

19839

N-5

E/CN. 14/113  
E/CN. 14/STAT/L 26



UNITED NATIONS

**REPORT OF  
THE SECOND CONFERENCE OF  
AFRICAN STATISTICIANS**

**TUNIS, (Tunisia)**

**26 June - 7 July 1961**

E/CN.14/113  
E/CN.14/STAT/L.26

REPORT  
of  
THE SECOND CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN STATISTICIANS

Tunis, Tunisia  
26 June - 7 July 1961

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Paragraph	Page
I. Introduction.....	1 - 7	1
II. <u>Matters arising from the deliberations of the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations Statistical Commission.....</u>	8 - 14	3
III. <u>Progress Report, Statistical Survey of Africa</u>		
Statistical problems and progress of individual countries and their programmes for statistical development.....	15 - 26	5
Regional co-operation for the Statistical Survey of Africa.....	27 - 30	8
Technical Assistance in the field of statistics.....	31 - 43	11
IV. <u>Training and Recruitment Problems.....</u>	44 - 46	14
Progress in training activities, middle grade staff.....	47 - 51	15
Progress in training activities, professional staff.....	52 - 58	16
The status of statisticians in public service and its impact on recruitment.....	59 - 64	18
V. <u>Report on work accomplished at the Regional level</u>		
National Accounts.....	65 - 76	19
Study Tour and training centre on population census techniques.....	77 - 80	25
ECA programme of external trade statistics	81 - 85	26
ECA statistical publications and Statistical Newsletter.....	86 - 90	27
VI. <u>Programme of work, 1961-62</u>		
Working Groups of experts.....	91 - 94	28
Regional co-operation for the Statistical Survey of Africa and other activities.....	95	29
VII. <u>Other business.....</u>	96 - 97	30

**ANNEXES**

- I. List of delegates
- II. Agenda
- III. List of Documents and Working Papers

-----

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Conference of African Statisticians met at Tunis from 26 June to 7 July 1961. The meeting was convened at the request of the Second Session of the Economic Commission for Africa with the object of reviewing and extending the programme of statistical development initiated at the first conference held in Addis Ababa in 1959.

2. The Conference was attended by 52 representatives from 25 Members and Associate Members of the Economic Commission for Africa: viz. Cameroun, Congo (Leopoldville), Dahomey, France, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Portugal, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom, Federation of Rhodesia & Nyasaland, Kenya & Zanzibar, Tanganyika, Uganda.

Representatives of the United Nations Statistical Office and of five UN specialized agencies attended the session: viz. FAO, IMF, ILO, UNESCO, WHO. Observers were sent by the United States, The Arab League, the CCTA, the ISI, as well as the Statistical Office of the European Communities. The list of participants is given in Annex of this report.

3. The Conference was opened by H.E. Ahmed Ben Salah, Secretary of State for Planning and Finance in the Government of Tunisia. In welcoming the delegates he expressed his appreciation for the honour which he felt was done to Tunisia in having been chosen as the location for the Conference. He emphasised the need for solidarity and understanding in the countries of the African continent and expressed the hope that the individual actions of these countries would be directed towards this end. Great efforts would be required in developing Africa to take its proper place in the world and these should be based on thorough technical analyses of the existing problems and of the possibilities of development. He expressed pleasure that conferences such as that of the African Statisticians were bringing people together to solve specific problems and provide an effective means of development.

4. The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa expressed his warm appreciation to the Tunisian Government for its hospitality on behalf of the delegates and Secretariat. He said that the importance of statistics in achieving systematic development of African countries could not be over-emphasized, as a knowledge of economic realities and potentialities was needed to guide the efforts of each nation. In this connection he referred to the establishment of an Institute of Economic Planning in Africa, which was currently being considered by UN Secretariat, as a result of a resolution sponsored by all independent African countries at the last UN General Assembly

5. The Executive Secretary briefly reviewed activities since the First Conference of African Statisticians. They were considered under five main headings: statistical development, the exchange of technical experience, training, the establishment of a mechanical processing unit by ECA and the increased responsibilities of ECA in the technical assistance field with respect to statistics. Plans for statistical development would continue to form part of the Statistical Survey of Africa which was initiated at the First Conference and the recommendations made in Tunis would be actively considered at the next session of the Economic Commission for Africa.

6. Mr. S. Bahroun (Tunisia) was unanimously elected Chairman of the Conference and the following three Vice-Chairmen were also elected: Mr. A. Jalal (Morocco), Mr. Dia (Senegal) and Mr. E.N. Onaboo (Ghana). It was agreed that these conference officers would consider the report on the proceedings, prepared by the Secretariat, before its submission in plenary session.

7. The Conference adopted the agenda set out in document E/CN.14/Stat/L.7 which is given in Annex II. The list of documents prepared for the Conference is given in Annex III.

II. Matters arising from the deliberations of the  
Economic Commission for Africa and the United  
Nations Statistical Commission

8. The Conference considered the following documents : Matters Arising from the Second and Third Sessions of ECA (E/CN.14/Stat/L.9) and Matters Arising from the Eleventh Session of the Statistical Commission (E/CN.14/Stat/L.10)

9. The Second Session of ECA approved the recommendations of the First Conference of African Statisticians together with the programme of work and priorities associated with the following projects : Statistical Survey of Africa; Exchange of information and development of statistical techniques; Processing and publication of statistical data; Training activities in statistics.

10. Efforts to improve subsistence sector statistics, to provide trade statistics with a higher degree of international comparability and the activities of working groups on national accounts were briefly described by the Secretariat. The importance of training activities was particularly stressed. Reference was made to the Statistical Newsletter of ECA which was now appearing regularly, to the proposed publication of handbooks on various statistical subjects and to the establishment of a mechanical processing unit in Addis Ababa at the end of 1961.

11. In considering information on international trade it was pointing out that at the Third Session of ECA, great emphasis had been placed on the effects of both fluctuations in and the long term trend of prices of primary commodities on long term economic and social planning. The solution appeared to lie in a vigorous search for wider markets, in the diversification of exports in terms of dynamic demand in both the traditional and the new markets and in accelerating economic development and trade between African countries. Adequate data was essential for this purpose and external trade was therefore a field in which a great deal of statistical activity would be required.

