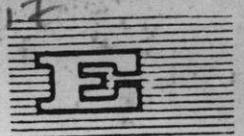


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Provisional agenda item 7

REPORT OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON SOCIAL WELFARE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

63-LEO-110

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 4 February 1963 there opened the second session of the Standing Committee on Social Welfare and Community Development of the Economic Commission for Africa. This Committee was established by Resolution 36(III) dated 18 February 1961 adopted by the Economic Commission for Africa at its third session.
2. After the inaugural speech of the Executive Secretary of ECA, the following officers were unanimously elected:

Chairman:	Mr. A. Sita
First Vice Chairman:	Mr. D. Acquah
Second Vice Chairman:	Mrs. C.M.S. Kisosonkole
Rapporteur:	Mr. P. Galeazzi

A drafting committee was elected to assist the Rapporteur in drafting the report of the Standing Committee. It included the following members:

- for Community Development items:

Mrs. V.O. Betts

Mrs. C.M.S. Kisosonkole:

- for Social Welfare items:

Mr. Y. Darwish

Mr. A. El Bok:

- for urbanization items:

Mrs. W. Mc Ewen

Mr. Mai Mai Gana.

It was agreed that members of the ECA secretariat should assist in the preparation of the draft report.

3. This second session was attended by the participants whose names and titles appear in Annex I to this report.
4. The provisional agenda included the following items:
  - A. General research
  - B. Community Development
  - C. Social Welfare

D. Urbanization

E. International aid in the fields of Social Welfare, Community Development and Urbanization.

After adoption of the provisional agenda and the proposed schedule of meetings, the Committee started its deliberations on the documents presented by the secretariat. It was decided to postpone until the end of the agenda discussion of the ECA report on its work programme in 1962 and its provisional work programme for 1963-1964 in the fields of community development, social welfare and urbanization (Document E/CN.14/SWCD/19).

## II. GENERAL DISCUSSION

(a) Relationship of Social Research to Planning, Organization and Evaluation of National Social Welfare and Community Development Programme (E/CN.14/SWCD/18).

5. In presenting the paper on the "Relationship of Social Research to Planning, Organization and Evaluation of National Social Welfare and Community Development Programmes" (E/CN.14/SWCD/18), Dr. Stenning pointed out that it was prepared from the point of view of a person organizing research in a university, but that the principles involved were of wide application, and applied also to other disciplines such as economics and psychology.

6. The Standing Committee was invited to give its opinion on the relation of university research to government planning. It was recognized that universities had an important part to play and were in a position to bring a more independent point of view and greater depth to social research, but different opinions were expressed about the relative roles of universities and government departments in carrying out the research needed for social welfare and community development programmes. It was generally agreed that ministries would have to collaborate in research with other government departments and other institutes and universities possibly under the guidance of a national research council. Planning should be based on the co-ordinated organization of research. One speaker suggested that the

shortage of social scientists might make it necessary to concentrate research in universities, but on the other hand it was pointed out that in many countries institutes of applied research did not exist. In some of those countries research was carried out by outside private research societies, but this had to be supplemented by applied research carried out by government departments. Much depended upon the relationship between the university and government in different countries.

7. Participants stressed the distinction between positive and policy sociology or between pure and applied research. Pure research provided an essential theoretical background for applied research. Given a well-thought out programme of university research it was often possible at comparatively little cost for governments to make use of the findings of positive sociology. The example was cited of the work of rural sociologists in Tanganyika, which is being drawn upon in evaluating the government programme of self-help and as a contribution to the planning of the programme of village development. The self-help programme was based on the premise of underemployed labour. It was found that the success of the programme varied greatly from area to area depending on the fluidity of labour, and left pastoralists and prosperous cash-crop peasants relatively untouched. The WHO representative noted the importance of basic social research to health programmes. Health workers had to relate their programmes to traditional beliefs on sickness and health and to traditional attitudes to food.
8. There was some discussion of the different types of assistance in social research requested by governments. Specific examples of recent requests were given, including:
- (a) social research advisers assessing to assist departments responsible for social welfare programmes, in the adequacy of existing social services and in identifying emerging social problems;
  - (b) a sociologist to be included with a town planner and economist on a rural development mission with particular reference to migrant labour;

- (c) a sociologist to evaluate UNICEF aided programmes; and
- (d) a sociologist to co-operate with a university on an urban social survey.

The importance of spelling out clearly the terms of reference of such requests was emphasized. Governments should have clearly in mind the purposes of the survey and the type of sociologist required, particular attention being paid to the relative importance of positive and policy sociology required in each project.

9. The question of evaluating social programmes was discussed in some detail and a wide variety of opinion was expressed. It was felt that in some cases, evaluation was the job of someone experienced in public administration, rather than a sociologist. Some thought that Government departments should be responsible for evaluating their own programmes, others that evaluation should be carried out by a university or other outside body.

