

council

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ROME

(1977) file

CL
CL 71/6
May 1977

E

Seventy-First Session

Rome, 6 - 17 June 1977

REPORT OF THE ~~FIFTY-FIRST~~ SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY PROBLEMS (CCP)

Rome, 2 - 6 May 1977

Summary

The report of the Fifty-First Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems is herewith presented for the Council's information. The matters requiring attention by the Council are listed after the Table of Contents.

For reasons of economy, this document is produced in a limited number of copies. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring it to the meetings and to refrain from asking for additional copies, unless strictly indispensable.

Handwritten notes or markings in the top right corner, possibly including a date or page number.

Faint, illegible text located in the lower-left quadrant of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.

Table of Contents

MATTERS REQUIRING ATTENTION BY THE COUNCIL

Page v
Paragraphs

I. INTRODUCTION	1 - 7
II. WORLD COMMODITY SITUATION AND INTERNATIONAL ACTION	
1. Main issues in world commodity situation	8
(a) Market developments in 1976 and early 1977	9 - 12
(b) Assessment of short-term outlook	13 - 15
(c) Consideration of main issues arising from the current situation	16 - 24
2. Specific commodity matters	25
(a) Operation of informal arrangements under FAO auspices: hard fibres and jute	26 - 32
(b) Implementation of the guidelines for international cooperation on the livestock and meat sector	33 - 39
(c) Progress of FAO work on commodity agreements	40 - 47
(i) Bananas	40 - 43
(ii) Tea	44 - 47
(d) Report of the Consultative Sub-Committee on Surplus Disposal (CSD)	48 - 54
(e) Review of work on other commodities (rice, oilseeds, coffee and sugar)	55 - 62
(f) Arrangements for consultations on hides and skins	63 - 64
(g) Food standards	65 - 67
(h) Meeting schedule of CCP subsidiary bodies	68 - 69
3. Review of international action relating to agricultural commodities in other fora and the contribution of FAO	70 - 79

	<u>Paragraphs</u>
III. PROGRESS OF OTHER FAO WORK OF CONCERN TO THE COMMITTEE	
1. Strategy for International Agricultural Adjustment	80 - 83
2. Agricultural commodity projections to 1985	84 - 87
3. Assistance on the formulation of commodity policy at the country level	88 - 91
IV. OTHER MATTERS	
1. Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Committee	92 - 94
2. Arrangements for the Fifty-Second Session	95 - 96

APPENDICES:	A. List of Members as at 6 May 1977
	B. Agenda
	C. List of delegates
	D. Statement of the Group of 77
	E. Revised Rules of Procedure of the Committee
	F. List of documents

MATTERS REQUIRING ATTENTION

BY THE COUNCIL

The Committee wishes to draw the attention of the Council to the following matters in particular:

1. Its review of international action on important commodity and trade issues and its conclusions on the role of FAO (paragraphs ~~75-78~~
70-79)
2. The proposal that the Committee should be associated with the task of monitoring the impact on trade of food standards developed by the Codex Alimentarius, and the Committee's deliberations on this proposal (paragraphs ~~64-66~~. 65-67)
3. Its discussions concerning arrangements for the next session of the Committee (paragraphs ~~94 and 95~~. 95 and 96)

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF _____

Know all men by these presents, that _____ of the County of _____ State of Texas, for and in consideration of the sum of _____ Dollars, to _____ of them in hand paid by _____ the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have granted, sold and conveyed, and by these presents do grant, sell and convey unto the said _____ of the County of _____ State of Texas, all that certain _____



I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Committee on Commodity Problems held its Fifty-first Session from 2 to 6 May 1977 at FAO Headquarters, Rome. The Session was attended by 65 members of the Committee, by Observers from 4 other FAO member nations, and by representatives of the European Economic Community, the United Nations and its specialized agencies, and 8 international organizations. The list of participants is given in Appendix C.
2. The Session was opened by Mr. G.H. Janton, the retiring Chairman. The Committee paid tribute to Mr. Janton for his long and distinguished services to the Committee, both as representative of France and as Chairman, and expressed its appreciation for the notable contribution which he made towards the solution of international commodity problems in the interests of both developed and developing countries.
3. The Committee elected H.E. Ambassador George Magombe of the United Republic of Tanzania as Chairman, Mr. A. Régnier (Belgium) as First Vice-Chairman, and Mr. S.S. Mahadi (India) as Second Vice-Chairman.
4. The Committee was addressed by the Director-General of FAO, Mr. Edouard Saouma. Referring to the crucial role of agricultural commodity exports for developing countries, he pointed out that international attitudes and approaches to world commodity problems were now taking new directions. Developing countries wanted a dynamic approach towards a New International Economic Order, and the international community was attempting to achieve a breakthrough towards a more basic solution of the long-standing problems of relations between the rich and poor countries. This change of approach was reflected in UNCTAD's Integrated Programme on Commodities and, in view of this, he had committed the resources of the FAO Secretariat to support these negotiations. Noting that little or no progress had yet been made, he expressed the hope that negotiating positions were now being seriously reconsidered. He recognized that the CCP and its intergovernmental groups, although not negotiating bodies in the strict sense, also had a distinct role to play in solving commodity problems, especially since they could pave the way for formal commodity agreements as had been done in the past for those on cocoa and olive oil. The subsidiary bodies of the CCP operated informal price stabilization arrangements for jute and hard fibres, as well as "codes of conduct" on surplus disposal, meat and rice, and were presently examining the feasibility of commodity agreements on tea and on bananas. FAO's role in commodities and trade had been recently reaffirmed by the Council, and he had accordingly included this work among the priority areas of the proposed programme of work and budget for 1978/79. The world commodity situation was in a period of great change and debate. He invited the Committee to guide the Organization's future contribution.
5. The Committee adopted the agenda reproduced in Appendix B.
6. The Committee was assisted during the Session by a Drafting Committee composed of the delegations of Algeria, Brazil, France, Hungary, India, Iraq, Japan, Nicaragua, Pakistan, United Kingdom, United States of America, and Zambia, under the Chairmanship of Mr. S.S. Mahdi (India).
7. On behalf of the Group of 77, the delegate for Brasil presented a comprehensive statement at the beginning of the Session conveying the common position of the Group on the issues before the Committee, as well as a number of proposals for action. The Committee took note and considered this statement, under the appropriate items of the agenda, the statement is reproduced as Appendix D. One delegation of a developed country stated that since the statement of the Group of 77 contained complex and rather new suggestions, it would like to reserve its position.

II. WORLD COMMODITY SITUATION AND INTERNATIONAL ACTION

1. Main issues in world commodity situation

8. The Committee reviewed the principal developments in world agricultural commodity markets since its Fiftieth Session on the basis of information provided in documents CCP 77/8 - Main Issues in the World Commodity Situation and CCP 77/9 - Developments in the World Agricultural Commodity Situation and Outlook and Policy Action, and in statements made by delegates.

(a) Market developments in 1976 and early 1977

9. The Committee noted that there were sharp contrasts in the market situations of individual commodities particularly with regard to commodities from developing countries. Continued short supplies and higher prices characterized the markets for coffee and cocoa and to a lesser extent for hides and skins. A tightening of supplies had occurred in markets for jute, hard fibres, tea and oilmeals. Whereas there was now relatively better balance between demand and supply in markets for bananas and rubber, grain prices had declined, meat prices remained depressed and large surpluses of dairy products and wine continued to accumulate. The market for sugar had experienced a violent cyclical fluctuation from conditions of shortage in 1975 to surplus and depressed world market prices in 1976 and 1977.

10. These contrasting shifts in supply/demand situations had been reflected in the trade of individual commodities, but little improvement appeared to have taken place in the overall volume of world agricultural trade following the marked recovery of 1975. There had been a reduction in imports of wheat and coarse grains, due to more abundant harvests in the U.S.S.R. and generally in Asian countries, but imports of rice had reached a new record, and the import demand for other food and feed commodities had also expanded, stimulated by higher levels of economic activity in industrialized countries. Greater industrial activity had also led to larger imports of agricultural raw materials, especially rubber.

11. The total value of world agricultural exports, after reaching the record level of U.S. \$122 000 million in 1975, had shown further slight growth in 1976. This reflected the recovery in prices of a number of commodities, which had begun towards the end of 1975 and had continued in 1976 and early 1977. The value of coffee and cocoa exports had increased noticeably in 1976, but the value of world trade in grains had declined and that of sugar exports had dropped by one-third. The agricultural export earnings of developing countries in 1976, had increased moderately.

12. The Committee noted, however, that the earnings from exports of many agricultural commodities continued to fluctuate widely, often reflecting price instability which had serious consequences especially for developing countries. Thus, coffee and cocoa prices had moved to record levels under the impact of short supplies and uncertain production prospects. Increases had also taken place in prices of oilmeal proteins and raw materials such as rubber, hides and skins, and wool, and since the beginning of 1977, in prices of tea and of the principal oilseeds and vegetables oils, notably soybeans, soybean oil and coconut oil. Prices of bananas, wine, tobacco and cotton had risen, though more moderately. In contrast, prices of many basic foodstuffs including rice, wheat, maize, beef, poultry meat and dairy products, as well as those of jute and sisal, had shown varying degrees of decline. The greatest price fall had occurred in sugar as a result of over-expansion in supplies and, although prices had recently shown some recovery, they still remained well below costs of production in several major producing countries. World prices of beef and jute had also risen slightly during the first four months of 1977. World prices of rice which had dropped by one third in 1976 from the level of 1975 had risen slightly in March/April 1977.

(b) Assessment of the Short-term Outlook

13. The Committee noted that an assessment of the outlook at the time of its session could only be tentative, since supplies could not be estimated with any accuracy until later in the year. Assuming normal weather, it was anticipated that supplies of a number of commodities would increase in 1977/78. Production of coffee was expected to rise, reflecting some recovery from frost damage in Brazil. Cotton production was also expected to rise following significant expansion in world plantings in 1977. Relatively ample supplies of basic food grains were in prospect, despite some decline expected in production, since larger carry-over stocks were anticipated. By contrast, some fall in world beef supplies was anticipated in 1977/78

following the recent reduction in cattle numbers. While stocks of oils and fats are expected to remain large, the immediate supply/demand situation for oils and fats and in particular for oilmeal proteins had tightened in view of the reduced U.S. crop of soybeans in the past season and the timing of the Brazilian crop of that product in the current year, but the supply position could ease if the climatic and other conditions confirmed present estimates of the U.S. crop of soybeans later in the year.

14. With regard to demand prospects, especially for commodities other than basic foodstuffs, it was noted that these would again be strongly influenced by levels of economic activity in the principal consuming countries, and by related factors such as inflation, balances of payments, and exchange rate adjustments. In view of the uncertainties surrounding both general economic prospects and supplies of individual agricultural products, world commodity markets thus remained highly sensitive to short-term changes in supply and demand, and continued price fluctuations seemed likely.

15. The Committee noted that the short-term prospects for trade also varied from commodity to commodity. Thus, whereas the volume of world trade in wheat was expected to grow slightly in 1977/78, its value was unlikely to increase. Exports of coarse grains and rice were expected to fall short of the high levels reached a year earlier, both in volume and value. A larger volume of world sugar exports was anticipated in 1977, but in view of the price levels prevailing early in the year, their value might not rise. Many developing exporting countries expressed concern about a likelihood of a contraction in their traditional markets. By contrast, exports of raw and processed hides and skins, and those of cotton fibre, were expected to fall slightly in volume but to show some increase in value reflecting improved prices in the first half of the year. The further increases expected in export earnings from cocoa and coffee would be due almost entirely to continuing high prices, whereas slightly higher export earnings from rubber were anticipated chiefly as a result of larger shipments.

(c) Consideration of the main issues arising from the current situation

16. On the basis of its review of recent market developments and of the short-term outlook, the Committee considered a number of issues which affected prospects for trade in agricultural commodities.

17. In their joint statement and in additional observations, the representatives of developing countries pointed out that over the last two years the overwhelming majority of developing countries had witnessed a continuing deterioration in their balance of payments. The external debt of developing countries might have reached as much as 190 billion U.S. dollars by the end of 1976 and it was still increasing. The targets for official aid remained unfulfilled, particularly by large donors, and the prospects for a rapid expansion of trade were not auspicious. They stressed that it was within this gloomy context that the poor performance of agricultural exports of developing countries deserved serious consideration. The total value of agricultural exports of developing countries had remained stagnant in 1975, and the gains made in 1976 were not sufficient to compensate for the higher prices they had to pay for their imports. This deterioration in terms of trade compounded the difficulties already experienced in the light of the long-term decline of their share in world agricultural trade. Moreover, the increase in export earnings in 1976 had not been shared evenly by all developing countries. The representatives of some developed countries expressed agreement with these views.

