

**REPORT OF THE  
FIFTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE  
FOR EUROPE**

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Seville, Spain, 5-11 October 1966



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Reports of previous regional conferences for Europe are as follows:

1. Pre-Conference Regional Meeting, Rome, 10-15 October 1949
2. Conference for Europe, Rome, 10-15 October 1960
3. Third Regional Conference for Europe, Rome, 8-13 October 1962
4. Fourth Regional Conference for Europe, Salzburg, Austria, 26-31 October 1964

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## INTRODUCTION

### Organization of the Conference

1. The Fifth FAO Regional Conference for Europe was held in Seville from 5-11 October 1966, at the kind invitation of the Spanish Government. The main purpose of the Conference was to discuss the planning of FAO's work in the European Region and its relationship to and impact on other regions of the world, to examine the changing pattern of the European forestry economy, to discuss FAO's Indicative World Plan in relation to Europe, to consider certain selected agricultural problems of some countries in the process of industrialization in Southern and Eastern Europe, and to provide guidance to the Director General in the preparation of his program of work for 1968/69.

2. The Conference was attended by delegations from the following 23 countries of the European Region:

Austria	Netherlands
Belgium	Norway
Denmark	Poland
Finland	Portugal
France	Romania
Germany, Federal Republic of	Spain
Greece	Sweden
Ireland	Switzerland
Israel	Turkey
Italy	United Kingdom
Luxembourg	Yugoslavia
Malta	

3. In addition, the following other member countries of the Organization sent observers to the Conference:

Australia	Tunisia
Cuba	United States of America
Japan	

4. The Holy See was also represented at the Conference.

5. Representatives of the following organizations and agencies belonging to the United Nations were also present at the Conference:

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)  
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)  
World Health Organization (WHO)

6. The European Forestry Commission, a permanent European body of FAO, was represented by its Chairman.

7. Observers from the following international governmental organizations and institutions attended the Conference:

Council of Europe  
European Economic Community (EEC)  
Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM)  
International Commission of Agricultural Industries (ICAI)

International Vine and Wine Office (OIV)  
Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

as well as observers from the following non-governmental organizations:

European Association on Animal Production (EAAP)  
International Commission on Agricultural Engineering (CIGR)  
International Dairy Federation (IDF)  
International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP)  
International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)

8. A list of participants, including delegates, representatives, observers, of the staff of FAO in attendance and of the Officers of the Conference is annexed to this Report.

#### Opening of the Conference

9. The Director-General in opening the Conference extended his warm thanks to the Government of Spain for its kind invitation and to the town of Seville and the Universidad Laboral José Antonio Primo da Rivera for their generous hospitality.

10. The Minister of Agriculture of Spain, Don Adolfo Diaz Ambrona, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Conference. He thanked the Conference most warmly for the honour bestowed on him, and welcomed delegates to an area of Spain that was today undergoing rapid technical and agricultural changes.

11. The Heads of the Delegations of Poland, Norway and the Federal Republic of Germany were elected Vice-Chairmen of the Conference.

12. In accordance with a request made by the Fourth Regional Conference for Europe held in Salzburg in October 1964, supported by a meeting of European delegates attending the 13th General Conference of FAO held in Rome in November 1965, the Conference established a Committee-of-the-Whole which met simultaneously with the Plenary Sessions of the Conference, gave detailed consideration to FAO's activities in the European Region and reported its findings to the Conference.

The Head of the Delegation of the Netherlands was elected Chairman of the Committee-of-the-Whole and the Heads of the Delegations of Malta, Romania and Israel, Vice-Chairmen.

13. The Conference adopted the following agenda:

- (i) The State of Food and Agriculture in Europe: general debate following the policy statement of the Director-General and the statements of the Heads of Delegations.
- (ii) The Planning of FAO's European work.
- (iii) The changing pattern of the European forest economy in the light of world trends: its impact on European national policies.
- (iv) FAO's Indicative World Plan in relation to Europe and Europe's participation in it.
- (v) Selected agricultural problems of some countries in the process of industrialization in southern and eastern Europe.
- (vi) Other business.



(vii) Adoption of the Report.

(viii) Closing of the Conference.

14. The Delegate of Turkey proposed including in the work of the Conference consideration of intergovernmental measures on animal health control. The Conference decided to give attention to this important problem during the debate on Item (ii) of the agenda.

#### Closing of the Conference

15. At its closing session, the Conference adopted the text of the report in its present form.

16. Don Adolfo Diaz Ambrona, Minister of Agriculture of Spain, Chairman of the Conference, expressed his great appreciation for the work done by the Conference and the excellent atmosphere which had prevailed during its sessions. He thanked the delegates and observers for their valuable contributions, and the Director-General, Dr. Sen, for the clear and concise policy statement which had made the work of the Conference and his task as Chairman so easy. He thanked too, the authorities of Andalusia and Seville, as well as the Board of Directors of the Universidad Laboral José Antonio Primo da Rivera, who had extended such generous hospitality, and made the stay in Seville such a pleasant one. He stressed, in particular, the discussions on the Indicative World Plan, in view of its great importance, and the desire of his Government to make the best contribution to it. He felt that all the participants would agree that the Conference had been a very useful one and expressed the hope that, upon returning to their homes, they would retain a happy memory of their stay in Spain.

17. In the name of the participants, Mr. M. Cépède, Delegate of France, expressed thanks to the Spanish Government, to the authorities of the Province and of the City of Seville, and to all those who had helped to ensure the success of the Conference.

He thanked the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen for the very able manner in which they had conducted the debates and expressed also sincere thanks to the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Committee-of-the-Whole who had been particularly effective in guiding the difficult debates which had taken place in that Committee. The Government and the Spanish people had prepared a warm welcome which could only be described as a Spanish welcome, and which would not be easily forgotten by all those who had enjoyed it. He thanked also the Secretariat and all those who had helped, both visibly in the meeting room or hidden behind the scene, to ensure the smooth running of the meetings. They had all contributed to the achievement of good work and good results, and he expressed the opinion that this Conference would be remembered as one of the most efficient.

18. Mr. Oris V. Wells, Deputy Director-General, conveyed two messages on behalf of the Director-General. Firstly, FAO's wholehearted thanks to the Spanish Government, which he asked the Minister of Agriculture to convey, to the authorities of the Province of Andalusia and the City of Seville, and to the Directors of the Universidad Laboral José Antonio Primo da Rivera, for all the facilities, as well as the entertainment and hospitality they had extended. He mentioned, in particular, Señor Asensio and Señor Escardo, who had so efficiently assisted everybody on all matters which had been referred to them; their help had made life very smooth and pleasant during the Conference. The educational tours which the Government and the authorities had arranged had acquainted the participants with the problems of the Province and Spanish agriculture; these tours would remain a highlight of the Conference.

19. Secondly, Mr. Wells wished to express the Director-General's opinion that the results of the Regional Conference would be most useful to him and to FAO in preparing the Program of Work and Budget for 1968/69. Discussions during the meetings, as well as outside of them, had given a clear indication of the problems to which Governments of the Region assigned priorities and these would be carefully studied in drawing up FAO's future activities in Europe. He remembered, in particular, the very valuable work carried out in the Committee-of-the-Whole, which would be extremely useful to the Director-General and himself in making their decisions on the final shape of the Program of Work of FAO. He thanked the participants for the thought they had given to this particular matter.

20. The closing session terminated at 13.30 hours on Tuesday, 11 October 1966.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

The State of Food and Agriculture in Europe

21. The Director-General of FAO opened the general debate by drawing attention to the marked deterioration in the food situation of the developing countries since the Fourth Regional Conference in Salzburg in 1964. The population of those countries was growing faster than before while their agricultural production, which tended always to be stagnant, had as a result of widespread drought in 1965/66, fallen by 2 per cent in total and by 4-5 per cent per capita compared with the previous year. Food surpluses had disappeared and stocks in the main supplying countries had declined. As a result any serious setback in a major producing area could well provoke a critical food situation in large areas of the world.