The view was expressed by some participants that comparative studies by international organizations provided a useful form of evaluation. The consensus was that there were two types of evaluation, the first carried out by government departments as part of their normal activities in assessing the adequacy of their programmes, the second an evaluation in greater depth carried out by an outside body.

10. Participants stressed the need to stimulate interchange between the different levels of research, particularly between social workers and sociologists. The suggestion made in the paper that training seminars should be held to bring together community development and social workers and sociologists was supported with the proviso that to be effective such seminars should be short, relevant and under efficient leadership.

11. There was also support for the proposal that ECA should convene regional or preferably sub-regional conferences of high-level experts to discuss the co-ordination of social research in African universities and the relation of applied research to operational programmes in the social field.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7

LOW-COST HOUSING

The Standing Committee,

Noting that administrative changes in the ECA secretariat have made it impossible for the Standing Committee to carry out to the full its original terms of reference and examine questions relating to housing,

Recommends that steps be taken before the next meeting to enable the Standing Committee to review the relevant ECA programme in this field.

(b) Progress Report for 1962 and Projected ECA Programme for 1963-1964 on Social Welfare, Community Development, Urbanization, and Low-cost Housing (E/CN.14/SWCD/19).

12. A brief resume was given on the projected activities of ECA in the above fields; this was followed by a lengthy discussion on the projected ECA seminar on the role of African women in urban life to be held in Lagos in September 1963.

13. In response to questions raised by participants, it was pointed out by the secretariat that the Seminar was based on a recommendation made by the workshop on urbanization held in Addis Ababa in 1962. The Seminar would therefore concentrate on urban problems; rural problems would be the subject of another seminar projected by ECA and FAO some time in 1963. It was also pointed out that the seminar would discuss present problems of contemporary African institutions rather than the traditional rural African society. While the first Seminar would cover all Africa, there was a possibility that ECA would plan sub-regional seminars if it became necessary to study the requirements and problems of various countries.

14. ~~Suggestions were made by various participants on the following points:~~

- (i) the desirability of convening women leaders in their respective fields since they are in a position to carry back and implement fresh ideas in their countries;
- (ii) limiting the coverage of the seminar as far as possible, since too large a coverage would produce generalities of not much use to any single country;
- (iii) various problems that were suggested for study such as: the problem of women who migrate from rural to urban areas and drift to unemployment and possibly prostitution; the problem of migrant workers who leave the wives behind and form urban groups with a male preponderance; and problems of market women in some West African countries;

- (iv) the inclusion of influential men in the Seminar since men's approbation was necessary to the implementation of women's programmes;
- (v) the inclusion of other specialized agencies in the seminar such as UNESCO, ILO, and UNICEF, to benefit from their experience in the field of women's activities and programmes;
- (vi) the compilation by ECA of a list of women's national organizations in each country with a view to consulting them on the choice of participants;
- (vii) ECA is sending its proposed agenda for the seminar well in advance to the participating governments seeking their views.

III. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

(a) Report on Certain Activities of Community Development (E/CN.14/188)/100

15. The Standing Committee discussed the item in this Report (E/CN.14/188) dealing with the appraisal of Community Development programmes in various countries, and suggested that instead of sending experts, ECA might approach the governments concerned directly to get more accurate data on their programmes.

16. In discussing this report the participants observed that insufficient reference had been made to social welfare services within the framework of community development programmes.

Recruitment of advisers

17. The participants were of the opinion that there was often a delay in meeting a government request for ECA advice. Where this involved technical assistance advisers their recruitment appeared to be subject to unnecessary difficulties.

The secretariat explained the staffing difficulties ECA had encountered. It was also pointed out that requests for assistance were normally made in the first place through UN Headquarters in New York, and the recruitment of experts followed a similar pattern. A member of the UN Secretariat gave a brief description of methods of implementing requests for experts. It was also pointed out that the Governments themselves were sometimes slow in communicating their wishes, budgets and programmes to the United Nations Resident Representatives in their countries.

18. In addition it was pointed out that steps had been taken to facilitate co-ordination of ECA's activities with those of the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations in the nomination of experts through the appointment of a liaison officer who should communicate to the various Departments within ECA requests for experts or advice in their field of competence.

19. Co-ordination is further assumed by annual meetings of Resident Representatives of the TAB in Africa to enable them to exchange views directly among themselves and with ECA and the United Nations.

Furthermore it is the general rule that experts going to Africa stop at ECA for briefing and to get acquainted with ECA activities in the field.

(b) Report on the Training Course in Community-Development Policy (E/CN.14/225)

20. A long discussion took place on (a) the role of community development as envisaged by ECA; (b) the duration of training courses for community development workers at different levels and (c) the content of such courses. Also discussed was the question of ECA's granting a kind of diploma at the end of the course to enable the respective governments to give recognition to the training received.