12. The representative of the United Nations Statistical Office indicated that the work of the Statistical Commission had been largely concerned with international statistical standards and that the last Session had placed emphasis on comparability and development at the Regional level. In the field of international trade progress had been achieved in bringing together the Standard International Trade Classification and the Brussels Customs Nomenclature. The need for a simple classification for statistics and customs purposes had previously been noted as a basic requirement in developing African trade statistics. The need for more adequate capital formation statistics was also stressed and, for this purpose, special surveys were recommended. Input-output studies were suggested as a means of improving knowledge of the inter-relationships of the sectors of the economy and as an aid in improving the accuracy of the national accounts. It was pointed out that the Statistical Commission had clarified a number of items in the UN system of accounts which would facilitate the adaptation of the system for use in Africa. Finally, it was hoped that the Commission could help the statistical development of countries by defining the status of statisticians in order to achieve more satisfactory working conditions.

13. The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations emphasised the importance of agricultural statistics in Africa. It was necessary that statistical programmes should be linked with plans for general and agricultural development. There seemed to be some danger that agricultural statistics would not be given sufficient priority especially because of excessive preoccupation with national accounts. He stated that the FAO Conference and FAO Regional Conference drew attention to the importance of developing suitable survey techniques, the training of staff, uses of census and survey data and to the promotion of food and consumption surveys.

14. The Conference took note of the recommendations made at the Second and Third Sessions of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Eleventh Session of the U.N. Statistical Commission. It also expressed the hope that it would be possible to examine in the course of its deliberations specific proposals for joint work made by the FAO representative.



III. Progress Report, Statistical Survey  
of Africa

Statistical problems and progress of individual countries and their programmes for statistical development

15. The delegations of all countries represented at the Conference described the progress achieved in their statistical services in the last two years, together with difficulties encountered and their plans for the future.

16. From the discussion it was apparent that the general trend in statistical development was encouraging. There was an increasing interest in statistics in Africa at all levels of government and most delegations were able to report that a close liaison had been achieved between statistical organizations and bodies using statistics within the structure of their own governments. However, in some countries government interest in statistics had been obtained under difficult circumstances and several delegations emphasized the point that it was necessary to anticipate the need for statistical information of new kinds in the developing economies of Africa in order that demands may be met successfully and promptly.

17. In some countries economic research for planning purposes was carried out by the statistical offices, while in others this function remained separate from statistics. In either case it was clear that the continued rapid development of statistical services was essential in order that governments should be provided with the information needed for planning purposes.

18. Many countries drew attention to the structural changes which had taken place in the course of the development of their statistical services. In some cases this statistical development and the coordination of statistical activities were under the guidance of high level government committees.

19. One feature of development was the creation of permanent survey organizations sometimes under the control of regional sub-offices. Considerable progress had been achieved in field survey work, particularly census and sample surveys of population and agriculture. In discussing future programmes countries indicated that they intended to expand their work on household and other surveys. These developments were encouraging because at the First Conference, it had been reported that information about the rural sectors of most countries' economies was lacking, particularly in respect of non-monetary transactions. It appeared that most statistical services were now paying increased attention to these deficiencies.

20. A number of countries reported on the steps they were taking to improve current statistical series and on the methods used to compile registers of enterprises. A considerable effort was being made to reduce the time taken in processing external trade and other statistics. For this purpose improvements were being made in data processing machinery and a few countries referred to the intended use of electronic equipment.

21. The most common obstacle to statistical development was shortage of staff but it was hoped that each country would make all possible efforts to train the necessary staff. Other difficulties arose from lack of funds for the statistical services. Some countries indicated that it was not possible to embark on extensive field programmes without outside financial aid and expressed the hope that this type of assistance might be made available. A number of countries, on the other hand, reported that their statistical services were now less hindered by financial problems. In general, it seemed that the support required by statistical services tended to be the strongest in countries which rely heavily on economic planning.

22. A number of countries had forwarded programmes for long-term statistical development to the ECA Secretariat. The Conference examined the desirability of preparing such programmes for all countries. It was suggested that the publication of a programme may not be desirable until government opinion is favourably disposed towards statistical development.

At the First Conference too much emphasis had perhaps been put on deadlines for producing country programmes at a time which may not have been appropriate in some countries. There were various suggestions concerning the periods to which statistical development programmes should relate. In a few cases, these had been related to the periods on which general economic development plans were based.

23. The Conference congratulated countries which had been able to make long-term programmes, and hoped that other countries would soon be able to make similar plans, and that new plans as well as reports on progress in carrying out programmes would be submitted to the next Conference.

24. The question arose whether the function of the statistician should be separate from that of the economist. The general opinion was that, although a distinction should be established between these functions nevertheless the two functions might very well have to be performed by the same person in Africa, where scarcity of skilled personnel made it almost imperative for directors of statistical offices to advise their government, on matters of economic policy and planning. In all circumstances, however, it was thought that the statistician should always draw a clear distinction between the duties he should perform as director of a statistical office and the duties of an economic advisor to a government or director of a planning office. It was further stated that, even in cases where countries had enough qualified staff at their disposal to entrust the direction of the statistical office and that of the planning bureau to different persons, these two offices should work in close cooperation with each other. It appeared, in particular, that there would always be a number of specific economic studies (as distinct from overall economic analysis) which statisticians with a good grasp of econometric methods would be particularly qualified to undertake.

25. In concluding the review of countries' reports it was stated that the development of statistical services would undoubtedly be the main concern of the Conference for many years to come.

26. The FAO representative stated that, in statistical planning, attention should be given to the status of agriculture as at present the only comparable figures related to commodities entering into external trade. He said that information on the physical aspects of agriculture was poor and these deficiencies should not be ignored in assessing the precision and reliability of African statistics. Existing agricultural statistics did not meet the planning requirements of newly independent territories and, in particular, the establishment of "food zones" and the transition to more modern farming and marketing methods was dependent on reliable information. More detailed records were needed than those available from current household surveys. The principle questions needing consideration were the improvement of production statistics, the establishment of food consumption surveys for which an FAO programme had been prepared, the use of multi-purposes household surveys in connexion with agriculture and the standardisation of statistical definitions. The FAO felt that any discussions by the Conference on arranging working groups of experts to consider the above problems, including the question of household surveys, would be most beneficial to both FAO and OCA.

#### Regional co-operation for the Statistical Survey of Africa

27. The Conference had before it documents E/CN.14/Stat/L.11, 13 and 15 outlining the forms of Regional co-operation already being introduced.

These were as follows:

- (1) Short-term technical assistance. This type of assistance had been introduced mainly because of the difficulty of finding experts for specific projects in countries at the right time. Regional advisers in various fields were being appointed to the OCA Secretariat and they would visit countries for short periods on request to assist in initiating new projects and in improving existing methods. This form of assistance was not, however, meant as a substitute for long term technical assistance, but a modest complementary form of assistance.