22. Europe was in a much more favourable situation, and 1966 would seem to have been a bountiful year. The most noteworthy recent development had been the agreement between the countries of the European Economic Community on a common agricultural policy which would undoubtedly prove a positive factor in providing security for farmers in the six countries. The main problem in the industrialised countries of Europe was agricultural structures. Many farms were still too small, although efforts were now being made to encourage "adequate family farms" sufficient to provide a livelihood for the family unit and meet all expenses including investments. In the centrally planned economies large farms had often to support disproportionate numbers of workers' families.

23. The agricultural policies of the European countries were, however, vital to the wellbeing of peoples in many other parts of the world. Criticism was often made of European protectionist policies in agriculture with reliance on high-cost production rather than on imports. While some liberalisation was essential it was still more important that European countries should make heavier commitments of food aid rather than discourage the growth of their own agricultural production. A decline in the output of food in Europe might in many cases not lead to increased imports from the developing countries but to larger imports from other high income countries and so constitute an additional drain on already seriously depleted world stocks.

24. The Director-General then drew attention to the recently completed projections of demand for and supply of food and agricultural commodities prepared by FAO. By 1975, an increase of about one third in world consumption of cereals could be expected with the deficit of the developing countries amounting to 40-50 million tons of grains and rice per year. While the developed countries should, by concerted action, be able to fill that deficit during the coming decade, the only final solution would lie in increased production and improved productivity in developing regions. In addition the developing countries would in 1975 need to import 2 million tons of skimmed milk products as compared with half a million tons in 1962. United States surplus stocks were already depleted. The supply of fats and oils would probably be adequate provided that transfers could be financed.

25. All this would mean food aid in the future on a far vaster scale than at present envisaged. The United States had already authorised the planting of larger areas with wheat and rice in 1966/67 and the new "Food for Freedom" legislation to replace Public Law 480 would authorise the Secretary of Agriculture to purchase commodities even when not in surplus. Other countries should also expand their contributions to bilateral and multilateral food aid programs. The World Food Program could be strengthened by expanding the volume of food aid handled and by increasing cash resources. The whole question of large-scale food aid needed to be studied afresh on a multilateral basis and a study had now been requested of the UN and FAO. An equitable formula should be sought for sharing the burden of food

aid as part of an expanding total flow based not only on surpluses but on increasing supplies where capacity existed and providing cash or services where it did not. An interim report on the subject would be presented to the Economic and Social Council in 1967 and its findings would have an important bearing on the discussions at the 1967 UNCTAD Conference and at the subsequent Pledging Conference of the World Food Program.

26. Trade liberalisation, for its part, should involve reductions in import duties on certain primary commodities and processed raw materials; for example, such a policy could be applied to sugar and vegetable oils which were easily produced in the developing countries and were no longer so essential to the agricultural systems of the rich countries. Another approach was the action taken recently by the International Monetary Fund to liberalise its scheme of compensatory financing to cover unforeseen temporary shortfalls in export earnings. More rapid progress should be made in negotiating commodity agreements and arrangements, and it was to be hoped that Europe would play a decisive part in bringing success to the continuing work of FAO and to the UNCTAD and GATT negotiations for commodity agreements.

27. The raising of agricultural production and productivity in the developing countries was essential to producing an increase in mass purchasing power and savings, so as to stimulate and finance the transformation of the whole economy of those countries. It was for that reason that FAO placed such emphasis on assisting the low income countries to develop their own agriculture. To do so, they needed assistance from outside. Unfortunately the main donor countries had so far paid little attention to aiding agriculture in developing countries. OECD had estimated that in 1963 the share of agriculture in official aid commitments had been no more than 11 per cent whereas over 70 per cent of the people in the developing countries lived by agriculture.

28. It was for that reason that in conjunction with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, a joint FAO/Bank unit had been set up which was now identifying projects and assisting governments in preparing projects suitable for international financing including irrigation, drainage, crop development, credit, livestock, forestry, fisheries and agricultural education. Already at the end of August 1966 more than 143 missions had been completed under the FAO/Bank Program and several loans had been approved or were being negotiated.

29. An FAO/Industry Co-operative Program had been initiated in the belief that private enterprise had a vital role in the agricultural development of developing areas. The Program was designed to bring about the exchange of technical and economic information on development activities, investment needs and prospects for furthering foreign investment on the one hand and on the other to mobilise the managerial ability, scientific experience, technical knowledge and capital resources of private industry in investment operations.

30. To assist the developing countries to increase their own food production, intensive use of fertilisers, pesticides and farm equipment was required. As the developing countries could not meet the expenditure required, the Director-General had already proposed a program of \$500 million a year of which \$450 million would be bilateral and \$50 million multilateral aid. He called upon the governments of Europe to support at least half the cost of the program.

31. Although the Freedom from Hunger Campaign had not been included as a special item on the agenda, attention should be drawn to two aspects of its work: firstly, national committees should become forums for discussion of national agricultural policies in relation to world hunger and not merely remain aid-giving organizations; secondly, the Young World Appeal should be taken as an opportunity to give youth leaders a far more active part in FFHC Committees.

32. Despite the Organization's major concern with developing regions of the world, FAO was also very active in Europe as could be seen from the document "The Planning of FAO's work in the European Region". FAO greatly appreciated the assistance European countries gave to FAO programs for education and training, seminars and fellowships. FAO's work in Europe had two aspects: service to Europe and service to the world.

33. The Indicative World Plan would integrate all FAO activities and provide a frame of reference for all national agricultural policies. The majority of countries today planned agricultural growth. Two conditions must, however, be fulfilled. Agricultural plans must be fitted into general economic development plans; and national agricultural plans must be co-ordinated through intergovernmental consultations to avoid conflict. The IWP would provide the essential framework for such co-ordination at the world level and provide the background for formulating national targets and negotiating international agreements. Europe must be willing to play a leading part in efforts to harmonise the evolution of world agriculture.

34. The Director-General's statement was followed by a general debate in which all the delegations present and the Permanent Observer of the Holy See, the representative of the World Health Organization and observers of OECD, the European Economic Community and the International Federation of Agricultural Producers took part. In their statements several delegations described the present situation and problems of their agriculture and measures recently taken to improve further both output and productivity. Some delegations stated their points of view on the policies of FAO in its activities inside and outside the Region, made references to their bilateral programs and to the need for the more highly developed countries of Europe to give more assistance to FAO in its struggle to free the world from hunger. Several statements referred also to questions which were included in the agenda as separate items, such as problems concerning forestry, the FAO Indicative World Plan, specific problems of countries in the process of industrialization of the Region, the international aspects of animal health control and the need for proper co-ordination of the activities of the numerous organizations working in FAO's fields of responsibility in Europe. The statements made on these points are summarized in the relevant sections of this report.

35. In reviewing the situation inside the European Region, delegations noted increases in agricultural output with the expectation of further increases in the future due to a variety of factors, including improved methods and techniques resulting in higher productivity of both labour and land, the progressive rationalization of farming, mechanization, more efficient marketing methods combined sometimes with vertical or horizontal integration, the extension of irrigation, increased use of fertilizers and improved methods to reduce losses due to animal and plant diseases and pests.

36. Everywhere in Europe the agricultural labour force was diminishing and in some of the more advanced countries was already relatively small. The Delegate of Israel stated that in his country the rural population was barely adequate to meet the needs of rapidly developing intensive agriculture combined with industrialization in rural areas, and incentives were being given to keep farmers on the land or attract them back to it. A similar situation was noted in a number of industrialized countries of the Region. In European countries in the process of development the agricultural population, although diminishing was still relatively too large and a further decline in the agricultural labour force accompanied by further increases in productivity was desirable. Measures were described which assisted the transfer of the agricultural labour force to industry, notably an increase in training facilities.

37. The Delegate of Ireland referred to the problems arising from the movement out of agriculture of appreciable numbers of people in countries where there was as yet insufficient industry to absorb them. This was an illustration of the fact that industrial and agricultural development must go hand in hand. The Delegate of

Portugal stressed that in his country industry had developed to the detriment of agriculture but at present a great effort was being made to increase the rate of growth of agriculture.