21. In this connexion it was pointed out that the ECA training courses, while providing a good meeting ground for senior officials engaged in the implementation of programmes in their countries, did not provide for the exchange of views. It was felt that too much emphasis was put on ex-cathedra courses and insufficient time devoted to more direct practical approaches such as seminars, discussion groups and study tours. It was further pointed out that among the trainees at Tunis there were only two women participants, and it was urged that in future efforts should be made to have governments invite more women to participate in the courses.

22. As to the content of the courses, it was felt that the social services component was not sufficiently represented, and it was suggested that ECA might introduce some amendments in the curriculum. For example, theoretical courses might be coupled with field visits to see how programmes are actually implemented. In this way both the theoretical and the practical angles could be studied and assessed.

23. The question of training of intermediate and junior community development workers was discussed. Some members favoured ECA training courses for junior workers. Others felt that junior courses should be carried on at the national level since the work entailed should be very closely geared to local conditions. Senior officers could benefit more from international training courses since they were in a position to implement some of the ideas they brought from abroad.

24. On the question of international recognition of the training courses through the award of a certificate, some of the participants expressed the fear, without casting any doubt on the real merit of the trainees, that it

might make them conceited. It was therefore suggested that ECA should avoid this course, and rather attempt to draw up a list of training institutes and of fellowships available in African universities, in order to facilitate exchanges of students among African countries.

25. Finally some members deplored short-term training courses at the end of which trainees were qualified as "officers". A differentiation had to be clarified between "orientation" and "training" courses proper. For training longer courses were needed, whereas for orientation short seminars for the exchange of views were more useful.

26. In view of the time and expense involved in training courses organized by ECA, it was suggested that the Standing Committee, should discuss these courses and make recommendations to ECA, as to their length and orientation.

27. From the discussion it became apparent that in most African countries the need for social workers and community development workers was so great that they were recruited in a way that caused variations in the standards of trained workers not only between one country and another but within one country as well. There was an evident need to establish uniform standards for social workers and community development workers at each level. Two methods were suggested for attaining the uniformity that exists in other fields of action: (1) the establishment of national councils of social welfare along the lines of national institutes for engineers, architects, etc., embodying representatives from Government, voluntary agencies, and universities, and responsible for fixing standards at various levels; (2) the creation of a body of professional workers in social welfare and community development who would safeguard and maintain the standards set.

(c) Liaison bulletin (E/CN.14/SWCD/21)

28. The appearance of the bulletin "Community life in Africa" provoked discussion on the best title for it. Various opinions were expressed, and it was suggested that the bulletin might be called "The Review of Social Welfare and Community Development Activities in Africa".

29. With regard to its contents, it may be hoped that the news it gives will strengthen the essential background of technical assistance, research,

and the exchange of information in social welfare, community development, and urbanization. The review should give an account of what is happening and report objectively on the success or failure of the methods employed. Special attention should be given to keeping the governments informed of progress in social welfare and community development. ECA should call on the African governments to cooperate by supplying information systematically, so that the purpose of the review can be successfully achieved. The Secretariat of ECA should make certain of having as many correspondents as possible in Africa.

#### IV. SOCIAL WELFARE

30. A short presentation was given of the contents of Documents E/CN.14/169 and E/CN.14/SWCD/16 the second of which was based on answers received by ECA to questionnaires it had sent to African governments on the organization and administration of social welfare services. Answers were received from the following countries: Basutoland, Cameroun, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Leopoldville), Dahomey, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Tanganyika, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Republic, Northern Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia, Swaziland and Zanzibar. The secretariat of ECA expressed its thanks to the Governments for their co-operation.

31. The attention of the participants was drawn to the fact that the ECA work programme for 1963-1964 included two comprehensive studies on the organization and administration of social welfare services. In addition, the Bureau of Social Affairs was launching country studies, and intended to undertake later a comparative study of existing patterns of administration and organization of welfare services. Some members expressed the opinion that precedence should be given to a comparative study to get an overall picture of the situation in Africa. However, it was pointed out that an overall study, to be realistic, had to be based on individual country studies. It was agreed that a minimum of six studies in different countries should be undertaken on patterns of social welfare organization.

32. From the discussion of the participants it was clear that differences existed in the administrative organization of welfare services, ranging from national Ministries of Social Welfare, to the distribution of welfare services among various ministries. It was also evident that services received varying degrees of emphasis in the different countries.
33. The secretariat of ECA noted that a clear picture of the methods of training used for community workers had not emerged in its review of training programmes. The response of the governments was uneven, some giving more detail than others.
34. The Standing Committee noted that there was a need to intensify various types of in-service training programmes in the member countries. In this connexion it was mentioned that the United Nations was giving more attention to the training of trainers and the training of welfare administrators. Some participants commented favourably on the recent policy adopted by UNICEF which with the assistance of the Bureau of Social Affairs makes it possible for UNICEF to participate in the training of social workers at all levels locally.
35. In training programmes, it was pointed out that in Africa the need was greater for multi-purpose social workers rather than for specialized workers, e.g. psychiatric social workers. They could exert a more direct action by working with groups or communities.
36. Mention was made of the possibility of ECA's compiling a handbook containing guide lines for the implementation of welfare programmes. A member of the Standing Committee agreed to forward to the secretariat of ECA further details of the form of such a handbook.
37. On the question of priorities in the field of social welfare, several participants pointed out the priority given in their countries to preventive services. This was borne out by the often expressed opinion that, at its present stage of development, Africa was very much in need of preventive services. Mention was also made of the awareness of those engaged in the field of social welfare and community development of the inter-relation of welfare with health, home economics, nutrition and other services in this group.

