

Report of

**TENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE  
FOR THE NEAR EAST**

---

Islamabad, Pakistan, 12-22 September 1970



**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

## FAO MEMBER COUNTRIES IN THE NEAR EAST REGION

### Member Countries

Afghanistan

Cyprus

France

Iran

Iraq

Jordan

Kuwait

Lebanon

Libya

Pakistan<sup>1</sup>

Saudi Arabia

Somalia

Southern Yemen

Sudan, The<sup>2</sup>

Syria

United Arab Republic

Yemen

### Associate Member Countries

Bahrain

Qatar

### Other Member Nations Normally Invited as Observers

Turkey

Ethiopia

United Kingdom

Malta

United States of America<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Pakistan belongs to both the Asia and the Far East Region and the Near East Region.

<sup>2</sup> The Sudan belongs to both the Near East Region and the Africa Region.

<sup>3</sup> Invited in an observer capacity in view of US AID programmes in various fields.



Corrigendum

R E P O R T

of the

TENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR THE NEAR EAST

Islamabad, Pakistan

12 - 22 September 1970

Corrigendum:

Page 52 line 21 should read,

A.K.M. Ahsan, TQA., CSP.

Secretary (Agriculture and Works)

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
Rome, 1970



R E P O R T

of the

TENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR THE NEAR EAST

Islamabad, Pakistan

12 - 22 September 1970

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Rome, 1970



# C O N T E N T S

	<u>Paragraph</u>	<u>Page</u>
<u>I. PROCEDURAL MATTERS</u>		
1. <u>Organization of the Conference</u>	1	1
2. <u>Inauguration of the Conference</u>	3	1
3. <u>Election of Conference Officers</u>	11	2
4. <u>Conference Messages</u>	13	2
<u>II. SITUATION AND PROSPECTS OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE IN THE NEAR EAST REGION</u>		
1. <u>Introduction</u>	17	3
2. <u>Discussions on the Statements of the Director-General and Regional Representative and the Review of FAO Activities in the Region</u>		
- Country Reports on Agricultural Progress and development	21	3
- Need for Global View of Food and Agriculture	23	3
- Medium Term Programme and Investment Needs		
General	26	4
Areas of Concentration	31	5
Forestry	40	6
Integrated Services Approach	43	6
Investment in Agricultural Development	44	6
Second World Food Congress	46	7
Locust Control	49	7
- Animal Production and Health		
Animal Production	55	8
Rinderpest	58	9
Fisheries	61	10
- Reorganization and Strengthening of Field Services		
Country Representatives	62	10
Regional Projects	74	11
Introduction of Arabic	75	11
3. <u>Statement of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme</u>	78	12
<u>III. MATTERS OF MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION</u>		
1. <u>Mobilization of Human Resources in Connection with Agricultural Development</u>		
- Introduction	95	14
- Role of Women	103	15
- Agrarian Reform	106	15
- Water	108	16
- Training and Extension	109	16
- Employment	117	18

	<u>Paragraph</u>	<u>Page</u>
2. <u>Policy Implications for the Region of the IWP World Study</u>		
(a) <u>Agricultural Policy Planning</u>	119	19
(b) <u>Exploitation of High-Yielding Varieties of Crops, with Emphasis on Cereals, Legumes and Oil Seeds</u>	125	20
- Regional Research Institute for the Improvement and Production of Basic Food Crops in the Near East	134	24
(c) <u>Bridging the Protein Gap</u>		
- Nutritional Aspects and Implications	141	26
- The Role of Livestock, Forage Production and Range Management	149	27
- Fisheries	163	30
3. <u>Contribution of Technology and Research to Agricultural Development in the Near East</u>	170	31
 IV. <u>REVIEW OF RECENT REGIONAL ACTION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN THE REGION</u>		
1. <u>Conclusions of Regional Commissions and Special Technical Meetings</u>	188	34
2. <u>Field Programmes, especially Regional and Inter-Regional Field Projects</u>	206	36
3. <u>Freedom from Hunger Campaign</u>		
- Introduction	253	41
- The Role and Status of the National FFHC Committees	255	41
- Involvement of Youth in Development Action	260	42
- The Role of Women in Campaign Activities	264	42
 V. <u>CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO INDICATIONS OF PROBLEM AREAS IN THE MEDIUM TERM PROGRAMME</u>	273	44
 VI. <u>CONCLUDING ITEMS</u>		
1. <u>Date and Place of the Eleventh Near East Regional Conference</u>	283	46
2. <u>Adoption of the Report</u>	286	46
3. <u>Closure of the Session</u>	287	46

#### APPENDICES

A. List of Recommendations	47
B. Delegates and Observers Attending the Tenth FAO Regional Conference for the Near East	50
C. Agenda for Meeting	60
D. List of Documents for the Conference	61



REPORT OF THE  
TENTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR THE NEAR EAST  
ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN, 12 - 22 SEPTEMBER 1970

I. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. Organization of the Conference

The Tenth FAO Regional Conference for the Near East was held in Islamabad, Pakistan, from 12-22 September 1970 at the kind invitation of the Government of Pakistan. The inaugural ceremony was held in the National Assembly Chambers, Rawalpindi, and the regular sessions of the Conference in the Planning Commission's Auditorium of the Pakistan Secretariat, Islamabad.

2. The Conference Agenda and the list of delegates, observers and the Conference Secretariat are attached, as Appendices A and B respectively, to this Report.

2. Inauguration of the Conference

3. His Excellency the President of Pakistan, General Agha Mohamed Yahya Khan, H.J., H.Pk., inaugurated the Conference which was attended by His Excellency, Mr. Mahmoud A. Haroon, Minister of Agriculture and Works, Pakistan, other Ministers of the Cabinet, members of the diplomatic corps, delegates, senior officers of the Government of Pakistan and staff members of FAO.

4. In calling to order the Tenth FAO Regional Conference for the Near East, Mr. P. Terver, Assistant Director-General, FAO, on behalf of the Director-General, Mr. A.H. Boerma, who was unfortunately prevented from attending for reasons of health, expressed his deep appreciation and warm thanks to the Government of Pakistan for the kind invitation to hold the Conference in Islamabad and for the excellent arrangements which had been made for it. Mr. Boerma had expressed the thought that this city was a symbol of the remarkable progress made by Pakistan in recent years in confronting the challenging need to narrow the food gap by the introduction of the new high-yielding varieties of cereal crops.

5. The Assistant Director-General then invited the President of Pakistan to address the Conference.

6. The President extended a warm welcome to the delegates and wished the Conference all success. He earnestly hoped that its deliberations would result in recommendations of vital importance to the Region. FAO was doing commendable work in eradicating hunger from the earth, and he pledged the fullest and continuing support of the Government of Pakistan to FAO's efforts.

7. In spite of fantastic advances in technology a large proportion of the world's population was on the brink of starvation. It was essential for the peasant people of the Region to wake up from their age old methods and to participate in the technological revolution involved in the use of modern pesticides, fertilizers, machinery and processing of farm products.

8. The President stressed the urgent need to expand markets for the agricultural products of developing countries. It was necessary for the developed countries to make available to the developing countries agricultural inputs, such as fertilizers, farm machinery, and pesticides at prices which bore a reasonable relationship to the prices which the developing countries could obtain for their agricultural products.

9. It was also of the utmost importance for countries of the Region to promote intra-regional trade since this could lead to reduced costs of production. In this connection he stressed the important role played by the Arab Common Market and by RCD (Organization for Regional Cooperation for Development of which Iran, Pakistan and Turkey were members).

10. The Assistant Director-General warmly thanked the President for his inspiring message to the Conference.

### 3. Election of Conference Officers

11. The Conference unanimously elected the following Conference Officers:

<u>Chairman of the Conference</u>	:	His Excellency Mahmoud A. Haroon Minister of Agriculture and Works, Pakistan
<u>Vice-Chairmen of the Conference</u>	:	Heads of delegations
<u>Drafting Committee</u>	:	Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Pakistan, Sudan, U.A.R.

12. His Excellency Mr. Haroon, in thanking the delegates for his election, drew attention to three outstanding problems facing the Region which he hoped would receive the attention of the Conference. These were the urgent need for the prevention of wastage of water and for its further development; the expansion of agricultural exports and the, at present, unexploited fishery resources of the Region.

### 4. Conference Messages

13. The Conference sent a message to His Excellency the President of Pakistan thanking him for the honour he had bestowed on the Conference and the interest he had taken in its work.

14. The Conference also sent a message to the Director-General wishing him a speedy recovery.

15. During the Session the Assistant Director-General received the announcement from the Director-General of the appointment of Dr. M.A. Nour to succeed Dr. A.R. Sidky as Regional Representative. The Conference sent a message to Dr. Nour congratulating him on his appointment.

16. Following the announcement of Dr. Sidky's imminent retirement, there was a unanimous expression of gratitude for all he had done in contributing to the development of agriculture in the Near East Region; for his tireless efforts in promoting regional cooperation and for his warm friendship for all. The Conference expressed the hope that FAO would continue to draw upon the services of Dr. Sidky in view of his exceptional ability and knowledge gained over an entire professional lifetime which included more than a decade's experience of work in the Region.

## II. SITUATION AND PROSPECTS OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE IN THE NEAR EAST REGION

### 1. Introduction

17. Under this item of the Agenda the Conference had before it the Statement of the Director-General (NERC/70/CONF/1), the Statement of the Regional Representative made to the Conference (NERC/70/CONF/2) and his review of FAO's Activities during the current biennium in the Near East Region (NERC/70/2).

18. The Director-General's Statement referred to selected broad policy issues of concern to the Organization, the Governments of the Region as well as to international aid agencies for the development of agriculture in the Region. These policy issues included those concerned with (i) state of food and agriculture and the need for a global view, (ii) the medium term programme and investment needs, (iii) IWP, (iv) Pearson and Jackson Reports, (v) Second World Food Congress, and (vi) reorganization and the strengthening of field activities.

19. The Regional Representative's Statement dealt with (i) the state of food and agriculture in the Region, (ii) major problems of agricultural production in the Region, (iii) reorganization and the strengthening of field activities in the Region, (iv) medium term programme and (v) Second World Food Congress.

20. The Regional Representative's Review of FAO's Activities in the Region reported on the actions taken by FAO on the recommendations of the Ninth FAO Regional Conference and new activities undertaken by FAO since that Conference. It also referred briefly, and where relevant, to the conclusions of the Fifteenth Session of the FAO Conference of 1969.

### 2. Discussions on the Statements of the Director-General and Regional Representative and the Review of FAO Activities in the Region

#### Country Reports on Agricultural Progress and Development

21. In their written statements prepared for this item delegates included brief accounts of the progress made in agricultural development in their respective countries and comments on a number of important subjects dealt with in the Statements and Review of the Director-General and Regional Representative.

22. In regard to the increases in regional agricultural production recorded over the past decade, the Director-General had pointed out in his Statement that it would be unrealistic, in considering the overall regional increase of 4 percent in 1969, to overlook the predominant part played in this by Pakistan and the United Arab Republic, or the fact that, in several countries, 1969 had not been such a good year. On the other hand, the long term trend demonstrated that several of the latter had shown a growth rate above the average.

#### Need for Global View of Food and Agriculture

23. The Director-General had emphasized in his Statement the importance of the different Regions keeping the world picture in view. Regional Conferences provided a unique opportunity to focus on the Region's special problems and provide the Organization with the means of building up a coherent policy. It was becoming increasingly evident, however, that the nations and regions of the world were becoming more and more inter-dependent and, as the gap between developed and developing nations widened, technology

spread and the struggle for international markets in primary products intensified, it became increasingly necessary to take a global view of the situation.

24. His Excellency, the President of Pakistan, in his inaugural address, had also stressed the difficulties facing developing countries as a result of limitations of access to markets and this was strongly echoed by many delegates who also emphasized the adverse effect which declining prices of the basic agricultural raw materials had on the developing countries. The Conference agreed that it was not enough for the developed countries to give aid but that they should open up their markets more freely to the products of the developing countries and refrain, as far as possible, from exacting commercial terms on agricultural development loans to those countries.

25. The Fifteenth Session of the FAO Conference had recommended, in Resolution 1/69, that the implications of the agricultural problems in the developed countries for the expansion of the trade of the developing countries, should be identified. The Assistant Director-General indicated that such discussions had already been initiated with the developed countries. He further stated that the Director-General was trying to forge a link between the two interested parties and had submitted FAO's Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development for the consideration of the developed countries on OECD, which had shown considerable understanding of the problems of the developing countries. As trade constituted one of the areas of concentration (earning and saving of foreign exchange) there could be no doubt that it would be accorded high priority.

#### Medium Term Programme and Investment Needs

##### General

26. The Director-General had expressed the view that one of the pressing issues facing the present Conference was the Medium Term Programme. The Organization was required to present to the forthcoming session of the Council in November a detailed statement of medium term activities required by the FAO Conference in connection with the proposals for medium term activities and plans of the Organization for the six-year period up to the end of 1975.

27. The Director-General drew attention to the Areas of Concentration (including the added area of agricultural development planning) around which the General Council Paper was structured and to the desirability of countries drawing up their own agricultural development programmes with these Areas of Concentration in mind. He also stressed the overriding importance of the special problems dealt with in that paper, namely (i) unemployment, (ii) conservation of the environment, (iii) research, (iv) the future role of the Freedom From Hunger Campaign and (v) the need to strengthen the new Development Support Communication Programme.

28. Careful consideration of the two papers on the Medium Term Programme was extremely necessary since the Organization was moving towards a system of programme budgeting. Following the approval of the FAO Conference the Programme of Work and Budget for 1972-73 would be constructed on this basis and the Director-General stressed the value of the new system, both to member countries and to FAO, in assessing the validity of the Organization's objectives, the programmes designed to meet them and the Organization's efficiency in carrying them out.

29. The implications of the Medium Term Programme to the Near East Region had been dealt with in the second of the two papers on this subject. More effective utilization of water resources, the development of mixed farming systems in rainfed areas and the need for improved incomes from extensively managed livestock in semi-arid zones, were problems highlighted in that paper. Development of these and other essential items, as demonstrated in the IWP Study, demanded immensely heavy investment which, in the case of many countries, was clearly not yet adequately being made. A bold approach in project

formulation and in institutional changes were required if external finance was to be attracted to such investment.

30. The Conference agreed with the Director-General that, for the reasons which he had given, the medium term programme constituted an immensely important subject and indicated its views under a number of heads, as follows.

#### Areas of Concentration

31. The Conference indicated its continued support for the proposals in connection with the Areas of Concentration and welcomed the introduction of the budgeting of FAO's activities, on a programme basis, under these Area headings. The Conference also supported the projected annual increases, proposed in Doc.69/3, presented to the Fifteenth FAO Conference. A number of countries indicated that they had drawn up their national plans in the light of the principles, indicated in the World Indicative Plan and the Areas of Concentration, as a framework within which to undertake the planned development of their countries.

32. Many delegates indicated their desire for increasing assistance from FAO in a number of important fields while some considered that FAO should assist in direct production projects, such as in the distribution of high-yielding varieties and in the provision of field technicians.

33. The need for assistance in the development of water and its use for irrigation, as well as for human and animal consumption, was frequently stressed and this appeared to represent the most pressing need in the great majority of countries of the Region. Associated with the need for such assistance was assistance in the implementation of drainage schemes.

34. It was pointed out by one delegate that large scale irrigation systems were unavoidably capital intensive and that the know how for planning, operation and maintenance of such large scale complexes was available only to a limited extent, in most countries of the region, on account of the engineering requirements of such projects. There would, therefore, appear to be considerable scope for more intensive exploitation of small irrigation projects which could be installed with relatively little capital and which could easily be maintained.

35. Another important problem of large scale irrigation mentioned by the same delegate was the disappointingly reduced life of large dams as a result of heavy erosion in the uplands and consequent heavy silting of the reservoir. It was imperative that, at an early stage, appropriate measures were taken to ensure sound watershed management of the upland areas of such dams.

