

E/1995/84  
E/ESCWA/18/7

# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA

REPORT ON THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION  
22 - 25 May 1995

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL  
OFFICIAL RECORDS: 1995

SUPPLEMENT No. 19

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION  
FOR WESTERN ASIA  
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## NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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## INTRODUCTION

1. The eighteenth session of the Commission was held at the ministerial level pursuant to its resolution 196 (XVII) of 31 May 1994 on the frequency of sessions of the Commission and the Technical Committee, in particular paragraph 2, the text of which is as follows:

"Decides also that Commission sessions shall be held in odd years, starting in 1995, in conformity with the budget session of the United Nations and with the cycle to monitor the progress achieved in the programmes of work of the system."

2. The present report, which covers the activities of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) since its seventeenth session, held in Amman from 29 to 31 May 1994, was adopted unanimously by the Commission at its 3rd meeting, held in Beirut on 25 May 1995.

3. It was the intention of the secretariat, in order to focus attention on the essential points of the deliberations, that the final report on the session should reflect the most important issues taken up, briefly summarizing the discussions that took place on each agenda item but without any detailed presentation of the views expressed by individual representatives.

**I. ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL  
OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION**

4. At its 3rd plenary meeting, held on 25 May 1995, the Commission adopted a number of resolutions and decided to submit them to the Economic and Social Council for action or to bring them to its attention. Their texts are as follows:

**A. ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**204 (XVIII). ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE ON ENERGY  
IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,*

*Aware* that petroleum and gas are not the only energy resources available in ESCWA member States, but that there also exist renewable sources of energy, and that close regional cooperation is needed to strengthen the capabilities of the member States for developing the use of renewable sources of energy,

*Aware also* of the importance of coordinating activities in the field of energy with environmental protection efforts in the member States and related issues pertaining to the development, transport and use of energy sources, the rationalization of their use and the related impact on the environment and on the bases of sustainable development in member States,

*Conscious* of the importance of the participation of the competent authorities of the ESCWA member States in the planning and development of the secretariat's programmes in the field of energy and in the monitoring of their implementation,

*Inspired* by the steps taken by other United Nations regional commissions for the establishment of specialized committees in various energy areas to ensure the coordination of action at the regional level,

1. *Decides* to establish a committee on energy, made up of representatives of ESCWA member States who are specialized in the field of energy, to undertake the following activities:

(a) Participation in the establishment and formulation of priorities for programmes of work and medium-term plans in the field of energy;

(b) Monitoring of developments in the field of energy in ESCWA member States;

(c) Monitoring of the progress achieved in the activities of the ESCWA secretariat in the field of energy;

(d) Follow-up of international and regional conferences, participation of member States in them and coordination of member States' efforts in connection with the implementation of resolutions and recommendations;

2. *Decides also* that, starting in 1996, the committee on energy shall hold its meetings every two years;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to follow up the implementation of the present resolution and report thereon to the Commission at its nineteenth session.

3rd plenary meeting  
25 May 1995

**205 (XVIII). ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES IN THE  
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,*

*Conscious* of the importance of water security in view of the scarcity of water resources in the ESCWA member States,

*Conscious also* of the importance of developing water resources and rationalizing their use in the member States,

*Taking into account* the need to monitor scientific and technological developments in the use of both traditional and non-traditional water sources,

*Aware of* the importance of the participation of the competent authorities of the ESCWA member States in the planning, development and monitoring of the secretariat's programmes in the field of water resources,

1. *Decides* to establish a committee on water resources, made up of representatives of the member States who are specialized in the field of water resources, to undertake the following tasks:

(a) Participation in the establishment and formulation of priorities for programmes of work and medium-term plans in the field of water resources;

(b) Monitoring of developments in the field of water resources in the ESCWA member States;

(c) Monitoring of the progress achieved in the activities of the ESCWA secretariat in the field of water resources;

(d) Follow-up of international and regional conferences, participation of member States in them and coordination of member States' efforts in connection with the implementation of resolutions and recommendations;

2. *Decides also* that, starting in 1996, the committee on water resources shall hold its meetings every two years;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to follow up the implementation of the present resolution and report thereon to the Commission at its eighteenth session.

3rd plenary meeting  
25 May 1995

B. ISSUES BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

**206 (XVIII). PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES FOR THE BIENNIUM  
1996-1997**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,*

*Recalling* the second revision of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997,

*Recalling also* resolution 201 (XVII) of 31 May 1994 on the proposed outline of the programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1996-1997,

*Noting with appreciation* that the proposed programme of work and priorities takes into account programme changes proposed by member States, and in particular the adoption of an integrated approach in the activities of the Commission, as reflected in the proposed programme based on five thematic subprogrammes, each covering a number of interrelated sectors,

*Approves* the proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1996-1997, with the proviso that the secretariat, when implementing it, take into account the comments made by the delegations regarding the programme.

