Report of the thirty-eighth session of the

COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS

to the forty-fourth session of the Council of FAO

Rome, June 1965



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS



Letter of Transmittal from the Chairman of the Committee on Commodity Problems to the Chairman of the Council of the FAO

17 June 1965

Chairman of the Council of FAO Food and Agriculture Organization Rome, Italy

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to you herewith the Report of the Thirty-Eighth Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems, which was held in Rome from 7 to 17 June 1965.

Yours faithfully,

D.W. Woodward Chairman Committee on Commodity Problems

COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS

REPORT OF THE THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION

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INTRODUCTION

- 1. The Committee on Commodity Problems (CCP) held its Thirty-Eighth Session from 7 to 17 June 1965 at FAO Headquarters, Rome. The Session was attended by the representatives of 23 Member Countries of the Committee, 28 Observer Countries and 16 International Organizations 1/.
- 2. The Session was presided over by Mr. D.W. Woodward (New Zealand), Chairman, assisted by Mr. G. Bula Hoyos (Colombia), Second Vice-Chairman. The Committee's work during the Session was aided by a General Drafting Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. G. Bula Hoyos (Colombia), and by a Working Party under the Chairmanship of Mr. H. Riem (Netherlands) on the terms of reference of the new Oilseeds, Oils and Fats Group.

Agenda and Organization of Work

- 3. The Committee adopted the Provisional Agenda (CCP 65/1) for its Thirty-Eighth Session, including under Item II an additional sub-item: Analytical Review of International Commodity Arrangements.
- 4. The Fifteenth Report of the Consultative Sub-Committee on Surplus Disposal to the Committee and the Interim Report on Work of the Grey Area Panel (CCP 65/7 and 65/7 Supplement 1) were presented by Mr. A. Tuinman (Netherlands), Chairman of the Comsultative Sub-Committee on Surplus Disposal. The reports of the CCP commodity groups were presented to the Committee as indicated below:

Consultative Sub-Committee on the Economic Aspects of Rice:

Mr. A. Barkat (Pakistan), Chairman

Steering Committee of the FAO Group on Citrus Fruit:

Mr. D. van Aarcken (Netherlands), Chairman

FAO Study Group on Jute, Kenaf and Allied Fibers:

Mr. V. de Asarta (Italy), Vice-Chairman

FAO Group on Coconut and Coconut Products:

Mr. H. Riem (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman

5. A representative of the Executive Director of the UN/FAO World Food Program informed the Committee of the activities of the Program which were of interest to CCP.

Retirement of Mr. Jacques Kahane

6. The Committee, having learned of the impending retirement of Mr. Jacques Kahane, Chief of the Grains and Rice Branch of the Commodities Division, recorded its warm appreciation of his services over many years to the Committee, to the CCP commodity study groups on Rice and on Grains, and to the Organization generally.

^{1/} A list of participants is given in Appendix A to this Report.

I. WORLD AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY SITUATION, PROBLEMS AND POLICIES

1. The General Situation and Outlook

- 7. The Committee reviewed the major developments in the world agricultural commodity situation and outlook on the basis of information contained in the FAO Commodity Review 1965 (CCP 65/6 and Supplement 1), and of further information provided by delegates.
- 8. The Committee noted that developments in the world agricultural commodity situation since the last Session of the CCP had been in general unfavorable, particularly for developing countries.
- Even though production of most major agricultural products had continued to advance in 1964, the gains were generally only very moderate, and the increases were recorded mainly in the more economically advanced countries. Sugar production increased more than that of any other commodity in response to the stimulus of earlier high prices, but a large part of the increase occurred in beet-producing countries, particularly the U.S.S.R. and the United States, rather than in the developing caneproducing countries. Wheat production in the developing areas of the world was slightly lower than in 1963 and coarse grain production in these areas remained static. One of the few promising developments was the expansion in Asian rice production, but this barely matched the growth of population in the region. Another would have been the substantial increase which occurred in world cocoa production, reflecting in part the coming into bearing of new plantings in West Africa, but producers were unable to take advantage of this development due to the fact that demand for this product did not respond to lower prices. Production of a number of other commodities on which the developing countries depend for their export earnings declined or showed little improvement.
- 10. The significant improvements in trade in agricultural products in 1964 were concentrated on commodities mainly produced in more developed countries. Trade in wheat increased, unusually large purchases being made by the centrally planned countries due to unfavorable production conditions in the previous year. The expansion of trade in oilseeds, oils and fats was largely concentrated on increased shipments of soybeans and butter. Trade in meat showed hardly any fall in spite of reduced supplies of beef from Latin America. In tropical export crops, preliminary figures indicate reduced shipments of sugar and bananas, while trade in coffee, cocoa and tea showed little change. Among agricultural raw materials the main increase took place in exports of cotton but, due to lagging production, developing countries did not greatly benefit from this expansion. A promising development was the increase in imports of agricultural products into Japan in 1964.
- 11. The Committee found that the unsatisfactory growth in the volume of exports, particularly from developing countries, was all the more serious because of the decline in prices over the year. United Nations price indices for food products and for agricultural raw materials declined during the year by 9 and 1 percent respectively; the rate of decline had been slower in the first quarter of 1965, with a very slight recovery in April. Thus, the rise in prices which had occurred in 1963 could now be seen to have been a temporary one, due to the combined effect of a number of independent factors bearing simultaneously on a range of important commodities. The more basic factors which had been a source of concern to the Committee for a number of years, appeared to be reasserting themselves and many developing countries were experiencing a further setback in their export earnings. Their development problems were further accentuated by a continued decline in the terms of trade, the prices of manufactured goods having risen in 1964 by a further 1 percent.

- 12. The Committee noted that the impact of price movements had varied from commodity to commodity and from country to country. Over the year, substantial gains were recorded in the prices of vegetable oils, meat and jute; butter prices remained firm and free market rice prices tended to stabilize at the lower levels reached toward the end of 1963. On the other hand, prices of coffee, sugar and wool declined sharply and cocoa, rubber and wheat prices averaged lower than in 1963. The Committee also noted that prices of robusta coffee, produced mainly in Africa, fell more sharply than did prices of other coffee, and soft wheat prices more sharply than hard wheat prices.
- 13. The Committee concluded that there was little current prospect of a significant improvement in world commodity markets, a cause for particular concern in relation to the development needs of developing countries. Associated with the deterioration in prices, a number of other factors continued to exert an adverse influence, including the conditions of access to markets and competition from synthetic products.
- 14. The Committee welcomed the important new initiatives in the fields of trade and related problems of development under the UNCTAD and the GATT, and made particular reference to negotiations underway or forthcoming in important commodity fields.
- 15. The Committee considered that in future issues of the FAO Commodity Review it would be desirable to go further in presenting the data and analysis in the context of nutritional and development objectives. In particular, trends in developing and developed countries should be clearly distinguished as had been done in certain cases in the 1965 issue. It would also be desirable to show separately the impact of commodity trends on different developing regions. It would be useful also to distinguish between trends in the production of commodities used mainly for domestic consumption and commodities produced mainly for export. In general, it might be desirable to assess progress achieved in production and trade against the background of the proposed Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development.
- 16. The Committee took note of the information presented to it in the Commodity Review of developments in regional economic integration in the European Economic Community and other regional and sub-regional groupings throughout the world. It requested that such regular reviews should continue to be submitted to the CCP and noted that attempts would be made to give further attention to the commodity aspects of such schemes, especially in developing regions.

2. Six-year Evaluation of National Agricultural Price Stabilization and Support Policies

17. The Committee considered the six-year review of changes in agricultural price and support policies in the light of the FAO Guiding Principles (document CCP 65/5). This was essentially a revised and expanded version of the five-year review discussed by the Committee at its Thirty-Seventh Session in September 1964. At that time the Committee had agreed that a revised draft should be presented to the present Session incorporating comments made both during the discussion and in written form by governments. These revisions and additional information based on replies to a questionnaire received from 46 governments (6 further replies were received too late for inclusion) were incorporated in the six-year review. The Committee noted that the general conclusions of the six-year review, as in the earlier report, were that there had been some progress on the lines indicated by the Guiding Principles, though much still remained to be done. The Committee recognized, however, the difficulty of assessing the effects of changes in agricultural price and support policies on international trade and of judging how far they were in conformity with the FAO Guiding Principles.

18. For the future the Committee considered that it should be kept informed of developments in agricultural price and support policies, and agreed that for this purpose the annual questionnaires asking Member Governments to supply information on policy changes and levels of price supports should be continued. It agreed, however, that an analysis of developments as a basis for discussion by the Committee should be prepared only in Conference years. In non-Conference years it would be sufficient to table a brief information paper indicating any major policy changes during the past year and tabulating price support levels for the main commodities in comparison with former years. The Committee again stressed the importance of supplying the Secretariat with full and prompt replies to questionnaires.