18. The delegates of some developed exporting countries stressed that their agricultural industries were also strongly influenced by world market developments which had recently had very serious effects for several of the products they produce. They agreed with the developing countries that restrictions on trade and national support measures were a major problem facing agricultural exporters.

19. Delegates from other developed countries considered that the increase in developing countries' agricultural export earnings in 1976, which had been preceded by considerable gains in 1973 and 1974 and by only a brief pause in 1975, might mark a real change in the international market for agricultural commodities. They also pointed out that the world recession had created problems for industrialized countries as well as for developing countries and that the gains of 1976 highlighted the importance of economic recovery in the industrialized countries and a general expansion of world trade for the economic well-being of agricultural exporting countries.

20. The Committee stressed the seriousness of the current instability of commodity prices in recent years, which in some cases had had serious adverse effects on developed and especially on developing countries. It agreed that this problem had affected practically all major agricultural commodities, and was not conducive to stable and orderly economic growth over the longer-term. Instability in prices was harmful to exporting countries, and it was also not in the long-term interests of importing countries. Fluctuations in prices resulted in unpredictable variations in export earnings. Representatives of developing countries in their joint statement and in additional observations stressed that developing countries had been pressing for international action on market stabilization for several decades, and now placed the highest priority on the implementation of UNCTAD's Integrated Programme.

21. The Committee acknowledged the continuing impact of competition from synthetics on markets for raw materials and for some other agricultural commodities. In the view of delegates of developing countries in their joint statement and in subsequent observations, the major inroads from synthetics into markets for raw materials had caused particularly severe problems for developing countries which were caught in a vicious circle as market instability for the natural product stimulated the expansion of productive capacity of synthetics in industrial countries. In their view, the continuity of supply at competitive prices could be facilitated by locating processing industries in developing countries close to the source of the raw material, but this would require the repeal of discriminatory measures and appropriate adjustment policies in industrialized countries. They believed that in order to avoid additional market losses to synthetics commodity agreements which covered both the natural product and synthetics had to be evolved.

22. Other delegates, however, considered that the market situation for some agricultural raw materials such as rubber, demonstrated that competition between synthetic and natural raw materials need not always lead to market losses for the natural product. They considered that in future other raw materials might show gains relative to their synthetic competitors, both because such materials depended on renewable resources, and because upward shifts in the costs of petrochemical and other inputs, might give natural products an advantage. One delegation observed that the increase in synthetic production capacities was world-wide. It saw substantive difficulties to harmonize the production of natural and competing synthetic products inter alia because of different end-uses and a large range of production processes. Helping to increase the degree of processing in developing countries could not mean an organized transfer of industries from one country to another.

23. The delegates of developing countries in their joint statement pointed out that one of the most complex problems facing the developing countries in expanding their export earnings from agricultural commodities stemmed from the restrictive trade measures and support policies of developed countries. As regards tariffs and non-tariff barriers, they pointed out that the coverage of agricultural commodities under the Generalized System of Preferences had been limited so far, and urged its improvement and extension as an important means for enlarging the developing countries' share of international trade. Referring to the agricultural support policies of developed countries, they considered that the advocacy of free competition by developed countries in international trade negotiations was incompatible with their use of national support policies to regulate their domestic markets. They urged developed countries to take urgent steps to revise such policies so as to abide by their commitments to international agricultural adjustment, as part of a global effort towards the New International Economic Order.

24. Several delegates of developed countries stated that their agricultural policies aimed at stabilizing production and incomes of farmers with a view to ensuring balance development in the domestic sector. They pointed out that in the case of agricultural commodities, supply management might not ensure full market stability under all circumstances. Moreover, shifts in production in response to market and price conditions often resulted in an increase in incomes of producers. They also pointed out that considerable improvements had been made in their Generalized Systems of Preferences, which affected a wide range of agricultural commodities.

2. Specific commodity matters

25. The Committee focussed its attention on a number of specific commodity matters arising out of the sessions of its subsidiary bodies, as well as certain other questions for action under FAO auspices.

(a) Operation of informal arrangements under FAO auspices: hard fibres and jute

26. The Committee reviewed the operation of the informal arrangements on jute and hard fibres as reported in paragraphs 1-16 of Document CCP 77/4. It noted that for both commodities price stabilization measures had been reactivated by the respective Intergovernmental Groups early in 1976 after a period during which they had remained inoperative. The Committee agreed that these arrangements, though imperfect, had contributed to the stabilization of markets and that they had an important role to play. It recognized, however, that they required further strengthening to make them more effective. In this connection, the representatives of the developing countries stressed the need for urgent action, in view of the highly unsatisfactory price levels prevailing in markets for these commodities and the time involved in fully implementing the UNCTAD Integrated Programme. They stressed the urgent need for action to stabilize the markets for these raw materials which are perennially under attack by synthetic substitutes, and underlined the need to promote the transfer of fibre processing facilities to developing countries.

27. In regard to jute, the Committee noted that export prices were currently well below the top of the indicative range established at the Twelfth Session of the Intergovernmental Group in October 1976 (U.S.\$ 314 ± \$ 16 for BWD f.o.b. Chittagong/Chalna). The delegate for Bangladesh stated that it remained his Government's policy to keep prices to growers remunerative in order to provide sufficient incentive to ensure an adequate flow of supplies, while maintaining prices on export markets within the indicative price range in order to keep jute competitive with synthetics.

28. Concerning hard fibres, the Committee noted that at each of the Sessions of the Intergovernmental Group on Hard Fibres in 1976 and 1977, agreement had been reached on modifications of the target price range for sisal fibre in order to take account of certain changes in market conditions. For most of this period, actual market prices for the reference grade remained well within the target range established by the Group. Although the situation had shown a marginal improvement owing to a moderate revival in demand in 1976, delegates of producing countries expressed their concern that price levels still were unsatisfactory and unremunerative. The Committee recognized that despite their stabilizing role, there was a need to refine and strengthen the price and quota arrangement for sisal, and in particular welcomed the steps taken by the Intergovernmental Group to monitor the existing arrangement. Some delegates considered one appropriate measure to make the existing arrangement more effective would be to extend the indicative price for sisal fibre to include harvest twine, taking into account manufacturing costs. Delegates of producing countries emphasized, however, that the establishment of an indicative price for sisal harvest twine would require a similar arrangement for polypropylene twine in order to avoid distortion in the market and further inroads by the synthetic product.

29. In this connexion, the Committee recognized that work on jute and hard fibres required the consideration of competing synthetics and substitutes, and requested the Intergovernmental Groups to continue their work in this area and to continue to take account of competing synthetics as appropriate, in the scope of their deliberations and decisions. Many delegations stressed that a fuller knowledge of the nature of the synthetics industry was essential, and that the work of the Secretariat in this area should be strengthened. Such work, while particularly relevant in the case of fibres should also cover, as appropriate, other commodities. Some other delegations, while agreeing on the need to closely follow developments in the field of synthetics, pointed out that the subject was extremely complex and required specialized expertise. They indicated that their governments would have difficulty in participating in informal arrangements which included prices of synthetics.

30. The Committee strongly supported the decision to establish Jute International as an important means of facilitating research, development and market promotion. It noted that the Twelfth Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Jute, Kenaf and Allied Fibres had been informed that there was a good possibility that a meeting for the signature of the Constitution of Jute International would be held by November 1976, and was disappointed to learn that this meeting had not taken place. It expressed the hope that the countries concerned would hold consultations regarding the date for the inaugural meeting as early as possible, and requested the Intergovernmental Group on Jute to keep the matter under review.

31. The Committee welcomed the proposal put forward by the Government of India at the Twelfth Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Hard Fibres in March 1977, to set up a new organization to be called Coir International, which would coordinate existing and initiate new research, development and promotion programmes for coir. The Committee urged that the Ad Hoc Working Party which has been established should examine the feasibility, objectives, activities, membership, institutional arrangements and financing of such a body. It also expressed the hope that Coir International could be set up at the earliest practicable opportunity.

32. The Committee also welcomed that initiative taken by the Secretariat to formulate a proposal for an action-oriented Technical Improvement Programme for Hard Fibres to be submitted to the Preparatory Meetings on Hard Fibres in UNCTAD later in the year. It recognized the vital importance to be attached to improving the competitive situation of hard fibres viz-à-viz synthetics by reducing costs of production and of primary processing and in this context it was also suggested that ways be found to strengthen the activities of the Advisory Working Party on Hard Fibre Research, which was a subsidiary body of the Intergovernmental Group on Hard Fibres.

(b) Implementation of the Guidelines for international cooperation in the livestock and meat sector

33. The Committee discussed the implementation of the Guidelines for international cooperation in the livestock and meat sector, which had been adopted by consensus by the Sixth Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Meat. Several delegates stressed the importance they attached to the Guidelines as a step towards solving the problems faced by many livestock and meat producers: Delegates of developing countries underlined the need for preferential treatment of their exports and stated that this was now a widely accepted principle in discussions of international trade issues. In this connexion they observed also that such preferential treatment should apply equally when restrictive measures of an exceptional and temporary nature were introduced. Some other delegates considered, on the other hand, that all action to resolve problems of the world meat trade should be on a non-discriminatory basis.

34. Several delegates informed the Committee of measures their governments had taken in conformity with the Guidelines with the aim of assuring better nutritional levels, increased efficiency of meat production and marketing and bringing about a more balanced development

of their livestock economies. In this connexion, delegates of developing countries in their joint statement stressed that in future the Guidelines should actually guide national meat policies. They stated that, when supply of meat exceeded demand at current prices, governments of developed importing countries imposed restrictive measures which shifted the burden of adjustment onto exporters, many of which were developing countries. They stressed their belief that the current world beef crisis was a consequence of the self-sufficiency policies of some developed countries.

35. Specifically, delegates of some exporting countries stated that recent changes in EEC policies were not compatible with the Guidelines, in particular that which stated that "in the event of domestic over-supply, measures for increasing the demand and consumption should be given priority before resorting to measures designed to stimulate exports". They were of the view that high prices of meat in EEC restricted the growth of consumption and contributed to the accumulation of stocks. The fact that the per capita beef consumption of the EEC was not higher than that of some developing countries with much lower per capita income, showed, in their view, the negative impact of prices on consumption levels within the EEC. Furthermore, they considered that the measures to deal with the continuing problem of structural over-supply of dairy products in the EEC could be expected to further aggravate the meat trade situation.

36. The representative of the EEC pointed out the importance that the EEC market represented for all meat exporting countries. He stressed the fact that the import system in the EEC was open and liberal and had permitted imports from third countries to attain very high levels. The fact that in recent times some difficulties had arisen compelling the EEC to adopt some special measures for a limited time, was explained by the general evolution which had marked the world economy in the meat sector. Actually, most importing countries, as well as exporting countries, had experienced serious difficulties resulting mainly from erroneous perspectives made in past years. In this regard, the representative of the EEC underlined that international market prices, as well as import prices of meat in the EEC had, for long periods, been higher than the EEC orientation prices. In such conditions, it appeared unfair to affirm that consumption of meat in the EEC had been affected by the EEC prices; it should be recognized that any influence on consumption was due rather to the overall adverse economic development in the world economy. The level of meat consumption is also affected by the availability of other protein food. The EEC representative noted that there was already a better balance in the EEC beef market and that imports were likely to recover in the current and next years.

37. The Committee, noting that the Council had welcomed the adoption of the Guidelines, endorsed them as an important step toward establishing an internationally agreed approach to secure a balanced expansion of the world meat economy. They provided a new focus and impetus to the work of the Intergovernmental Group on Meat.

38. The Committee noted that the adoption of the Guidelines in the Intergovernmental Group did not pre-judge the fora where specific action might be taken in pursuance of the Guidelines. It agreed that, in order to ensure that appropriate measures were taken to implement the Guidelines, it was necessary to arrange for regular reviews at the Meat Group's sessions of the action taken. The Committee requested member governments and concerned international organizations to provide the secretariat with all information necessary to enable the Intergovernmental Group on Meat to undertake such reviews.