3rd plenary meeting  
25 May 1995

**207 (XVIII). FACILITATING THE RELOCATION  
OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA  
TO ITS PERMANENT HEADQUARTERS IN BEIRUT, LEBANON**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,*

*Recalling* its resolution 197 (XVII) on the permanent headquarters of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, in which the Commission decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that the permanent headquarters of the Commission be relocated to Beirut;

*Referring also* to Economic and Social Council resolution 1994/43 on the permanent headquarters of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia;

*Taking note* of the various details of this matter contained in the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission;<sup>1/</sup>

*Taking into consideration* the efforts of the Government of Lebanon to effect the transfer of the Commission to its permanent headquarters;

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<sup>1/</sup> See E/ESCWA/C.1/18/5/Add.1.

*Calls on* the member States to take measures to support the Secretary-General in his efforts to secure the necessary resources for the implementation of resolution 197 (XVII).

3rd plenary meeting  
25 May 1995

**208 (XVIII). REPRESENTATION OF MEMBER STATES IN THE ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO ESCWA RESOLUTION 175 (XV)  
ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE  
AND PERFORMANCE OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL  
COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,*

*Taking cognizance* of the Executive Secretary's note on the strengthening of the role and performance of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia;<sup>2/</sup>

*Taking into account* the recommendation of the Advisory Committee dated 3 May 1995 concerning the amendment to paragraph 1 (a) of resolution 175 (XV) on the strengthening of the role and performance of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,

*Decides* to amend the above paragraph as follows:

"To invite member States to set up an advisory body comprising the heads of their diplomatic missions in the host country, or such persons as may be delegated by their Governments and a representative of the host country, to assist the Executive Secretary in the study of problems connected with the work of the Commission."

3rd plenary meeting  
25 May 1995

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<sup>2/</sup> See E/ESCWA/18/6 - E/ESCWA/C.1/18/11.



## II. WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION

### A. ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES

5. The Standing Committee for the Programme was established as the main subsidiary organ of the Commission by virtue of Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA)<sup>2/</sup> resolution 114 (IX) of 12 May 1982 on the ECWA medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989. By virtue of ECWA resolution 125 (XI) of 26 April 1984 on the general policy-making structure of the Commission, the Standing Committee for the Programme was designated the Technical Committee and vested with additional terms of reference, among which were the examination of items on the agenda of the sessions of the Commission.

6. The ninth session of the Technical Committee was held in Beirut on 22 and 23 May 1995. By virtue of ESCWA resolution 179 (XVI) of 2 September 1992, a second subsidiary body of ESCWA, the Statistical Committee, was created. In November 1995 this Committee will hold its first session, in which heads of statistical offices will take part.

7. Pursuant to ESCWA resolution 198 (XVII) of 31 May 1994 on the establishment of a committee on social development within the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, the ESCWA secretariat will hold the first meeting of that Committee in the last quarter of 1996 rather than in 1995, as had been decided, owing to the lack of available funds for that purpose in the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. The necessary provision for the holding of the meeting has been made under the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997. The report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission: follow-up action on the resolutions of the Commission adopted at its seventeenth session (E/ESCWA/C.1/18/5/Add.2) contains detailed information on the preparatory activities for the first meeting of the Committee.

### B. OTHER ACTIVITIES

8. Pursuant of ESCWA resolution 175 (XV), on the strengthening of the role and performance of ESCWA, an Advisory Committee comprising the heads of diplomatic missions of the member States in the host country of the Commission was established and met periodically during 1989 and 1990. In 1991, the Advisory Committee, represented by the heads of the diplomatic missions in Jordan, held a number of meetings, the last of which took place in Amman on 3 May 1995. ESCWA intends to intensify consultations with this body with a view to strengthening its role. The report on the Advisory Committee (E/ESCWA/18/6 - E/ESCWA/C.1/18/11) contains a number of recommendations in that regard, which will be discussed under agenda item 8.

### C. RELATIONS WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

9. The ESCWA secretariat has strengthened its relations with the specialized agencies, other organizations of the United Nations, regional organizations, donor countries, the League of Arab States and its organizations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference. Detailed information on joint activities between ESCWA and those organizations will be found in the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission on cooperation among developing countries and regional organizations (E/ESCWA/C.1/18/7).

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<sup>2/</sup> The Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) was redesignated the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia by Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/69 of 26 July 1985.