36. The Conference noted and endorsed the important conclusions reached by the Ad Hoc Consultation on Land and Water Use and the Second Session of the Regional Commission on Land and Water Use in the Near East, both held in 1969. In particular the Conference considered that Recommendation No.2 of the latter, concerning the establishment of a regional applied research programme under the aegis of the Regional Commission on Land and Water Use, should be accorded high priority.

37. Great importance was attached by almost all countries to the need for improving methods of dryland farming and the need for assistance in this. In this connection it was suggested that a Regional Institute concerned with the problems of this type of farming should be established and that a similar institution should be established to investigate the problems of salinity.

38. The Conference expressed its appreciation of the action of the Director-General in submitting the Regional Applied Research Programme to the UNDP for support and hoped that early approval of the Programme would be obtained.

39. A number of delegates considered that comprehensive land reform programmes were of fundamental importance as the basis for agricultural development and indicated their need for FAO's assistance in implementing these.

#### Forestry

40. The Director-General had referred to the threat posed by the over-exploitation of resources and of air and water pollution of the environment. The Conference drew the attention of Member Governments to the role of forests in ameliorating these conditions, especially by tree-plantations around agricultural lands, roads and canals and by creation of green belts around population centres.

41. The Conference fully appreciated that in most countries of the Region there was a scarcity of forests and urged Member Countries

- (a) to develop the protective and social functions of their forests, and
- (b) increase man made forests, including irrigated forestry plantations, in order to avoid an even greater shortage of timber supply in the future.

For all these activities, external aid including further World Food Programme Aid, could be of considerable importance.

42. At the meeting of the Forestry Commission for the Near East held in Iran in April 1970 proposals had been made for a medium level Regional Training Centre in national parks and wild life management; for seminars on afforestation by quick growing species, sand dune fixation and the regulation and control of forest grazing and for the establishment of a seed centre. The Conference endorsed the recommendations of the 1970 Forestry Commission for the Near East.

#### Integrated Services Approach

43. Special mention was made of projects to establish integrated services in the development of limited areas within countries. This permitted a sufficient concentration of extension services, supply of production requisites, credit and marketing to stimulate a marked improvement in output. In Afghanistan such a project was being developed in two pilot areas provision being made for the training of national staff. Such projects could be very helpful to developing countries.

#### Investment in Agricultural Development

44. The Conference recognized that considerable amounts of capital were required for agricultural investment in the region and that the generation of such capital, within many of the countries concerned, was difficult. The need for external financing was stressed although it was appreciated that the terms for such financing would have to be compatible with those of development financing, i.e. repayment over a long term and with low interest rates. The recent financing by the World Bank of agricultural projects in the region was noted with satisfaction.

45. The Conference also expressed its satisfaction with the informal arrangements made by the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development for cooperation in the field of agricultural investment. These provided for work by the FAO Investment Centre on specific agricultural investment projects and for their eventual financing by the Kuwait Fund. They opened a new avenue in the Near East Region for increased investment in agriculture.

### Second World Food Congress

46. The Director-General had referred to what he believed was the most important event in FAO's life since the last Conference, namely, the Second World Food Congress held in the Hague in June 1970. The Congress had emphasized the need for the humanization of the development process. The problems relating to food and agriculture had been placed squarely in the setting of overall development which, in its turn, was spelled out in terms of the simple needs and feelings of the human beings for whom development plans were designed and of the opportunities for them (and especially the young), to participate in the framing of their own future.

47. The Regional Representative had also given his impression of the Congress. One of the important points made had been the need to ensure that all development programmes should be designed to bring the benefits of development to all sectors of the population. The importance of social justice had been stressed repeatedly it being pointed out that, while economic growth was important, it did not of itself ensure better living standards for the mass of the people. Other important points had been the insistence that selection of development programmes for financing should give full weight to the views of the developing countries on the priorities which they believed to be most important; the need for increased regional cooperation in trade and the desirability of developed countries giving support to such arrangements.

48. The Conference took note of the recommendations of the Congress and its views on these recommendations are included in the relevant parts of this report.

### Locust Control

49. The Director-General had referred to the desert locust situation which, at the time of the Ninth Regional Conference, was a formidable one.

50. The threat had now receded but, as recommended by the Fifteenth Session of the Conference, an Emergency Fund for Locust Control had been established and a long term strategy for the control of the locust had been adopted by the FAO Council.

51. The Conference expressed appreciation of the steps taken by FAO to deal with the resurgence of the Desert Locust plague in 1968/69 and the success achieved in bringing the locust situation once again to a recession level. It was recognized that locust populations could build up rapidly under favourable conditions and the Conference emphasized that the present fortunate situation could not permit any relaxation on the part of Governments or of Regional Organizations. The Conference also stressed the need for continuing surveillance and control of high populations and concentrations wherever found during the present recession period. The Conference noted with satisfaction that for future emergencies the Director-General had established an emergency fund to assist Governments during the initial stages of an outbreak.

52. The Conference reiterated its earlier recommendations and once again stressed that the Desert Locust remained a constant threat to the agricultural economy of the Near East countries. It, therefore, emphasized the need for intensive regional and international cooperation and coordination on a permanent basis and, in this regard, drew attention to the recommendations made by the 14th and 15th Sessions of the FAO Conference and to the 51st and 52nd Sessions of the FAO Councils for necessary action by those concerned.

53. The Conference expressed its appreciation of the special assistance for Desert Locust control provided by the UNDP to Southern Yemen and the Yemen Arab Republic. In view of the strategic importance of both of these countries and their liability to desert locust infestation the Conference recommended that further assistance should be provided to maintain the desert locust programme in these countries at an effective operational level.

54. The Conference adopted the following recommendation:

Recommendation No. 1/70

Desert Locust

The Conference

Recognizing that the Desert Locust remained one of the most destructive of pests and a continuous threat to agricultural production in the Near East and sub-tropical Africa,

Aware that a resurgence of the pest might cause immense losses to crops over large areas ruining the efforts of agricultural improvement and development,

Considering that the UNDP had indicated its intention of discontinuing part of its assistance provided under the Inter-Regional UNDP/TA Desert Locust Project,

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the 14th and 15th Session of the FAO Conference and the 51st and 52nd Sessions of the Council to the effect that FAO's work on locust control be placed on a permanent basis and as much as possible of it incorporated into the Regular Programme,

Requests the Director-General

- (i) To take positive steps to incorporate the locust control work (at least the headquarters sector) into the Organization's Programme of Work and Budget for 1972/73 and the biennium following,
- (ii) To represent to the Administrator of UNDP the need, after 1971, to give assistance to Desert Locust control through the continuation of the Inter-Regional TA Desert Locust Control Project especially in relation to field staff required in various regions and the provision of additional help during emergency outbreaks.

Animal Production and Health

Animal Production

55. The Regional Representative, in his Statement, had stressed the vitally important role of animal production in the Region and had referred to a major study and survey of the livestock resources of the Region now being undertaken by FAO with a view to defining the main problems of the industry and of preparing a programme of action for the coming decade. The Study would be considered in its draft form and in detail by the next meeting of the Near East Animal Production and Health Commission to be held in the forthcoming year. It was intended to publish the final document in Arabic as well as in English and French.

56. The Conference welcomed the carrying out of this Study and Survey and looked forward to its early completion.



57. Many delegates stressed the importance of animal and forage production (including poultry production) and of animal health, to their country's economies. In regard to the former a number of delegates emphasized the difficulties involved in improving and conserving the arid range lands of their countries and expressed the need for more FAO assistance in this field. In the latter case it was clear, from the views expressed by many delegations, that rinderpest was once more becoming a problem of major importance.

#### Rinderpest

58. The delegate of Afghanistan reported the presence of rinderpest in his country where its control was proving a serious problem. In recent months it had occurred in a number of other countries and the disease represented a serious menace to the whole Region. Bilateral and international assistance was being obtained to deal with the outbreak in Afghanistan but, the problem was a regional one, further assistance was required and the matter was of considerable urgency.

59. The Conference expressed its deep concern over the present situation and requested the Director-General to ensure that the Near East Animal Production and Health Commission was given the necessary facilities to enable its Sub-Commission for Animal Health to be convened without delay to enable it, adequately, to deal with the situation.

60. The Conference adopted the following recommendation:

#### Recommendation No. 2/70

##### Rinderpest

#### The Conference

Noting with deep concern the present situation in regard to rinderpest and the difficulty of its control in a number of countries,

Recognizing the serious danger of the disease spreading to countries in the region at present uninfected and to neighbouring regions,

#### Requests

##### 1. The Director-General:

- (i) To call an Emergency Meeting of the Sub-Commission on Animal Health of the Animal Production and Health Commission for the Near East in order that it should recommend to FAO and member countries ways and means of controlling the disease and of preventing its spread,
- (ii) To issue invitations to all member countries to the region, whether members of the Near East Commission for Animal Production and Health or not and to keep all these countries fully informed, through the Commission, of the progress made in controlling the disease,
- (iii) To consider the means for raising funds for any possible action which may be required in the future;

2. Member Countries:

- (i) To keep FAO continuously and fully informed on all aspects of outbreaks of the disease in their countries, of the measures they were taking to control the disease and of any specific assistance which they might be requiring.

(Note - The Director-General notified the Conference of his approval of the holding of an Emergency Meeting on Rinderpest and this was held on 12-13 October 1970).

Fisheries

61. A number of delegates drew attention to the importance of and need to develop the fisheries resources of the Region as a means of contributing to supplies of high quality protein for the human population.

Reorganization and Strengthening of Field Services

Country Representatives

62. On the efforts made to strengthen the field activities of FAO at the Regional and Country levels the Director-General had reported in his Statement that nearly all of the 53 Country Representatives/Senior Agricultural Advisers concerned under the agreement with UNDP on this subject, had been provided. Furthermore, the proportion of the Regular Programme funds directly allocated to the Regions had risen from 7.2 percent in the 1968/69 biennium to 14.5 percent in the current one. As far as was possible the further strengthening of Regional Offices would be undertaken as the need arose.

63. The Director-General had also made a plea that, as far as possible, all developing countries should have Permanent Representatives accredited to FAO in Rome to ensure maximum contact between the countries and Headquarters.

64. The Regional Representative had said in his Statement that, with the reorganization, the Regional Office had come to assume a role of increased importance with active participation in policy making, programme formulation and implementation of decisions pertaining to the Region. It also now took the lead in the organization and conduct of Regional Conferences.

65. The Conference expressed its appreciation of the actions taken by the Director-General in strengthening the Organization's field establishment and fully endorsed the concept underlying the Director-General's proposals i.e. to focus programme planning and execution at the country level and to achieve a unified approach in multilateral assistance towards recipient Governments, as was expressed in the report of the Fifteenth FAO Conference.

66. A number of countries emphasized the importance of staff and experts both of the Regional Office and of the corps of Country Representatives being experienced, competent and of the highest calibre. It was also pointed out that, where Regional and Country Representatives were located at the same duty station, it was necessary to ensure that the duties of each were clearly defined.

67. One delegate expressed the view that this was a time for FAO to examine its projects and priorities carefully with a view to increasing the efficiency of its work rather than taking up new proposals. He did not feel that FAO should expand at the expense of the quality of its present efforts. A number of delegates stressed the need for FAO experts to be well selected and for their work to be effectively followed up.

68. The above were all matters which FAO would take into account and the Assistant Director-General assured delegates that, as far as possible, FAO would give all the assistance it could to countries in the preparation of the agricultural part of their national programmes and, especially, those requiring UNDP assistance.

69. The assistance of Regional and Country Representatives and their staff was available but if necessary additional assistance could be given by special or ad hoc missions.

70. In regard to the future expansion of FAO resources the Assistant Director-General informed the Conference that the Director-General had proposed an annual increase of 5 percent in regular programme activities. Because, however, mandatory expenditure was going to be much higher than expected the Director-General did not feel that he could ask Governments both to pay the mandatory increase and to contribute further to a considerable increase in expenditure on programmes.

71. The Director-General was of the opinion that expansion was necessary in the medium term and he did not intend to change his policy. He would, however, seek some re-arrangement in the programmes and would treat this period as a period of consolidation.

72. For the 1972-73 budget he would ask for a limited increase in programmes and for certain adjustments to be made in these and he would eliminate those programmes which were no longer necessary.

73. In the case of the relatively new programme of Development Support Communication, which had been referred to by the Director-General, the Conference supported this programme and asked that UNDP funds should be made available for it.

#### Regional Projects

74. The Near East Region had always been in favour of Regional Projects but in the past these had been limited by the policy of UNDP. The Assistant Director-General informed the Conference that recently the Administrative Board of UNDP had adopted a more liberal policy towards such regional projects. The scope of these projects had been widened and only two countries were now specifically required to sponsor them.

#### Introduction of Arabic

75. The provision of interpretation services and documentation in Arabic had enabled Member Nations to participate more effectively in the work of the Organization. The preparation and issue of a comprehensive vocabulary, which included more than 14 000 terms used in agriculture, fisheries and forestry, had also provided a valuable instrument in promoting the use of correct and consistent terminology in Arabic, both in FAO and among its Arabic-speaking Member Nations.

76. The Regional Conference noted with satisfaction the measures taken by the Director-General for the introduction of Arabic, as a limited working language of FAO, following Recommendation No. 1 of the Baghdad Conference and in accordance with the decisions taken by the FAO Conference in November 1969.

77. As recommended by the Ninth Regional Conference for the Near East, the FAO Conference at its Fifteenth Session had officially adopted an Arabic version of the Constitution and of the other Basic Texts of FAO, and it had amended Article XXII of the Constitution so that the Arabic text was now equally authoritative and on the same footing as the English, French and Spanish texts. This action conferred on Arabic the status of an official language. The action taken had now to be completed by amending Rule XXXVIII of the General Rules of the Organization so as to reflect the Conference's decisions. In Volume II of the Basic Texts, it was also necessary to amend paragraph 16 (entitled "Authentic Languages"), of the Policies and Procedures governing agreements concluded under

Articles XIV and XV of the Constitution, and of Commissions and Committees established under Article VI, as well as paragraph 17 of the statement of FAO Policy regarding assistance in establishing regional research and training institutes. The Conference requested the Director-General to arrange for these amendments to be prepared and initiate appropriate action for their adoption.

3. Statement of the Executive Director of the  
World Food Programme

78. The Representative of the World Food Programme, on behalf of the Executive Director, expressed his appreciation of the Government of Pakistan's invitation to hold the Conference in Islamabad and for the excellent arrangements made for it.

79. The Conference had before it the Report of the World Food Programme (NERC/70/3) supplemented by a Statement made by the Representative of the Programme.

80. The Conference expressed general appreciation of the assistance being provided through the Programme.

81. A number of delegates expressed their hope that WFP assistance to their countries would continue. Others suggested that the Programme's activities should provide non-food assistance as well as the present food aid.

82. Strong support was expressed by delegates for a proposal that WFP should strengthen relationships with UNDP and other UN agencies; examine the possibilities of relaxing the procedures at present followed in the sale of WFP supplies in recipient countries and use the Programme approach in addition to the Project approach now being applied. There was general agreement that, perhaps, of greater importance than even these, was the need for WFP to expand its emergency food assistance.

83. A delegate also suggested that WFP assistance would be more useful if cash could be made available to recipients to be used for the purchase of food supplies from countries in the region.

84. The delegate of Afghanistan and Iraq stated that their countries were at present in need of emergency food and feed assistance. This was due, in Afghanistan's case, to a shortage of cereals and, in the case of Iraq, to the urgent need to resettle farmers in the northern part of the country after normalization of conditions in that area.

85. Some delegates stressed the point that food aid should not be given if this was contrary to a country's policy, neither should commodities given adversely affect the national production of similar agricultural products. It was also stated that requests needed to be more carefully scrutinized, and always jointly with FAO and the other agencies concerned.