39. The Committee also noted that item C(viii) under the Guidelines, requested that "Governments should use the opportunity offered in the Intergovernmental Group on Meat for the regular exchange of information on national measures affecting international trade and for consultations on possible remedial action when any special difficulties arise". While recognizing the role of the Group in reviewing and discussing matters affecting international trade in meat, as well as in identifying and suggesting possible remedial action as appropriate, the Committee stressed the need for the Group to maintain close liaison with the GATT and other interested bodies and to avoid duplication of work in accordance with its terms of reference as approved by CCP.

(c) Progress of FAO work on commodity agreements

(i) Bananas

40. The Committee endorsed the conclusion of the First Session of the Working Party on the Elements of an International Banana Agreement that bananas were susceptible to the application of an international agreement which should aim to achieve a balanced expansion of production, consumption and trade of bananas at prices which were remunerative to producers and fair to consumers. It was emphasized that the long-term deterioration which had occurred in the real prices of bananas caused in part by a tendency towards over-production and by the fact that in recent years there had been very significant increases in the cost of essential production inputs. Delegates from producing countries stated that barriers to the expansion of trade in bananas still existed in a number of markets with very considerable growth potential and in this regard, progress towards trade liberalization within the framework of the GATT Multilateral Trade Negotiations had been most disappointing. Noting that banana export prices represented only a small percentage of the final retail prices in importing countries, they pointed out that a marginal increase in retail prices in importing countries could result in a very substantial rise in returns to producers. Efforts to assist producing countries to attain a greater share in the marketing and distribution of bananas would also contribute to the same objective.

41. Delegates from importing countries expressed their understanding of the difficulties confronting banana producing countries and their willingness to help to develop ways of overcoming them, first in the FAO Working Party, and subsequently in UNCTAD. They stressed, however, that the first step would be for the producing exporting countries to agree upon feasible stabilization measures which the importing countries would be able to consider. In the final analysis, production should be kept in balance with market outlets at reasonable prices, although every effort should be made to open up new markets.

42. Delegates of importing countries also expressed willingness to consider diversification schemes to assist those countries which might wish to reduce excessive dependence on banana export earnings.

43. In conclusion, the Committee expressed its warm support for the current work in progress in FAO toward an international commodity agreement on bananas which would later be negotiated under UNCTAD auspices. In addition to economic measures to secure prices remunerative to producers and reasonable to consumers which could help to improve the purchasing power of banana exports, such international commodity agreement should also incorporate complementary measures to promote consumption through development of new markets, promotion in existing markets, quality improvement and research into new uses, including processed products and livestock feeding and to support diversification. The Committee recognized that such an agreement would need to include provision in favour of small exporters.

(ii) Tea

44. The Committee welcomed the rapid and so far successful follow-up to the recommendation of the Sub-Group of Exporters of the Intergovernmental Group on Tea in April 1976, on the establishment of an International Tea Promotion Association. The text of an agreement to establish the Association had been negotiated in September at a conference of tea exporting countries convened by the International Trade Centre (UNCTAD-GATT) and was now open for signature by governments. The Committee recognized that the establishment of the Association, the main objective of which was to coordinate policies and actions for expanding the demand for tea, would be a useful step forward in cooperation amongst exporting countries. It was noted that while membership would be confined to such countries, the Association would work closely with the governments and tea trading interests of consuming countries. The need for cooperation between exporting and importing countries in tea promotion was emphasized by several delegations.

45. The Committee also welcomed the progress made with regard to a comprehensive international programme for tea at the recent sessions of the Intergovernmental Group and its Sub-Group of Exporters. It noted that the Sub-Group had agreed on the basis objectives of

such a programme and that these had been accepted in principle by the Intergovernmental Group. The Committee recognized that, while the International Tea Promotion Association could make a useful contribution, a comprehensive international action programme was needed to achieve the basic objectives. Particular stress was laid on the objective of stabilizing prices at levels which were remunerative to producers and equitable to consumers. It was pointed out by some delegations that, in order to achieve these, governments should consider a wide range of possible measures, informal as well as formal and, to the extent practicable, take account of the conditions prevailing in individual producing countries.

46. The Committee endorsed the proposals for the convening of an FAO Working Party of Tea Exporting Countries, to consider in depth, and in accordance with UNCTAD Resolution 93(IV), the techniques and measures required and for a subsequent session of the full Intergovernmental Group. It was pleased to learn that these sessions had been scheduled for September and October 1977 respectively, and it pointed out that there should be sufficient time between them for the report of the Working Party to be distributed and studied by all members of the Group. The Committee also noted that the papers prepared by the Secretariat for the Working Party would be distributed to all members of the Group. These would include a review of recent developments and their implications for the longer-term outlook; a review of barriers to tea consumption and trade; and a paper outlining a range of approaches and measures for an international programme.

47. The Committee welcomed the close cooperation between the Secretariats of FAO and UNCTAD on the work on tea and the assurance of the representative of the UNCTAD that the July meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Integrated Programme of UNCTAD would provide the opportunity for governments to request a re-scheduling of the Preparatory Meeting on Tea. The Committee emphasized strongly the importance of allowing time for governments to consider the results of the FAO sessions in advance of the Preparatory Meeting and requested that its views on this matter be conveyed to the UNCTAD Secretariat.

(d) Report of the Consultative Sub-Committee on Surplus Disposal (CSD)

48. The Committee welcomed the Twenty-Sixth Report from the CSD, and thanked its Chairman, Mr. Chandra (India) who had come to Rome to present it to the Committee. Mr. Chandra also presented a supplementary report covering the work of the CSD at the meetings convened after the preparation of the Twenty-Sixth Report. The Committee agreed that the work of the CSD continued to contribute to orderly marketing and market stability, especially for those agricultural commodities which were facing surplus problems.

49. The Committee welcomed the work of the CSD in relation to the impact of food aid on agricultural production in recipient countries. It noted that the statements by representatives of recipient countries at the CSD indicated a unanimity of view that food aid had not adversely affected domestic agricultural production in their countries. The Committee agreed with this conclusion of the CSD.

50. The Committee also considered that the technical work of the CSD in quantifying the term "relatively small size" in respect of wheat, dried skim milk, and butter oil was useful to both aid-giving and aid-receiving countries. The Chairman of the CSD informed the Committee that after a one year trial period, the agreement on quantities defining "relatively small size" had been made a part of the accepted CSD procedures.

51. The Committee appreciated the work of the CSD with respect to coordinating the establishment of Usual Marketing Requirements (UMR) in concessional transactions as a means of safeguarding commercial trade. It noted that the CSD had agreed to continue existing UMR compliance periods wherein most countries would use a compliance period of July/June for grains, and the calendar year for other commodities, while the compliance period for the United States would be coterminous with its new fiscal year October/September. This arrangement could be reviewed after about a year of experience. The Committee also noted that the CSD was taking a flexible approach on Usual Marketing Requirements for all countries experiencing balance of payment difficulties.

52. Regarding "grey area" transactions, that is, transactions having both commercial and concessional features, on which there had been extensive discussions in the CSD, some delegates were of the view that all transactions ^{1/} other than normal commercial transactions were appropriate subject for consideration by the CSD, as they all affected international trade in agricultural commodities. Other delegates considered that the CSD should continue to limit its activities to transactions of the types 1 through 13 excluding short-term credit, as the other transactions were not currently subject to the FAO notification and consultation procedures. They felt that the provisions of paragraph 8, Article III of the GATT Arrangement for Certain Dairy Products did not imply any additional obligations on the signatories to the GATT Arrangement concerning FAO notification and consultation procedures.

53. The Committee concluded that the issue of "grey area" transactions covered a difficult and complex area, on which there were differing views. It appreciated the work of the CSD on this difficult problem and suggested that it should keep the issue under review and report on its deliberations and in the light of experience of actual transactions of this nature in the future, at the next session of the Committee.

54. As regards the GATT Arrangement on Certain Dairy Products, the representative of GATT informed the Committee that paragraph 8 of Article III had a somewhat wider coverage than the transactions that were subject to FAO notification and consultation procedures. Referring to the suggestion made by some delegates that the GATT Management Committee should be requested to refer to CSD transactions having concessional elements in it, he said that he was confident that such requests, if made, would be considered by the competent GATT body. Some delegates suggested that if there was any ambiguity in relation to the language of the GATT Arrangement, it would be appropriate for its signatories to re-examine it. The Committee requested the FAO secretariat to keep in touch with the GATT on this matter.

(e) Review of work on other commodities (rice, oilseeds, coffee and sugar)

Rice

55. The Committee welcomed the reports of the Nineteenth and Twentieth Sessions of the Intergovernmental Group on Rice, and recognized that the Group was the only intergovernmental forum where the problems of the world rice trade as well as national and international action to deal with them could be considered.

56. The Committee noted that as a result of larger crops, rice supply conditions had eased in 1976, with international prices 30 percent lower than in 1975, and (in real terms only slightly above their 1971 trough). The outlook for 1977 was for a continuing close balance between export availabilities and import requirements. There was the potential danger that current and prospective international price levels could erode incentives to producers and prevent rice production from growing at the rate necessary to maintain equilibrium between supply and demand over the longer-term.

57. The Committee welcomed the Group's review of the follow-up to the Guidelines for national and international action on rice. It agreed with the Group's decision also to review the follow-up action taken to the recommendations made at its Nineteenth Session ^{2/}, and recommended that the Group consider them as an important supplement to the Guidelines.

Oilseeds

58. Regarding the work of the Intergovernmental Group on Oilseeds, Oils and Fats, the Committee welcomed the progress made in the Group's last two sessions in agreeing on policy measures and objectives which were recommended for consideration by governments, as envisaged in its terms of reference. The delegates of the developing countries emphasized in

^{1/} As shown in Appendix A of "FAO Principles of Surplus Disposal and Consultative Obligations of Member Nations", Rome, 1972.

^{2/} Paragraph 125 of the Report of the Nineteenth Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Rice.

their joint statement the particular importance they gave to the recommendations that no new barriers should be imposed on imports of vegetable oils and meals especially those exported by developing countries; that existing tariff and non-tariff barriers should be eliminated or progressively reduced; and that GSP schemes should be extended and improved. They expressed also their concern that measures to deal with the structural over-supply of dairy products in the EEC could adversely affect the export interest of developing countries in other products, especially oilmeals and vegetable oils. Continuing subsidization of the use of skim milk powder in feeds and measures to make butter cheaper in relation to vegetable oils, would restrict import requirements of oilmeals and oils. Some delegations stated that internal measures taken by the EEC to reduce structural surpluses in the dairy sector represented a responsible approach to the problems of that sector. Furthermore the proposal for an internal tax on vegetable oils in the EEC had been rejected by the Council of Ministers. They also stated that some GSP schemes were being extended and improved as regards their coverage of oilseeds, oils and related products.

59. The Committee considered the proposal of the developing countries in their joint statement that the Intergovernmental Group on Oilseeds, Oils and Fats should not only monitor the implementation of the recommendations already adopted, but should also develop a comprehensive set of Guidelines for international cooperation in this sector, similar to those agreed for meat and rice, so as to specifically protect the interests of developing countries. In support of this proposal, they pointed out the importance of these commodities in the trade of many developing countries. Several other delegates stressed that the inter-relationships between the different commodities within the sector, as well as with products in other sectors, increased the difficulties of preparing such guidelines for oilseeds, oils and meals.

60. After further consideration, the Committee recommended that the Intergovernmental Group on Oilseeds, Oils and Fats further continue its work on policy recommendations for international cooperation in relation to this sector with a view to evolving, as appropriate, a set of comprehensive guidelines, taking into account the views expressed in the Committee, as well as related work in other fora.

Coffee and sugar

61. A number of delegates referred to the favourable impact of high coffee prices on the export earnings of developing countries, but emphasized that in the present position of scarcity, very few countries could take advantage of the improved price position. It was also emphasized that although there has been some slight improvement in recent weeks world sugar prices were extremely low. The Committee expressed the hope that the on-going negotiations in Geneva for a new International Sugar Agreement would meet with success, including aspects relating to a fair and remunerative minimum price.

62. In response to comments on levels of prices, the delegate of a developing producing country observed that the prices prevailing for coffee were due to supply shortages caused by crop failures. Despite a low coffee crop, his country had maintained usual levels of exports in 1976. At the same time, efforts were being made to restore production to pre-frost levels.