### III. EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

#### A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

10. The eighteenth session of the Commission was held in Beirut on 24 and 25 May 1995. Its work covered three meetings, during which the Commission discussed the items on the agenda contained in paragraph 19 of this report and submitted to the Economic and Social Council for action, or brought to its attention, the resolutions adopted by the Commission.

11. The session was attended by the following members of the Commission:<sup>4/</sup> Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

12. In accordance with rule 63 of the rules of procedure of the Commission, the following State Member of the United Nations not a member of the Commission participated as an observer in the work of the eighteenth session: the Russian Federation.

13. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies attended the session as observers: United Nations Children's Fund; United Nations Development Programme; United Nations Environment Programme; United Nations International Drug Control Programme; Joint Inspection Unit; International Labour Organization; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East; and United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

14. In addition, representatives of the League of Arab States and of the following specialized agencies of the League of Arab States attended the session as observers: Secretariat General of the League of Arab States, Arab Centre for the Study of Arid Zones and Dry Lands; Arab Organization for Agricultural Development, Arab Labour Organization, Council of Arab Economic Unity in addition to a representative of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

15. In addition, representatives of the following non-governmental organizations took part in the session as observers: General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for Arab Countries and Union of Arab Banks.

#### 1. *Election of officers*

16. At its 1st meeting, held on 24 May 1995, the Commission elected His Excellency Mr. Fares Boueiz (head of the delegation of Lebanon) as Chairman of the eighteenth session; His Excellency Mr. Ibrahim Fawzi (head of the delegation of Egypt), and His Excellency Sheikh Humaid Bin Ahmed Al-Mualla (head of the delegation of the United Arab Emirates) as Vice-Chairmen; and His Excellency Mr. Farouk Kaddoomi (head of the delegation of Palestine) as Rapporteur.

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<sup>4/</sup> For the names of participants in the session, see annex I.

## 2. *Credentials*

17. In accordance with rule 11 of the rules of procedure, the credentials of the representatives as submitted to the Executive Secretary were examined by the Officers and found to be in order.

## 3. *Organization of work*

18. At its 1st meeting, the Commission adopted the organization of its work in the amended version contained in document E/ESCWA/18/L.2/Rev.1.

## B. AGENDA

19. At its 1st meeting, the Commission adopted the following provisional agenda contained in document E/ESCWA/18/L.1, as follows:<sup>2/</sup>

1. Opening of the ministerial session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Proposed organization of work.
5. Invitation to States Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies not members of the Commission to participate in the capacity of observer in the eighteenth session of the Commission.
6. Discussion and adoption of the final report of the Technical Committee on its ninth session.
  - (a) Report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission:
    - (i) Progress made during 1994 in the implementation of the programme of work for the biennium 1994-1995 (regular programme and technical cooperation activities);
    - (ii) Follow-up action on the resolutions of the Commission adopted at its seventeenth session:
      - a. Resolution 197 (XVII) on the permanent headquarters of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia;
      - b. Resolution 198 (XVII) on the establishment of a committee on social development within the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia;
      - c. Resolution 202 (XVII) on the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

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<sup>2/</sup> For a list of the documents submitted to the Commission at its eighteenth session, see annex II.

- (iii) Preparation and follow-up action at the regional level on United Nations world conferences and ESCWA regional meetings;
  - (iv) Cooperation among developing countries and regional organizations;
  - (b) Current issues of importance to the countries of the region: impact of the Single European Market on the ESCWA member countries;<sup>6/</sup>
  - (c) Draft programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1996-1997.
7. Financial status of the Commission's programmes.
  8. Report of the Advisory Committee established pursuant to resolution 175 (XV) on the strengthening of the role and performance of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.
  9. Date and venue of the nineteenth session of the Commission.
  10. Other matters.
  11. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its eighteenth session.

#### C. OPENING OF THE SESSION

20. The eighteenth session of the Commission was held under the patronage of His Excellency Mr. Elias Hrawi, President of the Lebanese Republic, who kindly accepted to open the session.
21. The opening meeting was presided over by Her Excellency Mrs. Rima Khalaf Hunaidi, Minister of Planning of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, which had chaired the seventeenth session. In her statement, she stressed the importance of the Commission's role during the coming period, calling upon it to assist member States, both collectively and individually, in coping with new international realities by making a scientific and objective study of development problems in the light of the new developments rapidly taking place. She further requested ESCWA to provide an effective channel of communication between member States and the Commission and between those States and international development organizations.
22. The President of the Lebanese Republic made an opening statement in which he welcomed the return of ESCWA to Beirut, its original and permanent headquarters. He pointed to the factors that created avenues of cooperation between Lebanon and ESCWA, which had continuously increased the level of activity of ESCWA, subsequently expanding to include social advancement and thus adding greater depth to its role.
23. He stressed that the Commission's task once it returned would be facilitated by the importance of Beirut as a meeting place not only for the countries of the region, but also between East and West, in addition to the opening up of Lebanon and its renewed role as a springboard of development, advancement and enlightenment, as it had been throughout the previous century.

