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PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES AND PLANNING

Proposed work programme of the Statistical Office for 1984-1985

Note by the Secretary-General

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I. PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME OF THE STATISTICAL OFFICE FOR 1984-1985 1/

1. The following is a tentative work programme which has not yet been reviewed by the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board and is subject to change in the light of the Board's review of the relevant submissions for the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 and of the Secretary-General's decisions on the proposed programme budget as a whole to be submitted to the General Assembly for consideration and approval.

Subprogramme 1: Development of concepts and methods

The objective is to develop further and to improve economic, social, demographic and environment statistics at the national and international levels, in terms of their timeliness, quality, scope and coverage, usefulness, comparability and accessibility.

1.1 Development of the United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA) and linkage with the System of Balances of the National Economy (MPS)

(a) Sales publications in the Handbook of National Accounting series;

(i) Gross Domestic Product (1984, carried over from 1982-1983; first draft discussed at an interregional seminar on national accounts at Caracas in 1975; draft revised by a consultant in 1980);

(ii) External Transactions (1985, carried over from 1982-1983; draft prepared by a consultant in 1980; consultations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on the reconciliation of the concepts in SNA and the IMF Balance of Payments Manual to continue);


(b) Reports to the Statistical Commission on various aspects of SNA;

(c) Consultant report on the relationship between the characteristics of micro-data files and the macro classifications in SNA (1984).

*1.2 Development, updating and harmonization of standard international classifications

(a) Report to the Statistical Commission on progress in the harmonization of international economic classifications (1984);

(b) Ad hoc advisory services to users of classifications, upon request, on interpretation and application of classifications and on proposals for their development, revision and harmonization (1984-1985);

* Highest priority.
(c) Consultant reports for an expert group meeting on development of a combined trade/production goods classification (1984);

(d) Expert group meeting on the development of a combined trade/production goods classification (1985).

**1.3 Development of concepts, classifications and methods for industrial, construction, distributive-trade and energy and related statistics**

(a) Sales publication: *Handbook of Energy Conversion Factors* (1984, carried over from 1980-1981; consultant to prepare draft in 1983);

(b) Report to the Statistical Commission on standards, methods and classifications of energy statistics (1984);

(c) Consultant report on the feasibility of constructing world-wide non-energy raw-materials balances, reconciling conceptual differences as they relate to national practices (1984);

(d) Consultant report on suitable methods for developing international energy statistics in value terms (1984);

(e) Expert group meeting on energy statistics in value terms (1985).

**1.4 Development of concepts, classifications and methods for international trade, transport and related statistics**

(a) Sales publications:

(i) *Standard International Trade Classification, Revision 3* (1984; consultant prepared documents for an expert group on the Standard International Trade Classification in 1982; an expert group met in 1982);

(ii) *Classification by Broad Economic Categories; Defined according to SITC, Revision 3* (1984);


1.5 Development of concepts and methods for statistics of prices and purchasing power comparisons

(a) Sales publication: *Manual on Consumer Price Indexes* (1985, carried over from 1980-1981; draft prepared by a consultant in 1980; revised by the Statistical Office in 1981; to be finalized by ILO in 1985);

* Highest priority.

** Some outputs in this programme element are of the lowest priority.
(b) Reports to the Statistical Commission on:
   (i) Recent developments in the price statistics programme (1984);

1.6 Development of concepts, classifications and methods for demographic, housing and human settlements statistics

(a) Sales publications:
   (i) Emerging issues in population and housing censuses and their implications for national censuses during the 1985–1994 decade (1985; draft will be reviewed by an expert group in 1984);
   (ii) Handbook of Population and Housing Census Methods, part II (1985, carried over from 1980–1981);
   (iii) Technical report on national practices in coding country of birth or citizenship in compiling international migration statistics (1985);
   (iv) International programme on immigrant stock data: a methodological report (1984);
   (v) Handbook of housing and human-settlements-statistics methods in censuses and surveys (1985);

(b) Reports to the Statistical Commission on:
   (i) Recent developments in national population registration systems and their statistical use (1984);
   (ii) National practices in coding country of birth or citizenship in compiling international migration statistics (1984);
   (iii) The 1985–1994 World Population and Housing Census Programme (1984);

(c) Consultant report on recent developments in national population registration systems and their statistical use (1985);

(d) Consultant to prepare a draft handbook on methods of collecting and compiling statistics and indicators of housing and human settlements in censuses and surveys (1984).
**1.7 Development of concepts and methods for the integration and linkage of social and related statistics and indicators

(a) Sales publications:

(i) Construction and use of a census database (1984, carried over from 1982-1983);

(ii) Handbook of Social Indicators (1985);

(iii) Technical report on the development of integrated socio-economic statistics (1984; consultant to prepare a report on links among social and economic statistics; expert group meeting on the development of integrated socio-economic statistics and indicators);

(b) Progress report to the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women on the improvement of statistics and indicators of the situation of women (1985);

(c) Progress report to the Statistical Commission on the development of social indicators and the integration of social, demographic and related statistics (1984);

(d) Consultant to prepare a draft handbook on methods of collecting and compiling statistics and indicators of crime and criminal justice (1984).

1.8 Development and use of statistics for services to children and youth

(a) Collaboration with national statistical offices and local UNICEF offices in co-operation with the interested international organizations;

(b) Support for the improvement of social statistics in eight additional countries (1984-1985);

(c) Information manual aimed at improving the collection and analysis of social statistics and their use by UNICEF programme offices, with particular reference to statistics concerning the needs of children and youth (1984).