86. A number of delegates stated that irregular and late deliveries of commodities sometimes made the implementation of projects difficult and asked if matters in this respect could be improved.

87. The representative of the Arab League expressed the view that certain activities could best be carried out on a regional basis rather than on the basis of assistance to individual countries as was the case at present.

88. The Representative of WFP, in his reply to the comments of delegations, stated that the Programme would be pleased to continue its assistance to countries whenever this was justified, subject to the availability of the Programme's resources.

89. In regard to the reorientation of the Programme, the WFP Representative stated that at present the Organization's rules did not permit either the receipt or the supply of non-food items. He mentioned that this point was, however, under review and it was hoped that the Programme would be permitted to receive and to provide, on a trial basis, certain non-food items such as fertilizers.

90. The Representative of the Programme assured the delegates that WFP examined the requests made to it with great care and sympathy although this might sometimes take a relatively long time. He also confirmed that, supplies were not provided by WFP unless they were requested by the recipient Government and the acceptability of the commodities concerned, had been ascertained.

91. In regard to delay in effecting deliveries, the reason for this was frequently beyond the control of the Programme. Every effort would be made, however, to improve this situation as far as this was possible.

92. In regard to the improvement of the coordination of the activities of UNDP, other UN agencies and WFP, the Representatives stated that a very close coordination did, in fact, exist in the case of UNDP since the Representative of UNDP was also the representative of WFP in recipient countries. WFP also maintained very close relations with other agencies through its liaison officers and, in fact, relied on the technical competence of those agencies. The WFP Representative stated, however, that delegates' comments would certainly be taken into account by the Programme and efforts made to improve the situation.

93. On the question of increased emergency supplies the WFP Representative stated that the Programme placed its greatest emphasis on economic development rather than on temporary assistance but, nevertheless, the emergency funds placed at the disposal of the Director-General of FAO had been substantially increased in the last three years. The Inter-Governmental Committee of the Programme was anxious to maintain a balance between the two types of assistance.

94. The Conference adopted the following recommendation:

Recommendation No. 3/70

Review of the World Food Programme

The Conference

Recognizing the great value of multilateral food aid, as implemented by the World Food Programme since its conception, and the necessity for continuing its action both as a form of capital investment and for meeting emergency food needs;

Convinced, however, that in a number of directions the World Food Programme could meet the needs of Member Countries more effectively, therefore,

Urges the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO to seek ways and means of improving the services provided by WFP as follows:

- (i) Increasing the allocation of WFP resources for use in Emergency Food Assistance,
- (ii) Providing for larger allocations of the commodities supplied by WFP which could be sold in order that proceeds, so generated, could be used against expenses incurred in the implementation of projects,
- (iii) Providing assistance in non-food items in addition to the present form of food assistance,
- (iv) Using the Programme approach in the provision of aid in addition to the Project approach now being applied.

### III. MATTERS OF MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION

#### 1. Mobilization of Human Resources in Connection with Agricultural Development

##### Introduction

95. Mobilization of human resources might mean different things to different people, but for the purpose of the Conference it was considered as the sum total of activities which made it possible and attractive for the masses of rural people both to produce more and to enjoy the benefits of that increased production as reflected in improved levels of living.

96. The aim of such mobilization was to develop people through education and training and through the provision of employment opportunities, educational and training programmes, aid facilities (including agricultural education) at all levels, and other similar incentives, with an aim to putting knowledge and skills to work for the benefit of the people themselves, their communities and the nation.

97. An essential prerequisite to mobilization for rural development in the Near East was Government action necessary to create the conditions which would motivate and make possible the greater involvement of the people in helping to improve their own lives and in accelerating national economic and social progress. In several countries rural people had been mobilized to build badly needed roads, schools and hospitals.

98. In mobilizing human resources for agricultural development a delegate reported the use of conscripts, in excess of military requirements, who served in rural areas in health, education and agricultural extension work. The two-years service of these conscripts included a six-month training period in the above fields, followed by 18 months service in the rural areas as literacy, health, extension and development workers. A high percentage of men were interested in remaining in the rural areas and these were recruited by the Government, as civilian employees, to continue their services to the community after completing their military service. In another country, rural people were engaged in the extremely important task of alleviating water shortage for drinking and irrigation purposes.

99. The Conference recognized that young people were the dynamic element in society and that the youth of today would be the leaders of tomorrow. It urged member countries to involve youth in the formulation and implementation of all programmes relating to rural development.

100. A major difficulty in planning action programmes leading to the mobilization of human resources was often the lack of basic statistics on manpower. A population census appeared, therefore, to be a prerequisite to such mobilization efforts.

101. The value of large scale organization of rural people in "peasant societies", farmers' unions and cooperatives, was pointed out. Cooperative societies were, however, handicapped in some countries by a shortage of capital or properly trained personnel for supervisory work. Further FAO assistance in improving the management and the accounting practices of agricultural cooperatives, was essential.

102. People's participation in the processes of rural development could be promoted through the association of the people themselves in identifying problems, searching for solutions and in action programmes. The Conference stressed that farmers' organizations could play a major role in the mobilization of human resources, and could enable farmers to make their needs and wishes known to the Government. It recommended that member

countries promote the establishment of farmers' associations which could participate in decision making on economic, political and social aspects of rural development.

#### Role of Women

103. Because of the important role played by women in the development of rural life, greater attention needed to be paid to their training in home economics and other production practices. The Conference appreciated the important role played by women in the process of rural development and the vital influence they had on the social and economic life of the family and community. It recommended that FAO attach greater importance to the training of women in productive agricultural processes, and in home economics and nutrition. It endorsed Recommendation No. 3 of the World Food Congress that Governments and international agencies should involve women actively in the planning and implementation of development programmes. To this end women's committees and organizations, as instruments for making this participation possible, should receive the support of Governments and FAO.

104. The Conference reiterated and emphasized the recommendation of the Eighth Regional Conference endorsing the recommendation of the First FAO Regional Meeting on Home Economics Extension in the Near East and of the Eighth Regional Conference, which urged Member Governments to create and develop appropriate home economics services.

105. It also reiterated the recommendation of the Eighth FAO Regional Conference for the creation of the post of Home Economics Extension Officer at the FAO Regional Office.

#### Agrarian Reform

106. In a number of countries in the Region the aspiration of farmers to land ownership had now largely been satisfied as a result of agrarian reform measures. These measures, in the majority of cases, were accompanied by the provision of credit facilities, farm requisites, cooperative organization and marketing facilities. In a number of countries it was also supplemented by rural electrification, all weather roads, potable water in the villages and better health services.

107. The Conference adopted the following recommendation:

#### Recommendation No. 4/70

##### Agrarian Reform

##### The Conference

Recognizing that inadequate land tenurial systems were still responsible for the backward, economic and social conditions of a large segment of the rural populations of the region,

Noting that agrarian reform was a prerequisite to social justice,

Reiterating Resolution No. 5/69 of the Fifteenth Session of the FAO Conference, gave its support to Recommendation No. 10 of Commission III (People in Rural Development) of the Second World Food Congress, addressed to FAO, and Recommendations No. 7 and No. 8 addressed to Governments.

## Water

108. Water was mentioned frequently as one of the principal limiting factors to agriculture in the region. Considerable success had been achieved in settling transhumant tribes as a result of drilling wells to make water available for them. In at least one case this had led to their taking up sedentary agriculture.

## Training and Extension

109. A great deal of importance was attached to agricultural extension. Strong views were expressed on the need for training, particularly at the intermediate and lower or vocational training levels and the need for FAO's assistance in this regard.

110. The Conference adopted the following recommendation:

### Recommendation No. 5/70

#### Training

##### The Conference

Realizing the importance of skilled workers in accelerating agriculture and related development,

Noting that the largest numbers of such workers are required at the intermediate and lower levels,

Recommends that FAO assist member countries in organizing and conducting national and regional workshops, at national and regional levels, to intensify the training of intermediate and lower level technical personnel,

Stresses that FAO should continue its efforts in the compilation and updating of information relating to agricultural educational institutions in the form of a directory to be made available to member countries, and

Urges member countries to facilitate the exchange of information, teachers and trainees with the assistance of FAO.

111. The provision of economic incentives to farmers made them more receptive to the new ideas brought by extension agents. The importance of training village leaders was stressed and it was noted that farmers responded to local leaders better than they did to outsiders. There was considerable demand in the region for assistance in the local production of audio-visual aid material.

112. The Conference adopted the following recommendation:

### Recommendation No. 6/70

#### Information

##### The Conference

Stressing the need to spread awareness of the meaning and advantages of rural development among all sections of the people,



Noting that rural people needed to become more aware than before of modern techniques,

Recommends

- (i) that FAO should assist member governments in the local production of visual aid material to be used by extension personnel and endeavour to facilitate the use of UNDP funds for the purchase of equipment for this purpose,
- (ii) that FAO should give priority, in its own publication programmes, to the production of manuals for use by research, training and extension staff and other prototype materials for the transfer of knowledge, rather than to working papers for meetings.

113. As regards the provision of extension services the IWP target of 1 000 families per extension worker in the short run and of 500 families per worker ultimately, this was thought to be insufficient for intensive extension work under some of the conditions of small scale farming and, particularly, in the case of supervised credit. Furthermore, the problem of meeting the cost of an adequate service was not confined to extension work, but arose also with other facilities and services, such as warehousing, distribution centres for fertilizer and other inputs, service centres for agricultural machinery, technical subject matter specialists and branches of agricultural banks. Such facilities could be economically provided only at convenient, centrally located points and it was necessary for the small farmer to be organized from below to derive the full benefit from them.

114. The Conference recognized that agricultural development could not be achieved piecemeal. In many countries of the Region there was a problem in coordinating rural services, which were often provided by different ministries. These services needed to reach the people in an integrated way, if their main objectives were to be achieved.

115. The Conference adopted the following recommendation:

Recommendation No. 7/70

Integration of Development Services

The Conference

Recognizing that rural employment in developing countries was a complex problem which had no easy or obvious solutions,

Noting that measures involving investment at the village level were not realistic, because of the dispersal of scarce resources and that there was a frequent tendency for rural institutional services to be provided in an uncoordinated way,

Noting also that the migration of rural labour to big cities was a world-wide phenomenon which could be diverted to a manageable, semi-urban environment but could not be arrested at the source,

Agreeing with the recommendations of the IWP for the geographical concentration and integration of the provision of services such as extension, supply of farm requisites, credit, marketing, cooperative organizations, etc., where feasible in selected agricultural development centres or market towns,

Recommends that

- (i) member countries of the Region should plan the policies and incentives appropriate for the comprehensive development of selected market towns;
- (ii) member countries should set up a limited number of project areas under a simple authority able to coordinate all of the necessary agricultural, and other relevant services, in accordance with broad policy directives, with a view to the country-wide extension of the scheme in the light of the experience gained;
- (iii) FAO should help member countries with expert advice and information at all stages, including arranging international meetings, so that discussions on the issues involved could be held and the field experiences of member countries exchanged;
- (iv) FAO make special arrangements for providing expert advice and financial assistance, where feasible, to member countries undertaking projects in this field, and should collaborate in this with other agencies of the UN family.

116. The importance of agricultural education and training as a major factor in the mobilization of human resources was widely stressed and many countries expressed an urgent concern for the need to reorganize agricultural education and training systems to conform more closely with the countries' stage of development and employment requirements.

Employment

117. Concern was felt in the Region over the shift of population from rural to urban areas. There was an understanding of the need for measures to create employment opportunities for such migrants in enterprises related to or outside of agriculture. It was recognized that arresting the tendency of the rural population to migrate to the city in search of better living conditions, was a very difficult task.

118. The Conference adopted the following recommendation:

Recommendation No. 8/70

Employment

The Conference

Realizing that the greatest obstacle to improved levels of living in the rural areas of the Near East was the lack of opportunities for full time productive employment and that unemployed or under-employed people were by far the greatest waste of resources;

Further realizing that the situation would be aggravated by the rapid growth of population in the Region,

Urges member countries to give high priority to the preparation of plans for developing forms of agriculture that were labour intensive, such as fruit and vegetable production, dairy production and livestock fattening and to ensuring provision

of production requisites, credit, marketing, extension and of the services needed to support such developments, and to undertake, with WFP assistance, labour-intensive programmes for improvement of infrastructure and the establishment of handicrafts and agro-allied industries in rural areas, and

Requests the Director-General of FAO, in cooperation with the other organizations of the UN family, to provide assistance to member countries in carrying out the necessary surveys and research for assessing the effect of the new technologies in agriculture on employment and in devising and implementing programmes for expanding rural employment.

## 2. Policy Implications for the Region of the IWP World Study

### (a) Agricultural Policy Planning

119. Agricultural Planning had become the sixth Area of Concentration and the Conference, appreciating the fundamental role to be played by planning in agricultural development, strongly endorsed the inclusion of that area in FAO's programme of work. This would ensure continuation of work along IWP lines which in turn would assist member countries in their economic planning activities.

120. Within the context of agricultural development planning, the Conference expressed its concern over certain basic weaknesses in the planning process these being summarized, as follows:

- (i) Inadequacy and unreliability of basic statistics. It indicated that improvements and assistance in this area was urgent and should coincide with the 1970 census of agriculture.
- (ii) Limited personnel with the qualifications needed for the analysis of available statistics. The Conference emphasized the need for training courses in this respect geared to various levels of national planners.
- (iii) The diversity of planning concepts and procedures among member countries of the region which precluded comparisons.

121. The Conference stressed the need to make planning concept procedures and time horizons among member countries, comparable.

122. The Conference appreciated that studies of existing and foreseeable comparative advantages in production, in various countries in the Region, would be instrumental in national and regional adjustments of production and trade. They would also provide intelligent clues for exploring inherent weaknesses in the institutional structure which obstruct intra-regional trade. The Conference, therefore, endorsed the emphasis placed on the need to study comparative advantages in production in Para.69 of the Director-General's note.

123. Apart from the need to improve basic statistics in agricultural development planning, the Conference also indicated the importance of surveying physical resources as a prerequisite for appraisal and utilization planning. The Conference indicated that much remained to be done in this area.

124. The Conference adopted the following recommendation:

Recommendation No. 9/70

Agricultural Policy Planning

The Conference

Considering the increasing needs of member countries, the sub-programmes within this area, as well as the further contribution to be made by FAO to the Second Development Decade in cooperation with member countries,

Recommends that member countries should give priority to the collection and analysis of the basic data for planning, including input/output data at the farm level, and provide the necessary resources for this purpose, furthermore,

Recommends that FAO should provide assistance to member countries in conducting statistical surveys in order to give training in computer programming, and should hold the biennial International Training Course in Agricultural Planning on an annual basis with a practical orientation, and,

Reiterates the recommendation of the Fifth Session of the Near East Commission on Agricultural Planning and Agricultural Statistics that FAO, in cooperation with the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut and National Institutes in the Region, organize a workshop in Perspective Planning in Agriculture, and

Further recommends

- (i) that the programme of work should involve existing regional bodies concerned with economic cooperation and that member governments should welcome any participation from bilateral and multilateral agencies interested in such programme of work,
  - (ii) that, as physical resource surveys are an essential pre-requisite for agricultural development, member countries should strengthen departments and agencies concerned with this work, on a continuing basis, and FAO should assist member countries in the training of personnel and in standardizing the methodologies used in such surveys.
- (b) Exploitation of High-Yielding Varieties of Crops, with Emphasis on Cereals, Legumes and Oil Seeds

125. FAO, in cooperation with CIMMYT, had helped countries of the Near East since 1960/61 in identifying, through coordinated variety trials, high-yielding and fertilizer responsive, bread wheat varieties possessing a wide range of adaptability. Many countries in the region introduced the cultivation of such HYV and areas have been increasing progressively from year to year.

126. If such programmes were pursued, it was hoped that many countries would achieve self-sufficiency, and even surplus in some of them, allowing the conversion of substantial

wheat areas to the production of other useful crops for supporting the development of livestock industry.