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<sup>6/</sup> Wording amended in conformity with the original Arabic.

24. He also stressed the need to promote development in the ESCWA region through cooperation and mutual assistance with a view to meeting the enormous challenges presented by the economic, social and political changes taking place in the world and called upon ESCWA to provide support for his country's development plans in the economic and social fields.

25. The Executive Secretary of ESCWA made a statement in which he expressed thanks to His Excellency Mr. Elias Hrawi, President of the Lebanese Republic, for sponsoring the eighteenth session of ESCWA and to the Government of Lebanon for hosting the session.

26. He mentioned that the session was being held 50 years after the founding of the United Nations and 20 years after the creation of ESCWA. It was therefore fitting to seize that opportunity for dialogue and for the discussion of a number of general trends and pressing issues that might affect the fate and future of ESCWA.

27. The world, he said, was on the verge of becoming a global village in which the problems, too, had become global. The global nature of the problems, however, did not eclipse area-specific conditions and consequently area-specific solutions. While development, for example, might be a worldwide issue, the solutions had always been regional: hence the importance of regional arrangements and organizations. Thus ESCWA might have a role to play in economic and social development in one of the most important and critical regions of the world—a region that was still in the making.

28. He said that ESCWA, in spite of its adverse circumstances, had managed to offer an important forum for the discussion of many vital issues in support of economic and social cooperation in the region and had become a reliable source of economic and social data on the region. Moreover, ESCWA had carried out many projects of vital importance in crucial areas and had been successful in providing extensive technical advice to member States through its team of regional advisers.

29. The region, he said, was about to enter a new phase. Consequently, it was the responsibility of ESCWA to take part in the making of a better future. That meant understanding existing conditions and endeavouring to turn them to account for the benefit of the ESCWA States, which needed more than ever to establish an order of priorities, muster resources and properly direct their use and to arrive at concerted positions with regard to new world developments, among the most important of which were the emergence of economic coalitions in Europe, South-East Asia and the Americas, the establishment of the World Trade Organization and questions of technology transfer and attraction of foreign investment.

30. He mentioned that possibilities for change in the ESCWA region existed, provided that the requisite conditions were met for stability and the restoration of rights. When one spoke of change, what was meant was something potential, not something actual. It might take years before the potential change took place, and it might never take place. Yet the possibility was there, and it was natural that ESCWA should prepare for it.

31. He further stressed the need for ESCWA to have a role in the region that did not conflict with, but rather complemented, the roles of other regional organizations, in particular the League of Arab States. One of the fundamental principles on which that role must rest was the need to preserve the cultural identity of the area and not to allow any of its other regional organizations to risk the loss of their identity or their objectives. Indeed, the region needed a strong League of Arab States together with its competent organizations. ESCWA, as part of the United Nations system, was a neutral organization founded on geographic and economic considerations and was consequently in a better position to deal with regional

change. At a time when voices were crying out for the creation of new organizations for economic and social cooperation in the region, it made sense that the current economic and social role of ESCWA should develop in such a way as to answer the future economic and social development needs of the region. ESCWA, being founded on the Charter of the United Nations, appeared to be the most credible and best qualified organization for that role.

32. In concluding, the Executive Secretary stated that he had raised a number of issues and questions that required considerably more thought and study than could be devoted to them within the framework of the current meeting. Nevertheless, it was important to open the door to dialogue and discussion to make new proposals so as to arrive at uniform concepts regarding the main issues and general trends, which would provide a framework for ESCWA in formulating its future plans and programmes.

#### D. MAIN TOPICS OF DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

33. The work of the session was taken in hand by the new officers elected at the 1st meeting, namely His Excellency Mr. Fares Boueiz (Minister for Foreign Affairs and head of the delegation of Lebanon) as Chairman of the eighteenth session; His Excellency Mr. Ibrahim Fawzi (Minister of Industry and head of the delegation of Egypt) and His Excellency Sheikh Humaid Bin Ahmed Al-Mualla (Minister of Planning and head of the delegation of the United Arab Emirates) as Vice-Chairmen; and His Excellency Mr. Farouk Kaddoomi (Minister for Foreign Affairs and head of the delegation of Palestine) as Rapporteur.

34. The Chairman of the eighteenth session made a speech in which he welcomed the delegations and stressed the importance of working collectively to overcome difficulties within the framework of the United Nations system, including, at the regional level, ESCWA. He said that the current situation presented the member States with challenges arising from international developments that required continuous contact and exchange among them, the adoption of a common strategy, the creation of a unified economic area and the application of modern technology and know-how, while at the same time preserving the identity and the unique character and culture of the region.