(f) Arrangements for consultations on hides and skins

63. The Committee recalled that at its Fiftieth Session it had requested the Director-General to convene an Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on Hides and Skins. It noted that due to the reorientation of FAO's programme of work and the reduction in the number of meetings, it had not been possible to hold this Ad Hoc Meeting during the current biennium but that the Secretariat now planned to convene it in 1978. The Committee welcomed this proposal and reaffirmed the terms of reference which it had laid down at its Fiftieth Session:

- to pursue the work on the improvement of hides and skins intelligence and statistics already begun by the Secretariat;
- to define the economic problems of the hides and skins market and to report to the next CCP on the ways and means by which they could be most effectively dealt with.

64. The Committee recognized that hides and skins were products of considerable trade value and that they were particularly suitable for further processing in developing countries at an initial stage of industrialization, because they were labour intensive and the basic technologies for tanning could be easily acquired. In this respect the delegates from developing countries emphasized in their joint statement that the trade restrictions prevailing in some countries with regard to hides, skins and leather worked in their disfavour, discouraged processing of domestically produced raw materials, and in some cases represented an actual preference for the product exported by competing developed countries. The Committee recognized that the complex problems facing international trade of these products merited consultations between producing and consuming countries of hides and skins. It expressed the hope that these would lead to a better understanding of the problems and would pave the way to mutually acceptable solutions, especially as at present there was no intergovernmental forum in which the economic and trade problems of this commodity group were reviewed. In this context, the Committee took note that UNIDO in pursuance of the Lima Declaration was planning a series of ad hoc consultations on the development in developing countries of a number of industries including leather. It was informed that close contacts between FAO and UNIDO existed and that the work envisaged by the Ad Hoc Meeting would be complementary to that carried out in UNIDO. In preparing for the Ad Hoc Meeting, the Secretariat intended to take into full account the related work going on in other organizations, especially UNIDO.

(g) Food Standards

65. The Committee considered the proposal, made by the Group of 77 in its statement, that in view of the important trade implications of the food standards developed in the Codex Alimentarius, it would be useful and necessary for the Committee to help the Codex Alimentarius achieve fair trade practices as envisaged in its statutes. They proposed that the Committee should be associated, in particular, with the task of monitoring the impact of food standards on food trade and specially the impact of these standards on the export interests of developing countries, and that it should bring to the attention of the Council its willingness to perform such a task. They also observed that in view of its specific expertise and experience in trade problems, the Committee was particularly suitable to look into this problem. These suggestions were made in the light of indications that the food standards so far adopted were not always relevant to developing countries nor did those standards adequately safeguard the export interests of developing countries.

66. Several delegates expressed serious doubts about the Committee dealing with food standards, which involved consideration of very specialized and technical issues, and required certain expertise which the delegates normally attending the sessions of the Committee did not have. They considered Codex Alimentarius as the most suitable forum to discuss all aspects of food standards including the achieving of fair trade practices. In their view, the Codex Alimentarius had carried out its work satisfactorily and objectively according to its terms of reference and had achieved fair trade practices, which should be of help to developing countries. They suggested that if some members of the Committee had experienced any particular commodity trade problems arising out of the Codex food standards, such problems could be discussed by the Committee and the Codex Alimentarius Commission at a future session.

67. The Committee was unable to reach consensus on this subject. It agreed that this subject and its deliberations on it should be called to the attention of the Council.

(h) Meeting schedule of CCP subsidiary bodies

68. The Committee took note of the provisional schedule of sessions of its subsidiary bodies in 1978/79 as prepared by the Secretariat in document CCP 77/4 on the basis of the proposed Programme of Work and Budget for the next biennium. The Committee stressed the need for flexibility to ensure that the meetings schedule could be adjusted, after consultations with the Chairman or interested governments, to meet urgent needs or changing market conditions, since these could not be anticipated. While it recognized the need for economy in meetings

and documentation, as a basic principle, sessions were scheduled because there was a commodity problem that could not be resolved without inter-governmental discussion and was not under examination in another fora. The Committee felt that it was undesirable to cancel scheduled meetings of commodity groups in order to accommodate unforeseen and urgent meetings. Some delegates suggested that consideration should be given to financing essential but unscheduled meetings of its subsidiary bodies out of a reserve maintained by the Organization for this purpose. It also felt that while the timetable of FAO commodity sessions should be closely coordinated with those of UNCTAD and other related bodies, these should not be the only determinant since FAO had to be guided also by its own distinct role and responsibilities in commodities and trade. Some delegates suggested that, in view of the importance of grains in the world economy, at least one session of the Intergovernmental Group on Grains should be tentatively scheduled in the next biennium. The Committee agreed to reconsider the commodity meetings schedule at its next session.

69. While recognizing that there was insufficient time during a session of five working days for the Committee to consider in detail the reports of all sessions held by its eleven subsidiary bodies, it agreed that all such reports should continue to be submitted to the Committee and that future agendas should mention commodities covered by these reports so that delegates may raise matters on them of special concern to their governments.

3. Review of International Action on Commodity and Trade Problems and Contribution of FAO

70. As requested by the Council at its Seventieth Session, the Committee reviewed recent developments in international meetings on important commodity and trade issues in a number of fora, including UNCTAD, GATT, and the Conference on International Economic Cooperation. It based its discussion on documents CCP 77/6 and 77/9 and statements by the Secretariat and by representatives of UNCTAD and GATT.

71. The Committee noted that the UNCTAD Negotiating Conference on a Common Fund had been unable to reach agreement on the proposal submitted by the Group of 77, and that the preparatory meetings on individual commodities had so far made only limited headway. Some delegates expressed the view that given the time-frame for preparatory meetings for the agricultural commodities within the Integrated Programme, it would be necessary to find a balance between the need for concrete progress and proposals for in-depth studies on all issues. The Conference on International Economic Cooperation had not yet reached any consensus on the issues before it. The Multilateral Trade Negotiations under GATT auspices had been protracted and, although some initial concessions on tropical products were achieved at the end of 1976, the Committee noted the statement of the GATT representative that there have been and still are basic differences of opinion between some major agricultural trading nations as to how agricultural products should be dealt with in the negotiations.

72. The Committee agreed that progress had been slow, and many delegates expressed their serious concern over the failure so far of the international community to resolve the long-standing problems affecting agricultural commodities, particularly those of the developing countries.

73. In the Statement of the Group of 77 presented to the Committee, it was stressed that the existing economic structure resulted in an unjust distribution of benefits in the world economy which the developing countries were determined to rectify through the realisation of the New International Economic Order. It was in this context that the developing countries had placed the highest priority on the implementation of the UNCTAD's Integrated Programme.

74. Divergent views were expressed on the reasons for the slow progress in international action on world commodity problems. Delegates of the developing countries considered that the absence of concrete results reflected a lack of political will on the part of most developed countries to commit themselves to a major change in the existing world economic order, and to the basic concept of the Integrated Programme for Commodities. In their view, technical difficulties could be quickly overcome if the developed countries withdrew their

reservations which had constituted stumbling blocks to progress in negotiations. They hoped that negotiating positions were now being fundamentally revised. They welcomed the assurance given by delegates of some developed countries that their governments continued to support fully the Integrated Programme with a Common Fund as its central element, and had made a general commitment to work towards a New International Economic Order.

75. Other delegates considered that the slow progress did not reflect a lack of political will. They stressed that the objectives of the Integrated Programme were very ambitious and would inevitably take considerable time to accomplish. The world economic recession had caused financial and balance of payment difficulties not only to developing countries but also to many developed countries. Moreover, the technical issues were extremely complex and had to be resolved before mutually acceptable decisions could be reached. The different characteristics and diverse problems faced by different commodities was another complicating factor. The importance of producing countries reaching a common negotiating position on individual commodities in order to facilitate negotiations was also stressed, and some delegates suggested that FAO could assist in this respect.

76. The Committee welcomed the close working collaboration which had been developed between the Secretariats of FAO and UNCTAD in the joint preparation and servicing of meetings on agricultural commodities. It believed that the adoption of Resolution 93(iv) had increased FAO's responsibilities. It noted with satisfaction FAO's contribution in this regard, particularly in the preparation of background material for UNCTAD's discussion on jute and hard fibres and for the forthcoming meetings on vegetable oils and oilseeds and tropical timber. Full use was being made of FAO's long and extensive technical experience not only in the field of commodities and trade but also in other sectors including production, marketing, research and development, as well as forestry and fertilizers. The Committee supported the Director-General's intention to continue and extend this collaboration so as to enhance FAO's useful role in the formulation of proposals, in which it should draw on the conclusions of the intergovernmental commodity groups. Some delegates also observed that the work in Intergovernmental Groups should be seen in line with the set of objectives laid down in UNCTAD Resolution 93(iv) and should contribute to an early implementation of the Integrated Programme for Commodities. Some delegates suggested that consideration should also be given, when appropriate, to FAO cooperation when more general commodity problems and possible solutions were considered, as well as to the possibility of joint meetings with other organizations on related matters.

77. The Committee also considered that, when negotiations were completed in UNCTAD, FAO was likely to be involved in some of the follow-up action for certain commodities, especially, but not only, in research and development, production technology and cost reductions measures, improvement of processing and marketing structures and basic information. Moreover, FAO was taking the initiative for developing international cooperation on a number of important products not included in the Integrated Commodity Programme, such as rice, hides and skins, tobacco, spices and fruits.

78. The Committee agreed that increased cooperation among developing countries could stimulate the expansion of trade and the economic development of these countries, and the FAO should assist developing countries to this end. In extending such assistance, the Organization would need to translate into concrete action, several concepts of cooperation which had been advanced in various fora, and to involve units responsible for technical as well as for economic matters.

79. The Committee agreed that there was a common interest among all countries to foster action to achieve a greater stability of commodity prices and supplies with an expanding trade, and it was generally accepted that the problems of developing countries particularly those with serious balance of payments difficulties, should be treated on a priority basis in the relevant negotiations. The Committee strongly hoped that negotiations in other fora would be more fruitful in the future and that positive results could be reported at its next session.

III. PROGRESS OF OTHER FAO WORK OF CONCERN TO THE COMMITTEE

1. Strategy for International Agricultural Adjustment

80. The Secretariat reported that work was under way on preparations of the Director-General's report to the Nineteenth Session of the Conference on International Agricultural Adjustment, as requested in Resolution 9/75. The report, which would be completed during July, would assess progress towards achievement of the agreed objectives in the light of the Guidelines adopted by Conference. The Committee noted that as this was the first time such a report had been attempted, it was therefore likely that some of the basic information might be incomplete. It was reported that one problem which might arise would be the difficulty of identifying with precision the level of flow of resources into the agricultural sector.

81. The Committee stressed the importance of the subject for which the Director-General's report would be the basis for Conference discussion. Some delegates, noting that there might not be an opportunity for the Committee to give its comments on the Director-General's report prior to its discussion at Council and Conference, drew attention to issues which they hoped would be given special attention in his report. These included, in particular, the rational use of national agricultural resources, the transfer of resources, and terms of trade. As to the first of these, as pointed out in the statement of the Group of 77, the delegates of developing countries considered that the internal price support policies of some developed countries constituted a major departure from the relevant Guidelines. As regards the transfer of resources, the same delegates considered it important that the Director-General's analysis take into account "reverse flows" so as to indicate the extent of the net flow of transfers. It should also be prepared so as to make it possible to identify the actual degree of concessionality in the resource transfers. As to terms of trade, they emphasized that not only the volume of trade was important, but also the conditions of trade, especially the real purchasing power of export earnings of developing countries.

82. Other views brought out in the discussion were that since agricultural adjustment was concerned not only with food supplies but also with employment and environmental matters, agricultural adjustment must take account of various aspects of agriculture's role by country and by region, and should be carried out under the responsibility of each country.

83. Some other delegates could not accept the views which had been expressed concerning the nature of national policies of some developed countries which in their view took full account of the need for a balanced and rational use of resources. Furthermore, the complexity of the substantive issues involved meant that brief debate during the present session could not be based on sufficiently well-documented information and analysis.

2. Agricultural Commodity Projections to 1985

84. The Committee noted with satisfaction the progress reported on the new FAO commodity projections to 1985 in document CCP 77/7. It also noted the revisions in the programme of work on commodity projections and welcomed the resultant economies which had been achieved.

85. The Committee reaffirmed the importance which it attached to the periodic projections, and to the systematic review of this work in its subsidiary bodies, particularly as no other organization undertook such comprehensive assessments of medium and long-term commodity prospects and problems.