3. Food Aid and Surplus Utilization

(a) Fifteenth Report of the CCP Consultative Sub-Committee on Surplus Disposal

- 19. The Fifteenth Report of the Consultative Sub-Committee on Surplus Disposal (CSD) to the CCP (CCP 65/7) and the Interim Report on the Work of the Sub-Committee's "Grey Area" Panel (CCP 65/7, Suppl. 1) were introduced by Mr. A. Tuinman (Netherlands), Chairman of the Sub-Committee. The Committee noted with approval the activities of the Sub-Committee and stressed the need for their continuation.
- 20. The Committee stressed that all transactions involving surpluses should be made with strict adherence to the FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal and seek to avoid interference with commercial trade. Several delegates expressed concern at the appearance of new elements in aid programs, such as the extension of long terms of credit, and it was agreed that these developments, together with the continuation of certain features of past programs, such as tied sales, continued to make it necessary for the Sub-Committee to examine closely all aspects of surplus disposal and food aid programs.
- 21. Several delegates referred to the role that agricultural surpluses continued to play as a source of additional aid to the economic development of developing countries and as a means of relieving hunger and malnutrition. It was stressed that the continuation of food aid on an expanded scale required safeguards against interference with development of agricultural production in recipient countries, since the solution of the problems of hunger and malnutrition depended in the long run on the growth of food production in developing countries themselves. Food aid, like other forms of aid, should therefore aim at the development of agricultural production in these countries.
- 22. The Committee was pleased to note that current consultation procedures carried out under the auspices of the Sub-Committee were generally working satisfactorily.
- 23. The Committee noted with interest that it continued to be the aim of the United States Government to lay stress in its food assistance programs on avoiding interference with commercial trade. Some delegates emphasized that adequate notice of prospective programs of food assistance should be given to governments to enable them to make their views known when such programs were still in the formative stage. It was also pointed out, however, that too long a period for consultations could unduly delay assistance greatly needed by the recipient countries.
- 24. The Committee received with appreciation the Interim Report on the Work of the Sub-Committee's "Grey Area" Panel. Work on "grey area" transactions (i.e. concessional transactions with commercial features and commercial transactions including concessional elements) had been undertaken by the Sub-Committee following a request made to it by the Committee at its Thirty-Sixth Session. The Committee agreed with the Sub-Committee that further work on this subject could only be undertaken successfully if additional staff resources were made available and the major exporting countries supplied the required information.

- 25. As to staff resources, the Committee noted that, in response to its own request, the Director-General had made some provision for consultant services to assist the Sub-Committee in its work. With regard to information to be supplied by governments, several delegates stated that their governments were ready to provide information on the types of transactions to be treated in the study. The Committee hoped that governments of all the major exporting countries would co-operate actively in this study of "grey area" transactions.
- 26. The Committee agreed that the Sub-Committee should continue its studies on "grey area" transactions and determined the terms of reference of its enquiry as follows.
- 27. The work to be undertaken should in particular:
 - (i) finalize the classification and description of the various types of transactions in the "grey area", where it is difficult to establish how the standards of additionality and concessionality apply and how additionality might be safeguarded;
 - (ii) review commodities other than wheat, including dairy products, feed grains, oils and oil-bearing materials; and
 - (iii) include reference to current developments insofar as they may lead to changes in types of transactions or in their relative volumes.
- 28. The Committee noted that the Intergovernmental Committee of the World Food Program had, at its Seventh Session, requested the Sub-Committee's opinion on the following questions:
 - (i) should special feeding projects in future be submitted to CSD for review and not merely for information:
 - (ii) are present CSD safeguards (such as market displacement/additionality, etc.) fully effective or should better safeguards be introduced;
 - (iii) to what extent is it clear that these projects are not in fact adversely affecting either international commercial trade or the agricultural production of recipient countries;
 - (iv) is the present notice period of six days sufficient to allow governments to put forward objections to WFP projects, or should an alternative procedure be devised.

The Committee realized that some of these questions required detailed study, but stressed the importance of providing the Eighth Session of the IGC with at least an interim report on these questions.

(b) UN/FAO World Food Program (WFP)

29. The representative of the Executive Director of the UN/FAO World Food Program reported on the present position of the Program and the decisions taken by the Intergovernmental Committee of the WFP at its Seventh Session. The IGC had recommended the continuation of the WFP on an open-ended basis with periodic review. It had also suggested for consideration by the FAO Council and ECOSOC a pledging target of \$275 million for the next three years 1966-1968, and the holding of the next pledging conference in December 1965 or January 1966.

- 30. The Committee agreed with the IGC's conclusion that, although a full assessment of the results of the experimental period of the Program was not yet available, the present evidence was positive enough to justify the continuation of the Program on an expanded basis. Some delegates referred to the advantages of a multilateral program of food aid, e.g. such a program permitted the participation of countries not in a position to establish the necessary machinery for administering food aid bilaterally; thus, a multilateral program could draw on a wider range of foodstuffs, while the opportunity for more countries to participate increased the total volume of aid. Moreover, in some cases recipient countries preferred multilateral to bilateral aid.
- 31. The Committee's attention was also drawn to the IGC's request to the Executive Director of the WFP for a study by an independent expert of a proposal made by the Government of Argentina for the conversion of the WFP into a World Food Fund, with at least 50 percent of its resources in cash. The Committee noted that the IGC had requested that this study should be on a broad basis and should take into account UNCTAD Recommendation A.II.6 on a World Food Aid Program. The Committee felt that the FAO Council, when considering the future of the WFP, might wish to indicate the aspects on which the advice of the CCP might be useful. In this respect, some delegates suggested that the study to be undertaken on the Argentine proposal might with advantage be considered by the CCP especially if it were to meet before the Thirteenth Session of the FAO Conference.

4. Analytical Review of International Commodity Arrangements

- 32. At its Thirty-Sixth Session, in May 1963, the Committee had asked the Director-General to consider arrangements for "an analytical review of experiences in the field of commodity policies, stabilization techniques, international commodity arrangements, and consultations", with special reference also to "the influence of any arrangements, policies, or machinery on the patterns and terms of trade and, where applicable, on problems of access and of non-tariff barriers to trade."
- 33. The FAO Conference, in endorsing at its Twelfth Session the CCP request and working arrangements envisaged by the Director-General as part of FAO's program of Special Studies, had decided that the terms of reference for such an analytical review should be interpreted broadly and that work on it should be seen as a continuing process. To this end, the Conference had agreed on an illustrative list of special topics for such studies to be published in the form of special policy papers from time to time. It was understood that the actual selection of special topics from within that range would be made in the light of priorities resulting from the working requirements of FAO's own intergovernmental organs and from others mainly concerned with these questions, notably the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.
- Among the topics enumerated in the illustrative list agreed by the FAO Conference, the first (Introductory Analytical Review of International Commodity Arrangements) and the second (Commodity Export Earnings and Economic Growth) had been dealt with jointly in a study on International Commodity Arrangements and Policies (document CCP 65/3 FAO Commodity Policy Studies No.16: Special Studies Program No.1). This study had formed part of the documentation contributed by FAO to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and had also been made available to the present session of the CCP, as representing one of the first instalments of the continuing Review. The Committee expressed its appreciation of this study and took note with interest of its conclusions. Work on a third topic (FAO Trade Policy Reference Paper) had been embodied in another special study for the first session of the UN Conference on Trade and Development and subsequently published by FAO (FAO Commodity Policy Studies No.17: Special Studies Program No.2). Work on another of the special topics (Some Aspects of Trade and Aid and Practical Implications for International Commodity Arrangements) had been set under way.

- At the same time, the Committee was informed that the key topics of further work on the Analytical Review, to be conducted as part of FAO's Special Studies Program, were to be based on a series of concrete case studies of international agreements and arrangements, particularly those relating to tropical export products, and that the Director-General had also taken steps, as part of the special studies program, for establishing close working contacts with four of the existing Commodity Councils. Close working contacts would also be continued with the other main bodies primarily concerned with these matters, notably UNCTAD and GATT. The Committee expressed its interest in work being continued on these lines. Because of the special interest also likely to be manifest in these subjects as part of the commodity policy work of UNCTAD, the Committee suggested that consideration might be given to the possibility of such case studies and other selected aspects of the Analytical Review being conducted in collaboration with the UNCTAD, also bearing in mind that some of these special studies might be suitable for inclusion in the list of FAO contributions to the next session of the UN Conference on Trade and Development, following procedures similar to those which had been adopted for document CCP 65/3. In this connection, the Committee proposed that a further report on work planned for the Analytical Review as part of the Special Studies Program might be made available in time for the next FAO Conference Session. This report should take into account related UNCTAD programs which might have been evolved in the interim and possible joint arrangements for future work.
- 36. The Committee considered that, in the detailed planning of selected case-studies of individual commodity arrangements, it would be of practical value to governments to see special attention being given to the review of a series of operational problems which had been found to arise, or which could arise, in the course of the functioning of such arrangements. At the same time, in such an analysis of practical operational problems and of difficulties encountered in arriving at possible solutions, it should be kept in mind that effective operating methods could be worked out only gradually, in the light of experience.