##### 1. *Discussion and adoption of the final report of the Technical Committee on its ninth session* (Agenda item 6)

35. The Rapporteur of the Technical Committee read out the final report (E/ESCWA/18/4 - E/ESCWA/C.1/18/12) of the Technical Committee on its ninth session, held on 22 and 23 May 1995, which was submitted to the eighteenth session of the Commission for consideration and adoption.

36. The representatives of the member States discussed the report and stressed the following points:

(a) The focus of ESCWA activity on areas in which it enjoys relative superiority and avoidance of horizontal expansion, which might occur at the expense of quality;

(b) Commendation for the appointment of a regional adviser on GATT-94 (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) and the World Trade Organization, in answer to the needs of the member States;

(c) The preparation, if possible, of a report on the advantages and disadvantages of the new partnership proposed by the European Union for cooperation with the Mediterranean countries, to enable the member States to arrive at a concerted position and work out the best possible formulas prior to the

Barcelona conference to be held in October 1995 to discuss the characteristics and structure of the new system.

37. The following amendments to the final report of the Technical Committee were requested:

- (a) The deletion of paragraph 34 (b), on regional financial institutions;
- (b) The addition of the expression "including Jerusalem" after the expression "the occupied Palestinian territories" wherever it occurs in the session documents; and the replacement of the expression "Palestinian National Authority" with the word "Palestine" wherever it occurs in the session documents.

*2. Follow-up action on the resolutions of the Commission adopted at its seventeenth session  
(Agenda item 6 (a) (ii))*

38. The Executive Secretary introduced this item, which was referred to the ministerial session by the Technical Committee.

39. The representative of one member country pointed out that, while his country was confident in the capacity of Lebanon to meet all the requirements for facilitating the transfer of the Commission to its permanent headquarters, the report submitted for discussion did not include any clear programme for the organization of the operation of relocation in such a way as not to affect the ability of the Commission to discharge its responsibilities fully.

40. The delegation of Lebanon called attention to the efforts being made by the Lebanese Government, including the completion of El-Murr Tower within one year, in accordance with the requirements submitted by ESCWA.

41. The Executive Secretary stated that a detailed relocation plan would be drafted once the requisite conditions were satisfied, including the availability of the necessary resources for the transfer and certainty regarding the timetable for the completion of the building in accordance with the conditions and specifications submitted by ESCWA to the competent Lebanese authorities.

42. At its 2nd meeting, held on 24 May 1995, the representatives of the member States adopted both the report of the Technical Committee on its ninth session (E/ESCWA/18/4 - E/ESCWA/C.1/18/12), after the requested amendments were made thereto, and the draft resolutions, contained in chapter 1 of this report, which were submitted by the Technical Committee.

*3. Report on the Advisory Committee established pursuant to resolution 175 (XV) on the strengthening  
of the role and performance of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia  
(Agenda item 8)*

43. The Commission discussed this item, which was referred to it by the Technical Committee for consideration, and in that connection adopted resolution 208 (XVIII), contained in chapter I of this report.

4. *Date and venue of the nineteenth session of the Commission*  
(Agenda item 9)

44. The session adopted the recommendation contained in the report of the Technical Committee (E/ESCWA/18/4 - E/ESCWA/C.1/18/12) that the nineteenth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia should be held in the first week of March 1997.

5. *Adoption of the report of the Commission on its eighteenth session*  
(Agenda item 11)

45. The Commission adopted the draft report on its eighteenth session after the agreed amendments had been added thereto.



Annex I

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

**A. ESCWA MEMBER STATES**

***Bahrain***

- Mr. Ebrahim Juma Al-Doy  
Counsellor  
Embassy of Bahrain in the Syrian Arab Republic

***Egypt***

- H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Fawzi  
Minister of Industry
- Mr. Sayed Abou Zaid Omar  
Ambassador  
Embassy of Egypt in Lebanon
- Mr. Gamil T. Abdel Malak  
Prime Under-Secretary of State  
Head of National Planning and Funding Department
- Mr. Hamdi Sanad Loza  
Minister Plenipotentiary  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Youssef Fouad Hegazi  
Commercial Minister Plenipotentiary  
Embassy of Egypt in Lebanon
- Mr. Yasser El-Atawi  
Third Secretary  
Embassy of Egypt in Lebanon

***Iraq***

- Mr. Hekmat Abdel Razzak Haju Al-Jumaily  
Minister Plenipotentiary  
Embassy of Iraq in Jordan