127. The Conference adopted the following recommendation:

Recommendation No. 10/70

Extended Use of High-Yielding Varieties of Wheat

The Conference

Noting the success of cooperative efforts between member countries of the Region in various programmes under the FAO Near East Wheat and Barley Improvement and Production Project,

Appreciating the outstanding success which had been achieved through the extended use of tested HYV of wheat in some of the member countries,

Recognizing the need for continuing and starting suitable action programmes for increasing the production of wheat in order to achieve self-sufficiency in meeting domestic demand,

Recommends that

- (i) FAO should assist member countries in preparing action programmes and in arranging to supply or in helping in the procurement of substantial quantities of seed of tested HYV which might best be done by opening a seed bank in the region,
- (ii) Member Governments should fully recognize the importance of increasing production and of providing financial support to launch such programmes, in order to supply inputs (seeds, fertilizers, water, fuel, machinery, etc.) to the farmers; should arrange to lay out a large number of demonstration plots, to acquaint the farmers with improved agro-techniques and should provide incentives to the farmers,
- (iii) More work should be concentrated, under the wheat and barley project, on finding HYV of barley for the marginal and rainfed lands in order to increase barley production and thus assist in the development of livestock industry,
- (iv) Work should continue on the development of improved HYV of wheat, resistant to diseases and lodging and possessing a high quality of protein, in order to increase supplies of protein and that emphasis should be laid on the development of winter hardy varieties as well as those suitable for dry and saline areas,
- (v) Breeders and agronomists should lay more stress on cultural, agronomic practices and farm equipment under irrigated and rainfed conditions and should undertake work on rotations of crops which could help in reducing the cost of production and in increasing the income per unit area per year,
- (vi) FAO should provide a specialist to survey the pest and diseases situation arising from the introduction of HYV in the Region and recommend the necessary programmes which might be implemented for their control.

128. As a result of work on the improvement of rice varieties, carried out in many countries and at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), many high-yielding, fertilizer responsive, semi-dwarf varieties, resistant to lodging, had been developed and introduced in a number of countries, with encouraging results. West Pakistan had increased its rice production by 50 percent and expected to have a surplus of 1.5 to 2 million tons by 1974/75. U.A.R. had increased its production by 60 percent during 1954-64 and by three times up to 1969 while Iraq had increased its production by 75 per cent in 1967 and 81 percent in 1968.

129. Yields of other basic food and feed crops (barley, maize, sorghum, millets, grain legumes and vegetables and oilseeds) had, on the other hand, continued to stagnate in most of the countries and there was no immediate prospect of improvement apart from maize in the U.A.R. and Pakistan.

130. The Conference adopted two recommendations on this subject, Nos. 11 and 12, as follows:

Recommendation No. 11/70

Extended Use of HYV of Summer Cereals, Grain  
Legumes and Oil Seed Crops

The Conference

Realizing the outstanding success achieved through the extended use of HYV of wheat, rice and maize in some of the member countries of the Region,

Recognizing the importance of summer cereals, grain and forage legumes and oilseed crops and the significant role they can play in increasing the annual productivity of land and labour by better utilization of resources through multiple cropping, and the raising of the nutritional status of populations as well as promoting the development of livestock industry,

Recommends that

- (i) A coordinated programme for the improvement of production of summer cereals, grain, forage and oil bearing legumes and oilseed crops should be initiated by FAO along the lines of the wheat and barley project and for which the necessary staff and facilities should be provided,
- (ii) The programmes should be carried out in collaboration with the existing national, bilateral and multilateral agencies as well as with other interested organizations,
- (iii) In order to overcome the shortage of scientists, FAO should arrange training courses, in all aspects of these crops, as well for fellowships/scholarships for higher studies,
- (iv) As soon as HYV of any of these crops are identified, the governments should launch suitable action programmes for increasing their production and FAO should help in preparing such programmes and in providing the necessary facilities required.

Recommendation No. 12/70

Extended Use of HYV of Vegetable Crops  
in the Region

The Conference

Recognizing the great need for increasing the production of vegetable crops both to meet the growing local demand as well as for export,

Realizing that there is considerable scope for making use of available HYV of different vegetable crops for increasing production, if seeds of these varieties are made available to the countries in the region at reasonable prices,

Recommends that

- (i) FAO should assist, through a Regional Project, the production and distribution of seeds of identified HYV of vegetable crops for meeting the demands of member countries,
- (ii) Member governments should make the necessary arrangements for testing the varieties under local conditions and for extending their cultivation in suitable areas.

131. Agronomic practices and cropping patterns need fundamental changes if farming in the Region was to be modernized, although it was recognized that social institutional and economic constraints had to be taken into account in the process. In countries where HYV have been identified and tested on a large scale, Governments still needed to plan and implement increased food production programmes while continuing on with their research work.

132. In order to ensure the success of the production programmes, a number of conditions had to be fulfilled. These conditions were the production and distribution of good quality seeds of HYV; the application of good husbandry including fertilizers; the development of irrigation facilities; the fixing of appropriate prices of inputs and produce; the improvement of extension services, so that farmers can be advised on the correct cultivation practices, and the timely control of pests and diseases. All these needed thorough planning and constant supervision on the part of the Governments.

133. The Conference adopted the following recommendation:

Recommendation No. 13/70

Programme for the Introduction of Improved Types of  
Agricultural Implements and Machinery for Commercial  
Farming and Experimental Plots

The Conference

Recognizing the great importance of agricultural equipment and machinery in increasing the production of basic field food crops,

Realizing that, in many member countries, the right type of field machinery is not available and that this is adversely affecting the efficiency of experimental work as well as the commercial production of field food crops,

Being aware that, with the introduction of HYV farmers spend much time in harvesting and threshing by the use of traditional methods, which are costly and wasteful,

Recommends that FAO should arrange to provide technical advice and help to member countries in regard to the introduction and testing of the right type of field implements and machinery, especially seed drills, harvesters and threshers suited to the local agricultural and economic conditions, through the services of a competent expert in this field.

Regional Research Institute for the Improvement  
and Production of Basic Food Crops in the Near East

134. FAO started a number of coordinated programmes, under the Near East Wheat and Barley Project in 1952, to assist countries in the improvement of wheat and barley varieties and production techniques and in order to help them achieve self-sufficiency. With the passing of time, the activities of the project were intensified and its scope extended to include a greater number of countries. Cooperation was also sought from CIMMYT and other international bodies and national institutes. More than 55 plant scientists were trained in Mexico, and 7 persons sent for Ph.D. studies. Many training centres and seminars were arranged. As a result, many countries started increased wheat production programmes which yielded useful results, although the results achieved with barley, were not very encouraging. On the other hand no work was done on summer cereals or grain legumes as these were not included in the project.

135. Because of the great importance of cereal and legume crops it was felt that a Regional Research Institute should be established to take up work on all aspects of those crops. This proposal was presented at the Ninth FAO Ad Hoc Conference on Wheat and Barley Improvement and Production in the Near East held in Beirut in 1969. The proposal was supported and a recommendation was made by the Conference to establish a permanent Regional Research Institute. The proposal was also later supported by five Governments of the region (Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Sudan and U.A.R.). The delegation of Pakistan repeated the offer of their Government, made at the Fifteenth FAO Conference, to host such an institute whenever it was agreed to establish it.

136. In order to lay a solid foundation for the development of a programme which could eventually lead to the establishment of a Regional Research Institute, it had been proposed that:

- (a) The present position of research activities being carried out in the Region should be reviewed in 1971 by a three-man, three-month fact finding mission. The report, to be prepared by the mission, was to be discussed with the Ministers of Agriculture of the Region, and, on the basis of agreement reached, a detailed programme of research would be drawn up in cooperation with an advisory committee, consisting of the Directors of Research from Near East countries and the FAO Regional Officers concerned.
- (b) The FAO Near East Wheat and Barley Improvement and Production Project was to be continued and further strengthened to include coordinated programmes on grain legumes, forage legumes and pastures and oilseed crops.



137. The Conference adopted the following recommendation:

Recommendation No. 14/70

Establishment of Regional Research Institute for  
the Improvement and Production of Basic Food Crops  
in the Near East

The Conference

Recognizing the great importance of increasing the production of basic food crops - cereals, legumes, oilseeds and pastures in order to meet the domestic demands of the increasing populations of the Member Countries,

Having studied the recommendation made at the Ninth Ad hoc Conference on Wheat and Barley in the Near East held in Beirut in 1969, on the establishment of a Regional Research Institute for the Improvement and Production of Basic Food Crops in the Near East,

Recommends that

- (i) In principle the above recommendation should be supported,
- (ii) In order to lay a solid foundation for the development of a programme which could eventually lead to the establishment of the Regional Research Institute, a three-man, three-month mission should be raised in 1971 in order to review the present position of research being carried out in the region and the gaps in existing knowledge,
- (iii) FAO should seek ways and means of implementing a project for the establishment of a Regional Research Institute, possibly along the lines adopted in the case of the Regional Rice Research Institute in West Africa and that this Institute should seek the active cooperation and coordination of the national research institutes in the Region and those of the Arab League,
- (iv) That the present Wheat and Barley Project should be continued and strengthened by the provision of additional staff to take up coordinated work on the improvement and production of other crops such as summer cereals, legumes, forage, legumes and pastures and oilseed crops.

138. Delegates from a number of countries expressed appreciation of the help provided to them under the Wheat and Barley Project. Many mentioned that they had started programmes on increasing the production of wheat. In some countries this had also been done on rice and maize through the introduction of HYV and the use of improved husbandry methods including fertilizers. According to these delegates, there had been a good response from farmers to such programmes. Delegates also referred to the various problems with which they had to cope including, inadequate controlled seed production and distribution programmes; the development of diseases (such as rusts and septoria) and pests (borers and aphids); the lack of complete knowledge as to the actual cultural requirements of HYV; low grain quality and the difficulties experienced in harvesting, threshing, storage and proper marketing. It was suggested that research work should be further intensified both at national and regional levels (through the establishment of a Regional Research Institute) and the Conference reiterated the recommendation on this

subject made by the Ninth Ad Hoc Conference on Wheat and Barley held in Beirut in October 1969 intended to solve the problems which were of a common nature.

139. Delegates also pointed out that very little work had been done on the development of suitable wheat and barley varieties and on agro-techniques for rainfed areas, which constituted a major part of crop production in the Region. Some delegates thought this work should also include range and farm management in order to overcome the shortage of animals and animal products. Most expressed the view that similar types of coordinated programmes should be initiated by FAO on summer cereals, grain legumes, oilseed crops and vegetable crops, because of the big shortage of proteins and edible oils in almost all the countries. These combined programmes could help in the diversification of agriculture and in increasing the farmers' income per acre per year.

140. Delegates also suggested the establishment of a seed bank in the Region from which substantial quantities of HYV seeds could be supplied to countries requiring them. The delegate of Pakistan repeated the offer made by his Government at the Fifteenth FAO Conference to host the establishment of such a seed bank.

### (c) Bridging the Protein Gap

#### Nutritional Aspects and Implications

141. The Conference reviewed the protein problem in the Near East Region. It was informed that the Indicative World Plan (IWP) had indicated that while available protein supplies in the Region were sufficient to meet requirements at per caput level, energy (i.e. calorie, supplies were only about 90 percent of requirements as defined by FAO and WHO) and that this impaired protein utilization. Cereals and legumes, which constituted a major part of the diet in the Near East Region, could help in meeting the protein deficiency through their increased production as well as through the development of food grains with higher quantity and quality of protein. Detailed studies were in progress in developed countries on these aspects and FAO was asked to cooperate in such efforts in order that assistance could be given the countries of the Near East Region.

142. The Conference appreciated that malnutrition, resulting from dietary protein deficiency, was a serious problem in the Region, particularly in regard to its effects upon socio-economic development and productivity. It was recognized that such malnutrition resulted from inequality in the distribution of available protein food of high biological value (foods of animal and fisheries origin) between socio-economic groups and within families. While lack of purchasing power was recognized to be a major factor, with regard to the distribution of protein-rich foods, it was appreciated that poor use of existing resources, at family level, resulted from faulty food habits and lack of simple nutritional knowledge.

143. Although under-nutrition and malnutrition affected all age and sex groups in socially under-privileged classes, it was particularly serious among infants, pre-school children and expectant and nursing mothers. Infant and young child mortality rates, mostly due to protein-calorie malnutrition, in association with infectious and parasitic diseases, were many times higher in the countries of the Region than in the developed countries. Ignorance on the part of mothers on how to care for and feed their children was largely responsible and the Conference considered that the education and training of women should receive high priority.

144. The need for production and low-cost, protein-rich weaning foods made from local raw materials was discussed. Such foods were now being developed in certain countries of the region, with assistance from FAO, WHO and UNICEF. These foods should be used as a supplement to, and not as a substitute for, milk and could be used in pre-school feeding programmes. The Conference recommended that countries in the Region give consideration to the development of a weaning food based on their own local foodstuffs or to the use of such foods produced in other countries of the Region.

145. The Conference considered that it was important for all countries in the Region to conduct studies on food consumption, nutritional status, food habits, and practices in the different socio-economic groups and within the family itself, in order to provide the basis for formulating sound national policies, plans and programmes for improvement of nutritional standards.

146. The Conference noted with appreciation that a high-level seminar on food and nutrition policies had been sponsored jointly by FAO, WHO and UNICEF in Beirut, January 1970, as recommended by the Ninth FAO Near East Regional Conference. The recommendations of that Seminar in regard to the formulation and implementation of food and nutrition policies and programmes and on the establishment of a Regional Food and Nutrition Commission, were endorsed by the Conference.

147. With regard to the training of personnel needed to implement food and nutrition policies and programmes, the Conference endorsed the view of the Beirut Seminar that such training needed to be at a variety of levels and of disciplines and should be practised and related to the needs of the countries. It was noted that an inter-disciplinary regional nutrition training course of eight weeks had already been held in 1970 and would be repeated annually for a number of years. The Conference considered that this regional training should be followed up by national training centres for personnel at different levels.

148. The need for home economics training was recognized in order that competent extension services reaching families and communities could be established. It was recommended that such training be set up in faculties of agriculture and that home economics education should be a compulsory subject in all schools for girls and similarly nutrition education for boys.

#### The Role of Livestock, Forage Production and Range Management

149. Livestock development contributed in two important respects to supplies of protein.

- (a) Indirectly through draft power, which in some countries was provided by animals to the extent of 80 percent of the total, and which materially contributed to crop production and the supply of vegetable protein and,
- (b) directly through the supply of high quality animal protein converted often from cereal by-products and other crop residues which otherwise would not be utilized.

150. The great bulk of the feed for livestock in the Near East Region came from arid and semi-arid range lands. The problems arising from overstocking and the difficulties of controlling the use of these areas were immense, but it was imperative that range management and range land improvement should be stressed in long term planning since the resources involved were vast and range feed was cheap. It was also vitally important that those areas should be provided with adequate marketing facilities and that, associated with them, systems of feedlot fattening should be encouraged as the means of reducing pressure on the range and increasing production.

151. Because of the difficulties involved in implementing range programmes FAO's IWP laid great stress on increased fodder production from irrigated and good rainfed land, from fallow land and from the increased use of concentrates. Such measures, however, also raised immensely difficult problems requiring major decisions of policy by the Governments concerned.

152. In regard to the increased use of concentrates the utilization of single cell protein developed by the petro-chemical industry may, in future, be of importance as a component of concentrates feed.

153. Delegates raised a number of important points in connection with this subject.

154. The delegate of the Sudan stressed the important contribution which his country could make to the meat supplies of the Region. While the animal resources of his country were vast and the country was relatively well equipped to develop the industry, the problems involved, including those arising from disease and inadequacies in the marketing organization and infra-structure, were also immense. It was suggested that possibly the establishment of a strong, semi-autonomous organization to organize the industry on a commercial basis might be a suitable means of exploiting the animal wealth of the country for the Region's benefit.