38. There was a consensus of opinion that family services should receive the highest priority. It was stressed that major welfare action should be aimed at the masses of the population. The opinion was expressed that priorities were closely connected with a country's degree of economic and social development. The more a country is developed the more it can devote funds and personnel to specialized services.

39. As regards the establishment of priorities for rural and urban areas, some participants were of the opinion that there was not a sizeable difference between services needed for families living in rural areas and those living on the fringes of urban areas. It was accepted that in the urban areas the emphasis must be on giving assistance to the town dweller to adjust to his new surroundings.

40. All participants agreed that, whenever possible, planning should be at the national level through a central planning agency. Implementation of the plan, on the other hand, should be the responsibility of the local authorities wherever practicable.

41. Because the participants recognized that there was insufficient information available on the financing of social welfare services in African countries and because the topic was not considered by experts in the Abidjan meeting in 1962 it was suggested that financing, together with planning, should be a major topic for consideration at the next session of the Standing Committee.

42. The question was raised of the preparation of documentation for the discussion. The secretariat explained that ECA proposed to hold in October 1963, in collaboration with the Bureau of Social Affairs and the specialized agencies, a meeting of experts to consider the relation of social planning to overall economic planning. This meeting would be concerned with problems of planning and financing programmes in the social sectors, including social welfare services within the framework of comprehensive development plans; and it was suggested that consideration should be given to studying the financial allocations to social welfare services within the global allocation for overall development.

43. The question of relations with the voluntary agencies was again brought up by the participants, and it was agreed that legislation is necessary to enable the governments to assist and guide the non-governmental social agencies.

#### V. URBANIZATION, LOW-COST HOUSING, AND RELATED SERVICES

44. The importance of research in urban problems was emphasized by the Secretariat on the introduction of the two papers under this item of the agenda. Particular reference was made to the relation of urbanization to African traditional life and to methods of lessening the impact of urban life on the rural migrant. It was pointed out that African urban life had not necessarily to develop along the same lines as that of Europe and North America; in other regions of the world, strong clan and family traditions had been maintained in urban life.

45. Reference was made to the recommendation on sociological research of the Workshop on Urbanization held in Addis Ababa. The question was raised of what type of surveys was needed to provide a basis for action on problems of education, health, welfare and recreation in urban areas. It was suggested that research must deal sociologically with the changing institutional structure of groups and the roles associated with these institutions. In African urban society this would mean examining, for example, family structures, corporate groups deriving from rural life, and new forms of association. The multiple roles associated with these groups differentiate the urban from the rural man, and condition his values. Their analysis helps in the appreciation of his needs.

46. It was emphasized by participants that towns were the centre of economic and social and political development in Africa, that it would be unacceptable politically to control the influx of migrants administratively, and that the answer lay in planning rural and urban development on a national basis. The reasons for urban migration had to be sought, and these varied greatly from country to country. The need to find employment and the desire for education were cited as the main reasons for rural-urban migration.

Speakers also mentioned the heavy load of agricultural work borne by women, which made them glad to escape to the towns. The effect of the mechanization of agriculture in some countries and the uneven distribution of services between town and country were also discussed.

47. Participants stressed the need for physical planning, which would decentralize the poles of attraction. Changes which would improve the position of women were suggested in the traditional distribution of agricultural work. The representative of the ILO described the types of assistance it gave in the promotion of small rural industries and traditional handicrafts. Emphasis was placed on the need to strengthen rural-education services.

48. It was stressed that whatever measures for rural improvement could be taken, there would be a continuing need to plan and strengthen materiel and social services in the towns. Since housing is one of the main concerns, it was suggested that the recommendations of the Workshop on Urbanization should have put more stress on the need to co-ordinate the provision of social services with housing programmes. It was also felt that the recommendation on social services of the Workshop on Urbanization should have given greater priority to family welfare. There was some discussion of the problem of co-ordinating these different services, and the example was cited of the establishment of an interdepartmental committee set up in Abidjan for their co-ordination.

49. There was some discussion of the place of community development in urban areas. Reference was made to a request of the Social Commission of the United Nations that the possibility of applying community development techniques in urban areas should be explored. It was agreed that in many parts of the world these techniques were proving useful in urban areas and should not be excluded on doctrinaire grounds. Mention was made of the pilot study in one of the districts of Addis Ababa covered by the social survey previously carried out by the university with the co-operation of ECA. An attempt was being made to work through the traditional associations to stimulate an awareness of community needs. One speaker emphasized

that a political orientation was essential for successful social development work in urban areas. There was general agreement that an effort should be made to determine what urban programmes had meaning in terms of community development.