*Jordan*

- H.E. Mrs. Rima Khalaf Hunaidi  
Minister of Planning
- Mr. Salem Audeh Ghawi  
Assistant Secretary-General for International Cooperation  
Ministry of Planning
- Mr. Khaled Mohammad Merie Al-Rashdan  
Head, Financial Studies Department  
Ministry of Planning
- Mr. Mohammad Al-Batayneh  
Third Secretary  
Embassy of Jordan in Lebanon

*Kuwait*

- Mr. Hamad M.H. Al-Musailem  
Deputy Minister, Assistant to the Minister for Planning Affairs  
Ministry of Planning
- Mr. Bader Khalid Al-Rashid Al-Bader  
Head of Economic Department  
Ministry of Planning
- Mr. Mubarak Salmeen Mubarak Salmeen  
Director, Organizations Department  
Ministry of Planning
- Mr. Ghassan M. Al-Duwaisan  
Third Secretary  
Embassy of Kuwait in Lebanon

*Lebanon*

- H.E. Mr. Fares Boueiz  
Minister of Foreign Affairs
- H.E. Mr. Shahi Bersoumian  
Minister of Social Affairs
- H.E. Mr. Zafer Al-Hassan  
Secretary-General  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- H.E. Mr. Walid Nasr  
Ambassador  
Director of Department of International Organizations, Conferences and Cultural Relations  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Bassam Jaber  
Director General  
Ministry of Hydraulic and Electrical Resources
- Ms. Neamat Kanaan  
Director General  
Ministry of Social Affairs
- Mr. Nouhad Baroudi  
Secretary-General, Council for Development and Reconstruction
- Mr. Ramez Sadaka  
Head of Research and Coordination Department  
Ministry of Agriculture
- Mr. Habib Khawaja  
Director of Social Development  
Ministry of Social Affairs
- Mr. Naaman Abou Chacra  
Head of the Cabinet  
Ministry of Trade and Commerce
- Mr. George El-Khoury  
Chief of Section of Commercial Studies  
Ministry of Industry and Oil
- Mr. Khalil Choueiri  
Advisor to the Minister of Agriculture  
Ministry of Agriculture
- Mr. Adnan Aytour  
Expert  
Ministry of Social Affairs
- Mr. Ghassan Seblani  
Coordinator  
United Nations/Council of Development and Reconstruction

*Oman*

- Mr. Hamoud Bin Hilal Al-Habsi  
Under-Secretary for Economic Affairs  
Ministry of Finance and Economy
- Mr. Mohammed Yahya Al-Shabibi  
Economic Researcher  
Ministry of Finance and Economy

*Palestine*

- H.E. Mr. Farouk Kaddoomi  
Minister of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Zuhdi Tarazi  
Advisor to President of Palestine State
- H.E. Mr. Nimer Hammad  
Ambassador  
Embassy of Palestine in Rome
- Mr. Omar Shaka'a  
Director of the Political Department/PLO
- Mr. Abbas Zeki  
Economic Consultant
- Mr. Abdel Karim Hammad  
Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

*Qatar*

- Mr. Ali Hassan Al-Khalaf  
Director of Economic Affairs Department  
Ministry of Finance, Economy and Trade
- Mr. Ahmed Saleh Al-Mohannadi  
Head, International Relations Section  
Ministry of Finance, Economy and Trade

*Saudi Arabia*

- Mr. Mohammad Saleh Al-Kufeidy  
Minister Plenipotentiary  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Nasser Mohammad Al-Rusheidan  
First Secretary  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Khalid Ibrahim Al-Sagheer  
Second Secretary  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Mohammed Fida'a El-Din Al-Idriss  
General Director for Coordination Sectors  
Ministry of Planning
- Mr. Ibrahim A. Al-Odhaibi  
Economic Adviser  
Ministry of Finance and National Economy

*Syrian Arab Republic*

- Mr. Toufik Ismail  
Deputy Minister of Planning  
Ministry of Planning
- Mr. Zuheir Jouejati  
Senior Adviser to the Minister  
State Planning Commission
- Mr. Faraj Hilal Al Bishara  
Director, Transport and Communications Department  
State Planning Commission
- Mr. Riad Sineh  
Adviser  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Mohammed Samir Manzalje  
Manager, Environment of Middle Area  
Ministry of Environment

*United Arab Emirates*

- H.E. Sheikh Humaid Bin Ahmed Al-Mualla  
Minister of Planning
- Mr. Abdullatif Mohammed Bin Hammad  
Under Secretary, Information Commission
- Mr. Rashed A. Leflaiti  
Assistant Manager, Statistical Department  
Ministry of Planning
- Mr. Ali Abdalla Younis  
Senior Economic Researcher  
Ministry of Planning
- Mr. Khalifa Buti Al-Shamisi  
Senior Researcher  
Ministry of Planning
- Mr. Ghazi Abdalla Ashour  
First Secretary  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

