

these reports may serve as a basis for concerted planning and action by the Member nations it is important that they give the information needed for drawing an accurate picture of the conditions in any country and throughout the world in regard to nutrition, food consumption, production, and the factors influencing them. The Organization, being charged with the responsibility of obtaining and making use of these reports, is therefore given the right to determine the lines on which they will be made and to arrange that they be furnished promptly. [Art. XI.]

29. The regular collection and systematic presentation of relevant statistics obtained from Member nations and international authorities will be fundamental; and continuity in the statistical series collected will be important to ensure accurate interpretation of current and future trends. The Organization should receive regularly all published statistical material, and should also have access to unpublished material relevant to its work. The basic statistical data in many countries are very imperfect. The Organization should devise effective methods for obtaining more accurate statistical information at minimum expense, and should also make the services of its technical staff available to any government needing assistance in organizing or improving national statistical services. New methods of sampling, for example, which have recently been developed, are known and used in few countries. [Art. I, XI, XII.]

30. All other relevant sources of information should be used, including the results of special inquiries and surveys, or the work of special committees set up by the Organization; reports and other material obtained through regional and liaison offices of the Organization; information furnished by national nutrition organizations, by any agencies that may be set up under the auspices of the Organization, and by research institutes and scientific societies; and reports and other material obtained through reciprocal arrangements with other international authorities. [Art. XII, XIV.]

*b. Range of subject matter*

31. The range of subject matter covered by the research, fact-finding, and interpretative work of the Organization will include all the branches of the natural and social sciences relating to food, nutrition, agriculture, forestry, and fisheries. It may be useful to list some of the particularly relevant subjects as a means of sketching in broad outline the scope of the activities that would contribute to the main purpose of furthering improvements in production, distribution, consumption, and nutrition. The importance of the interrelationships of the different fields and of collaboration with other institutions should be emphasized at all times.

(i) Natural sciences—including human nutrition in relation to health, animal nutrition, biochemistry, plant and animal genetics, plant and animal physiology and pathology, soil chemistry and physics, entomology, mycology, bacteriology, and meteorology.

(ii) Technology—including management, selection, and breeding in relation to crops and livestock; animal feeding and care; soil fertilization, drainage, irrigation, and other conservation and development measures; protection of crops and live stock from natural enemies; agricultural engineering; processing, storing, and transporting food and other agricultural products.

(iii) Economic organization of agriculture—including the production and successive stages in the distribution, marketing, and consumption of food and other agricultural products; the co-ordinated expansion of consumption and production; the efficiency of factors of production in terms of physical output and cost per unit; methods of reducing costs of production and distribution; scale of enterprise; economical use of labour and