II. REVIEW OF COMMODITY STUDY GROUPS AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES

1. Rice

- 37. The Committee considered the report of the Ninth Session of the CCP Consultative Sub-Committee on the Economic Aspects of Rice, held in Rome in April 1965 (CCP 65/8). Apart from the customary review of the current world market outlook, discussions in the Sub-Committee had continued on a wide range of rice problems. The Sub-Committee which had been studying the trends in production, consumption and trade for several years, had undertaken a preliminary exchange of views on the approach to be followed in preparing the rice sector of the Indicative World Plan for agriculture. It had stressed the need for close collaboration between governments and the Secretariat in this work, and had underlined the role which it should play in the consultations required. The Sub-Committee had also initiated a number of special studies, including case studies on rice processing, and the CCP welcomed the offer of the Government of Thailand to co-operate in this work, which would be helpful in the preparation of the Indicative Plan.
- 38. The activities to be carried out in the International Rice Year 1966 had been reviewed, and the Sub-Committee had suggested ways of facilitating the preparations and expediting action. The Committee welcomed the widespread support which governments were giving to the International Rice Year.
- 39. In its review of the operation and international effects of the Rice Regulation of the European Economic Community, the Sub-Committee had set out a number of specific points which gave rise to concern. The Committee noted that in the Sub-Committee's view, the new Rice Regulation could eventually have an impact on the pattern of international trade and affect the economies of other countries, including in particular developing countries which depend heavily on rice exports. The Sub-Committee had considered that "while it was too early to assess the nature of these effects, it was clear that they might have a disturbing and restrictive influence". Several CCP delegates associated themselves with these views, and the Sub-Committee was commended for its forthright report on this controversial issue. The Committee decided to underline in its report to the Council the following statement made by the Sub-Committee expressing the hope that, if the EEC Rice Regulation threatened to disturb international trade, the Community would re-examine the system and make appropriate adjustments, and in the meanwhile that the Community would demonstrate its adherence to outward looking policies.
- 40. The Committee noted that in the Sub-Committee the following statement was made on behalf of the Community:
 - "(i) that the Regulation had been in operation for too short a period to judge its effects;
 - (ii) that a preference for rice grown in the Community existed in intra-Community trade, but it was very small. In fact, it was not the existence of this preference that could encourage production and consequently limit trade with third countries, but rather the level of prices. The setting up of the new system, however, had not been accompanied by an appreciable increase in producers' prices. On the contrary, the price for long grain rice in France had been decreased;
 - (iii) that consumers' habits and preferences in the Community favor certain qualities of which there is little or no production within the Community, as a result of which it had to rely on imports;

- (iv) that the example of France illustrates the statement above concerning the free movement of trade. The import certificates issued so far represented double the quantity necessary to meet the deficit in long grain rice in the 1964/65 crop."
- 41. The Committee noted that, in considering its future program of work, the Sub-Committee had decided to examine the extent to which greater intra-regional trade, particularly among developing countries, would promote a balanced expansion in world rice exports without overburdening the balance of payments of the importing countries involved or restricting the access of third countries. In connection with this study, the Sub-Committee had also decided to explore the technical feasibility and desirability of an arrangement for rice covering two or more regions and including developed as well as developing countries. The Sub-Committee attached great importance to these studies as a means of clarifying the policy questions and as an approach toward practical measures for stabilizing the international rice trade.
- 42. The Committee expressed its appreciation of the Sub-Committee's valuable work and looked forward to further constructive activities in the future.

2. Dairy Products

- 43. In considering the Five-year Review of National Dairy Policies (CCP 65/9/1), covering the period 1959-63, the Committee noted that certain national policy measures relating to production and consumption had been among the factors responsible for bringing about a better balance in the international markets of dairy products. However, several delegates expressed concern over the possible effects on production of recent increases in producer prices for milk in a number of European countries.
- 44. The Committee was in agreement that the annual reviews of national dairy policies should be continued, dealing with policies of individual developed and developing countries as well as with regional arrangements. The review should also feature specific problems which were of particular interest to the current dairy situation. The Committee requested the Secretariat in future studies to give attention to questions such as the interrelationship of beef and milk production, market potentials for dairy products in the Far East, and structural changes in the dairy industry.
- 45. The Committee noted the report General Features of the Cheese Economy of Developed Countries (CCP 65/9/2) and the working paper on the cheese economy in the United States (W.P. 65/10). The Committee requested the Secretariat to continue the survey of the world cheese economy and publish completed reports.
- 46. The Committee noted with satisfaction the progress that had been made in the study on the economic impact of dairy development in developing countries as indicated in an interim report (CCP 65/9/3) and expressed its appreciation of the accompanying working papers on Kenya, Ethiopia, U.A.R., Iraq, Turkey, Iran, India, Ceylon and Poland (W.P. 65/1-9). The Committee asked the Secretariat to proceed with its work along the lines established in the present report and complete it for the next session, as it would be a useful guide for determining principles of an economic nature in the establishment of milk schemes in developing countries.
- 47. Some delegates made reference to the desirability of exploring the possibilities for assuring steady supplies of imported skim milk powder needed for milk plants which depended on this product for the production of low-priced "toned" and "double-toned" milk for distribution to low income groups. The Committee was informed that difficulties had arisen in this respect, particularly in India, and it was suggested that the Secretariat should use its good offices in any way possible with a view to enabling these difficulties to be met. The countries themselves could usefully explore the possibility of assistance in this respect from the World Food Program.

3. Fats and Oils

- 48. The Committee considered the report (CCP 65/14) of the Sixth Session of the FAO Group on Coconut and Coconut Products held in Rome from 28 May to 5 June 1965. It noted that the Session had attracted a wide attendance and that useful advances were being made in the study of economic problems of coconut.
- 49. The attention of the Committee was focussed particularly on the recommendation of the Group that it "should be renamed the FAO Group on Oilseeds, Oils and Fats and that it should:
 - i) Cover in principle all oilseeds, oils and fats;ii) Pay particular attention to the problems of coconut,
 - groundnut and palm products;
 iii) Consider at its next Session whether sub-groups of
 the main Group are required or whether suitable alternative
 arrangements can be made."
- 50. The Committee agreed that the Group needed to be widened and recorded its decision to this effect in a separate Resolution (see para 56). This was because fats and oils were to a large extent interchangeable and thus many problems could be studied adequately only in a Group whose competence extended beyond one kind of oil or fat. It was also stressed that these products were of major concern to a number of developing countries and that, apart from olive oil and coconut products, there was no specialized forum for intergovernmental consultations on their economic problems.
- 51. As to the title of the new Study Group, it was agreed that, although coconut products must continue to be the subject of an important part of the work program, the inclusion of other products required the use of a more general title. Taking note of the recommendation of the Group on Coconut and Coconut Products, the Committee decided that the new Group be called the "Study Group on Oilseeds, Oils and Fats 1/
- The Committee noted that the terms of reference of the new Group would have to reflect several considerations. First, it was necessary that it be made competent to study and make recommendations concerning general aspects of the fats and oils economy, such as substitution amongst numerous kinds of oils. The terms of reference should be drawn sufficiently widely to enable this to be done. Secondly, the Group should give particular attention to problems affecting products produced or exported mainly by developing countries, of which at present the three most important were coconut, groundnut and oil palm products. Thirdly, it was essential to avoid duplication of work being done by other bodies. In this regard, the Committee heard with interest a statement by the Director of the International Olive Oil Council who described its wide range of studies and actions. The Committee considered that the close co-operation which existed between the Secretariats of FAO and of the Olive Oil Council minimized the possibility of duplication of effort. The Group would be concerned with butter only through its competitive relationship with margarine and the demand for the raw materials for margarine.
- 53. The Committee took note of the suggested program of work, it being recognized that this was an interim program pending the first full session of the new Group. This session should determine which of the individual components of the work program should be given priority.

^{1/} Some delegates (including the Delegate for the Philippines) would have preferred the title "Study Group on Vegetable Oils and Fats".

- Doubts were expressed as to whether it should be necessary for the new Study Group to set up sub-groups. It was noted that sub-groups might also give rise to budgetary problems. If it were necessary, however, the Group should have the power to set up sub-groups, but the Committee thought that any such sub-groups should not be permanent. It would be better to establish any necessary sub-groups or working groups on an ad hoc basis during the course of a session, advance notice being given if possible so that delegations could be appropriately constituted. The Committee agreed that a suitable time for the first session of the new Study Group would be the first half of 1966.
- The Committee discussed in detail the procedural and budgetary implications of one item in the program of work, the proposed market survey of chemical uses of coconut oil. Information on this large and expanding end use of coconut oil could be obtained only by means of a specialized survey and producing countries were keen that it should be undertaken. Following the Fifth Session of the Group in September 1963, when the idea of a survey had been endorsed, it had not been found possible to obtain funds from UN institutions. Consequently, as agreed at the Fifth Session, the member countries of the Group were asked whether they would contribute to the financing of such a survey, and some contributions had in fact been promised. At its recent session, however, the Group had concluded that it would be preferable for FAO itself to finance the survey. The Group had therefore requested that the Director-General be asked to include the survey in his 1966-67 program of work and budget. It was noted that a survey of the U.S. alone, the largest market, would cost \$25,000-\$30,000. The Committee considered that such a survey should be given very high priority, and requested the Director-General to take all possible steps within his proposed program of work and budget for 1966-67 to carry out the survey.
- 56. The Committee adopted the following resolution:

