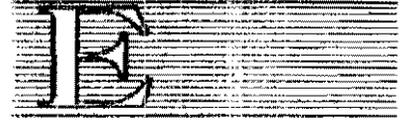


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**Eighth Session of the Joint Conference
of African Planners, Statisticians and
Demographers**

Addis Ababa, 21-26 March 1994

**UNECA Technical Assistance in Planning, Statistics
Population and Information Science in Africa**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present paper gives a brief account of the UNECA technical assistance activities in the fields of planning, statistics, population and information science during the biennium 1992-93. As in the past, it supplements the paper(s) prepared by the United Nations Headquarters on this subject.

2. The contributions of the various donor agencies by project, in support of UNECA technical assistance activities in planning, statistics, population and information science during the period under review are shown in Annex I. Resources were also made available from the United Nations regular budget and regular programme of technical cooperation for such activities. A list of advisers in post during the same period is also attached as Annex II.

II. ECA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN PLANNING

3. The objective of technical assistance in planning is to help countries in the formulation and elaborations of appropriate policy framework within coherent and consistent development programmes and plans. African governments are indeed struggling with a lasting socio-economic crisis and the majority of governments had to embark in structural adjustment programmes accompanied by stabilization measures and reforms. While it is realized that fundamental changes are needed for the resumption of development and growth, the pressing requirements of immediate financial steps have resulted in the neglect of longer-term factors, trends and imperatives. There is need therefore for ECA to provide technical assistance to African governments in addressing these issues and in revitalizing their development planning process. Assistance in the field of planning also continued to be provided by the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), a subsidiary body of ECA.

A. ECA Technical Assistance.

4. At the request of the Government of the Congo, the ECA sent a mission to the Congo to establish policy-based planning models. On the basis of very rich data base that include detailed national accounts and input-output tables, the ECA mission in collaboration with the national experts built two interlink models: (1) SAM-based short-term forecasting model, and (2) a guideline model for the country's medium-term development plan (1990-1995), within which the short-term model would apply, so as to reconcile both short-term and medium-term economic development programming.

5. As specified in the AAF-SAP, the ECA does not provide a standard model for all African countries, but a specific model for each individual African country (on its request) that tries to capture the socio-economic peculiarities of its economy. The Congo

models were installed in the computer facilities of the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Affairs and the staff of the Division of Economic Forecasting were trained on the running and simulation of the various short-term and medium-term policies. It was agreed that the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Affairs and the UNDP should initiate actions to enhance the training programmes on computerized model programming and execution, short-term forecasting and long-term planning management, and analysis of the estimation and simulation results. In the future, efforts should be made to incorporate the Congo models in the World LINK project, currently under the supervision of the United Nations DESIPA in New York, so that it would be possible to acquire on spot through satellite or other telecommunications means data from the world Link on the various external variables that affect the Congolese economy. This could enable government officials to adjust the economic parameters to external shocks.

6. In another area, a high-level delegation from the Ministry of development planning of Cameroon was briefed on economic forecasting systems within the context of improving short-term and medium-term planning for crisis management, issues on development planning and methodology, in particular modelling of the African economies, structural adjustment programmes with transformation, external finance management, and subregional dimension of structural adjustment and integration with a view to reorienting the Cameroon economic models towards an integrated system that takes into consideration short-term and long-term concerns, the regional and external market integration efforts.

7. On the operationalization of the regional development strategies, ECA organized an expert group meeting of African economists on the "Revitalization of Investment for Africa's Development: Prospects in the 1990s and beyond". The main thrust of the meeting was to make proposals on appropriate policies and implementable strategies for the rationalization and most productive use of investment resources. The role of domestic private capital was examined in the context of its level, type, structure, areas of interaction and delineation with public capital and involvement in joint ventures with private direct foreign investment. The interrelationships between the formal and informal sectors of the African financial markets was also discussed so as to devise strategies to take advantage of such linkages for the mobilization of investment funds for development. The meeting found that, although investment plays a major catalytic role in directing the course of development towards the achievement of structural transformation as well as for ensuring the efficient use and allocations of resources in the national interest, the efforts of most African countries to raise their investment ratio and achieve the investment levels commensurate with the needs of the

society have not been successful. So much so that one of the major factor, being the sluggish growth of GDP in many African countries is the poor investment climate and performance. The meeting made several recommendations in this regard which will be published and sent to various African ministries of planning and economic affairs.