38. Several delegations stressed the need to solve the problems of agricultural structures. The Delegate of Italy referred to measures taken in that respect in his country. Some delegates stressed that the family farm in large areas of Europe did not reach the size of an optimum economic unit. Stress was laid on the need for improved land use planning including recreational requirements, the scarcity of water in some countries due to water pollution, as for instance in Belgium and some other neighbouring countries, and the need for proper water management.

39. The outstanding development in European agriculture in 1966 had been the agreement reached in July between the six members of the European Economic Community on a Common Agricultural Policy. Fears were, however, expressed by some delegations that the result might be the formation of separate economic blocks inside Europe and the delegations from several countries mentioned that they had already encountered difficulties in maintaining their exports to the Common Market, expressing the hope that some arrangements could be found in the not too distant future whereby imports into the area of the EEC would be facilitated.

40. Several delegates commented on the favourable results obtained in their countries through projects carried out by FAO within the framework of the UNDP - Special Fund and EPTA projects-as well as those financed with UNICEF and FFHC funds and through the World Food Program. It was suggested that small donor countries might adopt more FFHC projects.

41. A considerable number of delegations expressly agreed with the Director-General's view that one of the chief tasks of the European Regional Conferences must be to determine how and how much the developed European countries could assist in the agricultural development of the developing countries of Europe, Asia, the Near East, Africa and Latin America. European countries, and particularly the more developed countries in the Region, should do all they could to help themselves so that FAO might release as much of its resources as possible to concentrate its main efforts in developing regions. Several delegations, however, stressed the value of the work carried out in Europe, both for the countries of the Region and for those other regions for which Europe was a particularly useful laboratory.

42. The problem of the aid to be given by Europe to the developing world had two main aspects, immediate assistance to alleviate hunger and want and to meet emergencies, and assistance on a much longer term basis for the general development of agriculture in the developing countries.

43. The work which was carried out under the World Food Program was highly commended and it was regretted by several delegations that the pledges given were so far below the target set. Further consultations among donors might be useful. The Observer of the IFAP deplored the present position of the World Food Program and cited the resolution of the recent IFAP General Assembly (London, May 1966) recommending an increase to \$600 million for the next three year period.

44. The Conference noted with particular interest the Director-General's proposal concerning a program to put at the disposal of the developing countries agricultural requisites such as fertilizers, pesticides and farm equipment, to increase their own production. The Delegate of Denmark suggested a meeting of experts to examine in detail the Director-General's proposals and to make recommendations on the implementation of the program. It was also noted that more capital and expert knowledge were needed to reach the agricultural goals in the developing countries.

45. In his statement, the Permanent Observer of the Holy See brought personal greetings from His Holiness Pope Paul VI, commending FAO's activities and expressing his hope that they might be pursued on an even larger scale.

46. The Representative of the OECD drew attention to the rapid growth of the economies of the countries of Europe to which agriculture had contributed a large share although it had been subject to strains. In regard to the agriculture of the developing countries, the key to success was to have available labour, capital and knowledge; of those three the scarcest was knowledge. Knowledge must be increased and spread, and existing knowledge used rationally. Europe must, however, also provide the rest of the world with capital and one of the concerns of the Development Assistance Committee of OECD was how to help developing countries strengthen their agricultural sectors and in the interim provide food aid. The food problem was mankind's greatest concern and was bound to have repercussions on donor and recipient countries and on trade. OECD would consider all proposals on those subjects, including that made by the Director-General of FAO for the procurement of inputs for agriculture. FAO and OECD must co-operate and it was to be hoped that their partnership would be strengthened.

#### The Planning of FAO's Work in the European Region

47. In introducing this topic the Director-General referred to the working document giving a comprehensive account of FAO's work in the region (ERC/66/2 with Supplement and Annexes I-III). He pointed out that Europe was a mixed region in many respects and particularly in having widely different levels of agricultural development as between the various countries, with as a result, different needs and interests. In respect to aid, some countries were exclusively donors while others were both donors and recipients; FAO had UNDP projects in nine European countries.

48. He further noted the high degree of organization in agricultural matters at the international level - a multitude of general and specialized bodies with varying responsibilities and membership. FAO maintained working relations with almost all those organizations, providing support and assistance, undertaking joint activities and offering facilities for co-ordination especially through the annual Conference of International Organizations working in the field of agriculture in Europe.

49. The Director-General recalled that the greater part of FAO's work in the region was carried out in two ways, firstly by the joint FAO/ECE secretariats in Geneva and, secondly, under the aegis of FAO's permanent European bodies notably the European Commission on Agriculture, the European Forestry Commission, the European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission and the European Commission on Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Because the work of FAO in Europe was limited by the urgency of the claims which regions in the process of development were making upon FAO's limited resources, every effort had been made to concentrate on projects leading to practical action and on topics in which Europe could serve as a laboratory for the rest of the world. In pursuit of efficiency and economy much of the work was entrusted to rapporteurs and consultants while in some cases fields of activity had been transferred to other bodies. The programs were constantly under review by governments at the sessions of the various permanent Commissions.

50. FAO also operated important technical assistance projects in member countries in eastern and southern Europe utilizing UNDP, UNICEF and other funds, placed fellows from those countries for training in other countries, recruited experts for service in other parts of the world and organized seminars and training centres in Europe for the benefit of trainees from other regions. FAO also advised and assisted several European governments in their bilateral assistance programs and would be glad to develop such collaboration with more countries.

51. The ensuing discussion focussed particularly on ways and means of improving the efficiency of FAO's working methods, taking into account the problems created by the existence of such a large number of agricultural bodies in Europe, the burden on governments of being invited to attend so many meetings and to reply to so many questionnaires.

52. The Conference commended the annual Conference of International Organizations working in the field of agriculture in Europe and requested the Director-General to explore ways of developing even further the co-ordinating functions of that conference. It approved the delegation of FAO projects, in appropriate cases, to specialized bodies able to undertake the work economically and effectively.

53. The Conference noted with approval the existing arrangements for collaboration and joint activities between FAO and such bodies as the Economic Commission for Europe, the International Atomic Energy Agency, ILO, WHO and others, as well as for jointly sponsored questionnaires, e.g. with OECD. It recommended that efforts should be made to extend this practice in relation to as many agencies and fields of work as possible with a view to cutting down the number of working parties, meetings, seminars and questionnaires.

54. Another useful approach, successfully adopted between FAO and OECD in certain matters, was to establish a formal or informal division of spheres of work as between two organizations so that one of them did not take up some activity in the field which was already adequately covered by the other. In that connection the Conference requested that in future reviews the Secretariat should provide more detailed information concerning the current activities and projects of non-FAO bodies. It was also suggested that FAO might consult governments for their opinions as to the value to them of membership of the various organizations and their subsidiary organs.

55. As regards FAO's own work program in the region, the Conference made a number of suggestions to enhance the usefulness and efficiency of the work. It recommended that each working party or other subsidiary body should have a clearly defined program with a restricted number of projects and a timetable for the completion of each project, that projects should be chosen which did not require the circulation of voluminous questionnaires and which might be expected to lead to concrete action in the not too distant future. They should be projects in which a sufficient number of countries had expressed the intention of collaborating actively, priority being given to topics of special interest to the developing countries of the region, e.g. arrangements for the dissemination and exchange of new technical information.

56. In one particular field, namely that comprising the study of agrarian structures, land use, farm rationalization, capital investment and related matters, the Conference requested the Director-General to prepare in collaboration with ECE and OECD a review of the activities of those agencies and to make proposals for a more economical attribution of responsibilities in that field.

The very fruitful co-operation between the ECA Working Party on Agrarian Structure and IFAP on the joint project of vertical integration was commended.

57. A number of delegates expressed the desire for a greater volume of FAO activity in the European Region citing certain topics such as the use of plastics in crop production and computers in farm management where insufficient collaboration existed at the international level. Other delegates took the view that the needs of the developing countries in the European Region could be met more appropriately through UNDP and bilateral aid than through FAO's regular program.

58. The Conference felt that work carried out in the field of land use should be precisely defined and clearly distinguishable from the work in the field of agrarian structure, if both were to be continued. The usefulness of the FFHC fertilizer



program in Turkey was emphasised by the Turkish Delegation. The wish was expressed that soil classification and soil maps should include also forest soils. In the field of water resources, the Conference requested that questionnaires should be fewer, simpler and more clearly defined.

