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UN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION  
FOR WESTERN ASIA  
11 MAY 1994  
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**FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE COMMISSION'S PROGRAMMES**

**EXTRABUDGETARY RESOURCES**

**Note by the Executive Secretary**



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## Introduction

1. The present report on the financial status of the extrabudgetary resources of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) covers the biennium 1992-1993 ended 31 December 1993. The accounts reported on relate to all extrabudgetary resources from different contributors in support of activities financed from the regular budget. Excluding the Trust Fund for ESCWA Regional Activities, which is the subject of a separate submission (see document E/ESCWA/17/8/Add.3), these resources amounted to \$US 1,218,350.

2. The present report summarizes extrabudgetary resources for ESCWA activities in the biennium 1992-1993 in financial terms. After a brief overview of the activities and financial situation of the Commission as a whole, the remaining sections of the report provide financial information relating to the major sources of extrabudgetary funds. Annex I to the present report provides a consolidated statement of expenditure covering all extrabudgetary funds for the biennium 1992-1993. Annex II shows the combined status of trust funds for the biennium 1992-1993.

### I. OVERVIEW

3. The increasingly serious financial crisis faced by the United Nations in recent years continued during the biennium 1992-1993. This is clearly reflected in the decreasing amounts allocated to ESCWA by the major sources of extrabudgetary funds.

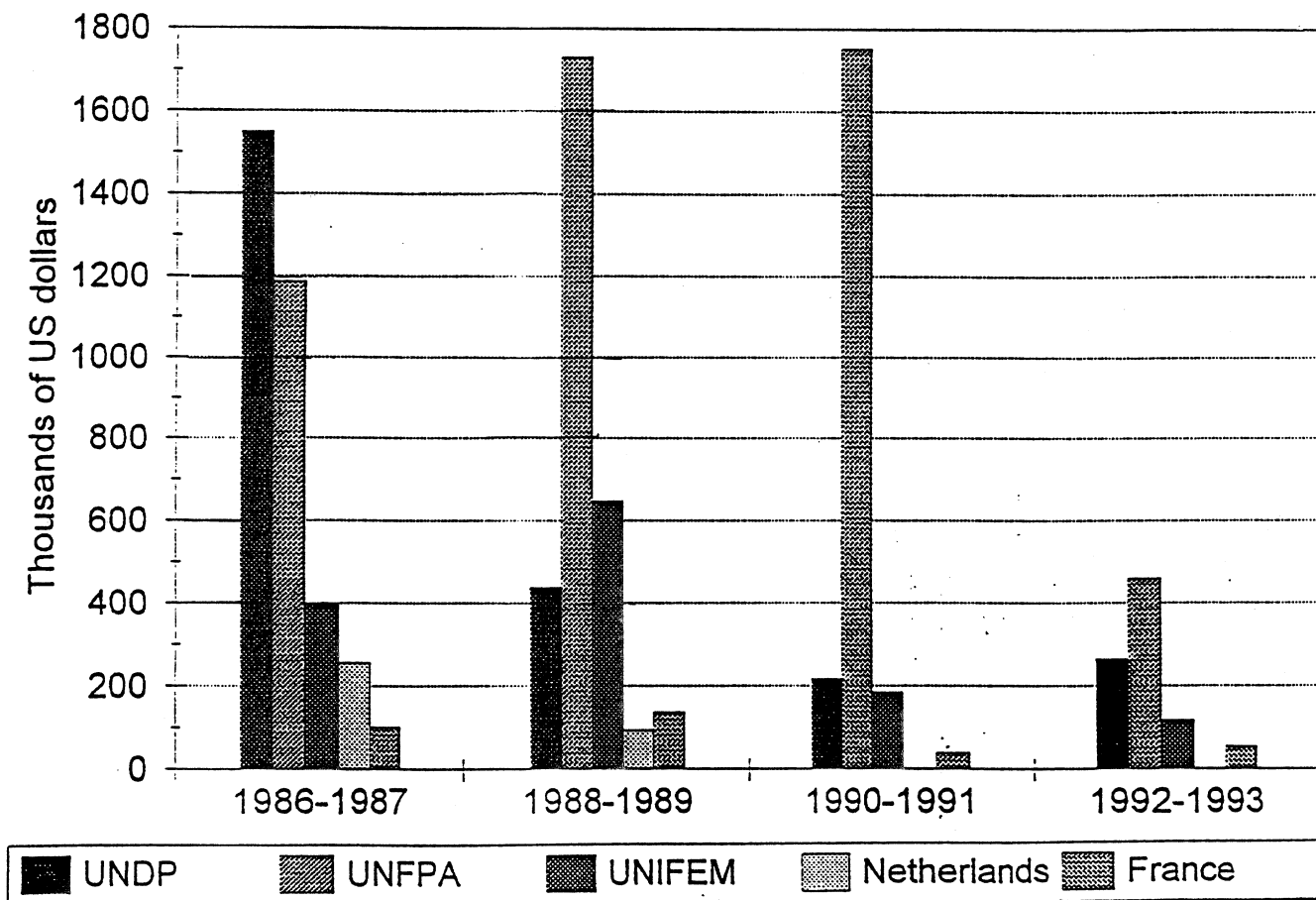
4. The major sources of extrabudgetary funds for the past four bienniums have been the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the Government of the Netherlands and the Government of France. In addition, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) supported ESCWA by financing three posts. During the 1992-1993 biennium the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was also one of the major contributors to the activities of the Commission.