B. IDEP Technical Assistance.

8. Technical assistance was also provided in the area of training of planning specialists in Africa at the UN African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) in Dakar, Senegal. The activities included training in the basic training programmes, short-term specialization programmes, thesis research training programme, executing training workshops as well as undertaking of research and consultancy services, conferences, seminars and workshops.

9. The basic Diploma Programme in macro-economic policy analysis, management and planning is the first component of the Institute's MA degree programme cycle. It provides training in the tools and techniques necessary for critical evaluation of contemporary issues in macroeconomic management, structural adjustment, growth and recovery of African economies. Successful candidates are awarded IDEP's post-graduate diploma in economic development and planning.

10. The 1991/92 academic year opened on 12 November 1991. There were altogether 107 applications received from 31 African countries. Out of 68 candidates admitted from 25 African countries, 16 from 11 countries were enrolled. The programme ended on 3 July 1992 with a final examination. Out of the 16 trainees, 13 passed among whom were 9 who qualified and were admitted to follow the remaining two components of the two-year MA degree cycle, i.e. the specialization programme and the research training programme.

11. For the 1992/93 cycle of the programme, 158 candidates applied from 35 countries out of which 129 candidates were admitted. In view of difficulties faced by most of the admitted candidates in securing the necessary fellowships, only 20 of them from 13 countries reported for enrolment. The 20 trainees followed all course requirements including group projects, term papers, class assignments and examinations. The programme ended on 26 June 1993 with a final examination and all 20 trainees passed with 13 of them qualifying to enrol in the remaining two components of the MA degree programme cycle.

12. In each of the academic years study trips were organized for trainees to the Gambia to tour several integrated rural development projects, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, and the

industrial estate. Other study trips were made in Senegal to the region of Taiba where trainees visited the Taiba phosphate industry, the Mboro chemical facility, various community development projects and the district and urban planning zones in the area. They also visited the region of Mbour to survey the tourist development projects in the Saly Portugal complex. These visits were intended to complement classroom work by exposing participants to concrete development issues and problems related to regional planning and integrated rural development.

13. The short-term optional specialization programmes focus on development sectors: industry; agriculture; energy and environment; and population and human resources. The heavily practical orientation is the hall mark of these programmes - achieved through use of case studies, group projects, workshops, computer simulation experiments, field visits and surveys. In recent years only the Industry and Population and Human Resources programmes have been offered. Difficulties in funding the other two programmes prevented their implementation but efforts are in progress for their re-instatement so that they can also be offered on a regular basis in the future.

14. The industrial programme in Africa aims at analyzing performance of the industrial sector in various African countries and defining appropriate policies to rehabilitate and revitalize the sector. It is designed to improve the analytical and research capacities of policy makers with a view to re-evaluating industrial development strategies and formulating and implementing appropriate policies to promote and revitalize the sector and thus make it more competitive.

15. The 1991/92 cycle of the programme began on 4 November 1991 and ended on 7 February 1992. Out of 29 applicants from 15 countries, 23 from 12 countries were admitted and 16 participants from 8 countries actually enrolled. Out of these 15 were successful and 7 candidates satisfied the requirements to be enrolled in the MA thesis research programme.

16. The 1992/93 programme began on 9 November 1992 and ended on 5 February 1993. Out of 27 applicants from 13 countries, 18 from 11 countries were admitted and 10 trainees actually enrolled. All trainees were successful in the examinations and 6 of them qualified to proceed to the research and thesis-writing stage.

17. The third cycle of the specialization programme on Population, Human Resources and Development in Africa (PHRDA) was offered in April-June 1991. There were 25 trainees selected from 125 applications received from 37 countries. Several resource persons from the United Nations system gave lectures on various specialized topics. In order for the trainees to share

experiences, four group workshops were organized to discuss and prepare reports.

18. As in the previous years, each trainee prepared a research report on a chosen topic of relevance to his/her country. The results of these reports were presented to a panel of experts and project staff from 17 to 27 June, 1991.

19. The fourth cycle of the PHRDA specialization programme was offered from 13 April to 7 July 1992. Owing to new policy of UNFPA, the funding agency, the programme is now delivered in one language only every alternative year. For the 1992 cycle it was offered to participants from English-speaking African countries. There were 17 trainees enrolled from 11 countries made up of 11 males and 6 females selected from 126 applications received from 34 different African countries.