59. Only a few countries had sent experts to the Ad Hoc Conference on Training in Pasture and Fodder Production in Southern Europe held under the aegis of the European Commission on Agriculture at Oeiras, Portugal, in May 1966. However, considerable interest was being shown in the joint work which was continuing to be carried out on practical pasture research and management problems.

60. The Delegate of Turkey referred to the need to give greater attention to olive problems particularly olive health problems, and to co-ordinate the work carried out by the various countries. A desire was expressed in this respect that close collaboration should be established between the FAO Working Party on the Control of Olive Pests and the International Olive Oil Council. It was reported that in accordance with a request from a group of countries an EPTA regional expert appointed to study olive health problems would be starting work immediately. The Delegate of Greece in his statement referred to the difficulties of applying the "sterile male" method due to the fact that no easy way had yet been found for the mass production of sterile male olive flies. He was informed that the research being carried out by the joint FAO/IATA Division was on the way to solving the problem.

61. The Delegate of Ireland and other delegates insisted on the urgency of accelerating the work of the various working parties on pesticides and particularly on pesticide residues, pointing out the dangers resulting from the introduction of national protective legislation on an unco-ordinated basis. This need was already felt by the Director-General who, despite budgetary difficulties, had decided to strengthen the resources set aside for that purpose.

62. The Representative of the European Association for Animal Production commended the close co-operation existing between the work of his Organization and FAO's activities. He said that the glossary on animal husbandry terms prepared and published jointly by the two Organizations had met with great interest and the first edition of the work was already exhausted. It would therefore be highly desirable that a revised edition should be prepared and if FAO could provide funds for that purpose they would be matched with a contribution from his Organization.

63. The Conference was satisfied with the work carried out in the field of milk production and processing. The Delegate of Malta stressed that his country would need FAO's assistance in that field since some difficulties were being encountered with regard to making milk supplies less seasonal.

64. As regards animal health control, the Delegate of Ireland expressed the desire that there should be greater co-ordination of eradication campaigns carried out in the different countries and, in particular, an effort should be made to standardise the different tests. Closer co-operation between countries, FAO and OIE should be pursued. The Delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany requested that the control of foot-and-mouth disease work should be better rationalised and co-operation between OIE and FAO strengthened.

65. At the request of the Turkish Delegation, the Conference examined some specific aspects of the animal health situation in the Region and, as an outcome of its deliberations, adopted the following recommendation:

"The Conference,

Considering the important role and the successful results obtained by FAO in co-operation in particular with WHO and the International Office of Epizootics, in the field of animal health and especially in the efforts to

control and prevent the spread of exotic types of foot-and-mouth disease in Europe;

Taking note of the statements submitted by different delegations on the subject,

Considering that the prevention of the spread of exotic types of animal diseases to Europe is a very important problem for the maintenance and development of the European economy,

Requests the Director-General of FAO

1. To make a study of the possibility of creating a new buffer zone on the frontiers of the European Region where and when such action proves necessary in order to prevent the introduction or spreading of dangerous exotic types of animal diseases in Europe,
2. To suggest possible ways and means, both technical and financial, of implementing the recommendations of the above-mentioned study."

66. As regards the field of agricultural education and training, the Conference felt that FAO had a definite role to play in the co-ordination of the activities of the various training centres and was satisfied with the outcome of the meeting FAO had organized on the subject in 1965.

The Delegate of Denmark expressed his thanks for FAO's co-operation in training centres organised in his country for the benefit of trainees from developing countries. The Delegate of Israel mentioned that 700 trainees had visited Israel and had taken part in training courses organised in his country. It was highly desirable that FAO should make better known the training facilities on a medium and lower level existing in his country for the benefit of trainees from developing countries. The Delegate of Turkey reported favourably on the results achieved in the International Course on Agricultural Technical Assistance sponsored by a large international company and expressed his desire that such big industrial enterprises should be encouraged to organise similar training courses in the southern and south-eastern part of Europe.

67. The great importance of home economics training was emphasised by several delegations. The reduction of the agricultural labour force in many countries made the role of farm women in agriculture, housekeeping and education more important. The Delegate of Finland stressed the need in some countries for greater concentration at the national level of the scattered home economics services, which reduced their effectiveness. Where such services depended upon different governmental departments their organization should be reviewed.

The Delegate of Finland, supported by several other Delegates, further suggested that the next Regional Conference for Europe should include in its Agenda a specific item on home economics and nutrition activities in the European Region with a view to the possible establishment of a European Commission on Home Economics and Nutrition. Others felt that such a body should remain a working party which, although on a European level, should be outward-looking and should also study the contribution European countries could make to the developing regions in this field.

It was felt that future activities in home economics should not be limited only to farm home economics services but include also home economics services in urban areas.

The opinion was expressed that the topics which the Working Party on Home Economics of the ECA forwarded to the Working Party on Rural Sociological Problems of the same Commission for joint examination were rather too vaguely defined but it was emphasized that co-operation between the two Working Parties should be continued in the future.

The Conference noted with approval the agreement with OECD whereby work in the field of home economics was now entirely the responsibility of FAO.

68. The Conference felt that while the co-ordination of agricultural research had been dealt with for years by FAO, success had unfortunately not been substantial. If new efforts were to be made, it would be necessary to find more appropriate working methods. The Delegate of France felt that specific research problems should be entrusted to working parties dealing with particular fields of work, as for instance, the Working Party on Rural Sociological Problems could deal with research in that field, while the other Working Parties such as those on Water Resources and Irrigation, Land Use, etc. could be entrusted with research in their specific fields of responsibility.

69. The Conference commended the work carried out by the ECA Working Party on Rural Sociological Problems and noted that its main task was to distribute the work between the various competent organizations, consulting them on the progress of their work, and sponsoring and encouraging their activities, while undertaking studies on particularly important subjects on its own.

70. The need for further studies of problems of more efficient marketing methods was felt in a number of European countries. It was felt that FAO's activities in this field should be strengthened, in particular, in southern and eastern Europe.

71. The co-operation achieved in the field of food and agricultural statistics between FAO, ECE, the Conference of European Statisticians and other international organizations was commended since thus, in a very efficient way, overlapping of activities and duplication of efforts had been avoided.

72. The Conference considered the planning of FAO's work in the field of fisheries in the European Region and expressed satisfaction with the work of the European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission. It was noted that a relatively large number of non-FAO bodies in Europe were concerned with one phase or another of fisheries problems of international character, and it was suggested that FAO's Committee on Fisheries and the Department of Fisheries should keep themselves informed of developments in this field and should encourage appropriate action to prevent overlapping or inefficiency.

Attention was drawn to the common property nature of high seas fisheries resources and to the fact that such resources in any particular sea area might be of concern to the members of two or more of FAO's regions, which were land-based. The Secretariat was requested to study ways in which FAO's various Regional Conferences could effectively consider fisheries questions of a multi-regional character.

73. The Conference was satisfied with FAO's work in the field of forestry in Europe. The co-operation achieved between ECA and the EFC, as well as with ECE and the ILO in the field of forest techniques and training of forest workers was commended.

It was suggested that in the Program of Work of FAO emphasis should be laid on follow-up activities in forestry resulting from the recommendation formulated by the recent meeting of the Working Party on Forestry Management, on forest land use, and on forestry education where national forest services should be asked to indicate their needs. Stress was also laid on the continuation of activities in the field of

forest policies, on rationalization, costs of production, more efficient marketing methods, prices, and in general on the further strengthening of the activities of the European Forestry Commission. It was recommended further that some savings could possibly be achieved through a better organization of the working parties' meetings and study tours. It was also recommended that working parties should be wound up when they finished their work and that forestry inventories should be repeated at only ten-year intervals.

