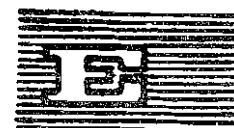


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JOINT ECA/FAO AGRICULTURE DIVISION

Review of activities undertaken in the implementation
of the Programme of Work and Priorities
of the Commission since the ninth session
(15 February 1969 - 8 February 1970)

Evaluation of the 1969/70 programme

Progress on the 1969/70 programme of work and priorities with projections to 1973 is outlined in Annex I, from which it will be seen that, except for an unexpected delay of about six months in the case of Phase I studies for the Eastern and North African sub-regions, and of about three months in the case of the first phase of the Central African sub-regional study, progress on execution of the 1969/70 biennium work programme has been satisfactory and according to schedule.

These delays have been and are being forced partly by shortage of staff which has eventually necessitated the engagement of external consultants, and partly by the need for a series of revisions of statistical data in line with new macro-economic assumptions for the second Development Decade which have to be made in collaboration with various FAO Divisions concerned, commencing late January 1970.

The current biennium work programme was accepted by the Sixth FAO Regional Conference at Kampala, and subsequently endorsed by the ninth session of the Commission, as a medium-term five years programme of work and priorities projected up to 1973. In recent discussions at FAO Headquarters, the consensus of opinion was that the five years programme of work, as formally noted and adopted by the Governing Bodies of the two Organizations, constituted sufficient work for the Joint Division's activities for the quinquennium in question. There have, however, been the following recent developments:

- (a) It has been decided that the main theme of the Sixth FAO Regional Conference to be held in Algiers 17 September to 4 October 1970 will be "Intra-regional Co-operation and Trade in the Field of Agriculture";
- (b) Agreement that the sub-regional studies presently being undertaken by the Joint Division should constitute the main documents for the Conference;
- (c) The need for revising the statistical data in respect of the various sub-regions on the basis of new parameters being established for the second Development Decade, jointly by FAO, ECA and CDPFP.

These developments demand the following:

- (a) Review of the time-table for the main project in the work programme, viz. Project No. 39 "Intra-regional Co-operation and Trade in the Field of Agriculture";
- (b) Modification of Projects No. 40(a) (I and II), and 40(c) (I and II) of the work programme in line with the requirements of Resolution No. 201(IX) adopted at the ninth session shown in Annex II;

- (c) Consideration of proposals for new projects, subject to improvement of the Division's staff situation during 1970.

Revision of time-table for Project No. 39 - "Intra-regional Co-operation and Trade in the Field of Agriculture"

The original time-table for execution of this project and its man-months allocation is outlined in Annex III. According to that outline, it was originally envisaged to complete Phase I of the study for the Eastern, Northern and Central African sub-regions by the end of 1969, and for the West African sub-region by the end of 1970. It was also planned to complete the Phase II of the studies for the Central and Northern African sub-regions through 1970/71, with the understanding that preparations for the latter will start late in 1970, and that it would be completed through 1971.

In view of the above-mentioned developments, and considering that Phase II investigations for all sub-regions cannot be commenced before discussions of the preliminary indications of the first phase of the studies for same at the Sixth FAO Regional Conference, and the time needed for preparations to mount up the required teams thereafter, the following schedules are proposed:

Project		1969	1970	1971	1972
W. Africa	Phase I	■	■	■	
	Phase II				■
E. Africa	Phase I		■	■	
	Phase II				■
C. Africa	Phase I	■	■	■	
	Phase II				■
N. Africa	Phase I	■	■	■	
	Phase II				■

Thus, as far as finalization of the first phase is concerned, the schedule will be as follows:

- for West Africa end of May 1970;
- for East Africa end of May 1970;
- for Central Africa end of March 1970;
- for North Africa end of May 1970.

As regards the second phase, the following schedule is proposed for the various sub-regions:

- for West Africa end of March 1971 to end of June 1972;
- for East Africa 1 October 1971 to end of December 1972;
- for Central Africa end of March 1971 to end of March 1972;
- for North Africa end of June 1971 to end of June 1972.

A detailed time-table for 1970 of Phase I Project No. 39 "Intra-regional Co-operation and Trade in the Field of Agriculture" is given in Annex IV.

In making proposals of the amended schedules outlined above, consideration has been given to the time needed for processing the first draft of Phase I for each sub-region, its clearance with FAO Headquarters and the Regional Office, processing of its final documents, the discussions of same with the governments, either by visits to the countries concerned or at Round Table meetings or at the level of working groups at the Sixth FAO Regional Conference and for the necessary preparation and organization for mounting up the teams of specialists for the Phase II investigations.

The estimated man-months requirements of the revised time-table for the first two phases of Project No. 39 are shown in Annex V. These estimates of the man-months requirements of the revised schedule are based mainly on the Division's staff resources and some limited assistance from the FAO Regional Office up to the end of 1970. However, for the purpose of mounting up the required teams for Phase II investigations, considerable support from the FAO Regional Office and from bilateral external sources will be required commencing early 1971 and through 1972. It is intended that staff members in the Division who have been involved in the Phase I studies of the various sub-regions will participate in the discussions of same with the countries concerned when completed and also form members of the teams to undertake the Phase II investigations in all sub-regions. The leaders of the teams for Phase II work should preferably be qualified experienced professionals of sufficiently senior status (D-1 or at least P-5 level), and may appropriately be recruited from independent sources, outside both the ECA and FAO.