*1.9 Development of concepts, classifications and methods for environment statistics


* Highest priority.

** Some outputs in this programme element are of the lowest priority.
Subprogramme 2: Application of advanced technology in the collection, processing and dissemination of statistics

The objectives are: (a) to disseminate statistics at the international level through the issuance of recurrent general compendiums of economic and social statistics, (b) to apply more efficient and effective means of managing a statistical integrated data base, providing direct access to an information network for the provision of data, the more efficient production and storage of statistics and the improved dissemination of all outputs, including responses to ad hoc inquiries.

2.1 General compendiums of economic and social statistics

(a) Sales publications:

(i) Statistical Yearbook (1984 and 1985);

(ii) Monthly Bulletin of Statistics (1984 and 1985);


2.2 Improved computerization of statistics

(a) Provision of a full range of data-processing services for the Statistical Office, that is, systems analysis, programming, photocomposition and production (1984-1985);

(b) Co-ordination of data processing with other units of the United Nations Secretariat, including the regional commissions, and with the specialized agencies (1984-1985);

(c) Dissemination of machine-readable statistical data (1984-1985);

(d) Consultant to develop specialized systems software for the United Nations Statistical Information System (UNSIS) (1984 and 1985);

(e) Consultant to advise on the introduction of telecommunications/networking technology for on-line statistical data-base systems (1985).

Subprogramme 3: National accounts, industrial, international trade and transport statistics

The objective is to collect, compile, evaluate and disseminate comprehensive, reliable, useful and timely national accounts, industrial, international trade and transport statistics that are as comparable as possible in order to serve the needs of national and international users.
**3.1 Collection, compilation and dissemination of national accounts statistics

(a) Sales publications in the National Accounts Series:

(i) Yearbook of National Accounts Statistics, volumes I and II (1984 and 1985);

(ii) Yearbook of Government Sector Accounts and Tables (1984 and 1985; joint study with IMF of selected countries in order to link SNA and government finance statistics);

(iii) Compendium of Input-output Tables (1985);

(b) Provision of computer tapes, tabulations and other types of information in response to ad hoc user requests.

**3.2 Collection, compilation and dissemination of statistics on the distribution of income, consumption and accumulation


**3.3 Collection, compilation and dissemination of industrial, construction and distributive-trade statistics

(a) Sales publications:


(ii) Yearbook of Construction Statistics (1984 and 1985);

(b) Provision of computer tapes, tabulations and other types of information in response to ad hoc user requests.

**3.4 Collection, compilation, dissemination and analysis of international trade statistics

(a) Sales publications:

(i) Yearbook of International Trade Statistics, volumes I and II (1984 and 1985);

(ii) Commodity Trade Statistics, Statistical Papers, series D, approximately 28 fascicles annually (1984-1985);

** Some outputs in this programme element are of the lowest priority. /...
(iii) *World Trade Annual*, five volumes 2/ (1984 and 1985);

(iv) *Supplement to the World Trade Annual*, five volumes 2/ (1984 and 1985);

(b) Provision of computer tapes, tabulations and microfiches in response to ad hoc user requests.

3.5 Collection, compilation and dissemination of transport statistics

Sales publications:

(i) *Maritime Transport Study for the Years 1978-1981* (1984);


Subprogramme 4: Energy and related statistics

The objective is to collect, compile, evaluate and disseminate comprehensive, reliable, useful and timely energy and related statistics that are as comparable as possible in order to serve the needs of national and international users.

*4.1 Collection, compilation and dissemination of energy and related statistics

(a) Sales publications:

(i) *Yearbook of World Energy Statistics* (1984 and 1985);

(ii) *Energy Balances for Selected Countries, 1978-1982* (1984);

(b) Provision of computer tapes, tabulations and other types of information in response to ad hoc user requests.

Subprogramme 5: Price statistics and related areas

The objective is to develop and to promote an integrated and co-ordinated approach to the collection, compilation, evaluation and dissemination of price statistics; to collect, compile, evaluate and disseminate price statistics and related data, including comprehensive and comparable data on purchasing power parities and real product for all countries.

* Highest priority.
5.1 Collection, compilation and dissemination of statistics for international comparisons of real gross domestic product and purchasing power of currencies

Sales publication: Comparisons of real gross domestic product (GDP) and purchasing power of currencies for approximately 70 countries: 1980 (1984).

*5.2 Price statistics for internationally traded commodities


5.3 Collection, compilation and dissemination of price and related statistics


Subprogramme 6: Social, demographic and environment statistics

The objective is to collect, compile, evaluate and disseminate comprehensive, reliable, useful and timely social, demographic and environment statistics that are as comparable as possible in order to serve the needs of national and international users.

6.1 Collection, compilation and dissemination of demographic statistics

(a) Sales publications:

(i) Demographic Yearbook (1984 and 1985);


(iii) Special Supplement to the Population and Vital Statistics Report (1984);

(b) Provision of computer tapes, tabulations and other types of information in response to ad hoc user requests;

(c) Consultant to review indicators currently in use for evaluating the quality of the data in the Demographic Yearbook, in particular, indicators of the quality of vital statistics, international migration-flow statistics and population estimates (1984).

* Highest priority.
6.2 Collection, compilation and dissemination of social and housing statistics

(a) Sales publication: Compendium of Human Settlements Statistics (1984, carried over from 1982-1983);

(b) Provision of computer tapes, tabulations and other types of information in response to ad hoc user requests.