155. There was general agreement that every support possible should be given by FAO and member countries to the efforts being made by the Sudan (and also Somalia and other countries) to develop their livestock resources and thus expand intra-regional trade in livestock and livestock products. The establishment of improved organizations for the marketing of livestock and meat could help materially both in stimulating increased production of better quality meat and ensuring that consumers were offered a continuing supply at reasonable prices. Such development could help meet the needs of countries such as the U.A.R., the delegate of which had emphasized the difficulties of that country in meeting, from its own resources, the demand for animal protein from its rapidly expanding population, owing to the limited area of irrigated land which could be used for fodder production.

156. The delegate of Afghanistan referred to the very difficult problems involved in that country in developing its livestock and range resources. The lack of trained and experienced staff, particularly at the professional level, was a great handicap to the efforts being made. It was suggested that possibly the establishment of a Faculty of Animal Production and Veterinary Science at Kabul University might overcome this difficulty.

157. A number of delegates referred to the need for the strengthening of animal production and range and pasture management training and education and for similar strengthening of animal husbandry extension in the rural areas. The organization of cooperatives amongst livestock producers was considered by one delegate to be a useful step in the latter case.

158. There was general agreement on the importance of range management and fodder production in the Region and on the need for a Regional Institute for Range Management and Fodder Crop Production. One delegate suggested that the study of the effects of small dams on pastures should be within the terms of reference of such an institute.

159. Finding solutions to the problems of rehabilitating, conserving and improving range areas presented many difficulties to countries of the Region since one of the prerequisites to measures taken to improve these areas was the need to have administrative control over the inhabitants and stock utilizing them.

160. The importance of ensuring the closest possible link between range management and pastures and animal production and health was also stressed by a number of delegates.

161. Several delegates emphasized the importance of the Survey and Study of animal resources in the Region now being undertaken by FAO and there was general agreement on the valuable role which the Near East Animal Production and Health Commission could play in the task of developing the Region's livestock industry.

162. The Conference adopted the following recommendation:

Recommendation No. 15/70

Animal Production and Health, Range  
Management and Fodder Production

The Conference

Recognizing the very great contribution which the development of animal production and health, range management and fodder production and the fostering of intra-regional trade in livestock and livestock products could make to Bridging the Protein Gap,

Appreciating that, while considerable progress had already been made with FAO/UNDP assistance in developing animal production and health projects in a number of countries, there still remained great scope for further FAO/UNDP assistance in overcoming a variety of immensely difficult problems in animal production and health, range management and fodder production,

Noting that the Near East Animal Production and Health Commission had held its first meeting and that FAO was at present carrying out a major survey and study of the Region's livestock and range resources and prospects for development,

Endorsing the recommendations made by the Near East Animal Production and Health Commission at its first meeting in 1969,

Recommends that

- (i) FAO, UNDP and Member Countries should give their fullest support to the development of the facilities required by the Near East Animal Production and Health Commission to enable it to give adequate assistance to member countries in developing their animal production and health, range management and fodder resources as laid down in the Constitution of that body;
- (ii) FAO should consider ways and means of implementing a suitable project to include the establishment of a Regional Range Management and Fodder Crop Production Institute (possibly through the aegis of the Near East Animal Production and Health Commission) at which regional training in management and improved practices, range economics and range livestock production would be included in its activities and the appointment of a regional expert in range management and fodder crops;
- (iii) FAO and Member Countries, as a means of expanding intra-regional trade in livestock and livestock products, should give every possible support to those member countries of the Region possessing animal wealth resources sufficiently large as to permit export to member countries, by providing assistance in strengthening animal production and health services and in improving marketing and processing organization in the countries concerned;

- (iv) In view of the lack of trained staff in the fields of animal production and health, range management and fodder crop production, at the professional and technical levels (one of the greatest handicaps to livestock development), member countries should consider ways and means of strengthening their educational and training institutions in those fields including, where appropriate, the establishment of faculties of animal production at university institutions;
- (v) As there was an urgent need, in many countries, for the provision of a variety of advisory and other services to livestock owners which, at present, general agricultural extension services have difficulty in providing, consideration should be given, where appropriate, to the formation of animal production, extension services with direct contact with livestock owners.

### Fisheries

163. The importance of fishery resources in helping to close the protein gap was stressed and the necessity for increasing efforts in the field was emphasized. One delegate indicated that, although there had recently been an increase in fish production in the country, per caput consumption of fish had, nonetheless, declined due largely to an increase in population. It was generally recognized that the potential for a significant growth in production of fish existed and that the technological requirements were already available from the experience of the more developed fishing industries of other countries.

164. To break the bottlenecks an integrated and cooperative effort to develop the fisheries in the waters adjoining the region, was necessary. In this connection, regional programmes were of importance because the increasing investment in, and exploitation of, the common fishery resources required some degree of coordination for a sustained and profitable operation. Furthermore, such an exploitation had to be based upon adequate knowledge of the resource and its commercial capabilities; this could be provided most efficiently on a cooperative basis.

165. The Conference supported such regional programmes as the Indian Ocean programme and the proposed Gulf project, and stressed the value of making them an integrated effort. FAO was urged to ensure that the role and need for investment be given proper emphasis in such projects.

166. In respect of regional efforts the need for regional training projects was mentioned and it was noted that such a programme had been submitted to the UNDP for approval with the hope that it could be held in 1971 in the Region. The Regional Office should maintain a strong and continuing role in providing advice on fishery matters.

167. The Conference expressed concern on the growing problem of marine pollution and recommended that both national governments and international agencies such as FAO give the matter urgent attention. It was noted that FAO would sponsor a Conference in Rome in December 1970 to deal specifically with the problem of marine pollution and its effect on fishery resources. The findings of the meeting would provide guidelines and direction for further action by all concerned. The Conference recommended that FAO ensure full followup of its recommendations.

168. In the further development of fishery activities, both marine and inland, within the Region, the need to have an adequate infrastructure for marketing and distribution was emphasized. It was recognized that fisheries agencies and administrations would have to be strengthened if fisheries were to play their full role in the development

efforts of the Region and that satisfactory training, extension work, credit and other services should be made available to the fishermen. In this connection the problem of the numerous indigenous fishermen needed special attention inasmuch as their competitive ability was threatened by larger scale industrial fishing efforts. With relatively little capital and some technical assistance and training, the individual fishermen could constitute an important source of productive employment in the rural economy.

169. The Conference recommended that continuing support and encouragement be given by all concerned to regional fishery efforts such as the Indian Ocean Programme and the proposed Gulf Fisheries Project. It also recommended that FAO and other organizations should provide assistance to governments in strengthening the capability of fisheries' administrations and services, particularly in the field of training.

### 3. Contribution of Technology and Research to Agricultural Development in the Near East

170. Technology in agriculture represented the sum total of research and experimental results in the various disciplines of the agricultural sciences and, as a result of rapidly advancing technology successfully applied to agriculture, a green revolution was now in progress.

171. While countries appreciated the need to apply modern technology in the development of their agriculture it had become clear that the process was not an easy one and required, amongst other things, the building up of the necessary infrastructure.

172. A number of delegates stressed the need, above all, to identify the factors that impeded the application of technology followed by a determined effort to find proper solutions to the problems involved. Factors mentioned were the shortage of qualified personnel; the high percentage of illiteracy among the rural people; shortage of development capital; problems of population; socio-economic constraints and the lack of economic and political stability. Inadequate land tenural systems, poor marketing facilities and absence of pricing policies were also given as other factors which were impeding the application of technology in a number of countries.

173. Research, it was pointed, was an expensive and time-consuming activity, but its full utility had to be realized and every effort made to achieve its desired aims in increasing productivity and in developing rural areas.

174. The essential element in the building of effective local research organization was the training of the necessary qualified research staff, and this could only be achieved through suitable education and training systems.

175. There was a general awareness by delegates of the problems arising from the application of research and technology and it was agreed that research in agriculture in developing countries needed primarily to be directly related to the problems of the farmer.

176. The allocation of responsibility for research amongst several agencies, with consequent lack of coordinated planning of activities at the national level, and the lack of proper incentives or the low status of the research worker, were factors holding up progress in research in some countries.

177. The Conference agreed that unless the results of agricultural research were assimilated into farming practices, time and money spent on it would be wasted. In this connection the role of the extension service, as a means of conveying to farmers the results of research, was of the greatest importance.

178. The Conference stressed the need to relate research to the current problems of the farming population through the establishment of a two-way channel of communication which conveyed research results to farmers and, at the same time, reported farmers' difficulties back to the experiment station.

179. In connection with the need for social and economic research, a delegate called attention to the recommendation of the Ninth Regional Conference and the resolution adopted at the Fifteenth FAO Conference under which the Organization was called upon not to restrict its support for research activities to technical agricultural research but, to go a step further, and encourage investigations into economic and social questions related to rural areas.

180. One delegate called upon FAO to conduct a general survey of the research activities currently being undertaken in the countries of the Region, with the object of formulating a UNDP Project, along the lines of the Near East Animal Health Institute, the Desert Locust Project or the Wheat and Barley Improvement Project, with the aim of assisting member countries in solving their problems through research.

181. The same delegate affirmed his belief that the Specialized Agencies of the UN family could be most helpful in assisting member countries in their research problems, provided that the countries concerned took the necessary measures to make the best use of any such assistance given, in particular:

- (a) Coordinating their agricultural research plan with that of the national development plan so that the aims of the former fitted in with those of the latter;
- (b) Identifying clearly factors that impeded progress in the implementation of the agricultural plan;
- (c) Assessing the manpower requirements for the proposed agricultural plan;
- (d) Assessing the financial requirements on the basis of what was available in the way of local resources and what was needed in the way of foreign aid.

182. Delegates referred to the forestry situation in the region and indicated that research should be plantation-oriented, with emphasis on the introduction and trials of a wide range of species and varieties, which would grow under rainfall or irrigation, on establishment and tending techniques and on protection measures, especially against goats and human beings. Research on range management, soil conservation and erosion control on watersheds also needed to go hand in hand with planting trials.

183. Delegates agreed that in the development of agriculture countries should, where possible, allocate a reasonable proportion of their income to applied research - agricultural, economic (particularly at the farm level) and social. An essential prerequisite to this was investment in the training of qualified personnel, such investment being one of the best that a country could make.

184. In regard to priorities, although it was not possible to arrive at any hard and fast rules to suit all countries, because of the varying conditions and problems, it was agreed that the following research and investigations need to receive greater



attention from FAO and Governments, and especially from Governments in the early stages of their development.

- (a) General surveys of natural resources, particularly of soil and water needed to be carried out with the object of identifying suitable areas, in which these two resources were adequate, for intensive development and/or conservation. In this connection, research in the economics of land use and conservation for the sound utilization and management of range and forestry should rate a high priority.
- (b) Investigations were needed into fishery problems within the context of a general survey of protein research in oceans and seas, as well as in inland waters.
- (c) Research was required into improved methods of marketing and processing, particularly of perishables, with special emphasis on storage, packing and transportation.
- (d) Research into a number of specific problems concerning certain crops and animals, the water requirements of crops, the suitability of farm machinery and plant protection against pests, diseases and weeds, etc. also needed to be undertaken.
- (e) In countries where there was a shortage of both land and water, full advantage needed to be taken of the experience gained in hydroponics in Kuwait and this work should be continued and expanded.

185. In regard to the most suitable location for such research and whether this should be conducted at national, regional or inter-regional levels, it was suggested that research on specific problems was best carried out at the national level, providing a means of coordination of such research activities could be established so as to ensure the effective exchange of information and particularly the exchange of research results.

186. It was agreed that in the case of research on problems that cut across boundaries, such as those relating to animal health, plant protection, range management, land and water conservation, etc., it was desirable for regional, as well as inter-regional cooperation, to be sought. For this purpose an agricultural research commission, or similar body, could serve a most useful purpose.

187. It was further suggested that it was desirable for the national and regional institutions and programmes mentioned to establish close contact with research centres in the developed countries so that experience and expertise could be exchanged and a continual cross flow of new knowledge maintained between them.

#### IV. REVIEW OF RECENT REGIONAL ACTION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN THE REGION

##### 1. Conclusions of Regional Commissions and Special Technical Meetings

188. The extent of implementation of the recommendations of the Ninth Regional Conference relating to FAO Commissions, and other statutory bodies in the Region, was reported to the Conference in the Assistant Director-General's Review. The Conference requested that in future this information be incorporated in the appropriate background document itself for advance information of the Member Governments.

189. The Conference examined the effectiveness of the existing FAO statutory bodies in the Region in the light of the criteria established by the Fourteenth Session of the FAO Conference for the establishment of new statutory bodies and for the continuation or reduction of existing bodies. The Conference also considered the achievements of these bodies and the relation of their activities to FAO's programme of activities on the basis of information contained in the 1969 edition of the Directory of FAO Statutory Bodies. In connection with the latter, the Conference expressed the view that the section dealing with achievements was not sufficiently informative to permit a full evaluation of the impact of the work of the bodies on the participating countries and on the progress of work of FAO. The Conference, therefore, requested that future issues of the Directory should contain more information on achievements, with particular reference to the established criteria governing statutory bodies.

190. The Conference agreed that some of the existing statutory bodies in the Region could possibly be abolished. It was also suggested that some bodies could profitably be merged with others on the basis of wider terms of reference for the latter.

191. One delegate expressed the view that the Indian Ocean Fishery Commission and the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean did not adequately cover the need for international consultation relating to fisheries in the Region. It was recalled that Member Governments of the Region, which were members of the FAO Committee on Fisheries, had subscribed to a contrary conclusion reached by the Committee in April 1970. Another delegate recalled that the Arab League had also promoted a Fisheries Commission, of which the Arab countries were members, and he emphasized the need to avoid duplication of international consultation on this subject.

192. The Conference expressed concern that the FAO Commission on the Development of Grazing and Fodder Resources of the Near East had not been formally established. It urged the Director-General to take early measures for organizing an appropriate forum for regional consultation in this field and proposed that such a body should be combined with the Animal Production and Health Commission.

193. The Conference noted with appreciation the Director-General's efforts in obtaining the agreement of WHO to the establishment of a joint FAO/WHO Regional Commission on Food and Nutrition in the Near East. The corroborative statement on this point made, by the representative of WHO, was also received with appreciation.

194. The Conference requested the Director-General to take all the immediate and necessary measures to establish this Commission and to organize its First Session before the next Regional Conference. The Conference also urged the Member Governments to accede to this Commission as soon as they received the invitation and to give it their full support.

195. In regard to the recommendation of the Ninth Regional Conference for the establishment of an Agricultural Marketing Commission, the Conference recommended that regional consultations on agricultural marketing should be combined with those of the Commissions on Agricultural Statistics and Agricultural Planning.

196. The Conference expressed its appreciation to the Director-General of the action taken by FAO in establishing the FAO Commission on Animal Production and Health in the Near East and of the Commission for the Control of the Desert Locust in the Near East.

197. In recommending the continuation of the Forestry Commission, the potentialities of the multi-purpose development of the forestry resources of the Region were emphasized. Similar emphasis was placed on watershed management, the inadequacy of which was threatening to reduce drastically the potential lifetime of major irrigation complexes within the region. The Conference requested the Director-General to assist the Member Governments in the intensification or initiation of their activities for environmental forestry, forestry research and sand dune fixation.

198. The Conference recognized the special significance that the role of the FAO Commission for the Control of Desert Locust should play in support of inter-regional action for the control of the desert locust. The Conference recommended therefore, that to ensure concentrated regional action for the control of the desert locust, the Commission concerned should continue as a separate body. It was emphasized that the Desert Locust Commission was an operational body while the other Commissions were at present advisory.