86. Many delegates, as reflected in the Statement of the Group of 77, stressed the need for a dynamic approach rather than a static approach, that took into account the objectives of the New International Economic Order, and in this connection the Committee noted that the projections would be an essential input into FAO's work on "Agriculture Towards 2000" in which changes in economic structures would be assumed. Other delegates welcomed the fact that trade would not be treated simply as a "residual" difference between projected production and demand, as this could result in misleading conclusions.

87. As regards publication of the projections, although one delegate felt that the previous format of publication should be continued, most delegations recognized the need for economies and endorsed the proposals of the Secretariat. Some delegates stressed the need for a background paper on methodological aspects and requested the circulation of a list showing the various special projections materials which could be provided on request. The Committee was assured that these requirements would be met.

3. Assistance on the Formulation of Commodity Policy at the Country Level

88. The Committee took note of the progress report of the Secretariat on the assistance provided by FAO on the formulation of commodity policies at the country level (Doc. CCP 77/5). FAO had extended its assistance to interested developing countries in designing and implementing effective national policies for agricultural commodities entering international trade, taking full account of world market situations. Although this work was organised and conducted by staff of the Commodities and Trade Division, it was carried out in collaboration with other technical divisions concerned with marketing, processing, production and other related aspects. The programme was intended to complement and not duplicate the work of the International Trade Centre with whom close working links were maintained.

89. Delegates of several developing countries stressed the usefulness of the assistance received from FAO on the formulation of national policies for a number of agricultural commodities, and in the organisation of outlook conferences. These delegates strongly supported the high priority accorded to this activity, and urged that it should be strengthened in order to extend its scope to more developing countries.

90. The Committee stressed the importance of integrating FAO's assistance on national commodity policy with other technical assistance projects on agricultural development. Special consideration should be given to the training of government officials so as to strengthen the local capability in formulating and implementing policies. They took note of FAO's experience in policy implementation in projects of the International Scheme for Coordination of Dairy Development, as well as that in the commodity policy projects in Pakistan and Chile.

91. The Committee agreed that FAO had a useful function in assisting in the formulation and implementation of commodity policies intended to help developing countries to increase their export earnings as well as to substitute domestic crops for imports. Some delegates stressed that the work should be carried out in cooperation with other organizations so as to avoid unnecessary duplication and keep clear respective delineations of responsibility.

IV. OTHER MATTERS

1. Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Committee

92. The Committee noted that, as a result of the amendments to Rule XXIX of the General Rules of the Organization adopted by the Conference at its Seventeenth and Eighteenth Sessions, it was necessary to make consequential changes in its Rules of Procedure.

93. The proposed amendments presented in document CCP 77/3 concerned mainly the composition, method of acquiring membership of the CCP and related matters. In addition, the Secretariat suggested it would be opportune to introduce certain minor textual improvements in the Rules.

94. The Committee adopted these amendments, with some additional drafting changes suggested by delegates. The revised Rules are reproduced in Appendix E to this report.

2. Arrangements for next session

95. The Committee, in considering the possibility of holding a short special session in the autumn, agreed that this could be justified only if it facilitated the work of the Conference, particularly in examining the FAO Commodity Review and Outlook, the Director-General's report on International Agricultural Adjustment, and the outcome of negotiations on

agricultural commodity problems. Some delegates seriously questioned the need for such an unscheduled session, especially as the Council would itself be meeting immediately before the Conference, whereas some others felt that it might be useful for the CCP to meet. The Committee took no decision on this question. It asked its Bureau to continue to study the question and to submit its conclusions to the Council at its June Session.

96. As regards its regular session in the next biennium, the Committee noted that provision had been made in the proposed Programme of Work and Budget for one session of CCP in 1978-79 instead of the normal two sessions. The Committee agreed that it would not be opportune at this time to fix a precise date for its next session since the timing should be guided by prevailing circumstances and the outcome of negotiations now under way, especially in UNCTAD. For the present it was desirable to retain a certain flexibility and agreed that the Director-General, in consultation with the Chairman, could propose the most suitable date for its Fifty-Second session. It agreed that its agenda should concentrate on a limited number of essential items taking into account the relevant recommendations made in the text of this report.

MEMBERSHIP AS AT 6 MAY 1977

Algeria
Argentina
Australia
Austria
Bangladesh
Belgium
Benin
Bolivia
Brazil
Bulgaria
Cameroon
Canada
Chile
Colombia
Congo
Costa Rica
Cuba
Cyprus
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Egypt
El Salvador
Finland
France
Germany, Fed. Rep.
Ghana

Greece
Guinea
Hungary
India
Indonesia
Iran
Iraq
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Japan
Kenya
Korea
Liberia
Madagascar
Malaysia
Malta
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Nigeria
Norway
Pakistan
Peru
Philippines

Poland
Portugal
Romania
Senegal
Sierra Leone
Spain
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Sweden
Switzerland
Tanzania
Thailand
Togo
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Uganda
United Kingdom
United States
Uruguay
Venezuela
Yemen, People's Dem. Rep.
Yugoslavia
Zaire
Zambia

AGENDA

I. Procedure of Session

1. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen: for decision
2. Adoption of Agenda and Timetable: for decision

II. World Commodity Situation and International Action

3. Main issues in world commodity situation: for discussion and/or decision
4. Specific commodity matters requiring consideration by the Committee: for discussion and/or decision
 - (a) Operation of informal agreements on hard fibres and on jute, kenaf and allied fibres
 - (b) Implementation of the guidelines for international cooperation in the livestock and meat sector
 - (c) Progress of FAO work on commodity agreements on tea and bananas
 - (d) Report of the Consultative Sub-Committee on Surplus Disposal (CSD) with special reference to its role in "grey area" transactions
 - (e) Other commodity problems identified by the Committee or by its subsidiary bodies
5. Review of international action relating to agricultural commodities in other fora, including UNCTAD, GATT and CIEC, and the contribution of FAO: for discussion and/or decision

III. Other FAO Activities of Concern to the Committee

6. Progress reports on FAO's work: for information
 - (a) Strategy for International Agricultural Adjustment
 - (b) Agricultural Commodity Projections to 1985
 - (c) Assistance on the Formulation of Commodity Policy at the Country Level

IV. Other Matters

7. Procedural matters: Conference amendment to CCP Rule XXIX on membership: for adoption
8. Arrangements for the Fifty-Second Session: for decision
9. Any other business: for discussion and/or decision, or information
10. Adoption of report: for decision

APPENDIX C
ANNEXE C
APENDICE C

LIST OF DELEGATES AND OBSERVERS
LISTE DES DELEGUES ET OBSERVATEURS
LISTA DE DELEGADOS Y OBSERVADORES

Chairman/Président/Presidenta:	G. Magombe (Tanzania)
First Vice-Chairman/Premier Vice-Président/ Primer Vicepresidenta:	A. Régnier (Belgium)
Second Vice-Chairman/Deuxième Vice-Président/ Segundo Vicepresidenta:	S.S. Mahdi (India)

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE
MEMBRES DU COMITE
MIEMBROS DEL COMITE

ALGERIA/ALGERIE/ARGELIA

*Z. Sibouekaz
Chargé des Affaires Economiques
Ambassade d'Algérie
Rome

ARGENTINA/ARGENTINE

*J. Faldini
Ministro Consejero Agrícola
Representante Permanente Alterno ante la FAO
Embajada de Argentina
Roma

AUSTRALIA/AUSTRALIE

*R.S. Swift
Deputy Secretary
Department of Primary Industry
Canberra

*J. Sault
Counsellor (Agriculture)
Embassy of Australia
Rome

*P. Alpen
Counsellor
Embassy of Australia
Rome

AUSTRIA/AUTRICHE

*P. Rosenegger
Permanent Representative
Embassy of Austria
Rome

BANGLADESH

*Quazi Habibur Haque
Counsellor
Embassy of Bangladesh
Rome

BELGIUM/BELGIQUE/BELGICA

*M. Vandeputte
Chef de Service
Ministère de l'Agriculture
Bruxelles

*A. Régnier
Représentant permanent adjoint
Ambassade de Belgique
Rome

BENIN

*B. Tossou
Directeur de l'Agriculture
Porto-Novo

*J. Napporn
Président Commission Céréalière Nationale
Cotonou

*BOLIVIA/BOLIVIE

*M. Vargas Jordán
Representante Permanente
Embajada de Bolivia
Roma

*E Cerlini
Secretario de la Delegación de Bolivia
Embajada de Bolivia
Roma

BRAZIL/BRESIL/BRASIL

*M. de Azevedo Vrito
Permanent Representative of Brazil to FAO
Embassy of Brazil
Rome

*J.P. Ramatho de Castro
Economic Adviser to the Ministry
of Agriculture
Brasilia

*D.B. Teixeira
CACEX
Rio de Janeiro

BULGARIA/BULGARIE

*I. Djilianov
Minister Plenipotentiary
Embassy of Bulgaria
Rome

CANADA

*Ms. V. Wightman
Permanent Representative of Canada to FAO
Embassy of Canada
Rome

CHILE/CHILI

*O. Luco Echeverría
Embajador
Embajada de Chile
Roma

*M. Atria
Primer Secretario
Embajada de Chile
Roma

COLOMBIA/COLOMBIE

*E. Saenz
Consejero
Embajada de Colombia
Roma

CONGO

*G. Gamo-Kuba
Représentant Permanent du Congo auprès la FAO
Ambassade du Congo
Rome

COSTA RICA

*R. Jiménez B.
Consejo Nacional de Producción
San José

CUBA

R. Muñiz
Ministerio de Comercio Exterior
Havana

E.D. Bustabad
Representante Permanente Alterno ante la FAO
Embajada de Cuba
Roma

DENMARK/DANEMARK/DINAMARCA

*A. Vesten Pedersen
Head of Division
Agricultural Council
Copenhagen

*C.F. Carøe
Alternate Permanent Representative to FAO
Embassy of Denmark
Rome

DOMINICAN REP./REP.DOMINICAINE/REP.DOMINICANA

*P. Herrera Báez
Embajador
Embajada de la República Dominicana
Roma

EGYPT/EGIPTE/EGIPTO

*Sobhi Soliman
Premier Secrétaire
Ambassade d'Egypte
Rome

*M. Assran
First Secretary
Permanent Mission of Egypt
Geneva

EL SALVADOR

*G. Paz Lerín
Representante Permanente de El Salvador
ante la FAO
Embajada de El Salvador
Roma

FINLAND/FINLANDE/FINLANDIA

*Jouko Siren
Agricultural Economics
Research Institute Rukkila
Helsinki

FRANCE/FRANCIA

*G.H. Janton
Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances
D.R.E.E.
Paris

*J. Leger
Suppléant
Ministère de l'Agriculture
Paris

GERMANY, F.R./ALLEMAGNE, R.F./ALEMANIA, R.F.