6.3 Collection, compilation and dissemination of environment statistics

(a) Compilation of selected environmental indicators;

(b) Initiation of regional data collection (1984-1985).

Subprogramme 7: Co-ordination of international statistical programmes

The objective is to promote co-ordination of the international statistical system, including technical co-operation activities, and to provide statistical services to intergovernmental bodies, units within the Secretariat and other United Nations bodies; the Statistical Office serves as a focal point for the international statistical system.

*7.1 Co-ordination of the statistics programme of the United Nations

(a) Substantive servicing of the twenty-third session of the Statistical Commission (1985);

(b) Substantive servicing of the eleventh session of the Statistical Commission's Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Co-ordination (1985);

(c) Report to the General Assembly on co-ordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies in the collection of social statistics (1985);

(d) Reports to the Statistical Commission:

(i) Progress report on the statistical activities of the United Nations system (1984);

(ii) Future plans for statistical activities of the United Nations system (1984);


* Highest priority.

/...
(iv) Evaluation of co-ordination in relation to selected issues (1984);

(v) Co-ordination of technical co-operation in statistics (1984);

(e) Reports to the Statistical Commission's Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Co-ordination:

(i) Inventory of statistical data collection activities (1985);

(ii) Outlines of reports for the twenty-fourth session (1987) of the Statistical Commission (1985);

(iii) Status of the ongoing programmes of the Statistical Office, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies (1985);

(iv) Approaches to the long-term special issues to be considered by the Statistical Commission at future sessions (1985);

(v) Other reports which might be requested by the Statistical Commission at its twenty-third session (1985).

***7.2 Development of catalogues of economic and social statistics

(a) Maintenance, improvement and expansion of the Directory of International Statistics for future publication (1984-1985);

(b) Revision and updating of the classification of statistical series used in the Directory (1984-1985);

(c) Issuance of interim extracts of the Directory for review and use by the regional commissions and specialized agencies (1984-1985).

***7.3 Review and co-ordination of statistical publications and assessment of the consistency and quality of the data

(a) Review of the publications of the Statistical Office, regional commissions and specialized agencies in order to assess the consistency, quality and coverage of the data (1984-1985);

(b) Improved co-ordination and complementarity of the statistical publications (1984-1985).

7.4 Provision of statistical services to General Assembly organs and other bodies, on request

(a) Collection and compilation of national income, population and exchange-rate data for use by the Committee on Contributions (1984-1985);

*** Lowest priority.
(b) Preparation of ad hoc data compilations and studies for the Committee on Contributions (1984-1985);

(c) Processing of data on military expenditures, collected on the basis of a joint Statistical Office/Department for Disarmament Affairs questionnaire (1984-1985);

(d) Provision of substantive services and statistical expertise to various units of the Secretariat and other United Nations bodies, on request (1984-1985).

Subprogramme 8: Programme support

8.1 Programme formulation and management

(a) Direction and management of the Statistical Office;

(b) Preparation of medium-term plans, budgets, performance reports and publication programmes;

(c) Development of a management information system for control of project development and efficient utilization of staff resources;

(d) Maintenance of a correspondence registry;

(e) Liaison with other offices and departments; awareness of decisions of intergovernmental bodies which may have significance for statistics; and

(f) Maintenance of relationships with the senior staff of national statistical offices and international organizations.

Subprogramme 9: Support of technical co-operation

The objective is to assist countries in developing their statistical capabilities, including the application of modern computer technology for processing statistical data, through direct advisory services, fellowships, provision of supplies and equipment, issuance of methodological material and through substantive support and monitoring of technical co-operation projects.

*9.1 Improvement of statistical capabilities of developing countries

(a) Responses to requests of developing countries for assistance in establishing, expanding or strengthening the capacities and capabilities of their statistical services (1984-1985);

* Highest priority.
(b) Technical co-operation activities in statistics relating to projects for the conduct of population and housing censuses, improvement and expansion of civil registration systems, establishment or improvement of national accounts estimates, establishment of household survey capability programmes for obtaining basic statistical series and improvement of the structure of the statistical services of developing countries (1984-1985);

(c) Reports to the Statistical Commission;

(i) Development of national capabilities in statistics (1984);


*9.2 Improvement of statistical data processing capabilities of developing countries

(a) Responses to requests of developing countries for assistance in establishing, expanding or strengthening the capacities and capabilities of their statistical data processing services (1984-1985);

(b) Projects to expand and strengthen the data-processing hardware and software capabilities to edit and process raw data from different statistical areas so as to obtain the variety of reliable and comprehensive statistics required for establishing and monitoring the progress of national economic, demographic, social and other development (1984-1985);

(c) Report to the Statistical Commission on several aspects of technical co-operation in statistical data processing (1984).