- (2) Training centres. As an initial step three training centres were being set up on a permanent basis at Rabat, Addis Ababa and Accra by the host governments in co-operation with United Nations in order to improve the supply of statistical staff at various levels (see para 30). There was also an additional short-term project at Libreville in co-operation with the governments of France and Gabon and another under discussion with the Central African Republic at Bangui.
- (3) Study tours. Three study tours had been organized to assist the exchange of information between countries. In 1960 a study tour covering population census techniques had been arranged in Ghana. At the end of the Second Conference there would be another dealing with agricultural and other surveys in Tunisia and the third would take place in Morocco and U.A.R. in October and November 1961. It was hoped that this activity would be further extended in the future.
- (4) Seminars. A seminar on population census problems would be arranged in 1962 and it was stated that it would be possible to hold a meeting of experts on household surveys before the end of 1961.
- (5) Processing of data. A mechanical processing unit was being established in Addis Ababa and negotiations were already proceeding with a few countries to whom assistance in processing might be given.
- (6) Reproduction and translation of documents. This was suggested at the First Conference and can be undertaken so far as finances and facilities permit.

28. In describing Regional co-operation in the demographic field it was stated that the 1960 world census programme was an appropriate occasion for projects designed to make maximum use of the census data. For this purpose a Regional Adviser on Census and Vital Statistics had been appointed to the ECA staff. Assistance could be given in two ways. First, it would be possible to help in initiating practical work such as sample surveys of demographic and economic characteristics, in starting or improving continuous projects such as vital registration and in establishing training facilities for people working on these projects. In connection with the latter, reference was made to the recent Ghana training programme for census technicians and a similar project carried out by the French Government at Bangui. Secondly, assistance could be given in developing analytical research on demographic results obtained from censuses or other sources. It was suggested that assistance could take the form of direct help from ECA staff, of Regional or sub-regional demographic research centres and of regional and national seminars.

29. A mechanical data processing unit was being established at the ECA Headquarters for training and demographic purposes and to give assistance in analysing data to countries not having facilities of their own. It was also intended for use in the analysis of external trade statistics of African countries by ECA Secretariat (see para 85). The demonstration and training facilities would take the form of courses directed towards showing the most effective mechanical techniques available for analysing population and agricultural censuses, household surveys and trade statistics, as well as the processing of national budgetary records and other data. It was suggested, as a first step towards regional co-operation between African countries in this field, that a report should be prepared by the Secretariat on developments in data processing in African countries for consideration by the next Conference of African Statisticians.

30. In view of the importance of agricultural statistics the Conference hoped that a Regional Adviser on agricultural statistics would be appointed for Africa. The representative of FAO referred to the FAO seminar on the uses and evaluation of agricultural censuses and survey data to be held in Nairobi 21 August - 2 September 1961. FAO would also be collaborating in the study tour in Tunis, Morocco and the U.A.R. and would be glad to organize jointly with the ECA further study tours in Ghana for cocoa producing countries interested in the survey work going on for the estimation of cocoa production.

#### Technical Assistance in the field of statistics

31. The representative of the United Nations Statistical Office described United Nations work in this field which consisted of direct technical aid to individual countries. For 1961-1962 the programme involved about 50 full-time statisticians and a considerable number of fellowships. Details were given in document E/CN.14/Stat/L.12, which also indicated the kind of technical assistance requests received. The programme for statistical aid was part of the UN. general assistance programme and was based on annual requests submitted by individual countries. This aid could be effective only if the foreign experts associated themselves closely with the work and problems of the countries to which they were assigned. UN experts were often formally described as advisers but particularly in the field of statistics they could nevertheless undertake executive tasks. The object of the scheme was simply to make scarce resources of technical manpower in statistics available in countries where it was most needed. Reference was made to another scheme, known as OPEX, under which an expert was employed directly by the country concerned. In this case the function of the United Nations was limited to supplying a suitable person and supplementing the salary normally payable by the government. Several African countries had already made requests under this scheme.

32. The Conference discussed methods by which the technical assistance scheme could be of maximum benefit in the field of statistics. It was recognized that the allocation of fields of activity to different international organizations was an essential part of UN. structure which was accepted by all countries. Co-ordination of these activities therefore was of great importance.

33. It was clear that countries which had received technical assistance experts had benefited from their work and appreciation was expressed for the efforts of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies in this field.

34. The Conference emphasized the need for adequate briefing of experts before the commencement of their assignments. Such briefing required not only a precise definition of the task to be performed, but also adequate background material relating to the country where the work would take place. This type of briefing was all the more important in the case of experts assigned for short periods. There was advantage of associating the ECA Secretariat and the regional offices of the specialized agencies with the briefing of experts.

35. Some countries expressed anxiety about the control of experts who did not come under the direct authority of the departments to which they were assigned. It was pointed out that such difficulties could be avoided by more careful drafting of the "job descriptions" prepared before experts were appointed. In addition to giving details of the nature of the work to be performed these descriptions could also specify the methods by which assignments should be carried out and the authorities under which experts should operate.

36. The question was raised of whether provision could be made for the payment of local costs (i.e. field enumeration teams, etc.) of surveys in specific countries, for example, through the resources of the United Nations Special Fund. This fund was intended to assist projects which were prerequisites to economic development, but which would not necessarily become self-financing. Although no allocations had previously been made for statistical projects, the hope was expressed that the position might change in the case of projects which could be classified as pre-public investment surveys.

37. The Conference emphasized the necessity that governments assign a local counterpart to each technical assistance expert in order that the work may continue after the end of the expert's assignment. Requirements concerning training of local counterparts should be specified in the job description of experts.



38. The hope was expressed that the United Nations would provide help in the form of technical assistance to the countries of Africa on an increasing scale and the delegations of some newly independent countries particularly stressed the urgency of their needs.

39. The representative of the International Labour Office informed the Conference of the work of his organization. The role of ILO technical assistance was to help in the development of labour statistics. A field office had been established in Lagos and it was hoped that a Regional Labour Statistician for Africa would soon be appointed. Attention was drawn to a number of ILO publications and it was suggested that a seminar on family living studies in Africa would be of value in assisting the development of labour statistics. It was stated that approval had been given for the holding of the Tenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians in the autumn of 1961 and invitations were being issued. In view of the fact that demands for labour statistics would increase as economic development proceeded it was necessary that they should be taken into account when planning statistical development.