50. The Standing Committee regretted that administrative changes in the ECA secretariat had made it impossible for the Standing Committee to carry out to the full its original terms of reference and examine questions relating to housing. The group felt strongly that steps should be taken before the next meeting to enable the Standing Committee to review the relevant ECA programme in the field.

51. A member of the Bureau of Social Affairs introduced the paper E/CN.14/SWCD/22 and described the UNICEF - aided social welfare services programme in Africa. To date, seventeen African countries have requested UNICEF aid in the field of social welfare. It was also stated that there were 53 UNICEF-aided projects distributed in various regions. By 1963 UNICEF will have allocated approximately 2 1/2 million dollars for special welfare projects in Africa. Aid is given in the form of material, stipends, honorariums, transport, etc. Projects are developed at the national level with the help of UNICEF officers who work with officials responsible for social welfare and community development. Priority is given to the expansion and extension of training programmes for social welfare and community development workers at all levels, e.g. administrators, social welfare personnel, auxiliary workers, and voluntary personnel. In addition to training, UNICEF-aided social-services projects in Africa include the extension of social-welfare services for children and mothercraft services in community development.

52. The UNICEF representative introduced document E/CN.14/213, which contains a brief report of the assistance that the United Nations Children's Fund offers to governments with a view to helping them to find solutions for the problems confronting them in the fields of health, education, nutrition and social welfare in general. He stressed that during 1962 the Executive Board of UNICEF had adopted a series of decisions aimed at providing a greater contribution to the social progress of the developing

countries. He also emphasized the importance UNICEF attached to the integration of programmes for the welfare of children and adolescents in the general social development plans. At the conclusion of his remarks the UNICEF representative made two suggestions to the Standing Committee:

- (a) That the preparation of the child for life, within the framework of community development and social welfare programmes, should be one of the topics of discussion at the next seminar which ECA intends to organize during 1963.
- (b) That the working group which, according to document E/CN.14/SWCD/19, is to undertake a thorough study of the contribution of community development to economic development, should also be requested to evaluate the benefits derived by children and adolescents from the implementation of community development projects in Africa.

53. Several participants described the UNICEF-aided programmes in their countries and expressed their appreciation of the services rendered. For example, it was pointed out that the advice given by the expert on professional training in Uganda had proved vital to the effective establishment of the programme. It was further stated that UNICEF-aided projects had helped strengthen the national training programmes for social welfare. An example from the United Arab Republic was given of assistance in establishing a demonstration training centre in the field of child welfare. It was also noted with satisfaction that UNICEF showed great interest in developing its programme for children with the aid of the technical departments of the United Nations.

54. The representative of WHO referred to his agency's interest in the field of child welfare and stated that WHO also believed in co-ordinated action. It was pointed out that co-ordination is essential at all levels of operation and that successful co-ordination can be achieved through a training programme which offers inter-disciplinary courses for workers in health, home economics and social welfare fields.

55. The chief of the Community Development Group, Bureau of Social Affairs, described the organization of the Bureau, calling attention to the six main

activities: population, housing and town-planning, social development, social services, social defence and community development. Noting that population and housing are not being considered by this group, he described the activities of social defence, which is defined as the prevention of crime, the treatment of offenders, and the suppression of the traffic in persons. The Section is responsible for the planning and follow-up of United Nations technical assistance in the field of social defence and for the preparation of studies. In discussing the work of community development he described the proposed ad hoc group of experts on Community development, which will meet in New York from 18 February to 8 March 1963 to review and make recommendations on United Nations programmes in this field.

56. A representative of the Bureau of Social Affairs gave a brief review of the activities of the Social Services Section. It was pointed out that there are two major responsibilities: studies and operational programmes. The programme of work for 1963-1964 includes the following studies: the overall study of the organization and administration of social-welfare services, projects related to family, youth and child welfare; training for social welfare personnel, reappraisal of the United Nations social services programme; study of the relation between social security and social service; and the study of the role of industrial social services in relation to integrated national social service. Operational programmes include the provision of advisory services to governments on social welfare, and the organization of expert group meetings in collaboration with the regional economic commissions, UNICEF, and specialized agencies in technical fields of mutual interest.

57. The meeting expressed its appreciation to the representatives of the Bureau of Social Affairs for the information on the Bureau's activities. Some members drew attention to the fact that United Nations activities were little known. It was suggested that the United Nations should make a greater effort to disseminate information and publications, particularly to university libraries in Africa which already provided organized services.