Modification of Project No. 40(a) (II) and 40(c) (I and II) of the Work Programme in line with the requirements of Resolution No. 201(IX) adopted at the ninth session

Little progress has been made on execution of this project, due to resignation of the Marketing Economist who was undertaking it in early 1969. Considering that the studies so far carried out in the West African sub-region indicate promising possibilities of co-operation in trade in livestock and fish, and that Resolution 201(IX) of the ninth session of ECA had requested modification of the marketing studies

and their extension to all parts of the continent, it is suggested that their original time schedule, 1969 to 1973, and 1971 to 1973 respectively be maintained and that they be dealt with within the context of the second and third Phases of studies for all four sub-regions. Accordingly, the proposed schedule for Project No. 40 of the quinquennium work programme will be as follows:

Number	Old title	New title or action proposed
40-a-i	Study on tripartite trade in livestock and meat in Niger, the Upper Volta and Ghana (1969)	Project completed
40-a-ii	Study on promoting market flows in livestock and meat between Sahelian and forest ecological zones (1969-73)	To amalgamate with Phase II and III of our main Project
40-b	Study on price stabilization and commercialization of grain (1969-73)	No change proposed
40-c-i	Study on fish trade in West Africa	To amalgamate with our main project (West Africa)
40-c-ii	Study on the inland fish trade in East and Central Africa	Project should be merged with our main project. FAO is executing a number of Projects and undertaking several studies in a number of member States.

The status of progress on work under project No. 41, and under continuing tasks of the Division's programme of work is outlined on pages 8 to 11 of document No. E/CN.14/462, E/CN.14/ECO/18 (Report of the Second Executive Committee Meeting, dated 17 November 1969.

Proposals of new projects to be started during 1970-72 period

No new projects are proposed for 1970, since the whole Division's strength will concentrate on the completion of Phase I, and preparations for Phase II of the studies for all sub-regions.

In 1971-72 however, considering that not all staff of the Division will be involved in the technical Phase II and Phase III project formulations, some staff strength will be available to accommodate some new projects. The following new projects are proposed:

1. Studies and analysis of agricultural development plans with particular reference to the gap between rural and urban areas

This study will attempt to define the constraints and problems confronting plan implementation and evaluate its performance and focus attention on causes of success and failure. Plan assumptions and data will also be evaluated to show how the gap between rural and urban areas will be influenced if plans are duly implemented, using different criteria and effects of same on such gaps, including the level of labour productivity, per capita incomes, etc. In this connexion special attention will be given to the planning of manpower requirements in agriculture. Possibilities of harmonization of agricultural planning methodology in countries of similar economic and ecological conditions will also be examined.

2. Studies on food prices and their influence on production and trade

The general assumption so far is that there is food shortage in Africa. This conclusion is based on food production figures in relation to population growth. Some of these figures however are often only mere estimates, particularly in so far as the subsistence sector is concerned, and estimates of food shortages essentially differ in extent, and do not equally apply to all African countries. The proposed project will try to use a different approach to assess the quantitative and qualitative extents of food shortages in Africa, and to examine two main indicators, the retail food prices trend and food imports and exports.

Ad Hoc Undertaking:

- (a) In keeping with the objective of a single UN Programme for Agriculture in Africa, the Division would hope to play a role in rural integrated development projects in Africa, based on the inter-disciplinary team approach. Such projects cannot be initiated within the Commission and will have to be subject of requests from member States.
- (b) It is suggested that more might be done by Governments in making requests for the technical services of experts. Experts cannot visit countries except on request, and if this is not forthcoming, it leads to a situation of enforced stagnation, with interludes of hurried activity. It is suggested that each Government might plan ahead, and submit to the Commission what sort of expert they may wish to have during each year to investigate or study specific problems either by the expert alone, or in collaboration with bilateral or other experts.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