II. PROPOSALS ON PRIORITIES FOR THE WORK PROGRAMME, 1984-1985

2. The proposals of the Statistical Office on priorities for programme elements for 1984-1985 are as follows:

(a) Highest priority

1.2 Development, updating and harmonization of standard international classifications

1.3 Development of concepts, classifications and methods for industrial, construction, distributive-trade and energy and related statistics

1.9 Development of concepts, classifications and methods for environment statistics

4.1 Collection, compilation and dissemination of energy and related statistics

* Highest priority.
5.2 Price statistics for internationally traded commodities

7.1 Co-ordination of the statistics programme of the United Nations

9.1 Improvement of statistical capabilities of developing countries

9.2 Improvement of statistical data-processing capabilities of developing countries

(b) Lowest priority

7.2 Development of catalogues of economic and social statistics

7.3 Review and co-ordination of statistical publications and assessment of the consistency and quality of the data

(c) Containing some outputs and/or activities of lowest priority

1.4 Development of concepts, classifications and methods for international trade, transport and related statistics

1.7 Development of concepts and methods for the integration and linkage of social and related statistics and indicators

3.1 Collection, compilation and dissemination of national accounts statistics

3.2 Collection, compilation and dissemination of statistics on the distribution of income, consumption and accumulation

3.3 Collection, compilation and dissemination of industrial, construction and distributive-trade statistics

3.4 Collection, compilation, dissemination and analysis of international trade statistics

3. The proposals reflect as far as possible the views expressed by the Statistical Commission at its twenty-first session. 4/ The assigning of the "lowest priority" and "containing some outputs and/or activities of lowest priority" labels to programme elements was especially problematic. Some of the work under programme elements 1.4, 7.2 and 7.3 (except for that on the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC), Rev. 3) is judged to be such that it can be postponed for a biennium, if necessary. Activities and some outputs or parts of outputs under programme elements 3.1 to 3.4, which cover collection, compilation and dissemination in various fields of statistics, could be modified, if necessary. Also, this work could be studied to see whether it might be carried out more efficiently with appropriate technology so as to release resources for other activities. Such a possibility was recognized by the Commission at its twenty-first session. 5/
III. DEPENDENCIES AMONG PROGRAMME ELEMENTS
IN THE WORK PROGRAMME, 1984-1985

4. The dependencies which will be the most immediate and direct during the
1984-1985 period, based on work scheduled for that period, are:

(a) Dependence of the data collection programme elements (3.1 to 6.3) on the
improved computerization of statistics programme element (2.2);

(b) Dependence of the programme element "General compendiums of economic and
social statistics" (2.1) on the data collection programme elements (3.1 to 6.3);

(c) Dependence of the programme element "Provision of statistical services to
General Assembly organs and other bodies, on request" (7.4) on the data collection
programme elements (3.1 to 6.3) and the programme element on improved
computerization of statistics (2.2).

5. Dependencies which are of a more long-term nature are:

(a) The data collection programme elements (3.1 to 6.3) are dependent upon
the methodological development programme elements (1.1 to 1.9) in the long run.
Developments under the data collection programme elements also affect the
methodological development programme elements in the long run;

(b) The programme element on improvement of statistical capabilities of
developing countries (9.1) is dependent upon the methodological development
programme elements (1.1 to 1.9). Developments in programme element 9.1 also affect
the programme elements on methodological development and data collection,
compilation and dissemination;

(c) The programme element on improvement of statistical data-processing
capabilities of developing countries (9.2) also affects the data collection,
compilation and dissemination programme elements.

6. In addition, there are numerous other relationships and links between
programme elements. For example, there are links among the various programme
elements in statistical methodology, among the programme elements concerning energy
and industrial statistics and among those concerning environment and demographic
and social statistics. The nature and intensity of those links change over time as
the specific activities and outputs covered by the programme elements change.

7. Virtually all programme elements depend on the programme elements on
co-ordination of the statistical programme of the United Nations (7.1) and
programme formulation and management (8.1) on a continuing basis.
IV. COMMITMENTS MADE BY THE STATISTICAL OFFICE IN RELATION TO THE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 1984-1985

8. The listing which follows relates to special commitments made for work during 1984-1985 over and above the normal ongoing commitments of the Statistical Office to produce international statistics in its recurrent statistical publications, to produce publications on statistical methodology, to carry out its co-ordination function to provide support for technical co-operation in statistics and to provide statistical services to General Assembly organs and other bodies, on request.

1.1 Development of the United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA) and linkage with the System of Balances of the National Economy (MPS)

To participate in an Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts for co-ordination of work plans for the revision of SNA with OECD and EUROSTAT; co-operate with ECE and OMEA on work on linkages between SNA and MPS.

To provide descriptions of national practices in input-output tables for a UNIDO publication.

1.2 Development, updating and harmonization of standard international classifications

To work towards harmonization of international economic classifications including continued participation in the Joint United Nations Statistical Office/Statistical Office of the European Communities Working Group on World-Level Classifications; to continue participation in the work of the Harmonized System Committee of the Customs Co-operation Council; to work towards revision of the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC) and development of a combined production/goods classification and associated classifications of non-transportable goods and services linked to the revised ISIC; to continue participation in the Maintenance Agency for International Standard (ISO 3166) (codes for the representation of names of countries) of the International Organization for Standardization.

1.4 Development of concepts, classifications and methods for international trade, transport and related statistics

To issue the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC), Revision 3, by the time that the revision of the Customs Co-operation Council Nomenclature (CCCN) and the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS) come into force (scheduled for January 1985).

Commitment, as set out in the project document on the development of shipping statistics, to compile statistics on the flow of goods on world sea lanes and to promote the uniform system for the development of economic statistics of shipping.
1.5 Development of concepts and methods for statistics of prices and purchasing power comparisons

To work with ILO to complete the Manual on Consumer Price Indexes in 1985.

To work with EUROSTAT, OECD and ECE on international comparisons and to play a strong co-ordinating role in work on international comparisons.

1.6 Development of concepts, classifications and methods for demographic, housing and human settlements statistics

To review census recommendations, taking into account the ILO International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 1982.

