At its 891st meeting, on 19 February 1980, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided to change the procedure set out in its decision 2 (XXVII) for the invitation of observers from countries outside the region which were affected by the illicit drug traffic from the Far East and which had an operational involvement in combating this traffic. In future, an invitation should be sent to countries which request observer status by the Division of Narcotic Drugs at its discretion, on the understanding that any expenses incurred by such attendance should continue to be borne by the countries so invited.