CCP RESOLUTION NO. 1/38 Study Group on Oilseeds, Oils and Fats

THE COLLITTEE ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS

CONSIDERING the terms of reference of the Group on Coconut and Coconut Products as determined by the Twenty-Eighth Session of the Committee in March 1957 and amended by the Thirty-First Session in June 1959;

NOTING the recommendation of the Sixth Session of the Group held 28 May - 5 June 1965 that its terms of reference should be widened to cover in principle all cilseeds, oils and fats;

RECOGNIZING that because of the high degree of interchangeability among oils and fats the problem of one cannot be solved without involving others;

NOTING that except for the Group on Coconut and Coconut Products, the International Olive Oil Council and CCP itself which regularly reviews the dairy situation, including problems regarding butter, there are no specialized fora for intergovernmental consultations on economic problems of oilseeds, oils and fats;

BEARING IN MIND the anxiety as expressed by the Group that there should be no relaxation of the work relating specifically to coconut and coconut products, which are of particular importance to a number of developing countries, particularly in Asia:

HAVING REGARD to the desire of developing countries, as expressed specifically at the Third FAO Regional Conference for Africa in September 1964, that such arrangements be established for oilseeds and oilseed products of particular interest to them, especially groundnuts and oil palm products, in addition to coconut and coconut products;

DECIDES to change the name of the Group on Coconut and Coconut Products to the Study Group on Cilseeds, Cils and Fats, and

FURTHER DECIDES to restate the terms of reference of the Study Group as follows:

- (1) The Group shall provide a forum for studies and consultations on the economic aspects of production, processing, consumption, trade and marketing of oilseeds, oils and fats.
- (2) The Group shall cover all oilseeds, oils and fats but shall pay particular attention to the commodity problems of importance to developing countries, notably those affecting coconut, groundnut, and oil palm products.
- (3) The Group shall make arrangements for close liaison in its activities with other bodies especially interested in cilseeds, cils and fats and shall avoid duplication of work already being undertaken by such other bodies.
- (4) Membership in the Group shall be open to all Member Nations and Associated Members of the Organization that are substantially interested in the production or consumption of, and trade in, oilseeds, oils and fats or their products. So far as participation of dependent territories is concerned, the provisions of Article 69 of the Havana Charter shall apply. In order to be considered as a member of the Group, eligible Member Nations or Associate Members shall communicate to the Director-General a formal expression of intention. Interested non-Member Nations of the Organization that are Members of the United Nations may be admitted by the Council of the Organization to membership in the Group.
- (5) Attendance by non-Member Nations of the Organization at sessions of the Group shall be governed by the principles relating to the granting of observer status to Nations adopted by the Conference.
- (6) In order to ensure the effective discharge of the functions of the Group, Governments shall, as far as practicable, furnish all the information required for the work of the Group.
- (7) The Group shall report to the Committee on Commodity Problems, it being understood that copies of its reports, including any conclusions, will be circulated to interested governments and international organizations for their information as soon as they become available.
- (8) The Director-General shall keep the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Economic and Social Council informed of the activities of the Group.
- (9) The Group, in consultation with the Director-General, shall determine the dates and places of its sessions, keeping in mind the character and importance of the subjects under review, the large number of governments interested in oilseeds, oils and fats, and the need for economy in the cost of meetings and travel.
- (10) The Group may adopt and amend its own rules of procedure, which shall be approved by the Committee on Commodity Problems and shall be consistent with rules of that Committee.

4. Cocoa

- 57. The Committee heard a statement from the Secretariat on developments in the cocoa market since the Thirty-Seventh Session and on the progress of discussions in various fora. The Committee noted that cocoa prices were now lower than at any time since 1946.
- The Committee recalled that at its previous Session, it had expressed regret at the lack of success of the United Nations Cocoa Conference of 1963, and had agreed that informal discussions should be continued by the Secretariat with the major one-ducing and consuming countries with a view to finding a basis for the resumption of negotiations. The Committee was glad to learn that the Secretary of the Cocoa Study Group had accordingly visited a number of the major consuming countries in December 1964, when the main producing countries had withdrawn from the market, and bad found a willingness on their part to resume consultations with a view to breaking the impasse. In January-February 1965, he had also visited West Africa to consult with the producing countries in that region. As a result, the Director-General had agreed that there was sufficient basis for convening an informal joint consultation of the five main producing and five main consuming countries. This meeting, which was held on 12-13 April 1965 in Rome, had concluded that a resumption of negotiations was not immediately feasible.
- However, the joint meeting recommended that the Secretariat should, in consultation with the governments and international organizations concerned, take up a program of work which it considered necessary before realistic negotiations for a commodity agreement could be resumed. The governments represented had also recommended that, on the completion of these studies, there should be a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Cocoa Study Group or of the more restricted Major Policies Committee of the Group at the end of 1965 or early in 1966. tariat had been instructed to explore new ideas for an international agreement in the light of the changed cocoa situation, including proposals for the holding and financing of stocks, as well as compensatory financing and export levies; and to consult with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and other The Secretariat was further instructed to appeal to all consuming countries to take urgent action to eliminate or reduce tariffs and other financial imposts restricting cocoa consumption, and to consult with countries with semi-monopolistic marketing arrangements and centrally planned economies, where there appeared to be a great potential for increased consumption.
- 60. The Committee was informed that the program of work requested by the April meeting was under way in the Secretariat, and that some preliminary contacts had been made with consuming countries with respect to the possibilities of increasing consumption. Informal consultations had also been started with the IBRD and with various experts with regard to the method of financing stocks.
- The Committee noted also that in December 1964, ICCICA had reviewed the cocon situation and had concluded in the light of past experience that the UN Jocoa Conference should be resumed only after an exploratory meeting between the governments which were members of the Conference's Committee on Quotas and Prices. The matter was taken up at the First Session of the UN Trade and Development Board, which met from 5-30 April 1965. The Board requested the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to call a meeting of the governments, members of the above Committee, namely the five major producing and five major consuming countries plus one representative each of the smaller producing and consuming countries. The FAO Secretariat was co-operating in the proparation and servicing of this meeting, which was scheduled to take place from 21-25 June in New York.

- 62. The importance of cocoa to many producing countries and the urgency of the problem in view of the extremely low current prices were emphasized in the CCP. All the major producing and consuming countries represented at the Session took part in the CCP's discussion. The delegates of cocoa importing countries reiterated the concern of their governments about this state of affairs and their willingness to co-operate in developing an effective and realistic long-term solution.
- 63. The Committee endorsed the work program proposed by the informal meeting in April, but agreed that it might need revision in the light of the outcome of the UNCTAD meeting in June, and any other relevant factors. The Committee felt that at this time the efforts along the lines discussed at the informal meeting represented the best approach, and delegates of exporting countries reiterated that FAO should continue its efforts to develop not only analyses of the problems but also specific suggestions for resolving them. Some delegates emphasized the need to study stock requirements and stressed that FAO studies should aim at solutions of both the longand short-term problems. Many delegates emphasized that while the long-term problem was principally one of restoring the balance between production and consumption, the short-term problem mainly involved the study of export quotas and methods of financing stock retention.
- Representatives of various producing countries urged that FAO should intensify its efforts to encourage increases in consumption of cocoa products and should bring to the attention of governments the importance of reducing fiscal imposts which raise the consumer prices of cocoa products. Emphasis was also laid on the need for discussions with governments of the countries with centrally planned economies, with a view to persuading them to liberalize imports and to promote and to reduce prices of consumer products, and on the importance of consumption in developing countries, possibly in connection with special aid programs.
- 65. The Committee welcomed the cooperation between the Secretary-General of UNCTAD and the Director-General of FAO in connection with the forthcoming meeting of the Working Party on Quotas and Prices of the UN Cocoa Conference. It emphasized the importance of finding solutions to the present problem and expressed the unanimous hope that progress would result.

5. Tea

- 66. The Committee received the Report of the Ad Hoe Meeting on Tea (CCP 65/11), held at Nuwara Eliya, Ceylon, from 10-17 May 1965. It felt that the results confirmed the value of this type of meeting and expressed thanks to the Government of Ceylon for its hospitality. The Committee endorsed the conclusions of the Meeting, which had been attended by representatives of countries accounting for over 80 percent of world exports of tea and nearly 70 percent of world imports, and accepted its unanimous recommendations.
- 67. The Committee agreed that, while the present situation did not call for the establishment of permanent international machinery in the form of a study group on tea, there were no grounds for complacency and that the situation and outlook should be kept under review. It therefore recommended that the Director-General should convene another meeting of member governments interested in the production and consumption of tea in about eighteen months' time. This meeting should review the latest developments in world production of tea; production plans and programs; trends in world consumption, trade and prices; promotion activities and other aspects of the tea industry and trade. The Committee welcomed the invitation of the Government of the United Kingdom to hold the meeting in that country.
- 68. The Committee noted the proposals of the Ad Hoc Meeting as to the lines along which Secretariat studies of the world tea economy should be continued, including more work on statistics. It recommended that the Director-General convene the

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proposed meeting of experts on tea statistics in time for the results of such a meeting to be of use in the preparation of the studies requested by the Ad Hoc meeting.