5. It should be noted that, in spite of the Commission's efforts, there has been a steady decline in the level of extrabudgetary resources available to ESCWA. Resource utilization from UNDP, which amounted to US\$ 1,549,809 during the biennium 1986-1987, was only US\$ 263,721 during 1992-1993. The UNFPA contribution and resources utilized decreased from US\$ 1,753,019 during 1990-1991 to only US\$ 460,354 in 1992-1993, owing to a change in funding policy.

6. UNIFEM contributions have also declined steadily: the contributions totalled US\$ 400,501 in 1986-1987; that amount had decreased to US\$ 117,034 in 1992-1993. Furthermore, the Government of the Netherlands discontinued its annual contribution in 1985, and the balance of its Trust Fund is expected to be utilized by the end of 1994. As for the Trust Fund for ESCWA Regional Activities, the last contribution was received in 1983. The Government of France continued its support to ESCWA with a contribution received in September 1991 and applied to the biennium 1992-1993.

Figure. ESCWA major extrabudgetary funds analysis

Total Expenditure



7. The above figure provides a graphical comparison for the last four bienniums of overall expenditure for the five major sources of extrabudgetary funds, namely UNDP, UNFPA, UNIFEM and the Governments of the Netherlands and France. The table below shows expenditure from the main sources of extrabudgetary funds for the past three bienniums as a percentage of total expenditure of extrabudgetary funds.

8. The Commission has continued its efforts to raise voluntary contributions for extrabudgetary financing of the programme of work, and of studies and advisory services requested by member States. In this connection, further contacts have been made with Arab organizations and institutions at the regional and national levels. Cooperation has progressed with the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) and the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND). Visits have also taken place to institutions outside the region.

Table. Percentage of expenditure from extrabudgetary funds:  
1988-1989, 1990-1991 and 1992-1993  
 (Percentage)

Funds	<u>1988-1989</u>	<u>1990-1991</u>	<u>1992-1993</u>
United Nations Development Programme	18.5	11.8	21.6
United Nations Fund for Population Activities	44.4	55.6	37.8
United Nations Development Fund for Women	16.6	5.8	9.6
United Nations Environment Programme		0.8	11.4
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations			2.6
Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations	1.7	0.1	3.4
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung			1.1
United Nations Office at Vienna			2.3
Government of France	3.5	1.2	4.5
Others	15.3	24.7	5.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

## II. HISTORY OF ACTIVITIES

### A. United Nations Development Programme

9. The financial support of UNDP for ESCWA activities dates from 1979. The contributions have been utilized to finance projects in the fields of planning and training; finance and banking; natural resources; statistics, surveys and censuses; transport, communication and maritime activities.

10. In 1992-1993 allocations of US\$ 263,721 from UNDP contributions were utilized to finance the following projects in the ESCWA region:

- (a) Biogas technology for rural areas;
- (b) Establishment of engineering infrastructure industries;

- (c) Fellowship in planning;
- (d) Promotion of industrial entrepreneurship;
- (e) The ad hoc Interregional Symposium on Gas Development and Market Prospects by the Year 2000 and Beyond;
- (f) Support of the Arab Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development;
- (g) Environmentally conscious low-energy housing for population activities.

**B. United Nations Fund for Population Activities**

11. The contribution of UNFPA to ESCWA activities started in the year 1975. The funds have been utilized to finance projects related to population and demography.

12. During 1992-1993 allocations of US\$ 460,354 from UNFPA contributions were applied to the following projects in the ESCWA region:

- (a) The Arab Population Conference;
- (b) Technical support services team.

**C. United Nations Development Fund for Women**

13. The cooperation between UNIFEM and ESCWA dates from 1978. It has focused on projects to further the development of women.

14. In 1992-1993 the amount of US\$ 117,034 allocated from UNIFEM contributions was utilized to finance the following projects in the ESCWA region:

- (a) Developing a regional training programme for women trainees specialized in socialization of children;
- (b) Strengthening the statistical capacity for promoting the participation of women in development;
- (c) Participation of women in the food and textile industries: five case-studies;
- (d) Diffusion of biogas technology in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen: development of rural women in Al-Habeel village;
- (e) Regional guide for Arab women on employment laws and legislation;
- (f) Support of Arab associations for women and development;
- (g) ESCWA development initiatives.