20. Once again, four group workshops were organized to discuss and prepare reports related to contemporary problems on population and development in Africa. The workshops promoted exchange of experiences on practical policy choices in critical situations connected with the interrelationships between development and population. The revised reports are being edited for publication in the trainees research papers series.

21. The fifth cycle of the PHRDA specialization programme ran from 13 April to 9 July 1993. In view of the new policy of the funding agency, UNFPA, the 1993 cycle was delivered to participants from only French-speaking African countries.

22. There were 20 trainees enrolled from 18 African countries made up of 12 males and 8 females. These were selected from 80 applications comprising 59 males and 21 females. In the selection process particular attention was paid to academic qualifications, professional experience, gender and the government agencies that provided the nominations.

23. An innovation in the 1993 programme was a joint week-long session in May 1993 with trainees of IDEP's Basic Diploma Programme. The mix of background and experiences, interaction and dialogue enriched the programme delivery and contributed to a more in-depth understanding by both groups of population and development interrelationships.

24. As in previous years, participants prepared group research reports on subjects related to education, employment and health in the context of structural adjustment programmes, family planning and fertility, population and housing, linkages of population, development and environment, and migration. About a week and a

half was devoted to the presentation and discussion of these reports.

25 In addition, each trainee prepared an individual research report on a topic of relevance to his/her country and the reports were presented to a panel of experts and project staff from 28 June to 2 July 1993. A selection of the reports will be published in the trainees' research papers series.

26. The thesis research training programme is the third and final component of the MA degree programme cycle. It is in this programme that qualified candidates work on their MA theses under the guidance and supervision of the academic staff. The minimum requirements for this programme have been streamlined and the thesis review process made more rigorous.

27. The new arrangements require only one thesis supervisor to be responsible for each thesis, from the proposal stage up to when it is completed and ready for oral defence. Upon written approval from the thesis supervisor, the Scientific Committee would meet to decide on the composition of a jury panel of three members. The panel reviews the thesis followed by final revision by the candidate and then the date is fixed for the oral defence. The Director as Chairman, together with the jury, decide whether or not the candidate's written and oral defence merit the award of IDEP's MA degree.

28. Steps have also been taken to enforce deadlines that had been set for submission of completed theses by all trainees registered in the thesis research programme from 1986/87 to the present and the response has been encouraging. As a result, over the 1992/93 period, seven candidates successfully completed their theses and were awarded the MA degree. Two of the candidates involved are from the 1992/93 programme while the other five are candidates from thesis research programmes of previous years.

29. In addition to the regular training activities, the Institute has responded to requests from a number of States to develop tailor-made training activities to satisfy specific demands expressed. The services provided are short-term executive training workshops of up to 4 weeks duration organized as refresher courses to upgrade skills of senior staff and executives in the public service, parastatals and inter-governmental organizations in various member States.

30. Three of these workshops were organized over the period 1992-1993 for the benefit of the 16-member ECOWAS Authority. The first was a two-week workshop organized in August 1992 in Abuja, Nigeria, on Policy Analysis Development for a group of 10 senior staff of ECOWAS. The second activity was a three-week training seminar on

Project Feasibility Studies and Project management which was held in October/November 1992 for another group of 12 ECOWAS senior staff in Lomé, Togo. The third workshop was organized at IDEP in Dakar as a four-week training course for four directors of ECOWAS on analysis, appraisal and management of sub-regional projects.

31. In addition to the ECOWAS workshops, in late December 1992 IDEP offered a special one-week training workshop on Macroeconomic Policy Analysis and Structural Adjustment to a group of 24 senior civil service officials at the Management Development Institute in Banjul, the Gambia. The course was a mixture of theory and policy with a special focus on the Gambia's Economic Recovery Programme (ERP) and the Programme for Sustained Development (PSD). Subsequently, at a special one-day conference organized jointly by the UNDP and the Government of the Gambia in January 1993, IDEP was identified as one of the principal institutions to deliver similar training workshops within the framework of the Government's Economic Management Capacity Building Programme (EMCBP).

32. The Institute is in the process of designing special training workshops similar to those described above in the response to requests received from other regional organizations such as the OAU as well as those from member States such as Burundi, Chad, Comoros, Congo and the Lusophone countries of Angola, Mozambique, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe and Guinea-Bissau. The ability of IDEP to respond to demand-driven projects and programmes requested by member States continues to generate increasing confidence in the Institute.