74. The Conference also considered FAO's activities in public information in Europe. The establishment of an information office in Geneva was suggested by the Belgian Delegation but others felt that no special service was needed since the gap could be filled through existing bodies. Some delegations felt that in public information special attention should be given to the language problem and noted that already arrangements had been made with some FAO National Committees for the translation of FAO press releases into non-official languages. Certain countries felt the need for more press activity and requested that press releases should be improved and should give more information on what FAO was doing in the developing countries. The Conference considered that whilst funds were lacking for the establishment of a proper European information office in Geneva there might be scope for an information officer in Geneva whose task might be to disseminate information on FAO's activities to the Geneva press corps in the various official languages of the Organisation and to establish direct contacts with other information services of the UN and other organizations located in Geneva. Such an arrangement might be desirable in as much as in other regions already several outposted information officers were working, whereas so far no-one had been appointed in Geneva.

75. Concluding its debate on ways and means of promoting more efficiency in the work of FAO in Europe, the Conference recognized the importance of the work carried out by the European permanent bodies of the Organization, such as the European Commission on Agriculture, the European Forestry Commission and the European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission.

76. It was the unanimous view of the Conference that the time of the sessions of those bodies should be reviewed in order that better use could be made of the conclusions reached, when formulating the overall Program of Work of FAO.

77. Some delegations considered in addition that some change in the structure of the permanent bodies would be necessary in order to achieve full efficiency. It was suggested by these delegations that this might take the form of combining the meetings of the permanent bodies or at least those of the European Commission on Agriculture with the meetings of the Regional Conference for Europe.

78. Some other delegations felt that there was no need for such a change and that it would not have the desired effect.

79. The Director-General was therefore requested to prepare a study comprising all aspects of the questions involved and to submit it to the 14th Session of the Conference for consideration and decision.

The Changing Pattern of the European Forest Economy in the light of World trends:  
its impact on European National Policies

80. The Conference had before it a Secretariat paper (ERC/66/3) analysing the present situation and prospects of the European forestry sector and reviewing the context within which European national forest policies might be formulated.

81. The Conference noted that the European forest and timber economy was undergoing rapid and unprecedented change. Industrial wood needs were rising rapidly; the pattern

of demand was changing. European production of industrial round wood was also expanding fast, but was failing to keep pace with expanding requirements. Europe's timber balance which in 1951 showed a surplus (excess of exports over imports) of 4 million m<sup>3</sup> had given way by 1961 to a deficit of 21 million m<sup>3</sup>. The forward estimates contained in the FAO/ECE study "European Timber Trends and Prospects": A New Appraisal (1950-1975) suggested that, even with the planned rise in European output of 58 million m<sup>3</sup>, the deficit might have risen to 70 million m<sup>3</sup> by 1975. Already by 1964 the deficit had reached 36 million m<sup>3</sup> and current trends might bring about a deficit of 130-160 million m<sup>3</sup> by the end of the century.

82. In this new situation, most European forest services were radically revising their concepts of forest management and were modernising management methods to take into account both the changing pattern of wood needs and the opportunities and requirements of technological progress in silviculture, transportation and wood processing. In many cases, however, governments had not as yet taken the basic policy decisions which were necessary to permit the establishment of forest production goals.

83. The discussion brought out that, given adequate investment, the physical and technical possibilities existed for a sizeable increase in production, over and above present plans, by 1975 and for a very substantial expansion towards the end of the century. Productivity could be raised in existing forests. Considerable areas relinquished by agriculture could be afforested. Quick-growing plantations could be established in parts of southern and eastern Europe. Waste could be further reduced both in the forest and the wood processing factories. Nearly all these measures would require a considerably increased investment in forestry. Even with this, however, imports would be required on a rising scale.

84. It was stressed that the principal considerations which had to be taken into account in determining how far Europe should endeavour to cover its requirements and how far it should rely on imports and hence in determining the extent to which forestry investment should be expanded were:

- a) Wood-producing costs and proceeds in Europe as compared with other regions and with other sectors of production;
- b) The significance of the forest as a source of physical protection benefits and social values;
- c) The role of the forest in the rural economy;
- d) Europe's responsibilities in respect to world trade and development.

(a) Wood production costs

85. The Conference recognised that the relatively high cost of producing wood over much of Europe as compared with certain other regions (including favourable areas in developing countries) was due only in part to less favourable ecological conditions. European forests were being called upon increasingly to provide gratis a variety of physical and social benefits to the community and to help sustain the rural economy. The provision of these essentially public services might, in some cases, adversely affect the economics of wood production and thus hamper investment in forestry.

86. The Delegate of France pointed out that forest production, independently of the indirect benefits derived from forests, might become less profitable so far as production of low price wood (particularly wood for pulping) increased. This situation would require measures reducing production costs as well as structural reforms in forest industries.

(b) Social benefits provided by forests

87. These include: protection from soil erosion, torrent and avalanche damage,

land slides and rock falls; regulation of water flow; prevention of dam silting; suburban and amenity forests; recreation and tourism; national parks. In many European countries the provision of these services which were growing in significance already outweighed in importance the wood producing function of certain forests. These services imposed severe constraints and limitations on the forest as a wood-producing enterprise. The Conference recognized that the cost of providing these services was still for the most part a charge on the forest production account, and that profitable production forestry, and lower wood prices, required these services to be recognized as public services and appropriately indemnified.

(c) The role of forests in the rural economy

88. Several delegates emphasized the important role of the wood lot in the economy of many European farms. These farm forests, together with other small forests, provided a significant proportion of Europe's wood supplies. Today small-scale farmers, foresters and farmer-foresters faced similar, often identical, problems: fragmentation, lack of capital, lack of know-how, weakness in the market. Few European countries had as yet complemented the measures taken to assist the small farmer with adequate measures to assist the farmer-forester and the small forest owner. Yet the welfare and efficiency of these latter were no less essential for a healthy rural economy.

89. The Conference stressed that the impact of forestry on the rural economy was not limited to the direct income coming from wood sales; it generated additional employment opportunities both in the forest and through promoting tourism and local industries.

90. There was scope and need for measures which in some cases could be designed for agriculture as well as for forestry, such as structural improvements, consolidation of holdings, the formation of associations and co-operatives; extension services; and strengthening of infrastructure.

(d) World trade and development

91. The Secretariat, in introducing this subject, pointed out that, in spite of the region's forestry effort, it was evident that Europe was going to require to import increasing volumes of forest products. Currently, the main suppliers (save for tropical wood and its products) were North America and the USSR. But several countries in the developing world had the potential to satisfy part of Europe's needs. It would be in line with the present import needs of European countries and consistent with the views expressed by European governments on the relationship between trade and development, if steps were taken to encourage new trade flows from these sources. In the long run these supplementary supplies will certainly be needed, while on the other hand sound forest and forest industry development in developing countries could contribute powerfully to their overall economic growth. The Secretariat therefore drew the attention of European governments to the desirability of facilitating the flow of capital and skills and of expanding bilateral assistance programs to promote forest and forest industry development. It also indicated that, in the event of agreement being reached on the principle of extending preferences in the markets of industrialized countries to the exports of developing countries, early consideration be given to the inclusion of forest products in any such arrangements.

92. Concluding its debate on this subject the Conference, in the light of the conclusions of the working document before it and recognizing the importance of the findings resulting from the FAO/ECE Study "European Timber Trends and Prospects" recommended to member governments:

- i) to define their forest policies in terms of short-, medium- and long-term programs within their investment plans;
- ii) to pursue efforts to ensure the proper co-ordination between forestry, agriculture, animal husbandry and other aspects of land use planning; and

- iii) to allocate to forestry investments a share of public financial resources sufficient to match the growing services provided by the forest to the national community in terms of physical and biological protection, recreation and improvement of rural living conditions.

93. The Conference also requested the Director-General to give special attention, within the Program of Work of FAO, to:

- i) following up the European Timber Trends and Prospects Study by initiating and co-ordinating studies on the relationships between production costs and market returns for forest commodities with a view to assisting member countries in formulating policies for raising present levels of productivity in forest enterprises; and
- ii) preparing, in connection with the FAO Indicative World Plan, regional studies suggesting viable targets for forest production and international trade in forest products, with the purpose of providing member countries with information that could serve as a basis for the allocation of resources to the forestry sector and for the formulation of bilateral assistance programs.

FAO's Indicative World Plan in relation to Europe and Europe's participation in it.