A = As scheduled
 B = Completed
 C = Cancelled
 D = Delayed

Division-
 Joint ECA/FAO Agriculture

ANNEX I

Project Number		Status of Implementation				Explanation
		A	B	C	D	
39(a)(I)	Intra-regional Co-operation and Trade in the Field of Agriculture. Phase I: East Africa (1969-1970)				X	Will be delayed by about six months, due to staff shortage and revision of data on the basis of new parameters for the second Development Decade
39(a) (II)	Intra-regional Co-operation and Trade in the Field of Agriculture. Phase I: West Africa (1969-1970)	X				
39(a) (III)	Intra-regional Co-operation and Trade in the Field of Agriculture. Phase I: North Africa (1969)				X	As for Project No. 39(a) (I)
39(a) (IV)	Intra-regional Co-operation and Trade in the Field of Agriculture. Phase I: Central Africa (1969)	X				Completed in preliminary form; will be produced in final form after revised in collaboration with FAO early 1970
40(a) (I)	Study on Tripartite Trade in Livestock and Meat in Niger, Upper Volta and Ghana (1969)		X			
40(a) (II)	Study of Promoting Market Flows in Livestock and Meat Between Sahelian and Forest Ecological Zones (1969-1970)				X	Little progress has been made on this project, due to resignation of staff member responsible in Feb. 1969. Work on it will be resumed under the second phase of the sub-regional studies in line with the requirements of Res. 201(IX) which requested its extension to all parts of Africa
40(b)	Study on Price Stabilization and Commercialization of Grain (1969-70)				X	As for Project No. 40(a)(II) above
40(c) (I&II)	Study of Fish Trade in West, East and Central Africa (1969-70)				X	As for Project No. 40(a) (II) above
41(a) (I)	Agricultural Economics Bulletin (1969)					Only one issue has been published by Dec. 1969 due to processing bottlenecks. Preparations are in hand for publishing the second issue by early 1970

ANNEX II

201 (IX). Agriculture

The Economic Commission for Africa,

Having taken note of the report on agricultural activities carried out during the period 1967-1968 (E/4497-E/CN.14/413 and E/CN.14/445),

Having considered the draft programme of work in the field of agriculture, contained in document E/CN.14/447, with particular reference to paragraph 40(a), (b) and (c) on the marketing of agricultural products,

Taking account of the study carried out in West Africa on livestock improvement and the transport of meat,

1. Invites the Executive Secretary to extend these activities:

- (a) In respect of livestock improvement and the transport and marketing of meat to all meat-producing countries in Africa;
- (b) In respect of the stabilization of grain market prices and the accumulation and conservation of stocks to offset differences in production as between regions in Africa;
- (c) In respect of the conservation of and trade in fresh-water fish in the Lake Chad basin in Central Africa, in West Africa, in the Nile basin and other regions of Africa;

2. Welcomes the close collaboration established between the Commission, FAO, WFP and other competent bodies with a view to improving the growth rate of the agricultural sector.

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to submit a progress report on the implementation of this resolution to the Commission at its tenth session.

P = Professionals
 C = Consultants
 RA = Regional Adviser
 XB = Extra-budgetary
 resources

ANNEX III

Original time-table and man-months requirements
of the first two phases Project No. 39
"Intra-regional Co-operation and Trade in the Field of Agriculture"

Man-month allocations		1969				1970				1971				1972			
		P	C	RA	XB	P	C	RA	XB	P	C	RA	XB	P	C	RA	XB
West	Phase I	24		2		12											
Africa	Phase II					12				30			180				
East	Phase I	24		2													
Africa	Phase II					12				36			180				
North	Phase I	20															
Africa	Phase II					30			144								
	Phase III									18			60				
Central	Phase I	18															
Africa	Phase II					30			144								
	Phase III									18			60				

ANNEX IV

ECA/FAO Joint Agriculture Division
Detailed time-table for 1970 of Phase I of the Project 39
"Intra-regional Co-operation and Trade in the Field of Agriculture"

Number of Project Number of Project	First Quarter			Second Quarter			Third Quarter			Fourth Quarter		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
39-a-i (East Africa)	//////	//////	//////	//////	//////		-----	-----			
39-a-ii (West Africa)	//////	//////	//////	//////	//////		-----	-----	XXXXXX		
39-a-iii (North Africa)	//////	//////	//////	//////	//////		-----	-----	XXXXXX		
39-a-iv (Central Africa)	//////	//////	//////		-----	-----	-----	-----	XXXXXXXXXX		

Explanation

1.	//////	Finalization of the 1st Draft
2.	//////	Processing of the 1st Draft
3.		Study by FAO Divisions
4.	-----	Clearance of the 1st Draft and its revision with FAO
5.	Processing of the Final Draft
6.	XXXXXXXXXX	Circulation to, and study by, Member States
7.	C	FAO Sixth Regional Conference, Algiers, 17 September to 3 October 1970

ANNEX V

Man-months requirements of the revised time-table
for the first two Phases of Project No. 39
"Intra-regional Co-operation and Trade in the Field of Agriculture"

P = Professionals
C = Consultants
RA = Regional Adviser
XB = Extra-budgetary
resources

Man-month allocations	1969 ^{1/}				1970				1971				1972			
	P	C	RA	XB	P	C	RA	XB ^{2/}	P	C	RA	XB ^{2/}	P	C	RA	XB ^{3/}
West Phase I	28		2		24			4								
Africa Phase II					24				25			70				
Phase III													36			70
East Phase I	20		2		36			8								
Africa Phase II									25			20				
Phase III																
North Phase I	10		2		16			3								
Africa Phase II									18			30				
Phase III													12			20
Central Phase I	6	4			14											
Africa Phase II					11				18			40				
Phase III													24			50

- ^{1/} Indicates the actual man-month spent on the Project.
- ^{2/} Phase II to be conducted by groups of experts. The composition of these groups and more precise man-month estimates can be worked out only when Phase I has been completed.
- ^{3/} More precision to Phase III man-months estimates will be given after completion of Phase II work.

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