40. The FAO representative emphasized that a special feature of agriculture statistics was the need for figures on a current basis which could only be provided by means of repeated surveys for which technical assistance was necessary. Such surveys took some time to develop and it was therefore desirable to commence systematic work at an early stage.

41. The WHO representative stated that there would be an increase in facilities for assisting countries in field projects on mortality and health statistics and in the availability of training courses and fellowships associated with such projects.

42. The UNESCO representative referred to work carried out by his organization in the field of educational statistics and statistical education. The aim was to improve comparability as well as the methods of collecting statistics and work in Africa had involved both Regional seminars and missions. A fulltime Regional Statistician in Education Statistics was expected to be appointed for Africa in 1963-64.

UNESCO also had a fairly large programme in the field of education itself in Africa and it was recognized that statistics would have an important role in respect of the planning of education. It was hoped that a Regional Bureau of Education would be established in Accra. Reference was also made to the centre established by UNESCO for briefing Technical Assistance experts.

43. The delegations of countries which provide bilateral assistance in the form of personnel, data processing facilities and training, drew the attention of the Conference to this important type of assistance.

#### IV. Training and Recruitment Problems

44. Training and recruitment problems had been considered at the First Conference. At that time particular difficulty was reported in increasing the number of officers in middle-level statistical grades. In addition, there was also the problem of retaining professional staff in the statistical services in countries where conditions of service were not sufficiently attractive.

45. These problems still remained and, with the accelerating rate of economic development in Africa, it was becoming urgent that adequate solutions should be found. As indicated in document E/CN.14/STAT/L.19, the Executive Secretary of ECA, with the full support of the UN Statistical Office, had paid considerable attention to the problem and had now been able to secure technical assistance funds, making it possible to embark on training programmes which would be developed over a period of years. It was necessary to reach a clear understanding on the methods of meeting training requirements at all levels and to initiate the programmes as quickly as possible in order to alleviate the existing acute staff shortages without delay.

46. Training was referred to by many countries as the most important item on the agenda of the Conference and appreciation was expressed for the efforts being made by the Executive Secretary to improve facilities, particularly in respect of middle-level staff.

Progress in training activities, middle grade staff

47. The question of middle-level training had assumed a high degree of urgency because of increased demands being made on statistical services. In addition, the problem was more acute in some countries because of the replacement of expatriate staff by Africans at this level - a process which, it was recommended by the Conference, should be cultivated and extended to all countries. It was necessary to establish a number of training centres to provide theoretical and practical courses whose nature would be determined by local conditions. The attention of the Conference was drawn to the establishment of such centres at Accra, Addis Ababa, Bangui and Abidjan. The first three centres would operate as Regional training projects in co-operation between the governments concerned and the United Nations.

48. It was hoped that, at a later stage, each centre would be able to provide additional courses at a higher level. Such courses would be open to the more successful students at the initial training and others of sufficient standard.

49. While it was felt by some countries that there would initially be some advantages in associating middle-level training with a certificate already recognized outside Africa, many countries were of the opinion that such a procedure would involve the adoption of a syllabus unsuited to statistical work in Africa. The Conference recommended that training should be adapted to local requirements so that certificates awarded be acceptable by the governments making use of each centre. It considered this acceptation more important than the recognition outside Africa of the certificate awarded, particularly in the case of middle-level staff. It was, however, considered essential to aim as far as possible at regional standardization of training throughout in Africa, particularly in respect of mathematics and statistics. This would be an important function of the ECA Secretariat in co-operation with governments.

50. It was pointed out that the first middle-level training centres, for which detailed arrangements were already being discussed, were being established on the initiative of the governments concerned, at a time when no facilities were available in the region. When further centres were to be established in the future, however, careful co-ordination of the requirements of participating countries would be needed to ensure the choice of the most satisfactory locations as well as suitable arrangements. For this purpose meetings at the sub-regional level could be convened, if and when necessary, by the Executive Secretary of ECA.

51. A number of countries mentioned the difficulties of releasing serving officers to take part in training courses, particularly those of longer duration and those affecting the more senior grades of middle-level staff. It was fully appreciated that the resulting reduction in the effective strength of staff in statistical offices would have an adverse effect on current work, but the consensus was that training was a form of investment which no country could afford to neglect. It was necessary, however, that courses should be limited to the minimum period consistent with effective training and one suggestion made for achieving this was the use of practical in-service training to supplement the full-time courses given at the centres.

#### Progress in training activities, professional staff

52. The creation in Africa of facilities for the training of professional staff should be one of the major tasks in the field of statistical training in the years to come. So far an increasing number of fellowships for training abroad had been made available to African students. On the other hand, the Conference recommended that the creation of adequate facilities in Africa should be accelerated to meet the increasing demand for professional statisticians.

53. The Moroccan Government had established a training centre at Rabat providing courses of 2-3 years duration. Other African governments namely Ghana and Senegal had set up professional training institutions in statistics. Keen interest was expressed by a number of delegations in these schemes. A number of International Agencies including UNESCO, ISI and EEC declared themselves interested in co-operating with ECA in granting assistance to new professional training institutions in Africa.

54. The matter of competition between facilities for training outside Africa on the one hand and now African institutions on the other hand was discussed. It was pointed out that it was important to lend assistance to newly established institutions, mostly in the form of lecturers.

55. It would also be desirable to grant fellowships to attract students from other African countries to new institutions. In this connexion, it was pointed out that coordination should take place among interested African countries in order to avoid, at least at the initial stage, a costly duplication of facilities between newly established institutions. The ECA Secretariat should play a useful role in this respect and if necessary, the Executive Secretary of ECA should call meetings of interested countries. Furthermore, it would be most useful to provide the next session of the Conference with an overall picture of the demand for professional statisticians and of facilities available in Africa.

56. Finally, it was necessary to consider the establishment of research centres for statistical work at post-graduate level. Facilities were limited at the present time, but the Executive Secretary of ECA was preparing proposals to the Special Fund for the establishment of a Research and Training Institute in Economic and Social Development which would be submitted to the Commission in February 1962. It was expected that research in statistics would be undertaken at this Institute. A research centre for demography was also being planned by the United Nations.

57. The International Statistical Institute had accumulated valuable experience in teaching statistics and its representative stated that the Institute would be most willing to associate itself with the establishment of training courses in Africa, in cooperation with the ECA and the UNESCO. A proposal could be made at the next ISI meeting, in accordance with the views expressed by the Conference. ISI could also give assistance in respect of seminars on teaching techniques, bibliographies and teaching manuals.