94. The Conference noted that the preparation of the Indicative World Plan was based on the combination of two approaches: one, at the world level, stressing prospects for international trade in the chief agricultural commodities; the other, at the sub-regional level stressing the analysis of production possibilities within the framework of harmonious development.

95. It was now possible to make a concrete examination of the possibilities and limitations of the Plan in the light of the provisional results of three studies: the studies on commodity projections, and the two sub-regional studies one for the Middle East and the other for East Africa. In the first study attention was given to two problems: hunger and malnutrition on the one hand, and on the other the export earnings of developing countries.

96. On the low income hypothesis adopted, the number of individuals still suffering from hunger during the next twenty years would be about the same as today. On the high income hypothesis the back of the problem of hunger could be broken by 1985; that would mean that food available in the developing countries would have to increase by more than 110 per cent during the forthcoming twenty years. Even in those circumstances, however, protein malnutrition would still remain a major problem in 1985, the solution of which would require in the majority of countries vigorous promotion action programmes not only in fisheries and animal production but also for protein-rich vegetables (pulses).

97. The Conference noted that the export prospects for tropical and semi-tropical products from the poorer countries to the richer countries were not at all encouraging even if it were supposed that present policies were amended to promote exports from the developing countries. The import needs of those countries, however, were liable to increase swiftly; on the less optimistic hypothesis, imports of grains would increase from 23 million tons in 1961/63 to 50 million tons in 1975. For forest products, the deficit of the developing countries would increase by some \$500 million between 1962 and 1975.

98. It was stressed that the export sector must be a dynamic factor in development and that the poorer countries must seek new products and new markets. There was an expanding market for maize, beef, forest products and certain fishery products. In the long-term, however, the most promising factor should be the expansion of trade between developing countries. In 1985 the urban population of the developing countries (with the exclusion of Continental China) was likely to reach 750 million which was



more than the total population of the developed countries in 1965. Today the most dynamic element in the import market for agricultural products was to be found in the developed countries with a relatively low income level such as southern Europe and Japan. On the more optimistic hypothesis, some thirty countries representing a market of 400 million individuals would by 1985 have reached or surpassed the average revenue level of southern Europe in 1965.

99. The development of trade between countries in the process of development would require the establishment of a clearing system; it would also call for additional liquidity; it would imply an alteration in traditional trade patterns. It was nonetheless encouraging to note the increased trade in food products between countries in the process of development, which had gone up from \$1,600 million in 1961 to \$2,100 million in 1964.

100. As had been stressed by the Director-General, the key problem was increasing agricultural production and productivity inside the developing countries. One of the essential aims of the sub-regional studies was in fact to evaluate the possibility of increasing the production of the most necessary foodstuffs country by country, and to specify the measures and means of production required to achieve that purpose.

101. In the Middle East study, priority programmes had been drawn up for animal production and cereals production. The increase in animal production based on intensified herd management would require tripling the consumption of concentrated feeds. Doubling grain production as envisaged in the Plan would imply an increase in yields between now and 1985 of 50 per cent, while yields had in fact declined over the last eight years. The consumption of fertilizers should increase six and a half times, the number of tractors rise from 35,000 to more than 300,000, and permanently irrigated areas augment by 40 per cent.

102. In East Africa, with the exception of the southern part of the region, the role of industry and mining was limited, and accordingly the Conference recognized that the most dynamic factor for development must be agriculture and agricultural industries; the rate of growth of agricultural industries could increase by nearly 8 per cent per year. The essential problem would be the progressive integration of African subsistence agriculture into the market economy. The scale of such a transformation was illustrated by the increased consumption of fertilizers which in the African sector would have to go from 7,000 tons to more than 300,000 tons by 1985. A priority programme had been worked out for meat, for extension services and for agricultural credit.

103. The study of the two sub-regions concerned had shown that the northern part of East-Africa and the oil-producing countries of the Middle-East were probably more complementary in character than were the northern and southern parts of East Africa. It accordingly seemed clear that the results of a sub-regional study should be revised in the light of results in other sub-regions. The link between the study of world projections by commodities and sub-regional studies was even closer.

104. The implications of the Plan for the European countries were mainly of three types:

- production and trade policies such as to promote imports from the developing countries;
- increased European participation in food aid in the years to come;
- European participation in creating increased agricultural production potential in the developing countries through aid comprising inputs (fertilizers, irrigation, etc.), infrastructure and, in particular, technicians.

105. A large number of delegates stressed the need to submit to governments all the documents prepared for the Indicative World Plan. Only on the basis of a thorough



study of the statistics and methodology used would it be possible for governments fully to appreciate the scope of the recommendations contained in the Plan. The importance of consultation with governments at the various stages in preparing the Plan was stressed. The Conference noted that provision had been made for a series of consultations to that end. It was recognized that the implementation of the recommendations in the Plan by governments would involve difficulties which it would be imprudent to underestimate.

106. Certain delegates recommended that the Secretariat should avoid all duplication between work undertaken by FAO under the Plan and work initiated by other organizations. In this respect, it was suggested that FAO might seek to streamline even more the work within the Organization in order to make the best use of the limited resources for a project on so large a scale.

Several delegates expressed their governments' intention to take part in the work on the Plan by seconding certain of their experts for limited periods. The Conference noted with satisfaction the growing co-operation between FAO and other international organizations, in particular OECD.

107. In conclusion, the Conference expressed its interest in the provisional results which emerged from the progress report on the state of work of the Plan, and from the statement of the FAO Representative; it expressed its full support for the continuation of the work.

#### Selected Agricultural Problems of the Countries in the process of industrialization in Southern and Eastern Europe.

108. In presenting the working document on this topic the Regional Representative for Europe recalled that this study had been undertaken at the request of the informal meeting of European delegations held during the 13th Session of the FAO Conference. The ten countries covered by the survey, namely Cyprus, Greece, Israel, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Turkey and Yugoslavia differed greatly from one another in geography, climate, history and economic development. Yet they had significant factors in common, particularly the great and continuing importance of agriculture in the national economies, the rapid rate at which gross domestic product had been growing in recent years and, by contrast, the rather slow rate of growth of agricultural output except in Israel. It seemed that agriculture should and could be contributing more to the needs of the national market, to exports, to import substitution and to improving farm incomes.

109. During the past twenty years most of the governments in this group of countries had encouraged food crops and great progress had been achieved but in some cases horticulture and in nearly all cases animal production had been relatively neglected. Perhaps a change of emphasis was due with more attention to fodder production, animal breeding, disease control and price policies. Assistance could be requested through UNDP and other aid programmes.

110. Although investment was recognized by the Conference as basic to agricultural development, there were some countries in the group where investment lagged either through lack of adequate credit facilities or because it did not pay, while in other countries investment had been misdirected or wasteful. It might be useful to apply rigorous evaluation tests to investment proposals and also to improve the institutional arrangements for farm credit. Reference was made to the expert meeting on credit and the financing of agricultural development (Rome, February 1966) under the auspices of FAO's Mediterranean Development Project.

111. The Conference considered that in most of these countries higher priority could be given to the so-called "intellectual investments", i.e. research, extension, agricultural education and training. Twinning of research institutes engaged on similar problems in eastern and/or southern Europe on the one hand, and western Europe on the

other hand was suggested. More elementary and middle-level training seemed needed and closer personal contact between extension worker and farmer.

112. It was stressed that the raising of farmers' living standards could not in these countries be achieved by massive increases in the prices of farm products nor by large scale subsidies. The only effective and viable method was by increasing labour productivity on farms. In the long run a large part of the solution to their problem must be sought by the creation of sufficient new employment outside agriculture, but in the short-term much could be accomplished through technical improvements - better seeds, more fertilizers and pesticides, more and better quality livestock, improved marketing facilities and so on.

113. Improvement of pastures was an important problem in most countries, but in some cases fertilizing and reseedling of meadows had not had expected results due to dry climate and overgrazing.

114. Because of the danger of over-grazing many delegates considered that more emphasis than on the increase in livestock numbers had to be put on the improvement of the stock with the aim of obtaining greater yield per animal. Artificial insemination was an important means to this end.

