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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
Third Regional Inter-Agency
Co-ordination meeting on Population
Addis Ababa, 1-3 May 1973

Third Meeting of Non-United Nations
Organizations interested in
Population Work in Africa
Addis Ababa, 7-9 May 1973

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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1. Introduction

This paper presents a brief report on the activities of the ECA Population Programme Centre from April 1972 - April 1973 and also the implementation of projects entrusted to the Centre by the Second Regional Inter-agency Co-ordination Meeting on Population and the Second Meeting of Non-UN Organizations Interested in Population Work in Africa at their last meetings. The African Population Census Programme has become a separate project since 17 January 1973 and is being reported on by the Project Officer of the Programme.

The Centre has been working at less than the full sanctioned strength, which again has remained at the same level for the professional as was on 1 September 1969. The activities of the Centre may be seen in this background.

The work programme of the ECA secretariat on population for the period 1974-76 with projection up to 1979 is shown in Annex I.

2. World Population Conference and World Population Year, 1974

The Acc Sub-Committee on Population at its Seventh Session held on 8-13 March 1973 reviewed the arrangements made with the appropriate specialized agencies for the preparation of a number of background papers for the World Population Conference. These were reported to the Second special Session of the Population Commission, held on 19-30 March 1973 and include the following:

UNFPA: The Role of international assistance in population, both within and outside the UN system.

ILO: Projections on labour force.

FAO: Projections on agricultural labour force and agricultural population.

UNESCO: (a) Relationship between population and education;
(b) Relationship between population and environment;
(c) Communications in economic and social development programmes (including family planning).

WHO: (a) Research on the biomedical aspects of fertility regulation and operational aspects of family planning programmes;

- (b) Rôle of family planning services in health programmes;
and
- (c) Health aspects of population trends and prospects.

IBRD: Management problem in national family planning programmes.

The Population Commission also noted that at the regional level, the ECA input into the World Population Conference and the World Plan of action will include: reports of the African Population Conference and the First two sessions of the Conference of African Demographers; utilization of the existing clearing house facilities of the secretariat and the close co-ordination arrangements which the ECA has with specialized agencies and the African inter-governmental organizations at the regional level to provide the support that the Secretary General of the Conference may need; designation of liaison officer to assist the Secretary General of the Conference; and seconding of staff to accompany the Secretary General of the World Population Conference or his associate on their visits to individual African countries.

3. Research and Studies

During 1972 the Population Programme Centre continued with its programme of research and the preparation of a number of studies. Among the papers prepared by the Centre are:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| E/CN.14/POP/67 | Urbanization in Africa: Levels Trends and Prospects. |
| E/CN.14/POP/68 | Distribution of Population in Africa and Review of Government Policies Affecting Population Distribution. |
| E/CN.14/POP/69 | Economic and Social Aspects of Urbanization in Africa. |
| E/CN.14/POP/71 | Review of Available Evidence on Fertility Differentials in Africa. |
| E/CN.14/POP/72 | Indications of Current and Future Methodological Trends in the Collection of Data on Fertility Levels and Differentials in Africa. |
| E/CN.14/POP/73 | Levels, Patterns, and Implications of Fertility in Africa. |
| E/CN.14/POP/75 | Levels and Trends of Fertility in the countries of Africa. |

A start was also made on the study of the Volume and Implication of Migration to Selected Big Cities. The first draft of the study of Addis Ababa was completed and data are being collected now for similar studies on Nairobi, Lusaka, Dakar and Yaounde.

However, due to shortage of staff not all the studies planned could be started.

The commissioning of the macro and micro country case studies is also continuing and authors have been invited to prepare 16 macro and 10 micro studies. It is planned to discuss all these studies at an Expert Group to be organized by the ECA in 1974 when the programme is expected to be completed.

As recommended by the last two meetings a circular letter was sent to all organizations concerned to send their lists of projects to enable the ECA to prepare a consolidated list of projects. From the replies received from the document E/CN.14/POP/ has been prepared. The list will be revised as more replies are received.

