

Report of the

FIFTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE

for

ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

Saigon, Viet-Nam, 21-30 November 1960



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

REPORT

of the

FIFTH FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE

for

ASIA AND THE FAR EAST

SAIGON, VIET-NAM

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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
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A. INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER 1

The Fifth FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Far East was held at Saigon, Republic of Viet-Nam, 21-30 November 1960. Member Governments represented were:

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| Australia | Federation of Malaya |
| Burma | Nepal |
| Ceylon | Netherlands |
| France | Pakistan |
| India | Philippines |
| Indonesia | Portugal |
| Japan | Thailand |
| Korea | United Kingdom |
| Laos | United States of America |
| | Viet-Nam |

The Federal Republic of Germany and the following organizations were represented by observers:

United Nations
International Labour Organization
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
World Health Organization
International Office of Epizootics
World Veterans Federation
Colombo Plan Bureau

A full list of the names of the participants is given in Annex I of this report.

In opening the Conference, His Excellency Mr. Nguyen-ngoc-Tho, Vice-President of the Republic of Viet-Nam, extended a welcome to all participants. He expressed appreciation to FAO for holding the Conference in Saigon and for its assistance to Viet-Nam as well as other countries of the region in their efforts for the development of agriculture and the raising of the farmers' levels of living. The work of FAO was contributing to greater mutual understanding among the peoples of the world. With regard to the present Conference, he hoped that problems of agricultural production and distribution could be worked out on a regional basis as a result of the deliberations, and wished the Conference every success.

The Director-General of FAO, Dr. B.R. Sen, expressed appreciation to the Government of Viet-Nam for the splendid arrangements made for the Conference, and drew attention to the outstanding achievements of

Viet-Nam in the increase of rice and rubber production, the resettlement projects, the provision of agricultural credit and the betterment of rural life. For the world as a whole food production was barely keeping pace with population increase, and it was in Asia that the fight against poverty and need called for the greatest efforts. He assured the delegates that the increased endeavours of their countries would have the full support of FAO. Finally, he expressed the sympathy of the Conference to the Government and people of Pakistan for the recent cyclone disaster in East Pakistan.

His Excellency, Dr. P.S. Deshmukh, Minister of Agriculture of the Government of India and leader of the Indian delegation, expressed the thanks of the delegates to the Government of Viet-Nam for their hospitality and for the excellent arrangements made for the Conference.

His Excellency, Mr. Le-van-Dong, the Secretary of State for Agriculture of Viet-Nam and leader of the Viet-Nam delegation, was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Conference. The heads of all other delegations were elected as Vice-Chairmen.

The Chairman thanked the meeting for his election, which he regarded as an expression of encouragement to his country on the part of the Conference. The participating countries had common problems of development and a common predominance of agriculture in the national economy. He felt sure that delegates would be happy to place before the Conference under the various items of the agenda their experience with agricultural development, the problems being met and the solutions being tried. He noted that some of the problems could only be solved in the framework of the whole region, so that FAO had a special role to play in helping the member countries.

As its first order of business the Conference discussed the provisional agenda previously circulated and adopted the items listed, with several amendments. The final agenda is shown as Annex II to this report. It was agreed that the subjects listed as Survey of Agricultural Education and Extension, and Agricultural Information Services should be discussed together.

A list of working papers, both those prepared and distributed in advance by the Secretariat and those presented by delegations and the Secretariat during the Conference, is given in Annex III of this report.

The Conference set up a Drafting Committee consisting of the delegates of Australia, Burma, India, Japan, Malaya, Pakistan and Viet-Nam to prepare for its consideration a draft report of the proceedings of the Conference. The delegate of the Federation of Malaya was elected as Chairman of the Drafting Committee.

At its closing session, held in the morning of 30 November 1960, the Conference considered the draft report and adopted it with some amendments.

The delegates of Pakistan, the Philippines and the Federation of Malaya expressed the desire to invite the next regional conference to their countries. The Conference was also informed that Burma had made a proposal at the 7th Session of the International Rice Commission, which was held in Saigon prior to the Regional Conference, that the government would like to be host for the next session of the IRC and the Regional Conference. Dr. F.W. Parker, Assistant Director-General of FAO, expressed the appreciation of the Organization for the kind proposals made by these governments.

The Chairman thanked the delegations and observers for their attendance and valuable contribution to the discussions. He stressed the value of the Conference in enabling the countries in the region to consider common problems together and to work closely as friends. He believed that such a collaboration would help bring to the people of underdeveloped countries in the region conditions worthy of human beings. As the chief delegate of the host country, the Chairman hoped that other FAO meetings in the future would be held in his country.

On behalf of delegates and observers, the chief delegate of the Federation of Malaya thanked the host government for the outstanding services and facilities provided for the Conference. He also congratulated the Director-General and FAO officials on the direction of the Conference, and the members of the secretariat working in the background. In seconding the vote of thanks, Dr. Deshmukh of India mentioned that regional conferences were growing in strength and utilization as well as in scope. He considered that this Conference was more successful than the previous ones for this region.

The Conference was closed by Dr. Parker, who expressed the deepest appreciation of the Organization for the effective participation of delegates and observers, and for the generosity and hospitality of the host government extended to the Conference.

B. THE WORK OF FAO IN ASIA AND THE FAR EAST
AND THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

CHAPTER 2

Trends and Objectives in the Work of FAO
in Asia and the Far East

Statement by the Director-General

The Director-General observed that FAO had completed the fifteenth year of its existence on 16 October 1960 and the Fifth Regional Conference for Asia and the Far East might well begin by going back to the origins and purposes of FAO. People were sometimes apt to forget that the first body established by the United Nations was the Food and Agriculture Organization. Preparatory discussions had been started as far back as 1943 when the world was still in the grip of a disastrous war. Why was it that at such a time the leaders gave their thought to the organization of a world body like FAO? The Preamble to the Charter of FAO made that clear - to raise the levels of nutrition and living standards of peoples all over the world through improvement in production and distribution; to create a base of healthy and contented peoples upon which the ultimate goal of this generation - world peace - could be built.

In many respects, those fifteen years had been some of the most eventful years in human history. Fourteen countries in this region had achieved independence and taken their destiny into their own hands. What progress had been made during this period to ensure a better and fuller life for the common man which must be the ultimate aim of political independence? The Director-General had come to Saigon fresh from FAO's First Regional Conference for Africa. The attention of the world was now absorbed in African developments. But it should be remembered that it was in Asia and the Far East that half of the population of the world lived and also it was in this region unfortunately that the problems of hunger and malnutrition still assumed the gravest character.

Agriculture in Economic Development

After outlining recent trends in agricultural production, trade and food consumption, the Director-General stated that the main problems of region-wide importance which called for attention were: the continuing imports of certain basic foods in order to maintain

even existing consumption levels; the inability of resource development and technical advance to achieve a sufficient momentum to enable production to provide a higher quality diet at the same time as raising calorie levels; and the unsatisfactory position regarding exports of food and raw materials, together with the somewhat clouded long-term outlook.

There could be no doubt that the key to the problem of economic development of underdeveloped countries throughout the East lay in agriculture. Agriculture still provided the livelihood for 70 per cent of the total population in this region. With the exception of a few countries, agricultural exports were the main source of foreign exchange earnings that made possible the import of the capital goods required for development. Development of industries, communications, essential reforms in the institutional field, all were important and must be pursued simultaneously. Manufacturing industry for many years in its early life would not be competitive and would have to rely mainly on the local market. In pre-industrial society this local market was bound mostly to be in the rural community, and unless the rural community had something to exchange for the manufactured products, the industries could not be expected to prosper.

Agricultural Productivity

The Director-General emphasized that the main problem in the further agricultural development of Asia and the Far East lay in the extremely low level of agricultural productivity in most of the region, with the notable exception of Japan. If productivity could be raised two or three times within the next few decades, as it was certainly possible to do through an integrated approach to such factors as irrigation, seed improvement and fertilizers, and a greater investment of national finances, not only would it be possible to keep pace with the population growth but also the foundation of all-round economic development would be laid.

Fertilizers

There could be no doubt, he said, that fertilizers could make a great contribution to productivity, provided they were associated with the necessary attention to other technical and institutional improvements. The Fourth Regional Conference in Tokyo had asked FAO to pay special attention to measures which would facilitate an increased consumption of fertilizers. FAO had since made a fertilizer survey of Asia and the Far East and the results of this important study had been transmitted to the governments of the region and would be considered at the Conference.

Irrigation

He believed that the part that development of irrigation could play would be understood in this region. Throughout most of southern and southeast Asia, the agricultural pattern had adjusted itself over the centuries to the climatic rhythm of the monsoon, with a super-abundance of water for four to five months and a longer period of drought during which most of the land had to lie idle. With the increasing pressure of population on resources it was clearly wasteful to continue this system. A great deal of the arable land on the alluvial plains and deltas could produce crops throughout the twelve months of the year if the available water were properly controlled and conserved.

He mentioned that FAO had made a detailed study of one such area, namely the Lower Ganges-Brahmaputra Basin, covering a population of more than 130 million, in order to discover what the production potentialities really were if the resources were fully developed, and to indicate the patterns of land and water use which would enable those potentialities to be fully realized. The study had also helped FAO to work out an appropriate methodology which might be followed by countries themselves in appraising their resource potentialities. The Fourth Regional Conference had asked FAO to organize a meeting on the overall aspects of agricultural planning and the study of the Lower Ganges-Brahmaputra Basin would form a subject of that conference.

Diversification of Agriculture

The Director-General emphasized that diversification of agriculture was one of the most important needs of the region. From an economic point of view, crop diversification enabled the farmer to spread both the natural and the economic risks over several crops, thus stabilizing his farm enterprise. From a technical point of view, it provided the possibility of integration of animal husbandry, leguminous crops and soil depleting crops into a balanced system which made possible permanent agriculture at a high level of soil fertility. From a nutritional point of view it provided for adequate production of both animal and plant proteins, as well as all high calorie crops. Finally, from a national viewpoint, it meant a very great increase in the total volume of food and agricultural production, which might be as high as four times the existing level, as tentative estimates for the Lower Ganges-Brahmaputra Basin had shown. The whole question of crop diversification under irrigation was included in the agenda of the Conference.

Development of the livestock industry was closely bound up with the possibilities of crop diversification. Along with fisheries, this was also one of the principal means of improving the supply of

high quality protein to which he had already referred. Pilot projects of various types seemed to be a good means for promoting the animal industry, especially in the fields of poultry and dairying. FAO already has some experience of this technique, particularly in connection with the expanded nutrition projects being jointly undertaken by UNICEF and FAO. Such pilot projects afforded an opportunity for a fully integrated approach to the development of animal husbandry and illustrated what could be done in other areas under similar conditions. The agenda would provide an opportunity for Conference discussion of this matter.

Incentives to Cultivators

Having touched on the technical aspects of the problem of agricultural productivity, the Director-General went on to point out that improved technology could supply only part of the answer. In the final analysis, adoption of improved methods and better use of resources would occur only when the farmers themselves made the extra effort required, for example, to improve their land and undertake the risks involved in trying out new and more intensive methods of farming. They would do so only if they expected to benefit thereby. It was, therefore, essential that Governments anxious to promote agricultural expansion should devote special attention to creating favourable institutional and economic conditions in order to give farmers confidence that they would benefit from any additional effort or investment. During the last decade, much had been done in many countries of this region to improve land tenure, develop credit facilities and cooperatives, and improve marketing methods. Nevertheless, a great deal remained to be done in all these fields. The policy aspects of several institutional problems, including particularly agrarian reform, had been the subject of special attention at earlier regional conferences. This time it was proposed that special attention be given to marketing questions. The Conference was also asked to consider the future development of the Southeast Asian Regional Agrarian Research and Training Institute which was soon to be established, largely as a result of previous discussions at Far East regional conferences.

Community Development

In the context of institutional changes, the Director-General made special mention of community development which, if properly conducted, could play an important role. He emphasized one lesson that had been learnt. It had been the experience everywhere that if the community development program was to make continued progress and contribute effectively to a country's advance, then those elements of its composite program which were directly concerned with the strengthening of the productive forces had to be adequately safeguarded and, indeed, should receive the foremost attention. Since agriculture represented the most important productive activity in the newly developing countries

resorting to community development, the effective conduct of a viable community development might be best entrusted to an inter-ministerial coordinating machinery in which the central and strategic role of agriculture was assured. If a single Ministry were to be in charge because the situation was not ripe for developing special coordinating arrangements, then the obvious choice should be the Ministry of Agriculture, maintaining liaison with other subject-matter Ministries like Education, Health, etc. The loss of the focus of improved agricultural productivity would inevitably mean that the program would peter out in a series of well-meant measures of increased consumption and welfare amenities which could not be sustained for lack of funds. He commended this to the notice of all governments so that future disappointments could be avoided, though it was for each government to decide for itself what was best for the country.

Trained Personnel

The Director-General considered that his statement on the problem of raising agricultural productivity would be incomplete if he did not mention the related problems of trained personnel and capital investment. Very considerable progress had been made in recent years in the training of technical and administrative personnel in the region in the establishment of the necessary government services for agriculture, and in the development and reorientation of research. The progress had however been rather uneven as between countries and an immense task still lay ahead.

Capital

The need for capital was also still immense and governments had to do all in their power not only to mobilize domestic resources but also to attract and retain foreign capital. Obviously economic and social development depended primarily on domestic effort and the use of domestic resources. But bilateral and international assistance, both financial and technical, could play a very crucial, even if marginal, role in supplementing national efforts.

He stated that in post-war years, bilateral assistance had played a much greater part than multilateral programs. Of the total flow of governmental funds from principal groups of developed countries to underdeveloped countries in 1954-57, bilateral aid (loans and grants) had amounted to \$7.8 billion, while multilateral aid had been only \$1.7 billion, less than 25 per cent. The resources of international financial and technical assistance were still extremely limited in relation to the needs of the developing countries. It was encouraging to note however that there had recently been some increase in the resources available, through the establishment of the United Nations Special Fund for Economic Development and the International Development Association.

Development Planning

An essential condition of success, whether in the use of domestic resources or foreign aid, was planning. A growing realization was evident among the governments of the region that development projects must be placed under the framework of an overall development policy based on realistic appraisal not only of economic, but also of the social conditions of the country concerned. From a general standpoint, through ECAFE's Working Party on Economic Development and Planning, which had considered at a series of meetings each of the sectors of development planning, the countries had had an opportunity to consider planning techniques, to share their experiences in implementing their development plans, and to be kept informed of progress made in the execution of such plans. As far as the agricultural sector was concerned, FAO had maintained a close watch over progress in agricultural planning in individual countries and had provided planning consultants to a number of countries throughout the world. Furthermore, in line with the recommendations of the last FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Far East, two meetings had been recently held in Bangkok to consider various aspects of agricultural planning. In June 1960 FAO's Technical Meeting on Nutrition in Food Policy and Planning considered the practical ways in which aims for better nutrition could be linked with agricultural programs. Three weeks before the Conference a meeting sponsored jointly by FAO and ECAFE had given an opportunity to experts of several countries of the region to consider some of the more complicated techniques in agricultural planning, such as agricultural target setting within the framework of general economic development, the factors to be considered in selecting the most effective measures for implementing the production targets, and types of data collection and economic research to which priority should be given. The conclusions of both these meetings, which would be presented at the Conference, should be of further help to countries in improving their work in planning for agriculture.

He also brought to the notice of the Conference the Mediterranean Development Study, which was carried out by FAO in 1958 to formulate balanced action proposals for the restoration and development of the land and water resources of the region. In carrying out the study, attention had been paid to the scope and composition of investment, measures for technical improvement, and institutional and other obstacles which had hitherto prevented sustained growth. The claims of other sectors of the economy, whose simultaneous development was to some extent a condition of, and in any case necessary to, the full development of each country, had been taken into account. He hoped that opportunities would be found to make use in this region of the experience gained by FAO in the Mediterranean Development Study, including also the experience in resource appraisal as a help in providing long-term perspectives for planning.

Nutrition

Successful planning required adequate appreciation on the part of all of the magnitude of the task ahead. One way of measuring this task was in terms of the production needed to meet foreseeable requirements for a minimum satisfactory level of nutrition. While any attempt to improve the nutritional status would admittedly have to be directed towards removing the calorie shortage in the first instance, he believed that in the present status of nutrition when calorie deficiency was only marginal, this shortage was best met by aiming at increases in supplies of protective foods as far as possible. The reason was that consumption per person of cereals and starchy roots in a great part of this region was already higher than one would expect to have in a reasonably well-balanced diet. On the other hand, protective foods which were the main sources of proteins, minerals and vitamins were more expensive than cereals and starchy roots. In order to bring about improvement in the status of nutrition, it would therefore be necessary to ensure that these protective foods were within the means of the consumer and would not involve revolutionary changes in the established dietary patterns.

The Director-General pointed out that at present per caput consumption of animal protein was not above 10 grams a day in most of the region and in some countries considerably below this figure. A quantity of 20 grams a day would give a minimum satisfactory supply of animal protein and also assure a reasonable supply of minerals and vitamins. But even this minimum desirable level of nutrition, when translated in terms of total food supplies, would imply increases which would be hard to achieve without resorting to drastic measures for increasing food production. At the same time, population was growing fast. A study by ECAFE in the June 1959 issue of the Economic Bulletin for Asia and the Far East had indicated that population in the ECAFE region might increase by more than one half by 1980 and by much more than double (an increase of approximately 150 per cent) by the turn of the century.

This implied that just to maintain the present low level of diet in this region, food supplies would have to be increased by more than 50 per cent within 20 years and possibly 150 per cent within 40 years, unless changes occurred in demographic trends. It was evident that much larger food supplies would be needed if, in addition to providing for the increases in population, allowances were made for improving the present level of nutrition. Calculations made in FAO showed that the existing supply of fruits and vegetables, of meat, eggs, fish and milk, would have to be trebled or even quadrupled by 1980 and increased from five to six times by the year 2000 in order to provide a reasonably adequate level of nutrition to the peoples of this region. This would imply an annual overall increase in protective food supplies of the

order of 7-10 per cent per annum, a rate which would call for economic development at a far more accelerated rate than the present slow trend. The Freedom from Hunger Campaign was shaped to give force to this added effort 1/.

Use of Surpluses

The Director-General reported that perhaps the most encouraging single international action in support of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign was the recent approval by the General Assembly of the UN of a proposal endorsing the Campaign and urging all members of the UN and its Specialized Agencies to support the Campaign in every way. The Resolution asked FAO to develop appropriate programs to use surpluses to relieve hunger and assist in the economic development of lesser-developed regions. Delegates to this Regional Conference, particularly from India and Pakistan, would already have some familiarity with the constructive use of surpluses. Surplus foods obtained on favourable terms could help to speed up the tempo of agricultural and general economic development. This applied particularly to projects with a high labour content, for example, irrigation projects and road construction. A pilot study undertaken a few years ago by FAO in cooperation with the Government of India showed that some 50 to 60 per cent of the cost of such projects could be covered by the sale of surplus foods obtained on favourable terms. A particularly valuable use of surpluses would be for the establishment of national food reserves, both as a safeguard against crop failures, and even more as a method of stabilizing prices both to producers and consumers, and thus reducing the danger of inflationary pressures. This would usually necessitate the construction of new storage facilities, in itself a project with a high labour content for which it might sometimes be possible to use surplus foods. The Director-General added that any new measures which were devised for the constructive use of food surpluses would certainly pay full regard to the established FAO code of surplus disposal, designed to safeguard the position of traditional commercial exporters of rice and other food grains.

The Director-General reported that he had taken advantage of the recent session of the FAO Council to seek the advice and assistance of FAO's member governments on the policies and procedures which FAO will need to develop for effective implementation of the resolution of the United Nations General Assembly. The Council had authorized him to establish a small committee of independent consultants of high international standing who were known to have given thought to the types

1/ The Director-General's statement on the Freedom from Hunger Campaign is presented under that heading of this report.

of problems involved. This committee was expected to meet in Rome towards the end of January 1961. The Council had also appointed an inter-governmental committee to assist him in preparing his report to be submitted to the next session of ECOSOC.

Freedom from Hunger Campaign

The Director-General concluded by stressing once again that the Freedom from Hunger Campaign was an attempt - the first attempt of all nations working together - to face up to the challenge of poverty, hunger and malnutrition in the world. In the consciousness of what was at stake, he exhorted all to work together and hasten the day when man's basic freedom - freedom from hunger - would be made a reality.

CHAPTER 3

Review of the Food and Agriculture Situation in the Region

The Conference took note of the current and prospective food and agriculture situation in the region as it appeared from a general analysis by the secretariat, and from more detailed information on the situation in individual countries provided by delegations. This review made it clear that the countries of the region were making determined efforts to develop their agricultural resources in order to meet the growing demand for agricultural products resulting from the growth of population and rising incomes.

The delegation of Japan, for example, reported that in 1959, following bumper crops for six years in succession, agricultural production had been some 34 per cent above the pre-war level, and since 1955 has increased at the rate of 3.5 per cent per annum. In India agricultural production had increased by about 2.8 per cent annually during the period of the first Five Year Plan and 4 per cent annually during the first three years of the Second Five Year Plan. In spite of an increase of 27.8 per cent in the food grain production over the period, however, the food situation was still difficult as the real income had risen by 20 per cent from 1950/51 to 1958/59. Other countries spoke of achievements in specific fields, for example, Viet-Nam of the successful scheme of land settlement for one million refugees from the North, and Pakistan of the recent carrying through of measures of agrarian reform.

At the same time the review brought out the magnitude of the task ahead, and the need for many of the problems of improved agriculture and nutrition to be tackled in an integrated way, and keyed closely with development plans for the economy as a whole.

Agricultural Production

In the two years since the last Regional Conference, gross production in the region as a whole had increased by about 4 per cent annually, and per caput production by about $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent annually. By themselves, however, these figures probably gave rather too optimistic an impression of the situation. Much of the increase achieved had resulted from favourable weather. Moreover per caput production in 1959/60 was only slightly above the level in 1956/57, also a year of good crops, and was still somewhat lower than before the war. There were, however, indications of a further sizeable increase in production in 1960/61.

The wheat crop harvested in the spring and summer of 1960 had been only a little greater than the year before. For rice, however, prospects were more favourable, though drought and also floods and cyclones in some areas of India and Pakistan had taken their toll. Elsewhere, prospects were generally favourable with the exception of Mainland China. Japan already expected a record crop of around 13 million tons of husked rice.

There were also prospects of further increases in the production of sugar in 1960/61. Copra production was recovering from the effects of a long continued drought and supplies would be considerably larger in the first half of 1961 than a year earlier. There had also been a recovery in the Indian groundnut crop, while Indian cotton production, too, would be much larger than the poor crop of 1959/60. World cotton production was likely to reach a new peak. Tea production in 1960 was running somewhat above the 1959 level, in spite of drought which reduced the output in Northern India and Pakistan in the early months of the year. Rubber production too was running a few per cent above the 1959 level, though the output of synthetic rubber was growing still more quickly. Jute crops were later than usual, and while earlier forecasts had been for an increased output, prospects were now more uncertain.