1.7 Development of concepts and methods for the integration and linkage of social and related statistics and indicators

To prepare a progress report on the improvement of statistics and indicators of the situation of women for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women.

1.8 Development and use of statistics for services to children and youth

Commitment to UNICEF to support and encourage the development of social statistics, especially statistics useful for services to children and youth in developing countries.

1.9 Development of concepts, classifications and methods for environment statistics

To undertake activities leading to the provision to UNEP of outputs specified in the project document on environment statistics.

2.2 Improved computerization of statistics

To work with the regional commissions and the specialized agencies and other international organizations in a technical working group on statistical data bases.

3.1 Collection, compilation and dissemination of national accounts statistics

To process input-output statistics, to maintain a data bank for UNIDO and other users and to publish the Compendium of Input-Output Tables as part of the National Accounts Series. Agreement with OECD and EUROSTAT on sharing work for national accounts collection and processing and with IMF on government sector accounts and tables and external transactions.

/...
3.3 **Collection, compilation and dissemination of industrial, construction and distributive trade-statistics**

To provide industrial statistics to UNIDO, especially for developing countries; to provide indexes of industrial production and employment to the regional commissions.

3.4 **Collection, compilation, dissemination and analysis of international trade statistics**

To continue to provide trade statistics to international organizations, especially UNCTAD, for ongoing analytical work.

3.5 **Collection, compilation and dissemination of transport statistics**

See description under programme element 1.4 above.

6.1 **Collection, compilation and dissemination of demographic statistics**


6.2 **Collection, compilation and dissemination of social and housing statistics**

Commitment to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to produce the *Compendium of Human Settlements Statistics*. Commitment to producers and users of social statistics to work on the *Compendium of Social Statistics*. To prepare special data for international conferences or years in specialized fields of social concern, for example, youth, the disabled, crime and criminal justice.

6.3 **Collection, compilation and dissemination of environment statistics**

See description under programme element 1.9 above.

7.1 **Co-ordination of the statistics programme of the United Nations**

To service the Statistical Commission, its Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Co-ordination, the Committee on Contributions and the ACC Sub-Committee on Statistical Activities.

9.1 **Improvement of statistical capabilities of developing countries**

To provide support, on request.

9.2 **Improvement of statistical data-processing capabilities of developing countries**

To provide support, on request.
V. MOBILITY OF HUMAN RESOURCES, 1984-1985

9. The staff of the Statistical Office tend to have been recruited as specialists in particular fields or to have progressed through the ranks in the office but normally in the same general area of work. Technical knowledge beyond their present fields of work would normally have been obtained several years previously. Opportunities to alter the skill composition of the staff and their deployment among various tasks are limited and are determined largely by resignations, retirements and transfers.

10. The Office undertakes advanced work on new developments in methodology in various fields, requiring a high level of expertise. The requirement would normally not be met by staff employed in other fields or activities in the Statistical Office.

11. There is greater mobility of staff between some programme elements than between others. There is relatively high mobility among programme elements in the same subject-matter, that is, between methodology and data collection and technical co-operation in a given subject-matter. The reverse movement, that is, from data collection to methodology in the same subject area, is less in some cases. There is moderate mobility from a programme element covering data collection in one field of statistics to a programme element covering data collection in another field. There is low mobility from a programme element covering methodology in one field of statistics to a programme element covering methodology in another field except when the fields are closely related. Some programme elements have a range of related activities, so there can be mobility of staff within a particular programme element.

12. A number of staff redeployments have been initiated over the past several years. In addition, a number of measures have been taken to promote greater mobility of staff, including the organization of a series of staff seminars on a wide range of activities of the Office and a series of general staff meetings at which the activities of each organizational unit were explained and discussed.

VI. STEPS IN THE REVIEW PROCESS FOR THE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 1982-1983

13. Preparation of the 1982-1983 programme budget in statistics commenced with the issuance of instructions by the Assistant Secretary-General for Financial Services, on 19 August 1980.

14. The instructions set forth the following steps for formulating and reviewing the programme budget:

(a) Instructions issued ......................... 19 August 1980

(b) Submissions received by the Budget Division and the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination from units in the economic and social sectors located at United Nations Headquarters ......................... 31 October 1980

/...
(c) Review of submissions by the Budget Division and, in the economic and social sectors, by the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination; completion of the budget text and submission for translation and reproduction ....................................................... 1 November 1980-15 March 1981

(d) Budget text available in all languages to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions ......... 30 April 1981

15. The Statistical Office prepared its draft work programme and budget proposals, which were discussed within the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, including with the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination, and with the Budget Division. That proposed draft was submitted to the Statistical Commission at its twenty-first session ("Proposed draft work programme of the Statistical Office of the United Nations, 1982-1983" (E/CN.3/XXI/CRP.1)). 6/ Subsequently, the proposed draft was amended to take into account the comments and decisions made by the Commission during the session as a whole and, in particular, during the discussion of the proposed draft. 4/

16. In the two-three months immediately following the session of the Statistical Commission, the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination and the Budget Division, in consultation with the Office of the Under-Secretary-General of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the Statistical Office, made further changes. The revised proposals were issued as Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1982-1983, section 6, Department of International Economic and Social Affairs. 7/ A/36/6, vol.I, 46.53-665.

17. The changes in the proposed programme budget in statistics were accounted for by: (a) decisions of the Statistical Commission at its twenty-first session; (b) limitations on the printing budget; (c) limitations on the consultancy budget; (d) carry-overs from the approved 1980-1981 work programme; (e) re-evaluations of resource requirements and availability and/or co-ordination with related work in other organizations; (f) deletions owing to completions during the 1980-1981 biennium. The detailed list of changes is contained in chapter VII below.