RECOMMENDATION NO.1

PLANNING AND FINANCING SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES

The Standing Committee,

Considering the importance of planning social welfare services within the framework of a national development plan, and the need to determine priorities in relation to financial resources available;

Recommends

1. That special consideration should be given to problems of planning and financing social welfare programmes at the 1964 meeting of the Standing Committee;
2. That special attention should be given to these aspects in the proposed country studies on the organization of social services to be carried out during 1963;
3. That ECA should call on members of the Standing Committee to contribute short papers on problems of financing social welfare programmes in their countries;
4. That the subject of planning and financing social services should be included in the proposed meeting on economic and social development planning to be organized by ECA in collaboration with the Bureau of Social Affairs and specialized agencies in October 1963;
5. That two members of the Standing Committee particularly interested in the financing and planning as well as the administration of social welfare should be invited to participate in the October meeting and report to the third session of the Standing Committee;
6. That these activities should lead to a workshop on planning and financing social welfare programmes to be held in 1965;
7. That these subjects should be included on a continuing basis in the work programme of ECA.

## RECOMMENDATION NO. 2

## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## AND SOCIAL WELFARE

The Standing Committee,

Recognizing that the need to develop rapidly Community Development and social welfare services in African countries has entailed the use of diverse sources of training at all levels and in different overseas countries, resulting often in a great variability of qualifications,

Affirms the need to standardize qualifications for purposes of future recruitment, promotion, and transfer;

And suggests that this can best be done at the national level;

Agrees that there are two ways in which national standards might be set:

(a) through National Councils of Community Development and Social Welfare, composed, as may be appropriate, of representatives of:

- (i) government
- (ii) voluntary agencies
- (iii) the university
- (iv) private enterprise

and having as its functions:

- (i) the examination of the range of qualifications represented nationally in the Community Development and Social Welfare fields, and the posts for which these have been found appropriate,
- (ii) the definitive determination of the qualifications required for the whole range of posts,

- the determination of appropriate routes of promotions and transfer,

- the discussion of changes in the content of training courses indicated by developments in the fields of Community Development and Social Work, particularly as these affect the qualifications.

- the regular communication of these findings to all institutions inside or outside the country, engaged in the training of that country's personnel,
- the maintenance of fruitful liaison with similar national councils elsewhere;

(b) through professional associations in the fields of community development and social work, existing to safeguard professional standards and to a greater or lesser degree, to control admission to the profession;

Further agrees that these two institutions do not necessarily exclude and may indeed complement each other,

And recommends that the Economic Commission for Africa, which by its relation to the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs is in an influential position, should

activate the formation of National Councils of Community Development and social work in the member countries,

- prepare a digest of qualifications in these fields,
- attempt an international (African) correlation of these qualifications.
- bring the results of similar developments in other continents to bear on the problem.

- the maintenance of fruitful liaison with similar national councils elsewhere;

(b) through professional associations in the fields of community development and social work, existing to safeguard professional standards and to a greater or lesser degree, to control admission to the profession;

Further agrees that these two institutions do not necessarily exclude and may indeed complement each other,

And recommends that the Economic Commission for Africa, which by its relation to the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs is in an influential position, should

activate the formation of National Councils of Community Development and social work in the member countries,

RECOMMENDATION NO.3

TRAINING

The Standing Committee,

makes the following recommendations on Training:

1. The Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with competent specialized agencies, should continue its efforts to make available to the African countries, at their request, technical assistance experts qualified in the fields of social welfare, community development, health, nutrition, urbanization, and labour.
2. ECA should accelerate its exchange programme of work and study by social workers in the various fields on the existing projects in countries with similar facilities in organization and administration.
3. In view of the difficulties and expense involved, short courses for junior workers should be subject to review; bearing in mind the alternative importance of seminars, workshops and study tours for senior workers dealing with policy, organization of programmes, supervision of staff, and organization of schools of social work.
4. In the light of the training for community development carried out in Dakar and Tunis, and in the light of specific proposals made in the annex to this recommendation, such short training courses for senior workers should be orientation courses concentrating on seminars, workshops, and study tours, and they should put emphasis not on lectures but on discussions and exchange of experience; this should apply to the forthcoming course due to be held in East Africa;
5. As the co-ordination of services is a major factor in a rapidly developing country, ECA should give top priority to the national seminars, workshops, and conferences organized in each African country. The programmes should offer opportunities to all grades of staff in the ministries executing social welfare and community development projects of attending such seminars, workshops and conferences.

6. ECA should compile a directory of schools of community development and social work and the programmes or syllabuses of work in all African countries to enable each country to determine where to send their workers for further training.

7. Because women have an important role in community development and social welfare, countries should be urged to enlist them among the candidates to attend the training courses at all levels.