It was a cause for some concern that the average annual increase in the production of the basic commodities was mostly due to increases in area rather than increases in yield, unlike the situation in the more industrialized regions. Only in the case of potatoes and, by a very small margin in the case of rice, had an increase in yield made the main contribution. Part of the increase in area had undoubtedly resulted from more double cropping under irrigation, which in effect increased yields on a given piece of land. In the long run there was considerable scope for more double or even triple cropping under irrigation in this region and this, together with higher yields per crop, was the principal means whereby total production could be expanded.

A rather striking feature in this, and in other regions, was the wide differences in the rates of growth of agricultural production between different countries, and between different areas within a country. An analysis of the underlying reasons for such differences might lead to valuable indications of the measures and policies most likely to lead to a rapid and balanced growth of production.

Food Consumption Levels

Food consumption levels were affected not only by production but also by changes in exports and, at least in the towns, in imports of food. The summary of average supplies per caput of calories and proteins

in a number of countries, as derived from national food balance sheets, indicated that calorie supplies in recent years had exceeded pre-war levels in all countries except India. This was due mainly to increasing domestic food production. Although the evidence was far from complete, however, available data pointed to the continuation of unsatisfactory levels of food consumption and nutrition for many people in the region. Calorie shortages did not appear to be the major defect of present diets, when considered as national averages, though because of mal-distribution of supplies among different socio-economic groups many millions still went hungry, at least for part of the year. Even the average diets were in general ill-balanced, since cereals and starchy roots constituted the greater part of the available food supplies, while the average consumption of protective foods was meagre.

There were some indications, however, that rising income levels were at last beginning to have some influence. For example, comparing available per caput supplies in the region in 1958-59 with those available in 1954-55, the increase had been of the order of 2 per cent for cereals, compared with around 10 per cent for sugar, vegetable oils and cotton. This was the typical reaction in most parts of the world to a rise in incomes.

Production trends for different commodities gave similar indications. Thus over the past decade the average annual increase in output in the region had been:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| For sugar, cotton, groundnuts | 5-6 per cent |
| For tobacco, soya beans, maize | 3-4 " " |
| For wheat and rice | 2-3 " " |
| For potatoes and livestock products | 2-3 " " |

These figures pointed not only to an increased diversification of production in the region, but also to a more diversified diet as there had been little or no increase in exports. Supplies of cereals, however, had been augmented by a steady growth of net imports. Although there was no question that supplies of livestock products were still entirely inadequate, few countries of the region had very reliable statistics of livestock populations and production, and in view of growing demand it was not unlikely that production had increased more rapidly than the published statistics indicated.

Whatever the real rate of growth of output of these non-cereal foods, it did not appear always to keep pace with demand. For example, wholesale prices of cereals in India averaged 104 in 1959 (against 100 in 1952/53). Since then they had tended to fall. In comparison similar price indices for other basic foods were appreciably higher suggesting that demand was in excess of supply:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| For milk and milk products | 112 |
| For edible oils | 123 |
| For fish, meat and eggs | 110 |
| For sugar | 143 |

In Ceylon, Indonesia and the Philippines, prices of these foods also appeared to have risen relative to those of cereals.

On the other hand, in Japan where the shift towards livestock products etc. had been more pronounced than in other countries of the region, and where there were now considerable imports of maize for livestock feeding, recent price trends for milk and pig meat had apparently been downward. In this case supply thus seemed to be at least keeping pace with demand. In the longer term outlook, larger supplies and lower prices were likely to have a further stimulating effect on consumer demand.

International Trade in Agricultural Products

The situation with regard to exports of agricultural products, on which most countries of the region primarily depended for their earnings of foreign exchange, was by no means satisfactory. For reasons which had been fully analysed in other FAO publications, world trade in most agricultural products had expanded slowly. Rubber was almost the only major export product of the region where the volume of trade had increased steadily in recent years, though even so the rate of growth had been greatly influenced by the development of the synthetic product. In these circumstances the earnings of the agricultural exports of the region depended to a large extent on the price level in world markets.

In this respect, 1959 had brought some recovery from the setback resulting from the recession of 1957-58. Unlike the terms of trade for agricultural products for the world as a whole, which had fallen continuously since 1954, those for agricultural exports for the region had risen by about 10 points to 95 (1952-53 = 100) from 1958 to 1959. There had also been some recovery in the volume of trade so that total export earnings from agricultural products were estimated to have been some 12 per cent higher in 1959 than in the year before.

Present indications were that prices for the exports of the region as a whole had held their own and perhaps slightly increased in 1960, though there were marked differences in price trends for different commodities, which in turn influenced the situation of individual countries. There had been a marked rise in rubber prices in the first half of the year, but since June this trend had been reversed and in early November they were little better than in 1958. Copra prices had weakened with larger supplies available. On the other hand, prices

of sugar had been rather steady in world markets. Prices of rice, which weakened in the first half of 1960, had become firmer, and there had been substantial rises in the prices of tea and jute in recent months.

On the whole, these contrary price movements more or less evened out or left a small net gain compared with 1959. Looking further ahead to next year, there seemed little promise of any great improvement in demand, and indeed perhaps some slackening. In recent months, the level of economic activity had continued to rise, though at reduced pace, in all industrialized countries outside North America. In North America industrial production had remained almost unchanged at a rather high level during the first three-quarters of the year. Although official forecasts did not envisage any decline in economic activity, reduced business investment and house construction, together with the fall in stock prices, indicated that a more pessimistic view was taken in some quarters.

In recent years, fluctuations in economic activity seemed to have had rather little effect on the world demand for foodstuffs and for beverages, but had been reflected much more sharply in the demand for raw materials. Thus prospects for expanding exports of raw materials did not appear encouraging in view of the uncertain economic outlook. Given the ample supply of most agricultural commodities in relation to effective demand, prices of agricultural products as a whole on world markets seemed unlikely to recover in 1961 and might well show some weakening.

Agricultural Development Plans and Policies

Apart from a few countries still at a very early stage of economic development, agricultural planning and development in the region was generally on a fairly comprehensive scale, and was increasingly integrated with development plans for the economy as a whole. All countries reported on the present status and progress of their agricultural development programs. In the space available, all that can be done is to single out some of the main themes which ran through the statements of most delegations as an indication of the type of development program now being planned and operated in the region.

Technical Measures to Raise Yields and Production. Inevitably in the circumstances of the region, special stress was being laid on research and extension, including the training of personnel for expanding research and extension services. Burma was conducting detailed land use surveys. Ceylon had appointed an extension officer in each of her 21 districts and set up over 100 extension centres. Korea was strengthening the Institute of Agriculture set up under the agricultural research law. The Institute had both research and

extension wings, and similar organizations were now being set up in each province. India had started regional research institutions for intensifying research on cotton, oilseeds and millets and had started over 4,000 seed farms. It had also been decided to cover the whole country with the community development program by 1963. Malaya and Viet-Nam were concentrating on rubber research, especially the selection of high yielding clones, and taking steps to expand coconut production. Nepal had established an extension service throughout the country and was expanding research. Thailand was working on rubber also, as well as rice diseases and farm mechanization. In Australia the farmers were asking the government for increased expenditure on research, and were making contributions themselves against matching contributions by government. The Colombo Plan Bureau was conducting a regionwide survey of technical training facilities, covering agriculture, forestry and fisheries as well as other fields. UNESCO intended to review the status of higher technological education in the region in 1961-62.

A rapidly growing realization of the importance of fertilizers was evident in the statements made, and many countries announced plans for establishing or enlarging their own fertilizer manufacturing plant. Considerable reliance was being placed on programs for increased use of fertilizers for achieving plan targets of crop production, notably in India and Pakistan. The expansion of irrigated acreage also figures largely in country programs, and was stressed by many delegates, including those of Burma, Korea, India, Malaya and Pakistan. More detailed information for some countries was given under other items of the Conference agenda.

The possibility of bringing much unused land under cultivation was mentioned by many delegations, including the expansion of the effective crop area by double cropping under irrigation. Burma was developing new lands, by reclamation, irrigation, drainage and afforestation; also Ceylon, Indonesia, Korea and Pakistan, among others. India aimed to enlarge the irrigated area from 70 to 90 million acres during her Third Five Year Plan, as well as to extend bunding over 12 million acres and dry farming methods over 43 million acres. Land settlement schemes were particularly important in Ceylon, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet-Nam.

Incentive Measures and Institutional Reforms. A striking feature of the statements by delegations was the increasing awareness that technical programs by themselves were inadequate unless complementary measures were taken to increase farmers' incentives. Unless they had reasonable expectations of benefiting themselves, cultivators were unlikely to make the additional efforts or to take the additional financial risks of increasing their production for the market. Indeed, in the absence of such measures, many were unable to afford the additional expenditures necessary for the adoption of improved practices.

For this reason many countries emphasized the need for larger supplies of credit at reasonable interest rates and described the measures being taken to expand their services in this field. Illustrating the need for additional credit and the inadequacy of existing services, the Ceylon delegation reported that a survey in that Island indicated that in 1957 no less than 54 per cent of rural families were indebted and that the average debt was about 34 per cent of the average family income. It was revealing that only 4.1 per cent of the total debts of the rural sector were met from co-operative sources. Only 20 per cent of the amounts borrowed in 1957 were for agricultural purposes and much was to meet current consumption needs. It may be recalled that the findings of an earlier survey by the Reserve Bank of India were broadly similar. In Korea, it was reported that the interest rate paid by cultivators to private creditors was often 8 per cent per month, compared with 20 per cent per annum to an Agricultural Bank established in 1958. Credit extended by this Bank had more than doubled from 1958 to 1960, but it was still a small percentage of the total need. India envisaged a large extension of agricultural credit during the Third Plan period, mainly through multi-purpose cooperative societies, and by the end of that period it was hoped that they would cover over 70 per cent of the agricultural and over 50 per cent of the rural population. Other countries laying emphasis on rural credit included Laos, where credit is being issued in kind as well as in cash, Pakistan, the Philippines and Viet-Nam. Thus in the Philippines rural banks run by private enterprise, but with financial assistance from the government, had since 1953 loaned ₱181 millions to over 405 thousand farmers. Loans for agricultural development were also available through the Development Bank of the Philippines and the Philippine National Bank. In Malaya loans to fishermen through cooperatives were an important measure for developing the fishing industry.

Agrarian reform was another incentive measure stressed by many delegations, for without security of tenure the cultivator had no inducement to carry through long-term improvements or to build up the fertility of the soil. The Japanese delegation emphasized the stimulating effect on production of the land ownership resulting from the land reforms carried through shortly after the war. In India, too, agrarian reform had been under way for some time. It was reported that ceilings on land holdings would soon be in operation in all States of India, and that still better progress had been made in measures for the protection of tenants which should soon be completed. Pakistan was carrying through an agrarian reform putting a ceiling on the ownership of land, and at the same time consolidating scattered holdings, prohibiting undue subdivision of land and providing greater security to tenants. In Indonesia a basic agrarian law had just been passed. In Nepal the privileged "birta" holdings had been abolished, and a cadastral survey was being undertaken as a first step

towards further land reform. The "Paddy Lands Act" of 1958 in Ceylon sought to strengthen the position of the tenant by giving him security of tenure and the right to bequeath or sell his tenancy rights, by controlling rents, and by establishing committees of cultivators at the village level with statutory powers to regulate owner-cultivator relationships and to take all other necessary steps to promote agricultural development in their areas.

Another important group of incentive measures fell under the heading of improved marketing, including the establishment of co-operative marketing. These measures were often associated with a system of price supports, varying from country to country in commodities coverage and in the degree of price assurance given to farmers. Cooperative societies were tending increasingly towards multipurpose cooperatives, not only marketing the produce of their members, but also providing credit and in some cases agricultural requisites such as fertilizers and implements, and sometimes consumption goods as well. This group of incentive measures is discussed more fully in a later section of this report on improved agricultural marketing.

Finally, reference was made to the pilot project on crop insurance now under way in Ceylon, yet another means of reducing some of the hazards of agricultural production. Crop insurance had been operated in Japan for some considerable time, and was receiving increasing attention in a number of other countries of the region.

Package Programs. In India and Pakistan the authorities had selected a limited number of districts for intensive agricultural development, as a model or experimental "package" program. The idea was to make all the inputs, e.g. irrigation, drainage, fertilizers, improved seeds, credit, marketing, etc. necessary for increasing farm production available in optimum amount as far as possible over a small area for a period of five years. In this way it was hoped that a rapid rate of agricultural progress could be initiated and sustained, which by example might stimulate development in neighbouring areas.

Increased Diversification of Production and Diets. Nearly all countries laid emphasis on efforts to diversify their agriculture and to get away from the virtual monoculture which had hitherto prevailed over large areas of the region. The technical aspects of this question were discussed under a separate item of the agenda. The increasing emphasis on diversification, however, stemmed from a number of motives. In Burma, for example, it was intended to reduce the dependence of the economy on a single export product (rice) and at the same time to make possible a fuller employment of rural labour which was inevitably largely idle for a considerable period each year when rice was the only crop. In Korea and Japan emphasis was laid on the possibilities of

utilizing land for livestock production, tree crops, etc., which could not be used under traditional methods of farming. In Japan another important consideration is the higher levels of farm income made possible by more intensive methods of farming, including dairying and other forms of livestock production. To a large extent in all countries a major impulse behind greater diversification was, of course, the growing demand for fats and oils, sugar, livestock products, fruits and vegetables already mentioned as a result of rising incomes. Another factor was the need to produce increasing supplies of raw materials for domestic industries and for export.

Many delegations stressed the importance of directing this rising demand towards nutritionally valuable foods.

Particular attention is being given to livestock production as a means of raising the present very inadequate protein supply of all countries of the region. In Japan, where this trend is so far most advanced, it was reported that since 1955 livestock production had been rising by about 10 per cent annually. It was now about three times as large as before the war. The increase in dairy farming was particularly striking. The same trend was evident in other countries. Thus the Indonesian delegation reported a growing demand for meat and eggs, while in some areas milk was becoming more accepted. Measures to increase livestock production, including milk, had been included in the eight-year plan. In Korea there had been a remarkable increase in poultry numbers in recent years, and increasing attention was being given to a specialized livestock industry, e.g. milk, in upland areas at present unproductive. Livestock production had now been restored to a higher level than before the Korean war. Malaya was attempting to increase meat production to replace substantial imports, and encouraging the poultry industry for which the climate was well suited. Improved strains of cattle and goats were being imported. It was important to secure cheaper feedingstuffs for pigs, now being reared by an increasing number of farmers. The Australian delegation drew attention to the work on tropical pastures now in progress in that country and offered assistance to any countries of the region interested. Other countries where progress in livestock production was reported included Pakistan, the Philippines, Hong Kong and Viet-Nam. Pakistan, for example, for long a source of outstanding breeds of cattle, was developing the buffalo as a milch animal, was developing milk marketing and distribution, and was giving much attention to grading up poultry.

A major effort towards improved protein nutrition lies in the efforts to increase fisheries production, considered below, in some countries, the only acceptable form of animal protein to large sections of the population. On the agricultural side, reference may be made also to attempts to increase the output of fruit and vegetables to improve the quality of the diet. A number of countries, including

Papua, India and Viet-Nam, were encouraging the planting of farm gardens. Progress in commercial horticulture, in some cases with a view to export, were noted in Japan, Korea, Viet-Nam and other countries.

Fisheries. A rising tempo of development in fisheries was evident from the statements made by delegations, although much remained to be done. Steady increases in fish catch were illustrated by Malaya, where the catch was up from 110,000 tons in 1957 to an estimated 125,000 tons in 1960. The significance of this industry as a source of protein food acceptable over a wide range of dietary patterns was emphasized.

The developments taking place in many countries included fishery research both inland and deep sea (Burma, Malaya and the Philippines); the mechanization of fishing craft and the introduction of more modern fishing gear, enabling fishermen to expand their activities into new and more distant areas, relieving the pressure on the over-exploited inshore fishing grounds (Korea, Malaya, Pakistan); improved organization for loans to fishermen for mechanization of boats and purchase of better gear (Thailand); training programs for fishermen (Malaya), and increased attention to fish marketing, processing and distribution (India, Philippines).

In Malaya the relatively frail native craft were being replaced by more sturdy, modern types, to permit more rapid replacement of outboard motors by stronger inboard engines. A joint Malayan-Japanese company had been formed in Penang to exploit the tuna resources of the Indian Ocean. In Viet-Nam the Government had recently set up a special Fisheries Committee to study the problems of the industry. The delegate of the Philippines urged FAO to establish facilities for the exchange of selected species of plants, livestock and fish for breeding. The Conference learned that the UNESCO Marine Science Program would be enlarged during 1961-62.

Forestry. Statements by delegates reflected gratifying progress in forestry in certain countries during the past biennium, but pointed to the enormity of the tasks still to be faced, and emphasized the increasing importance now being accorded in overall economic development plans to forest and forest industry development. In most countries forest output had risen, and several countries had encouraging achievements to report in the establishment of industrial timber plantations and the rehabilitation of degraded forest. In India, the Third Five Year Plan had been amended, with increased emphasis given to forests and forest industry projects, so as to give effect to the measures recommended by the Fifth Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission, measures designed to remedy the situation revealed by the joint FAO/ECAFE study of "Timber Trends and Prospects in the Asia-Pacific Region". In Japan, too, forestry measures, including extensive afforestation and forest improvement, together with forest industry expansion, played

an integral part in current economic development plans. Nepal had not only established a Forestry Training Institute but also made useful progress in scientifically classifying her forests, which were a major source of foreign earnings, capable of considerable further expansion.

Yet it was apparent that much remained to be done in surveying and appraising forest resources, in order to make available quickly the basic data needed for developing forest industries; several countries intimated their intention of invoking the aid of FAO and of the Special Fund of the United Nations to assist them in this task.

Some countries reported increasing attention being given to certain minor products of the forest, e.g. lac in Thailand, medicinal herbs in Nepal, which could earn export revenues and also help to diversify the rural economy.

The Conference noted, however, that some major problems of the region had as yet not been systematically tackled. The delegate for Laos instanced the problem of shifting cultivation, widespread in the region, particularly acute in his country. Determined efforts were necessary if this practice, which squandered valuable forest capital and destroyed soil fertility, bringing erosion problems in its train, was to be effectively curbed or controlled.

Self-Sufficiency. The Conference took note that most of the statements made by delegations had emphasized self-sufficiency as the goal of national planning in relation to many agricultural products, including some such as rice that were largely traded within the region. The Conference realized that this trend raised some important problems, and gave further attention to it later during the discussion of agricultural development planning.

The Conference adopted the following resolution:

THE CONFERENCE

Noting that the annual rate of increase in agricultural production varies widely among countries of this and other regions, and also between different areas within a country,

Believing that an understanding of the causes of these differences would be useful in developing agricultural plans and programs,

Recommends that the Director-General, in cooperation with Member Governments, should undertake a detailed investigation of the principal causes of such differences in the rate of increase of agricultural production between different countries and between smaller areas within the same country.

C. GENERAL POLICY QUESTIONS OF FOOD AND
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION

CHAPTER 4

Agricultural Development Plans and
Planning in the Region

The Conference recalled that at its previous session at Tokyo in 1958, a long-term program of work in this field had been recommended for FAO, consisting of a series of expert meetings to be convened on various aspects of agricultural development planning, namely, target setting in agriculture; nutrition in food policy and planning; and methodology for survey and appraisal of natural resources. A general meeting of economists, agriculturists, nutritionists and resource experts had also been proposed to draw together the findings of the specialist meetings into an overall view of agricultural development and planning.

The Conference was happy to learn that the first two of the meetings had now been held. The Technical Meeting on Nutrition in Food Policy and Planning had been convened at Bangkok in June 1960, and a group of economic experts had met, also at Bangkok, in October 1960, on Selected Aspects of Agricultural Planning, with special reference to target setting. The latter meeting had been co-sponsored by ECAFE. The Conference was informed that the other items of work recommended by the Fourth Regional Conference on resources survey and appraisal and the overall approach to agricultural development and planning, were to be covered in the FAO program in 1961 or 1962. The guidance of the Conference was sought regarding the procedure for continuing this work

The Conference noted that in other respects also the work of FAO had been guided by suggestions made at the previous Regional Conference. In particular, the FAO/ECAFE Agriculture Division had prepared a review of the agricultural development plans of countries of the region, which had been published in the ECAFE Bulletin of June 1960. In view of the interest expressed by the Fourth Regional Conference, the FAO/ECAFE article had made a special feature of the implications of other countries' plans as a problem in planning, taking rice as an illustration.

Moreover, in the report on the State of Food and Agriculture, 1960, FAO had published a special chapter on Programming for Agricultural Development, which could be regarded as probably the most comprehensive treatment of planning specifically in the agricultural sector so far published.

The Conference noted that the nutrition experts who had met earlier in the year had emphasized in their report the importance in agricultural planning of defining long-term nutritional goals, in terms of the kinds and quantities of foods needed for good health and efficiency. Since such goals were inevitably rather distant in less developed countries, they had recommended that a first step should be to see that medium-term or operational plans, i.e. covering 4-7 years, were adequately oriented towards the ultimate achievement of the nutritional goals, taking into account the current purchasing power and dietary habits in the particular country. This would involve the inclusion in the plan of policies and measures designed to influence food consumption and, therefore, in turn, agricultural production, in the directions considered nutritionally desirable. To this end, the report had emphasized the importance of carrying out the necessary studies of food consumption and diets, of training nutrition workers, and of establishing national nutrition organizations able to influence both the public and the planning agencies in accordance with modern nutritional science.

The Conference was informed, with regard to the meeting of the economic experts above mentioned, that preliminary consultations with ECAFE and with leading specialists in the region had pointed to the value of widening the terms of reference of this expert group to cover a somewhat broader field than target setting. Nevertheless, the problems of establishing targets, both of output and of inputs, had formed a large part of their work. At the same time, the group had not attempted to be comprehensive, partly because of the limited time available and partly because of the publication by FAO of the rather comprehensive chapter on agricultural programming already referred to, in the State of Food and Agriculture, 1960.

The Conference noted that after outlining broadly the processes of agricultural planning, the FAO/ECAFE Expert Group had concentrated on particular economic aspects important in this region, e.g. how to project the future demand for agricultural products; how to appraise past performance as a guide to more effective planning in the future; types of measures for securing the fuller utilization of the usually abundant rural manpower; and the assessment of different types of development programs. The statistical and economic data and research needed at each stage for the formulation of agricultural plans had been indicated in the report.

The Conference noted that the report of the Technical Meeting on Nutrition in Food Policy and Planning, and the FAO review on Programming for Agricultural Development in the 1960 State of Food and Agriculture had already been distributed to governments in the region. The report of the FAO/ECAFE Expert Group on Selected Aspects of Agricultural

Planning would be distributed as soon as the final text had been approved by the members of the Group.

