

was aimed at encouraging policies which will achieve the objective of ensuring a reasonable level of income for farmers as compared with other sectors of the community, but which at the same time, will have minimum adverse repercussions on the pattern of production and trade of other countries.

The Conference resolution requests the Director-General to set up a panel of government representatives, who should be specialists in agricultural support matters, to prepare a report for consideration by the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems, the FAO Council and member governments.

The panel is directed by a Conference resolution:

- (a) to analyze the effects of the various agricultural support systems, including different levels of price support, with a view to obtaining a better basis for evaluating the relative advantages and disadvantages of such systems; the study should cover the effects of the various support measures on increasing agricultural production and investment, especially in less-developed countries and regions, and the integration of price supports with other steps taken to increase production and agricultural incomes;
- (b) to recommend guiding principles designed to minimize the adverse effects of agricultural support policies on international trade, and to be taken into account by member governments in establishing or reviewing their agricultural policies; in developing such principles the panel shall have full regard to the special circumstances and problems of countries.

### Programme of Work

In seeking ways and means of increasing both production and consumption stress was laid on the need for greater co-ordination of national programmes and policies of agricultural development; for an adequate recognition of the place of agriculture, forestry and fisheries in national development programmes; for raising the level of productivity in agriculture, forestry and fisheries; for greater emphasis on national measures for the improvement of marketing structure and organization for agricultural, forestry and fisheries products; and, for a comprehensive nutrition and food policy including education in nutrition and home economics.

The Conference reviewed the activities of the five technical divisions of the FAO Secretariat (Agriculture, Economics, Forestry, Fisheries, and Nutrition) since the last Conference held in Rome in 1955 and examined the proposed programme of work and budget for the next two-year period. A budget of \$17,000,000 to cover the regular programme for 1958 and 1959 was approved. This represents an increase of \$3,600,000 over the previous budget. The Conference approved several important expansions to current activities. The present regional offices are to be strengthened by additional staff and a new regional office is to be established for Africa. Further study is to be given to the Mediterranean Development Project which is a plan to assist the development of agriculture and forestry in the countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea. Greater emphasis will be placed on the Organization's work in the field of nutrition.

The Conference took note of a resolution of the UN Economic and Social Council regarding the development and co-ordination of the economic, social and human rights programmes and activities of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies. It was agreed that FAO should participate in the invitation of ECOSOC to the Specialized Agencies to prepare an appraisal of the scope, trend and costs during the next five years of their programmes of work and that such an appraisal should comprise a forecast of the orientation, character and scope of the programme but should not attempt any detailed forward budgeting.