199. The Conference requested the Director-General to explore carefully, in full consultation with Member Governments, the possibility of abolishing or merging some of the existing statutory bodies. In this connection, the Conference recommended that consolidation of the existing statutory bodies in the Region might provide Commissions for Land and Water Development; Field Crops and Horticultural Production; Plant Protection; Control of Desert Locust; Animal Production and Health; Range Management and Fodder Crop Production; Agricultural Planning, Statistics and Marketing; Food and Nutrition and Forestry.

200. The Conference recommended that each Member Government should appoint a liaison officer for each Commission who would act as a permanent link between the Commission and the Government departments and institutions concerned, who would assist his Commission in the exchange of information and would follow up recommendations made by the Commission.

201. The Conference urged the Commissions to limit their recommendations to major issues and problems and to indicate priorities in the respective sphere of their activities, bearing in mind the services and resources available to the Member Governments and FAO as well as assistance available through bilateral arrangements. The Commissions were requested also to indicate a timetable, to the extent possible, for any programme of work which they might recommend in the future.

202. Several delegates expressed concern at the rate of implementation of the recommendations of the Commissions. The Conference noted the progress made by Member Governments in the implementation of the recommendations of the various bodies, but it was recognized that there was a need for considerable intensification of the activities undertaken by Governments to complement those undertaken by FAO.

203. The Conference noted with concern that the Session of the FAO Forestry Commission for the Near East held in Teheran in April 1970, was attended by 8 out of 18 member countries invited. It was recognized that Member Governments faced many difficulties in participating fully in the deliberations of Commissions and that financial difficulties were among the major ones. The Conference, therefore, urged the Director-General to explore ways and means of providing financial assistance, in special cases, to Member Governments to facilitate their participation in the meetings of the statutory bodies.

204. The Conference expressed its appreciation for the timing of the Tenth FAO Regional Conference so that its recommendation could be taken into account in the formulation of FAO's programme of work and budget for the next biennium and expressed the wish that such timing of the future Regional Conferences should become an established practice in FAO.

205. The Conference generally endorsed the recommendation of various Commissions bearing in mind the areas of priorities indicated under the medium term programmes.

## 2. Field Programmes, especially Regional and Inter-Regional Field Projects

206. The Conference fully supported the proposed country programming. It urged the Member Governments to initiate early action to take optimum advantage of the country programming system. The Conference, therefore, further urged the Member Governments to cooperate fully with the aid agencies in ensuring the closest coordination of national and international efforts in the development of their economy and society.

207. The Conference drew the special attention of the Member Governments to the advantages of assigning a permanent representative to FAO.

208. The Conference specially emphasized the need for a closer coordination of bilateral and multilateral aid. It appreciated the arrangements that FAO had so far entered into with the Governments of Sweden, Denmark and Norway for channelling their bilateral assistance through FAO. It expressed the hope that similar arrangements would be entered into in future with other Governments.

209. The Conference requested the Director-General to ensure closer coordination with inter-governmental bodies in the Region in the promotion and management of regional projects, such as the League of Arab States, the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and the Organization for Regional Cooperation for Development.

210. The Conference also invited Member Governments to establish in their Ministries of Agriculture suitable units to be responsible for continuous liaison with FAO. The Conference noted with satisfaction that some Member Governments had already done so and that these units had proved of considerable benefit, especially to the Governments concerned.

211. The Conference drew the special attention of Member Governments to the substantial liberalisation by the UNDP of the rules governing preparatory assistance to governments and pro-project activities. Governments could now, on submission of a mere letter of intent to the UNDP through established channels, receive assistance in the precise definition of their problems and in the formulation of appropriate projects designed to solve those problems.

212. In urgent and justified cases, the UNDP Administrator could now authorize activities prior to the formal approval of a project by the UNDP Governing Council. The Revolving Fund of the UNDP had been substantially augmented to enable Governments to receive increased assistance of the above two types. The Conference recommended that Member Governments should take the fullest advantage of these facilities.

213. One delegation drew attention to the fact that the technical and physical resources available in the member countries varied widely and proposed that special consideration should be given to new member countries of FAO in the deployment of FAO's technical assistance.

214. The Conference expressed general support for the close coordination in each country of the activities of the various agencies, in the UN family, under the leadership of the Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme. It was emphasized, however, that the importance of the agricultural sector in the economy of the countries of the Region should be fully reflected in the coordinated programme of assistance from the UN family to a country. The view was also expressed that, as the world body technically competent in agriculture, it should be the full responsibility of FAO to formulate the programmes of assistance for the agricultural sector. The role of the UNDP Resident Representative should be limited to that of coordination and integration of the programmes of the various agencies in conformity with the national priority for development, and in the light of the volume of bilateral assistance available for the various sectors.

215. The Conference noted with appreciation that the Director-General had already appointed a Consultant to assist him in the review of FAO's agreement with UNDP on the appointment of Senior Agricultural Advisers. The Conference expressed the wish that a very careful examination should be made, in the course of this review, of the implications of the responsibility of the Senior Agricultural Adviser to FAO and to UNDP respectively. The Conference believed strongly that, in matters which were the primary concern of the Regular Programme of FAO, the Senior Agricultural Adviser should be responsible only to FAO. However, on basic issues concerning the implementation of UNDP assisted programmes the Resident Representative of UNDP should have appropriate responsibility. His intervention in routine operations was likely to cause confusion and thus hamper the smooth operation of projects.

216. The Conference requested the Director-General and Member Governments to reactivate FAO National Committees in order for them to assist in the formulation of programmes of assistance for the development of agriculture.

217. The Conference noted with appreciation that the Director-General had agreed to delegate appropriate authority to Senior Agricultural Advisers and to Project Managers. The Senior Agricultural Adviser could play an important role in ensuring a uniform approach and attitude to operational matters by Project Managers.

218. The Conference further noted with appreciation the recent establishment by the Director-General of a committee of senior officers in FAO to review the FAO field operations, in order to identify the factors which impeded efficient and speedy delivery of assistance and recommend suitable measures for their elimination or minimization. The Conference hoped that this review would be completed shortly and its recommendations, as approved, would be implemented without delay.

219. The Conference urged Governments to select carefully those national and regional projects for international assistance which would have an early impact on development.

220. The Conference stressed the need for taking into full account the requirements of all the inter-related disciplines in the agricultural sector when development projects were formulated. The Conference also stressed the need for integration of the overall programmes of agriculture development with those in other related sectors. The development of agriculture could not be conceived in isolation.

221. The Delegate of Lebanon expressed the appreciation of his Government for the assistance given by FAO recently in the formulation of an overall strategy for the development of agriculture in his country, and suggested that similar assistance could be extended to other countries, if this was desired.

222. It was pointed out that the formulation of national strategy and plans for development were essentially the responsibility of the Government concerned. However,

FAO was prepared to give this assistance to a Government, if so requested, and if the necessary resources were available.

223. The Conference expressed serious concern at the general delay which occurred in formulating the detailed work plan following the approval of a project, and the commencement of effective operation. The Director-General was requested to take all possible measures to ensure prompt response to Government requests for assistance while Member Governments were invited to take full advantage of the preparatory assistance and pre-project activities which were available to them and designed to minimize such delays.

224. The Conference noted with appreciation that UNDP had agreed to national experts assuming greater responsibility for the overall management of projects assisted by that Agency. It noted with further satisfaction that appropriate local agencies and institutes would be acceptable to the UNDP as sub-contractors for execution of its assistance.

225. Technical competence had, in recent years, substantially improved in developing countries. There was, therefore, a need for a shift of emphasis on the type of services required by countries of the Region. Some might continue to require operational expert services for some years to come but others might need a larger proportion of equipment and supplies.

226. In the latter case, the Conference agreed that assistance should consist of a larger proportion of equipment and supplies and Member Governments should, in appropriate cases when formulating their requests for assistance, ensure that this requirement was satisfactorily met.

227. The Conference expressed its serious concern in regard to the quality of field experts made available in recent years and requested the Director-General to ensure that the closest attention possible was paid to quality in the selection of field experts. It was recognized that the expertise locally available had improved considerably during recent years and countries expected experts of higher calibre than in the past.

228. The Conference stressed the importance of detailed specification of the terms of reference, qualification and experience of proposed international experts at the stage of formulation of a project. Due attention had also to be given to the adaptability of experts to the conditions generally prevailing in developing countries. Similarly, careful attention had to be given to the availability and suitability of national experts who might be specified as counterpart staff.

229. Some delegates mentioned that their Governments were not consulted on the evaluation of the achievements of experts and that the assignments of experts were frequently extended without reference to the recipient government. The Conference requested the Director-General to take suitable measures to ensure appropriate consultations with recipient governments, before an extension was granted to an expert.

230. The Conference expressed the hope that the Junior Professional Training Programme of FAO would be suitably strengthened in the coming years. This Programme promised to make available international civil servants in the developing countries who could more effectively bring to bear, in the formulation of the programmes and plans of FAO, the necessary social and human considerations of the developing world.

231. The Conference noted with appreciation the decision of the UNDP to raise the allocation available for regional projects from 14 - 18 percent of its total resources, including one percent for global projects, and invited Member Governments to take full advantage of these increased funds for regional projects.

232. The Conference expressed the hope that the present one percent allocated from UNDP resources for global projects could be increased in the near future. In areas, for example, such as "the effect of development on human environment and on the human being himself", there was need for much more intensified research than at present.

233. The Conference stressed the importance of activities under FAO's Regular Programme in the support of regional field programmes and requested the Director-General to include such appropriate activities, in his Programme of Work for the next biennium, for this purpose.

234. The Conference expressed the view that the organization of regional projects by the establishment of national projects might prove to be an effective means of implementing regional programmes. In this regard, reference was made to the Coordinating Unit of the complex of national Animal Health Institutes in the region.

235. The Conference re-emphasized that a recommendation of a regional conference for a regional project was not in itself enough for international agencies to provide assistance. Member Governments had to submit a request through their established channels. In the case of the UNDP, at least two governments had formally to submit a request. The Conference urged delegates to initiate such formal requests soon after their return to their respective countries in respect of regional projects for which international assistance was recommended by the present Conference.

236. The Conference emphasized the vital importance of ensuring continuity of national activities following the termination of international assistance. In this connection, the Conference requested Member Governments and FAO to ensure increased involvement of national experts in the formulation and management of development projects.

237. The Conference stressed the need for the cooperation of Governments in the continuation of regional projects, where appropriate, following the termination of international assistance. It urged Member Governments to ensure such coordination. The Conference also requested the Director-General to designate or establish, in full consultation with Governments, appropriate forums and instruments to be responsible for the continued review of regionally coordinated projects concerned with problems which were common and which transcended geographical barriers.

238. The Conference expressed general satisfaction with the promotion of international assistance for the regional projects which had been recommended by the Ninth FAO Regional Conference.

239. In recommending technical assistance for future regional projects, the Conference took into account those recommended by the Ninth Regional Conference but which could not be submitted by FAO for the consideration of international aid agencies.

240. The Conference recommended that current regional projects should be evaluated periodically and the evaluation submitted to the appropriate Regional Conference.

241. The Conference recommended that FAO Regional Officers should be available, and in a position, to assist Member Governments in country and regional planning and in the identification and formulation of suitable projects, taking into account national plans for agricultural development. In this connection the Conference agreed that it was of the utmost importance that the posts of regional officers should attract personnel of high calibre.

242. A number of regional institutes were proposed from the floor of the Conference. It was pointed out, however, that the decision to establish a regional institute would have to be taken with great care. The ground would first have to be prepared, step by step, so that Member Governments could participate meaningfully in the activities of a

regional institute when it was established. The Conference recognized that in recommending regional action, sufficient flexibility had to be ensured to give FAO the maximum opportunity for negotiating international and bilateral assistance.

243. The Conference recommended intensification and expansion of some current regional projects and the establishment of new ones with international assistance. These projects are mentioned below.

244. In reviewing field programmes and projects, the Conference noted with concern that the regional project on Natural Grazing and Resource Evaluation, submitted by FAO early in 1969 to the UNDP, had not yet been approved and urged the Director-General to take all possible measures to secure the early approval of this project together with the appointment of a regional expert in range management and fodder crops.

245. The Conference expressed disappointment that the recommendation of the Ninth Regional Conference for the organization of a Training Centre on Inland Fishery Management and Fish Culture was accorded second priority. The Conference urged Member Governments to give their formal support, through their established channels, for raising this project to first priority and for its early approval and implementation.

246. The Conference noted with concern that UNDP had not yet approved the project for Regional Applied Research in Land and Water Development and urged the Director-General to take all possible measures to secure its early approval in view of the very high priority it attached to this field of activity.

247. The Conference requested the Director-General to take urgent measures for the initiation of the pre-project activities of the Regional Institute for Research and Training in Agricultural Statistics. The Conference urged the Director-General to ensure the continuation of the project for Regional Adviser on Statistical Training until the regional institute became fully operational.

248. The Conference was informed that the request of the Government of Kuwait, for UNDP assistance in the establishment of the Hydroponics Project, had been fully appraised and that it was expected to be approved in the very near future.

249. The Conference noted the proposal of Iraq that a regional seminar on the improvement of date production should be held as soon as possible and hoped that the Director-General would be able to give appropriate consideration to this proposal.

250. The Conference noted the proposal of the delegate of Pakistan regarding the establishment of a regional project centered on Karachi for the development of marine fisheries resources with assistance from the UNDP or other sources of international assistance.

251. The Conference noted and recommended the proposals of the delegate of the Sudan, which were supported by other delegates, for developing the currently successful FAO/UNDP assisted Food Processing Centre in the Sudan and widening its scope to serve the region as a whole and requested the Director-General to consult Member Governments of the Region in order to examine the feasibility of the proposal.

252. The Conference expressed its appreciation of the offer, made by the delegate of Pakistan, to make available, as a regional training centre, the UNDP Special Fund Project, Forestry Institute at Peshawar. The attention of the Conference was also drawn to the Forestry Institute, Lattakia, Syria, which operated under the auspices of the League of Arab States. The Conference recommended that member countries should take advantage of the facilities offered at both these institutions and further recommended that FAO should provide assistance to both institutions as might be required.



### 3. Freedom from Hunger Campaign

#### Introduction

253. The Conference stressed the role that the Freedom from Hunger Campaign should play in "humanizing" the development process, the need for which had been underlined again and again at recent international gatherings. The Campaign should help to counteract the tendency to overemphasize the economic to the detriment of the social aspects of development. Indeed one of the tasks of the National Committees should be to try and ensure a synthesis for rural development in their countries.

254. The Conference also recommended that the Campaign should operate as an elite pressure group on behalf of the rural under-privileged so that their interests were constantly borne in mind by the planners. This was in keeping with the Campaign policy which had always been concerned with the participation of people in development and ensuring that they did not become merely objects of bureaucratic decisions. One way of doing this was to extend the Campaign beyond the governmental sector so that it touched, as much as possible, all sectors of the public, including non-governmental organizations, community associations and village-level groups, etc.

#### The Role and Status of the National FFHC Committees

255. Past experience had shown that the most effective mechanism for carrying out the activities of the Campaign was a National Committee composed of both governmental and non-governmental elements. Whether the title, FFHC, should stand as it was, or be changed to "Action for Development" as was proposed at the Second World Food Congress, or be extended to include "Thirst" to convey the importance of water in the Region, as recommended by this Conference, it was of fundamental importance that each country should work out its own priorities. These could of course be reflected in the title of the Committee - following, very generally, the main lines of Campaign action, as proposed by the Director-General at the last FAO Conference. The strength of the Campaign was in many ways its flexibility though of course this did imply the need for creative interpretation at the national level.

256. To encourage a clearer concept of the FFHC and how it could best serve the Near East, it was proposed that a study should be made of Campaign action in the Region. If it was weak in the region, as had been stated, it was only by a thorough study of what was working and what was not - and why it was not - that sound recommendations could be made for action at the national level. The Conference recommended that the results of such study be widely disseminated throughout all the countries of the Region.

257. Apart from more in-depth knowledge, some additional assistance was needed by Committees in the process of establishing themselves. The Conference was assured that the provision of material help, particularly in the form of audio-visual aids, would be forthcoming to those Committees needing it. Exchanges with other National Committees was also a fruitful way of encouraging the Committees in the early stages of their work.