In regard to the remaining part of the program proposed by the Fourth Regional Conference, it was considered that increased attention should be given to the sociological aspects of agricultural planning and to certain aspects of resource planning. The WHO observer emphasized the significance of the nutritional side of planning. He drew attention to a nutritional project to be undertaken in the Philippines which was likely to give valuable experience of the problems and benefits likely to result from a rising level of nutrition.

a) Current Problems of Agricultural Planning

The Conference noted that almost all countries of the region had now embarked on the planning of their agricultural development, and that some were about to start on their second or even third successive plan. The delegates of Australia, Burma, Ceylon, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Federation of Malaya, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, the United Kingdom and Viet-Nam spoke on this subject; also the observers of the World Health Organization and the World Veterans Federation. Many delegates presented the highlights of their experience in agricultural development planning, including problems being encountered and solutions being tried. The problems mentioned related mainly to the availability of data; the organization for planning and implementation; the supply of trained personnel; resource allocation for maximum effect; incentives and inducements to cultivators, and the implications of other countries' plans.

Availability of Data: The Conference recognized that planning decisions often cannot wait on the refinement of data and that the best decision possible must be made in good time on the data available. However, the better the data the more effective the planning. Plans should therefore include provision for the collection or analysis of additional or better data, in accordance with an order of priorities for the particular country. Information was required on the level of nutrition, on demand for agricultural products both domestic and foreign, and on factors affecting it. High priority should also be given to better data on the supply of agricultural products, including the collection and analysis of detailed information on farm management and farm economy in main agricultural regions of the country, with a view to revealing the economic problems of farmers and the obstacles to improved farming.

The delegate of the Philippines reported that it had taken one year to prepare the necessary data for launching the Rice and Corn Production Program in his country. The difficulties of planning

without adequate data were stressed by the delegate of Nepal, who mentioned that his country's first Five-Year Plan (1956-60) had been prepared in the absence of national statistics of land use, crop production, cattle population and exports. The drafting of the Second Five-Year Plan was now under way, and would benefit from the data obtained from Nepal's participation in the world agricultural census.

The need for better data for planning and the assessment of progress of plans was emphasized by the delegate of India. Most parts of his country were now reporting agricultural statistics regularly, but data on demand for agricultural commodities and stocks were not yet good enough. For planning on the supply side, he mentioned the need for better data to permit the estimation of input-output coefficients and cost-benefit ratios, and to assist in the allocation of resources among main programs or projects such as major irrigation, minor irrigation, fertilizers, seeds, and the improvement of farm practices. If other gaps in data had been met, the above could be examined. He added that his country still lacked enough data to permit adequate land use planning.

Organization for Planning and Implementation: The Conference recognized the importance of the organizational aspects of planning and of the implementation of plans. The key requirement was the coordination of efforts as between the central and state or provincial governments; between the planning body, the functional departments and the financial authority; and between different sub-divisions of agricultural departments. As regards implementation, it was important to develop types of organization to provide for the inclusion of planned development projects in the annual budget, and to speed up the process of financial authorization for approved projects and schemes. Equally important was a strong cadre of field personnel, who inevitably had a major role in the implementation of agricultural development programs, in day to day contact with farmers. A regular procedure for consulting representative farmers regarding the production plan and its implementation was also important. Many delegates spoke on aspects of these problems in their respective countries.

The delegate of Pakistan said that the planning organization in his country had been progressively strengthened in response to lessons gained during the period of the first Five-Year Plan. A Planning Board had been set up in 1953 to prepare a national plan of development and propose administrative procedures for its implementation. The Board prepared the first Five-Year Plan, which did not however receive the full consideration of the government. Later, the government had raised the status of the Board, which became the Planning Commission, with wider and greater powers. Agricultural development plans were

drawn up by the two provincial governments, and it had been found necessary to strengthen the planning organization at the provincial level. Recently the status of the Planning Commission had been further raised by placing it directly under the President. The policies of development were controlled by an Economic Council of Ministers presided over by the President. A Director-General of Projects had been established in the office of the President to keep a close watch on the progress of individual schemes and identify and remove bottlenecks. To accelerate financial authorizations, a procedure had been established under which the financial approval of the centre was not required for projects entailing less than a certain minimum expenditure (2.5 million rupees non-recurring or 0.5 million recurring). Larger projects were referred at the centre to a special Development Working Party of seven members, including the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry. Approval by this Working Party ensured inclusion of a project in the annual national budget. The Planning Commission had now presented the second Five-Year Plan (1959/60 to 1964/65) which under the new procedures would be reflected in the annual budget estimates of the country.

The need for machinery linked to the planning and implementing agencies, for integrating outside assistance effectively with national development, was stressed by the delegate of France.

The delegate from the Federation of Malaya reported that although creditable results had been achieved under his country's first Five-Year Plan scheduled to end in 1960, not all the targets had been achieved. Problems of coordination were among the difficulties experienced. Another difficulty concerned land. Many schemes involved the requisition of land which was vested in the States. In a number of these schemes implementation had to be delayed as time was taken to complete the formalities of land acquisition proceedings. Legislative action had been taken giving greater powers to the Federal Government in this matter.

The delegate stressed that the experience gained in implementing his country first Five-Year Plan had been of considerable value in the formulation of the second Five-Year Plan to cover the period 1961-1965. One of the main objectives would be to reduce the imbalance between the economy of the country's rural population and those living in the urban areas. Top priority had been given to this and a Ministry of Rural Development under the Deputy Prime Minister had been created to coordinate and concentrate the maximum effort to achieve this end. With this emphasis on rural development, his country's second Five-Year Plan would be drawn up designed to improve further the economic and social conditions of the people. The success of this Plan would be ensured by the fact that the country's national planners and those responsible for the execution of policy would take the maximum advantage of the experience gained in implementing the country's first Five-Year Plan.

The delegate of Nepal stated that the agricultural development plans of his country had been held up by the absence of legislative authority to purchase land for experiment stations.

The Conference was informed by the delegate of India that a new approach was being tried in his country in the implementation of community development for the sake of obtaining greater participation of the village people. Under the new organization decentralization was encouraged. Local development authority devolved on elected village councils or panchayats. Since extension work under the community development program had not been giving enough attention to agricultural development, it had now been emphasized that village level workers should devote 80 per cent of their time to agriculture. In some States district panchayat boards had been set up, largely supplanting the district officials in the coordination of development work. This experiment had been started only two years previously - reports on it were generally favourable but there was also some criticism and it was too early to give a definite view. The delegate added that in India, where the implementation of development plans was in the hands of the State governments, the problem of coordination was recognized, but much coordination and understanding had been built up through the central Planning Commission.

Supply of Trained Personnel: The Conference was aware of the limitations in planning and development imposed by the shortage of trained personnel. It stressed the importance of taking stock of the requirements of trained manpower, and of providing adequately for the establishment of national training programs in advance of needs.

Many delegates illustrated this problem from the experience of their countries. The delegates of the Federation of Malaya, Nepal and Pakistan referred to the handicap of not having enough economists trained or experienced in the preparation of plans and projects. Pakistan had brought international experts to help the planning organizations in the provinces, and the problem in Malaya was being eased by the return of nationals from overseas training. The program for establishing seed farms in India, according to the delegate concerned, was slightly slowed down by the lack of trained personnel. In India the output of agricultural graduates had more than doubled, and that of veterinarians was more than three times the 1954 level. The Conference learned that the number of students in agricultural colleges in Viet-Nam was still very small in relation to needs.

Resource Allocation: The Conference realized that one of the crucial problems in planning was the allocation of limited government investment resources to secure maximum effects, especially from the scarce resources like capital and foreign exchange. Resources might be devoted to fixed capital (e.g. irrigation or land development) or

to working capital (e.g. fertilizers, pesticides) or to the provision of services to farmers (e.g. agricultural extension, research). Normally a combination of programs was necessary, and it was almost impossible to find precise criteria for determining the correct proportions at any time. Full use should be made of available data on the most efficient levels and combinations of various inputs on farms of different types and sizes in the main agricultural regions of the country. The results of farm management investigations based on representative samples of farms could be very valuable in the formulation of development plans.

The Conference recognized that agricultural planners in the region would still have to depend largely on their own informed judgement in the allocation of investment resources although, as the delegate of India pointed out, efforts might be made in some cases towards refining various technical tools such as input-output ratios and the appraisal of costs and benefits.

Incentives and Inducements to Cultivators: The Conference emphasized the basic importance of incentives and inducements to cultivators, without whose extra efforts plans were doomed to fail. This aspect had to be fully considered in the formulation of policies and measures for stimulating land improvement through better use of available labour resources. Incentives were of special importance in this region, as shortage of capital could often be made up by additional input of family labour, which could be regarded as non-monetary investment. The Conference agreed that here lay the significance for agricultural development of measures of agrarian reform, improved marketing, price stabilization and cheaper credit. Such measures could give to cultivators the inducement to put in extra labour in work such as bunding, transplanting and weeding, which might compensate for lack of material inputs.

Numerous references were made by delegates to the problem of incentives. The delegate of Ceylon mentioned that the guaranteed price for paddy, which was introduced in his country in 1947 as an incentive to paddy growers, had not contributed to increasing production or yield as expected. Fertilizers which were very effective and widely used on the tea crop were applied only to a small extent on paddy although a large increase in yield had been demonstrated in trials and the fertilizer price was subsidized. It was thought that the factors holding back the paddy cultivators might be marketing deficiencies which perhaps prevented many from receiving the guaranteed price, and the poverty and indebtedness of cultivators with small holdings who lacked credit worthiness. The Conference heard about Korea's programs of cooperative credit and price stabilization for foodgrains, which were designed to strengthen the farmer's incentive to increase output.

Reference was made to the use of fertilizer subsidy as an incentive in the Philippines, and to the practice in some Indian States of giving irrigation water free to farmers for three years as a measure of inducement. The delegate of India also emphasized producer price policy as an important incentive element for cultivators, but mentioned marketing problems which could make such a policy hard to implement.

Implications of other Countries' Plans: The Conference recognized that it was important for each national plan to take account as far as possible of the implications and repercussions of other countries' plans. In this connection it took note of the illustrative table presented to it, showing projected import requirements and export availabilities of rice in the region in 1966, on the basis of national plans where they existed or of current trends. The delegates of a number of countries, including Burma, Japan and Pakistan, stressed that there might be an eventual need for some form of regional co-operation in the setting of plan targets for certain agricultural commodities which featured in intra-regional trade.

The delegate of India said that his country would welcome steps towards regional economic cooperation and would cooperate with other countries in any mutually advantageous arrangements. The delegate of Japan said that it was not yet clear on what problems and by what means such cooperation could be promoted. He suggested that FAC should collect the necessary data drawn from the various national plans of countries in the region, and distribute these data to member governments, to enable the next Regional Conference to study the matter. The delegate of Burma thought that if it were not possible at present to consider coordinated planning, it would at least be advantageous to hold mutual consultations.

At this stage of the discussion the Director-General made a further statement to the Conference. In the course of his address, he observed that a common feature of most of the statements had been the emphasis on self-sufficiency as the ultimate goal of national planning. This applied to cereals (India, Pakistan, Indonesia, the Philippines), to fish (the Philippines), to sugar (Ceylon, Viet-Nam), to jute (Burma), and to livestock products (the Philippines). It was to be remembered in this connection, he said, that in the case of rice, the main markets of exporting countries lay within the region, while for most other commodities the main export markets were in the industrialized countries outside the region.

The Director-General stated that this trend towards self-sufficiency raised an issue of importance for the future of this region. Considerable progress indeed had been made in planning, but so far practically all countries were drawing up their plans from a purely national point of view. He agreed with the delegates who expressed the view that the

time may have come to pay more attention in national planning to the relationships with the plans of other countries. All had been impressed by the regional approach to planning now being adopted in Western Europe and Latin America, and one would like to see much further consideration given to this approach in this important region. He believed that planning could not be done exclusively on an agricultural basis, but that industrial production and exports would also have to be taken into consideration. At this stage of economic development it was perhaps hardly realistic to think in terms of a comprehensive master plan for the region as a whole covering all aspects of the economy including agriculture and industry. It might be more practical to make a beginning, as the delegates from India and Japan had said, by making a study of all the plans of the countries of this region, and on the basis of such a study to indicate some general lines of coordination for the consideration of governments. If such a study were to be made, he thought the following principles should be kept in view:

- (a) the region as a whole should try to meet its domestic needs in the supply of food and raw materials (this did not refer to use of surplus foods for economic development or to meet emergencies);
- (b) that a higher quality diet must be aimed at and this would require production of more animal protein and other protein foods rather than more carbohydrates through cereals;
- (c) that exports of food and raw materials must for the immediate future remain the main sources of foreign exchange earnings.

The Director-General stated that any such study would require the fullest cooperation of member governments, not only in sharing their ideas and experience, but also in willingness to accept and modify their national plans to the extent necessary in the framework of the interests of the region as a whole.

This matter was unquestionably of the greatest concern to all countries, the Director-General said. It would help further action if the delegates would indicate concretely by a resolution or otherwise how they would like FAO to proceed. It was a matter of some urgency, for national plans once established were hard to modify, especially in agriculture. He added that FAO would be willing to take up a study of this important matter in cooperation with the United Nations and other Specialized Agencies, provided the member governments were prepared fully to cooperate.

Other Problems: Several delegates raised problems of agricultural programming which did not fall under the above headings. The disturbing effect on the implementation of plans of fluctuating export income was mentioned in relation to Malaya, although many other countries were

also affected. Half way through the period of her first Five-Year Plan, the 1958 world trade recession forced Malaya to review the plan and some projects had to be curtailed or abandoned temporarily. When world prices picked up later, the resources became available but the lag could not be recovered.

The Conference was informed of the special problems of agricultural planning in Japan where more balanced growth between agriculture and industry was a major consideration. Agricultural programming was being worked out there as an integral part of the plan for doubling the national income in ten years beginning in 1961. Agriculture was already lagging behind other industries, and was likely to be left further behind in such a rapid national growth. The modernization of agriculture had therefore been taken up as the major point of the programming. The main objectives were:

- (i) to improve productivity in order to rectify the growing tendency to disparity in productivity and incomes between agriculture and other sectors;
- (ii) to promote the selective expansion of agriculture in line with the changing demand for farm products; and
- (iii) to improve the structure of agriculture in conformity with a decline in the number of the farm labour force.

Agricultural growth had been estimated at 2.9 per cent per year and the net outflow from the farm labour force also at 2.9 per cent per year, giving a rate of labour productivity increase per caput of 5.8 per cent per year. This would just keep pace with labour productivity developments in manufacturing industries, and double per caput farm incomes over the plan period.

The selective expansion of agricultural production in Japan meant that rice production should increase approximately parallel with population increase, i.e. at 15% over the period, while output of milk should go up by 470 per cent, meat by 220 per cent, eggs by 140 per cent and fruit by 130 per cent. National average nutrition levels would be raised, in calories by 15 per cent, in protein by 25 per cent, and fats by 120 per cent.

The total number of the farm labour force was expected to fall from about 14.5 million in 1958 to around 10 million in 1970, as the result of increasing employment opportunities in other industries. Taking advantage of this net outflow, agricultural programming would aim at the creation of larger, economically viable farm units and improved management organization, including the encouragement of cooperative farming. It was proposed by the authorities to designate a pilot district in which to carry out such projects as the consolidation

of small holdings, the enlargement of farm size, the mechanization of farm operations and larger scale cattle raising. New legislation would be necessary. The result aimed at would constitute a major agricultural reform following the land reform.

Further Meetings on Agricultural Planning

The Conference noted the intention of FAO to proceed with a technical meeting on the methodology of agricultural resource survey and appraisal, and the FAO study already made on the potential resources of the Ganges-Brahmaputra plain would be useful in this connection.

The Australian delegate spoke in support of the intension to hold this meeting, and indicated that Australia was willing to participate. He recognized that there were two starting points for planning. One, which he called economic, began from a study of present land use and was dominated by immediate national needs for increased output or for higher national or farm income. This was the more common approach. The other approach began from the study of the agricultural and other resources and aimed at the planning of production of commodities for which the resources were best suited. This might call for modifications of present land use.

Australia was very conscious of the latter approach because of her well-known policy of supporting the production of commodities where they can be produced most efficiently, in contrast to the policy of self-sufficiency where such a policy involves uneconomic production.

The resource approach was particularly useful in relation to undeveloped resources or difficult lands. He recognized that the resources use approach could be combined with the economic approach. It had special importance in areas where the present pattern of land use was less intensive and where there was more flexibility. In areas already very intensively developed, there was admittedly less flexibility, but even here the possibility of improved land use remained, at least in the long run, and in order to guide development in the right direction from the viewpoint of resources, a basic knowledge of the resources was necessary. In addition to any economic studies, most countries could develop this approach, if there were some reorientation of the scientific and planning resources now available to them. The French delegate agreed that plans should be based on a survey of resources, but drew attention to the urgency of nutrition objectives in the region, where nature had to be forced to yield results at once.

The Conference also supported the intention of FAO to proceed with a general meeting of economists, agriculturists and nutritionists, as well as resource experts, to take an overall view of agricultural

development and planning. It was noted that the two meetings might possibly be combined. The importance of including sociologists in the general meeting was emphasized by the Netherlands delegate.

b) Longer-Term Outlook for Agricultural Products

The Conference noted that commodity developments affected not only agricultural planning, but also national economic planning in general, since they might have a great bearing on the country's balance of payments and thus on its ability to pay for capital developments requiring imports of equipment, machinery and even of knowledge. The correct assessment of the longer-term outlook for the main agricultural commodities exported or imported by a country was therefore an essential basis for sound planning.

As an aid towards such assessments on the part of the governments, the Conference appreciated the value of the brief survey of the main long-range factors affecting, on a world basis, the principal agricultural commodities of interest to countries in Asia and the Far East, which had been prepared for its consideration (FERC 60/4). Each of the commodities had been treated separately in the survey, with an indication of the publications which contained the basic studies and facts on which the tentative conclusions were based. The Conference took note of the following main points:

In recent years the world rice economy had been marked by a rising trend in production and consumption and by relatively stable levels of prices and of total international trade. The outlook for the next few years was for a continuation of the upward trend in production aided by technical advances, their wider adoption, and government development programs including price support policies.

The main expansion was likely to take place in importing countries while developments in exporting countries would depend to some extent on the trend in international prices. Owing to the growth in population, total demand would continue to rise and this trend would be reinforced by the increase in per caput consumption as incomes rose. Important exceptions to this effect of rising prosperity existed: thus Japan was about to reach the stage where a household, on gaining more income would no longer spend part of this on rice, but on other foods such as meat. Total demand in Asia (excluding Mainland China) was expected to increase by about 8 million tons (i.e. 10%) by 1965, much of this increased demand being concentrated in India and Indonesia.

In considering the rice economy, the Conference noted that it was essential to bear in mind that for the other grains, e.g. wheat, maize, barley, oats, sorghum and millets, production was persistently

in excess of effective demand. Consequently, stocks had accumulated which amounted to as much as $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the size of the present annual world trade. The abundance of these grains had to some extent been reflected in the relative prices of rice and other grains, and still more so in the ability and willingness of some governments to supply these grains on terms specially favourable to importers. Consequently, the imports of these grains, and especially of wheat, into Asia and increased greatly in comparison to pre-war days and this trend was likely to continue over the next few years. The use of grains for animal feed, except for poultry, was in Asia largely confined to Japan, and Japanese imports of maize were likely to continue to expand considerably.

The consumption of sugar would almost certainly continue its recent rapid expansion, but unless there were changes in agricultural policies, production would probably increase even more rapidly. When sugar industries had once been established, it was not easy to curtail production even when prices fell drastically. Since much of this expansion of production was in importing countries, world trade would probably expand at a smaller rate than consumption.

World consumption of tea, an important product of this region, would continue to rise with higher living standards and greater purchasing power. New markets were likely to develop in Africa South of the Sahara, but production too was increasing and much of this increase was in Africa and Latin America. Over the next few years, production and consumption were expected to stay in reasonable balance, thus keeping price fluctuations within reasonable limits, always providing there was no sudden increase of supplies from China or, possibly, from Latin America.

The Conference noted that the Asian production of fats and oils, which served both for food and as a raw material for industry, had been increasing slowly. Some of the Asian primary producing countries were thus faced with the difficult problem of meeting the growing domestic demand for fat and at the same time maintaining or even expanding the earning of foreign exchange from exports. In the Far East, the growth of domestic consumption has led to a steady decline in net exports. In contrast to the per caput consumption of food, fats would probably not increase any further in North America or much of Western Europe, while the rate of increase in the import demand for industry would probably slow down. On the supply side, copra supplies were likely to grow only slowly or even be halted by the ageing of trees and the spread of disease. The Asian demand for other vegetable oils was expected to develop strongly, but any consequent decline in their export was unlikely to raise world prices more than temporarily, as higher prices would tend to call forth additional supplies from the USA.

Of the main agricultural products which served purely as raw materials, rubber, cotton and jute were those of special interest to Asia.

The Conference noted that the Far East grew 90% of the world's rubber and almost all of this was exported. Demand was growing faster than Asian supplies. In 1960-65 consumption was expected to expand by about 5 per cent per annum, while some experts believed that productive capacity in Asia was not likely to grow by more than 2% per annum. The deficiency was likely to be filled by increased output of synthetic rubber and by releases from strategic stockpiles of natural rubber.

Cotton had been emerging from a period of surpluses. At greatly reduced prices, cotton had made a marked comeback as against substitutes, including man-made fibres. However, the outlook for cotton production in the Far East was not promising. Yields of alternate crops were increasing while those of cotton remained relatively low. Government plans for investment in agriculture appeared to favour the growing of food, and the region might therefore be hard put to supply the growing need of its textile industries and to maintain its volume of exports of raw cotton.

Over the longer term, the market for jute was determined by the amount of produce to be packaged, by the demand for floor coverings and by technological and price changes which affected the use of jute per unit of such output. Despite some losses due to new handling and marketing techniques, the demand for jute packaging was expected to grow. The overall consumption in industrial countries would probably be at least maintained and might even increase in the United States.

Most of the delegations took part in the discussion, outlining their own plans and objectives for individual commodities, and stressing the importance of a correct assessment of trends of production and consumption as a basis for planning. Appreciation was expressed for the help derived from the reports of FAO in this national task, but the need was stressed for the continued revision of projections as well as for more amplified studies.

The Conference recognized that the cooperation of governments in supplying information and exercising criticism was vital and considered that a valuable focus for this work was provided in the various commodity groups, both those of FAO as, for instance, for rice, coconuts and cocoa, as well as other international groups, such as those for cotton, rubber and sugar.

The outlook for sellers of agricultural raw materials and vegetable fats and oils was regarded by delegates as satisfactory and consequently

most of the countries in the region reported plans to expand their production. Thus, the delegate of Pakistan announced the abolition of all acreage restrictions on the cultivation of jute, and the delegates of Malaya, Thailand and Vietnam considered that their output of rubber would increase more rapidly than the rate of 2 per cent annually indicated in the Secretariat summary. The delegate of India stated that his country's target for oilseeds provided for increased home consumption as well as making available for export one million tons annually.

The Conference noted that most countries were planning to grow more of those foods and beverages for which they had not yet reached self-sufficiency. In some cases, the rate of increase had been so rapid that exports were foreseen, as for instance sugar from India, which had formerly been a substantial importer, but now grew 30 per cent of the world's sugar cane.