115. The Conference recognized the important contribution livestock production could play in the economies of the group of countries under consideration and, on the proposal of the Delegation of Turkey, adopted the following recommendation:

"The Conference,

Having discussed the difficulties encountered by some developing countries in Europe in the field of agricultural development,

Considering that the promotion of livestock industries in the developing countries of the Region, in order to meet the needs of European markets, may contribute substantially to the development of the economies of these countries,

Invites the countries of the Region that have to import meat and meat products for supply to their markets, to give favourable consideration to the expansion of the livestock resources of the developing countries of the Region, if importing and exporting countries are able to reach agreement on sanitary measures and their application."

116. The Conference recognized the great potential influence of organizational and institutional measures on the productivity of agriculture. Excessive division of farm land, for example, was a problem in several countries. Progress was made in land consolidation in some countries and laws were needed to prohibit further division of farms among heirs, requiring in turn greater efforts to find non-agricultural occupations for them. It was, however, also mentioned that consolidation was an expensive undertaking and that it could perhaps be replaced by group farming or other co-operative arrangements.

117. Investment priorities could not always be determined for a country as a whole and good experience with the setting-up of regional development offices was reported. The Conference noted the availability of the services of the FAO/IBRD unit for evaluating investment proposals.

118. As most if not all of the measures which would increase productivity in agriculture depended on the spread of education and knowledge through schools, extension services, etc., the lack of leaders and technical personnel made itself felt everywhere. In particular, teachers teaching the teachers were required. The International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies was of considerable help in this respect. Its efforts should be strengthened and similar solutions and facilities looked for in other countries.

119. The group of countries under consideration was in the "taking off" stage, their national income was increasing and the number of people employed in agriculture decreasing. However, to reach a higher and more satisfactory level of income, and for this purpose the present north-west European ratio of man to land and livestock were relevant, these countries would have to reduce their agricultural labour force to one-third or one-quarter of its present size, which at the current tempo would take two generations. Therefore, more rapid industrialization and in particular the establishment of industries in rural areas was required, thus avoiding the dangers of too rapid urbanization.

120. At present, the outflow of labour from agriculture was aided by employment offered in some of the highly industrialized countries of the region. Moreover, the money sent home by these workers could help the development of domestic agriculture. The employment of workers in foreign countries created, however, great human difficulties (separation of men from their families, etc.) and had also economic drawbacks (outflow of needed skilled labour). Therefore the firms employing this labour should be encouraged to invest some of their capital in the developing countries of the region, thus speeding up the progress of industrialization there.

121. FAO's Agricultural Production Resources Program and the Program of Co-operation with large industrial enterprises ready to invest in developing countries would be of considerable interest in helping countries to modernize their agriculture and to industrialize more rapidly.

122. The Conference after having discussed the variety of problems arising in the countries of the region in the process of industrialization considered that technical assistance by FAO and the developed countries was of the utmost importance for them. It took note of the fact that national progress in the programme set up for 1965-1975 in FAO's Mediterranean Study was falling behind, and that the priority projects contained in national plans and programmes required speedier implementation. As such action depended much on the availability of financial resources, it was looking forward to FAO's report on the survey on financing projects which was in preparation.

123. The Conference expressed satisfaction with the opportunity provided for the discussion of the specific problems of the countries of the region in the process of industrialization. The discussion had not only been stimulating but had also encouraged the establishment of direct contacts which would permit a mutual exchange of experience through correspondence and visits.

## SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### (a) The State of Food and Agriculture in Europe

- (i) The Conference noted that the food situation of the developing countries had deteriorated markedly since the last Regional Conference (Salzburg, 1964). The population of these countries was growing faster than before while their agricultural production had fallen by 2 per cent in total and by 4-5 per cent per capita as the result of widespread drought in 1965/66 (see para. 21, p.5).
- (ii) Recently completed projections showed that by 1975 an increase of about one-third of world consumption of cereals could be expected with a deficit amounting to 40-50 million tons of grain and rice per year in the developing countries. (see para. 24, p.5).
- (iii) The Conference recognised that the problem of the aid to be given by Europe to the developing world had two main aspects, immediate assistance to alleviate hunger and want and to meet emergencies, and assistance on a much longer term basis for the general development of agriculture in the developing countries (see para. 42, p.8).
- (iv) A considerable number of delegations expressly agreed that one of the chief tasks of the European Regional Conferences must be to determine how and how much the developed European countries could assist in the agricultural development of the developing countries of Europe, Asia, the Near East, Africa and Latin America (see para. 41, p.8).
- (v) The Conference noted with particular interest the Director-General's proposal concerning the problem of agricultural requisites and it was suggested that a meeting of experts be convened to examine it in detail and to make recommendations on its implementation (see para. 44, p.8).
- (vi) The work carried out under the World Food Program was highly commended and it was regretted that the pledges given were so far below the targets set. A further increase of this target for the next three-year period was suggested (see para. 43, p.8).
- (vii) The Conference recorded with interest the agreement reached between the six members of the European Economic Community on a Common Agricultural Policy. Fears were expressed, however, by some delegations that the result might be the formation of separate economic blocks inside Europe with resulting difficulties of trade within the Region (see para. 39, p.8).
- (viii) The Conference noted that while everywhere in Europe the agricultural labour force was diminishing in European countries in the process of industrialization the agricultural population was still large and a further decline in the agricultural labour force accompanied by further increases in productivity was desirable (see para. 36, p.7).

### (b) The Planning of FAO's Work in the European Region

- (i) Whilst the Conference was of the opinion that FAO's major task was to assist countries in the course of development, a number of delegations expressed the desire for a greater volume of FAO activity in the European Region while other delegations took the view that the needs of the developing

countries within the Region could be met more appropriately through a greater number of UNDP projects and bilateral aid (see para. 57, p.10).

- (ii) The Conference commended the annual Conference of International Organizations working in the field of agriculture in Europe and requested the Director-General to explore ways of developing even further the coordinating functions of that Conference (see para. 52, p.10).
- (iii) The Conference approved the delegation of FAO projects, in appropriate cases, to specialized bodies able to undertake the work economically and effectively (see para. 52, p.10).
- (iv) The Conference noted with approval the existing arrangements for collaboration and joint activities between FAO and such bodies as the Economic Commission for Europe, the International Atomic Energy Agency, ILO, WHO and others, as well as for jointly sponsored questionnaires, e.g. with OECD. It recommended that efforts should be made to extend this practice in relation to as many agencies and fields of work as possible with a view to cutting down the number of working parties, meetings, seminars and questionnaires (see para. 53, p.10). It further noted with approval in this respect the agreement with OECD whereby work in the field of home economics was now entirely the responsibility of FAO (see para. 67, p.13).
- (v) The Conference requested that in future reviews the Secretariat should provide more detailed information concerning the current activities and projects of non-FAO bodies, and suggested that FAO might consult governments for their opinions as to the value to them of membership of the various organizations and their subsidiary organs (see para. 54, p.10).
- (vi) The Conference made suggestions for enhancing the efficiency of work of the permanent European Commissions' subsidiary bodies and for choosing a limited number of widely supported projects likely to yield practical results (see para. 55, p.10).
- (vii) The Conference requested the Director-General to prepare, in collaboration with ECE and OECD, a review of the activities of those agencies in the field of studies concerning agrarian structures, land use, farm rationalization, capital investment and related matters, and to make proposals for a more economical attribution of responsibilities in that field (see para. 56, p.10).
- (viii) The Conference felt that work carried out in the field of land use should be precisely defined and clearly distinguishable from the work in the field of agrarian structure (see para. 58, p.10).
- (ix) Several delegations insisted on the urgency of accelerating the work of the various working parties on pesticides and particularly on pesticide residues, pointing out the dangers resulting from the introduction of national protective legislation on an uncoordinated basis (see para. 61, p.11).
- (x) The Conference requested the Director-General to make a study of the possibility of creating a new buffer zone on the frontiers of the European Region where and when such action proves necessary in order to prevent the introduction or spreading of dangerous exotic types of animal diseases in Europe and to suggest possible ways and means, both technical and financial, of implementing the recommendations of the said study (see para. 65, p.12).