III. ECA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN STATISTICS

33. The primary objective of ECA technical assistance in the field of statistics is to assist its members States in establishing and /or developing a durable infrastructure for the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of statistical data required for planning, monitoring and evaluating social and economic development programmes.

34. In the past, the major ECA technical assistance activities in statistics were carried out under three main projects, namely the Statistical Development Programme for Africa (SDPA), financed by UNDP, the Regional Advisory Service in Demographic Statistics (RASDS), financed by UNFPA, and another UNFPA funded project attached to the "Union douanière et économique de l'Afrique central (UDEAC)" in Central Africa. These projects were operational in 1992 but with a reduced volume of technical assistance activities. The SDPA project had a limited budget for advisory services during that year while missions under the UNFPA funded projects had to be financed through country programmes in accordance with the new UNFPA arrangements.

35. Two important events affected the assistance given by ECA to African countries in the field of statistics during the year 1993. Indeed the SDPA project was terminated on 31 March 1993 and the new proposals which were submitted to UNDP for consideration within the Fifth Programming Cycle were not approved due to UNDP financial difficulties. Also the Regional Advisory in Demographic Statistics (RASDS) project was integrated into the Country Support Teams (CSTS) and, following the new arrangements established by UNFPA, all the Advisers joined the three UNFPA Multidisciplinary Teams set up in Dakar, Addis Ababa and Harare. Regarding the UNFPA funded project within UDEAC at Bangui, the project was also terminated at the end of 1992.

36. It should be indicated that resources were also made available from the United Nations regular budget and regular programme of technical cooperation for technical assistance activities in statistics.

37. The main areas covered by the ECA technical assistance in statistics, during the biennium 1992-93, are: statistical training, household surveys, national accounts and basic economic statistics, population censuses and civil registration systems

A. Statistical training

38. It should be recalled that the ECA technical assistance activities in the field of statistical training were carried out mainly under the UNDP financed project Statistical Development Programme for Africa (SDPA). Only few missions were undertaken in 1992 by the two statistical training advisers under the project due to the financial difficulties faced by the project and its termination in March 1993. Countries assisted by the advisers include Cote d'Ivoire, Rwanda, Swaziland and the United Republic of Tanzania. The purposes of these missions were the following:

(i) reviewing the in- statistical training programme with the National Statistical Office (ii) evaluating the statistical training activities, and (iii) participating in advisory board meetings.

39. Teaching support was also provided to the middle level statistical training centre in Burundi and to the Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics (ISAE), Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. The subjects covered in these teaching missions were: price and transport statistics, organization of large scale sample surveys; agricultural statistics; and sampling and multivariate analysis.

40. It should also be indicated that another area of technical assistance provided by ECA in the field of statistical training,

is the award of fellowships for the training of trainers from the STPA centres under the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA). But due to the financial difficulties mentioned above, only one short-term fellowship was awarded in 1992, compared with six new fellowships awarded during the biennium 1990-91.

B. Household Surveys

41. ECA technical assistance in the area of household surveys continued to be provided by a household survey specialist under the SDPA project and a regional adviser in household surveys provided by the International Labour Office (ILO) and attached to the ECA Statistics Division. However, the assistance in this area was not as important as in the past for the reason stated above regarding the SDPA project. Eight missions were undertaken in six countries: Central African Republic, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Swaziland and Zambia. The main objectives of these missions were to review current household survey programmes, formulate future survey programmes, advise on questionnaire design and provide assistance in the tabulation, analysis and dissemination of survey data.

C - National accounts and basic economic statistics

42. In the area of national accounts and basic economic statistics, also eight missions were fielded to six member States, with the following objectives:

- To assist in the preparation and the finalization of a national programme for the improvement and the development of industrial statistics;
- To assist in the improvement of external trade statistics compilation;
- To provide on-the-job training and build up national capability and self-reliance in the production, application and dissemination of national accounts.

43. The countries assisted were: Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gambia, Niger and Swaziland.

44. In Gambia, one ECA staff member participated jointly with an adviser from the United Nations Statistical Division, as resource persons, in a Training Workshop on National Accounts and Price Statistics.

45. In Ethiopia, three ECA staff members participated as resource persons in a Seminar on National Accounts and their Uses in Economic Analysis and Planning.