It was recognized by the Conference that this drive towards self-sufficiency posed serious problems for the future economy of countries whose main exports were at present absorbed by other countries in the region. This applied specially to rice, and the delegate of Burma reported grave concern in the planning of the rice acreage of his country. The Conference therefore noted with interest that a general comprehensive study of the trends of production and consumption of rice had been started by FAO and that this would form the main item for discussion at the following Fifth Session of the Consultative Sub-Committee on Economic Aspects of Rice.

The interaction of national policies was illustrated by various delegates. The delegate of the Philippines was of the opinion that the imminent gradual imposition of custom duties on their exports of sugar to the United States - their principal market - might force them to seek other remunerative outlets and, should these not be found, might make it imperative for the Philippines to resort to the increased cultivation of cotton, jute, kenaf and other products and to greater industrialization in order to reduce present imports for which foreign currency presented a serious problem.

In view of such fears regarding the possibility of finding satisfactory foreign markets, the Conference noted with interest recent bilateral arrangements which did secure outlets, as for instance that between Viet-Nam and Japan for lac and between Viet-Nam and Taiwan for soyabeans.

Several delegations stressed the advantage that the assurance of future price stability would have for their planning, though it was noted that some countries had benefited appreciably by the rise in the price of commodities they exported, such as jute and rubber.

The Conference adopted the following resolution:

THE CONFERENCE

Noting with appreciation the considerable progress made by the countries of this region in planning,

Noting that discussions of the present Conference have brought out clearly that, at least in certain commodities, a widespread trend towards self-sufficiency is one of the objectives of planning in most countries,

Recognizing that the achievement of national self-sufficiency in food and agricultural products and raw materials, which are important in intra-regional trade, could have harmful effects on the overall economies of the individual countries within the region and on the region as a whole,

Bearing in mind also that agricultural planning must be undertaken in harmony with overall economic and social objectives,

Requests the Director-General

- 1) to make an objective study of the development plans of the countries of the region, bearing in mind the following factors:
 - (a) that the region as a whole should try to meet its domestic needs in the supply of basic food and raw materials. (This does not refer to use of surplus foods for economic development or to meet emergencies);
 - (b) that a higher quality diet must be aimed at and this would require production of more animal protein and other protein-rich foods rather than more carbohydrates through cereals;
 - (c) that exports of food and raw materials must, for most countries, remain for the immediate future the main sources of foreign exchange earnings.
- 2) to transmit the study to member governments in the region, so that they may take due account of the conclusions and recommendations in their future planning and in the implementation of existing plans;
- 3) to consult with governments, after they have had time to review this study, as to the follow-up action which they would wish to take in order to achieve the objectives in view;
- 4) to cooperate, so far as possible, in this undertaking with the United Nations Organization and also with interested UN Specialized Agencies.

CHAPTER 5

The Place of Marketing in Ensuring Adequate Consumer Supplies and Effective Price Incentives to Producers

As noted earlier, one of the main themes running through the statements of delegations on their development programs was the growing importance attached to measures to improve the institutional structure, and to give greater incentives to farmers for increased production, as an essential complement to programs for the adoption of improved farming techniques. Among these measures a high place was given to improved marketing services, including cooperative marketing. It was stressed that inefficient and unduly costly marketing could slow down the whole tempo of development. If farmers did not have readily available a satisfactory marketing channel through which to market their produce, or if they received an unreasonably small share of the price paid by consumers, their incentive to expand their output was greatly reduced. Equally, if supplies to consumers were curtailed, or if prices were inflated by inefficient marketing services, it was not only an obstacle to improved consumption levels, but also a drag on economic development as a whole.

The rapid urbanization in nearly all countries of the region was moreover placing a strain on marketing facilities which had developed in quite different conditions. Another new factor was the increased production and consumption of protective foods, most of which were perishable and required specialized marketing facilities.

The Fourth Regional Conference also discussed marketing problems and recommended that a technical meeting should be held in the region on this subject. The report of this meeting, held at New Delhi in April/May 1959 by courtesy of the Government of India, was commended by the Conference. Some of its main findings and recommendations were discussed, and were amplified in the statements of delegations.

A. Recent Marketing Developments in the Region

Special Problems of Marketing in the Region

While there was general appreciation of the importance of improved marketing services, it was stressed that in most countries of the region there were many difficulties to be overcome. The wide prevalence of subsistence farming and the very small marketable surpluses of most farmers was in itself a difficulty. So too was illiteracy. The delegations of Nepal and Indonesia stressed the lack of transport

facilities; in Nepal there were few roads, while in Indonesia roads were inadequate in some islands, and sea communications between the islands were still inadequate. As a result there were often surpluses in some areas side by side with shortages in others. Moreover, production was sometimes hampered because available supplies could not be shipped to the consuming centres, as in the case of cattle production in Eastern Indonesia. In the Philippines over 6,000 km. of feeder roads had been constructed in the past six years to link agricultural producing areas with the main highways.

Lack of institutional credit was another serious handicap. Producers not only had to borrow from local merchants and money-lenders at very high interest rates, but thereafter had no choice of sales outlets and often had to accept prices below the market rate. Attempts were being made through agricultural and rural banks as in Korea, Pakistan and the Philippines, or through cooperative societies as in many countries of the region, to make institutional credit more widely available, but in most countries funds were still entirely inadequate in relation to needs. Lack of credit was reinforced by lack of warehousing facilities. As a result sales were largely concentrated into a short period following the harvest and therefore led to a sharp seasonal fall in prices.

Among the measures to reduce such seasonal fluctuations, Pakistan reported that 4,000 warehouses were to be built in the Eastern wing of the country. India was extending financial help to cooperative societies to build warehouses, and in Korea loans were being made to farmers against future deliveries of their produce.

Some delegations, including those of Nepal and Korea, noted the keen and sometimes unfair competition offered to cooperative and other institutional marketing agencies. In their early days cooperative agencies found it difficult to meet such competition because of their lack of resources, inexperienced staff, and sometimes over-complicated procedural requirements, and at this stage government support was essential.

Grading of Agricultural Products

Some delegations, in particular India and Pakistan, stressed the importance of grading, both for satisfactory sales on export markets and for producers to receive a fair return for their output. Ungraded produce was likely to be sold in primary markets at the price of the lowest grade. In India 33 commodities, covering 117 varieties, were now graded on a voluntary basis for domestic markets, while compulsory grading had been introduced for a number of export products (tobacco, wool, sun hemp, bristles, sandalwood oil and lemon grass oil). Similarly in Pakistan the grading of wool exports was compulsory and this system was to be extended to hair and to hides and skins. There were long-established commercial grades for jute and cotton.

Voluntary grading was in operation in Pakistan for eggs, ghee, butter and mustard oil. Many other countries of the region, including Japan, Ceylon and the Philippines, have well-established systems of grading.

Regulated Markets

The regulation of wholesale markets in India and Pakistan under an Act of 1939 was described. This system had benefited farmers by enforcing competitive buying, by eradicating malpractices, by rationalizing market charges, by standardizing weights and measures and by establishing machinery to settle disputes. In India the rationalizing of market charges alone had been estimated to have led to a net saving to growers equivalent to US\$15 millions annually. Of more than 2,300 wholesale assembly markets, 667 were now regulated and it was hoped to reach 750 by the end of the second Five-Year Plan. Pakistan had so far regulated 94 markets.

Statutory Marketing Boards

A number of statutory marketing boards for individual commodities have been established in the region, e.g. for copra in Indonesia. In Australia eight such boards had been established for the main primary commodities and had proved of great value in stabilizing prices and for the more orderly marketing of agricultural products. By way of example, the Australian delegation gave an account of the operation and system of pooling prices of the Wheat Board. It was noted that while the marketing of any crop might extend over a long period, each farmer received about two-thirds of the assured price within two weeks of the delivery of the wheat and further payments on account from time to time until sales had been completed. Australia would be ready to supply full details to any country of the region interested in this system of marketing.

Progress of Marketing and Multi-Purpose Cooperatives

A number of delegations including those of India, Pakistan, Malaya, Indonesia, Nepal and Viet-Nam, referred to the development of marketing and multi-purpose cooperative societies. In India it was expected that there would be about 200,000 societies by the end of the second Five-Year Plan with a total membership of 17 millions serving about 33 per cent of the agricultural population. During the third Five-Year Plan it was tentatively proposed to increase membership to some 40 millions, covering about 74 per cent of the farm population. It was proposed also that cooperative institutions should be enlarged to serve larger areas. In addition to credit, marketing and supply facilities, it was proposed that village cooperatives should help to formulate and implement village agricultural production plans. Larger enterprises such as sugar mills were now operating successfully on a cooperative basis.

The important role of cooperative institutions in Japanese agriculture is well known. Their important role in Ceylon, where there are now some 5,000 village cooperatives, is discussed below in relation to the implementation of price support measures. In Vietnam there were now 226 cooperative societies and some 7,000 farmer associations, though marketing was largely in the hands of private enterprise. Price fluctuations were considerable and the government intervened in case of emergency.

The delegation of Malaya noted considerable progress in the cooperative milling and marketing of rice. Cooperatives were being developed for the marketing of copra and coconut oil, for the processing and marketing of smallholders' rubber, and for fruits and vegetables. In the Philippines, attention was paid to the organization of marketing cooperatives under the supervision of the Agricultural Credit and Cooperative Financing Administration (ACCFA). The number of farmers' cooperative marketing associations (FACOMAS) was 484 in 1958, and the amount of outstanding loans was about US\$43 millions. In Indonesia too there had been a very marked development of agricultural cooperatives. In 1940 there were only 140 societies with a membership of 14,000 and deposits of Rupiahs 441,000. By 1958 the number of societies had reached 48,000 with 2,200,000 members and deposits totalling Rupiahs 908 millions.

International Cooperatives Trade

The Indian delegation stressed the value of international trade between cooperative organizations which could lead to very large economies with advantages to both sides. Since 1958 there had been in India a National Federation of Cooperatives, an Apex Society whose membership consisted of the Apex Societies of the different States. The Society had been successful in arranging sales to similar societies in Ceylon and the USSR. An advantage of cooperative export was that very substantial quantities could be assembled for export without bidding up the domestic market. It was felt that similar organizations in other countries would be of value and would increase the opportunities for international exchanges.

The Pakistan delegation noted that there was also an Apex Society in Pakistan which had undertaken trade between the two wings of the country. The Japanese delegation also expressed its interest in the matter.

B. Proposal for an Agricultural Marketing Training and Development Institute

A main recommendation of the New Delhi technical meeting on marketing in 1959 had been for the establishment of a permanent training centre in the region for agricultural marketing. It noted that while

some university teaching in agricultural economics included marketing aspects, and while some governments (e.g. India) had already established training courses for marketing and cooperative personnel, on the whole the training facilities in the region were very inadequate. At present, in fact, there were rather few specialized marketing training facilities outside the United States, and good as most of these were, much of what was taught and demonstrated was unduly keyed to a very different type of economy and was not directly applicable to conditions in Asia. Eventually most countries might find the need for such training institutes working in the national language.

For the present, however, the expert meeting considered that a very useful purpose would be served by establishing a permanent regional training institute for agricultural marketing. It therefore suggested that FAO should examine this proposal further, in consultation with the governments of the region, and also with the UN Special Fund as a possible source of finance. This had been done on an informal basis, and as a considerable number of countries appeared to support the suggestion, it was felt that the main conclusions of these further discussions should be brought to the attention of the Conference.

The general consensus of views was that the training should be rather broad, covering marketing economics, the management of marketing enterprises, the organization and work of government marketing departments, marketing boards and price stabilization agencies and marketing cooperatives. It should include also methods of grading and quality control, the handling of perishable products including packing, transport and storage under refrigeration, and the organization of marketing services, including marketing information, extension and research. Practical experience with operating marketing facilities would be an obligatory part of the training. Such a combination of training was very important for effective work in marketing, but at present was extremely difficult to obtain.

It was envisaged that the standard course would be of about 9 months duration, but that in addition special short courses lasting up to 3 months and devoted to the marketing of specific commodities might also be arranged to meet the needs of more junior staff.

Much stress was laid, especially in informal discussions with the Special Fund, on the desirability of linking any such training institute with a university with strong agricultural or economic faculties. Then trainees of the institute might be able to take more detailed economic and commercial courses, while university students on their side would be able to take advantage of the more practical training offered by the marketing institute.

In addition, practical marketing research might be carried out by the professional staff of the institute, which might also operate as a clearing house for the region for information on marketing.

On completion of their training, students from the institute would be suitable for a fairly wide range of posts, for which an increasing demand for qualified men may be expected. Such posts would include: managers and assistant managers of private, cooperative and publicly operated enterprises for the buying, selling and storing of agricultural products, or officials of packing plants, transport agencies, export and import agencies and so on.

Trainees would also be suitable for recruitment to central government or provincial marketing departments; for information, teaching and extension services on marketing; and for inspectorates to exercise quality and grading control for domestic markets or export.

In discussion, support for the establishment of such a marketing institute was expressed by a number of delegations, including those of Ceylon, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Nepal, Thailand and Viet-Nam. In addition, the delegation of Pakistan informed the Conference that his government was much interested in the proposal and would be prepared to act as host government for the Institute and to provide the necessary facilities in East Pakistan. This was one of the most central areas of the region and was typical of conditions over a large area of South and Southeast Asia. It was also an area where there were already established institutions for agricultural education. The Agricultural University, to which the proposed Institute might be attached, already included a Cooperative College. The Pakistan Government had had long experience of agricultural marketing, and a full directorate of agricultural marketing was located in that wing of the country. The delegation noted further that there was already in Pakistan a regional training centre for certain experts of transport, to which the Pakistan Government allotted 12 fellowships each year as part of its contribution under the Colombo Plan.

The Conference adopted the following resolution:

THE CONFERENCE

Considering the lack of personnel trained in agricultural marketing in most countries of the region and the growing need for such personnel if marketing methods are to be improved;

Considering also the lack of training facilities for agricultural marketing adapted to Asian conditions;

Endorses the recommendation of the meeting of marketing specialists held at New Delhi in May 1959 for the establishment of a permanent

agricultural marketing training and development institute, available for training personnel from all countries of Asia and the Far East;

Welcomes the generous offer of the Government of Pakistan to act as host country for the Marketing Training and Development Institute and to provide the necessary facilities;

Requests the Director-General of FAO to assist the Pakistan Government in exploring the most appropriate methods of financing such an Institute;

Requests member governments of the region to advise the host country and the Director-General of FAO what support they would be prepared to give to the proposed Institute, including an indication of the approximate number of trainees whom they would wish to attend its courses.

C. Proposal for a Technical Meeting on the Marketing Aspects of Price Stabilization Programs

This proposal also stemmed from the findings of the regional meeting on marketing held in 1959, as well as from an earlier meeting on price stabilization policies held in 1958 on the recommendation of the Third Regional Conference at Bandung.

During discussions of the present Conference under items 5 and 6 of the agenda on agricultural development and programming, there had been a wide measure of agreement on the value of assured prices and of price stabilization measures as an incentive to increased production for the market. There was also recognition of the difficulty of including such policies effective at the farm level in the agricultural conditions of the region, including in particular the often inadequately developed systems of marketing. The Indian delegation, for example, noted that there was evidence that in many instances not only prices but also total returns to growers were lower in years when the rice crop was heavy than in years of average crops.

In view of the importance of this matter for a steady increase in the production of foodstuffs for the market, it appeared that it might be of considerable value to hold a technical meeting for an exchange of information and experience on the most effective means of giving farmers greater assurance of reasonable returns for their production, and what improvements in marketing could contribute most to greater stability of prices to both producers and consumers. Thus the experience of countries like Japan, which had successfully operated price support measures over a long period, could be of great benefit to the countries of the region.

The delegate of Ceylon reported that in his country, where a price support scheme had been in operation as an incentive measure, the effect on the marketing of agricultural produce had been most noticeable. The delegation noted some of the requirements for such a price policy to operate effectively at the farm level, laying particular stress on: a network of purchasing agencies at the producer level with adequate credit and storage facilities; safeguards to ensure that the benefits of the scheme went to producers rather than intermediaries; adequate supervision at the lowest level, and also provision for cooperative agencies to cater not only for marketing but also for the consumption needs of producers; adequate facilities for grading and transport.

The Ceylon delegation went on to explain the steps which had now been taken to meet these requirements and noted that in the last four years sales of rice under the guarantee had risen sharply from 10 million bushels in 1956 to 16.6 million bushels in 1959. There had been a similar rise in sales of other commodities, including onions, corn and sorghums. It appeared that if such schemes could be made effective at the farm level they would provide a substantial incentive at least for market sales.

Other delegations also gave details of their experience in these matters. In Pakistan the report of a Price Commission is now under consideration by the Government. The Indian delegation referred to the system of state trading introduced in 1958 and so far applied mainly to wheat and rice. The ultimate aim in that country was for a system of farmers' cooperative organizations at the village level, and for the distribution of foodstuffs through wholesale and retail cooperative societies.

Support for the proposed technical meeting was expressed by the delegations of Ceylon, Indian, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand and Viet-Nam.

The Conference adopted the following resolution:

THE CONFERENCE

Recognizing the importance of assured and stable prices to producers as an incentive to increased agricultural production for the market;

Believing that a reasonably stable level of agricultural prices is of great benefit to producers and consumers alike;

Recognizing also the difficulty of effectively implementing such producer price policies in view of the limitations of the marketing systems in most countries of the region;

Requests the Director-General to convene at an appropriate time, if possible in cooperation with ECAFE, a technical meeting on the marketing aspects of implementing food and agricultural price stabilization policies, for an exchange of views and experiences in this field between the countries of the region, and to report thereon to the next Regional Conference..

The following resolution was also adopted:

THE CONFERENCE

Urges that Member Governments, when considering steps to be taken in order to eliminate the harmful effects of some middlemen's activities, should take into account the fact, not only that such middlemen, acting as moneylenders, retain a substantial part of the farmer's rightful income, but also that, while continuously performing numerous services without any formalities, they ultimately make such services extremely costly for the farmer by retaining an excessive amount when the crop is marketed; it is therefore important that any measures to improve marketing should include the creation of agencies, under suitable supervision, to provide these services on a more equitable basis.

CHAPTER 6

Supplies and Utilization of Fertilizers

The Conference noted with great appreciation the Preliminary Report of the Survey of the Fertilizer Economy of the Asia and Far East Region, and emphasized the importance of fertilizers as one of the principal means of increasing agricultural production.

The Conference also noted that Figure 1 of the Survey Report gave further evidence of the importance of fertilizers for increasing crop yields. It showed the relationship between the yield of grain crops and the use of fertilizers for 29 countries in all major regions of the world. Those countries using very little fertilizers had yields of about 1,000 kg. per ha. As the use of fertilizers increased to 20, 60 and 200 kg. per ha., the grain yields increased to 1,500, 2000 and 3,000 or more kg. All of the increase, however, was not due to fertilizers; rather it was due to fertilizers and the other important practices that were adopted at the same time. These and other data indicate that the hunger chain with which the region was concerned starts with hungry plants. Once crops are well fed, production is high enough to largely assure ample food of good quality for both livestock and man. Conversely, ill-fed crops usually mean ill-fed people.

The Conference observed that the Survey Report indicated that the average annual fertilizer consumption in the seven countries covered by the survey ^{1/} increased from 231,000 tons of plant nutrients in 1951-55 to 394,000 tons in 1956-59. A further striking increase to 1,676,000 tons in 1963 was estimated. Substantial increases were estimated for all countries, but the major increase was in India and reflected the Government's preliminary targets of the third Five-Year Plan. Since the survey report was written, an estimate of regional and world requirements for fertilizers at the end of this century had been made. This indicated that Asia and the Far East region, including Mainland China, might require 20 million tons of plant nutrients in chemical fertilizers. This was almost as much as the entire world used in 1959. World requirements at the end of the century were expected to be 100 million tons. The Conference considered that if the region was going to require such large quantities of fertilizers, Governments should proceed to assess, as closely as possible, the amount and kind of fertilizers needed in the long term and arrange for their production or importation. This meant a major

^{1/} Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Malaya, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand.

industrial development for the region, in order to meet the demand created through agricultural research, extension, and other services. The order of magnitude and cost of the industrial development was indicated by the fact that the third Five-Year Plan of the Government of India provided the equivalent of about 500 million US dollars for the construction of fertilizer plants.

The Conference particularly considered the following recommendation of the Fertilizer Survey Report:

"(12) An intensive engineering survey of the economic possibilities of fertilizer manufacture in the countries of the region should be made by an international agency (e.g. FAO, in association with ECAFE, and under the UN Special Fund). Such a survey would help to guide national policies, domestic and foreign entrepreneurs, international agencies and foreign aid programs."

It had been the team's view that a regional approach to fertilizer production was highly desirable. Such an approach would help assure the integrated development of fertilizer production in the region and should lead to lower cost fertilizer for farmers. This would be in line with the wishes expressed by many delegates.

The Conference also noted that the Fourth Regional Conference had expressed the need for fertilizers under easier terms of purchase and suggested that the possibility of an international pool be investigated. The Director-General's investigations had indicated that:

- (a) some governments had procured fertilizers under relatively easy terms, including barter and at least partial payment in local currencies;
- (b) in the last two years fertilizers from at least some of the industrial countries had been exported at less than the domestic price; and
- (c) assistance in fertilizer procurement as part of economic assistance from industrialized countries seemed more feasible than the formation of a fertilizer pool.

It was also noted that the Director-General, in transmitting the Fertilizer Survey Report to governments of industrialized member countries and to financial agencies, had emphasized the need for including fertilizers in economic assistance programs. The Conference was informed that he intended to pursue this matter further and would appreciate having the Conference's views and suggestions for further action on his part. The Conference noted that as the Report of the

Survey of the Fertilizer Economy of the Far East Region was the first of an anticipated series of such reports, written comments from governments would be welcome.

The delegates of Australia, Ceylon, France, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaya, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam took part in an interesting discussion and informed the Conference about the efforts they were making towards increasing fertilizer use in their countries.

The delegate of India stressed that the introduction of the Japanese method of paddy cultivation was the most important factor in boosting fertilizer demands; fertilizer subsidies were considered unnecessary, although prices were higher than the neighbouring countries; fertilizer/crop yield relationships worked out by FAO would be of great help in making both the authorities and farmers fertilizer conscious. Extensive simple cultivators' trials were in progress, the technique of which was developed for the first time in India, and soil-testing laboratories were going to be doubled during the Third Plan period. Crop varieties responsive to high levels of fertilizer were also being evolved for irrigated and rainfed conditions. It was proposed to establish fifteen fertilizer factories, but so long as they were not in production, fertilizer supplies against local currency payment would be most helpful.

The delegate of Indonesia stressed the importance of economic studies of fertilizer responses in terms of the prices of fertilizers and of agricultural produce. Advice based on such studies would create greater demand for fertilizers.