58. The UNESCO representative emphasized the pressing need for creating in Africa the necessary facilities to train statisticians at all levels and in particular at the level of the first university degrees. Concentration, progressive development and universality should be the underlying principles of the establishment of new institutions. UNESCO would gladly cooperate with the ECA and other international institutions like ISI in initiating programmes designed to help in the development of teaching statistics at university level in Africa.

The status of statisticians in public service and its impact on recruitment

59. During a general discussion on the status of statisticians the principal problems arising from existing conditions of service were reviewed.

60. There was a general feeling that salaries in professional statistical grades were low in relation to those in other branches of government services particularly when considered in comparison with some other technical classes. The reasons for this appeared to be the absence of adjustment to the starting salaries of new recruits who had undertaken long periods of training and the inability of small statistical organizations to compete successfully against other government bodies.

61. It was also stated by some countries that the entry qualifications applicable in their administrative services were inferior to those required in the case of statisticians, which further contributed to the disadvantageous position of the latter.

62. The third principal factor reducing the attraction of statistics as a career was lack of promotion prospects. It was pointed out by several delegations that technical officers attached to a small organization from which they could not easily transfer had much poorer prospects of progressing to higher posts than officers in the much larger administrative services.

63. While it was asserted that the choice of a statistical career should result from a genuine interest in the subject, all delegations felt that governments should give due attention to the importance of encouraging the development of their statistical services by creating satisfactory conditions for the officers working in them.

64. The Conference requested that the following extract from the Report of the Eleventh Session of the UN Statistical Commission should be brought to the attention of the Economic Commission for Africa:

"In many areas conditions of services, including tenure and remuneration, were not such as to appeal to trained personnel; there tended to be considerable attraction of these officers to government posts offering better conditions of employment and to the private sector. The Commission wished particularly to stress the need for strengthened services with adequate conditions of employment, especially in the light of the very urgent needs for improved statistical services in connexion with problems of industrialization and development."

Some delegates however draw the attention of the Conference to the fact that this was the responsibility of each government which was the sole judge of its civil service policy.

#### V. Report on work accomplished at the Regional level

##### National Accounts

65. The Conference had before it the two reports drawn up by the Working Groups on National Accounts which met in Addis Ababa : the first in June 1960 to consider the treatment of non-monetary (subsistence) transactions within the framework of national accounts (E/CN.14/NAC/3), the second in January 1961 to consider the uses of National Accounts in Africa (E/CN.14/NAC/4).

66. The Conference expressed satisfaction with the work accomplished by the experts who participated in these meetings and by the Secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa. It desired in particular to thank the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth which in consenting to hold its first African conference in Addis Ababa from January 4th to January 9th 1961, greatly contributed to the successful meeting of the Working Group on the uses of national accounts in Africa, held immediately afterwards, from January 10th to 12th 1961.

67. The Conference reaffirmed the importance it attached to the contribution which the ECA would be called upon to make in future to the progress of national accounts studies in Africa. National accounts are a tool indispensable to governments wishing to organize the national economy and to accelerate its development. In addition, national accounts make it possible to include the available statistical information in a coherent framework which shows up the main gaps to be filled in the statistical documentation.

68. In its examination of the report of the Working Group on the treatment of non-monetary transactions (E/CN.14/NAC/3), the Conference noted in particular the proposal that had been advanced with a view to creating in national accounts a separate account for the rural sector (see paragraphs 29 to 34 and appendix II of the report). While recognizing the value of the proposal, the Conference felt that for the time being at least it would have to be left to each country to decide whether to create such a separate sector in its national accounts, such a decision depending on the kind of statistical data available and on the framework adopted for the accounts. Several countries indicated in particular the importance which they attach to the continued observation of non-monetary transactions for the purpose of securing accuracy in the measurement of economic growth, and they felt that methods, specially adapted to the conditions of each country, would still have to be used for some years, to observe those transactions whose relative importance is bound to decrease with the progress of economic development.

69. Moreover, the Conference pointed out that the definition of subsistence transactions shown in paragraphs 4 and 35 of the report could with advantage be made more precise if it specified that it applies to the transactions of economic units in the traditional sector of the economy and not the modern sector (covering intermediate consumption and self-financed investment by "modern" enterprises).



70. The Conference then examined the various proposals regarding the working programme of the Economic Commission for Africa as they appeared in paragraphs 25 - 29 of the report of the uses of national accounts in Africa (E/CN.14/NAC/4). As regards meetings to be held, the Conference, while recognizing the usefulness of the meetings recommended in paragraph 25 of that report, called the attention of the Secretariat to the importance of suitably spacing out such meetings so that national accounts statisticians could take part in them without disturbing by too frequent absences the normal working of their statistical department.

71. The Conference took due note of the meeting to be organized at Addis Ababa in September 1961 on the Economic and Functional Classification of Government transactions (para. 25(2)) and recommended that participating countries endeavour to include a national accounts specialist in their delegations.

72. The Conference took note of the statements of the Secretariat and of the representative of the IMF which indicated that there was agreement in principle on the desirability of convening in Africa a working group of experts on balance of payments statistics. This group would undertake to adapt the balance of payments manual of the Fund to the needs and conditions prevailing in Africa. The representative of the Fund referred to a meeting with a similar purpose which had been organized in 1951 in Rangoon for the countries of the ECAFE region. This meeting was held under the auspices of the UN, the Fund and ECAFE where representatives of the Fund reviewed with balance of payments technicians of the ECAFE region a simplified schedule for reporting international transactions. The details for the proposed meeting in Africa regarding the exact date and place and other arrangements will be subject to future negotiation.

73. A number of delegates stressed the importance they attached to the two meetings proposed in the report referred to above. The first would be concerned with the definition and measurement of capital formation and the second with statistical techniques most appropriate to the collection of basic data required for the compilation of national accounts series.

On the subject of the second meeting, the Secretariat reminded the Conference that the FAO was organizing a seminar, to be held in Nairobi in August 1961 on the various possible uses of census and agricultural survey results and that one of the items on the agenda of this meeting related precisely to the question of using these results in drawing up national accounts.