*W. Lache
Director for Commodity and Trade Policy
Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture
and Forestry
Bonn

*G. Lieber
Counsellor
Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
Rome

*R.W. Boehnke
Federal Ministry of Economics
Bonn

*Jürgen Knotte
Regierungsdirektor
Federal Ministry of Economics
Bonn

GHANA

*H. Mends
Permanent Representative of Ghana to FAO
Embassy of Ghana
Rome

*Ms. S. Danso
Alternate Permanent Representative to FAO
Embassy of Ghana
Rome

GREECE/GRECE/GRECIA

*M.A. Papageorgiou
Représentant Permanent de Grèce auprès la FAO
Ambassade de Grèce
Rome

*M. Oikonomou
Commercial Attaché
Ambassade de Grèce
Rome

GUINEA/GUINEE

*C.M. Fofana
Attaché d'Ambassade
Représentant Permanent Adjoint
Ambassade de Guinée
Rome

HUNGARY/HONGRIE/HUNGRIA

- *I. Vereckei
Head of Department
Ministry for Agriculture and Food
Budapest
- *J. Vágó
Counsellor
Ministry for Agriculture and Food
Budapest
- *G. Hidvégi
Permanent Representative of Hungary to FAO
Embassy of Hungary
Rome
- *J. Herr
Head of Division
Ministry for Foreign Trade
Budapest
- *K. Samu
Company Director
Agrimpex Foreign Trade Company
Budapest
- *A. Gereben
Officer
Hungarian National FAO Committee
Budapest

INDIA/INDE

- *S.S. Mahdi
Permanent Representative of India to FAO
Embassy of India
Rome
- *P.D. Srivastava
Director
Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation
New Delhi

INDONESIA

- *I. Hakim
Permanent Representative to FAO
Embassy of Indonesia
Rome
- *H. Haringun
Counsellor
Embassy of Indonesia
Rome

IRAN

- *B. Mansuri
Alternate Permanent Representative to FAO
Embassy of Iran
Rome

IRAQ/IRAK

- *Samir H. Al Shakir
Permanent Representative of Iraq to FAO
Embassy of Iraq
Rome

IRELAND/IRLANDE/IRLANDA

- *J.J. O'Shea
Economist
Department of Agriculture
Dublin

ISRAEL/ISRAEL

- *E. Douek
Counsellor
Embassy of Israel
Rome

ITALY/ITALIE/ITALIA

- *Ms. I. Gatti
Ministère de l'Agriculture
Rome
- *G. Mazzeo
Ministère de l'Agriculture
Rome
- *V. de Asarta
Ministère de l'Agriculture
Rome

*S. Perini

IRVAM
Rome

JAPAN/JAPON

- *K. Itano
Permanent Representative of Japan to FAO
Embassy of Japan
Rome
- *K. Uesugi
Senior Official
Economic Affairs Bureau
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
Tokyo

- *K. Takafuji
Senior Official of the Specialised
Agencies Division
UN Bureau
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

KENYA/KENIA

- *A.I. Machayo
Permanent Representative of Kenya to FAO
Kenya Mission to FAO
Rome

KOREA/COREE/COREA

*Byung Suk Lee
Permanent Representative of Korea to FAO
Embassy of Korea
Rome

LIBERIA

*Sammakai M. Richards
Embassy of Liberia
Rome

MALTA/MALTE

*I. Moskovits
Permanent Representative to FAO
Rome

NETHERLANDS/PAYS-BAS/PAISES BAJOS

*H. Riem
Division of International Economic Affairs
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
The Hague

*W.A. Bas-Backer
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The Hague

*K.A. de Jong
Associate Permanent Representative
Rome

NEW ZEALAND/NOUVELLE-ZELANDE/NUEVA ZELANDIA

*Ms. A. Pearce
Permanent Representative to FAO
Embassy of New Zealand
Rome

*M.R. Lear
Alternate Permanent Representative to FAO
Embassy of New Zealand
Rome

NICARAGUA

*B.M. Hueck
Consejero de Embajada
Embajada de Nicaragua
Rome

NORWAY/NORVEGE/NORUEGA

*Jan Tore Holvik
Counsellor
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Oslo

*D. Mork Ulnes
Permanent Representative to FAO
Rome

PAKISTAN/PAQUISTAN

*Parvez Masud
Alternate Permanent Representative to FAO
Rome

PERU/PEROU

*B. Samanez Concha
Embajador del Peru ante la FAO
Representación Permanente del Peru
ante la FAO
Rome

PHILIPPINES/FILIPINAS

*M.B. Cortez
Senior Executive Assistant
Department of Agriculture
Quezon City

*H. Carandang
Agricultural Attaché
Embassy of the Philippines
Rome

*Florencio A.E. Santos
Commercial Attaché
Embassy of the Philippines

*M.R. Castillo
Department of Agriculture
Quezon City

POLAND/POLOGNE/POLONIA

*Z. Skierkowski
Directeur
Ministère du Commerce Extérieur et de
l'Economie Maritime
Varsovie

*H. Olszewski
Professor
Foreign Trade Institute
Warsaw

ROMANIA/ROUMANIE/RUMANIA

*Dumitru Constantin
Ministère de l'Agriculture et
l'Industrie Alimentaire
Bucharest (Hotel Souvenir)

SENEGAL

*Medoune Diene
Ministère du développement Rural
et de l'Hydraulique
Dakar

*Mour Mamadou Samb
Directeur Contrôle Economique
Ministère des Finances et des
Affaires Economiques
Dakar

SIERRA LEONE/SIERRA LEONA

*S.T. Matturi
Permanent Representative to FAO
Embassy of Sierra Leone
Rome

*C.J. Thomas
First Secretary
Embassy of Sierra Leone
Rome

SPAIN/ESPAGNE/ESPANA

*R. Contreras
Representante Permanente ante la FAO
Embajada de España
Roma

SRI LANKA

*S.M.L. Marikar
Counsellor
Embassy of Sri Lanka
Rome

SUDAN/SOUDAN

*A.A. Khalil
Permanent Representative of Sudan to FAO
Embassy of Sudan
Rome

SWEDEN/SUEDE/SUECIA

*Stellan Kronvall
Head of Section
Ministry of Agriculture
Stockholm

*Ake Anderson
Alternate Permanent Representative to FAO
Embassy of Sweden
Rome

*L. Folkesson
Professor
Swedish Agricultural University
Uppsala

*H. Granqvist
Alternate Permanent Representative to FAO
Embassy of Sweden
Rome

*Erland Karlsson
National Agricultural Market Board
Stockholm

SWITZERLAND/SUISSE/SUIZA

*U. HERRMANN
Chef de Section
Division de l'Agriculture
DFEP
Berne

*T. Glaser
Représentant permanent de la Suisse
auprès de la FAO
Ambassade de Suisse
Rome

TANZANIA/TANZANIE/TANZANIA

*G. Magombe
Permanent Representative to FAO
Embassy of Tanzania
Rome

*F. Matanda Minja
Second Secretary
Embassy of Tanzania
Rome

THAILAND/THAILANDE/TAIANDIA

*C. Chutharutkul
Deputy Under-Secretary of State
for Commerce
Bangkok

*P. Laowhaphan
Counsellor (Agriculture)
Embassy of Thailand
Rome

*N. Srisuruksa
First Grade Agricultural
Economist Officer
Bangkok

*Choophong Angpiroj
Commercial Attaché
Embassy of Thailand
Rome

*Somsak Yampmit
Commercial Attaché
Embassy of Thailand
London

TURKEY/TURQUIE/TURQUIA

*D. Burhanettin
Agricultural Counsellor
Embassy of Turkey
Rome

UGANDA

*T.M. Othieno
Commissioner for Agriculture
Ministry of Agriculture and
Forestry
Entebbe

UNITED KINGDOM/ROYAUME-UNI/REINO UNIDO

*J.C. Edwards
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
London

*A.A.W. Landymore
Minister
Permanent Representative to FAO
Embassy of the United Kingdom
Rome

*P.C. Harrold
Economic Assistant
Ministry of Overseas Development
London

*Ms. O. Williams
Executive Officer
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
London

UNITED STATES/ETATS-UNIS/ESTADOS UNIDOS

*W.F. Doering
Deputy Assistant Administrator
Foreign Agricultural Service
Department of Agriculture
Washington

*F.C. McEldowney
Food Policy Division
Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs
Department of State
Washington

*C. Higginson
First Secretary for FAO Affairs
Embassy of the United States
Rome

URUGUAY

*M. Galbati
Representante Permanente ante FAO
Embajada del Uruguay
Roma

*R.G. Amato
Representante Permanente Alterno
Embajada del Uruguay
Roma

YUGOSLAVIA/YOUGOSLAVIE

*J. Flere
Adviser
Centre for Development Studies
Ljubljana

*M. Zjalić
National Committee of FAO
Zagreb

ZAIRE

*Mapela Nga-Ma
Représentant permanent adjoint
Ambassade de la République du Zaïre
Rome

ZAMBIA/ZAMBIE

*B.E. Phiri
Alternate Permanent Representative
Embassy of Zambia
Rome

OBSERVERS FROM MEMBER NATIONS NOT MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE
OBSERVATEURS D'ETATS MEMBRES NE SIEGEANT PAS AU COMITE
OBSERVADORES DE LOS ESTADOS MIEMBROS QUE NO SON MIEMBROS DEL COMITE

CZECHOSLOVAKIA/TCHECOSLOVAQUIE/CHECOSLOVAQUIA

S. Stampach
Minister
Embassy of Czechoslovakia
Rome

MADAGASCAR

R. Ralibera
Représentant Adjoint auprès de la FAO
Ambassade de Madagascar
Rome

MEXICO/MEXIQUE

Navarro G. Lauro
Gerente Operaciones
CONASUPO
México

Blanco Delgado
Asuntos Agrícolas
Representación Permanente de
los Estados Unidos Mexicanos
ante la FAO
Roma

PANAMA

Sra M. Ivankovich
Representante Permanente Alterno
ante la FAO
Representación Permanente de Panamá
ante la FAO
Roma

HOLY SEE - SAINT SIEGE - SANTA SEDE

S.E. Mgr. Agostino Ferrari-Toniolo
Permanent Observer of Holy See to FAO
Vatican City
Rome

*R. Giordani
Centro Studi per l'Agricoltura, l'ambiente
e il territorio
Roma

REPRESENTATIVES OF UNITED NATIONS AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES
REPRESENTANTS DES NATIONS UNIES ET INSTITUTIONS SPECIALISEES
REPRESENTANTES DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS Y ORGANISMOS ESPECIALIZADOS

UNCTAD/CNUCED

T. Lehti
Principal Officer
Commodities Division
Geneva

WORLD BANK/BANQUE MONDIALE/BANCO MUNDIAL

*Chung Choeng-Hoy
Senior Economist
Washington

WFP/PAM/PMA

W.K. Davis
Acting Director
Resources Management Division
Rome

IMF/FMI

*L.M. Goreux
Assistant Director
Commodities Division, Research Dept.
Washington

D. Sintobin

Chief
Resources and Purchases Branch
Resources Management Division
Rome

GATT/AGAC

*M. Østerås
Counsellor
Agriculture Division
Geneva

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY
COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE EUROPEENNE
COMUNIDAD ECONOMICA EUROPEA

L. Marinucci
Chef de Division, Direction générale de
l'agriculture "Organisations internatio-
nales concernant l'agriculture"
Bruxelles

*Ms. J. Benoit
Administrateur
Bruxelles

OBSERVERS FROM INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
OBSERVATEURS DES ORGANISATIONS INTERGOUVERNEMENTALES
OBSERVADORES DE LAS ORGANIZACIONES INTERGUBERNAMENTALES

OECD/OCDE

G. Vasta
Consultant
Agricultural Directorate
Paris

INTERNATIONAL COCOA ORGANIZATION

B.E. Rourke
Economist
London

COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

*J.J. Monerney
Economics Officer
London

OBSERVERS FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
OBSERVATEURS DES ORGANISATIONS NON GOUVERNEMENTALES
OBSERVADORES DE LAS ORGANIZACIONES NO GUBERNAMENTALES

IFMA/FIAM

I.B. Warmenhoven
Agricultural Adviser
Rotterdam

IWTO/FLI

Ms. A. Valeri
Rome

IFAP/FIPA

*G. Pela
Liaison Officer to FAO
Rome

J.J. Bénétière

Assistant Secretary General
Paris

WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS/FEDERATION
SYNDICALE MONDIALE/FEDERACION SINDICAL MUNDIAL

G. Casadei
Représentant permanent auprès de la FAO
Rome

ICRA

F. Cortesi
Chief Secretary
Rome

Statement of the Group of 77

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

1. I have been requested by the Group of 77 to convey to you the views of the Group on a number of issues before this Committee, which is now meeting for the first time since 1975 at a time when a great deal of effort is being devoted to finding just solutions to the commodity problems confronted by developing countries. The Group of 77 takes this initiative of making their common position known at the very start of this session in order to stimulate the deliberations of the Committee and in the hope that the developed countries will respond favourably to our constructive comments and suggestions.

Mr. Chairman,

2. Over the last two years the overwhelming majority of developing countries witnessed a continuing deterioration in their balance of payments. The external debt of developing countries may have reached as much as 190 billion US dollars by the end of 1976 and it is still increasing. Debt-servicing has become such a serious burden in the balance of payments of many developing countries that an increasing number of them have been forced to renegotiate their debt payment; but this looming storm has so far failed to elicit a favourable response to the pleas for debt-relief. The targets for official aid remain unfulfilled, particularly by large donors, and the prospects for a rapid expansion of trade are not auspicious.

3. It is within this gloomy context that the poor performance of agricultural exports of developing countries deserves serious consideration. The total value of our agricultural exports remained stagnant in 1975, and the gains made in 1976 were not sufficient to compensate for the higher prices we had to pay for our imports. This deterioration in our terms of trade compounds the difficulties already experienced in the light of the long-term decline of our share in world agricultural trade.