In the Philippines, in spite of a number of soil-testing laboratories and a fair amount of field fertilizer tests and soil surveys, the fertilizer consumption was very low, the Philippines delegate reported; in fact, fertilizers were being subsidized for the rice and corn growers. Prize competitions showed that very high yields were attainable. These results indicated a need for more extensive research to enable sounder recommendations to be made. The methods of nitrogen and phosphate determinations required improvement, and extensive field experiments should be conducted for correlation purposes. A plea was made for financial help from FAO or the UN Special Fund, for implementing the Survey Team's recommendations about fertilizer research.

In Korea the soils had become acid due to the general use of ammonium sulphate mainly. Liming doubled yields, but was too costly. Research was under way to determine balanced formulae. The Government was supplying about 60 per cent of fertilizers to farmers at 50 per cent subsidy and two urea factories were under construction. A plea was made for the import of fertilizers by bartering exportable agricultural produce.

The delegate of Ceylon stressed the problem created by rising fertilizer prices, which was adversely affecting the food-crop farmer, and welcomed the idea of technical assistance in the form of fertilizers. He also suggested a regional fertilizer research organization, which would be of help to every country, and avoid duplicating efforts.

The delegate of Pakistan congratulated the Survey Team for a very correct estimate of the country's forward fertilizer needs. Many thousands of simple cultivator trials had been conducted and soil survey and soil analysis were in progress. Except for tea, fertilizers for crops were subsidized, which led to increased demand and was responsible for the self-sufficiency of the country in sugar. Suitable steps were being taken towards the provision of credit facilities and fertilizer distribution centres, and the improvement of land tenure systems, among measures which would lead to a higher consumption of fertilizers.

In Nepal, the Conference learned, prices of fertilizer and lime were very high due to the high cost of transportation, and 50 per cent subsidy was given by the government for fertilizers. It was difficult to obtain cheaper fertilizers from Japan due to lack of foreign currency. Construction of a fertilizer factory with FAO help was suggested, because the fertilizer demonstrations in the community project areas were creating increasing demands from cultivators for fertilizers.

The delegate of Australia stressed the need for efficiency in both the production and use of fertilizers, by taking into consideration the cheapest sources of fuel, energy, raw materials, transportation, etc., and also through national planning and research to determine how fertilizers could be most efficiently used for crop husbandry in different parts of the country.

The delegate of Viet-Nam mentioned the existence in his country of a National Committee which imported part of the fertilizer supply and distributed this part at cost price. A plant for urea manufacture was projected. Different crops showed high fertilizer responses, but better recommendations were required through a combination of field trials, soil-testing and soil mapping.

The delegate of Malaya pointed out that fertilizer subsidy schemes in a number of States in his country had been in operation for some years. These schemes had served to encourage the greater use of inorganic fertilizer among the farmers and to show them the benefits of systematic and proper application of fertilizer. He also informed the Conference that plans were in hand for the construction of a co-operative fertilizer plant in the Federation of Malaya in the near future for the purpose of manufacturing urea and later other nitrogenous fertilizers.

In Thailand, trials on cultivators' fields and demonstrations showed that fertilizers increased crop yields considerably, but lack of storage and distribution facilities and high cost of road transport limited their use at present - they were mostly being used on vegetables and other cash crops. A Standing Committee on Fertilizers had been established and the construction of a urea plant was under examination.

The delegate of France stated that, as the tropical soils of the region are often more or less impoverished and their physical structure is poor, organic substances should be applied to restore their physico-chemical properties and to obtain the maximum effect from chemical fertilizers.

The Conference noted that maximum use should be made of organic manures, which formed a part of good farming systems all over the world. Conservation and use of organic matter was most important and this should be supplemented with fertilizer for obtaining high yields.

The Conference also noted that the development of a fertilizer economy depended on three steps:

- (i) assessment of requirements;
- (ii) popularization, development of demand and the guiding of efficient use;
- (iii) developing a supply.

The first two steps were mainly the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and constituted a national problem, although international discussions, e.g. in the International Rice Commission, etc., were useful. The third step involved other Ministries, such as Commerce, Industry and Planning, and also called for interregional consideration of production and trade, rapidly changing technology, etc., so that the fertilizer plants might be suitably sited to produce low-cost fertilizers. The Conference considered that the international picture should be examined, keeping in view the urgent desire for self-sufficiency and the foreign exchange element involved in the production and procurement of the necessary requisites. The Conference was assured that the Director-General of FAO would do his utmost to assist in procurement under the most favourable conditions, and conduct a comprehensive regional survey for fertilizer production with the help of ECAFE and other United Nations Agencies.

The Conference further noted that while subsidies were one way of getting a new practice adopted, they were rather dangerous if there was a likelihood of subsidies reaching large proportions because once

established they were difficult to withdraw. Effective extension and result demonstrations appeared to be better in the long run.

The Conference approved the following resolutions:

THE CONFERENCE

Having noted the contents of the FAO Preliminary Report on the Survey of the Fertilizer Economy of Asia and the Far East;

Expresses its appreciation to the Director-General for the steps he has taken to appraise the fertilizer economy of the region;

Draws the attention of Member Governments to the recommendations contained in the Report; and

Requests that serious consideration be given to their implementation.

Further:

THE CONFERENCE

Recommends to Member Governments that they give full support to programs for increasing the use, procurement and production of fertilizers;

Requests the Director-General to continue his efforts to arrange for the supply of fertilizers on easier terms as a very important part of economic assistance to developing countries;

Recommends that the Director-General and Member Governments prepare estimates of regional fertilizer requirements, up to 1975; make a study of possible means of meeting those requirements through production and imports; and investigate problems of distribution and use throughout the region and report to the next Regional Conference.

CHAPTER 7

Crop Diversification in Irrigated Agriculture

The Conference noted that diversification of crops under irrigation represented a radical change in the system of monocultural crop production. This change was brought about by the incorporation of a variety of crops planned in sequence, which could be made possible by the provision of irrigation facilities. By removing the limiting factor of seasonal drought, an environment could be created under which large areas which were at present usable only during the rainy season could be utilized for multiple cropping and where - with the aid of the latest agricultural techniques, including the use of artificial fertilizers - agricultural productivity could be increased greatly, in a quantitative as well as in a qualitative manner.

However, the Conference realized that the introduction of diversified agriculture, besides having technical implications, also involved social and economic obstacles. Overcoming the latter especially was not a simple task. Nevertheless, crop diversification was being successfully practised, to some extent at least, in many countries of the region as reported by the delegates of Australia, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Federation of Malaya, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, the United Kingdom (speaking for Hong Kong) and Viet-Nam.

The Conference was agreed on the necessity for changing the prevalent monocultural system to one of diversified agriculture. Delegates pointed out that any system of single crop production implied unbalanced and inadequate diets for the population and would lead eventually to soil depletion. Diversified cropping, on the other hand, would help to bring about balanced diets. It would also strengthen the economy by reducing the risks of crop failure and by the production of additional food and cash crops for internal use, for industrial development and for export. In respect of nutrition, crop rotation between rice and vegetables was important near the larger cities, as practised in Hong Kong, India, Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand. The possibility of crop diversification towards self-sufficiency for various products was mentioned by the delegates of Ceylon (onions, potatoes and chillies), Indonesia (rice), Pakistan (food grains), and the Philippines (cotton and jute).

Crop diversification, the Conference recognized, also made the fullest use of land and labour resources, and by providing a more efficient form of agriculture incorporating both crop and animal husbandry, it could aid in the conservation of soil productivity.

It could also stimulate the development of the dairy industry. This integration of crop and animal husbandry received particular attention in the discussion. The delegate of France suggested the setting up of a separate Working Party or ad hoc Working Group within the International Rice Commission to study the integration of cattle breeding and rice cultivation. The delegate of India reported that subsidies were given to the farmers in his country for the purchase of milch cattle.

In a region such as this, which had to depend on seasonal or irregular rainfall for its crop production, complete crop diversification was possible, provided that irrigation was made available and that optimum usage was being made of it by employing the proper methods of cultivation.

The delegates of India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines and the United Kingdom (Hong Kong) discussed the extent to which future irrigation schemes were being planned in their countries and how much these were expected to contribute to the agricultural production.

As the delegate of the Federation of Malaya pointed out, among the requirements for a successful system of diversified crop production under irrigation, agricultural planning came first. This should be done by each country according to its own needs. This type of planning should concern itself with the choice of crops to be grown, with the industries which have to be initiated to preserve and process the agricultural products, and with the need for subsidies, marketing and distribution. The Conference was informed that proper planning must be preceded by agricultural surveys covering soils, land use and existing crops. The delegates of Ceylon and Malaya reported on land use studies, and the importance of soil surveys in this connection was discussed by the delegates of India and Malaya.

Data obtained from such surveys needed to be analysed in an integrated way in order to reveal the production possibilities in relation to nutritional needs and economic demand, in order to provide long-term perspectives for soundly directed plans.

Before irrigation works were established and completed, research needed to be done on all phases of the new system. Experiment stations or farms were needed, with irrigation facilities, on a pilot basis, to introduce a variety of crops, to study their water requirements, their optimum seasons of planting, growing and harvesting, their methods of cultivation, their soil and fertility requirements, and the optimum rotations in which they should be included. Research of this nature was reported by the delegates of India and Malaya. Many of these crops to be used in rotations might not be available in sufficient quantity in some countries, in which case it would be imperative to give attention

to plant introduction, crop improvement and seed multiplication. The delegate of India reported plans for 85 seed farms for this purpose in his country. The delegate of Indonesia made a plea for the exchange of seed between the various countries in the region. In the case of rice it was necessary to search for low-photosensitive and early maturing varieties and special techniques in order to make them fit into the different rotations, as reported by the delegate of Japan. The growing of new crops under optimum conditions might lead to the introduction of, or increase in, plant pests and diseases, a problem which received special attention in India and Indonesia. In order to grow various crops in rather quick succession it might be necessary to resort to mechanization to save time and labour at the crucial moment. This problem had been studied in India and Malaya. The delegate of the Federation of Malaya reported the successful use of pedestrian tractors in this connection. Farm management would also have to receive extra emphasis under the new system of agriculture.

The Conference noted that the irrigation works to be provided for diversified cropping should ideally be such as to provide water on a year-round basis, and not be merely of a protective nature, as was the case in those systems which had been built to safeguard the wet season rice crops against dry spells. Provision of water alone was not enough - equal attention should be paid to the laying out of distribution channels to the farmers' fields, to drainage - so as to prevent salinity - and to water laws and taxes. The delegates of France, India, Japan and Pakistan stressed the need for drainage, while the delegate of Ceylon discussed irrigation with respect to land development, requiring irrigation either by means of gravity or by lifting equipment. The efficiency of water use in irrigation was discussed by the delegates of France and the United Kingdom. The former mentioned the role of sprinklers in this respect.

Various delegates were of the opinion that proper extension was as important as experimentation itself. An excellent form of extension was the establishment of demonstration units on farmers' fields, as practised in some countries. But preceding the extension it would be necessary to provide adequate training in the still rather new field of irrigation agronomy to the future extension agronomists. It was suggested to the Conference that special training courses or schools might have to be initiated for that specific purpose.

Obviously, the system of diversification was not the domain of the irrigation agronomist alone, but rather a subject which called for close cooperation between all experts in the fields of plant production, introduction, breeding, protection, soil science, mechanization, marketing, preservation and processing, farm management and extension.

The Conference hoped that through individual action by the countries in the region and through their mutual cooperation, the system of crop

diversification would advance rapidly in order to increase welfare in each of the countries. It was informed that FAO regional officers were available in the various subject-matter fields for technical advice and assistance and to aid in regional cooperation if so requested.

The delegate of Nepal made a specific request to FAO for technical advice and assistance in the field of irrigation agronomy.

On the initiative of the delegates of the Philippines and Japan, the Conference suggested the following types of action to be taken on a country and regional basis in order to strengthen the role of crop diversification:

- 1) that each country make an appraisal of its potential with respect to diversification; this appraisal should be based on a survey of soil types, land use, hydrology, crops (their water requirements and growth season), climate, daylength, plant diseases and pests, and any other possible hazards;
- 2) that the survey results be compiled by the FAO Regional Irrigation Agronomist to provide a central source of knowledge and information;
- 3) that interchange of experience and information be promoted and increased through the International Rice Commission or some other group;
- 4) that the exchange of seed and plant material be coordinated and facilitated;
- 5) that the training of local irrigation agronomists and extension workers be started by the organization of national, sub-regional and/or regional training courses.

The Conference therefore recommended that the use of irrigation, to enable as much as possible of the arable land to be cultivated during the dry season, including lands submerged by rains or floods during the rainy period, should be a major objective, in order to permit a second or even a third crop, with consequent diversification of agriculture and diets.

CHAPTER 8

The Role of Pilot Projects in the Development of Dairying, Poultry and Other Livestock Enterprises

The Conference realized that the extremely low consumption of animal proteins in the region was responsible for under-nourishment and malnutrition. It recognized that in most countries the per caput consumption was in the vicinity of 10 grams per day, while in some it was considerably less than that amount. It agreed that a medium satisfactory level of animal protein of 20 grams per day per caput was required and supplies would have to be doubled. This would call for very intensified efforts to step up animal production.

It was agreed that the development of livestock, including poultry and fisheries industries, would be the principal means of improving quality and quantity of animal protein. Development of the livestock industry was also closely linked with mixed farming intended for crop diversification so essential in balanced land use.

The Conference realized that pilot projects could play an important role in solving the problems which limited the spread of livestock enterprises and in popularizing such enterprises among the people. However, in order to achieve this, it was also recognized that the pilot project should be planned comprehensively to include research, training, extension, nutrition education and marketing.

The advantages of various types of livestock projects currently implemented in some countries of the region by national governments, alone or through assistance of multilateral or bilateral aid, had been realized. Once these projects were well established, the basic structure could be duplicated until the whole area was eventually covered.

The Conference took note of pilot projects reported to the meeting, especially in the fields of dairy and poultry production. In connection with the dairy projects, it was recognized that more effective use of productive resources could be made by re-location of cattle from urban centres to suburban and rural areas. It was also stressed that improvements should be effected in milk processing by the establishment of modern dairy plants. The production and supply should be of a standard hygienic quality, absolutely safe for human consumption. In order to achieve this, legislation and control measures, along with the education of farmers and the provision of supplies, should be adopted.

The Conference noted with satisfaction the success of FAO/UNICEF projects on milk conservation and expanded nutrition. The latter had

a great appeal on account of the inclusion of poultry and fish production, as well as the growing of horticultural and vegetable crops.

A noteworthy feature of these projects was the incorporation of nutrition education programs, which would ultimately stimulate the consumption of rich animal proteins and create a demand for supplies of livestock products. In this connection, the Conference noted with interest the changes of this kind now taking place in patterns of production and food consumption in Japan. Such changes could be duplicated by adopting the above-mentioned methods in the expanded nutrition program.

In implementing these projects, the Conference was unanimous in the opinion that governmental policies with regard to livestock production, including import and export regulations, should definitely be geared to foster the growth and expansion of animal production. The Conference also recognized the importance of effective animal disease control, as it would considerably reduce the losses and increase the efficiency of production.

In order to stimulate livestock production it was recognized that special attention should be devoted to research, extension and the creation of favourable economic conditions. Desirable measures would include encouraging the expansion of feeding resources; the provision of facilities for technical guidance to the farmers through education; the making available of facilities for processing and utilization of animal products such as milk, meat, eggs, wool, etc. Another important aspect of this program should be the stimulating of consumption of animal products such as milk, milk products, meat and eggs through initiating feeding schemes for children and other vulnerable groups, and by the introduction of cheaper products, education, hygiene control and better marketing systems.

The Conference considered that in order to encourage the adoption of livestock improvement plans, governments should demonstrate, through pilot projects, that a livestock industry was for the benefit of the farmers.

The Conference discussed the inclusion of small-scale dairy production projects in the FAO/UNICEF expanded nutrition programs. It was the general consensus of opinion that this type of project would serve as an excellent pilot project to step up milk production in the rural areas. Milk feeding programs in village areas could offer a remunerative outlet for the farmers' produce, but it should be produced hygienically and therefore the education of the farmers was necessary. This education should also include the extension of improved animal husbandry practices.

Various other types of pilot projects besides those in dairying and poultry farming were mentioned during the course of the discussions. These included projects for the utilization of meat and meat products for animal nutrition as well as for human consumption. The establishment of modern slaughterhouses in this connection would go a long way to facilitate the conservation of food for domestic consumption as well as for export.

The Conference, while appreciating the need to step up poultry production, recognized that, under standard conditions, poultry were dependent on a supply of grains which were so badly needed for human consumption within the region. Member Governments were urged to initiate feeding trials for poultry, whereby waste products and by-products of food processing industries not used for human consumption could be fully utilized.

The Conference noted with satisfaction the implementation of district package plans in India and Pakistan. It was of the opinion that these would serve as excellent pilot projects if milk and meat production programs could form an integral part of the whole program. The delegates of India and Pakistan assured the Conference that such programs would be kept in view in their plans.

The Conference stressed the need for trained personnel in various fields of livestock production. It urged that countries in the region where facilities for such training were available would extend these training facilities to countries who were less fortunate.

CHAPTER 9

Reorientation of Forest Policies in Relation to Wood Requirements

The Conference noted that the study of "Timber Trends and Prospects in the Asia-Pacific Region", prepared jointly by the secretariats of FAO and ECAFE in response to requests by the Third Regional Conference of FAO and the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, had now been completed and had been carefully reviewed by the Fifth Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) meeting in New Delhi early in 1960. The study had revealed many disquieting features of the forestry and forest industry situation in the region. Industrial wood consumption was abnormally low, forest industries inadequately developed, intra-regional trade in forest products very limited, and the region as a whole, in spite of the rich forest wealth of many areas of the region, a net importer of forest products. This trade deficit, though amounting only to 3 million cubic metres in physical terms, represented an annual outflow of 300 million dollars in value terms, since the exports consisted mainly of primary forest products, while the region continued to rely heavily on imports of high value processed goods from other regions.

On the basis of conservative assumptions about population and economic growth, industrial wood needs had been estimated to rise by 1975 to 161 million cubic metres as against 87 million today; the bulk of the increase would be required as sawnwood for constructional and other purposes and as raw material for the manufacture of paper.

The study had indicated that no less than 262 million cu.m. of wood were today being consumed in the region as fuel, wood still representing the principal source of energy over much of the region. Though the spread of other fuels would limit the rise in wood needs, even so nearly 320 million cu.m. would be required for fuel by 1975, and considerably more if a serious effort were made to restore to the land the vast quantities of dung presently burned.

Under the plans existing at the time the study was prepared, it was estimated - and this was an optimistic assessment - that industrial wood supplies in the region would rise to 140 million cu.m. by 1975. This would still leave a deficit of over 20 million cu.m., a deficit which implied a net import of forest products of the order of 2,000 million dollars if essential needs were to be satisfied. Moreover, the gap in industrial wood supplies would continue to increase in subsequent decades with economic growth, increasing population and rising living standards.

The Study had revealed other disquieting facts, the Conference noted. Even with present low levels of consumption the forest resources were steadily being depleted - through uncontrolled fellings, the ravages of pests, diseases and fire, by widespread shifting cultivation, and through the alienation of land to agriculture. In many countries already forest cover was insufficient to fulfil its protective role, while forest depletion elsewhere was threatening the soil and water regime.

In the light of these findings of the FAO/ECAFE Study, the Conference went on to review the conclusions and recommendations of the Fifth Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission. It was evident that as yet the forests of the region were not making the contribution to the growth of the national economies of which they were capable. The Conference recognized some of the advantages that could flow from a vigorous program of forest and forest industry development. High value products could be created from indigenous raw materials; export earnings could be enhanced through quality improvement and the installation of processing facilities; certain forest industries, e.g. pulp, paper and wood-based sheet materials, ranked very high as import-savers; forest operations relieved rural under-employment and diversified the rural economy; new forest industries had a multiplier effect in developing secondary industries based on wood and paper, such as timber fabrication, packaging and paper conversion, and promoting associated industries such as chemicals; the location of new industries near the forest resource made possible a decentralization of industry, providing new poles of development; new forest industries could often help to valorize basic investment in water, power and communications. All these factors should be taken into account in planning forest and forest industry development, as well as the central fact revealed by the secretariat study; that unless this development takes place, the expanding Asian economies will find their growth hampered by shortages of essential forest products.

The Conference therefore endorsed the conclusion reached by the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission: that present plans for forestry development and further expansion of forest industries were not sufficient, and that a thorough revision of national programs was urgently needed in order to adjust local and regional supplies of forest products to prospective needs. It welcomed the recommendation of the APFC inviting member governments to prepare without delay new development programs for their forests and forest industries, and expressed the hope that all member countries would be able to carry out this revision in time to submit their revised programs to the next session of the APFC. The Conference requested the Director-General to place before the Sixth Regional Conference a consolidated analytical report on these revised programs, together with the observations of the APFC.

The Conference drew the attention of Member Governments to the particular need to take into account regional aspects when preparing programs for forestry and forest industry. This stemmed from the fact that forests were unevenly distributed in the region, differed in type, and were in many respects complementary. Moreover, in some branches of forest industry, notably newsprint and kraft paper, the economies of scale were very considerable, while national markets, though growing rapidly, were still not large enough to sustain mills of economic size. The Conference requested that the report submitted to the next Regional Conference include comments on the regional implications of national programs.

The sector of forest industry in most urgent need of development, the Conference noted, was pulp and paper, since current programs for economic and cultural advance would be jeopardized unless adequate supplies of newsprint, printing and writing paper, packaging papers and boards, and industrial papers were made available. The decision to hold a Conference on Pulp and Paper Development in Asia and the Far East, in collaboration with ECAFE and with the support of the United Nations Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations, had therefore been most timely. The Conference took note of the report of the meeting (Document FERC 60/18a), which had been attended by 150 experts from 41 countries inside and outside the region, expressed its thanks to the Government of Japan for the excellent arrangements made for this meeting, and commended the Secretariat for the thorough documentation which had been presented.

The Tokyo Conference had confirmed the magnitude of the problem faced by the region. By 1975 paper needs were likely to rise in the less industrialized countries (i.e. leaving aside Japan and Oceania) by at least 3 million tons. Imports on this scale would cost well over half a billion dollars annually. To create the capacity within the region to manufacture this quantity would require an investment over the next fifteen years of over a billion dollars, of which about half would be needed in foreign exchange. Hence the foreign exchange element of investment was recoverable in the import savings corresponding to one year's output.

There was no shortage of short-fibred materials in the region - broadleaved woods, bagasse, grasses, cereal straw - though the economics of the various alternatives required close study. Long fibres - bamboo and conifers - were adequate for the present but highly localized in the region. In the longer term, however, a shortage was certain unless steps were taken now to rectify the situation.

None of the technical problems involved in processing the region's raw materials was insuperable, and current technical developments seemed likely to facilitate the task of expanding the industry in this region.

Domestic capital, public or private, would have to bear the main burden of securing the needed expansion. In some cases this might be supported by international loans, while private foreign capital, given reasonable assurances and subject to appropriate safeguards, could make a special contribution, sharing the risks involved and bringing with it needed technical and managerial skills. The Conference noted with special satisfaction the fact that in the course of the Tokyo meeting representatives of all the traditional producing centres had recognized the need for a substantial expansion of the industry in the Asia-Pacific region and had generously offered to make available in their countries training facilities in universities, technical institutes and operating mills.