74. The Conference approved the Secretariat's plan to convene a working group in 1962 to study ways of adapting the United Nations System of National Accounts to Africa's requirements. The plan was submitted by the Secretariat within the framework of the working group's recommendation on the revision of the UN national accounts questionnaire (para. 26 of the report). The working group will have to draw up a set of supporting tables sufficiently clear and detailed to be used as a work plan to guide African national accountants in building up the aggregates of the standardized accounts of the UN system from the statistical raw material available. The problem of drawing up a simplified questionnaire on national accounts, better adapted to the possibilities of African statistical departments and distributed by the United Nations need only be taken up in the light of decisions reached at the working group's meeting.

75. The Conference was informed of the plan of the Secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa, for the compilation of a handbook on national statistics (para. 27 of the Report) and the preparation of a study on the methodology of national accounting in Africa (para. 28 of the Report). It assured the Secretariat of the support of all countries in the preparation of these publications. One country in particular has given notice of its intention of publishing, in the near future, its own manual of methods in this field.

76. A training programme of national accounts statisticians was outlined by the Secretariat under the heading of the recommendations in paragraph 29 of the Report. The Conference requested that the Secretariat continue the study of this question and submit specific proposals at its next session.

Study Tour and training centre on population  
census techniques

77. The Conference noted the work of the Secretariat in the demographic field with particular reference to the Report of the Study Tour and Training Centre in population census techniques held in Accra, Ghana (E/CN.14/Stat/L.14 and E/CN.14/Stat/L.14/Add.1). Attention was also drawn to the work carried out by the Secretariat in connexion with the 1960 World Population Census Programme as well as the efforts to initiate a research and training programme in demography.

78. The Conference welcomed the plans for providing in-service training in demographic analysis at the regional demographic centres so that adequate personnel would be available for such work.

79. The Conference commended the Study Tour as a useful method for providing interchange of information in the planning and conduct of censuses and demographic surveys. While recognizing that such an experience would provide assistance in the form of indicating the types of problems encountered in census planning and the solutions adopted for them in the country where the study tour was carried out, it was felt that the observed methodology and techniques would need modification before they are tried out in other countries. At the same time the discussions carried out in this interchange of experience could provide a valuable basis for development of methods and techniques more suited to conditions in the participating countries. The Conference felt there was a need for a manual describing the problems of planning, conducting and processing population censuses as revealed by recent census in Africa. The Conference recommended that national census reports should contain detailed information on methods used and problems encountered.

80. The Conference noted the decision of the Economic Commission for Africa to hold a Seminar on Population Problems on Africa during 1962 in order to assess the population problems of African countries and to bring into focus needs for more research in the field of demography because of its importance in the formulation of economic and social policies. Recognizing that this

will be the first meeting of experts in this field in Africa, the Conference hoped that the Seminar would give guiding lines for determining priorities for research in this field.

ECA programme of external trade statistics

81. The Conference noted that the Economic Commission for Africa had laid particular emphasis on trade studies at its last two sessions. This was reflected in the number of resolutions adopted on such matters as the terms of trade of African countries, the impact of European groupings on African trade and the nature and extent of intra-African trade. In order to promote such trade studies the Commission urged, at its third session, that "the attention of the Second Conference of African Statisticians and of the statistical offices of all African countries should be directed to improving the standards of comparability of African trade statistics and organizing an improved service of trade statistics in the Secretariat."

82. Accordingly the Conference discussed the subject of external trade statistics and in particular the problems of standardization of the commodity classification of the African countries. It was generally felt that there was a great need for such standardization and for uniformity of concepts coverage and methods in Africa. A number of countries explained the steps they were taking to use the standard International Trade Classification, Revised (SITC) for purposes of economic statistics as well as for customs purposes. The advantages of the single classification for both purposes provided by the SITC were emphasized. That classification contained all the items of the 1955 Tariff Nomenclature (BTN) of the Brussels Customs Co-operation Council but arranged these items in statistical order so that they met the needs of economic analysis. The original tariff order of the items of the BTN being based on traditional principles of customs classification was unsuitable for purposes of economic analysis.

83. One of the principal difficulties experienced by countries which base publication of external trade statistics solely on a customs nomenclature was that the items of the nomenclature were usually too numerous to permit the regular publication on a current basis of an analysis of the data by

countries of origin and destination. From this point of view the great advantage of the SITC was that it permitted the grouping of items at various levels so that a country could thus take advantage of the full detail where it was of importance in the trade of a country and show only summarized data (at the group or section level) in other cases.

84. The Conference considered that African countries should undertake the compilation of their external trade statistics on the basis of the SITC Revised. Some statistical services would require assistance in making the necessary changes in collaboration with the customs authorities and it was felt that such assistance should be provided by United Nations sources.

85. The Secretariat presented a programme of processing and publication of African trade statistics. This programme would be carried out in cooperation with member governments and interested United Nations agencies by means of the mechanical data processing equipment which is at ECA headquarters. The Conference give its support to this programme.

#### ECA statistical publications and Statistical Newsletter

86. The Secretariat reported that the collection of data for the projects described in document E/CN.14/Stat/L.23 was proceeding and referred to the Statistical Newsletter which was already being issued. In 1962 additional publications dealing with specific subjects would be introduced. A bibliography of existing information in the statistical field was nearly completed and a compendium on population statistics would be published before the forthcoming demographic seminar. Similar work was intended in respect of external trade, national accounts and, in co-operation with FAO, agricultural statistics. These publications would aim at giving a critical assessment of the statistical methods applied in each subject, under African conditions, together with a description of the development that had taken place since 1950 and some statistical series. Overlapping with other UN publications would be avoided as far as possible.

87. The bibliography of African statistics resulted from a proposal made at the Second Session of ECA. Thirty countries had assisted in its compilation and the first draft had just been circulated. It was now necessary to devise a method of keeping it up-to-date.

88. Two issues of the Statistical Newsletter had been circulated in 1960 and the third issue was not completed. It was hoped that the Newsletter could eventually be produced on a quarterly basis, each issue containing a number of regular items plus information on a special topic such as addendums to the bibliography, news of current surveys, or of special studies related to national accounts, planning projects, etc.

89. The discussion on ECA publications projects centred on the possibilities of publishing technical coefficients and empirical economic parameters in order to assist those working on national economic development plans. It was, however, noted that the data available as the basis for such parameters was often too inaccurate to provide reliable indicators.

90. Some delegations expressed anxiety about additional demands made on national statistical organizations in obtaining information for the new publications. They were assured that, as far as possible, duplication of requests from other international agencies would be avoided, but in the case of external trade publications and the Statistical Newsletter, a special effort would be required from countries if these documents were to be really worthwhile.