18. Highest and lowest priority designations in the proposed programme budget were assigned to selected programme elements in consultation with the Under-Secretary-General of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, reflecting as far as possible the comments of the Statistical Commission at its twenty-first session.

19. The proposed programme budget was reviewed by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-first session, held in New York from 4-29 May and on 8 and 9 June 1981. "The Committee was satisfied, in general, with the proposed programme budget of the Statistical Office". 8/ It recommended that: /...
"(a) The Economic and Social Council should request the Statistical Commission to review and evaluate the general policy of publication of statistics which are more than three years old;

"(b) The programme should accurately reflect decisions of the Council on the question of technical assistance to developing countries for the development of energy statistics". 9/

20. The proposed programme budget was reviewed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions during its meetings between 28 April and 10 July 1981 in New York. The Advisory Committee concluded that

"As regards the request in paragraph 6.58 of the proposed programme budget for a new P-5 post for the Chief of the Social and Housing Statistics Section, the Advisory Committee notes that there are already 12 regular-budget posts at the P-5 level in the Statistical Office. In the Committee's opinion there should be room for the redeployment of one of those posts to the Social and Housing Statistics Section. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the new P-5 post should not be approved, with a consequential reduction of the estimate for section 6 by $67,600." 10/

21. The proposed programme budget and the views of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination thereon were considered by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1981, held at Geneva from 1 to 24 July 1981. The Council decided to endorse the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and to transmit the report to the General Assembly for consideration at its thirty-sixth session (Council decision 1981/180 of 23 July 1981).

22. The Fifth Committee of the General Assembly considered the proposed programme budget and the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and approved the establishment of the P-5 post as requested in the proposals (see A/36/845, paras. 15-16).

23. By resolution 36/240 of 18 December 1981, the General Assembly approved the programme budget for the biennium 1982-1983, as recommended by the Fifth Committee.


24. The following changes were made: [The subprogramme and programme element structure used hereunder is the one adopted for the 1984-1985 work programme (see chap. I above). It is different from the structure used in presenting the 1982-1983 work programme to the Statistical Commission at its twenty-first session (see E/CN.3/XXI/CRP.1) and in the 1982-1983 programme budget itself 7/];
Subprogramme 1: Development of concepts and methods

1.1 Development of the United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA) and linkage with the System of Balances of the National Economy (MPS)

Additions


Substitutions


Deletions


1.2 Development, updating and harmonization of standard international classifications

Additions


Deletions

Sales publication: Third revision of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (1983). 13/

1.3 Development of concepts, classifications and methods for industrial, construction, distributive-trade, and energy and related statistics

Deletions


1.7 Development of concepts and methods for the integration and linkage of social and related statistics and indicators

Additions

Sales publications: technical report on statistics of time-use (1982); 12/ report on privacy and confidentiality in the collection and integration of social

**Substitutions**


**Deletions**

Sales publications: guidelines for the classification of age (1982); 15/ draft of technical report on statistics and indicators of crime, crime trends and justice (1983); 13/ report on country practices in applying computer techniques in compiling national accounts (1983); 16/ report on country practices in integrating survey and administrative data into the national accounts (1983). 16/

**VIII. STAGE REACHED IN COMPLETION OF OUTPUTS IN THE 1982-1983 WORK PROGRAMME**

(estimated as at 31 October 1982)

25. The list below shows the dates originally scheduled for completion of outputs included in the 1982-1983 work programme and outputs carried over from previous years. If the outputs were not completed as at 31 October 1982, revised completion dates are shown. The approximate stage reached for each methodological output is indicated by letters as follows:

A = The output is complete and the manuscript has been submitted for final editing, translation and printing.

B = A final draft has been completed, incorporating the views of experts, etc. Some refinements need to be incorporated and a final review needs to be undertaken.

C = A first draft has been completed and is ready for review by experts, regional commissions, specialized agencies. It is expected that significant revision may be required.

D = A substantial amount of the basic research has been completed and an outline has been prepared.

E = Work has not started.

26. The approximate stage reached for the recurrent data publications are denoted as follows:
A = All tables and technical notes are complete and ready for printing.
B = All tables are substantially complete, subject to final review, correction etc., some final data may need to be added.
C = The data are coded and in machine-readable form, and technical notes have been prepared; some tables may also have been prepared.
D = A significant amount of data has been received and initial checking has been completed.
E = Work has not started.

27. For both kinds of publications, the stages correspond roughly to completion percentages as follows:

\[\begin{align*}
A &= 100 \text{ per cent} \\
B &= 75 \text{ per cent} \\
C &= 50 \text{ per cent} \\
D &= 25 \text{ per cent} \\
E &= 0 \text{ per cent}
\end{align*}\]

28. Only programme elements for which outputs were scheduled are listed.
Subprogramme 1: Development of concepts and methods

1.1 Development of the United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA) and linkage with the System of Balances of the National Economy (MPS)

Output: Sales publications:

A comparative study of household income in national accounts and income distribution statistics

Handbook of National Accounting series:

Flow-of-funds statistics

Income and outlay accounts

Household sector statistics and income distribution

Accounting for production

Manual on external transactions

3rd quarter, 1982 E 2nd quarter, 1984

1.2 Development, updating and harmonization of standard international classifications

Output: Sales publications: International Standard Classification of All Goods and Services (ICGS)