In the light of these findings, the Conference fully endorsed the recommendations and final resolution of the Tokyo Conference on Pulp and Paper Development and commended these to the attention of Member Governments. It welcomed the additional emphasis now being given by FAO to problems of pulp and paper development and expressed the hope that the Director-General would keep in mind the special problems of the Far East region in further developing FAO's program in pulp and paper.

The Tokyo meeting, the Conference noted, had served to confirm the findings of the study of timber trends and underlined the importance of the recommendations of the Fifth Session of the APFC. It was with particular satisfaction, therefore, that the Conference heard statements from many delegates of the measures already being taken in their countries to give effect to those recommendations. Some countries had already established ultimate targets for their permanent forest area while others were preparing such targets on the basis of current land use surveys and other relevant data. New measures to control shifting cultivation, eliminate illegal fellings and reduce losses through fire were reported by the delegates of Burma, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Nepal, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet-Nam. The rate of afforestation, both for protective purposes and for industrial timber, was being stepped up throughout the region. Already industrial pulpwood plantations were being established by Australia, Japan, Thailand and Viet-Nam, while the value of planting quick-growing species to supply both industrial and fuelwood was increasingly recognized. Of special interest was the planting by farmers in Java of *albizzia falcata*, which was absorbing under-employed farm labour, raising rural incomes, and helping to satisfy the rapidly growing demand for packaging timber. Measures to raise the productivity of the tropical forests include enrichment planting and conversion to desirable species. In Japan, Pakistan, Thailand and Viet-Nam, further steps were being taken to improve utilization, through reducing waste in the forest and processing losses, and by rendering secondary, less durable species more widely acceptable through preservative treatment.

In planning forest and forest industry development, the Conference noted that there was special need for long-term perspective planning, to the end of the century, based on a rough estimate of future needs and broad decisions as to land use. This need arose because some objectives could only be reached gradually, while certain measures, effective only in the long term, required initiating now. These perspective plans would, of course, be subject to amendment in the light of changing needs, experience acquired, and new technical possibilities.

Medium term plans should look 12 to 15 years ahead and set specific, even if provisional, targets in the light of consumption surveys and demand projections. On the industry side the plan should include a series of specific projects, some for immediate implementation, others to be taken up as resources permit and as the need arises.

The short term plan should coincide with the overall economic planning period and should include very specific objectives, carefully integrated with the general development plan. It should also include provision for data collection, pilot investigations and project planning needed for succeeding plan periods.

The Conference drew the attention of Member Governments to the main categories of data needed for planning, namely:

Consumption surveys and demand projections, for target-setting;

Reconnaissance surveys of the resource, to help in setting long-term objectives and to permit the selection of priority areas for development;

Intensive surveys, with economic appraisal, of selected areas, leading to clear conclusions concerning the availability and suitability of the material and preliminary decisions on possible projects. Laboratory tests and pilot-scale investigations might be required at this stage;

Possibility studies for selected projects, laying the basis for detailed project planning and actual investment.

Though certain of these investigations would prove expensive, the Conference strongly recommended that Member Governments should acquire their own basic data for planning at all stages. Only thus could governments evaluate projects submitted to them, weigh the pros and cons of alternative projects, and negotiate any eventual concessions or contracts on equitable terms. It was noted that governments requiring assistance in carrying out pre-investment surveys now had

opportunities of obtaining help from the Special Fund of the United Nations, provided their proposals were clear, sound and specific. The Conference pointed out the importance of securing a rapid improvement in forest and forest products statistics to provide a sound framework for planning, and urged all Member Governments to give effect to the statistical recommendations of the Fifth Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission.

While the machinery for forest and forest industry planning would vary from country to country, the essential point was to ensure the effective coordination of all departments concerned, both in plan formulation and plan implementation. It was particularly important that long-term forestry plans and programs should be conceived in the framework of a coherent land use policy, and that plans for developing forest industries should be closely integrated with plans for other economic sectors. The Conference drew the attention of Member Governments for example to the desirability, given the need for expanding forest industries, of bringing presently inaccessible forest areas within economic reach when planning basic investments in communications, water and power.

Instances of this integrated approach brought to the attention of the Conference included India, where forest and forest industry development constituted an important element in the Third Five-Year Plan, and Burma, where special attention was being given to these sectors in the comprehensive Four-Year Development Plan now being drafted. Indonesia and Japan provided other instances.

Many delegates paid tribute to the help rendered to their countries by FAO, under both the regular and ETAP programs, in developing their forestry activities. The Conference noted that Member Governments had now pledged themselves to review and revise their forest policies and to plan for a more rapid expansion of forest industries to meet the situation revealed by the regional study of timber requirements and prospects. In several countries of the region the realization of these new programs would require additional technical aid from external sources in the form of planting material, equipment, training facilities and experts. While it was hoped that considerable assistance would continue to be forthcoming under various bilateral and multilateral programs, the Conference stressed that Member Countries in this region would continue to look to FAO for effective leadership and guidance, especially in the fields of resource appraisal, forest policy and forest management, and the planning of forest and forest industry development, as well as for providing regular opportunities for the interchange of experience and research findings. The Conference therefore requested the Director-General, in formulating future work programs, to take into account the rising needs of countries of this region for advice and assistance in the forestry and forest products field.

Concluding its discussion of this item of the agenda, the Conference expressed confidence that the new measures now being taken, or under active preparation, by countries of the region to re-orientate their forest policies and secure a more vigorous expansion of forest industries would not only make it possible to satisfy the region's rising wood requirements but would also ensure that the region's forests made the effective contribution towards promoting the development of the national economies of which they were potentially capable.

D. SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES OF FAO IN ASIA AND THE FAR EAST NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE WHICH REQUIRE CONFERENCE GUIDANCE OR GOVERNMENT ACTION

CHAPTER 10

(a) Freedom from Hunger Campaign

In connection with this Campaign, the Conference took note of the magnitude and nature of the problem of human hunger. According to FAO's estimates only 20% of the world's population lived in countries with an average per capita supply of 2,800 or more calories per day. Another 20% had between 2,200 and 2,800 calories; 60% had less than 2,200 calories and half of those less than 2,000 calories per day. The quality of the diet was for the world as a whole as unsatisfactory as the quantity, probably more so. In North America only 25% of the diet was provided by cereals and starchy root crops. The corresponding figure for this region was 73%. The people of Asia and the Far East derived only 5% of their food from animal products in comparison with 40% in North America.

The correction of these striking differences in the quantity and quality of food supply was made difficult by the differential rates of growth in the different regions. The United Nations estimated that by the end of the century the population in the developed regions of the world would increase by 70%, whereas in this region the increase might be 180%. This would call for a much faster rate of economic development than the present slow trend.

The Conference noted that although the above presented a dark picture, there was a brighter side of it. First, freedom provided people with a great incentive and determination to make rapid progress under leaders of their choice. Second, the agricultural resources of the region were generally good but relatively unexploited. The level of agricultural production was generally low but it had been demonstrated that the potential was high. Third, the more advanced nations of the world were cooperating with governments of the region in a great international effort to hasten the agricultural, economic and social development of the region. And fourth, there was enough accumulated technical, economical and sociological knowledge to assure that all the above aims were certainly attainable. Furthermore, new knowledge was being developed at an unprecedented rate, which would permit the attainment of even higher goals than were now visualized.

The Freedom from Hunger Campaign promised to be the greatest international effort ever undertaken to make the people of all nations

aware of the basic problems of this region and to assist the region in accelerating agricultural development and the improvement of living standards. The Conference noted that the essence of the Campaign was to rouse public opinion about the true state of affairs with regard to the world's food problem and to step up national and international efforts towards the speedy abolition of under-nutrition and malnutrition wherever they might exist. The Freedom from Hunger Campaign did not confine itself to the problems of under-nutrition and malnutrition. It provided the framework in which the problem of primary poverty could be studied in all its aspects, and adequate measures evolved for its solution. The enormity of the task of breaking the vicious circle of poverty, malnutrition and low productivity was undeniable, but it could be done, and in fact several less-developed countries in post-war years had already been able to bring about a sharp improvement in their economic and social structure up to the point where self-sustained growth could take place without causing too many strains or privations.

The Conference further noted that the Campaign was not intended to replace current national and international programs for improving food supplies and nutrition. It was intended to reinforce and supplement such programs and to create a world climate of opinion in which they would work with greatly enhanced effectiveness. Campaign activities would fall into three broad categories:

- i) information and education;
- ii) research; and
- iii) action programs.

Greater knowledge of human hunger, wider perspectives of interest in it, more comprehensive and keener discussion of it - all on a world-wide scale - these were the information and education aims of the Campaign. Another key educational aim was enlisting the voluntary participation of farmers themselves in Campaign activities.

Campaign research would have two main aspects: first, short-term studies of existing scientific and technical information for immediate application; second, long-range research aimed at developing new knowledge and new techniques which might lead to opening up new basic resources. A recent meeting in Rome of the Freedom from Hunger Research Sub-Committee had emphasized that research efforts should be mainly concentrated upon applying existing knowledge to short-term projects. The Sub-Committee had had before it current FAO projects on fertilizer use, on grain legumes for better nutrition, and on wheat and barley improvement. Other study projects before the Committee included: problems of the humid tropics, increasing the availability

of phosphorus in tropical soils; effects of irrigation and tillage practices on physical and chemical conditions of paddy soils; causes of low productivity in areas of potential high productivity; control of noxious weeds in the tropics; agronomic research on tubers, root crops, vegetables and other native foods for the tropics. These showed how many immediate, practical, well-defined things there were to be done, all with the possibility of concrete and relatively prompt results.

Action programs would be for demonstration and public participation. These actions would obviously be carried out mainly in the newly-developing countries. Insofar as the Campaign could make them so, they would represent concentrated applications of current knowledge and skills. But they would be dependent for effectiveness very largely upon increased exertions by governments and peoples of the newly-developing countries themselves. What the Campaign could bring to any particular country in knowledge, personnel and finance might be modest relative to that country's total needs. Hence, concentration of Campaign resources on a few realistically and carefully assessed key projects would plainly be more effective than their dissipation over many tasks at once.

The Conference was pleased to learn that the initial response to the Campaign throughout the world had been heartening. Personal messages from Heads of State and prominent officials, as well as the number of public ceremonies, all bore witness to the deep concern felt by governments for the purpose of the Campaign. Public interest had also been widespread.

In May 1960 there had been a meeting in Rome of Non-Governmental Organizations, the Conference was informed, which was impressive not only in the number and quality of the delegations but also in the imaginative and thorough way in which they advised FAO on how they could be of assistance in the Campaign. This meeting was followed in September by a meeting of the Advisory Committee of NGO's which served to sharpen the recommendations of the larger meeting and to provide further details for consideration. The Advisory Committee was insistent on the need for strong national campaign committees broadly representative of all segments of the community, and its members expressed disappointment that some governments had appointed committees representing only government officials.

In October 1960 the Sub-Committee on Research of the Governmental Advisory Committee had held its first session, at which eminent scientists from all regions outlined the role of research in the Campaign. Their report was of vital concern for future planning. The Governmental Advisory Committee itself reviewed the whole program of the Campaign at its October meeting, endorsed the actions taken by the Director-General, and stressed the urgency of the establishment of Campaign Committees and the need for funds.

On the information front, the Freedom from Hunger Campaign "News" was being published. A pamphlet on the Campaign "In Brief" was available, and a more serious "Brochure" was being printed - also a compendium of excerpts from the Director-General's speeches dealing with the Campaign. The document "National Action Projects - A Selection" continued to be distributed and a reprint had become necessary. In mid-1961 UNESCO would devote an entire issue of the "Courier" to the Campaign. FAO and cooperating UN Agencies would prepare about fifteen publications that would be useful to National Committees in their educational programs. They would include a discussion guide for use by organized groups.

The Conference was informed that a Campaign Trust Fund had been opened by FAO to receive both government contributions and funds raised by national appeals. Government contributions were intended to cover FAO's working expenses in giving technical guidance and coordinating the Campaign's world-wide efforts. National appeal funds, especially those raised in the developed countries, were intended to support actual education research and action projects.

For the Fertilizer Program, representatives of the industry had offered contributions of approximately \$2 million over a five-year period. A Fertilizer Industry Panel had been set up to help plan the projects, as well as raise money to finance them. A proposal had been made by a certain industry to make available to FAO outboard engines together with parts, repair kits and servicing, to an estimated value of about a million dollars for projects for mechanization of small fishing craft.

In addition, under the sponsorship of religious organizations from the Federal Republic of Germany, an agreement was about to be signed with the Government of Nigeria for a field project for increased production and use of grain legumes. Substantial support from the Netherlands, Canada and the Rockefeller Foundation was providing resources for the expansion and intensification of the FAO Near East Wheat and Barley Project.

Beyond this, a large number of direct, positive offers of assistance from NGO's and other bodies were being explored, but the volume of assistance offered was not up to the level required.

With reference to the question often asked by representatives of both the more and the less developed countries, namely, how best to support the Campaign efforts, the Conference noted that all governments could contribute to the Central Campaign Fund. They could also organize and support a strong National Campaign Committee, which could conduct a vigorous educational program on the hunger problem and the methods required to solve it.

The less-developed countries could well include under the Campaign a program of nutritional education. Such a program would not only promote improved nutrition but also help support the government's efforts to secure crop diversification and livestock development. They might also select one or more parts of their agricultural program for special emphasis under the Campaign. The part selected should be that which would benefit most by wider public support both at home and abroad. The Campaign could be used to hasten the adoption of some desired practice at home and as an occasion for additional assistance from other countries, e.g. the use and procurement of fertilizers or plant protection materials.

The more-developed countries could participate through their bilateral assistance programs, which might be closely related to the Campaign by consultation with FAO. Under their bilateral programs they might also finance selected projects under Funds-in-Trust to FAO. The Conference noted that FAO would be prepared to consult with Member Governments or to suggest projects that merited their support.

In the case of research projects, FAO might suggest investigations that could be conducted in large part or wholly within a country. In some cases the participation and cooperation of several countries would be desirable.

The delegates of Australia, Burma, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the United Kingdom and Vietnam took part in the discussion in which the following points were made.

In India, the initial arrangements for the Campaign had been made in December 1959 during the World Agriculture Fair. A non-governmental organization called "Meals for Millions" was helping in distributing enriched food made from groundnut cake and suggested the possibility of such food being made from soyabean cake in other countries.

In Indonesia, aid from ICA and assistance under PL 480 were proving of great help in easing the food deficiency. The Government planned to use 375,000 tons of fertilizers in 1961-62 as compared to only 49,000 tons in 1959-60, and help in procurement was requested from FAO.

In the Philippines, an intensive four-year program of increased rice and corn production was already being implemented.

The delegate of Ceylon informed the Conference that Ceylon was the only country where rice rationing was still prevalent. Concentrated efforts were being made to increase food production and also to improve the nutritive value of food. Arrangements had been made to hold a

Freedom from Hunger Campaign week each year, because this Campaign was of special significance to Ceylon.

The delegate of Viet-Nam emphasized the low-protein nature of the diet of the people and suggested investigations into the causes and consequences of malnutrition and its remedies. He also suggested that the help of religious leaders, school teachers and trade unions should be enlisted in support of the Campaign.

The delegate of Nepal considered the Campaign would be of great help to his country.

Several delegations mentioned their governments' wholehearted support for the Campaign and the contributions which they had made to the Campaign fund.

In Japan, the Fertilizer Industry had a target to contribute \$40,000 for the Fertilizer Program over two years. Funds were also being collected for help in other fields which would include overseas cooperation and activities; food consumption surveys; development planning; supply of farm machinery; receiving overseas trainees.

The Conference emphasized that to achieve success in the Campaign during the next five years, it was essential to enlist the active cooperation of non-governmental organizations, including peasant organizations, organized labour, religious leaders, and others. It was noted that most governments in the region had inaugurated National Committees, which were the key organizations for mobilizing national efforts. Since Campaign Headquarters of FAO would be working closely with these Committees throughout the Campaign, the Conference hoped that governments would keep FAO fully informed regarding their setup and activities.

The Conference adopted the following resolution:

THE CONFERENCE

Considering that the Freedom from Hunger Campaign constitutes a call for rededication to the ideals of FAO as set forth in the Preamble to the Constitution;

Considering that the success of the Campaign is of special importance to the countries of Asia and the Far East where the heart of the world food problem lies;

Hereby states its unanimous support for the Campaign;

Calls upon FAO member countries in the region to do all within their power to focus public attention on the Campaign;

Draws to the attention of Member Governments, which have not already done so, the importance of establishing widely representative National Campaign Committees;

Invites Member Governments in the region, which have not already done so, to make some contribution to the Central Trust Fund established by the Tenth Session of the FAO Conference for overall support of the Campaign;

Recognizes that, as in all efforts at economic development, the main effort must fall upon the countries concerned;

Expresses the opinion, however, that the success of the Campaign will depend essentially on the additional resources which will be forthcoming for action projects, whether from Member Countries in the region or from donor countries, commercial firms and associations and citizen groups;

Urges the Director-General to do all in his power to stimulate donor groups to make contributions in cash or kind which will help countries in the region to expand their existing programs.

(b) World Seed Campaign

The Conference noted with satisfaction that considerable progress had been made by Member Governments of FAO with regard to the various activities connected with the World Seed Campaign. So far 68 Member Countries were participating in the Campaign, including all countries of this region.

The delegates of Australia, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Japan and the Philippines reported on the establishment and activities of their respective National Seed Campaign Committees (NSCC), and, in the case of India, also of committees at the State level. The delegate of Pakistan submitted a published summary of the recommendations of the NSCC of his country. The delegate of Nepal reported that his country would have an NSCC by 1961.

Most of the NSCC's had submitted their programs of work, covering technical items such as the introduction of improved varieties; intensification of plant breeding and varietal research; the multiplication of adequate stocks of high-quality foundation seed and plant material; the establishment of seed certification schemes; the supply of seed processing equipment; the improvement of seed testing facilities; the organization of seed distribution and trade; and the adoption of seed acts, rules and regulations.

In India, the plan called for the establishment of 4,000 seed farms of which 3,244 were already in existence. The recommendations of the Indian NSCC also included treatment against seed-borne diseases and the foundation of a corporation for the production and distribution of hybrid maize seed.

The delegate of Indonesia reported on the work of the paddy centres in his country where increased production of rice was achieved by the use of better seed and fertilizers. The action program of the Philippines included among other items the organization of the Rice and Corn Production Program and its role in the sale of certified and selected seed. Of specific interest in the national program of Japan was the emphasis on seed and plant propagation for pastures and forests. The delegate mentioned in this respect the annual tree planting program in his country.

The delegate of Ceylon stressed the vegetative propagation of improved tea clones in the national program, and the establishment of eight seed potato farms. The emphasis in Hong Kong was on the improvement of rice and vegetable seed, as reported by the delegate of the United Kingdom who also referred to training facilities for overseas countries in the United Kingdom.

With the initiation of an NSCC in Nepal in 1961, the establishment of two seed certification laboratories was also contemplated, according to the delegate of this country. An organization of farmers, called "Better Seed Growers", was already formed.

Equal attention was given by the delegates to the matter of education, extension and publicity in order to ensure that the results of the activities would reach the farmers. In the same connection expert help, training facilities and fellowships were discussed. Help from FAO and ICA experts had been received by Ceylon, Indonesia and the Philippines. The delegate of Australia reported that one six-months' training course commenced in September 1960, and that another course was scheduled to commence in September 1961.

The Conference was informed that FAO would issue in the course of 1961 the following publications: (i) an Agricultural Study dealing with "Agricultural and Horticultural Seeds - Their Production, Control and Distribution"; (ii) similar studies in the field of forestry, dealing with items such as tree seed improvement, tree seed nurseries, and equipment for handling tree seed; and (iii) a World Seed Year edition of the FAO "Forestry Seed Directory". The FAO "World Seed Campaign News" would continue to be issued throughout 1961.

Finally, the Conference urged governments to ensure that National Committees, which had not yet submitted their programs, take the necessary action and inform the Director-General as soon as possible

of the activities they proposed to undertake, both on the national as well as on the international level. The Conference emphasized that the World Seed Campaign should be continued and intensified as an integral part of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign.

(c) World Agricultural Census

The Conference noted with satisfaction the progress so far attained in implementing the recommendations of the Fourth Regional Conference concerning the World Census of Agriculture.

The Conference observed that practically all countries in the region had launched programs for economic development and that a number of these countries, encouraged by the initial successes at developing their predominantly agricultural economies, were planning for further accelerated growth.

The Conference viewed with satisfaction the increased participation by Member Countries in the region in the World Census of Agriculture. While in 1950 only five countries in the region participated in the census, not less than 15 countries had announced their intention to take an agricultural census around 1960. Seven countries were taking the census in 1960. Another seven would take it in 1961 and one in 1962.

The Conference appreciated the valuable contribution of Working Groups of the Conference of Asian Statisticians for the preparation, at FAO's request, of a regional census program and the recommendations on the application of sampling methods to agricultural census. It further expressed its appreciation for the technical assistance given to Member Countries in the region through the Regional Centre for Training Key Census Personnel held in Tokyo for three months in 1958; for the advice provided to Member Countries by a team of experts in census sampling methods and the processing of census results, made possible through a Ford Foundation grant of \$300,000 to the UN and FAO; for the establishment of pilot projects such as the tabulating of agricultural census data of the UAR, Egyptian Region, by electronic computers under FAO supervision; and for the preparation of methodological manuals by the FAO and the UN Statistical Office.

The Conference underscored the importance of the seminar to be organized in December of this year in Manila for the purpose of promoting better use of census results, and urged Member Governments to send participants to the seminar if they had not already arranged to do so.

The Conference recognized that the FAO census program was a basic program in the economic development as well as the statistical development

of countries in the region. It further observed that the shortage of well-trained statisticians among other problems had been a deterrent factor in census taking and in the rapid development of statistics in the region.