6. Bunanas

- 69. The Committee examined the Report (document CCP 65/4) of the Ad Hoc Meeting on Bananas (Economic Aspects) held in Guayaquil, Ecuador, in October/November 1964 to consider the problems of this commodity and the desirability of establishing a Study Group on Bananas.
- 70. After reviewing both the short- and long-term problems confronting the banana industry, the Ad Hoc Meeting had concluded that the CCP criteria for the establishment of a study group were fully met: i.e., that solutions of the problems of bananas were of great importance to a considerable number of developing countries; that there was at present no specialized international machinery to deal with problems of the commodity, and that the nature of these problems was such as to require continuing studies and intergovernmental consultation. The Meeting had therefore recommended that a Study Group on Bananas should be established.
- 71. The Committee accepted the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Meeting and decided unanimously to proceed to the establishment of a Study Group on Bananas $\frac{1}{6}$. It therefore adopted the following resolution:

CCP RESOLUTION NO. 2/38 Study Group on Bananas

THE COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS

HAVING CONSIDERED the world banana situation at this and previous sessions.

LINDFUL of the mandate given by the FAO Conference which had at various times invited the Committee to establish, within its terms of reference, such groups as it found desirable.

RECOGNIZING that there existed short- and long-term fundamental problems in the production, trade and consumption of bananas and that international cooperation and consultations could contribute to their solution,

RECOGNIZING that standards of living of many producing countries are dependent on stable, remunerative and equitable prices for banana,

RECOGNIZING the changes which have taken place and are taking place in the world banana economy.

RECOGNIZING the need to promote consumption, and to investigate costs of production, transportation, handling and marketing,

CONSIDERING Resolution 46/57 of the Ninth Session of the FAO Conference laying down principles to govern the constituent rules of FAO bodies,

If The Delegation of France expressed a reservation on the suggestion of the Ad Hoc Meeting that all work which may be needed for international standardization of bananas should be undertaken in the context of the FAO/WHO Program on Food Standards (Codex Alimentarius Commission). In fact, a meeting within the Codex Alimentarius Commission is to decide in the near future on the competence of that body which, in the view of the French Government, should be limited to standards protecting the health of consumers and to ensuring fair trade practices.

DECIDES, in the light of Rule XXIX of the General Rules of the Organization and of the principles referred to above, to establish a group to be known as the Study Group on Bananas with the following terms of reference:

- (1) The Group shall provide a forum for consultations on and studies of the economic aspects of production, marketing, trade and consumption of bananas.
- (2) The field of competence of the Study Group shall include:
 - (a) Improvement of statistical services and provision of information regarding the supply and demand position both in the short- and long-term;
 - (b) Studies on the economic aspects of consumption, with special reference to the relations between consumption and prices, income, trade barriers and distribution systems, and studies of the possibilities of increasing world consumption;
 - (c) Studies of the efficiency and social aspects of the banana industry with particular reference to the improvement of living standards of those engaged in the banana industry;
 - (d) Studies of economic problems of production, transportation, marketing and distribution of bananas, including those of improvement of quality, with a view to developing recommendations for promoting the marketing of high quality bananas at prices that are fair to both producers and consumers.
- (3) The Group shall consider how best to deal with any special difficulties which may exist or may be expected to arise and shall submit reports and/or recommendations on the subject.
- (4) Membership in the Group shall be open to all Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization that are substantially interested in the production or consumption of and trade in bananas. So far as participation of dependent territories is concerned, the provisions of Article 69 of the Havana Charter shall apply. In order to be considered as a member of the Group, eligible Member Nations or Associate Members shall communicate to the Director-General a formal expression of intention. Interested non-Member Nations of the Organization that are members of the United Nations may be admitted by the Council of the Organization to membership in the Group.
- (5) Attendance by non-Member Nations of the Organization at sessions of the Group shall be governed by the principles relating to the granting of observer status to nations adopted by the Conference.
- (6) In order to ensure the effective discharge of the functions of the Group, governments shall, as far as practicable, furnish all the information required for the work of the Group.
- (7) The Group shall report to the Committee on Commodity Problems, it being understood that copies of its reports, including any conclusions, will be circulated to interested governments and international organizations for their information as soon as they become available.
- (8) The Group shall make arrangements for close liaison in its activities with other organizations especially interested in bahanas and shall avoid duplication of work being undertaken by such other organizations.

- (9) The Director-General shall keep the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Economic and Social Council informed of the activities of the Group.
- (10) The Group, in consultation with the Director-General, shall determine the dates and places of its sessions, keeping in mind the character and importance of the subjects under review, the large number of governments interested in bananas, and the need for economy in the cost of meetings and travel.
- (11) The Group may adopt and amend its own rules of procedure, which shall be approved by the Committee on Commodity Problems and shall be consistent with the rules of that Committee.
- 72. The Committee recommended that the first session of the Study Group on Bananas should consider the advisability of establishing a Steering Committee. In view of the deteriorating situation on international banana markets, the Committee felt that the first session of the Study Group should be held as soon as possible.

7. Citrus Fruit

- 73. The Committee reviewed the Report of the First Session of the Steering Committee of the FAO Group on Citrus Fruit (CCP 65/12) held in Rome from 24 27 May 1965. It agreed with the conclusion of the report that, while fresh citrus fruit and products were not at present affected by serious marketing difficulties, the outlook was uncertain and that there was a danger that exportable supplies from trees already planted might increase more rapidly than import demand. It was agreed that the work of the FAO Group on Citrus Fruit had led to a clearer understanding of the problems confronting the world citrus economy and that the Group provided a forum in which representatives from exporting and importing countries could meet to discuss problems of production, prices, marketing and trade. It provided a useful channel for discussions between member countries and the Commission of the European Economic Community on the one hand, and citrus exporting countries on the other, of EEC policies on trade in citrus fruit.
- 74. The Committee therefore agreed that the mandate of the FAO Group on Citrus Fruit should be extended indefinitely, subject to regular review by the Committee. In reaching this decision, however, it stressed that the fullest possible use should be made of the Steering Committee and that annual meetings of the full Group might not be necessary. It was agreed that the work program of the Group, as outlined in the report of its Third Session and in the report of the First Session of the Steering Committee, should be continued and that, in particular, efforts should be made to bring about a harmonious development of policies of producing countries so that supply and demand might be kept in reasonable balance. The Committee stressed the Steering Committee's conclusion "that the maximum value of the Group's consultations could only be achieved if Member Governments co-operated effectively in the provision of information and statistical data".

8. Jute, Kenaf and Allied Fibers

- 75. The Committee received the report of the Second Session of the FAO Study Group on Jute, Kenaf and Allied Fibers (CCP 65/10). It commended the work of the Study Group, expressing particular interest in its newly formed Consultative Committee whose membership included the major jute producing and consuming countries.
- 76. Following the recommendations of its Working Party on Stabilization, which had met in Dacca on 8-12 February 1965, the Group had decided that it was premature to envisage a formal international agreement for jute, and that it was preferable to make a start with regular informal international consultations in a Consultative Committee under the guidance of the Group. This Committee's work would lead to twice-yearly recommendations to the main jute producing and exporting countries: once, before sowing when, in the light of prospective requirements and supplies, recommendations on planting policies including minimum prices to growers, would be formulated; secondly, before the marketing season opened when, in the light of the supply and demand situation, recommendations on supply disposal policies including levels of minimum and maximum prices, would be made.
- 77. The Committee shared the Group's hope that such consultations would have a stabilizing influence on the raw jute market and expressed the view that this type of consultation represented an interesting new approach to the stabilization of a commodity market which, if it proves successful, might be considered for extension to some other agricultural commodities.
- 78. The Committee also welcomed the other lines of activity which the Study Group was pursuing with a view to promoting an orderly expansion of the world jute economy. These consisted in particular of efforts to improve marketing and grading practices and statistics, and work on long-term trends in jute manufacturing and end-uses.

9. Other Commodities

(a) Grains

- 79. The Committee considered the question of the date of the Tenth Session of the FAO Group on Grains, which at the request of the Committee had been already postponed, and was provisionally scheduled for October 1965. Some governments had indicated that they might have difficulties in attending the session at that time, particularly bearing in mind the discussions of a possible grains agreement in progress between certain governments in the GATT. The Committee noted that the FAO Group on Grains had a number of distinct functions to perform, quite apart from the well defined policy issues currently under consideration in the GATT, and in particular that it provided a useful source of statistics and other economic data which were not otherwise available. It was also a valuable intergovernmental forum for discussions on feed grains. Furthermore, it was pointed out that many members of the FAO Group on Grains were not represented in the GATT discussions, and that this was particularly true of developing countries. The Committee also noted that the FAO Group would be called upon to provide specialized advice to the Secretariat in the formulation of the grains sector of the Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development.
- 80. The Committee therefore agreed that the Tenth Session of the Group should be held in the early months of 1966. The Director-General was requested to give governments early notice of the precise date of the Session and to circulate documentation, particularly in relation to the item on the Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development, well in advance of the Session.

(b) lieat

81. The Committee was informed that a study on the world meat economy had recently been completed by the Secretariat and would be circulated to Member Governments as soon as possible. It was noted that the study attempted to provide a basic analysis of the long-term trends in world meat markets. The Committee decided to examine the study at its 1966 Session, together with a supplementary document on more recent developments in production, consumption and trade.