## VI. Programme of work, 1961-62

### Working Groups of experts

91. Taking into consideration the preparatory work to be carried out by the Secretariat and the possibilities of participation by countries in the meetings, the Conference adopted the following programme.

- (1) In 1961, a seminar on external trade statistics and with the cooperation of both statistical and customs-offices, if possible, a seminar on household surveys.
- (2) In 1962, three seminars dealing with industrial statistics, the adaptation of the standard system of national accounts for use in Africa and agricultural statistics.
- (3) In 1963, three meetings dealing with capital formation, balance of payments and food consumption surveys in Africa as well as the Third Conference of African Statisticians.

92. In addition to the above programme there would be a number of other meetings which would also be of interest to statisticians. In 1961 there would be an FAO seminar on the use of agricultural census and survey data and a workshop organized by ECA on budget classification. In 1962 a seminar on population problems would take place.

93. It was agreed that the duration of each meeting would be as short as possible and that basic documents would be prepared by the Secretariat before the meetings to further assist in reducing the time spent in discussion.

94. It was suggested that an attempt should be made to restrict the next Conference to a duration of one week. This would require that the Secretariat receive country documents in time and circulate them in advance of the session.

Regional co-operation for the Statistical Survey of Africa  
and other activities

95. The principal items in the programme for regional co-operation, as agreed by the Conference, were as follows :

1961. The study tour in the U.A.R. and Morocco. This would commence in the U.A.R. in the second half of October and continue in Morocco in the first half of November. The total duration, including discussions, would be about one month. Provision had been made for 10 participants from North African countries and three from West Africa. The programme, together with questionnaires and other documents connected with the surveys to be examined, would be distributed shortly. Countries were asked to indicate the names of persons who would participate as soon as possible.

1962. Training activities would constitute the principal field of co-operation. Centres existed or would be organized in Rabat, Abidjan, Bangui, Accra, Dakar and there were problems of co-ordination to be solved between users and organizers of these centres. A sub-regional meeting should be held to examine these

problems in the first half of 1962 and it was suggested that West Africa would be the most convenient location. It would also be possible to make arrangements for a study tour in West Africa at the same meeting.

Other  
Activi-  
ties

The Secretariat would submit a report to the next Conference of African Statisticians on requirements in respect of professional statistical manpower and progress made in training at this level. It was hoped that UNESCO would be able to co-operative in this project. A report should also be prepared on the development of mechanical data processing in Africa and its possible future developments.

#### VII. Other business

96. Some delegations raised the question of the representation of non-African member countries at the Conference, and wished to record their desire that the next session of the Economic Commission for Africa would solve this question in accordance with established international principles. The Conference noted that this issue had been taken up at the third session of the Economic Commission for Africa. The Conference confined itself to noting the hope expressed by some countries that the training of African statisticians would be pursued vigorously so that African personnel might participate more fully in future conferences of statisticians.

97. The Conference expressed its warmest appreciation to the Tunisian Government for its hospitality and for the efficient arrangements which had enabled the Conference to carry out its work successfully.



LISTE DE DELEGUES

LIST OF DELEGATES

Members of Commission - Membres de la Commission

CAMEROON

A. ESSOME, statisticien  
Service de la statistique

J.M. CALLIES, statisticien  
Service de la statistique

CONGO (Leopoldville)

A. NZEZA, statisticien  
Service des Statistique du Gouvernement Central

A. VESSE, statistician, expert des Nations Unies au Congo

DAHOMEY

P. GILLOT, statisticien  
Direction des Statistiques

I.S. OGOUMA, statisticien

FRANCE

A. FICATIER, statisticien, Administrateur à l'Institut  
National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques

P. SOUBIE, Administrateur à l'Institut National de la  
Statistique et des Etudes Economiques

GHANA

E.N. OMABOE, Government Statistician  
Central Bureau of Statistics

T.A. BOYE, Statistics Officer  
Central Bureau of Statistics

GUINEA

GUINEE

M. BALDE, Directeur de la planification

J. CONDE, statisticien

IVORY COAST

COTE D'IVOIRE

P. MICHAUD, Directeur des Statistiques

**LIBERIA**

H.W. YAIDOO, Deputy Census Commissioner in charge of operations, Bureau of Economic Research and Statistics

**LIBYA**

**LIBYE**

A.ZOGENI, Deputy Director, Central Statistics Office

M. DAJANI, UN Statistical Adviser

A. SAKZLY, Research Officer, National Bank

**MADAGASCAR**

A. MULLIER, chef du Service Statistique et des Etudes Socio-économiques

J. RAJAONARIVONY, statisticien de la République Malgache

**MALI**

A. SERRE, Chef du Service Statistique

Y. DIAKITE, Administrateur INSEE

M. COULIBALY, Statisticien

**MOROCCO**

**MAROC**

A. JALAL, Chef du Service Central des Statistiques

A. BENSOUA, Ingénieur des Travaux Statistiques

**NIGER**

G. SICARD de SAILLY, Chef du Service Statistique

**NIGERIA**

M.A. ADEDAYO, Acting Assistant Chief Statistician, Federal Office of Statistics

E.A. ANYANWU, Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Finance

C.N. ISONG, Secretary, Central Bank

**PORTUGAL**

N. MORGADO, Chef de Délégation, Directeur Général de l'Economie (Ministère d'Outre-Mer)

E. de CARVALHO, Ingénieur agronome Mission d'Enquête Agricole

D.G. TEIXEIRA, fonctionnaire publique Département de la Statistique Générale

SENEGAL

- A. DIA, Economiste,  
Secrétaire de la Commission du Plan
- L. VERRIERE, Chef du Service Statistique

SIERRA LEONE

- W. GREENWOOD, Census Coordinator

SUDAN  
SOUDAN

- A.O. ISHAG, Director of Statistics,  
Department of Statistics
- N. EL BUSHARI, Jnr. Statistician

TUNISIA  
TUNISIE

- S. BAHROUN, Chef du Service des statistiques
- H. BEN AMOR, Administrateur des Statistiques  
Service des Statistiques
- A. KAMOUN, Administrateur des Statistiques  
Service des Statistiques
- C. TARIFA, Administrateur
- H. BEN AISSA, Secrétaire d'Ambassade
- M. BEN KHEDER, Administrateur du Gouvernement,  
Secrétariat d'Etat à la Santé Publique et aux  
Affaires Sociales

UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC  
REPUBLIQUE ARABE UNIE

- M. EL KHOUDARY, Controller General Census department
- M. H. YASIN, Controller, Central Ministry of Economy
- A. AL AKHEL, Director, Economic Statistic Damascus