The ECA's projects extend to 1977 at present hoped that organizations would indicate their interest and willingness in assisting in the implementation of any of the projects listed.

4. Information Services

The ECA has continued the publication of the African Population Newsletter in which more organizations and individuals both inside and outside Africa continues to show interest. It is expected that, as recommended by the last two meetings of both the UN and other organizations, all organizations may make use of the Newsletter in publicizing their population activities in Africa. It may also be advisable for all organizations which publish Newsletters to send copies to the ECA Population Programme Centre and thus make it possible for the ECA to extract and publish with acknowledgement articles of interest to Africa in the African Population Newsletter.

The first issue of the African Population Studies Series is now in Print and may be out any time. This first issue contains the final report and three of the papers presented at the seminar on the Application of Demographic Data and Analysis to Development Planning held in Addis Ababa in 1969.

As indicated elsewhere the first issue of the consolidated list of all experts of all organizations in the population and related fields in African countries has been issued by the ECA.

5. Population Programmes

The ECA was requested by the last meeting to prepare a report on the situation in Africa as far as population policies are concerned. With the help of country delegates to the Working Group on Fertility Levels and differentials in Africa and the Prospects for the Future organized by

the ECA in December 1972 a preliminary information has been prepared showing the position of each country in the region. The information will be amended as and when it becomes necessary. As shown in the list (Annex I) eight countries with a total population of 81,437,245 percent of Africa's total have official family planning programmes. Another thirteen countries with a total population equivalent to 48 percent of Africa's total are not against family planning programmes but do not have national programmes; yet another twenty countries with a total population equivalent to 27 percent of Africa's total are not at present interested in any family planning programmes.

In addition the Population Programme Centre is at present in the process of making on-the-spot studies of policies and the implementation of programmes in a selected number of countries. A report on these country studies will be presented to the Working Group on National Population Policies due to be organized by the ECA in October 1973.

6. Training

At the time of last year's meeting only one of the two new institutes, namely the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS), Accra was operational. From November 1972 the Institut de Formation et de Recherche (IFORD) in Yaounde also became fully operational with the admission of ten trainees from French speaking countries of the region.

The Regional Institute for Population Studies in Accra admitted its second batch of seventeen trainees in all for the one year post graduate diploma course in October 1972. In addition three out of the eight first batch trainees were selected for the second year course leading to the Masters Degree of the University of Ghana. The Institute therefore now has twenty trainees from eleven English-speaking countries of the region.

Now that institutes are fully operational and it is hoped that they will be making use of the expertise of the UN agencies as well as other organization both in and outside Africa in its training programmes as the Cairo Centre has been usefully doing especially during the last five years.

As agreed at the last two meetings of both the Regional Inter-agency Co-ordination Group on Population and the Non UN Organizations, it is hoped that all organizations will in their work within the region help in the recruitment of trainees for all the three training centres in Africa. Since trained local personnel is vitally necessary in the implementation of all population programmes it is important that in recommending training schemes at the post-graduate levels to governments of the region the facilities available in these three institutions should be brought to the knowledge of governments.

Though all trainees are usually offered United Nations Fellowships organizations which normally offer fellowships to Africans for studies outside the region may consider making use of these facilities now available in the three centres within the region.

As recommended by the last two meetings the directors of all three institutes have been invited to both the meeting of the United Nations organizations and that of the Non United Nations Organizations Interested in Population Work in Africa.

7. Meetings

During 1972 in addition to the two co-ordination meetings and the Consultative Group on the African Census Programme the ECA Population Programme Centre organized two technical meetings namely:

- (a) The Seminar on Statistics and Studies of Migration in Moscow and
- (b) The Working Group on Fertility Levels and Differentials in Africa and the Prospects for the Future

The Seminar on the Evaluation of Basic Demographic Data which was also scheduled for 1972 had to be postponed due to change in its scope and content. It is now due to be held in July in Accra, Ghana.