The Conference adopted the following resolution on this item of the agenda:

THE CONFERENCE

Considering that practically all Member Countries in the region have launched programs for economic development and that a number of these countries, encouraged by the initial success in developing their predominantly agricultural economies, are planning for further accelerated growth;

Considering that comprehensive and reliable bench mark data are urgently needed in formulating such agricultural development programs and policies and for the evaluation of progress in their execution;

Noting the increased participation of Member Countries in the region in the World Census of Agriculture owing to (a) the flexibility of the 1960 World Census of Agriculture Program with its adaptation to suit the conditions and needs of the countries in the region; and (b) the concerted promotional efforts of FAO, the UN Statistical Office, the Ford Foundation and other international organizations in extending technical and financial assistance through regional census advisers, regional training centres, pilot projects and methodological manuals;

Recognizing that the FAO census program is a basic program in economic development as well as in the statistical development of Member Countries in the region;

Recognizing that the shortages of financial resources and of well-trained statisticians, among other problems, have been the main bottlenecks in the taking of censuses and in the rapid development of statistics in countries of the region;

Recommends that Member Countries in the region participating in the World Census of Agriculture carry out the census taking full advantage of the facilities provided by FAO, the UN Statistical Office, the Ford Foundation and other international organizations;

Recommends that FAO explores the possibility of organizing a regional centre for training of statisticians from Member Countries in the region, taking into consideration the need for further training in specific fields, e.g. agricultural statistics, in certain aspects of

statistical operations such as data processing and in specific projects like censuses or sample surveys;

Recommends that FAO study the census programs of countries in the region, including the problems faced by them in carrying out such programs, with a view to improving current census methods and procedures and to ensure fuller participation by Member Countries in the region in future census programs;

Recommends that FAO continue to carry on:

- (i) its studies on the application of sampling methods in censuses and surveys, the estimation of acreage and crops;
- (ii) the preparation of methodological manuals; and
- (iii) such other activities or projects calculated to improve the coverage and reliability of censuses and current agricultural statistics;

Requests the Director-General to explore the possibility of obtaining financial support from the UN Special Fund and other sources for carrying out the above activities which are essential to the general improvement of agricultural statistics in the region.

(d) Surveys of Agricultural Education and Extension,
and Agricultural Information Services

The Conference was happy to note that in accordance with recommendations of the Fourth Regional Conference, surveys on agricultural education and extension, covering all countries and territories in the region, had been carried out by the FAO Regional Office. Copies of the two survey reports were distributed for consideration at the Conference, namely, "The Present Status of Agricultural Education Development in Asia and the Far East", and "The Present Status of Agricultural Extension Development in Asia and the Far East".

At the Conference, the following important findings in the two surveys were particularly brought to the attention of the delegates.

As regards agricultural education, a total of 483 replies was received from 11 countries, covering 74 agricultural colleges offering degree courses, 13 special agricultural institutions offering diploma courses, and 406 secondary schools of agriculture. About three-fourths of the agricultural institutions of higher learning and one half of the secondary schools of agriculture in the region were covered by the replies. A detailed review of these institutions had been made on both individual country and regional bases.

Of the three levels of agricultural education under review, the college level was of basic importance, being concerned with the preparation of highly trained people such as research workers, extension specialists, school teachers and administrators for agricultural development. Because of the importance of higher education in agriculture, many agricultural colleges in the region had been assisted in their development by various aid agencies. At present about 18 State Agricultural Colleges and Universities of the United States were collaborating through bilateral arrangements with similar training institutions in ten countries of the region. New Zealand, through the Colombo Plan, had this year assisted in establishing a Faculty of Agriculture in the University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur.

In the survey, major emphasis had been given to the agricultural colleges and possible means of improving them. The survey showed also that the special 2-3 year diploma courses in agriculture had been found useful in training village level extension workers in several countries of the region. Secondary education in agriculture was the least developed in many countries in the region, and unless substantial improvements were made its value, in many instances, was questionable.

The survey of agricultural extension indicated that all countries and territories in the region had in recent years established agricultural extension services of some kind, and that there was an increasing awareness on the part of governments of the importance for agricultural development of an effective extension service. No matter how elaborate an agricultural production plan might be, it would remain a paper plan only, unless accompanied by effective means of implementation. In the final analysis, it was the farmers who would actually produce more and better food. For this task farmers required the assistance of an effective agricultural extension service.

The agricultural extension survey reviewed agricultural extension development both on individual country and regional bases. One of the important survey findings was that a negligible amount of government appropriations was spent for extension work. In some extreme cases, extension work was largely supported with foreign aid. An even more alarming finding was that many extension workers and agricultural administrators lacked a clear understanding of extension concepts and techniques. Another finding was that field level workers were often obliged to undertake many other duties such as the collection of statistics, handling farm supplies and regulatory work, thus leaving very little time for farm advisory work. These other duties also tended to make their advisory work ineffective.

There was the further problem of extension organization. In many countries farm advisory work was carried out by several government

departments. This often resulted in duplication and ineffectiveness. If the several separate extension services could be combined under one administration, improved coverage of the country could be achieved with the same number of personnel. The better trained ones could become subject-matter specialists, while the others could serve as field-level extension officers. Both types of officers would require intensive in-service training in both subject-matter fields and extension teaching methods. This would involve no great cost to the government, but would result in an immense increase in effectiveness of the service.

During the course of discussion, many delegates expressed their appreciation to FAO for producing the comprehensive reports of the two surveys, which contained much factual and useful information. The delegate of Australia indicated that an extension agent could not successfully be a teacher and inspector at the same time, and that these two duties should be separated wherever possible. He further stressed the importance of rural youth work. The delegate of Ceylon reported on the Young Farmers' Club work in his country, and said that a group of ten young farmers had been sent to Japan for nine months' study and observation through the Colombo Plan. The importance of rural youth training was also emphasized by the delegates of the United Kingdom and the Philippines.

The delegate of Malaya reported that in the Department of Agriculture a new extension division would soon be created with three sections: subject-matter specialists, training and coordination, and publication and information sections. He also said that the College of Agriculture at Serdang has been strengthened to train extension workers. The delegate of France emphasized the close relationship between research and extension and the practical training of field level workers. The delegate of Viet-Nam added that extension work must be educational and practical and could not be compulsory. The delegate of Indonesia gave an example of using rural educational centres as a means of disseminating agricultural knowledge. At present there were about 300 such centres in the country. The delegate of Japan expressed his Government's willingness to extend technical assistance to other member governments in the development of their extension services.

The delegate of India reported that a new State Agricultural University had been established in 1960 in Uttar Pradesh. It was on the pattern of the Land Grant Colleges in the United States, combining research, instruction and extension under one administration.

The delegate of Nepal mentioned the usefulness of the FAO publication "Extension in Asia", and hoped that it could be published more frequently, with more copies of each issue for circulation. The delegate of Burma also expressed the hope that the teaching manual

on extension, presently under preparation by FAO, could soon be completed and made available to Member Governments to use in training extension workers.

Since most Member Governments gave top priority to the training of extension instructors, the delegate of the Philippines extended an invitation to FAO to hold its second regional extension training centre in the University of the Philippines College of Agriculture at Los Banos in 1962, as the first FAO-sponsored extension training centre had been held there.

The observer for ILO expressed the interest of his organization in vocational training in agriculture. He mentioned that ILO and FAO had jointly promoted the training of forestry workers in Europe and that the two organizations had agreed to collaborate in similar training in this region.

In view of the fact that the regular agricultural institutions of higher learning should be depended on for training suitable personnel for agricultural development, and the report had revealed a wide variation among them, it was proposed that FAO convene a regional meeting on higher education in agriculture in 1962 or 1963, for the purpose of exchanging views and experiences about problems of common concern.

The Conference adopted the following resolutions:

(i) THE CONFERENCE

Taking note of survey reports on agricultural education and extension in the region;

Expresses its appreciation to FAO for the thoroughness with which the reports have been prepared;

Requests that the reports be published by FAO for wide circulation among the agricultural training institutions in the region;

Recommends that governments pay particular attention to the training of extension workers at the farm level;

Further requests that a regional meeting on higher education in agriculture be convened in 1962 or 1963 for the purpose of exchanging views and experiences about problems of common concern.

(ii) THE CONFERENCE

Realizing that agricultural research, education and extension are all essential services for agricultural improvement, and that they are very much interrelated;

Having noted that two of the services have been surveyed;

Requests that a similar survey be made by FAO of agricultural research, for discussion at the next FAO Regional Conference to be held in 1962.

Agricultural Information Services

The Conference realized the value of agricultural information both as a means of giving farmers information about crops, markets, weather, pests, plant diseases, home economics, etc., and also as a means of passing on information coming to countries through the FAO Information Service, which acts as an international agricultural information service.

The Conference particularly stressed the use of farm radio as a medium of agricultural information, in the light of the increasing number of receiving sets now being made available in the region. It heard with interest of the availability of training facilities for agricultural information personnel, particularly the Australian Broadcasting Commission's courses in farm radio techniques, and the courses available to trainees from all countries at the Overseas Visual Aids Centre in London.

The Conference suggested that FAO should set up a centre for training personnel in agricultural information techniques, giving specialized training in methods of communicating agricultural knowledge to rural people. It further suggested that FAO should seek to develop relations between the various national centres of its Member Governments, in order to exchange experience and documents. It asked FAO's help in improving national agricultural information services.

The Conference adopted the following resolution

THE CONFERENCE

Realizing the value and the increasing possibilities of farm radio as a tool in the improvement of agriculture;

Recommends that Member Countries give great consideration to this medium of agricultural information, and seek FAO's help in setting up and improving their farm radio services.

(e) Progress Report on the Work of the
Joint FAO/ECAFE Agriculture Division

The Conference took note of the progress report on the work of the joint FAO/ECAFE Agriculture Division, and expressed appreciation of the cooperation between the two organizations as evident in the activities of the joint Division.

The Division's program of work was endorsed by the Conference. The delegates of Australia, India, Indonesia and Japan commended the activities of the Division and referred to various studies which they had found particularly useful. Some suggestions were made regarding future activities, which the Indonesian delegate hoped could be expanded.

The case study approach was supported by the delegate of Australia, who wished to see it developed, especially in relation to the use of agricultural surpluses for economic development. The world was faced with the problem of how to make the best use of existing surpluses, and it was particularly important to have studies that looked at their utilization from all points of view. If surplus disposal was not handled with adequate consideration of all the interests involved, there was a danger of damaging the legitimate commercial trade of some agricultural exporting countries. Such case studies were also supported by the delegate of Japan, who looked forward to seeing the forthcoming study of this kind in relation to Pakistan.

The Conference agreed with the delegate of Japan that the continuing study of agricultural programming by the Division, in the context of overall economic programming, was particularly valuable and should be continued. Favourable reference was made to the Division's review of some aspects of agricultural development planning in countries of the region, published in the ECAFE Bulletin of June 1960, and interest was expressed in any further studies of this kind. The delegate of Japan said that the Division's review of food and agricultural price policies in the region, published in 1958, had been found useful, and he hoped for the appearance of a further regional study on this subject in due course.

The emphasis on problems of development in the Division's work program was commended by the delegate of India, too. He welcomed the method of case studies, as applied by the Division in examining the impact on village agriculture of community development activities. He realized that the limited resources of the Division precluded any immediate enlargement of its work program, but he hoped that in the future it would be able to take up studies of farm and non-farm income and movements of agricultural population in countries of the region, in the context of rising national incomes.

(f) International Assistance Programs

The Conference heard with interest a statement by the Assistant Director-General (Technical Department) outlining recent decisions and new developments in multilateral international assistance programs, and explaining their implications for governments of the region and their impact on FAO's own program of work. It noted that the decisions of the Technical Assistance Committee to abolish country ceilings and to introduce project programming, following the earlier decision to adopt a system of biennial budgeting, required on the part of governments a more careful assessment of their most urgent needs for assistance and a readiness to plan ahead; at the same time these changes offered the possibility of rendering technical assistance more effective.

The Conference commended to the attention of Member Governments the desirability of cooperating in group country projects as a means of making more effective use of the limited funds available under the Expanded Technical Assistance Program.

The Special Fund of the United Nations, now in its second year of operation, offered new and important opportunities to governments intent on removing bottlenecks impeding their economic development, and the Conference heard with satisfaction of the large proportion of the Fund's resources channelled in the field of food and agriculture. As yet, however, the Conference noted, governments of this region had not taken full advantage of this new source of technical and financial aid; it therefore drew the attention of Member Governments of the region to the possibility of invoking the assistance of the Special Fund to help them carry out major pre-investment projects in agriculture, forestry and fisheries, and urged them to make full use of the country, regional and headquarters staff of FAO for advice and assistance in preparing suitable projects for submission to the Special Fund.

It was suggested by the Philippines delegation that FAO investigate the possibility of developing a group-country UN Special Fund project for fertilizer experiments and soil testing. The delegate of Burma proposed the appointment to the Regional Office of a regional rubber specialist, to assist and advise governments and interested agencies in the development and improvement of rubber production.

The Conference noted that there would henceforth be increased scope under the UNICEF Expanded Nutrition Program in which UNICEF received technical support from FAO, for pilot projects to promote the production and use of high-protein and protective foods in selected areas, linked with nutrition education campaigns. The recent resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations, under which FAO was to

advise on the use of surplus agricultural commodities for agricultural development, would also in due course afford opportunities for new forms of FAO assistance to Member Governments.

A decade of experience of multilateral and bilateral assistance programs, delegates noted, had made clearer the conditions that needed to be satisfied if such assistance was to play a more effective role in promoting social and economic development. The assistance rendered should be based on a thorough understanding of local conditions, should not impose too heavy a burden on the recipient country and should respect the views of governments. Expert assignments should be precise, specific and of adequate duration, and the experts selected should be able to adapt themselves to local conditions and possibilities. A bigger proportion of the ETAP funds available, many delegates considered, should be devoted to the provision of fellowships and equipment, and it was pointed out that the time had come when more emphasis needed to be given to the formation of national cadres of qualified personnel.

The rising scale of international technical assistance, the Conference noted, not only provided the governments of developing countries with new opportunities; it confronted them with new problems. To make effective use of the external funds now available for promoting agricultural development, the Conference suggested that Member Governments might consider including in their ETAP programs a senior adviser charged with the task of assisting governments in the preparation of their development plans for agriculture, forestry and fisheries and with advising them on how to make the best use of international assistance in various forms and from various sources.

The Conference noted too that the foregoing developments imposed new and heavy tasks on FAO headquarters staff, thereby imperilling the Organization's regular program activities. The interests of the countries of the region required not only that the new operational tasks falling to FAO be competently discharged, but also that the regular program be fully implemented, and the Conference expressed the hope that the Director-General would give high priority to the need for a substantial strengthening of headquarters staff in presenting FAO's future program of work and budget.

(g) Regional Agrarian Research and Training Institute

The Conference took note of Resolution No. 16/59 of the Tenth Session of the FAO Conference, which requested the Director-General to initiate arrangements for the establishment as soon as possible of a Regional Agrarian Research and Training Institute for dealing on a continuing basis with problems of agrarian structure, including their relation to land use in the region.

The Conference expressed appreciation of the Director-General's initiative in this matter, and recognized the urgent need in the region both for continuing research into the various aspects, stages and interrelationships of agrarian reforms, and for systematic training, since Member Governments need a well-trained staff both for the implementation of agrarian reform and settlement schemes and for the evaluation of the effects of developing programs. The Conference noted also that the collection, analysis and dissemination of information on problems of agrarian structure were essential prerequisites for intelligent action in the field of agrarian policy.

In full agreement with Resolution No. 16/59 of the Tenth Session of the FAO Conference, the Regional Conference pointed out that the early establishment of the projected institute would ensure effective long-term assistance to Member Governments in the field of agrarian reform on the three levels of research, training and dissemination of analysed information.

The Conference requested that the activities of the projected institute should cover the whole of Asia and the Far East, in order to ensure an exchange of information and experiences among all countries of the region to the mutual benefit of the countries concerned.

The Conference considered that the program of the institute should be based on the universities and other suitable institutions which are already functioning in the region. The institute itself should be closely associated with an already-existing university on research institution, and would act in the field of agrarian reform as a coordinator for the research and training activities of institutions all over the region and promote the development of branch activities.

Many delegations expressed the readiness of their governments to make adequate contributions to the establishment and development of the institute, through the cooperation of their national universities, training and research institutions and by sponsoring fellowships for trainees. The delegate of Japan stated that his country would be prepared to consider arrangements for the creation in Japan of a free and non-governmental association of research institutes of all Member Countries. The observer for ILO requested that his organization be kept informed of developments regarding the proposed institute and indicated that they would consider participating actively in it. The observer for the World Veterans Federation expressed the readiness of his organization to cooperate with the proposed institute in the implementation of specific projects which it might undertake.

The delegates of Burma, Malaya, Pakistan, the Philippines and Viet-Nam expressed a desire to act as host country for the projected institute, giving indications of their available facilities.

The Conference appreciated the offers of these delegations and agreed with the suggestion of the delegations of Nepal, Burma and Indonesia, that FAO should undertake a survey of the offers made by the delegations to enable the Director-General to make his decision on the organization and the location of the institute, in accordance with regional needs and the levels of research and training in various countries.

The following resolution was adopted:

THE CONFERENCE

Noting the Resolution No. 16/59 of the Tenth Session of the Conference of FAO regarding the creation of a Southeast Asian Regional Agrarian Research and Training Institute;

Recalling the deep concern of countries of the region for the improvement of agrarian structure, in order to increase the level of living of the farming population and to provide adequate incentives for greater productivity;

Considering that the Report on the Centre on Policies of Land Settlement for Asia and the Far East, held in Ceylon in November/December 1958, suggested the creation of a regional centre on agrarian problems on a continuing basis;

Appreciates

- (i) the efforts of the Director-General to explore, in consultation with the governments of the region, the various possibilities for the implementation of Resolution No. 16/59 of the FAO Conference, in order to provide adequate support to Member Countries in the field of agrarian reform and land settlement on the levels of research, training and dissemination of analysed information;
- (ii) the assistance which FAO is prepared to provide in the establishment and the maintenance of the institute; and
- (iii) the value of the survey to be made by FAO of the offers of the delegations to act as host country for the projected institute;

Requests the Director-General to implement the Resolution above with a view to establishing the institute at the earliest possible date and to expanding its activities to the whole region of Asia and the Far East, taking into consideration the suggestions of Member Countries submitted to the Regional Conference and giving specific attention to regional needs and the levels of research and training in various countries.

(h) Regional Seminar on Fishery Administration

The statement introducing this subject emphasized the increasing complexity of the problems confronting the fisheries administrator, as a result of the steadily increasing production of commercial aquatic products, the mechanization of craft and gear, the introduction of new and improved methods and equipment for fish preservation and processing, and the growing demand by the fishermen for the amelioration of their living conditions. The fisheries administrator was finding that his task was becoming more and more closely interconnected with those of other government officials and there was a growing need for close liaison and often for joint action between fisheries authorities and their associates in other government departments.

The Conference learned that a positive approach to this problem had recently been made by the Government of the Federation of Malaya, and that the Government of India had, over the past several years, convened a number of conferences and meetings on the subject. In describing the fisheries situation in his country, the delegate of India referred particularly to the Institute for Higher Training in Fisheries and said that his Government would welcome applications for attendance from students from other countries in the region.

In speaking on the question of fisheries administration, the delegates of Australia, Ceylon, France, India, Korea, Malaya, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet-Nam confirmed that a seminar on the subject would be of considerable value, and there was general agreement that a regional meeting might, with advantage, be preceded by national meetings convened by individual governments to review local problems.

The delegate of Pakistan, in strongly supporting the proposal, extended an invitation to the Director-General to convene the regional meeting, at a suitable time, in Pakistan.

The Conference adopted the following resolution:

THE CONFERENCE

Noting that the countries here represented are convinced of the important role of fisheries in supplying additional animal protein in the diet of the people, and that increased production should result in raising the standards of living of fishermen;

Recognizing that countries throughout the region are engaged in formulating and implementing policies directed towards fisheries development, and that the implementation of such development programs and the efficient utilization and management of the fisheries resources are closely dependent upon the establishment and operation of effective administrative services;

Noting further that FAO has had under consideration the convening of a regional meeting to study and review this subject;

Recommends

- (i) that the governments of the countries of the region take steps to convene as soon as possible national seminars on Fisheries Administration, in which the various governmental agencies concerned, such as those responsible for fisheries and in addition those for law, finance and revenue, trade and commerce, rural development and so on, might participate;
- (ii) that the Director-General be requested to convene at a suitable time and possibly under the aegis of the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council, a Regional Seminar on Comparative Principles and Methods of Fisheries Administration, and to make available the results of this Seminar for the guidance of the governments of the countries of the region.

Fish Marketing

The Conference recognized the urgent need to find solutions to the problems of marketing and distributing fisheries products, placing particular emphasis on the need to develop a system of price stabilization and to reduce the differential between the price paid to the fishermen and the price paid by the consumer.

Statements from several delegations including Ceylon, India, Korea, Malaya, Pakistan, the Philippines and Viet-Nam drew attention to general and specific problems existing in their respective countries. The delegate of Korea particularly referred to the need for study of problems of distribution and transportation, sanitation, storage and refrigeration, the problem of controlling the operations of fish dealers; and the introduction of modern marketing methods such as those in use in the United

States. The delegates of Korea and Pakistan both drew attention to the acute problems involved in the import and export of fisheries products.

The Conference adopted the following resolution:

THE CONFERENCE

Noting with appreciation the work already undertaken by FAO and the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council with regard to fish marketing;

Recognizing that marketing and distribution problems constitute a major obstacle to the desired increase in fish production and consumption in the region;

Requests the Director-General

- (i) to prepare a detailed regional analysis of policies, practices and problems of fish marketing at both national and international levels in the region;
- (ii) to organize under the aegis of the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council a Regional Seminar on Fish Marketing;
- (iii) to formulate and publish, on the basis of this analysis and arising from the Seminar a series of recommendations concerning fish marketing policy and practice for the guidance of the governments of the countries of the region.

(i) Promotion of Food Consumption Surveys

The Conference agreed with the emphasis laid by the Tenth Session of the FAO Conference on the importance of food consumption surveys for providing basic data needed for policies and programs for nutritional, economic and social development. It was recalled that the Fourth FAO Regional Conference had already drawn the attention of the governments of the region to the need for carrying out comprehensive food consumption surveys. Moreover, it was recognized that the Freedom from Hunger Campaign added urgency to the need for adequate information on levels of food consumption and nutrition, lack of which was felt seriously in many countries of the region.

Available knowledge of food consumption in the region was mainly based on scanty data on national estimates of food supplies available for human consumption, and even this was limited by the fact that satisfactory Food Balance Sheets were available only for a few countries.

Even where they were available, they reflected only the situation in a country as a whole and failed to reveal the differential distribution of available supplies among different socio-economic groups within a country. Moreover, food consumption data should be adequately covered not only from the viewpoint of nutrition and health but also from related economic and social points of view. The lack of this type of information, which could be obtained only by comprehensive food consumption surveys, had been a difficult problem in drawing up sound development plans related to food and nutrition, especially in the less developed countries, where the need for improvement was much greater. It was noted that this point had been emphasized both by the FAO Technical Meeting on Nutrition in Food Policy and Planning in Asia and the Far East, held in June 1960, and subsequently by the FAO/ECAFE Expert Group on Selected Aspects of Agricultural Planning in Asia and the Far East.

The Conference considered that comprehensive food consumption surveys had not been carried out so far on a large enough scale, partly due to lack of trained personnel and other facilities and partly due to other factors such as inadequate recognition of the need for such surveys. Many surveys of limited scope had been carried out from time to time in many countries of the region, but nationally representative surveys on a continuing basis were being carried out only in Japan. However, it was evident from the statements of most delegations that there was growing interest in carrying out adequate surveys and in improving the training of personnel and other necessary facilities for this purpose.