258. Another role of National Committees was to try and coordinate, at the national level, all the non-governmental aid (estimated by OECD at some \$ 1 000 million annually) and to ensure that it fitted in with the priorities of the country, as expressed in National Development Plans.

259. The Conference emphasized the importance of the Campaign being used to educate people, above all to understand the basic causes of hunger and poverty rather than to talk away in terms of symptoms. The need to change the image of the Campaign as purely a question of charity was underlined: common interests and solidarity were

felt to be more acceptable and, indeed, more appropriate motivations. There was beginning to be a change in philosophy of development aid, as demonstrated by the title of the Pearson Report "Partners in Development". However, putting into practice a genuine partnership was still far from perfect. Aid for training and education of farmers and rural women was felt to be one of the forms of aid that National Committees in the Region should encourage since donor Committees, and other aid-giving groups were increasingly receptive to this type of assistance. The function of a National Committee in ensuring that aid, especially from private groups, was used in the best interests of the rural people, was stressed once again.

#### Involvement of Youth in Development Action

260. FAO's experiment in involving young people at the Second World Food Congress, was generally appreciated. The need for the regional application of a number of the relevant recommendations of the Congress was spelt out, while examples of rural youth movements already in progress, were cited. These included the Pakistan Farm Guide movement, the Algerian National Service, Tunisia's Cultural Houses and Iran's Extension, Literacy and Health Corps. The importance of youth activities being coordinated at the national level was stressed and the Conference was informed that there might be more funds available for organizing national seminars to meet this need.

261. Youth, it was felt, constituted the most dynamic element in human resources so that youth mobilization was of primary importance for the development of the countries of the region, where the percentage of young people in the total population was very high. Such mobilization activities should be closely related to National Development Plans. The increased interest in, and concern with youth, the world over, had brought with it an increased readiness on the part of donors to contribute to this type of programme and delegations were invited to work out possible projects for submission to FAO.

262. While utilizing youth's willingness to act should be done in ways most suitable to the general thinking and conditions of each country, it was felt that using national service personnel, as was already the case or being planned, could create a strong drive towards active youth involvement in rural development and development as a whole. It helped to combine recognition of the responsibility of youth, which was often not forthcoming because of traditional patterns of work, with acceptance of the pioneering spirit which they often had and which was often lost, again for the same reason. Collective, organized involvement of youth in the community had been proved necessary in many countries. Canada, with its rural institutions, USA with its 4H Clubs, the Federal Republic of Germany through its associations of rural youth and the People's Republic of China with its young guards - all of these had made use of youth as projectors for the future and agents for change. A National Service Corps of Youth was proposed as one of the keys to development in the Region.

263. The Conference felt that if migration from rural areas to cities was to be stopped it was essential to improve the conditions of life in rural areas. Governments should put at the disposal of young people all the means needed for achieving this and should do all they could to upgrade the dignity of manual labour through rural youth work campaigns. In some countries of the Region this was already being done, while in others such programmes were being studied.

#### The Role of Women in Campaign Activities

264. While the opportunities for women to contribute to national development had certainly increased, there was still much to be done in encouraging them to play a greater role. A recent UN study indicated that, while women did play a role in the economic and social life of their countries, few attained policy-determining posts, except in the fields of education, health and social welfare.

265. This was even more the case with the women in rural communities than those in urban areas and, indeed, it was with the former that the Freedom from Hunger Campaign was principally concerned.

266. The need for the careful planning of women's programmes for better family living was frequently emphasized. Her first and foremost role of mother was of paramount importance but, at the same time, her role as earner, spender, saver and worker had to be taken into consideration.

267. Some delegates felt that women were progressing fairly rapidly towards a more active role in their society. In the Sudan, for example, there was at least one woman on every municipal and provincial council. One delegate, however, took a more pessimistic view: she said that women had been the missing sparkplug in rural development in the Third World. They were left isolated and ignorant in a male-centred world. Yet if they were educated and enlightened they could become the propellor in the dynamics of rural life.

268. In overcoming the grave problem of the exodus from the rural areas, occurring in many countries of the Region, women could play a key part in stemming the "youth-drain" by convincing their sons that agriculture today was a science and not the undignified occupation of the illiterate masses.

269. Multi-purpose welfare centres were cited as an excellent means of improving the conditions of women in rural areas. The FFHC was supporting one such project in Pakistan and this could well serve as a model for other countries.

270. The Freedom from Hunger Campaign was seen as having a vital task in harnessing all available resources towards systematic female adult education and education for girls. In particular it was necessary to identify women educators and extension workers and their training needs. So far home economics had been largely confined to the urban elites at colleges of home economics and social sciences. These were not usually profession-oriented, let alone rural oriented. For preparing rural women educators what was needed was intermediary home economics at secondary school level or at school leaving age. Suitable syllabi needed to be worked out, which focussed on child and youth care, personal and family health, home economics, civic consciousness and functional literacy.

271. Another area in which the FFHC could contribute towards the improvement of the living conditions of rural women was through support of projects that developed cottage industries, both for domestic and export markets.

272. Nutrition education was an activity to which the Campaign had already given considerable stimulus in countries outside the Region. Given the great need for better understanding of the basic principles of nutrition in all the Near East countries, it was recommended that FFHC should pay particular attention to this type of training, especially at the village-level.

V. CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO  
INDICATIONS OF PROBLEM AREAS IN THE MEDIUM TERM PROGRAMME

273. The Conference took note of the opening statement of the Director-General on the medium term programme and the proposals contained in Documents NERC/70/11 and NERC/70/11(a). It welcomed the initiative of the Director-General in focussing attention on the direction in which FAO should be moving in the years immediately ahead. It also welcomed the proposal of the Director-General to present the Programme of Work and Budget for 1972-73 on the basis of programme budgeting.

274. Besides the proposals relating to the five areas of concentration, the Conference strongly endorsed the inclusion of agricultural policy and planning as a sixth area, as it was basic for action in the other areas. The medium term proposals within this area were mentioned in the section of the Report on Agricultural Policy and Planning and, as such, are not elaborated here.

275. The need for humanizing the development process, to which attention was drawn by the Director-General, was regarded as an outstanding problem. Certain aspects of the mobilization of human resources, the central theme of the Conference, such as employment, involvement of youth, changes in the agrarian structure and raising of the rural level of living generally, have, therefore, to be given emphasis in the medium term programme. The tackling of these problems would necessitate an integrated approach to rural development.

276. In the discussion on the major problems of the Region under the various items of the agenda, concern was particularly expressed with respect to land and water development, exploitation of high-yielding varieties, range and pasture management, forestry development, plant and animal disease and control, animal production and training.

277. In respect of land and water development, the Conference stressed that assistance should be given by FAO and UNDP in initiating a Regional Applied Research Programme with emphasis on the improvement and management of soils and economic use of irrigation. In such a programme, priority was to be given to water use projects under arid, semi-arid and dryland farming.

278. In view of the outstanding success achieved through the extended use of HYV of wheat, rice and maize in some countries of the Region, emphasis was placed not only on the continuation but also on the expansion of the FAO Near East Wheat and Barley Improvement and Production Project to include summer cereals, legumes, vegetables and oilseed crops with high yielding potential. For the improvement and production of basic food crops in the Region, a phased programme was to be initiated which would eventually lead to the establishment of a Regional Research Institute; the steps to be taken being analogous to that used in the case of the Association to improve rice production in West Africa.

279. In bridging the protein gap, the role of livestock forage production and range management was particularly underlined. The need for the facilities required by the Near East Animal Production and Health Commission to give adequate assistance to member countries in developing their animal production and health, range management and fodder resources was stressed in this connection. Special importance was given to the survey of livestock production, marketing and trade in livestock and livestock

products. For the development of fisheries in the water adjoining the region, cooperative effort was particularly needed and it was urged that in regional programmes FAO should ensure that the investment requirements were given proper emphasis.

280. With regard to plant and animal disease control, special attention was given to desert locust and rinderpest control. In respect to the former, it was felt that locust control work should be incorporated into the Regular Programme of Work and Budget for 1972-73. Concern was expressed on the danger of the spread of rinderpest for which in some countries conditions were particularly favourable. A long term programme for the control of desert locust, as well as of rinderpest, was considered necessary.

281. A major constraint to the development of the agricultural sector in the Region was the lack of trained personnel in almost all fields, particularly at the intermediate and lower levels. Stress was, therefore, laid on FAO assistance in training, especially in such fields as nutrition and home economics, animal production and range management, fisheries, forestry, land and water development, marketing, farm management, farm machinery, agricultural development, planning and statistics.

282. In the implementation of programmes within the above problem areas, a close link between the activities under the Regular Programme at Headquarters and Regional Office and those under the field programme was considered essential. Furthermore, FAO programmes should be coordinated with those of multilateral and bilateral aid agencies so that they might have maximum impact.

## VI. CONCLUDING ITEMS

### 1. Date and Place of the Eleventh Near East Regional Conference

283. The Conference expressed the view that Regional Conferences should be held sufficiently far in advance of the finalization of the Programme of Work and Budget of the following year as to enable the Director-General to take into account the views and recommendations of the Conference concerned, when formulating a particular Programme of Work and Budget.

284. The Assistant Director-General stated that, as a result of discussions with Kuwait, Libya and Afghanistan, it was possible that the next Meeting of the Conference would take place in one of those countries. The Conference was asked to leave a decision on the precise date and location of the Eleventh Regional Conference to the Director-General and this was agreed to.

285. In regard to the agenda for the Eleventh Regional Conference the delegate of Lebanon suggested that its theme might be marketing and the integration of marketing and production. It was agreed that the Agenda would be worked out by the Director-General in consultation with Member Governments and finalized in 1971 at the FAO Conference.

### 2. Adoption of the Report

286. The Conference adopted the draft Report with only minor amendments. It was agreed that the drafting Committee had performed its duties well.

### 3. Closure of the Session

287. General tribute was paid to the host country, Pakistan, for the excellent arrangements made for the Conference and the facilities placed at its disposal.

APPENDIX A

List of Recommendations, including  
Formal Recommendations and Recommendations  
in the Narrative Text, Contained in the Report

<u>Paragraph</u>	<u>Recommendation No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
<u>1. Areas of Concentration</u>			
<u>(i) Mobilization of Human Resources</u>			
102	R 16	Promotion of farmers associations and cooperatives	Governments
103, 104, 105, 272	R 17	Training of women, their greater investment in development programming and development of home economics services	Governments
107	<u>R 4/70</u>	<u>Agrarian Reform</u>	FAO
110	<u>R 5/70</u>	<u>Training</u>	Governments
112	<u>R 7/70</u>	<u>Integration of Development Services in Selected Local Centres</u>	Governments
118	<u>R 8/70</u>	<u>Employment</u>	Governments
184	R 18	Need for more attention by FAO and Governments to certain research problems	FAO, Governments
254	R 19	FFHC to operate as an elite pressure group on behalf of the rural underprivileged	Governments
256	R 20	Results of Study of FFHC action in the Region to be widely disseminated throughout the Region	FAO
<u>(ii) Increasing Yields (HYVs)</u>			
127	<u>R 10/70</u>	<u>Extended use of HYVs of wheat</u>	FAO, Governments
130	<u>R 11/70</u>	<u>Extended use of HYVs of Summer Cereals, Grain Legumes and Oilseed Cakes</u>	FAO, Governments
130	<u>R 12/70</u>	<u>Extended use of HYVs of Vegetable Crops</u>	FAO, Governments
133	<u>R 13/70</u>	<u>Programme for the Introduction of Improved Types of Agricultural Implements and Machinery for Commercial Farming and Experimental Plots</u>	FAO, Governments
137	<u>R 14/70</u>	<u>Establishment of Regional Research Institute for the Improvement and Production of Basic Food Crops</u>	FAO, Governments
42	R 21	Recommendations of 1970 Forestry Commission Meeting	FAO, Governments

<u>Paragraph</u>	<u>Recommendation No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
(iii) <u>The Protein Problem</u>			
144	R 22	Development of weaning foods	Governments
146	R 23	Need for formulation and implementation of food and nutritional policies and programmes and establishment of a Regional Food and Nutrition Commission	FAO, Governments
147	R 24	Training of nutrition personnel at a variety of levels and disciplines	Governments
148	R 25	Home economics training to be included in faculties of agriculture	Governments
155	R 26	Need for FAO to support the efforts of certain meat producing countries	FAO
158	R 27	Importance of range management and fodder crop production and the need for a Regional Institute for Range Management and Fodder Crop Production	FAO, Governments
162	<u>R 15/70</u>	<u>Animal Production and Health, Range Management and Fodder Crop Production</u>	FAO, Governments
167	R 28	Growing problem of marine pollution to which FAO should give urgent attention	FAO
169	R 29	Continued support to regional fisheries efforts and need for FAO to assist Governments in strengthening fisheries administration and services especially in training	FAO, Governments
194	R 30	Organization of the First Session of the Proposed Food and Nutrition Commission	FAO
(iv) <u>War on Waste</u>			
53	R 31	Further assistance required by South Yemen and Yemen Arab Republic in desert locust control	FAO
54	<u>R 1/70</u>	<u>Desert Locust</u>	FAO, Governments
60	<u>R 2/70</u>	<u>Rinderpest</u>	FAO, Governments
167	R 28	Growing problem of marine pollution	FAO, Governments
205	R 33	Locust Control Commission as separate Commission	FAO
36	R 34	Conclusions of 1969 Ad Hoc Consultation on Land and Water Use and Second Session of Regional Commission on Land and Water Use	FAO, Governments



<u>Paragraph</u>	<u>Recommendation No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
162	R 15/70	<u>Animal Production and Health, Range Management and Fodder Crop Production</u>	FAO, Governments
	(v)	<u>Earning and Saving Foreign Exchange</u>	
24	R 35	Need for markets of developed countries to be opened more freely to products of developing countries	FAO, Governments
42	R 36	Recommendations of 1970 Forestry Commission Meeting	FAO, Governments
	(vi)	<u>Agricultural Development Planning</u>	
31	R 37	Support for programme budgeting	FAO
119	R 9/70	<u>Agricultural Policy Planning</u>	FAO, Governments
<u>2. Commissions</u>			
192	R 38	Need for an appropriate forum for regional consultations on the development of grazing and fodder resources - possible inclusion as a subject of responsibility of Near East Animal Production and Health Commission	FAO
194	R 39 R 23	Organization of First Session of proposed Food and Nutrition Commission	FAO
195	R 40	Proposed Agricultural Marketing Commission to be merged with Commissions on Agricultural Statistics and Agricultural Planning	FAO
196	R 41	Consolidation of existing statutory bodies	FAO
197	R 42	Appointments by Governments of Liaison Officers to work with Commissions	Governments
202	R 43	General endorsement of recommendations of Commissions	FAO, Governments
197	R 44	Continuation of Forestry Commission	FAO
<u>3. Field Programmes</u>			
212	R 45	Periodical evaluation of current regional projects	FAO
241	R 46	Assistance by Regional Officers	FAO
243	R 47	Intensification and expansion of some current regional projects and establishment of new ones	FAO
251	R 48	Development of FAO/UNDP Food Processing Centre in the Sudan into a regional project	FAO
<u>4. World Food Programme</u>			
94	R 3/70	<u>Review of the World Food Programme</u>	WFP/FAO

APPENDIX B

Delegates and Observers Attending the  
Tenth FAO Regional Conference for the Near East  
and Conference Secretariat

AFGHANISTAN

Ehsan Rafik

Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation  
Kabul

M.G. Jahangiri

Second Secretary  
Embassy of Afghanistan  
Islamabad

CYPRUS

Th. Christou

Director of the  
Agricultural Research Institute  
Nicosia

FRANCE

Jean de Vaissière

Inspecteur Général de l'Agriculture  
Paris

Gerard Yannick

Secrétaire  
Ambassade de France  
Islamabad

IRAN

Kamaleddin Moossavi

Director-General of  
Agricultural Extension Service  
Teheran

Aziz Manii

Director  
Animal Husbandry Research Institute  
Teheran

Mohammed Samii

Director  
Karaj Seed and Plant Improvement  
Centre  
Teheran

IRAQ

Nafith Jalal Hwaizi

Minister of Agriculture  
Baghdad

Badie Jamil Al-Kaddo

Research Economist  
Ministry of Planning  
Baghdad

Abdul Mahdi Al-Janabi

Director-General  
Soil and Land Reclamation  
Ministry of Irrigation  
Baghdad

IRAQ (cont.)