In addition the Population Programme Centre helped German Foundation for Developing Countries in the organization of the Seminar on the Use of Computers with Special Reference to Population Research held in Wiesbaden and Paris from 29 November to 7 December 1972 for French-speaking African countries.

Staff of the Centre also prepared papers for and participated in the following meetings in 1972:

- (i) Seminar on Family Life Education organized by the World Education INC and International Council on Social Welfare, 15-28 October 1972;
- (ii) Consultation on family life education organized by the All Africa Conference of Churches in Yaounde from 27 November to 6 December 1972.

The Population Programme Centre gave active substantive support to the ILO Regional Office in the organization of National Seminars for the Education of Workers Leaders on Population Question. To date these seminars have already been held in Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, Mauritius, Zambia, and Tanzania and more meetings are planned in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Nigeria during the rest of 1973. The Centre is also giving substantive support to an ILO Regional African Employers' Seminar on Population and family welfare planning due to be held in Accra, Ghana from 7-11 May 1973.

The Centre also participated in an Expert Group on Human Resources and Development Planning in Africa organized by the OECD in Dakar on 26-28 February 1973.

The meetings planned by the ECA for the rest of 1973 and the years after are given in the list of consolidated projects for all organization. It is hoped that those organizations whose meetings are not shown would supply the relevant information needed for the revision of the list in order to assist in the collaboration of all interested organizations.

Those organizations which have already indicated their interest in some of these meetings would be consulted on the assistance needed in the organization of the appropriate facts at the appropriate time.

8. Technical Co-operation

At the last meeting of the UN Agencies the need for all UN agencies as well as all bilateral programmes to cooperate with and make use of the new UNDP system of country programming was stressed. This was thought to be the best means of incorporating population programmes in the development programmes of the countries. It is hoped that all organizations concerned have already stated to implement this important decision.

The need to get coordinating bodies formed at the country levels was also stressed and the PPO's were urged to help in the formation of such bodies among international organizations at the country level. However, the PPO system has now been abolished and new arrangements will have to be evolved with the UNFPA coordinators who are being appointed in countries with UNFPA financed project above a certain amount (excepting the African Population Census Programme).

As another means of forging collaboration among all international organizations at the country level the ECA Population Programme Centre was asked to prepare a consolidated list of experts from all international organizations in the population and related fields in all African countries. The first edition of this list has already been issued and comments are invited from all concerned in order to improve on it when the next issue is published. We may express our appreciation to the resident representatives and all organizations whose help made the preparation of the list possible.

It is our suggestion that in the next issue the last column may rather indicate Possible/Intended Expiration date of Contract/Stay.

9. World Fertility Survey

The World Fertility Survey (WFS) is a five-year international research programme sponsored by the International Statistical Institute (ISI), in collaboration with the United Nations and the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, with the surveys being the responsibility of the national authorities concerned. It is being funded by the US-AID and the UNFPA. There is a Steering Committee including the principals involved (ISI, UN, IUSSP), a Regional Co-ordination Committee comprising the representatives of the United Nations regional economic commissions, and an Ad hoc Technical Advisory Committee.

The WFS aims to provide scientific information which would enable each country to describe and interpret its situation with regard to human fertility and to help compare fertility and the factors which affect it in different countries and regions.

The project would be directed from an office in London. It would strive for national survey results of high quality through the use of national staff, assisted by the central staff of the World Fertility Survey. Each national survey would be expected to cover a common set of core items, with the opportunity to expand the inquiry into related areas of national interest. Processing and tabulation of data would be carried out, as far as possible, in the participating countries, and the World Fertility Survey central staff would develop manuals for coding, editing and tabulating information and standardization of codes.

Each participating country would designate a national director and would negotiate a basic agreement with the World Fertility Survey central staff. Countries requiring additional technical and financial assistance would submit requests. Assistance would consist of visits by short-term advisers or the appointment of long term consultants, as well as computer programming and system design. Responsibility for preparing the report would remain with the country.