UNITED KINGDOM  
ROYAUME UNI

- W.F. SEARLE, Chief Statistician  
Colonial Office

Associate Members - Membres Associés

FEDERATION OF RHODESIA  
and NYASALAND  
FEDERATION DE RHODESIE  
et NYASSALAND

F.T. RUSSELL, Director  
Central Statistical Office

KENYA & ZANZIBAR

P.M. REES, Director  
Economics and Statistics Division

TANGANYIKA

S.A. GRANVILLE, Chief  
Economist Statistician

D.C. UPTON, Deputy  
Government Statistician

UGANDA  
OUGANDA

D.A. LURY, Government Statistician

ORGANISATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES

STATISTICAL OFFICE  
BUREAU DE STATISTIQUE

P.J. LOFTUS, Deputy Director,  
UN Statistical Office

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES  
INSTITUTIONS SPECIALISEES DES NATIONS UNIES

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION (FAO)  
ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR  
L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE

P.SHERMAN, Deputy Director Statistics Division  
S. ZARKOVIC, Chief Methodology Branch, Statistics  
Division.  
K.K.P.N. RAO, Chief, Food Consumption and Planning  
Branch.  
S. MAZUMDAR, FAO Regional Statistician for Africa  
T. SHIMURA, FAO Statistician in Somalia  
OLIVEIRA, FAO Statistician in Tunisia

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE (ILO)  
BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DU TRAVAIL (BIT)

H.E. RILEY, Chief Statistician  
H. WOLL, Expert du BIT on Tunisia

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND (IMF)  
FONDS MONETAIRE INTERNATIONAL (FMI)

U TUN WAI, Chief Statistics Division

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND  
CULTURAL ORGANISATION (UNESCO)  
ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'EDUCATION,  
LA SCIENCE ET LA CULTURE

B.A. LIU, Chief Statistical Division

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)  
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE (OMS)

J. NIELSEN, Statistician

UNITED NATIONS MEMBERS - MEMBERS DES NATIONS UNIES

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

R. BOWMAN, Assistant Director  
Bureau of Budget - Ex. Office President

C.L. DEDRICK, Chief, International Statistical Programs Office  
U.S. Bureau of the Census

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS  
ORGANISATIONS INTERGOUVERNEMENTALES

COMMISSION FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN AFRICA  
SOUTH OF THE SAHARA (CCTA/CSA)

COMMISSION DE COOPERATION TECHNIQUE EN AFRIQUE  
AU SUD DU SAHARA

C.J. MARTEN, Statistical Advisor to E. Africa

LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES  
LIGUE DES ETATS ARABES

M.A. NAMAZI, Supervisor Economic Department

OBSERVERS - OBSERVATEURS

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL INSTITUTE  
INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL DE STATISTIQUE

G. GOUDSWAARD, Secretary-General

F. EL KHURT, Directeur, Centre International d'enseignement  
de la Statistique à Beyrouth

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY  
COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE EUROPEENNE

V. PARETTO, Office de Statistique

J. REYNIER, Formation

---

S E C R E T A R I A T

Attending - Assistant aux réunions

- Mokki ABBAS, Executive Secretary, ECA  
Secrétaire exécutif, CEA
- J. ROYER, Secretary of the Conference  
Secrétaire de la Conférence
- P. BERTHET, Statistician, ECA  
Statisticien, CEA
- W. BOOKER, Statistician, ECA  
Statisticien, CEA
- G.E.A. LARDNER, Economist, ECA  
Economiste, CEA
- B.S. MAHAJAN, Statistician, ECA  
Statisticien, CEA
- P.S. MENON, Demographer, ECA  
Démographe, CEA
- K. OFSTAD, Statistician, ECA  
Statisticien, CEA
- J. CAUSSE, UN Director of Studies, Rabat Centre (Morocco)  
Directeur des Etudes, (Nations Unies)  
Centre de Rabat (Maroc)
- R.R. OSWALD, UN Director, Achimota Centre, (Ghana)  
Directeur (Nations Unies) du Centre d'Achimota (Ghana)
- B. EL TAWIL, UN Director, Addis Ababa Centre (Ethiopia)  
Directeur (Nations Unies) Centre d'Addis-Abéba  
(Ethiopic)
- J.J. FARROW, Technical Assistance Expert, (Khartoum)  
Expert Assistance Technique, (Khartoum)
- G.F. JACOBSSON, Regional Advisor in Statistics, ECA  
Conseiller Régional pour la Statistique CEA

Servicing - Collaborateurs

Mme MAOUIA, Registration, National Office of Tourism  
Enregistrement, Office National du Tourisme

Mlle F. ESSAFI, Hostess/hôtesse

Mlle J. SALLI, Hostess/hôtesse

M. SLAHEDDINE GHOBENTENI, Documents

M.N. LAKHOVA, Reception-Accueil

R.P. SCHWARZ, Translator/Traducteur

M. QUIGLEY, Assistant Translator/Traducteur-adjoint

Mme A. BERNASCONI, Interpreter/Interprète

Mlle D. GREZE, Interpreter/Interprète

Mlle C. MARDEN, Interpreter/Interprète

M. NEHMERT, Interpreter/Interprète

Mme S. LOPEZ, Secretary/Secrétaire

Mlle H. LANG-STEVENSON, Secretary/Secrétaire



AGENDA

1. Opening addresses
2. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman
3. Adoption of agenda
4. Deliberations of UN Economic Commission for Africa and  
UN Statistical Commission.
  - a) Matters arising from 2nd and 3rd sessions of ECA
  - b) " " " 11th session of Statistical Commission
5. Progress Report, Statistical Survey of Africa
  - a) Statistical problems and progress of individual countries and  
their programmes for statistical development
  - b) Regional co-operation for the Statistical Survey of Africa
  - c) Technical assistance in the field of statistics
6. Training and recruitment problems
  - a) Progress in training activities
  - b) The status of statisticians in public service and its impact on  
recruitment
7. Report on work accomplished at the regional level
  - a) Working groups on subsistence transactions and on the use of  
national accounts
  - b) Study tour and training centre on population census techniques
  - c) ECA programme of external trade statistics
  - d) ECA statistical publications and statistical Newsletter
8. Programme of work 1961-63
  - a) Working groups of experts
  - b) Regional co-operation for Statistical Survey
  - c) Other activities
9. Other business
10. Adoption of report