1. The Transport and Communications Commission at its third session discussed the preliminary study on transport statistics, which is also before the Statistical Commission, and passed a resolution upon it. The discussion is recorded in the Summary Record of the fourth meeting held on 23 March (E/CN.2/SR.29 and Corr.1). The principal points raised in the discussion are briefly outlined in paragraph 3 below. The recommendation of the Transport and Communications Commission, quoted from the report of the Transport and Communications Commission to the Economic and Social Council (E/CN.2/65/Rev.1), is reproduced in paragraph 4 below.

2. The United States representative presented to the Transport and Communications Commission a document (E/CN.2/64 and Add.1) discussing the availability in the United States of the statistical series mentioned in the study.

3. The following points were made by members of the Transport and Communications Commission and the Secretariat was asked to take them into account in completing the study.

(a) Transport statistics are of particular importance to the economy as a whole because

(i) They assist in predicting the trends of industry and trade so that plans can be made to avoid economic shocks due to unforeseen changes;

(ii) They are a tool in the achievement of co-ordination of the various modes of transport (rail, road, inland waterways). So, despite the difficulties, an effort
should be made to elicit figures from which the relative
costs of the various means of transport could
adequately be estimated.

(b) It was pointed out that it is, for some modes of transport,
notably transport by road, impossible to obtain adequate ton-kilometre
and passenger-kilometre figures and that this lack will probably
persist for some time. The suggestion was made that consideration
be given to methods of approximating the volume of traffic in such
cases by means of related figures which are obtainable, for
instance through the number of vehicles registered and the amount
of fuel consumed.

(c) The type of transport figures which can be collected varies
from region to region in accordance with the local economic
conditions, so a scheme for collecting statistics must take this
into account. It is, however, desirable that such series as are
collected be comparable on a world basis.

4. The recommendation of the Transport and Communications Commission is
as follows:

Resolution 6

Transport Statistics

The Transport and Communications Commission

Takes note with appreciation of the preliminary report prepared by
the Secretariat for the Transport and Communications Commission and the
Statistical Commission on transport statistics;

Having in mind the resolution adopted by the Economic and Social
Council at its seventh session concerning collaboration with the
specialized agencies and regional economic commissions with respect
to the matter,

Requests the Secretariat to continue the study on the lines
indicated in the preliminary report, taking into consideration the
views expressed during the Commission's discussion of this report; and

Expresses the wish that the Secretariat, at the appropriate
moment, consult the Governments concerning the present or future
availability of the statistical series, the collection of which is
recommended in the report.