While the timing of the Survey will vary, it is not expected that field work will start before mid-1974. The period up to 30 June 1974 would be a preparatory period for the recruitment of the central staff and the preparation of model questionnaires, field manuals and tabulation programmes. The implementation period would be 1 July 1974 to June 1977.

The ECA was represented at a special consultative group on the World Fertility Survey held in March 1972; and to further the collaboration, the ISI/WFS has attended, on invitation, ECA meetings on population co-ordination and fertility.

At the first meeting of the Regional Co-ordination Committee of the WFS held at the Hague on 24-25 January 1973, the ECA was represented along with representatives of other regional economic commissions and the UNESOB; the United Nations Population Division, the UNFPA and the USAID's Office of Population were also represented.

The agenda included the progress report on recent developments including the Ad hoc Technical Advisory meetings in July 1972; the establishment of the WFS secretariat in London; work in progress and plans for immediate future actions to enlist participation of countries in the WFS; reports on regional programmes in the population field; and co-ordination of the WFS with on-going programmes.

The ECA prepared two papers for this meeting one on the programmes of fertility for 1970-1976 and the other on the African Census Programme.

In the discussions it was observed that the UNFPA would provide more support to developing countries which have no similar surveys on fertility, and that it would give a high priority to fellowships from the developing countries.

On the co-ordination of on-going programmes, co-ordination with the African Census Programme was emphasized. It was noted in this connection that the representatives of the African countries at the recent ECA working group on fertility, while welcoming the WFS as an additional means of obtaining information on fertility, were of the opinion that it should not be given priority over the African Census Programme.

In the African region, the promotion of the WFS would have to deal separately with the 21 ECA member-states participating in the African Census Programme and the other 20 which are not. For the first group of countries it was the general view both by the funding agencies, especially the UNFPA, as well as the ISI/WFS and the ECA that, depending on the wishes of the Governments, expanded questions on fertility, following a basic core, could be spliced on a sub-sample basis to the African Census Programme in one round after the first enumeration/survey under the African Census Programme. For the second group of countries also, the ECA could provide collaborative arrangements.

It was noted that the UNFPA would in principle be agreeable to finance one post at the population division of the regional economic commissions and the UNESOB to co-ordinate with the WFS.

With the approval of its Executive Secretary, the ECA is providing host facilities for the African Group meeting on the World Fertility Survey to be held in Addis Ababa on 3-4 December 1973 in between the Eighth Session of the Conference of African Demographers, 21-30 November 1973 and the Second Session of the Conference of African Demographers 5-14 December also due to be held in Addis Ababa.

CALENDAR OF ECA POPULATION MEETINGS FOR 1973

1. Third Meeting of the Regional Inter-agency Co-ordination Meeting on Population, 1-3 May 1973 (no interpretation required);
2. Third Meeting of the Non-UN Organizations Interested in Population Programmes in Africa, 7-9 May 1973;
3. Third Meeting of the Consultative Group on the African Census Programme, 10-12 May 1973;
4. Seminar on Techniques of Evaluation of Basic Demographic Data, last two weeks of June 1973;
5. Meeting of Directors of UN-sponsored Demographic Training and Research Centres, 3 days in September 1973;
6. Meeting on Training in Demography and Population Programme, one week in September 1973;
7. Expert Group on National Population Policies in Africa, one week in October 1973;
8. Second Session of the Conference of African Demographers, first ten days in December 1973;

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES
1974 to 1976,
WITH PROJECTIONS TO 1979

A. BROAD ISSUES AND TECHNIQUES RELATING TO DEVELOPMENT

18A:1 Demographic aspects of economic and social development

Origin:

General Assembly resolution 2211(XXI); ECOSOC resolution 1347(XLV); ninth session of the Commission (report, E/4651, paras. 517-524); sixth Conference of African Statisticians (report); Expert Group on Population (report). First session of Conference of African Demographers.

Project aim:

To assist governments of the region to improve their information services on population questions and to give due recognition to the inter-relationship between population dynamics and economic and social growth.