Ali Al-Rawi	Director-General of Forestry Ministry of Northern Affairs Baghdad
Abdul Rahman Ismail	Director-General of Animal Resources Ministry of Agriculture Baghdad
Haidar S. El-Haidari	Director-General of Plant Protection Ministry of Agriculture Baghdad
Hussein Al-Shakarji	Director of Relations Ministry of Agriculture Baghdad
Mahmoud I. Al-Hamed	Director of Fisheries Ministry of Agriculture Baghdad
Bashar Rasim	Director-General of Agricultural Cooperation Ministry of Agrarian Reform Baghdad

JORDAN

Qasim Rimawi	Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Interior for Municipal and Rural Affairs Amman
Kamal Taher	Director-General Veterinary and Fisheries Department Ministry of Agriculture Amman

KUWAIT

Sauod Abdel Aziz Al-Fouzan	Under-Secretary Ministry of Public Works Kuwait
Salem Ibrahim Al-Manna'i	Assistant Under-Secretary Director of Agricultural Department Ministry of Public Works Kuwait
Ahmed Mohamed Al-Sharhan	Superintendent, Fisheries Agricultural Department Ministry of Public Works Kuwait
Abdul Rahman Salman	Superintendent Animal Wealth Agricultural Department Ministry of Public Works Kuwait

LEBANON

Sultan Haidar	Directeur Général de l'Office de la production animale Ministère de l'agriculture Beyrouth
Joseph Chami	Chef du Département des projets et programmes Ministère de l'agriculture Beyrouth
Khalil Choueiri	Chef du Département des relations extérieures Ministère de l'agriculture Beyrouth

LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Mohammed Sidki Zehni	Director-General Plant Production Department Tripoli
Mohamed Ramadan Abdulugma	Director of Agriculture (Zavia Region)
Mohamed Jehani	Director of Agriculture (Benghazi Region)

PAKISTAN

Mahmoud A. Haroon	Minister of Agriculture and Works
A.K.M. Ahsan, TQA., CSP.	Joint Secretary (Agriculture)
A. Sami Qureshi, CSP.	Joint Secretary (Agriculture)
Z.A. Hashmi	Secretary Education
S.O. Rahman, EPCS.	Joint Secretary (Food)
A.Z. Faruqui, CSP.	Financial Adviser (Agriculture and Works)
M.Z.A. Tamuri, CSP.	Agricultural Census Commissioner
Niaz Ahmed Naik	Director-General Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Amir Yousuf Ali Khan	Secretary Agriculture Government of Baluchistan
Maj. Gen. Muzaffaruddin, S.Pk.	Chairman, W.P.A.D.C.
M. Shafi Niaz, S.K., T.Pk.	Secretary Agriculture Government of Punjab
Mahmood Iqbal, CSP.	Secretary of Agriculture Government of Sind
M. Habib Khan	Secretary Agriculture Government of N.W.F.P.
M.A. Rahman, CSP.	Joint Secretary, Agriculture Government of East Pakistan
Azizu Haq	Deputy Director Pakistan Academy for Rural Development Comilla

PAKISTAN (Cont.)

Attiya Inayatullah (Mrs.)	
S. Barkat Ahmed, T.Pk.	Officer on Special Duty (FAO) Agriculture Wing
Azaf F. Vardag, CSP.	Private Secretary to A and WM
Javed Ahmed Qureshi, TQA., CSP.	Deputy Secretary (Agriculture)
Azizal Jalil	Deputy Secretary Economic Affairs
A.M. Choudhuri	Agricultural Marketing Adviser
M.I.K. Khalil, TQA., CSP.	Agricultural Counsellor Embassy of Pakistan Rome
K.M. Badruddoza	Director of Research (Agriculture) Agriculture Research Council
A. Sattar	Joint Commissioner Agricultural Census Commission
H.R. Malik, TQA., CSP.	Chairman
M.M. Kazim, CSP.	Deputy Secretary (Agriculture)
M.L. Naqsh, TQA., CSS.	Officer on Special Duty Agriculture Wing
Rasheed Ahmad	Deputy Secretary (Agriculture)
S.M. Ali	Animal Husbandry Commissioner
S.A. Jaleel	Director Marine Fisheries
A. Aleem	Deputy Agricultural Development Commissioner
A. Ghafoor	Department of Plant Protection
A.Q.M.B. Karim	Director-General, Soil Survey Project of Pakistan
Sulaiman Kakli	Deputy Chief Planning Commission
S.H. Hazarika	Director, Field E.P. Agricultural Development Corporation
Majid Hassan	Joint Secretary, Agriculture
Moinuddin Ahmed	Director of Fisheries Government of Baluchistan Quetta
Musahibbudin Ahmed	Director of Agriculture
Mohamed Sharif Choudhury	Director of Agriculture Sind - Karachi
Fazil Dad	Director of Agriculture Peshawar
Mohammed Abdullah	Adviser, Agriculture
Mohammad Ameeruz Zaman	Deputy Secretary, Economic Coordination and External Assistance Division

SAUDI ARABIA

Hassan Hajrah

Director-General  
Public Land Management  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Riyadh

Nasser O. Saleh

Engineer  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Riyadh

SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Abdul Rahman Elmi

Director-General  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Mogadiscio

Abdullah Ahmed

Director  
Veterinary Services  
Mogadiscio

Abdirahman Haji Noor

Director of Forestry  
Mogadiscio

SOUTHERN YEMEN, PEOPLE'S  
REPUBLIC OF

Mohamed Awadh Ba'amer

Director of Agriculture and  
Agrarian Reform  
Aden

SUDAN, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC  
OF THE

Abu El Gasim Hashim Osman

Minister of Cooperation and  
Rural Development  
Khartoum

Hassan Mohammedi

Director  
Rural Development Department  
Khartoum

Yousif Hassan Said

Economic Adviser  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Khartoum

Mohammad Osman Elnigomi

Third Secretary  
Sudan Embassy  
Islamabad

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Mohammed Adnan Sabri

Director, Statistics and Planning  
Ministry of Agriculture and  
Agrarian Reform  
Damascus

UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC

Abbas Ahmed El-Itriby

Under-Secretary of State  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Cairo

Mohammad Mohammed Sadek

Senior Plant Breeder  
Ministry of Agriculture, Cairo

Mohamed Al-Saeed Saleh Youssef

Research Officer  
Animal Production Department  
Ministry of Agriculture, Cairo

Helmy El-Sayed Ibrahim Salem

Head of FAO Branch  
Foreign Relations Department  
Ministry of Agriculture, Cairo

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

BAHRAIN

Abdulaziz Al-Hasan

Assistant Director of Agriculture

QATAR

Sultan Al Kawari

Head of Agricultural Development  
Ministry of Industry and Agriculture

I.H. Al Badr

Chief Horticulturist  
Department of Agriculture  
Ministry of Industry and Agriculture

OBSERVERS FROM MEMBER COUNTRIES

NETHERLANDS, KINGDOM OF THE

Sonneveld Jan

Agricultural Attaché for the  
Middle East  
Embassy of Holland, Beirut, Lebanon

UNITED KINGDOM

Charles E. Johnson

Adviser on Agriculture  
Middle East Development Division  
British Embassy, Beirut, Lebanon

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ralph W. Phillips

Principal Observer  
Director, International Organizations  
Staff  
Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D.C.

Leland R. Anderson

Deputy Assistant Director  
Agricultural Planning - USAID  
Rawalpindi, Pakistan

H. Charles Treakle

Economic Research Service  
Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D.C.

Quentin M. West

Administrator  
Foreign Economic Development Service  
US Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D.C.

PERMANENT OBSERVER FOR THE HOLY SEE

Robert A. Butler

Punjab University  
Lahore

REPRESENTATIVES OF UNITED NATIONS  
AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Aly Gritly

Resident Representative of the  
United Nations Development  
Programme in Pakistan

Brian John Foster

Programme Officer  
UNDP, Islamabad

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL  
CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND

Carl Schonmeyr

UNICEF Representative  
Islamabad

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

K. Ruud

Manpower Analyst

Quantick Owen

Project Coordinator  
Manpower Planning Project UNDP/SF

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

F.M. Ustun

Director  
Resources Management Division

Fritz Pronk

Branch Chief  
Near East and North Africa

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

A. Tabibzadeh, M.D.

WHO Representative in Pakistan

M.R. Barakat, M.D.

Nutrition Adviser, WHO

OBSERVERS FROM INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES

Abd Elwahed Mohamed

Agricultural Attaché  
League of Arab States  
Tahrir Square  
Cairo



CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

FAO STAFF

Direction

P. Terver

Representative of the  
Director-General and  
Assistant Director-General  
Development Department  
FAO, Rome

U. Sherman (Mrs.)

Secretary to Mr. Terver

A.R. Sidky

Assistant Director-General for  
Near Eastern Affairs  
Regional Office for the Near East  
Cairo, U.A.R.

A. Mazzawi (Miss)

Secretary to Dr. Sidky

General Secretariat

H. Abdallah

Secretary

D.E. Faulkner

Reports Officer  
Regional Animal Production and  
Health Officer

J. Andersen

Conference Affairs Officer

M.R. Alwi

Information Officer

G. Dorsey

Information Officer

Technical Secretariat

B.K. Steenberg

Assistant Director-General  
Forestry Department

H.A. Jasiorowski

Director  
Animal Production and Health Division

H.M. Mandefield

Director, Publications Division

J.A. Storer

Director, Fishery Economics and  
Institutions Division

C.H. Weitz

Coordinator  
Freedom-from-Hunger Campaign

J.P. Dabell

Chief, Near East Area Service  
Area Service Division

L.A. Kristjanson

Chief, Production Economics and  
Farm Management Service

J.C. Abbott

Deputy Director  
Rural Institutions Division

B.M. Nicol

Deputy Director, Nutrition Division

R.N. Poduval

Chief, Near East Group  
Economic Analysis Division

H. Quaix

Chief, Africa South of Sahara  
Policy Advisory Bureau

Technical Secretariat (Cont.)

D. Ahmed	Regional Rural Institutions Officer
J.V. Bawtree (Miss)	Editor, Ideas and Actions Bulletin, FFHC
A. Cortas	Regional Planning Economist
M. Doss (Miss)	Regional Nutrition and Home Economics Officer
A. Eid (Miss)	Technical Officer FAO/IBRD Co-operative Programme
Y. Ghannam	Agricultural Services Officer
A. Hafiz	Regional Consultant Wheat and Barley Project
K. Hamad	Regional Forestry Officer
H. Husein	Regional Statistical Training Adviser
L.T. Kadry	Regional Soil Survey Officer
M.R. Khan	Area Service Officer, Near East Area Service Area Service Division
A.B. Khatib	Regional Water Development Officer
S. Singh	Regional Plant Protection Officer
G. Singh	Agricultural Officer (Desert Locust) Crop Protection Branch, AGP

FAO Country Representative

T. Arnborg	FAO Country Representative in Pakistan
------------	--

WFP Staff

F.M. Ustun	Director, Resources Management Division
F. Pronk	Chief, Near East and North Africa Project

Interpreters and Translators

K. Annabi	Interpreter (French and Arabic)
S. Hamad (Mrs.)	Interpreter (Arabic)
M.T. Iordanow (Miss)	Interpreter (English)
V. Maalouf	Interpreter (Arabic)
J.M. Sala	Interpreter (French)
S. Afifi	Reviser/Translator (Arabic)
A. Anabtawi	Translator (Arabic)
J. Costil (Mrs.)	Translator (French)
J. Curtis	Translator (French)
H. Soliman	Translator (Arabic)
Y. Sultan	Translator (Arabic)

Documents Officers

L. Badolati (Mrs.)	Documents Officer
Z. Heikal (Mrs.)	Documents Officer

Interpretation Equipment Operator

C. Iacometti	Interpretation Equipment Operator
--------------	-----------------------------------

Stenographers and Typists

G. Abboud (Miss)	Typist (A)
M. Attisha (Miss)	Typist (A)
P. Ellis (Miss)	Bilingual Stenographer (E/F)
A. Joannides (Miss)	Typist (E)
A. Mazzawi (Miss)	Stenographer/Typist (E)
D. Moro-D'Alessandro (Mrs.)	Bilingual Stenographer (E/F)
M. Navarro (Miss)	Typist (F)
M. Sharaf-El-Din	Typist (A)
C. Zaki (Mrs.)	Bilingual Typist (A/E)

APPENDIX C

AGENDA FOR MEETING

I. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. Inauguration of the Conference
2. Election of Officers of the Conference (Chairman and Vice-Chairmen)
3. Election of the Drafting Committee
4. Adoption of the Agenda

II. SITUATION AND PROSPECTS OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE IN THE NEAR EAST REGION

5. Statement of the Director-General
6. Statement of the Regional Representative
7. Statement of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme

III. MATTERS OF MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION

8. Mobilization of Human Resources in Connection with Agricultural Development
9. Policy Implications for the Region of the IWP World Study in Relation to:
  - (a) Exploitation of High-Yielding Varieties of Crops, with emphasis on Cereals, Legumes and Oilseeds
  - (b) Bridging the Protein Gap in the Region, with emphasis on Livestock Development and Fisheries
10. Contribution of Technology and Research to Agricultural Development in the Near East

IV. REVIEW OF RECENT REGIONAL ACTION FOR IMPROVEMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN THE REGION

11. Conclusions of Regional Commissions, and Special Technical Meetings
12. Field Programmes, specially Regional and Inter-Regional Programmes
13. Freedom from Hunger Campaign

V. CONCLUDING ITEMS

14. Adoption of the Report, including Indication of Priorities, specially for Medium-Term Action
15. Date and Place for the Eleventh FAO Regional Conference for the Near East
16. Closing of the Conference

APPENDIX D

LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE CONFERENCE

<u>Document No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Agenda Item No.</u>
<u>General Information</u>		
NERC/70/INF/1	Information Note	
NERC/70/INF/2	Provisional Timetable	
NERC/70/INF/3	List of Documents for the Conference	
<u>Background Documents</u>		
NERC/70/1	Provisional Agenda	4
NERC/70/1(a)	Provisional Annotated Agenda	4
NERC/70/2	Regional Representative's Review of FAO's Activities in the Region and Report on Action Taken on the Recommendations of the Ninth FAO Regional Conference	6
NERC/70/3	Report of the United Nations/FAO World Food Programme - Statement of the Executive Director of WFP	7
NERC/70/4	Mobilization of Human Resources for Agricultural Development	8
NERC/70/5	Exploitation of High-Yielding Varieties of Crops	9(a)
NERC/70/6	Bridging the Protein Gap	9(b)
NERC/70/7	Contribution of Technology and Research to Agricultural Development in the Near East	10
NERC/70/8	Conclusions of Regional Commissions, and Special Technical Meetings	11
NERC/70/9	Field Programmes, Specially Regional and Inter- Regional Field Projects	12
NERC/70/10	Freedom from Hunger Campaign: a) The Role and the Status of the National FFHC Committees b) Involvement of Youth in Development Action c) The Role of Women in Campaign Activities	13
<u>Conference Documents</u>		
NERC/70/CONF/1	Statement of the Director-General	5
NERC/70/CONF/2	Statement of the Regional Representative	6
NERC/70/CONF/3	Statement of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme	7