(c) Sugar

- 82. The Committee noted that sugar was currently one of the most depressed commodities in world trade. It therefore noted with satisfaction that the possibility of negotiating a new international agreement had been discussed by the International Sugar Council in April 1965 and that the Council had decided to ask the Secretary—General of the United Nations to convene a Negotiating Conference before the end of the year. The Conference, scheduled to start in September 1965, would base its work on a draft agreement drawn up, at the request of the Council, by its Executive Director, who had been authorized to consult governments and interested international organizations.
- 83. The Committee noted that close collaboration between FAO and the International Sugar Council had continued and that FAO had participated in all the Council's preparatory discussions with regard to a new agreement. While recognizing the difficulties to be resolved in the forthcoming negotiations, the Committee expressed the hope that the negotiations would be successful.

10. Co-operation with Other Bodies

The Committee took note of document CCP 65/17 on the co-operation between FRO and other intergovernmental bodies on commodity matters. It expressed its appreciation for the information received, and satisfaction with the co-operation which had been established between the FAO Secretariat and other intergovernmental bodies. The Committee stressed the importance of fostering such co-operation and noted with satisfaction the active participation of representatives of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in its proceedings. The Committee welcomed the appreciation of their co-operation with FAO expressed by a number of these representatives.

III. COMMODITY PROJECTIONS AND THE INDICATIVE WORLD PLAN FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

- 85. The Committee examined with interest the outline statement presented in document CCP 65/14/2 on the Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development, the preparation of which had been suggested by the World Food Congress and approved by the FAO Conference. It noted that the Director-General had given this Indicative Plan a high priority in FAO's work program for the biennium 1966-67. The CCP discussed the concept of the Plan, the methods of approach proposed, and the role which the CCP and its commodity groups should play during the different stages of work on the Plan. It was recognized that it will be up to individual governments to decide whether and if so to what extent they wish to adjust their own domestic production and export policies for agriculture in the light of the findings of the Indicative World Plan.
- 86. The general approach suggested by the Secretariat received the support of the Committee. This envisaged the concerted preparation of two types of studies. The first would cover demand, production and trade for individual commodities on a world-wide basis. The second approach would consist of a series of sub-regional studies of agricultural development prospects in developing areas, based on individual country data and national plans. The integration of these two types of studies in the later stages of the work would lead to the formulation of the Indicative Plan as a whole.
- 87. As regards the commodity-by-commodity approach, the Committee welcomed the intention of the Secretariat to present agricultural commodity projections for 1975 at its next regular session. It was understood that such projections would be provisional and would be revised in the course of the later stages of the work on the Indicative Plan, taking into account the sub-regional studies, as well as changes in policies of producing and consuming countries. It was further understood that the commodity projections would take into account an assessment made in consultation with governments of the impact of prospective changes in the production and trade policies of developed and centrally planned countries on the size of agricultural export outlets for developing countries.
- 88. The Committee felt that sub-regional studies constituted the best approach for arriving at a realistic picture of the problems of agricultural development. The Committee noted with interest the pilot study for West Africa and the Report (CCP 65/14/1) of the sub-regional Meeting, held in Dakar in May 1965, to discuss this study. The Committee welcomed the Director-General's intention to embark on the preparation of additional sub-regional studies, and noted that three or four would be completed in time for consideration by the Committee at its next regular session. The CCP stressed that these sub-regional studies should be prepared in close collaboration with the governments concerned, with the UN Regional Economic Commissions and with other agencies interested in the economic development of the sub-regions concerned. The need was pointed out for visits by the Secretariat to the sub-regions so as to initiate contacts at an early stage with national experts and officials.
- 89. The Committee recognized that many difficulties would be met in the preparation of the Indicative Plan, because this is a large field with many uncertainties in which it will be necessary to proceed cautiously. Appropriate pragmatic methods would have to be evolved as the work proceeded. The Committee stressed the lack of adequate agricultural statistics in many developing countries, but recognized that it would obviously not be possible to await the availability of fully satisfactory data before initiating further studies on agricultural development and planning. Particular attention should be given to the structural problems of agriculture. The Committee noted with appreciation the intention of FAO to work in close collaboration with agencies concerned with the non-agricultural sectors in matters relevant to agricultural development. In particular, account should be taken, when considering

investment of agriculture, of the objective of developing countries to make faster progress with industrialization.

- 90. The Committee supported the program of studies proposed by the Secretariat as a first stage of fact-finding analysis and identification of key policy issues. This would be followed by the second and much more difficult stage of formulating consistent indicative objectives and targets of development, with associated policy recommendations. The Committee stressed the very real problems of setting indicative targets for agricultural trade for sub-regions. The Committee considered that this question should be carefully reviewed at its 1966 session, after more progress had been made by the secretariat with the commodity projections and sub-regional studies. The Committee stressed that the close participation of the governments concerned was necessary, not only in this second stage of the work on the Indicative Plan, but also in the first fact-finding stage.
- 91. The Committee felt that it was too soon to decide whether the discussion of the Indicative Plan by the CCP should be assisted by a special working party meeting concurrently with the Committee, or by the setting up of a special sub-committee. The Committee considered that the studies of specific commodities should receive, at an early stage, the detailed attention of its commodity groups. It would be helpful if delegations to the commodity groups could include a member with specialist knowledge of planning and projections, and if the basic documents could be sent to governments well in advance to allow time for prior technical discussion.
- 92. The Committee gave its support to the holding of further sub-regional meetings, such as that held recently in Dakar, for the consideration of the sub-regional studies as they became available. It considered also that the FAO Regional Conferences would provide an appropriate forum for the discussion of the Indicative Plan.
- 93. The Committee considered that the elaboration of the Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development was a subject on which some discussion in the Council might provide useful guidance for further consideration in the Committee.

IV. THE FUTURE WORK OF THE CCP

(With particular reference to co-operation with UNCTAD and GATT)

- 94. Under this item of its agenda, the Committee continued the consideration of the implications for its work and that of FAO generally of the establishment of the new United Nations trade and development institutions. The Committee's discussion was assisted by a secretariat document (CCP 65/15). In approaching this subject, the Committee took note of discussions which had taken place in the regional conferences of FAO held since its previous session, together with the preliminary views of the FAO Council and the FAO Program Committee. The CCP was also helped by statements made by the Director-General on his consultations with the Secretary-General of UNCTAD and by a representative of the latter.
- 95. The Committee took note of the work program of the Trade and Development Board and of the terms of reference laid down by it for its Committee on Commodities which was to hold its first session in July 1965. It recognized that the terms of reference of the UNCTAD Committee on Commodities did not call in question the functions or activities of existing commodity bodies, although it was clear that a new and powerful force had been brought to bear on old and new problems in the commodity field and that its influence would and should be strongly felt in the deliberations of other international bodies, including the CCP.
- The Committee stressed the fact that FAO was the competent United Nations agency for agriculture and that its work on agricultural commodity problems was an essential element of the overall responsibilities of the Organization and a foundation for other activities in the UN family. In this context, the Committee referred to the important work of FAO on agricultural commodity projections, which would now become a basis for the preparation of the Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development: to the annual Commodity Review; to the work on individual products undertaken by the CCP Study Groups; and to the reviews by the Committee itself of national agricultural policies and international policy developments, and food aid and surplus disposal matters. The Committee thought that, until further decisions were called for, these types of work should continue, with increasing emphasis on development aspects. The long experience and expertise which FAO had acquired in these fields provided a firm basis for the international consideration of agricultural commodity policies both in FAO and in other bodies, such as UNCTAD and GATT. The Committee considered that there was scope for a real complementarity between the commodities work of FAO on the one hand and the functions of UNCTAD and GATT on the other. The Committee expressed the conviction that this complementarity should be reflected in the development of working relations between FAO and the other bodies, with a view to avoiding duplication.
- 97. The Committee considered that it was still premature to attempt to delineate specific responsibilities or boundaries as between CCP, on the one hand, and the UNCTAD Committee on Commodities on the other. However, the Committee felt that fullest use should be made of the commodity work of the CCP and its study groups which, in FAO, formed part of an integrated approach to agricultural development. This was important because adequate solutions to agricultural problems could not in general be attained by measures taken in the trade sector alone. Likewise, questions of production and consumption, which were of major importance in CCP's work, could not be dealt with satisfactorily without taking problems of trade into consideration. The Committee considered furthermore that full use should also be made of the existing FAO machinery, especially the CCP, in making new studies on agricultural commodities.
- 98. The Committee appreciated the information on UNCTAD activities conveyed to it by the representative of the Secretary-General of the UN Conference on Trade and Development. With respect to UNCTAD-FAO relationships, the CCP was glad to hear that the Secretary-General was most anxious not to duplicate work done by other organizations. The Committee moreover noted that the Secretary-General of UNCTAD had informed

the Director-General that, in establishing the UNCTAD Secretariat, he had borne continually in mind the need to rely substantially on FAO for analyses of agricultural commodity problems.