4. On top of these difficulties, the commodities exported by developing countries suffered from an unprecedented degree of price instability over the past two years. Hardly any major agricultural commodity was free from price fluctuations, in some cases with disastrous effects. It is true, of course, that problems of instability in supplies and demand, with their resulting price fluctuations, are not new. In fact developing countries have been clamouring for international action on market stabilization for several decades, even before the creation of this Committee. Price instability is obviously harmful to commodity exporting developing countries. But what seems to be forgotten is the fact that price instability is not in the interests of importing developed countries either.

5. Another problem which is increasingly showing its deleterious effects on developing countries is the competition from synthetics. The major inroads of synthetics in the markets for raw materials are well known. Here again, developing countries are caught in a vicious circle as market instability stimulates the expansion of production capacity for synthetics in industrial countries. While crop failures in major producing regions can sometimes trigger price increases, the rapid contraction or expansion of demand in consuming countries, reflecting the business cycle, is often a source of instability in markets for raw materials.

6. In the specific case of fibres, we would like to stress that instability is also related to the dynamics of the synthetics industry. This means that, unless there are commodity agreements covering both the natural product and synthetics, it would be utopian to maintain that producers could avoid additional market losses to synthetics merely by assuring continuity of supply at "competitive" prices. However, the competitiveness of the natural product can be improved, in many cases, by locating processing facilities in developing countries close to the source of the raw material. For other commodities also, transfer of processing capacity to developing countries is a key element for enlarging the export

earnings of those countries, as fully recognised in the UNIDO Declaration and Programme of Action adopted in Lima. This would, of course, require the repeal of discriminatory measures in industrialised countries with respect to tariffs, shipping freights and commercial practices, together with action to facilitate adjustment in the industry of developed countries.

7. This brings us to the most complex problem confronting the developing countries in expanding their export earnings from agricultural commodities, namely the restrictive trade measures and support policies of developed countries. While the developed countries can - and repeatedly do - present price fluctuations and competition from substitutes as the inevitable consequences of the operation of "natural market forces", their domestic support policies are nevertheless conscious and willing actions; whatever their original motivation, they do in fact harm developing countries. We believe that the advocacy of "unhampered free market forces" by developed countries in international trade negotiations is incompatible with the tampering of these same market forces in their domestic agricultural policies to assure guaranteed incomes to farmers - their farmers, not ours. We only wish that the same concern of developed countries to improve the lot of their underprivileged citizens - among which are the small farmers - could be brought to bear beyond their borders to the far more underprivileged people living in the developing world.

8. But, Mr. Chairman, attitudes change slowly. This is why the developing countries, frustrated by the operation of existing economic structures with the resulting unjust distribution of benefits in the world economy, are strongly determined to bring about the New International Economic Order (NIEO), so as to establish more just and equitable relations in a world where dignity and prosperity are not a privilege of a few. The historic first step was taken at the Sixth Special Session of the UN General Assembly. Unfortunately, the resolutions on the NIEO were marred from the beginning by the reservations of some countries. These reservations have been reiterated, expanded upon and are now used as stumbling blocks for actual progress in some of the most important on-going international negotiations.

9. We need not delve into our disappointment so far with the failure of the Conference on International Economic Cooperation to produce any results, since this is all too well known. Our disappointment is even greater as the Tokyo round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations under the GATT keeps on being extended from year to year - always long on promises and short on meaningful results - at least insofar as the major interests of developing countries are concerned. Moreover, while recognising that the scheme for a Generalised System of Preferences has brought benefits, we believe that its coverage of agricultural commodities has been far too limited and that an improvement and extension of its provisions would be an important means of enlarging the developing countries' share of international trade in those products.

10. It is in this context of thwarted hopes and half-measures that the Group of 77 has placed the highest priority on the implementation of UNCTAD's Integrated Programme on Commodities. The qualifications to and differing interpretations of the consensus Resolution on the Integrated Programme show quite clearly that developed countries in Nairobi were unwilling to commit themselves to a major change in the existing order. In practice, they agreed to participate in the negotiations on specific commodity arrangements and on the establishment of a Common Fund to finance these arrangements without fully committing themselves to the basic concept of the Integrated Programme. The implementation of these Resolutions has so far fallen far short of expectations. The recently concluded Negotiating Conference on a Common Fund, which is the central pillar of the programme, failed to make any tangible progress.

11. I will ask your indulgence, Mr. Chairman, to quote a few passages from the closing statement of 2 April 1977 of the Group of 77 in Geneva to the Common Fund Conference, which clearly portrays the feeling of despondency of developing countries in international commodity negotiations. I quote:

"On behalf of the Group of 77, I wish to state the deep regret with which the developing countries regard the outcome of this Conference. We cannot fail to express in the most unequivocal terms that the Conference is ending in complete failure...

"No agreement was reached on [the] draft [submitted by the 77] [on the establishment of a Common Fund]. It is undeniable that the 77 did their utmost to contribute to a positive conclusion of our work. That this did not happen can only be attributed, therefore, to a serious lack of political will on the part of other groups".

12. Mr. Chairman, we can only express the hope that negotiating positions are now being fundamentally revised and that the industrial countries at the forthcoming Economic Summit in London will agree to respond more favourably to our just proposals.

13. It is against this disheartening background that we have to chart the FAO's work on commodities. While this Organization must surely continue to work in full cooperation with other units of the U.N. system, it is also true that the present situation makes it imperative for FAO not only to support the initiatives of other fora, but also to bring forth its own contributions in the formulation of policies, especially in the light of the special characteristics of agricultural commodities, and of the renewed attention to agriculture within overall development strategies. This active and creative role must, of course, be reflected in the deliberations of this Committee, from which the Organization must receive inspiration and guidance.

14. We could interpret the work of FAO in International Agricultural Adjustment as a first attempt to contribute to the New International Economic Order. The objectives of the Strategy of International Agricultural Adjustment identified in Resolution 2/73 and 9/75 are *inter alia* "an orderly acceleration of trade in agricultural products, with greater stability in prices and markets and a rising share for developing countries in a general expansion of agricultural trade." Member countries agreed to orient their policies for international agricultural adjustment in accordance with the guidelines contained in the Annex to Resolution 9/75. The Director-General's assessment of progress towards achievement of the objectives and policies of international agricultural adjustment will only be completed later this year. We trust that this assessment will take fully into consideration the request of Conference Resolution 3/75 that the relationship between the prices of agricultural products and other commodities and industrial products be reviewed within the context of international agricultural adjustment. But we can already deduce, with regret, the non-observance by some countries and groups of countries, of guideline 3, which states, and I quote "... national policies of developed countries should aim at the most rational use of their resources, having regard to the special needs and interests of developing countries and taking into account the need to ensure world food security." The internal price support policies of some developed countries and a group of developed countries constitute a major departure from this guideline. The subsidisation of their domestic production and, in some cases, the disposal of surpluses in foreign markets have had a significant disruptive impact on the exports of developing countries. We recommend, therefore, that the Committee should urge developed countries to take urgent steps to revise such policies so as to abide by their commitments to international agricultural adjustment, as part of a global effort towards the New International Economic Order.

15. Turning to the more specific work of FAO on commodities and trade, we believe that the Organization has a clear and continuing role in this field. In fact, the Nairobi resolutions have increased rather than reduced FAO's responsibilities. First, the Organization is rightly giving priority to supporting the work of UNCTAD towards international agreements on the 12 agricultural commodities under the Integrated Programme. We are therefore glad to see that the Director-General has committed the resources of FAO to support UNCTAD in the technical work involved, since this is an essential basis for negotiations. We are aware that these negotiations are a laborious task requiring FAO's expertise on the special characteristics of production, marketing, processing and trade of each individual commodity, and its experience in working out feasible international stabilization techniques. Secondly, we believe that, when negotiations are completed in UNCTAD, FAO will also be involved in some of the follow-up action for certain individual commodities, especially, but not only, in research and development,

production technology and cost reduction measures, improvement of processing and marketing structures and basic information. Thirdly, it should be remembered that FAO remains the "lead" agency in developing international cooperation on a number of important products not included in the Integrated Programme, such as rice, hides and skins, tobacco, spices and fruits.

16. FAO's commodity work, in our view, should be on two levels: on the one hand, at the national level, where it can help developing countries to formulate their national commodity policies; on the other hand, at the international level, where FAO has a continuing role to play in the successive steps towards formal commodity arrangements.

17. Finally, there is the important information role of FAO in collecting, analysing and distributing market intelligence and special commodity reports and projections to keep governments, especially of the developing countries which often lack adequate services of this kind, informed of the latest developments and their international implications, and to provide a basis for forward planning. Such work involves naturally a close relationship with the UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre.

18. We also want to stress that the development of food standards has important trade implications. In our opinion it would be useful and, in fact, necessary for CCP to help the Codex Alimentarius achieve fair trade practices as envisaged in its statutes. The Committee should be associated, in particular, with the task of monitoring the impact of food standards on the export interests of developing countries. We recommend that the Committee should bring to the attention of the Council its willingness to perform such a task.

19. We take note, with satisfaction, of the extensive amount of work reported to CCP by its subsidiary bodies. The informal arrangements negotiated under FAO's auspices on hard fibres and jute, however imperfect they may be, have contributed to the stabilization of markets for these raw materials perennially under attack by synthetic substitutes. But, the highly unsatisfactory price levels prevailing in the market for those two groups of products with serious adverse consequences to producing countries, require positive and urgent action by the Committee. The work of the Organization on these two commodities is also providing an invaluable basis for the negotiation of commodity arrangements under UNCTAD's Integrated Programme. While we are conscious of the difficulties and the time involved in implementing the Integrated Programme, we believe it is necessary in the meantime for the FAO Groups in question to refine and improve the informal arrangements, taking special care to promote the transfer of fibre processing facilities to developing countries. In this connection we must also point out that work on many agricultural commodities requires the parallel consideration of competing synthetics and substitutes. Without an overall picture, covering both the natural product and synthetics and substitutes, the deliberations and recommendations of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies would lose proper perspective. We support the establishment of "Jute International" as an important means of promoting end-use development of jute goods, as well as agronomic and technological research. We also welcome the proposal put forward at the Hard Fibres Group for a "Coir International" which has the same basic aims, and we hope that the Group will take action on this proposal at its next session. Finally, we recommend that the Committee should instruct the Intergovernmental Groups on Hard Fibres and Jute to ensure that competing synthetics are included, as appropriate, in the scope of their deliberations and decisions.

20. The observance of the FAO Guidelines for International Cooperation in the Livestock and Meat Sector should, in our view contribute significantly to the improvement of relations between exporters and importers of meat. The world market for meat has been characterized by considerable instability intrinsic in the feed-livestock cycle and the changes in demand reflecting economic conditions in the major consuming countries. Whenever supply tends to outstrip demand at going market prices, governments of developed countries intervene with "temporary" restrictive measures in the form of import quotas, sanitary regulations and other practices which shift the burden of adjustment onto the weakest party, namely the meat exporting developing countries. We stress, in this context, our belief that the current world beef crisis is a consequence of the self-sufficiency policies of some developed countries. The beef policy of the EEC is a clear case in point. We trust that in future the Guidelines for the Livestock and Meat Sector will actually guide the meat policies of governments. We recommend, therefore, that:

- (1) The Director-General ascertains from Governments the measures undertaken for the implementation of the guidelines, and
- (2) The Intergovernmental Group on Meat develops procedures for monitoring the implementation of the guidelines and for promoting remedial action when special difficulties arise.

21. The measures taken to deal with the continuing problem of structural over-supply of dairy products in the EEC can be expected to further aggravate the meat trade situation to which we have just referred. Even more serious will be the effect of these measures on the export interests of developing countries in some other products, especially oilcakes and vegetable oils. The continuing subsidisation of the use of skim milk powder in animal feeds and the various measures or proposals to make butter cheaper in relation to vegetable oils, will restrict the import requirements for oilcakes as well as oilseeds and oils exported by developing countries. We therefore believe the Committee should urge the EEC to at least offset the adverse impact of these policy measures on developing exporting countries, and to refrain from adopting new measures which could further restrict markets. In this connection, we would like to recall that at its tenth session, the Intergovernmental Group on Oilseeds, Oils and Fats specifically recommended that: "Countries should avoid imposing any new barriers to imports of vegetable oils and meals, especially those exported by developing exporting countries; further, all efforts should be made to eliminate or reduce progressively the existing tariff and non-tariff barriers, and to extend and improve the Generalised System of Preferences." In view of the growing importance of oilseeds and oilcakes in the trade of many developing countries, we believe that the Committee should ask the Oilseeds Group not only to monitor the implementation of the recommendations already adopted, but also to develop a comprehensive set of Guidelines for international cooperation in this sector, similar to those agreed for meat and rice, so as to specifically protect the interests of developing countries.