Common Groupings of the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) and the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC)

1st quarter, 1982 Cancelled

1.4 Development of concepts, classifications and methods for international trade, transport and related statistics

Output: Sales publications:

International Standard Definitions for Transport Statistics

Manual on the establishment of a system for the collection of economic statistics on shipping

2nd quarter, 1983 B

1.5 Development of concepts and methods for statistics of prices and purchasing power comparisons

Output: Sales publications:

Price Indexes for Inflation Accounting and Indexation

Manual on Measurement of Factor Input

2nd quarter, 1983 C 1986

1.6 Development of concepts, classifications and methods for demographic, housing and human settlements statistics

Output: Sales publications:

Technical report on the improvement of international migration statistics

Handbook of Population and Housing Census Methods, revision of part IV

1st quarter, 1983 B 27

3rd quarter, 1982 C 3rd quarter, 1983
1.7 Development of concepts and methods for the integration and linkage of social and related statistics and indicators

Output: Sales publications:

| Technical report on small-area statistics | 3rd quarter, 1982 | C | 3rd quarter, 1983 |
| Report on survey instruments for obtaining data on the status of women | 4th quarter, 1983 | C |
| Fifteenth report in the series entitled Sample Surveys of Current Interest (in economic and demographic social statistics) | 1st quarter, 1983 | C | Cancelled |
| Technical report on problems of classification of locality by size and type and of urban/rural areas | 2nd quarter, 1982 | C | Cancelled |
| Construction and use of a census data base | 4th quarter, 1982 | E | 3rd quarter, 1984 |
| Technical report on the role of macro-data and micro-data structures in the integration of demographic, social and economic statistics | 2nd quarter, 1983 | C | Postponed |

Subprogramme 2: Application of advanced technology in the collection, processing and dissemination of statistics

2.1 General compendiums of economic and social statistics

Output: Sales publications:

| Statistical Yearbook, 1981 | 4th quarter, 1982 | B |
| Statistical Yearbook, 1982 | 4th quarter, 1983 | |
| Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, 1982 | A |
| Statistical Pocketbook (World Statistics in Brief), eighth edition | 3rd quarter, 1983 | |
Subprogramme 3: National accounts, industrial, international trade and transport statistics

3.1 Collection, compilation and dissemination of national accounts statistics

Output: Sales publications:

Yearbook of National Accounts Statistics

Yearbook of Public Finance Statistics

<table>
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<th>Stage reached</th>
<th>Revised completion date</th>
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<td>3rd quarter, 1982</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Cancelled 3rd quarter, 1983</td>
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3.3 Collection, compilation and dissemination of industrial, construction and distributive-trade statistics

Output: Sales publications:

Yearbook of Industrial Statistics (vol. I, General Industrial Statistics; vol. II, Commodity Production Data)

Yearbook of Construction Statistics

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3.4 Collection, compilation, dissemination and analysis of international trade statistics

Output: Sales publications:

Yearbook of International Trade Statistics (vols. I and II)
Commodity Trade Statistics
World Trade Annual, 5 volumes 2/
Supplement to the World Trade Annual, 5 volumes 2/
Special statistical tables, computer tapes and microfiches, on request

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3.5 Collection, compilation and dissemination of transport statistics

Output: Sales publication: Economic statistics on shipping

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<td>3rd quarter, 1983</td>
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### Subprogramme 4: Energy and related statistics

#### 4.1 Collection, compilation and dissemination of energy and related statistics

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<thead>
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<th>Output: Sales publications:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yearbook of World Energy Statistics</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>National energy balances for selected countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special statistical tables and computer tapes, on request</td>
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<td>4th quarter, 1983</td>
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<td>1st to 4th quarters, 1982</td>
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<td>1st to 4th quarters, 1983</td>
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### Subprogramme 5: Price statistics and related areas

#### 5.2 Price statistics for internationally traded commodities

| Output: Special tables on prices and indexes of price of goods entering international trade |

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<td>1st to 4th quarters, 1982</td>
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<td>1st to 4th quarters, 1983</td>
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</table>

### Subprogramme 6: Social, demographic and environment statistics

#### 6.1 Collection, compilation and dissemination of demographic statistics

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Output: Sales publications:</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Demographic Yearbook</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Population and Vital Statistics Report</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Provision of computer tapes, tabulations and other types of information in response to ad hoc user requests</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st to 4th quarters, 1982</td>
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<td>1st to 4th quarters, 1983</td>
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<td>1st to 4th quarters, 1982</td>
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<td>1st to 4th quarters, 1983</td>
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#### 6.2 Collection, compilation and dissemination of social and housing statistics

| Output: Sales publication: Compendium of Human Settlements Statistics |

<table>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
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<td>1st quarter, 1984</td>
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Subprogramme 7: Co-ordination of international statistical programmes

7.1 Co-ordination of the statistics programme of the United Nations

Output: Substantive servicing of the twentieth session of the Statistical Commission

Substantive servicing of the tenth session of the Statistical Commission’s Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Co-ordination

1st quarter, 1983

4th quarter, 1983

E

E

7.4 Provision of statistical services to General Assembly organs and other bodies, on request

Output: Provision of data and statistical documents on national income, exchange rates, population and related subjects to the Committee on Contributions, on request

Provision of substantive services and statistical expertise to various units of the Secretariat and other United Nations bodies, on request