- 99. The Committee stressed that the Director-General of FAO should make available the reports of the CCP and its study groups to the Secretary-General of UNCTAD. The Director-General would also no doubt convey to the CCP and to the FAO study groups any recommendations emanating from UNCTAD bodies, as communicated by the Secretary-General of the Conference. The conclusions reached by the CCP and its study groups could thus contribute to the policy-making tasks of UNCTAD and its Commodities Committee and heighten the effectiveness of the CCP's work. The Committee considered that joint meetings between CCP and the UNCTAD Committee on Commodities might at some stage be useful.
- 100. With regard to inter-secretariat working relationships, the Committee noted that collaboration had begun on a pragmatic basis. It was glad to learn that the Director-General was continuing his personal consultations with the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, and welcomed their agreed decision to appoint a senior officer, on either side, charged with the maintenance and development of working arrangements. This would be supplemented by contacts between other officers. Reference to possible joint working arrangements with UNCTAD on special studies is also made in Section I.4: "Analytical Review of International Commodity Arrangements".
- 101. In view of the need for close understanding and collaboration between UNCTAD and FAO on commodity matters, the Committee recommended that the Council request the Director-General to present to the forthcoming first session of the UNCTAD Committee on Commodities a statement informing the Committee of the established range of activities and the program of work of the CCP and its subsidiary bodies, and stating that he would be prepared, when it was appropriate, to make specific suggestions about the ways in which FAO, including the CCP and its machinery, could help to further the objectives of UNCTAD.
- 102. The Committee heard with interest a statement by the representative of the GATT who reported on a number of important developments in that body since the last session of the CCP. These developments included the agreement on the text of a new Part IV on Trade and Development to the General Agreement and its coming into de facto operation, the establishment of a new GATT Committee on Trade and Development, and agreement on procedures for including agricultural products and the trade of less developed countries in the Kennedy Round negotiations currently under way. The Committee noted the good working relations between the Secretariats of FAO and GATT, and expressed the hope that such co-operation would continue and become still closer in the future.

V. METHODS OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE IN THE LIGHT OF COUNCIL DIRECTIVES

- 103. The Committee took note of the Council's directives to its subsidiary bodies (CL 44/INF/2: CCP 65/16, paras. 144-147) concerning the form and presentation of their reports. In accordance with these directives, the Committee has included in Section VII of the present report a list of matters which it considers require the special attention of the Council.
- 104. The Committee considered that the application of similar procedures to the reports of its subsidiary bodies would facilitate its work. It therefore requested that its subsidiary bodies should adhere to these directives in the preparation of their reports.

VI. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE THIRTY-NINTH AND FORTIETH SESSIONS OF CCP

The Committee decided to schedule tentatively a brief session in the autumn of 1965 to enable it to consider matters of concern to its program which might arise out of the decisions of the Forty-Fourth Session of the FAO Council, the First Session of the UNCTAD Committee on Commodities, the Second Session of the UNCTAD Board, the commodity discussions in GATT under the Kennedy Round, and other matters of urgency, the consideration of which might facilitate the proceedings of the Thirteenth Session It was envisaged that this autumn session should be held in of the FAO Conference. In so deciding, however, the Committee requested the Director-General, in consultation with the Chairman, to postpone the convening of this session if such a session did not appear to be useful after the conclusions of the above-mentioned meetings were available.

The Committee agreed that its 1966 session should tentatively be held in the 106. second quarter of the year; however, it could be held at a later date, should events In determining the date of the session, the Director-General was make it advisable. requested to take into account the dates of the main international meetings in the field of commodities and, in particular, that of the Second United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

107. The Committee agreed on the following draft Agenda for its 1966 session.

DRAFT AGENDA OF THE FORTIETH SESSION

- I. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen
- II. Adoption of Provisional Agenda
- III. General Debate on World Agricultural Commodity Situation, Problems and Policies
- IV. Regional Economic Arrangements
- ٧. Developments in International Action on General Commodity Matters
- VI. Commodity Projections and Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development
- VII. Food Aid and Surplus Utilization
- VIII. Review of Activities of Commodity Groups and Other Special Commodity Matters
 - Grains
 - (ъ) Rice
 - (c) Oilseeds, Oils and Fats
 - Cocoa
 - (e) (f) (g) Bananas
 - Citrus
 - Jute, Kenaf and Allied Fibers
 - Dairy Products
 - Meat
 - Other Commodities
 - IX. Organizational Matters
 - х. Other Business

VII. MATTERS REQUIRING ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL

- 108. The Committee wished to bring to the attention of the Council its discussion on Future Work (paras. 94-102), which had taken into account the establishment of the new Trade and Development institutions in the UN and the GATT.
- 109. The Committee considered that the elaboration of the <u>Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development</u> was a subject on which discussion in the Council might provide useful guidance for further consideration in the Committee (para.93).
- 110. The Committee felt that the Council, when considering the future of the <u>World Food Program</u>, might wish to indicate the aspects on which the advice of the Committee might be useful (para. 31).
- 111. The Committee wished to underline to the Council the discussions of its Consultative Sub-Committee on the Economic Aspects of Rice concerning the EEC rice policy (paras. 39-40).
- 112. The Committee wished to draw the Council's attention, in its discussion on the Director-General's Program of Work and Budget for 1966-67, to para. 55 of its Report concerning the proposed market survey of chemical uses of coconut oil.

APPENDIX A

LIST OF MEMBER NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED AT THE THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION

Chairman: Vice-Chairman: Vice-Chairman: D.W. Woodward (New Zealand) M.L. Rahman (Pakistan) G. Bula Hoyos (Colombia)

MEMBERS OF THE CCP

ARGENTINA
V. Brunini
Consejero Agricola
Embajada de Argentina
Roma

J.B. Martese Consejero Económico Embajada de Argentina Roma

R.J. Turazzini Secretario Representante Permanente Suplente ante la FAO Embajada de Argentina Roma

AUSTRALIA
M.W. Oakley
First Assistant Secretary
Department of Primary Industry
Canberra

K.W. Ryan Commercial Counsellor Embassy of Australia Rome

R.J. Cornish Agricultural Attaché Embassy of Australia Rome

BRAZIL
L.A. Souto-Maior
First Secretary of Embassy
Permanent Delegation in
Geneva

Mrs. Y. Magno Pantoja Resident Representative of Brazil to FAO Embassy of Brazil Rome

MEMBERS OF THE CCP (cont'd)

BRAZIL (cont'd)
J. Botafogo Gonçalves
Second Secretary
Embassy of Brazil
Rome

CANADA
W. Jenkins
First Secretary
Embassy of Canada
Rome

COLOMBIA
G. Bula Hoyos
Consejero
Embajada de Colombia
Roma

T. Olano Ministro Consejero Embajada de Colombia Roma

DENMARK
H.J. Kristensen
Counsellor
Danish National FAO Committee
Ministry of Agriculture
Copenhagen

C. Valentin Hansen Agricultural Counsellor Embassy of Denmark Rome

FRANCE G.H. Janton Contrôleur d'Etat au Ministère des Finances et des Affaires Economiques Paris

MEMBERS OF THE CCP (cont'd)

FRANCE (cont'd)
L. Escard
Sous-directeur
Service des Relations
Internationales, Ministère
de l'Agriculture
Paris

GERMANY, Fed. Rep. H.J. Scharmer Senior Counsellor Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry Bonn

Miss Irene Haas Counsellor Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry Bonn

H. Matthias Counsellor Foreign Office Bonn

INDIA Maharaj Krishan Agricultural Attaché Embassy of India Rome

IRELAND
M. O'Doherty
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Department of Agriculture
Dublin

M. Flynn Secretary Embassy of Ireland Rome

JAPAN
Masao Sawaki
Counsellor
Embassy of Japan
Rome

Shunzo Ito First Secretary Embassy of Japan Rome

MEMBERS OF THE CCP (cont'd)

JAPAN (cont'd)
Shoichi Yasuno
Deputy Chief,
General Affairs Section
Division of Agricultural and
Forest Economy,
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry,
Tokyo

Kazuo Mishima First Secretary Embassy of Japan Rome

Toshitaka Tada Second Secretary Permanent Delegation of Japan Geneva

MALAYSIA
Mohamed Yusoff Rahim
Assistant Secretary
Ministry of Agriculture
and Co-operatives
Kuala Lumpur

Che Fong Yee Assistant Controller Export Commodities Division Ministry of Commerce and Industry Kuala Lumpur

MOROCCO
N. El Ghorfi
Ambassadeur
Ambassade du Maroc
Rome

NETHERLANDS

H. Riem
Agricultural Trade and
Industries Division
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
The Hague

NEW ZEALAND
D.W. Woodward
Minister
New Zealand Mission to EEC
Brussels

E.A. Woodfield Second Secretary (Commercial) New Zealand High Commission London

MEMBERS OF THE CCP (cont'd)

NEW ZEALAND (cont'd)
N.R. Woods
Agricultural Economist
New Zealand High Commission
London

PAKISTAN
Ahmed Barkat
Agricultural Attaché
Embassy of Pakistan
Rome

PHILIPPINES

A. Mangila

Minister and Assistant Secretary

Department of Foreign Affairs

Manila

A. M. Mane Chief National Planner Agricultural Resources Branch National Economic Council Manila

SENEGAL
E.C. Basse
Ambassadeur
Ambassade du Sénégal
Rome

SWITZERLAND
C. del Boca
Directeur
Nestlé S.A.
Vevey

Th. Stocker Secrétaire de l'Union Centrale des Producteurs Suisses de Lait Berne

H.U. Vetsch Ursina S.A. Berne

J. Schneeberger Conseiller Ambassade de Suisse Rome

THAILAND
Suthee Natvaratat
Chief of Foreign Trade
Policy Division,
Department of Foreign Trade
Ministry of Economic Affairs
Bangkok

MEMBERS OF THE CCP (cont'd)

THAILAND (cont'd)
Kamol Janlekha
Adviser
Division of Agricultural Economics,
Ministry of Agriculture
Bangkok

UNITED KINGDOM
C.F. Pennison
Permanent Representative to FAO,
Embassy of the United Kingdom
Rome

D.H. Andrews
Principal
External Relations Division
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food
London

Miss P. Ady Senior Economist Ministry of Overseas Development London

UNITED STATES
W.F. Doering
Deputy Assistant Administrator
Foreign Agricultural Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C.