22. Work towards an international commodity agreement on bananas is now in progress. In addition to economic measures to ensure a balanced growth in production and consumption at prices which maintain and increase the real purchasing power of banana exports, action needs to be taken to develop new markets, to promote research on processed banana products, and diversification schemes in order to facilitate the attainment of the long run objectives of the producing countries. We believe that the Working Party on the Elements of an International Banana Agreement will take these considerations into account at their session at the end of this month.

23. Tea is a commodity which has faced, until very recently, depressed market conditions. We believe that the establishment of an International Tea Promotion Association will be a useful step forward in cooperation amongst producers. But a more comprehensive international action programme is needed to sustain and further improve the real price of tea. We support, therefore, the objectives of and the initiatives towards an International Programme for Tea, agreed by the Group at their recent session in London, and hope that the CCP will endorse the plans for future work.

24. We attach considerable importance to the work of the Rice Group, which provides the only intergovernmental forum where the problems of world rice trade can be considered and measures to deal with them devised. While we agree with the Group's conclusions that the supply/demand situation has eased, we are also concerned that the expansion of rice production in developing countries be accelerated, in order to meet the objectives of food security. The FAO Guidelines for National and International Action for Rice provide a useful framework for adjustments in rice production, trade and aid policies in response to developments affecting rice markets. We welcome the decision of the Group not only to continue its regular reviews of the follow-up to these Guidelines, but also to broaden them to cover the recommendations adopted at its Nineteenth Session. We believe that the Committee should ask the Rice Group to consider these recommendations as an essential supplement to the Guidelines.

25. Hides and skins are also valuable commodities to most developing countries. The simple nature of technology for hides and skins, and the small scale of their processing units, make the leather and leather goods industries particularly suitable for the early stages of industrialization of developing countries. Paradoxically, the discriminatory trade policies of the developed countries subject the developing countries to a kind of generalized system of preferences "in reverse" with respect to these products. Instead of receiving more favourable treatment, developing countries are, in fact, discriminated against. We endorse the proposal of the Director-General to convene an ad hoc meeting on hides and skins in 1978. The sharp changes in market structures and trade patterns and the acute problems faced by developing exporting countries, as well as the potential for further development of this sector with great impact for developing countries, make it necessary and urgent to convene such a meeting under the aegis of the CCP, as no other international forum exists for consultations on these commodities.
26. We are satisfied with the progress reported on FAO's work on Commodity Projections to 1985. The results will provide a forward looking global picture which should help in the formulation of agricultural development plans and of schemes for the promotion of commodity production and exports. In this connexion, we would like to stress the need for a dynamic, rather than a static approach, that takes into account the objectives of the New International Economic Order. We hope, therefore, that the Projections will become a first step in this direction by providing an essential input into FAO's work on "Agriculture Towards 2000", in which alternative scenarios allowing for changes in the economic policies and structures will be devised.
27. We strongly support the high priority accorded to assistance in the formulation of commodity policy at the country level. In fact, we feel that this is a field particularly suitable for implementing the country-level approach which the Director-General is emphasizing in the programmes of the Organization. Developing countries recognize their need for comprehensive policies by commodities and by sectors, particularly when these commodities are affected by developments in world markets. We welcome the technical advice of FAO in the formulation and implementation of commodity policies which will help to increase export earnings or to substitute domestic crops for imports.
28. To conclude, Mr. Chairman, I thank the Committee for giving me the opportunity at this stage to make a comprehensive statement on behalf of the Group of 77. Our main purpose has been to state clearly our serious concern over the continuing commodity problems and the lack of tangible results in tackling them. We hope our statement, which contains a number of positive proposals, will serve as a constructive basis for the work of this Session.

REVISED RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE COMMITTEE

Rule I

Officers

1. At the first session in each biennium the Committee shall elect a Chairman, a first Vice-Chairman and a second Vice-Chairman from among the representatives of its Members, who shall remain in office until the election of a new Chairman and new Vice-Chairmen.
2. The Chairman, or in his absence one of the Vice-Chairmen, shall preside at meetings of the Committee and exercise such other functions as may be required to facilitate its work. In the event of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairmen not being able to preside at a meeting, the Committee shall appoint the representative of one of its Members to take the chair.
3. The Director-General of the Organization shall appoint a secretary, who shall perform such duties as the work of the Committee may require.

Rule II

Sessions

1. The Committee shall hold sessions as provided in Rule XXIX.4 and 5 of the General Rules of the Organization.
2. The Committee shall normally hold two sessions during each biennium, to be convened by the Director-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, taking into account any proposals made by the Committee.
3. Any number of separate meetings may be held during each session of the Committee.
4. The sessions of the Committee shall normally be held at the seat of the Organization. A session may be held at another place in pursuance of a decision taken by the Committee in consultation with the Director-General or a request submitted in writing to the Director-General by a majority of the Members of the Committee.
5. Notice of the date and place of each session shall normally be communicated at least two months in advance of the session to all Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization, and to such nonmember states and international organizations as may have been invited to attend the session.
6. Each Member of the Committee may appoint alternates and advisers to its representative on the Committee.
7. Presence of representatives of a majority of the Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for any formal action by the Committee.

Rule III

Attendance

1. Participation of international organizations in an observer capacity in the work of the Committee shall be governed by the relevant provisions of the Constitution and the General Rules of the Organization, 1/ as well as by the general rules of the Organization on relations with international organizations.
2. Attendance by nonmember states of the Organization at sessions of the Committee shall be governed by the principles relating to the granting of observer status to nations adopted by the Conference.
3. (a) Meetings of the Committee shall be held in public, unless the Committee decides to meet in private for discussion of any items on its agenda.
(b) Subject to the provisions of subparagraph (c) below, any Member Nation not represented on the Committee, any Associate Member or any nonmember state invited to attend in an observer capacity a session of the Committee may submit memoranda and participate without vote in any discussion at a public or private meeting of the Committee.
(c) In exceptional circumstances, the Committee may decide to restrict attendance at private meetings to the representative or observer of each Member Nation of the Organization.

Rule IV

Agenda and documents

1. The Director-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, shall prepare a provisional agenda and shall normally circulate it at least two months in advance of the session to all Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization and to all non-member states and international organizations invited to attend the session.
2. All Member Nations of the Organization and Associate Members acting within the limits of their status may request the Director-General normally not less than 30 days before the proposed date of the session to insert an item on the provisional agenda. The Director-General shall thereupon circulate the proposed item to all Members of the Committee, together with any necessary papers.
3. The first item on the provisional agenda shall be the adoption of the agenda. The Committee in session may by general consent amend the agenda by the deletion, addition or modification of any item, provided that no matter referred to it by the Council or on the request of the Conference may be omitted from the agenda.
4. Documents not already circulated shall be dispatched with the provisional agenda, or as soon as possible thereafter.

1/ It is understood that in this context the terms "Constitution" and "the General Rules of the Organization" are to be taken to include all general rules and policy statements formally adopted by the Conference and intended to supplement the Constitution and the Rules, such as the "Statement of principles relating to the granting of observer status to nations," and the general rules regarding relationships between the Organization and governmental and nongovernmental organizations.

Rule V

Voting

1. Each Member of the Committee shall have one vote.
2. The decisions of the Committee shall be ascertained by the Chairman, who shall resort, upon the request of one or more Members, to a vote, in which case the pertinent provisions of Rule XII of the General Rules of the Organization shall apply mutatis mutandis.

Rule VI

Records and reports

1. At each session, the Committee shall approve a report to the Council embodying its views, recommendations and decisions, including, when requested, a statement of minority views. Any recommendation adopted by the Committee which affects the programme or finances of the Organization or concerning legal or constitutional matters shall be reported to the Council with the comments of the appropriate subsidiary committees of the Council.
2. Reports of sessions shall be circulated to all Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization and to nonmember states invited to attend the session, as well as to interested international organizations entitled to be represented at the session.
3. The comments of the Committee on the report of any of its subsidiary bodies and, if one or more Members of the Committee so request, the views of those Members shall be incorporated into the Committee's report. If any Member so requests, this part of the Committee's report shall be circulated as soon as possible by the Director-General to the states or international organizations which normally receive the reports of the subsidiary body in question. The Committee may also request the Director-General in transmitting the report and records of its proceedings to Members to call particular attention to its views and comments on the report of any of its subsidiary bodies.
4. Whenever a private meeting of the Committee is held, the Committee shall, at the beginning of that meeting, decide whether a record of the meeting shall be kept and, if so, what circulation, not exceeding that provided for in paragraph 2 above, shall be given to it.
5. The Committee shall determine the procedures in regard to press communiqués concerning its activities.

Rule VII

Subsidiary bodies

1. In accordance with the provisions of Rule XXIX.10 of the General Rules of the Organization, the Committee may, when necessary, establish sub-committees, intergovernmental commodity groups and ad hoc subsidiary bodies, subject to the necessary funds being available in the relevant chapter of the approved budget of the Organization. It may include in the membership of such sub-committees and ad hoc subsidiary bodies, Member Nations that are not members of the Committee and Associate Members. Membership of intergovernmental commodity groups established by the Committee shall be open to all Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization and the Council may admit to membership of such groups states which, while not Member Nations or Associate Members of the Organization, are members of the United Nations, any of its Specialized Agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency.

2. Before taking any decision involving expenditure in connection with the establishment of subsidiary bodies, the Committee shall have before it a report from the Director-General on the administrative and financial implications thereof.

3. The Committee shall determine the terms of reference of its subsidiary bodies who shall report to the Committee. The reports of the subsidiary bodies shall be made available for information to all members of the subsidiary bodies concerned, all Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization, nonmember states invited to the sessions of the subsidiary bodies and to interested international organizations entitled to attend such sessions.

Rule VIII

Suspension of Rules

The Committee may decide to suspend any of the foregoing Rules of Procedure, provided that 24 hours' notice of the proposal for the suspension has been given and that the action contemplated is consistent with the Constitution and the General Rules of the Organization 1/. Such notice may be waived if no Member objects.

Rule IX

Amendment of Rules

The Committee may, by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, amend its Rules of Procedure, provided that such amendment is consistent with the Constitution and the General Rules of the Organization. No proposal for the amendment of these Rules shall be included in the agenda of any session of the Committee unless notice thereof has been dispatched by the Director-General to Members of the Committee at least 30 days before the opening of the session.

1/ See footnote to Rule III, paragraph 1.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

<u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>
CCP 77/1	Provisional Agenda and Agenda Notes
CCP 77/2	Extracts from the Reports of the Sixty-Ninth and the Seventieth Sessions of the FAO Council
CCP 77/3	Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Committee
CCP 77/4	Specific Commodity Matters Requiring Consideration by the Committee
CCP 77/5	Assistance on the Formulation of Commodity Policy at the Country Level: Progress Report on FAO's Work
CCP 77/6	Review of International Action on Commodity and Trade Problems and Contribution of FAO
CCP 77/7	Commodity Projections to 1985: Progress Report
CCP 77/8	Main Issues in the World Commodity Situation
CCP 77/9	Recent Developments in the World Agricultural Commodity Situation and Outlook and Policy Action
CCP 77/10	Report of the Fourth Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Tea
CCP 77/11	Report of the Eleventh Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Oilseeds, Oils and Fats
CCP 77/12	Report of the Twelfth Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Hard Fibres
CCP 77/13	Report of the Twentieth Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Rice
CCP 76/1	Report of the Twelfth Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Jute, Kenaf and Allied Fibres
CCP 76/2 + Corr.	Consultative Sub-Committee on Surplus Disposal: Twenty-Sixth Report to CCP
CCP 76/3	Report of the 10th Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Oilseeds, Oils and Fats
CCP 76/4	Report of the Eleventh Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Jute, Kenaf and Allied Fibres
CCP 76/5	Report of the Tenth Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Hard Fibres
CCP 76/6	Report of the Nineteenth Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Rice
CCP 76/7	Report of the Third Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Tea
CCP 76/8	Report of the Eleventh Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Hard Fibres
CCP 76/9 + Corr.	FAO Commodity Review and Outlook 1975-1976
CCP 76/10	Report of the Sixth Session of the Intergovernmental Group on Meat

1874

... ..

... ..

... ..

... ..

... ..

... ..

... ..

... ..

... ..