- (xi) Several delegations suggested that the next Regional Conference for Europe should include in its agenda a specific item on home economics and nutrition activities in the European Region with a view to the possible establishment of a European Commission on Home Economics and Nutrition, but other delegations felt that such a body should remain a working party which also, on a European level, should be outward looking and study also the contribution European countries could make to the developing regions in this field (see para. 67, p.12).
  - (xii) The Conference stressed that the need was felt for further studies of problems of more efficient marketing methods in a number of European countries and that FAO's activities in this field should be strengthened, in particular, in southern and eastern Europe (see para. 70, p.13).
  - (xiii) The Conference drew attention to the common property nature of high seas fisheries resources and to the fact that such resources in any particular sea area might be of concern to the members of two or more of FAO's regions (which are land-based) and requested the Secretariat to study ways in which FAO's various regional conferences could effectively consider fisheries questions of a multi-regional character (see para. 72, p.13).
  - (xiv) The Conference commended the cooperation of the European Forestry Commission with ECE, ILO and ECA. It urged action on the recommendations of the Working Party on Forest Management and made suggestions to improve the efficiency of working parties (see para. 73, pp.13-14).
  - (xv) The Conference considered that whilst funds were lacking for the establishment of a proper European information office in Geneva there might be scope for an information officer there to disseminate information on FAO's activities (see para. 74, p.14).
  - (xvi) The Conference recognized the importance of the work carried out by the European permanent bodies of the Organization, such as the European Commission on Agriculture, the European Forestry Commission and the European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission but expressed the view that the timing of the sessions of these bodies should be reviewed in order that better use could be made of the conclusions reached when formulating the overall Program of Work of FAO (see paras. 75 and 76, p.14).
  - (xvii) The Conference requested the Director-General to prepare a study comprising all aspects on the structures of the permanent bodies of FAO as well as on the possibilities to combine the meetings of the permanent bodies or at least those of the European Commission on Agriculture with meetings of the Regional Conference for Europe, problems on which the Conference did not reach unanimous agreement (see paras. 77, 78 and 79, p.14).
- (c) The Changing Pattern of the European Forest Economy in the light of World Trends: its impact on European National Policies
- (i) The Conference recommended to Member Governments:
    - (a) to define their forest policies in terms of short-, medium- and long-term programs within their investment plans;
    - (b) to pursue efforts to ensure the proper coordination between forestry, agriculture, animal husbandry and other aspects of land use planning; and

- (c) to allocate to forestry investments a share of public financial resources sufficient to match the growing services provided by the forest to the national community in terms of physical and biological protection, recreation and improvement of rural living conditions.

(see para. 92, pp. 16-17).

- (ii) The Conference requested the Director-General to give special attention within the Program of Work of FAO, to:

- (a) following up the European Timber Trends and Prospects Study by initiating and coordinating studies on the relationships between production costs and market returns for forest commodities with a view to assisting member countries in formulating policies for raising present levels of productivity in forest enterprises; and
- (b) preparing, in connection with the FAO Indicative World Plan, regional studies suggesting viable targets for forest production and international trade in forest products, with the purpose of providing member countries with information that could serve as a basis for the allocation of resources to the forestry sector and for the formulation of bilateral assistance programs.

(see para. 93, p.17).

(d) Indicative World Plan

- (i) The Conference expressed its interest in the provisional results which emerged from the progress report on the state of work of the Indicative World Plan and expressed full support for the continuation of the work (see para. 107, p.19).
- (ii) A large number of delegations stressed the need to submit to Governments all the documents prepared for the Indicative World Plan. The importance of consultations with Governments at the various stages in preparing the Plan would make it possible for Governments fully to appreciate the scope of the recommendations formulated. It was recognized, however, that the implementation of the recommendations in the Plan by Governments would involve difficulties which it would be imprudent to underestimate (see para. 105, pp.18-19).

(e) Selected Agricultural Problems of the Countries in the Process of Industrialization in Southern and Eastern Europe

- (i) The Conference considered that in most of the countries in the process of industrialization in Southern and Eastern Europe, higher priority could be given to the so-called "intellectual investments", i.e. research, extension, agricultural education and training. Twinning of research institutes engaged on similar problems in Eastern and/or Southern Europe on the one hand, and Western Europe on the other hand was suggested. More elementary and middle-level training seemed to be needed and closer personal contact between extension worker and farmer (see para. 111, pp.19-20).
- (ii) The Conference recognized the importance of pasture management and artificial insemination in improving the contribution of livestock production to the economies of these countries. It invited the countries of the

Region that have to import meat and meat products for supply to their markets, to give favourable consideration to the expansion of the live-stock resources of the developing countries of the Region, if importing and exporting countries are able to reach agreement on sanitary measures and their application (see para. 115, p.20).

- (iii) The Conference stated that employment of workers from countries in the process of industrialization in industrialized countries created great human difficulties and drawbacks as regards the outflow of needed skilled labour. It felt, therefore, that firms employing foreign labour should be encouraged to invest some of their capital in the developing countries of the Region, thus speeding up their process of industrialization (see para. 120, p.21).
- (iv) The Conference took note of the fact that national progress in the programme set up for 1965-1975 in FAO's Mediterranean Study was falling behind and that the priority projects contained in national plans and programmes required speedier implementation. Such action depended much on the availability of financial resources and FAO's Report on the Survey on Financing Projects now in preparation was awaited with interest (see para. 122, p.21).
- (v) The Conference expressed satisfaction with the opportunity provided for the discussion of these specific problems which had encouraged the establishment of direct contacts that would permit a mutual exchange of experience through correspondence and visits (see para. 123, p.21).



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Indicative World Plan - Plan indicatif mondial - Plan Indicativo Mundial

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John STORDY  
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Legislation Research Branch

J. D. M. HENDERSON  
Legal Translator

OFFICERS OF THE CONFERENCE

Don Adolfo Diaz Ambrona, Minister of Agriculture of Spain, was elected Chairman of the Conference. In presiding over the sessions, he alternated with the Vice-Chairmen, Mr. Josef Okuniewski, Vice-Minister of Agriculture of Poland, Mr. H.K. Seip, Under Secretary of State of Agriculture of Norway, and Mr. K. Häfner, Ministerial-direktor of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Conference at its opening session set up a Committee-of-the-Whole and elected as its Chairman, Mr. R. A. van den Wall Bake, Deputy Director General of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of the Netherlands. His task was shared by the Vice-Chairmen, Mr. J.E. Spiteri, Minister of Trade, Industry and Agriculture of Malta, Mr. Chaim Gvati, Minister of Agriculture of Israel, and Mr. D. Davidescu, Vice-President of the Superior Council of Agriculture of Romania.

Dr. I. Moskovits, Deputy Regional Representative for Europe, acted as Secretary-General of the Conference. He was assisted in his task by Mr. H. Jacoby, Director, FAO/ECE Agriculture Division, Mr. J. Stordy, Public Information Service, Department of Public Relations and Legal Affairs, Mr. J. Pratts-Llaurado, Forestry and Forest Products Division, Dr. W. Dietrich, Technical Department, and Mr. J.D.M. Henderson, Legal Research Branch of the Department of Public Relations and Legal Affairs.

WORKING PAPERS

ERC/66/1	Provisional Agenda
ERC/66/2	The Planning of FAO's Work in the European Region
ERC/66/2 Supplement 1	The Planning of FAO's Work in the European Region: Joint Activities of the Members of CMEA in the Fields of Agriculture and Forestry
ERC/66/2 Annex I	The Planning of FAO's Work in the European Region: International activities in agriculture in Europe
ERC/66/2 Annex II	The Planning of FAO's Work in the European Region: International activities in the field of fisheries in Europe
ERC/66/2 Annex III	The Planning of FAO's Work in the European Region: International activities in the field of forestry and forestry products in Europe
ERC/66/3	The changing pattern of the European Forest Economy in the light of world trends: its impact on European National Policies
ERC/66/4	FAO's Indicative World Plan in relation to Europe and Europe's participation in it: Progress Report on the Indicative World Plan
ERC/66/4 Annex I	Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development
ERC/66/5	Selected agricultural problems of the less industrial- ised countries in Southern and Eastern Europe