*Yemen*

- H.E. Mr. Motahar A. Al-Saidi  
Vice-Minister of Planning and Development
- Mr. Fadhl Ali Al-Akwa  
Assistant Deputy Minister of Planning and Development  
Ministry of Planning
- H.E. Mr. Ahmed M. Al-Mutawakel  
Ambassador  
Embassy of Yemen in Lebanon
- Mr. Abdulwahed H. Aludaini  
Information Officer  
Embassy of Yemen in Lebanon

B. STATES MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
NOT MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

*Russian Federation*

- H.E. Mr. Guennady Ilitchev  
Minister Plenipotentiary  
Embassy of Russian Federation in Lebanon
- Mr. Oleg Kobiakov  
Second Secretary  
Department of International Organizations  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Mr. Serguei Alexeev  
Second Secretary  
Embassy of Russian Federation in Lebanon

C. UNITED NATIONS BODIES, SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS  
IN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

*Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations*

- Mr. Amor Ben Romdhane  
FAO Representative, Lebanon

*International Labour Organization*

- Mr. Fouad Sayegh  
Deputy Director, Regional Office for Arab States

*Joint Inspection Unit*

- Mr. Khalil Issa Othman  
Inspector

*United Nations Development Programme*

- Mr. Hendrik van der Kloet  
UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, Lebanon
- Mr. Christian De Clercq  
Special Assistant to UN Resident Coordinator, Lebanon

*United Nations International Drug Control Programme*

- Mr. Ahmed Fathi Nada  
Country Director, Lebanon

*United Nations Environment Programme*

- Mr. Adel Orabi  
Deputy Director  
Regional Office for Western Asia

*United Nations Children's Fund*

- Ms. Nahy Abdunnur  
Programme Officer, Lebanon

*United Nations Industrial Development Organization*

- Mr. Mohammed Abdelmoneim  
Country Director, Lebanon

*United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East*

- Mr. Bertil Landstrom  
Deputy Director, Lebanon

D. GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

*Arab Centre for the Study of Arid Zones and Dry Lands*

- Mr. Salah Eddin Al-Kourdi  
Director of Planning and Economic Administration

*Arab Labour Organization*

- Mr. Salim F. Abu Harfouche  
First Secretary



***Arab Organization for Agricultural Development***

- Mr. Abdel Hamid Al-Kayed  
Regional Director, Jordan

***Educational Research and Development Center CRDP***

- Mr. Mustafa Khalil Yaghi  
Head of the Scientific Department, Member of the Executive Committee

***Council of Arab Economic Unity***

- Ms. Hanan Ahmed Fathi Sorour  
Head of International Branch Organizations  
Cairo, Egypt

***General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for Arab Countries***

- Ms. Rula Kronfol  
Director of Administration  
Director of Arab and Joint Chambers Affairs

***Gulf Cooperation Council***

- Mr. Abdel-Latif Ibrahim Al Mogren  
Adviser  
Assistant to Deputy Secretary-General for Economic Affairs  
Manager of Commerce and Agriculture Department

***League of Arab States***

- Mr. Kamal Sinada  
Director of Economic Relations and Joint Action Department

***Union of Arab Banks***

- Mr. Adnan El-Hindi  
General Secretary, Jordan

Annex II

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION AT  
ITS EIGHTEENTH SESSION**

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Title</u>
E/ESCWA/18/L.1	3	Provisional agenda
E/ESCWA/18/L.1/Add.1	3	Annotated provisional agenda
E/ESCWA/18/L.2/Rev.1	4	Proposed organization of work
E/ESCWA/18/3	5	Invitation to States Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies not members of the Commission to participate in the capacity of observer in the eighteenth session
E/ESCWA/C.1/18/12 E/ESCWA/18/4	6	Report of the Technical Committee on its ninth session
E/ESCWA/18/5	7	Financial status of the Commission's programmes
E/ESCWA/18/6	8	Report on the Advisory Committee established pursuant to resolution 175 (XV) on the strengthening of the role and performance of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
E/ESCWA/18/L.7	11	Report of the Commission on its eighteenth session

**Annex III**

**LIST OF PRINCIPAL PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED  
BY THE COMMISSION SINCE ITS SEVENTEENTH SESSION**