D - Population censuses and civil registration systems

46. A total of ninety advisory assistance missions were undertaken to thirty-three member States under the UNFPA-financed project "Technical Support services in demographic statistics" (former RASDS) during the period 1992-1993. Twenty-three of these were related to assistance on organization, planning and conduct of population and housing censuses and demographic surveys, 17 on census/survey cartography, 20 on census/survey data processing, 12 on sampling technics and 13 on development and improvement of civil registration systems.

47. As stated above, ECA continued to be the executing agency for the project "Assistance to UDEAC in the field of demographic statistics up to December 1992 when the project was terminated. Only the Chief Technical Adviser of the project was in post in 1992. He undertook four missions to UDEAC member states to provide assistance in monitoring and evaluation of projects in demographic statistics and data analysis.

Coordination activities

48. It should be recalled that the Coordinating Committee on African Statistical Development (CASD) was established in March 1992, during the seventh session of the Joint Conference. The overall objective of CASD is to act as the coordinating body for statistical development activities in the Africa region. The Joint Conference is represented in CASD meetings by members of its Bureau. The Secretariat of the Committee is located in the ECA Statistics Division and is responsible for the overall monitoring of the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s. It is the repository of all reports and reference materials relating to the activities of the Committee. The following CASD sub-committees have also been established, with their convener(s) in parentheses : Training (EUROSTAT and ODA); Research, Methods and Standards (UNSTAT); Data Processing (Statistics Sweden); and Organization and Management of National Statistical Systems (ECA and The World Bank).

49. It is gratifying to report that CASD and its sub-committees have been very active during the past two years. In fact, the conveners of the sub-committees are planning to hold another series of meetings just before the Joint Conference. A meeting of the main Committee is also scheduled for the 25 March 1994. The newly elected members of the Bureau of the Joint Conference will be invited to attend the main Committee meeting.

IV. ECA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN POPULATION

50. Regional Advisory Services in Demographic Analysis, Research and Training provided (i) advisory services for data evaluation and analysis (ii) assisted in dissemination of results of analysis and (iii) train and otherwise enhance the capabilities of census/statistical offices.

A. Census/ survey data analysis:

51. More countries carried out census / surveys during the 1980 and 1990 rounds than before and were ready for the evaluation and analysis of the data. Recognizing the fact that formulation and implementation of relevant population policies needed information on various aspects of population and related socio-economic environmental aspects, the focus of analysis was specific to the requirements. Assistance was provided in the preparation of tabulation and analysis plans and in many countries also in the analysis and interpretation of the data. For instance during 1992-1993 assistance was rendered to Burundi, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Cap Vert, Comores, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, Rwanda, St. Tome and Principe, Tchad, Zambia and Zimbabwe in various aspects of data analysis.

B. Training:

52. The importance of training and human resource development has been foremost in the considerations of technical assistance to member States by the Economic Commission of Africa. Accordingly, advisory services were geared towards training of local manpower for creating the capabilities within countries for self reliant development. In addition to national training efforts were also made in carrying out regional training in aspects of data analysis. For instance local analysts were trained in data evaluation and analysis in Angola, Burkina Faso, Cap Vert and Comores, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, Zambia through formal and informal training methods including supervision and guidance in the preparation of analytical and other reports through on the job and in service programmes. Also regional workshops were organized at RIPS Ghana for Sectoral projections and catered to several countries in the region including Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Zambia and Zimbabwe. (Formal Training with Lecture mission to IFORD, ENSEA Cote d'Ivoire)

C. Dissemination of data:

53. Many African countries have either formulated or are in the process of preparing comprehensive population policies. To create the awareness among various sectors of the population, dissemination seminars are organized. The adviser participated in

one such seminar organized by OAU/ECA/ADB for the African Diplomatic community in Addis Ababa which brought forward the socio-economic and environmental implications of rapid population growth. Also a specialized seminar on population and development organized by RIPS in which adviser contributed in highlighting the interrelation between population, development and the environment and participants from Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Nigeria, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe benefitted. A seminar on dissemination of census analysis results also were held in Zimbabwe.

D. PRSD exercise :

54. Assistance to UNFPA and countries in program revision and strategy development has been very important activity of advisory services in the light of the new programme approach. During the period PRSD exercise took place in Uganda and Zambia in which other assistance was given.

V. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN INFORMATION SCIENCE

55. UNECA's technical assistance to member States in informatics and information science was delivered by its Pan African Development information System, through the subprogramme on statistics and information systems development. The technical assistance came in the form of activities programmed under operational projects (a total of 14 such projects over the biennium) as well as in advisory services delivered with funding from the United Nations budget for technical assistance, section 13.

Varieties of technical Assistance

56. Technical assistance delivered in this area took the form of advisory services, training seminars, workshops and courses, information packaging and dissemination and field projects.

A. Advisory Services

57. Fifteen advisory services mission were delivered over the biennium, covering a variety of aspects of information systems development and database design and management. Twelve of these were delivered to member States and three to IGO's. The missions covered all the subregions of the UNECA region.

B. Training/seminars/workshops/courses

58. The thirty-one training courses/workshops/seminars conducted during the period under review were primarily geared towards capacity building in the information and documentation sector. More than ten were in the new area of electronic communication to promote development information exchange. Member states benefitted in various ways:

- (i) A number of institutions in African countries are now handling development information using PADIS norms and standards.
- (ii) Several universities in African countries have incorporated PADIS methodologies in their curricula.
- (iii) There is a marked change in the management of information and documentation services in a number of member states. Several countries have taken major steps to improve the management of these services by allocating more resources to this sector. Generally the seminars, courses and workshops conducted during this period enhanced the awareness of member States to the importance of handling information using modern techniques including electronic communications.

C. Information packaging and dissemination

59. The database on social and economic, scientific and technical aspects of development (PADdev) in Africa contains all the documentation produced by ECA's substantive divisions. Thus it records all UNECA activities in the field of its mandate and constitutes UNECA'S electronic memory of its work. In addition, it contains the contribution of member States to an African collective memory through chosen and selective documentation the member States want to share among themselves. The indicator of its value to member States resides in the increasing number of requests addressed to PADIS from officials and individuals in Africa which reflects its use by planners and decision-makers as well as researchers.

60. The database on African experts in social and economic, scientific and technical aspects of development in Africa (PADexp) is a tool for member States to know their potential of experts in the field of technical cooperation among themselves; for NGOs and IGOs operating in Africa it is useful in the case of hiring consultants.

D. Field projects

61. In information systems development, UNECA had four ongoing field projects at the beginning of the biennium. During the course of the biennium these were completed and another ten new field projects initiated. These are listed in the annex below. It is felt that these have done a great deal to advance the state

of information systems development, database design and management, and, especially, electronic communication in the region.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

62. It appears from the brief account given above that UNECA technical assistance in planning statistics, population and information science during 1992-93 continued to be delivered mainly in the form of advisory services, training seminars, workshops and courses with the objective of building up national capacities and self-reliance of member States.

63. The volume of such assistance has somehow decreased during the biennium following the reduction or phasing out of the UNDP support to a number of projects due to financial difficulties. Efforts are being made to mobilize more resources to support UNECA technical assistance activities in the four areas indicated above.

64. The new UNFPA arrangements concerning the delivery of technical assistance in the field of population and related issues, through three Country Support Teams based in Dakar, Addis Ababa and Harare and the use of country projects to finance the relevant advisory missions, had encountered some difficulties at the beginning. However the situation has now improved since briefing seminars have been organized with the participation of the regional advisers in the Country Support Teams and the UNFPA Country Directors. Arrangements have also been made to strengthen the working relationships between ECA and its regional advisers in the Country Support Teams, and all members of these teams in general.

65. The present paper does not provide a full account of ECA technical assistance activities. It should be recalled that the ECA Multidisciplinary Regional Advisory Group (ECA-MRAG) was set up in December 1990 to ensure that Africa's socio-economic development challenges are confronted from a multidisciplinary perspective. The Group currently consists of 10 advisers drawn from a wide spectrum of professional expertise in the following areas: economic cooperation and integration, macroeconomics, debt and public finance management, public administration and management, social concerns and human resources, structural adjustment programmes, statistics and national accounts, food and agriculture, environment and development and energy.

66. In line with the United Nations Secretary-General's Policy of Decentralization, additional posts of regional advisers under the regular programme of technical cooperation are expected to be available for the regional commission during the biennium 1994-95. The distribution of the additional posts for ECA has not yet been finalized at the time of writing this paper.