Priority A

Work content:

(a) Assistance to countries and territories (1974-1979):

(i) In defining the interrelation between population trends and socio-economic development;

(ii) In evaluating and adjusting data, preparing studies, and conducting research for the region as a whole, especially countries that do not have requisite personnel;

(iii) By participating and assisting in national seminars and other technical meetings on various aspects of population problems.

(b) Studies:

(i) Study and evaluation of census and other demographic data from selected countries (1974);

(ii) Study of mortality differentials in economic, social and cultural and ethnic groups in urban and rural areas (1974);

(iii) Study of the problems of refugee population in selected countries and their social and demographic consequences (1974);

(iv) Study of mortality patterns in nomadic and sedentary population (1974);

(v) Study of effects of education on the volume of migration and economic activity (1974);

(vi) Study of international migration trends in selected countries (1975);

(vii) Study of basic errors in demographic data in Africa (1976);

(viii) Study of the main causes of death among children aged 0-5 years with the use of hospital records (1975);

(ix) Study of age patterns of mortality in Africa (1976);

(x) Preparation of life tables for selected countries (1976).

(c) Collection and dissemination of information:

(i) Preparation of technical manuals and publications Demographic Handbook for Africa, African Population Studies Series, African Population Journal;

(ii) Preparation of information on population, and stimulating contact among workers of African Demography through the African Population Newsletter, African Directory of Demographers;

(iii) Provision of selective documentation on demographic and related data and research and studies on various aspects of population problems.

(d) Conferences, meetings, seminars and expert working groups (1974-1979):

(i) Working group on mortality surveys and studies in Africa (1974);

(ii) Working group on national and sub-national population projections (1974);

(iii) Working group on Demographic aspects of manpower and employment (1975);

(iv) Working group on demographic aspects of educational planning (1976);

(v) Conference of African Demographers (biennial);

(vi) Regional United Nations Inter-agency Co-ordination on Population (annual);

(vii) Meeting of Non-United Nations organizations interested in population work in Africa (annual);

(viii) Training workshop on analysis of census and survey data (1974);

(ix) Co-ordination of African census programme;

(x) Consultative group meeting on the African census programme.

Related programmes:

Close collaboration with United Nations Headquarters and other relevant United Nations organs will be maintained in the conduct of the above project including the following ECA Divisions: Economic Research and Planning; Statistics and Human Resources Development.

18A: 2

Relevant aspects of population policies and programmes

Origin:

General Assembly resolution 2211 (XXI); ECOSOC resolution 1347(XLV); Commission terms of reference; ninth session of the Commission (report, paras. 517-527); Sixth Conference of African Statisticians (report); Expert Group on Population (report); first session of the Conference of African Demographers.

Project aim:

To create increased awareness of the short- and long-term problems relating to different aspects of population and assist the African governments to resolve the problems through the formulation and implementation of effective population policies.

Priority A

Work content:

(a) Assistance to countries and territories (1974-1979):

(i) In formulating, implementing, and evaluating national population policies and programmes and conducting pertinent methodological studies;

(ii) In designing, executing, and analysing surveys on fertility, infant mortality, and evaluation of population programmes;

(iii) By participating and assisting in national meetings on population policies and various aspects of population programmes.

(b) Studies:

(i) Study of methods and techniques in fertility analysis (including use of computers) (1974);

(ii) Study of marriage patterns and their relations to fertility (1974);

(iii) Comparative studies of communication techniques used by African countries in their population programmes (1974);

- (iv) Study of administration of population programmes (1974);
- (v) The effect of declining fertility on cost of Education case study of selected countries (1975);
- (vi) Study of fertility differentials among different occupational groups in selected countries (1976);
- (vii) Trends in marriage rates in African countries (1975);
- (viii) Study of trends in the incidence of illegal abortions in selected countries with and without family planning programmes (1975);
- (ix) Review of studies on effectiveness of indigenous methods of family planning methods in selected countries (1976);
- (x) Study of evaluation aspects of population programmes in Africa (1976);
- (xi) Review of population redistribution programmes in Africa (1975);
- (xii) Conducting pilot studies on fertility, infant mortality and evaluation of population programmes in selected African countries with a view to evolving suitable methodology.