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
E/ESCWA/AGR/1994/1	Project Proposal for the Rehabilitation of the Fishery Sector in the Gaza Strip
E/ESCWA/AGR/1994/2	Land and Water Policies in the Arab Region
E/ESCWA/AGR/1994/3	The Impact of Population Growth and Urbanization on Food Consumption Patterns in Egypt
E/ESCWA/AGR/1994/4	The Marketing of Agricultural Products in Lebanon
E/ESCWA/AGR/1994/5	Evaluation of Agricultural Policies in the Syrian Arab Republic. Policy Analysis Matrix Approach
E/ESCWA/AGR/1994/7	Prospective Development of the Agricultural Institutions in the Occupied Palestinian Territories Proposed Action Programme for the Restructuring of the Palestinian Agricultural Public Institutions
E/ESCWA/AGR/1994/8	National Farm Data Handbook, Syrian Arab Republic 1994
E/ESCWA/AGR/1994/9	Rehabilitation of Veterinary Services in the Occupied Palestinian Territories
E/ESCWA/AGR/1994/10	Land and Water Policies in the Near East Region Case-Studies on Egypt, Jordan and Pakistan
E/ESCWA/AGR/1994/11	Wildlife Conservation for Sustainable Development in Arab Countries
E/ESCWA/AGR/1994/12	The Impact of the Structural Adjustment Programme on Food Production, Supply and Consumption in Jordan
E/ESCWA/PTF/1994/1	The Impact of Israeli Settlements in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Occupied Syrian Golan
E/ESCWA/AGREB/XVI	Agriculture and Development in Western Asia, No. 16
E/ESCWA/SED/1993/20	The Link between Exports and Production in the ESCWA Region
E/ESCWA/SED/1994/1	Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region, 1993, Summary
E/ESCWA/SED/1994/2	Review of Developments and Trends in the Monetary and Financial Sectors in the ESCWA Region, 1993

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
E/ESCWA/SED/1994/3	Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region, 1993
E/ESCWA/SED/1994/4	Analytical Review of Developments and Issues in the External Trade and Payments Situation of Countries of Western Asia
E/ESCWA/POP/1994/3	Population Bulletin of ESCWA, Nos. 41/1993 and 42/1994
E/ESCWA/SD/1994/1/Rev.1 E/ESCA/ID/1994/5/Rev.1	Arab Women in the Manufacturing Industries (Studies on Women and Development, No. 19)
E/ESCWA/SD/1994/3	Final Report Expert Group Meeting on Human Development in the Arab World
E/ESCWA/SD/1994/4	Women and Poverty in the ESCWA Region: Issues and Concerns
E/ESCWA/SD/1994/5	The Impact of Crisis on the Social Situation in the ESCWA Region
E/ESCWA/SD/1994/7	Draft Arab Declaration on Social Development
E/ESCWA/SD/1994/8	Towards a Strategy for Sustainable Human Development in the Arab World Final Report, Brainstorming Meeting
E/ESCWA/SD/1994/9	Arab Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women to the Year 2005
E/ESCWA/SD/1994/WG.3- WOM/3	Review and Assessment of the Progress Achieved for the Advancement of Arab Women in the Light of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies (Draft)
E/ESCWA/NR/1994/8	Proceedings of the High-level Workshop on the Implications of New and Advanced Materials Technologies for the Economies of the ESCWA Countries
E/ESCWA/NR/1994/12	Proceedings of the Workshop on the Integration of Science and Technology in the Development Planning and Management Process in the ESCWA Region
E/ESCWA/NR/1994/14	Energy Information in the ESCWA Region
E/ESCWA/NR/1994/16	Report on Activities in the ESCWA Region Related to the Protection of the Ozone Layer
E/ESCWA/ID/1993/11/Add.1	Issues Related to the Peace Process and Regional Cooperation
E/ESCWA/ID/1994/1	Proceedings of the Expert Group Meeting on Creation of Indigenous Entrepreneurship and Opportunities for Small and Medium-Scale Industrial Investment 11 - 13 April 1993, Damascus

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
E/ESCWA/ID/1994/2	Final Report Expert Group Meeting on Automation and Microprocessor Controls, 15 - 17 November 1993, Amman
E/ESCWA/TCD/1994/5	A Report on the Present Status, Development Trends and Future Prospects of Telecommunications in the ESCWA Region
E/ESCWA/TCD/1994/7	Transport Bulletin, No. 5
E/ESCWA/TCD/1994/12	Development of Free Zones in the ESCWA Region
E/ESCWA/STAT/1994/13	External Trade Bulletin of the ESCWA Region Seventh issue
E/ESCWA/STAT/1994/14	National Accounts Studies of the ESCWA Region Bulletin No. 14
E/ESCWA/STAT/1994/15	Statistical Abstract of the ESCWA Region 1983-1992 Fourteenth issue
E/ESCWA/STAT/1994/16	Labour Force Statistics Database