D. United Nations Environment Programme

15. UNEP contributions to ESCWA, initiated in 1990, have been utilized to finance projects related to the environment.

16. In 1992-1993 the amount of US\$ 139,361 from UNEP contributions was used to finance the following projects:

- (a) Second Arab Conference on Perspectives of Modern Biotechnology;
- (b) Assessment of water resources in the ESCWA region using remote sensing techniques;
- (c) Strengthening environmental planning and management capabilities in Jordan;
- (d) Regional survey of production and consumption of substances harmful to the ozone layer in the countries of the ESCWA region.

E. Government of France

17. The support of the Government of France for the programmes of ESCWA, dating from 1980, has focused on support of the regular budget. Contributions have been made in two forms, namely the provision of both experts and funds for ESCWA to undertake certain activities. These have concerned projects related to agriculture, natural resources, human settlements, environment, industries, micro-electronics and statistics.

18. The Government of France contributed US\$ 54,655 for 1992-1993. These funds served to finance the following projects:

- (a) Collection, harmonization and assessment of national data;
- (b) Micro-electronics and informatics in Western Asia;
- (c) First Arab Conference on Perspectives of Modern Biotechnologies in Arab Countries;
- (d) The Autonomous Village project;
- (e) Second Arab Conference on Perspectives of Modern Biotechnology;
- (f) Workshop on the Integration of Science and Technology in the Development Planning and Management Process.

Annex I

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE COVERING ALL EXTRABUDGETARY FUNDS  
FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

	<u>1992-1993</u>
1. United Nations Development Programme	263,721
2. United Nations Fund for Population Activities	460,354
3. United Nations Development Fund for Women	117,034
4. United Nations Drug Control Programme	1,680
5. United Nations Environment Programme	139,361
6. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	31,603
7. Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations	41,767
8. UNESCO/ROSTAS Cairo	3,980
9. Arab Union of Pharamaceuticals and Medical Appliances	4,928
10. Aga Khan Trust Fund	1,905
11. Friedrich Ebert Stiftung	13,017
12. Islamic Development Bank	10,516
13. International Development Research Center (IDRC)	10,059
14. Al-Alamieh Company	5,000
15. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	2,000
16. United Nations Office at Vienna	27,359
17. Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research	2,536
18. Arab Development Bank	3,000
19. United Nations International Conference on Environment and Development	9,155
20. Higher Council for Science and Technology in Jordan	3,726
21. Government of France	54,655
22. Islamic Foundation for Science, Technology and Development	9,000
23. Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company	<u>1,994</u>
Total	<u>1,218,350</u>



Annex II

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA  
COMBINED STATUS OF TRUST FUNDS FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

(In United States dollars)

	Trust Fund for ESCWA Regional Activities	Government of the Netherlands	Government of France	Total
<b>I. Statement of assets, liabilities and unencumbered fund balance</b>				
<u>Assets</u>				
- Cash	160,671	6,250	143,205	310,126
- Accounts receivable	1,076	--	916	1,992
- Due from United Nations General Fund	--	--	--	--
- Deferred charges/other assets	--	--	--	--
Total assets	161,747	6,250	144,121	312,118
<u>Liabilities</u>				
- Accounts payable	650	--	--	650
- Unliquidated obligations	21,279	--	4,831	26,110
- Reserve for repatriation grant	--	--	--	--
- Due to United Nations General Fund	7,997	--	7,613	15,610
Total liabilities	29,926	--	12,444	42,370
<u>Unencumbered fund balance</u>				
- Balance available 1 January 1992	218,622	5,488	137,603	361,713
- Add: net excess of income over expenditure (see below)	(86,801)	762	( 5,926)	(91,965)
- Balance available	131,821	6,250	131,677	269,748
Total liabilities and unencumbered fund balance as of 31 December 1993	161,747	6,250	144,121	312,118

Annex II (continued)

	Trust Fund for ESCWA Regional Activities	Government of the Netherlands	Government of France	Total
II. Statement of income and expenditure for the 24-month period of the biennium 1992-1993 ending 31 December 1993				
<u>Income</u>				
- Contributions	--	--	37,607	37,607
- Interest income	15,656	762	11,122	27,540
- Miscellaneous income	5,000	--	--	5,000
- Income from pledged contributions	--	--	--	--
<b>Total income</b>	<b>20,656</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>48,729</b>	<b>70,147</b>
<u>Expenditure</u>				
- Staff and other personnel costs	67,360	--	12,855	80,215
- Travel	27,735	--	17,983	45,718
- Contractual services	--	--	--	--
- Fellowships, scholarships, other expenditure	--	--	12,789	12,789
- Acquisitions	--	--	--	--
- Operating expenses	--	--	4,741	4,741
- Programme support costs	12,362	--	6,287	18,649
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>107,457</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>54,655</b>	<b>162,112</b>
<b>Excess of income over expenditure</b>	<b>(86,801)</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>( 5,926)</b>	<b>(91,965)</b>