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### ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA

Thirteenth session 19-24 April 1986 Baghdad

Item 6(b) of the provisional agenda

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## REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION

#### FOLLOW-UP ACTION ON THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE COMMISSION

(vi) Commission resolution 139 (XII)
On Economic and Social Conditions of the
Palestinian People under Occupation

## (vi) Resolution 139 (XII) - Economic and Social Conditions of the Palestinian People under Occupation

- 1. Resolution 139 on "Economic and Social Conditions of the Palestinian People under Occupation" calls upon the Executive Secretary of ESCWA:
- 1.1 "To ensure that all available data and information relating to the occupied Palestinian territories are included in all studies and statistical abstracts issued by the Commission at the regional level":
- 1.2 "To include in the programme of work and priorities for the period 1986-1987 studies, in co-operation with the concerned Arab and international organizations, on economic and social conditions in the occupied Palestinian territories, such as may serve to strengthen the resistance of the Palestinian people in those areas; and to prepare studies on the population situation, the Israeli settlement policy aimed at changing the demographic structure and destroying the Palestinian character of the occupied Palestinian territories, and studies relating to support for the industrial sector, particularly existing industries and the solution of the problems from which they suffer, such as those of marketing, finance, manpower and raw materials".
- A. With respect to section 1.1 (operative paragraph 2 of the Resolution), the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia covered the occupied territories in most of the reports and studies issued at the regional level in 1985. This includes:
- 1. "The Statistical Abstract of the region of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia".
  - 2. "Survey of Economic and social development in the ESCWA region".
  - 3. "Industrial trends, structures and potential in the ESCWA Region".
- 4. "The situation and outlook for meat, poultry and eggs in the ESCWA region".
- 5. "Mid-decade review on the implementation of the Vienna programme of action on science and technology for development". (Country Report).
- 6. A study on "Food Security in the West Bank and Gaza Strip" was issued in 1985, jointly with the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development.
- 7. Advisory services were rendered to the Ministry of Occupied Territories affairs in the field of evaluation of industrial projects in the West Bank and Gaza.
- 8. A study "Forced emigration of Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip (1967-1983)" was published in the ESCWA Population Bulletin (No. 27 of
- B. With regard to section I-2 (operative paragraph 3 of resolution 139), the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia included in the programme of work for 1986-87 several studies on the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people under occupation:

- 1. At the request of the PLO Central Bureau of Statistics, ESCWA is planning the execution of three surveys related to the Palestinian people on:
  - (a) Income and expenditure of households;
  - (b) Fertility survey;
  - (c) Migration.

These surveys will be conducted first in the Palestinian camps in Syria. An ESCWA mission to Syria has already started its work (January 1986).

- 2. ESCWA will also assist the PLO in the preparation of a new structure for the Central Bureau of Statistics.
- 3. ESCWA has already started the preparation of a study on "Technical and vocational education institutions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip". This study aims at identifying the needs of the occupied territories in the field of technical and vocational education.
- 4. ESCWA is planning the preparation of a study on "Labour market developments in the West Bank and Gaza Strip". This study was recommended by the Expert group meeting on "Employment and migration policies of the Arab labour force" (Kuwait 25-28 November 1985).
- 5. ESCWA started the preparation of a study, jointly with UNCTAD, on "The development of financial structures and activities in the occupied Palestinian territories".
- 6. ESCWA also included in its programme of work the preparation of a study on the outlets for agricultural outputs produced in the occupied territories and on the ways and means to strengthen the rural Palestinian attachment to their lands.
- 7. ESCWA is planning to prepare a study on small-scale industries and agro-industries within the context of the 1986-1987 work programme.
- 8. A separate report on the Palestinian population will be included in the publication entitled "Demographic and related socio-economic indicators for countries in the ESCWA Region" which is published regularly.