F.H. Sanderson Chief, Foodstuffs Division U.S. Department of State Washington, D.C.

R.C. Tetro Agricultural Attaché Embassy of the United States Rome

Mrs. Ursula H. Duffus Second Secretary Assistant FAO Officer Embassy of the United States Rome

YUGOSLAVIA
M. Ristić
Conseiller au Secrétariat
d'Etat des Affaires Etrangères
Belgrade

OBSERVER COUNTRIES

BELGIUM
G. G. Tilkin
Conseiller Economique
Ambassade de Belgique
Rome

BOLIVIA

E. Olaguivel
Encargado de Negocios
Embajada de Bolivia
Roma

CAMEROUN

H. Effoudou

Attaché commercial et économique

Ambassade du Caméroun

Bonn

CEYLON
R.C.S. Koelmeyer
Resident Representative
of Ceylon to FAO
Embassy of Ceylon
Rome

Yogendra Duraiswamy Chargé d'Affaires Embassy of Ceylon Rome

CHILE
R. Rojás-Galdames
Minister-Counsellor
Embassy of Chile
Rome

CONGO (Léo.)

P. Lumbala

Directeur Chef de Service

Etudes et Politique Agricole

Ministère de l'Agriculture

Léopoldville

C. Nsungu Chef de Bureau Service de la Production Agricole Ministère de l'Agriculture Léopoldville

COSTA RICA
C. Di Mottola Balestra
Embajador
Embajada de Costa Rica
Roma
G. Di Suni
Consejero de Embajada

Embajada de Costa Rica

Roma

OBSERVER COUNTRIES (cont'd)

CUBA

R. Torrecilla

Consejero Comercial

Embajada de Cuba

Roma

ECUADOR
Orlando Gabela
Encargado de Negocios Ad-Interim
Embajada del Ecuador
Roma

EL SALVADOR A. Salazar Embajador Embajada de El Salvador Roma

FINLAND

A.S. Nikkola

Agricultural Economist

Agricultural Economics

Research Institute

Helsinki

GHANA
J.G. Amoafo
Chief Agricultural Economist
Ministry of Agriculture
Accra

E.K. Hagan Agricultural Attaché, Embassy of Ghana Rome

GREECE
T. Anagnostopoulos
Conseiller Commercial
Ambassade de Grèce
Rome

Monsignor L.C. Ligutti Permanent Observer to FAO Vatican City

Emilio Bonomelli Permanent Observer to FAO Vatican City

W. Persegati Secretary Vatican City

Miss Maria Groothuizen Liaison for Women's Work Vatican City

OBSERVER COUNTRIES (cont'd)

ISRAEL
E.L. Samuel
Counsellor, Agrarian Affairs
Embassy of Israel
Rome

ITALY
G.U. Papi
Secrétaire général du Comité
National Italien de la FAO
Ministero dell'Agricoltura
Roma

V. De Asarta Secrétaire Comité National Italien de la FAO Ministero dell'Agricoltura Roma

G. Ciaffei Direttore Sezione Ministero Commercio Estero Roma

A. Ferone Comité National Italien de la FAO Ministero dell'Agricoltura Roma

Miss A.M. Rimoaldi Sperimentatore Superiore Ministero dell'Agricoltura Roma

Mrs. E. Lener Mammone Fonctionnaire Comité National Italien de la FAO Ministero dell'Agricoltura Roma

KOREA
Suk Jae Kang
Second Secretary
Embassy of Korea
Rome

LIBERIA
R.H. Cooper
Ambassador of Liberia
Embassy of Liberia
Rome

NICARAGUA

E. Arguello Cervantes
Embajador
Embajada del Nicaragua
Roma

OBSERVER COUNTRIES (cont'd)

NIGERIA
E.A. Okwuosa
Agricultural Attaché
Embassy of Nigeria
Rome

PANAMA
R. Vallarino
Embajador de Panamá
Embajada de Panamá
Roma

PERU
A.A. Aramburú
Representante Permanente
ante la FAO
Embajada del Perú
Roma

POLAND
Jan Serwatowski
Vice-directeur
Ministère du Commerce Extérieur
Warsaw

Z. Hagel Economiste au Ministère du Commerce Extérieur Warsaw

Mrs. A. Dalecka-Liszka Economist Franciska 49 m38 Warsaw

ROMANIA
M. Romas
Directeur au Conseil
Supérieur de l'Agriculture
Bucharest

V. Cosac Attaché au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères Bucharest

SAUDI ARABIA
Fahd Mohamed Saga
Director of Commercial
Fraud Department
Ministry of Commerce and
Industry, Industrial Section
Riyadh

SOMALIA, Rep. of Thrahim H. Mussa First Secretary Embassy of Somalia Rome

OBSERVER COUNTRIES (cont'd)

SPAIN
F.J. Garcia-Ramos
Representante Permanente
ante la FAO
Embajada de España
Roma

OBSERVER COUNTRIES (cont'd)

URUGUAY

A. Bianchi
Representante Permanente Alterno
Embajada del Uruguay
Roma

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INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

(i) Intergovernmental

COMMONWEALTH ECONOMIC COMMITTEE C.R. Fletcher Deputy Executive Secretary London

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY G. V. Dal Pero-Bertini Chef de Division Direction Générale de l'Agriculture Bruxelles

R. Cohen Division Organisations Internationales Gouvernementales de l'Agriculture Bruxelles

H. de Grood Chief, Raw Materials Division EEC Commission Brussels

F. de Benedictis
Chef de la Division
Expansion Economique
Direction Générale du
Développement de l'Outre-Mer
Bruxelles

P. Taliani de Marchio Chef de Division Relations Extérieures Bruxelles

Von Kotze Administrateur Principal Bruxelles

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE G. Hortling Counsellor Department of External Relations Geneva

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (cont'd)

(i) <u>Intergovernmental</u> (cont'd)

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR
RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
Miss Flora White
Economist
Washington, D.C.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION
Mrs. V. Semprini
Assistant du Directeur du Bureau de
Rome

INTERNATIONAL OLIVE OIL COUNCIL
L. Denis
Directeur
Madrid

INTERNATIONAL RUBBER STUDY GROUP
P.F. Adams
Secretary-General
London

INTERNATIONAL VINE AND WINE OFFICE
F.J. Garcia-Ramos
Agregado Agrónomo
Embajada de España
Roma

ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT R. de Wilde Administrateur principal Paris

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
Louis O. Delwart
Alternate Representative
in Europe
Geneva

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (cont'd)

(i) Intergovernmental (cont'd)

UNITED NATIONS
Perce R. Judd
Secretary of UNCTAD
United Nations
New York

(ii) Non-Governmental

INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE L.A. Carreri Rome

INTERNATIONAL DAIRY FEDERATION
G. Pittoni
Comitato Italiano per il
Latte e derivati
Roma

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (cont'd)

(i) Intergovernmental (cont'd)

UNICEF
A.R. Lucas
Senior Engineer
New York

(ii) Non-Governmental (cont'd)

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS
R.L. Savary
Secrétaire général
Paris

R. Hewlett Liaison Representative with FAO, Rome

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF MARGARINE ASSOCIATIONS
J. Sevenster
Rotterdam

APPENDIX B

LIST OF STANDING SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE CCP

	Date of Establishment
CCP Consultative Sub-Committee on Surplus Disposal	23rd Session, June 1954
CCP Consultative Sub-Committee on the Economic Aspects of Rice 1/	26th Session, October 1955
FAO Cocoa Study Group	27th Session, June 1956
FAO Group on Grains 1/	28th Session, March 1957
FAO Group on Citrus Fruit 1/	32nd Session, October 1959
FAO Study Group on Jute, Kenaf and Allied Fibers	36th Session, May 1963
Study Group on Oilseeds, Oils and Fats	38th Session, June 1965
Study Group on Bananas	38th Session, June 1965

^{1/} These bodies constitute Study Groups by virtue of their terms of reference and membership (FAO Council decision, see Report of Fortieth Session, para. 31).