67. The Joint Conference is invited to make comments and suggestions on past achievements and future delivery of ECA technical assistance in planning, statistics, population and information science for improvements.

CONTRIBUTION OF DONOR AGENCIES, BY PROJECT,
IN SUPPORT OF UNECA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIESApproved budget in
US dollars

| Division/Office Funding Agency and Project Title | Project Number | 1992 | 1993 | Total |
|--|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| I. SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESEARCH AND PLANNING DIVISION (SERPD) | | | | |
| - UNDP | | | | |
| Institute for Economic Development Planning (IDEP) | RAF/82/063 RAF/92/011 | 10,881 27,000 37,881 | - 234,851 234,851 | 10,881 261,851 272,732 |
| TOTAL SERPD | | | | |
| II. STATISTICS DIVISION | | | | |
| A. UNFPA | | | | |
| (i) Technical Support Services (TSS) | TSS/92/PA2 | 1,392,900 | 918,700 | 2,311,600 |
| (ii) Customs & Economic Union of Central African/Department for Population Studies | RAF/88/PO2 | 43,100 | - | 43,100 |
| SUB TOTAL | | 1,436,000 | 918,700 | 2,354,700 |
| B. UNDD | | | | |
| (i) Statistical Development Programme for Africa (SDPA) | RAF/86/052 | 527,289 | 71,098 | 598,387 |
| (ii) Cape Verde Household Income and Expenditure Survey | CV1/87/014 | 518 | 40,842 | 41,360 |
| SUB TOTAL | | 527,807 | 111,940 | 639,747 |

| Division/Office Funding Agency and Project Title | Project Number | 1992 | 1993 | Total |
|--|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C ILO | | | | |
| Regional Adviser in Household Surveys | | 146,000 | 146,000 | 292,000 |
| Total Statistics Division | | 2,109,807 | 1,176,640 | 3,286,447 |
| III. POPULATION DIVISION | | | | |
| UNFPA | | | | |
| (i) Technical Support Services (TSS) | TSS/92/PA3 | 349,600 | 355,000 | 704,600 |
| (ii) CERPOD | RAF/92/P15 | 226,000 | - | 226,000 |
| (iii) IFORD | RAF/92/P15 | 506,052 | 785,500 | 1,291,552 |
| (IV) RIPS | RAF/92/P13 | 684,050 | 565,000 | 1,249,050 |
| SUB TOTAL | | | | |
| - UNTFAD POPIN-AFRICA | ATF 002077 | 68,930 | - | 68,930 |
| Total Population Division | | 1,834,632 | 1,705,500 | 3,540,132 |

| Projects executed by ECA in information science and informatics | | | | |
|--|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Division/Office Funding Agency and Project Title | Project Number | Approved budget in US\$ | | |
| | | 1992 | 1993 | Total |
| IV. PADIS | | | | |
| 1. UNDP | | | | |
| a. Pan African Development Information System, Phase III | RAF/86/053 | 169,946 | | 169,946 |
| b. Developing a databank and information service for the Organization for the Management of the Kagera River Basin (K80) | RAF/88/012 | 10,362 | — | 10,362 |
| c. PADIS activities in North Africa | RAB/88/125 | 88,878 | 10,500 | 99,378 |
| 2. IDRC | | | | |
| a. Computer Networking in Africa | IDR/90/001 | 100,045 | 9,153 | 109,198 |
| b. MINISIS Resource Centre | IDR/92/001 | 5,311 | 79,665 | 84,976 |
| c. Studies on Informatics Policy Instruments in Africa | IDR/92/002 | — | 143,075 | 143,075 |
| d. Capacity and infrastructure building for electronic communication in Africa | IDR/93/001 | — | 235,138 | 235,138 |
| 3. UNTFAD | | | | |
| a. PADIS- Strengthening the Central Co-ordinating Office (CCO) | ATF/001/055 | 49,016 | 3,499 | 52,515 |
| b. PADIS Phase IV- strengthening the CCO | ATF/002/089 | 32,075 | | 32,075 |
| c. PADIS Phase IV: strengthening the CCO at PADIS | ATF/002/016 | | 87,763 | 87,763 |
| d. PADIS: Subregional centres | ATF/002/047 | 33,419 | 39,514 | 72,933 |
| e. PADIS: strengthening the CCO at PADIS | ATF/002/009 | 58,195 | | 58,195 |
| 4. Government of Germany | | | | |
| PADIS-Database development and strengthening | FRG/92/001 | 261,935 | | 261,935 |
| 5. Government of the Netherlands | | | | |
| PADIS Phase IV Training Activities | NET/93/001 | | 118,650 | 118,650 |
| Total | | 809,182 | 726,957 | 1,536,139 |