The Conference was glad to note that the Director-General had already initiated action to implement the relevant recommendations of the FAO Conference by preparing a Draft Program of Work for Food Consumption Surveys to be submitted to regional technical meetings, so that the program could be adapted to the special conditions in different regions. It was also noted that the preparation of manuals on methodological and related aspects was well in hand and that a manual on the dietary and nutritional aspects had already been prepared.

The Conference adopted the following resolution:

THE CONFERENCE

Recognizing that data on levels and patterns of food consumption and nutrition of different socio-economic groups of the population are needed for planning policies and programs aiming at the improvement of the living conditions in general and nutritional status in particular of the people in the region; and that the Freedom from Hunger Campaign adds urgency to the need for adequate information on food consumption and nutrition which is seriously lacking in many countries of the region;

Recommends:

- (i) That Member Governments organize comprehensive surveys on levels and patterns of food consumption of different socio-economic sections of their population;
 - (ii) That the Director-General organize a regional technical meeting on food consumption surveys and training centres for survey personnel in cooperation with other interested organizations; and
 - (iii) That Member Governments participate fully in the above activities, taking advantage of the possibilities of obtaining from FAO technical and other appropriate assistance.
- (j) Policy Implications of Reports of Meetings and Studies

International Rice Commission, 7th Session,
Saigon, November 1960

The Conference took note of the Report of the 7th Session of the International Rice Commission. It expressed appreciation of the work of the Commission and endorsed the report and the recommendations contained therein regarding the future activities of the Commission.

Development Centre on Farm Management,
Philippines, October 1960

The Conference noted with satisfaction that FAO, in cooperation with five host countries - Japan, India, Viet-Nam, Thailand and the Philippines - and the Council on Economic and Cultural Affairs Inc. of New York, had successfully implemented the resolutions of the Fourth Session of the International Rice Commission in 1954 and the Fourth Regional Conference by conducting a series of five Development Centres on Farm Management in the region. The first Centre had been held at Tokyo in 1956, the second at New Delhi in 1957, the third in Saigon for Cambodia, Laos and Viet-Nam in 1958, the fourth at Bangkok in 1959, and the last one in Manila in 1960. The Conference also noted that more countries in this region were taking particular interest in the development of farm management programs.

The Conference appreciated the action taken by the Director-General to establish a Regional Working Party on Farm Management for Asia and the Far East, as approved by the Tenth Session of the FAO

Conference, and welcomed the arrangements being made to hold the first meeting of the Working Party on Farm Management in Japan in 1961.

The Conference appreciated the emphasis given during the last Centre in the Philippines to the management problems of small farms, particularly the full utilization of limited farm resources for the enlargement of the farm business. The delegation of Japan stressed the importance of expanding the size of the farm business and indicated that Japan was ready to share her experience in management of small farms with other countries.

The Conference recognized the importance of collecting farm management data for the purpose of agricultural planning and programming. It observed with satisfaction that the following steps had been taken by several Member Countries:

- i) the holding of National Training Centres on Farm Management in Japan in 1957 and 1958, and in Thailand in 1960; of a State Training Centre on Farm Management in the Shan States, Burma, in 1960, and of Farm Management Seminars in Japan and India regularly since 1957; and the organization of National Training Centres on Farm Management to be conducted in Malaya and the Philippines in 1961;
- ii) the establishment of Agro-Economic Research Centres and Farm Management Investigation Centres in India;
- iii) the establishment of Pilot Studies in Farm Development Projects in the Philippines and of Farm Management Planning Projects in India;
- iv) the establishment of Farm Management Investigation Projects on a national basis under the Second Five-Year Plan (1960-64) in Pakistan, and the formulation of a Master Plan of Farm Management Research in Thailand.

The Conference adopted a recommendation, proposed by the Philippine delegate and supported by other delegations, that another series of Farm Management Development Centres for Asia and the Far East should be organized to provide an opportunity for further study of farm management techniques.

The Conference also underscored the importance of holding National Training Centres on Farm Management in each country, to train the additional personnel needed in this field.

Regional Seminar on Food Technology
for Asia and the Far East,
Mysore, India, August 1959

The Regional Conference noted that the seminar had discussed many aspects of food technology, both traditional and modern; the development of protein-rich foods; the influence of storage and processing on the nutritive value of foods; food sanitation; food additives and food legislation. It was recognized that the development of modern processing methods was rather slow and the study of traditional processes (sun-drying, smoking, salting, pickling and fermentation) should be given priority as these foods contributed substantially to the nutritional quality of the diet in most of the countries of the region.

The training of personnel for food-processing industries had received considerable attention and there was a growing demand for trained food technologists. In most of the countries in the region facilities for training in food technology were rather limited. Shortage of trained instructors was a serious obstacle to the establishment of fully developed departments of food technology with facilities for training and research. It was also realized that most of the food processing was on a village and cottage scale. Many of the food problems in the different countries were similar in nature and could be studied at one centre. For these reasons the Seminar had considered that it would be helpful to set up a regional training centre at which students from the different countries could be trained in food technology at different levels, and where research on particular problems of the region could be undertaken. In addition to providing training, such a centre could also promote liaison between the different countries and encourage exchange of personnel.

One of the chief recommendations of the Seminar had been that FAO investigate the possibilities of establishing in the near future a permanent food technology training centre in the region to supplement the aid being given by United Nations agencies and under bilateral agreements.

After discussion, the Conference adopted the following resolution:

THE CONFERENCE

Considering the need for improving food technology in order to prevent wastage of foods and loss of nutrient value; and

Recognizing the insufficient number of trained food technologists in the region;

Recognizing also the importance of the recommendations made by the FAO Regional Seminar on Food Technology for Asia and the Far East, Mysore, India, August 1959;

Recommends that FAO make the necessary contacts with governments of the region for establishing in the near future a permanent Food Technology Training Centre in the region, possibly to be financed from the UN Special Fund and/or other sources in order to supplement the aid being given by UN agencies and under bilateral agreements.

E. CONCLUDING ITEMS

CHAPTER 11

The Future Orientation of FAO's Work in the Region

The Conference noted the convincing evidence of progress in the region as revealed in its discussions. Foundations had been laid for continued advance in a number of highly important fields. These included:

- (i) the expanding use of fertilizers and plans for their manufacture;
- (ii) progress in the production, testing and dissemination of improved seeds, partly under the impetus given by the World Seed Campaign;
- (iii) the widespread recognition of the need for increased irrigation, coupled with multiple cropping and diversification, including the integration of animal husbandry with arable farming;
- (iv) recognition of the importance of forestry as a source of raw materials and for protective purposes, and the possibility of joint ventures of two or three countries in the pulp and paper industry, leading to the need for reorientation of forest policies;
- (v) progress and plans in such fields as agrarian reform, credit, cooperatives, marketing and greater attention to farm management;
- (vi) the change in emphasis from cereal production - though its expansion still remained very important - to protective foodstuffs, including livestock products, fish, vegetables and fruit;
- (vii) the establishment and development of extension services; and
- (viii) the provision of facilities for agricultural research and education.

There was clear evidence that the increasing numbers of trained personnel in the countries of the region were already having an impact on the rate of development in agriculture.

The Conference realized, however, that the task ahead was still very great. The current rate of progress in production per caput was still far from sufficient. The Director-General had pointed out that between 1960 and the year 2000 an annual rate of increase of 7-10 per cent was needed in the output of protective foods, including livestock products and fish. The rate of growth needed for livestock products was approximately equal to the annual rate of increase achieved in Japan since 1945, which had been built on foundations previously laid by progress in agricultural and industrial development. A greatly increased rate of increase was also necessary in forestry products, particularly to meet the demand for pulp, paper and fuel.

The Conference stressed the importance of viewing this Regional Conference as one of a series. Many subjects discussed at this session had arisen out of matters initiated at earlier Regional Conferences. Thus, agrarian reform had been thoroughly reviewed at the Bandung Conference of 1956, followed by the discussion on evaluation techniques at Tokyo in 1958. As a result of this, the Tenth FAO Conference had resolved in favour of the establishment of a Southeast Asian Agrarian Research Institute and this Regional Conference had brought its implementation closer.

The importance of easier procurement of fertilizers had been raised at the Tokyo Regional Conference. This had led to an overall survey, conducted by FAO, of fertilizer problems in this region and to the report to this Conference which had laid down policy lines which should lead to adequate measures in respect of the assessment of demand, effective use and supply within the next few years.

Agricultural planning - discussed at earlier conferences - had led to considerable cooperative work between FAO, ECAFE and Member Countries, the results of which had again come before this Conference, resulting in considerable clarification of issues.

The Conference stressed the close connections that existed between many of the subjects discussed. Satisfactory progress in economic development depended in part on the practical recognition of these interrelationships. For instance, the diversification of agriculture under irrigation was closely connected with possibilities for effective use of fertilizers and with the development of animal husbandry, with resource surveys, and with the appraisal of results in relation to nutritional needs and economic demand. This opened up the whole question of planning, including the planning of forestry and fisheries development.

It had not been possible at this Conference to fit these and many other subjects into an integrated approach to development, but the Conference had clarified the issues to the point where this might reasonably be attempted. Such interrelationships might be taken into account in preparing the agenda for the next Regional Conference.

The Conference noted that all governments in the region had adopted planning in some form or other as an essential aid in economic development. General agreement prevailed as to the need for more effective planning, and it was generally recognized that the regional implications of national plans should be carefully considered. Discussions at the Conference had shown clearly that effective planning must go beyond the preparation of operational plans for a set period, such as five years. It also included the need for arriving at a clear understanding of long-term objectives, consistent with the potentialities of the natural resources; the nutritional needs and habits of the peoples; the growing requirements of the industries of the region, and the long-term outlook for the commodities produced by, or imported into, countries. Short-term operational plans and the establishment of long-term objectives had to begin with a sound knowledge of the existing situation, and the Conference therefore stressed the importance of the World Census of Agriculture, of Food Consumption Surveys and of the correct assessment of the national and world situations for agricultural commodities.

Delegates had reported universal support for the Freedom from Hunger Campaign as a rededication to the ideals of FAO's charter. It was a call for the intensification of action at the national and international level, on a scale adequate to meet requirements based on the growth of population and the need for improved nutrition. This Campaign, if successful, would awaken the consciousness of tens of millions of people throughout the world to the importance of the problem and should call forth financial support from religious, industrial, trade, labour and civic groups which could provide the resources needed for further development.

CHAPTER 12

Summary of Resolutions Adopted by the Conference

In the course of its deliberations, the Regional Conference made certain suggestions and recommendations to Member Governments and to the Director-General of FAO, which are summarized below. More detail can be found in earlier chapters of this report.

(a) Resolutions Recommending Action by Governments

Page

On Agricultural Marketing Training and Development Institute: to advise the host government (Pakistan) and the Director-General of FAO with respect to the support of the proposed institute.

45-46

On Supplies and Utilization of Fertilizers: to give serious consideration to the implementation of the recommendations contained in the FAO Preliminary Report on the Survey of the Fertilizer Economy of Asia and the Far East; to give full support to programs for increasing the use, procurement and production of fertilizers.

54

On Crop Diversification: to make an appraisal of the potential with respect to diversification in each country; to coordinate and facilitate exchange of seed and plant material; to organize national, sub-regional and/or regional training courses for training local irrigation agronomists and extension workers.

58

On Freedom from Hunger Campaign: to focus public attention on the Campaign; to pay attention to the importance of establishing National Campaign Committees; to make some contribution to the Central Trust Fund for overall support of the Campaign.

74-75

On World Agricultural Census: to take full advantage of the facilities provided by FAO, the UN Statistical Office, the Ford Foundation and other international organizations in carrying out the census.

78-79

On Agricultural Extension: to pay particular attention to the training of extension workers at the farm level.

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| On <u>Agricultural Information Services</u> : to give great consideration to farm radio as a medium of agricultural information and seek FAO's help in setting up and improving farm radio services. | 83 |
| On <u>Fishery Administrations</u> : to take steps to convene as soon as possible national seminars on fishery administration. | 90 |
| On <u>Food Consumption Surveys</u> : to organize comprehensive surveys on levels and patterns of food consumption of socio-economic sections of the population; to participate fully in the proposed Technical Meeting on Food Consumption Surveys and training courses for survey personnel. | 92-93 |
| (b) <u>Resolutions Recommending Action by the Director-General</u> | |
| On <u>Growth of Agricultural Production</u> : to undertake a detailed investigation of principal causes of differences in the rate of increase in agricultural production between countries in the region and between different areas within a country. | 23 |
| On <u>Agricultural Development Plans and Planning</u> : to make an objective study of the development plans of the countries in the region, transmit it to Member Governments, consult them as to follow-up action. | 39 |
| On <u>Agricultural Marketing Training and Development Institute</u> : to assist the host government (Pakistan) in exploring the most appropriate methods of financing a permanent Agricultural Marketing Training and Development Institute. | 45-46 |
| On <u>Marketing Aspects of Food and Agricultural Price Policies</u> : to convene, in cooperation with ECAFE, a technical meeting on marketing aspects of implementing food and agricultural price stabilization policies. | 47-48 |
| On <u>Supplies and Utilization of Fertilizers</u> : to continue efforts to arrange for supplies of fertilizers on easier terms to developing countries; to prepare estimates of regional fertilizer requirements up to 1975, and make a study of possible means of meeting those requirements and report to the next Regional Conference. | 54 |

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- On Crop Diversification: to compile the results of surveys conducted by Member Governments in the region on their potential for agricultural diversification; to promote interchange of experience and information through the International Rice Commission; to coordinate and facilitate the exchange of seed and plant material. 58
- On Freedom from Hunger Campaign: to stimulate donor groups to make contributions to the Campaign in cash or kind. 74-75
- On World Agricultural Census: to explore possibilities of organizing a regional centre for training statisticians; to study census programs of Member Governments with a view to improving the current census methods and procedures; to continue to carry on studies on application of sampling methods, preparation of methodological manuals, and other activities or projects calculated to improve censuses; to explore the possibility of obtaining financial support from the Special Fund and other sources for carrying out these activities. 78-79
- On Agricultural Education and Extension: to publish the Reports on Agricultural Education and Extension in the Region for wide circulation; to convene a regional meeting on higher education in agriculture in 1962 or 1963; to make a survey of agricultural research for discussion at the next Regional Conference. 82-83
- On Regional Agrarian Research and Training Institute: to implement the FAO Conference Resolution No. 16/59 with a view to establishing the Regional Agrarian Research and Training Institute at the earliest possible date and to expanding its activities to the whole region. 88-89
- On Fishery Administration: to convene a Regional Seminar on Comparative Principles and Methods of Fishery Administration. 90
- On Fish Marketing: to prepare a detailed regional analysis of policies, practices and problems of fish marketing at both national and international levels; to organize a Regional Seminar on Fish Marketing. 91

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| On <u>Food Consumption Surveys</u> : to organize a Regional Technical Meeting on Food Consumption Surveys and training centres for survey personnel. | 92-93 |
| On <u>Farm Management</u> : to continue to organize a series of Farm Management Development Centres for the region. | 94 |
| On <u>Food Technology</u> : to make contacts with governments for establishing a permanent Food Technology Training Centre in the region. | 95-96 |

ANNEX I

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ANNEX II

AGENDA

A. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman
3. Adoption of the Agenda

B. THE WORK OF FAO IN ASIA AND THE FAR EAST AND THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

4. Trends and Objectives in the Work of FAO in Asia and the Far East. Introductory Statement by the Director-General.
5. Review of the Food and Agricultural Situation in the Region. Statements by Delegates.

C. GENERAL POLICY QUESTIONS OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION

6. Agricultural Development Plans and Planning in the Region
 - a) Current Problems in Agricultural Programming
 - b) Longer-Term Outlook for some of the Agricultural Products of the Region
7. The Place of Marketing in Ensuring Adequate Consumer Supplies and Effective Price Incentives to Producers
8. Supplies and Utilization of Fertilizers
9. Crop Diversification in Irrigated Agriculture
10. The Role of Pilot Projects in the Development of Dairying, Poultry and Other Livestock Enterprises
11. Reorientation of Forest Policies in Relation to Wood Requirements.

D. SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES OF FAO IN ASIA AND THE FAR EAST NOT DEALT
WITH ELSEWHERE WHICH REQUIRE CONFERENCE GUIDANCE OR GOVERNMENT
ACTION

12. a. Freedom from Hunger Campaign
- b. World Seed Campaign
- c. World Agricultural Census
- d. Survey of Agricultural Education and Extension and
Agricultural Information Services
- e. Progress Report on the Work of the Joint FAO/ECAFE
Agriculture Division
- f. International Assistance Programs
- g. Southeast Asian Regional Agrarian Research and
Training Institute
- h. Regional Seminar on Fishery Administration
- i. Promotion of Food Consumption Surveys
- j. Policy Implications of Reports of Meetings and
Studies
 - (i) 7th Session International Rice Commission,
Saigon, November 1960
 - (ii) Development Centre on Farm Management,
Philippines, October 1960
 - (iii) Report of the FAO Regional Seminar on Food
Technology for Asia and the Far East,
Mysore, August 1959

E. CONCLUDING ITEMS

13. The Future Orientation of FAO's Work in the Region
14. Adoption of the Report

ANNEX III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Secretariat Papers

| | |
|------------------|---|
| FERC 60/1 | Provisional Annotated Agenda |
| FERC 60/1/Corr.1 | Provisional Annotated Agenda -- Corrigendum |
| FERC 60/1a | Provisional Agenda |
| FERC 60/2 | Review of the Food and Agricultural Situation in the Region |
| FERC 60/3 | Current Problems in Agricultural Programming |
| FERC 60/3a | Summary of the Report of the FAO/ECAFE Group on Selected Aspects of Agricultural Planning in Asia and the Far East |
| FERC 60/4 | Longer-Term Outlook for Some of the Agricultural Products of the Region |
| FERC 60/5 | The Place of Agricultural and Fish Marketing (including Processing and Storage) in Ensuring Adequate Consumer Supplies and Effective Price Incentives to Producers |
| FERC 60/6 | Survey of the Fertilizer Economy of the Far East Region |
| FERC 60/7 | Crop Diversification in Irrigated Agriculture |
| FERC 60/8 | The Role of Pilot Projects in the Development of Dairying, Poultry and Other Livestock Enterprises |
| FERC 60/9 | Reorientation of Forest Policies in Relation to Wood Requirements |
| FERC 60/10 | Freedom from Hunger Campaign |
| FERC 60/11 | World Seed Campaign |
| FERC 60/12 | World Census of Agriculture |

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| FERC 60/13 | Survey of Agricultural Education and Extension |
| FERC 60/14 | Progress Report on the Work of the Joint FAO/ECAFE Agriculture Division |
| FERC 60/16 | Southeast Regional Agrarian Research and Training Institute |
| FERC 60/17 | Regional Seminar on Fisheries Administration |
| FERC 60/18 | Promotion of Food Consumption Surveys |
| FERC 60/19 | Agricultural Information Services |
| FERC 60/20 | Some Aspects of Agricultural Development Planning in Asia and the Far East (English only) |
| FERC 60/21 | Report of the Technical Meeting on Nutrition in Food Policy and Planning in Asia and the Far East, Bangkok, June 1960 (English only) |
| FERC 60/22 | Report of the FAO Regional Seminar on Food Technology for Asia and the Far East, Mysore, August 1959 (English only) |
| FERC 60/23 | Preliminary Report of the Survey of the Fertilizer Economy of the Asia and Far East Region |
| FERC 60/24 | Appendices to the Preliminary Report of the Survey of Fertilizer Economy of the Asia and Far East Region (English only) |
| FERC 60/25 | Conference Resolution No. 20/59: Development of Milk Production |
| FERC 60/26 | The present status of Agricultural Education Development in Asia and the Far East |
| FERC 60/27 | The present status of Agricultural Extension Development in Asia and the Far East |
| FERC 60/28 | UN and FAO Council Resolutions on Surplus Disposal |
| FERC 60/29 | Address by the FAO Director-General, Dr. B.R. Sen |
| FERC 60/30 | Report of the Conference on Pulp and Paper Development in Asia and the Far East (English only) |

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| FERC 60/31 | Fifth Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission |
| FERC 60/32 | Development Center on Farm Management, October 1960, Philippines (English only) |
| FERC 60/33 | The Fertilizer Program (Freedom from Hunger Campaign) |

Papers Submitted by Delegations

| | |
|---------------|--|
| FERC 60/SP-1 | Report to FAO, <u>Commonwealth of Australia and the Territories of Papua and New Guinea</u> (English) |
| FERC 60/SP-2 | Review of the Food and Agriculture Situation in <u>Ceylon</u> (English) |
| FERC 60/SP-3 | Notes sur la Situation de l'Alimentation, <u>Viet-Nam</u> (French) |
| FERC 60/SP-4 | Statement by A.M. Salimullah, Leader of the <u>Pakistan</u> delegation (English) |
| FERC 60/SP-5 | Situation de la Production Agricole au <u>Viet-Nam</u> (French) |
| FERC 60/SP-6 | Programme de Développement Agricole au <u>Viet-Nam</u> (French) |
| FERC 60/SP-7 | Statement of the <u>Philippine</u> Delegation pertaining to the World Seed Campaign (English) |
| FERC 60/SP-8 | Progress of Agriculture, Fishery, Nutrition and Agricultural Education in the <u>Philippines</u> (English) |
| FERC 60/SP-9 | Recommendation of the Secretary of State for Land Property and Agrarian Reform of the Republic of <u>Viet-Nam</u> , etc. (English) |
| FERC 60/SP-10 | Statement of the <u>Philippine</u> Delegation pertaining to Plant Protection (English) |
| FERC 60/SP-11 | Food and Nutrition in the <u>Philippines</u> (English) |
| FERC 60/SP-12 | Fisheries in the <u>Philippines</u> (English) |

| | |
|---------------|---|
| FERC 60/SP-13 | Forestry in the Philippines (English) |
| FERC 60/SP-14 | The Situation on Livestock, including Meat and Milk, in the <u>Philippines</u> (English) |
| FERC 60/SP-15 | Statement of the <u>Philippines</u> Delegation pertaining to Agrarian Reforms (English) |
| FERC 60/SP-16 | Point 10 de l'Ordre du Jour: Le Rôle des Projets Pilotes dans les Developpement de la Production Laitière, de l'Aviculture et des autres Secteurs de la Production Animale (French) |
| FERC 60/SP-17 | Situation de l'Alimentation d'Origine Animale au <u>Viet-Nam</u> (French) |
| FERC 60/SP-18 | Campagne Mondiale Contre la Faim au <u>Viet-Nam</u> |
| FERC 60/SP-19 | Campagne Mondiale Pour l'Emploi de Meilleures Semences au Viet-Nam (French) |
| FERC 60/SP-20 | Les disponibilités d' <u>Engrais</u> et leur Utilisation au Viet-Nam (French) |
| FERC 60/SP-21 | Current Fisheries Processing Industry and Research Activities in <u>Korea</u> (English) |
| FERC 60/SP-22 | L'Enseignement Agricole au <u>Viet-Nam</u> (French) |
| FERC 60/SP-23 | Notes sur la Promotion des Enquêtes de Consommation Alimentaire (French) |
| FERC 60/SP-24 | Rôle of the International Office of Epizootics |