RECOMMENDATION NO.4  
APPLIED SOCIAL RESEARCH

The Standing Committee,

Considering the necessity for continuing analysis of existing social structures in Africa as a prerequisite of the implementation of development plans in African countries,

Considering further that such research should profitably take into account the efforts already made or planned by bodies of various kinds,

Considering that the orientation of university programmes must be studied in relation to the development problems which face the African countries in all fields, and that ECA can, consequently, assist the study of programmes by the universities, through surveys and the organization of meetings between academic personnel,

And welcoming the proposals made under item 02.01 of the programme of work submitted by the Executive Secretary in order to:

- (a) Gather all the relevant information on the results and prospects of research programmes in Africa,
- (b) Prepare an internationally sponsored applied research programme, primarily designed to supplement existing projects and to fill the most important gaps in research,

Recommends that ECA be requested to invite the Executive Secretary as a matter of an urgent priority to convene as soon as possible a meeting of ten experts of international repute specializing in social research in Africa, and representing the major regions in Africa, with the aims of:

- (a) Reporting upon the proper relation of pure to applied social research in the various conditions in Africa,
- (b) Reporting upon the proper relation of university research to that undertaken by other bodies in the various conditions in Africa,
- (c) Increasing its efforts under its assistance programme to help in publishing theses and research papers concerning economic and social problems, translating them and disseminating them

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4  
APPLIED SOCIAL RESEARCH

more widely, through its resident representatives in the African countries;

Further recommends that ECA be requested to invite the Executive Secretary to concert the planning of this meeting with the other research programmes of the United Nations, their regional institutions, and the specialized agencies concerned, with a view to including representatives of these bodies in the meeting.

- (a) Gather all the relevant information on the results and prospects of research programmes in Africa;
- (b) Prepare an internationally sponsored applied research programme primarily designed to supplement existing projects and to fill the most important gaps in research;
- (c) Reporting upon the progress of the various conditions in Africa;
- (d) Reporting upon the progress of the various conditions in Africa;
- (e) Reporting upon the progress of the various conditions in Africa;

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5

YOUTH IN RURAL AREAS

The Standing Committee,

Considering the comparatively large numbers of children in rural areas who leave school at an early age, and the fact that many rural areas have no welfare facilities for youth,

Recommends that FAO and ECA should include in their suggested African meeting on Rural Life in 1964 a study of activities of youth in rural areas.

RECOMMENDATION NO.6

PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee,

Recommends that the secretariat of ECA:

- (i) should, after an adequate period of time, draw up a programme of the important questions to be discussed by the Standing Committee;
- (ii) should include the following questions in the provisional agenda of the 1964 meeting of the Standing Committee:  
Financing of social services,  
Priorities in the activities of the social services,  
Equitable distribution of social services.

RECOMMENDATION NO.8

CLEARING HOUSE FOR SOCIAL WELFARE  
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Standing Committee,

In order to facilitate the work of the Clearing House for Social Welfare and Community Development,

Recommends that the secretariat of ECA should endeavour to have one or more correspondents appointed for the Clearing House in each of the African countries.

ANNEX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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First Vice Chairman: Mrs. C.M.S. Kisosonkole  
Second Vice Chairman: Mr. D. Acquah

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ANNEX I

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ANNEX II  
ADOPTED AGENDA

1. General discussion

- (a) E/CN.14/SWCD/18 Relationship of Social Research to Planning, Organization and Evaluation of National Social Welfare and Community Development Programmes.
- (b) E/CN.14/SWCD/19 Progress Report for 1962 and Projected ECA Work Programme for 1963-1964 in Social Welfare, Community Development, Urbanization and Low-Cost Housing.
- (c) E/CN.14/SWCD/21 The Clearing House Bulletin.

2. Community Development

- (a) E/CN.14/225 Report on the Training Course in Community Development Policy.
- (b) E/CN.14/188 Report on Certain Activities of Community Development.

3. Social Welfare

- (a) E/CN.14/SWCD/16 The Organization and Administration of Social Welfare Services in African countries (Analysis of Replies to ECA Questionnaire).
- (b) E/CN.14/169 Report of the Expert Group Meeting on the Organization and Administration of Social Welfare Services.

4. Urbanization and Low-Cost Housing

- (a) E/CN.14/SWCD/17 The Phenomenon of Squatting in Leopoldville.
- (b) E/CN.14/170 Report of the Workshop on Urbanization.
- (c) E/CN.14/SWCD/20 Self-Help and Low-Cost Housing.

5. International Assistance in the fields of Social Welfare, Community Development and Urbanization

(a) E/CN.14/SWCD/22 UNICEF-aided Social Welfare Services Programmes in Africa.

6. Adoption of Report of the second session of the Standing Committee on Social Welfare and Community Development (To be submitted to the fifth session of the Economic Commission for Africa, to be held in February 1963, (Leopoldville)).

ANNEX III

Address delivered by Mr. Robert K.A. Gardiner, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, at the opening meeting of the Standing Committee on Social Welfare and Community Development.

(4 February 1963)

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me pleasure to welcome you in the name of the Economic Commission for Africa and to offer you my good will on the occasion of the opening of the second session of the Standing Committee on Social Welfare and Community Development. First of all, at the beginning of your work, allow me to describe to you the background of your Committee, and to acquaint you with the activities of the secretariat in the sphere of social affairs during 1962.