(c) Collection and dissemination of information:

Compilation and dissemination of selective documentation on data, research and studies on population policies and programmes.

(d) Conferences, meetings, seminars and expert working groups (1974-1979):

- (i) Working group on communication aspects of family planning programmes (1974);
- (ii) Study tour on population programmes (1974);
- (iii) Expert group on administration of population programmes (1975);
- (iv) Working group on effectiveness of family planning programmes (1976).

Related programmes:

Close collaboration with United Nations Headquarters, and other relevant United Nations organs will be maintained in the conduct of the above project as also with Economic Research and Planning and Human Resources Development Divisions of ECA.

18A: 3 Regional training and research

Origin:

General Assembly resolution 2211(XXI); Commission terms of reference; ninth session of the Commission (report, (E/4651, para. 522)); Sixth Conference of African Statisticians (report); Expert Group on Population (report); first session of Conference of African Demographers.

Project aim:

To assist African Governments in meeting the need for trained demographic personnel by providing facilities on all aspects of demographic training and research to trainees and research workers.

Work content:

(a) Assistance to countries and territories (1974-1979):

(i) Demographic training at national institutions;

(ii) Maintenance of regional demographic training and research institutes at Accra (for English-speaking countries) and Yaounde (for French-speaking countries) and also partly for the Cairo Centre.

(d) Conferences, meetings, seminars and expert working groups (1974-1979):

Meeting of Directors of United Nations-sponsored demographic training institutes/centres (biennial from 1972).

Related programmes:

Close collaboration with United Nations Headquarters and other relevant United Nations organs will be maintained in the conduct of the above project as also with the Statistics and Human Resources Development Divisions of ECA.

POPULATION PROGRAMMES IN AFRICA

Sub-region Country	Population mid 1972 '000	Attitude to Population Programmes
<u>North Africa</u>		
Algeria	15,010	II
Egypt	35,935	III
Libya	2,002	I
Morocco	16,842	III
Sudan	16,838	I
Tunisia	5,416	III
<u>West Africa</u>		
Dahomey	2,836	II
Gambia	380	II
Ghana	9,632	III
Guinea	4,113	I
Ivory Coast	4,531	I
Liberia	1,220	II
Mali	5,348	II
Mauritania	1,229	I
Niger	4,092	I
Nigeria	69,796	II
Senegal	4,127	II
Sierra Leone	2,774	II
Togo	1,965	II
Upper Volta	5,621	I
<u>Central Africa</u>		
Burundi	3,782	I
Equatorial Guinea	293	I
Rwanda	3,805	I
Zaire	18,305	I
Cameroon	6,005	I
Cent. Afr. Repub.	1,596	I
Gabon	491	I
Congo (Brazzaville)	982	I
Chad	3,984	I

Sub-region Country	Population mid 1972 '000'	Attitude to Population Programmes
<u>East Africa</u>		
Ethiopia	26,160	II
Kenya	11,607	III
Madagascar	7,340	II
Malawi	4,686	I
Mauritius	905	III
Somalia	2,935	I
Uganda	9,054	II
Tanzania	13,988	II
Zambia	4,574	I
<u>Other Africa</u>		
Botswana	653	III
Lesotho	1,084	I
Swaziland	447	III

Attitude Codes

- I: Countries that are at present not interested in family planning programmes either private or national.
- II: Countries that do not at present have national programmes, but are not opposed to family planning as such, and have programmes run by voluntary associations with or without government support.
- III: Countries that have official national programmes

Category	Number of Countries	Total Pop. 000's	% Africa's Total
I	20	90,948	27.4
II	13	159,998	48.1
III	8	81,437	24.5
	41	332,383	100.0