LIST OF REGIONAL ADVISERS IN POST DURING THE PERIOD 1992-1993

| | Programme/post description | Duty Station | Entry on duty | Departure | Remarks |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|------------|--|
| 1. STATISTICS | | | | | |
| (1) E.A. Colecraft (Ghana) | TSS; Chief Technical Adviser, Demographic Statistics/Civil Registration | Addis Ababa | July 1978 | In post | Transferred to UNFPA Multidisciplinary Team in Addis Ababa as of February 1993 |
| (2) Namady Sow (Mali) | TSS; Regional Adviser in Demographic Statistics | Niamey MULPOC | July 1980 | In post | Transferred to UNFPA Team in Dakar, Senegal as of January 1993 |
| (3) Jean-Marc Hié (Cameroon) | TSS; Regional Adviser Data Processing | Addis Ababa | March 1995 | In post | Transferred to UNFPA Team in Addis Ababa as of February 1993 |
| (4) Oumar Bocoum (Mali) | TSS; Regional Adviser in Census/Survey Cartography | Addis Ababa | January 1983 | In post | Transferred to UNFPA Team in Dakar as of January 1993 |
| (5) R.R. Tripathi (India) | TSS; Regional Adviser in Census/Survey Cartography | Addis Ababa | September 1986 | In post | Transferred to UNFPA Team in Harare as of January 1993 |
| (6) André Mayouya (Congo) | TSS; Regional Adviser in Civil Registration | Yaoundé MULPOC | September 1990 | In post | Transferred to UNFPA Team in Dakar, as of January 1993 |
| (7) Robert de Clercq (Belgium) | TSS; Regional Adviser in Data Processing | Addis Ababa | May 1991 | In post | Transferred to UNFPA Team in Dakar as of January 1993 |
| (8) J.O. Onsembe (Kenya) | TSS; Regional Adviser in Sampling | Addis Ababa | August 1989 | In post | Transferred to UNFPA Team in Addis Ababa as of February 1993 |
| (9) Jacob Tayo (Cameroon) | UDEAC/DEP, Chief Technical Adviser | Bangui | November 1989 | In post | Transferred to UNFPA Team in Harare as of January 1993 |

| | Programme/post description | Duty Station | Entry on duty | Departure | Remarks |
|---|--|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|--|
| (10) M. CHARI (Tunisia) | SDPA; Chief Technical Adviser, Household Survey Specialist | Addis Ababa | December 1986 | 31 March 1993 | Termination of the SDPA Project |
| (11) K.K. Bockor (Togo) | SDPA; Statistical Training Adviser | Addis Ababa | January 1983 | 31 March 1993 | Termination of the SDPA project |
| (12) J.P. Banda (Zambia) | SDPA; Statistical Training Adviser/Household Survey Specialist | Addis Ababa | November 1990 | 23 October 1992 | Transferred to the International Civil Service Commission(ICSC) |
| (13) R.J. Pember (Australia) | ILO; Regional Adviser in Household Surveys, AHSCP | Addis Ababa | September 1987 | 31 December 1993 | Transferred to ESCAP- Bangkok |
| (14) K.C. Wang (China) (ECA-MRAG) | Regional Adviser in National Accounts (UN Regular Programme of technical cooperation) | Addis Ababa | February 1990 | In post | Attached to the ECA Multi-disciplinary Regional Advisory Group (MRAG) as from January 1991 |
| 2. POPULATION | | | | | |
| (1) K.R. Ramachandran (India) | Regional Demographic Adviser | Addis Ababa | September 1981 | In post | Transferred to UNFPA team in Addis Ababa as of February 1993 |
| (2) Moulie A. Gibril (Gambia) | Regional Demographic Adviser | Addis Ababa | May 1987 | In post | Transferred to UNFPA team in Harare as of January 1993 |
| (3) R. Dackam Ngatchou (Cameroon) | Regional Demographic Adviser | Addis Ababa | May 1991 | In post | Transferred to UNFPA Team in Dakar as of January 1993 |
| | | | | | |