On 17 February 1961 the Economic Commission for Africa adopted, as you are aware, resolution 36(III) instructing the Executive Secretary to set up your Committee in consultation with the Specialized Agencies. Your Committee is composed of experts from sixteen African States. You cannot fail to be aware that your work is the study of community development programmes, including the economic aspects, the organization of social welfare services, the social aspects of urbanization, the training of staff, and the interdependence of social and economic development in African countries.

I must also point out that in this Committee you are not representing your respective countries, but rather sitting as experts, chosen for your experience in one or other of the special spheres provided for in your agenda. Your Committee, in consequence, has a consultative character giving you full latitude for independent expression. This will make your opinions, comments, and recommendations on the activities of the Commission particularly welcome.

The work carried out in 1962 is submitted for your examination in the collection of documents put at your disposal.

It is becoming clearer and clearer that the African countries have considered community development to be an integral part of their development policy. The recommendations contained in the report on your first meeting were approved by the Economic Commission for Africa at its fourth session in resolution 48(IV).

Document E/CN.14/225 deals with the second training course for specialists in methods and techniques of community development. This course, like the previous one, was organized on a sub-regional basis, and attended by officials nominated by the Governments of Algeria, Ethiopia, Libya, Morocco, Somalia, Tunisia, and the United Arab Republic.

This meeting was held at Tunis, the first was held at Dakar, and the third, which will be held next November, is intended for officials from the countries of East Africa.

The series will continue in 1964 with a new course in Western Africa. Community-development activities in Morocco and Nigeria have been the object of an evaluation mission, and information and consultation missions have been carried out in Cameroun, the Congo (Brazzaville), Dahomey, the Ivory Coast, Mali, and other countries.

The documentation Centre for community development and social welfare has been set up. It has collected and disseminated national documents and prepared a bulletin known as "Community Life in Africa". We do not, however, hide from you that the future of this centre and its bulletin depends on the good will to be shown by the Governments in supplying it with the documentation essential to its working.

Furthermore, a study on "Animation rurale" (rural stimulation) in Senegal is in process, and a group of experts is being assembled to undertake the evaluation and the analysis of the contribution of community development to economic development.

In the social sphere, a group of experts on social welfare met at Abidjan from 11 to 21 April 1962 (Document E/CN.14/188). The group recommended to the Governments among other things that the organization and administration of social-welfare services should be planned and that priority should be given to the training of social workers. Document E/CN.14/SWCD/16 analyzes the replies of the Governments to the questionnaire submitted to them on the organization and administration of social welfare. Furthermore, a study tour is being prepared to which we shall

invite social workers who are active in fifteen different countries of Africa.

Reference should also be made to the collaboration between the Economic Commission for Africa and UNICEF in carrying out projects drawn up jointly.

One of the most important tasks of the Economic Commission for Africa in urbanization and housing was completed with the holding of the Workshop on Urbanization at Addis Ababa from 25 April to 5 May 1962. This workshop was the fruit of two years of preparation, not to mention the years of experience in this sphere accumulated in advance. Reconnaissance missions visited several towns in 1961 and 1962 while the secretariat was collecting the necessary documentation for five papers, including an introduction to the problems of urbanization and having in an annex an atlas of statistical data, maps and town plans with commentaries and a bibliography (SEM/URB/AF/ ). The representatives of twenty-three governments met there the officials and experts sent by the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic and Social Affairs Department of the UN, WHO, the ILO, and UNESCO. After lively discussions they recommended the establishment of national study centres to be consulted by the authorities in the preparation of their programmes of town planning, education, and urban social welfare. They recommended a closer collaboration between the services working within the conglomerations.

Urban social research has been recognized as indispensable to good planning, and planning itself has been recognized as essential to the improvement of living conditions in the large towns of Africa.

This Workshop, though recent, has already had positive results. The secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa has been invited to take part in various meetings, such as the conference of social workers of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland; and among the projects resulting from it may be mentioned the housing enquiry called for by the Government of Kenya.

The field open to your endeavours, Ladies and Gentlemen, is therefore extensive and full of interest.

It will remain for you to establish constructively the solutions most likely to be effective and those that seem to all of you the best and the most suitable for presentation to the Governments, not as a rigid charter for economic and social development, but as the guide lines for recommendations. This is the object of the Standing Committee for Social Welfare and Community Development.

Lastly, it will be for the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations to extract the essence of your suggestions and recommendations with a view to establishing programmes and giving direction in this sphere to an international assistance corresponding to the needs and desires of the African countries. Hence the special value of the report on this Committee to be submitted to the fifth session of the Economic Commission for Africa, which is to be held during the current month.

It is with these things in view, Ladies and Gentlemen, conscious, I am sure, of the importance of your task, and in a spirit of friendly co-operation that you will approach this Committee. My wishes are that your work may be crowned with success and that it may add its stone to the building of an Africa more prosperous than ever before.