1st, 2nd and 4th quarters, 1982

1st to 4th quarters, 1982

1st to 4th quarters, 1983

A

A

Subprogramme 8: Programme support

8.1 Programme formulation and management

1st to 4th quarters, 1982

1st to 4th quarters, 1983

A

A

Subprogramme 9: Support of technical co-operation

9.1 Improvement of statistical capabilities of developing countries

1st to 4th quarters, 1982

1st to 4th quarters, 1983

A

A

9.2 Improvement of statistical data-processing capabilities of developing countries

1st to 4th quarters, 1982

1st to 4th quarters, 1983

A

A

Subprogrammes 1 through 7

Output: Reports to the twenty-second session of the Statistical Commission

2nd to 4th quarters, 1982

A

Outputs carried over from previous bienniums

Programme element

1.1 Handbook of National Accounting: Public Sector Accounts

1st quarter, 1982

3rd quarter, 1983

B

1.2 Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use

2nd quarter, 1982

A
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<td>Handbook of Energy Conversion Factors</td>
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<td>Concepts and Methods in Energy Statistics, with Special Reference to Energy Accounts and Balances</td>
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<td><strong>International Trade Statistics: Concepts and Definitions</strong></td>
<td>1st quarter, 1982</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>3rd quarter, 1985</td>
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<td>Manual on Consumer Price Indexes</td>
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<td>Price and Quantity Measurement in External Trade: Two Studies in National Practices</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Study of Census Staffing and Cost Requirements in Selected Countries</td>
<td>1st quarter, 1982</td>
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<td>4th quarter, 1982</td>
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<td>National Data Sources and Programme for Implementing United Nations Recommendations on International Migration Statistics</td>
<td>3rd quarter, 1983</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>1.7</td>
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<td><strong>Provisional Guidelines on Standard International Age Classifications</strong></td>
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<td>Sample Surveys of Current Interest (Fourteenth report)</td>
<td>1st quarter, 1982</td>
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<td>1st quarter, 1982</td>
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<td>1st quarter, 1983</td>
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<td><strong>Directory of Country Practices in Environment Statistics</strong></td>
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<td>3rd quarter, 1982</td>
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Notes

1/ The inclusion, for some outputs, of activities and projects leading to them has been done on an exceptions basis, that is, if consultants, expert groups, inter-agency meetings or other special steps are involved, they are described; if the work is routine, no details are given.

2/ Published by Walker and Company, by agreement with the United Nations.

3/ In carrying out its responsibility for the provision of technical co-operation in statistics, the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development has been relying on the Statistical Office for substantive support, in accordance with the provisional arrangements for collaboration between the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development following the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations. The provisional arrangements will be reviewed in the light of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 32/197.


5/ Ibid., para. 247 (d).

6/ Copies will be made available to members of the Commission during the session.


9/ Ibid., para. 484.

10/ Ibid., Supplement No. 7 (A/36/7), chap. II, para. 6.7.


13/ Re-evaluation of resource requirements and availability and/or coordination with related work in other organizations.

14/ Limitations on printing budget.


16/ Limitations on consultancy budget.

17/ Title changed to National Accounts Series: Compendium of Household Income Distribution Statistics.
18/ No consultant could be found to write a first draft. The consultancy has been transferred to the 1984 budget.

19/ Title changed to Handbook of National Accounting: Income, Outlay and Capital Accumulation Accounts.

20/ Instead of developing this publication in the Handbook series, it was considered more appropriate to revise the Provisional Guidelines on Statistics of the Distribution of Income, Consumption and Accumulation in line with the recommendations of the 1982 Expert Group Meeting on the Review and Development of the United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA). Furthermore, a revision of the Handbook of Household Surveys is in preparation and includes information on sources and methods used in the compilation of income distribution statistics.

21/ Title changed to Handbook of National Accounting: Gross Domestic Product.

22/ Title changed to Handbook of National Accounting: External Transactions.

23/ Finalization has been delayed because of vacancies. However, the 1976 draft seems to have met most of the needs of users. Further, ICGS is expected to become obsolete in view of other developments, namely (a) the revision of ISIC, on which ICGS is based, (b) the revision of SITC, to which ICGS is related and (c) the development of a combined trade/production goods classification and associated classifications of non-transportable goods and services linked to the revised ISIC.

24/ Preparation has been delayed because of vacancies. Furthermore, the publication would shortly become obsolete in view of progress on the revision of ISIC and SITC and work towards the development of a combined trade/production goods classification.

25/ Depends upon consultancy or staff assignment.

26/ Draft papers planned for submission to an expert group meeting on SNA in 1986. Final form of issuance of the papers not yet decided.


28/ Will be issued in 1983 as a Secretariat working paper, and the findings will be incorporated in continuing work on population and housing censuses and data bases.

29/ Title changed to Improving Statistics and Indicators on the Situation of Women: A Technical Report.

30/ Will be incorporated into the report entitled Improving Concepts and Methods for Statistics and Indicators on the Situation of Women.

31/ The series is now planned to be on a four- or five-year cycle.
32/ Will be incorporated into the report entitled Construction and Use of a Census Data Base.

33/ Cancelled owing to low priority given by the Statistical Commission at its twenty-first session and transfer of staff from this area of work to another (environment statistics). Elements to be included in the technical notes to the Compendium of Human Settlements Statistics.


35/ First issue will appear in 1983.

36/ A draft publication will be circulated to specialized agencies, regional commissions and selected experts in 1982; the first issue will appear in 1983. Title changed to Yearbook of World Price Trends.