, of which 80 per cent was funded from UNDP sources, 17 per cent from funds-in-trust and 3 per cent from the regular programme. Of expenditures against UNDP indicative planning figures (IPFs), 58 represented inter-country activities and 42 per cent country activities.

42. UNCTAD technical co-operation activities covered assistance in trade policy, including the dissemination of information on the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), establishment of export credit guarantees and improvement of customs administration. In the area of money, finance and development, UNCTAD work involved the establishment of computerized debt management systems, advice on improving debt management procedures and systems and assistance in external financial planning and management and technical support to the Committee of Twenty-four regarding international monetary and financial issues.

43. In the field of commodities, UNCTAD helped food importing countries in food purchasing through improved market knowledge, trading assistance and import management. In the area of ECDC, technical support was provided to the ongoing negotiations on the Global System of Trade Preferences; the establishment of a Trade Information System involving collection and dissemination of data on trade barriers; and support to regional and subregional organizations in trade, tariffs and customs.

44. Special assistance to LDCs included efforts aimed at strengthening the external sector by the expansion of export earnings, minimizing procurement costs of imports and promoting import substitution and improving the

management of price policies and distribution. Assistance was also provided to landlocked countries to help reduce transport and communications bottlenecks in an effort to reduce the cost of access to international markets. The programme on training development in the field of Maritime Transport (TRAINMAR) continued to expand with assistance provided to shipping companies and organizations as well as port authorities in several developing countries. Another group of projects was aimed at strengthening the capacity of developing countries in this and related fields. Support was also given to the development of trade and economic co-operation between developing countries and socialist countries of Eastern Europe through the provision of information on the trading systems and procedures of the latter group.

45. UNCTAD regular programme resources continued to provide interregional advisory services in support of ECDC through short-term assistance to economic integration movements and programmes for trade expansion, techniques of trade liberalization, monetary and payment arrangements and investment. Limited sectoral support was also provided in marine transport and trade policy with UNDP funding.

XII. UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

46. The technical co-operation programme allocation of UNEP amounted to \$2.2 million in 1985, of which \$1.8 million was committed. In collaboration with its regional offices and the regional commissions, UNEP provided advisory services and institutional support to the regional environmental co-ordination units. Technical assistance was also provided to developing countries through the regional offices and regional advisory services budget.

47. A UNEP/DTCD/UNDP-sponsored regional project covering Egypt and the Sudan is progressing in evaluating the Nubian Sandstone Aquifer as a source of water to combat desertification. UNEP and the United Nations Sahelian Office (UNSO) provided technical assistance to a number of developing countries in Africa, Latin America and Asia in developing anti-desertification projects, 14 of which were submitted for consideration by the Consultative Group for Desertification. UNEP has begun follow-up on six which received support. The Programme also provided technical assistance to Peru and Democratic Yemen on two high priority anti-desertification projects.

48. UNEP continued to operate its clearing house mechanism in support of technical co-operation activities with and between developing countries. In 1985, the clearing house prepared programmes for Ecuador, Papua New Guinea and for the countries of the Zambezi River system. Assistance was also channelled to Burundi, Rwanda, Peru and to fourteen other developing countries in the field of control of toxic chemicals. The clearing house maintains a pipeline of some one hundred technical assistance projects for aid mobilization. UNEP also continued to collaborate with some 140 Governments in the implementation of the Global Environment Monitoring System (GEMS) which includes the World Health Organization (WHO)/UNEP GEMS-Air, GEMS-Water, GEMS-food contamination monitoring programmes and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)/UNEP background air pollution monitoring network (BAPMON).

49. The UNEP international referral system for sources of environmental information, INFOTERRA, continued its technical co-operation with Governments throughout 1985, responding to queries from over 8,000 users around the world. It collaborated closely with the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development on elaborating the concept of a global information

network for scientific and technological information for development.

50. During 1985, in addition to routine activities on the operation of the global information exchange network on chemicals, with the support of the Government of the Netherlands, UNEP continued to provide technical assistance to five developing countries (Colombia, Gambia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Tanzania), in the establishment of national information systems on chemicals. UNEP also collaborated with Governments in projects in the Oceans and Coastal Areas Programme Activity Centre.

XIII. UNITED NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

51. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) programme of technical co-operation amounted to \$94.5 million in 1985, with 65 per cent of these activities funded from UNDP main programmes, 23 per cent from the UNIDO fund and various other trust funds, 10 per cent from the regular programme and 2 per cent from UNDP-administered funds. The main areas of implementation were chemical and engineering industry, agricultural industry, industrial infrastructure and metallurgical industry. Some 666 new projects with a total value of \$72.5 million were approved in 1985, compared to 633 new projects with a value of \$73.5 million in 1984. The total value of new project approvals for LDCs amounted to \$16.5 million, compared to \$20.4 million in 1984.

52. Asia and the Pacific accounted for 32 per cent of project delivery; Africa, including African Arab States, 39 per cent; Arab States excluding African Arab States, 3 per cent; the Americas, 12 per cent; and Europe, 3 per cent. Global and interregional projects accounted for 9 per cent. Of 1,628 newly appointed experts, 31 per cent came from developing countries. A total of 2,815 placement arrangements were made for 1,725 fellowship and study-tour candidates; 26 per cent of these placements were arranged in developing countries, thus contributing to TCDC. Of the 1,725 candidates, 18 per cent came from LDCs and 12 per cent were women.

53. The LDCs received assistance of \$17.6 million, compared to delivery of \$14 million in 1984. In keeping with recommendations of the Conference on LDCs 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, agriculture-based industries, and the promotion of small- and medium-scale as well as rural industries based on the utilization of local resources.

54. Activities of UNIDO in 1985 under the regular programme amounted to \$4.2 million. The UNIDO regular programme continued to supplement other resources for industrial manpower development through individual fellowships, group training and the establishment and strengthening of training facilities in developing countries. Further emphasis was put on special needs of the LDCs, as well as ECDC and TCDC. Other regular programme components included regional advisory services and consultations with Governments.

55. UNIDO received and implemented in 1985 an additional allocation of \$5 million from the regular budget of 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.

56. On 1 January 1986, UNIDO assumed the status of a specialized agency in the United Nations system. In future, therefore, UNIDO will not contribute to the Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations technical co-operation activities; rather, the relevant information on these activities will be reported directly to the Industrial Development Board.
