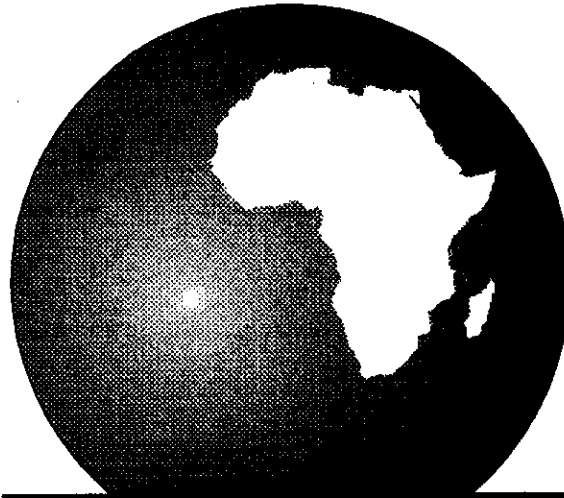


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United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa



Multidisciplinary
Regional Advisory Group

UNECA-MRAG MISSION REPORT ON
SHORT-TERM TRAINING WORKSHOP TO TRAINEE
DIPLOMATS/ADVISORY SERVICE,
INSTITUTE OF DIPLOMACY
AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES,
UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

Nairobi, Kenya
8 - 26 April, 1996

By:
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Addis Ababa
July, 1996

**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
MULTI-DISCIPLINARY REGIONAL ADVISORY GROUP**

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I. PURPOSE OF MISSION

1. At the request of the Director of the Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies, University of Nairobi, Kenya, S.K.B. asante, Senior Regional Adviser in Economic Cooperation and Integration, ECA-Multidisciplinary Regional Advisory Group (ECA-MRAG), undertook a mission to Nairobi between April 8 and 26, 1996.

2. The purpose of the mission was three-fold. First, to provide short-term training workshops on, (a) Regional Integration and Africa's Development and, (b) Europe-African Relations under the Lomé Convention to (i) 15 diploma students, and (ii) 12 M.A. students as part of the academic programmes of the Institute. Second, to collaborate with the Institute in reviewing its programmes with particular reference to the establishment of Centre for Information Technology and Diplomacy. Third, to examine the possibility of establishing partnership of ECA with, (i) the Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies (IDIS), (ii) Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR), and (iii) African Economic Research Consortium.

Background

3. The Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies (IDIS) is the successor to the University of Nairobi's Diplomacy Training Programme (DTP) established in 1973. The DTP was transformed into an Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies in 1989 under Statute XVI, Sections 55 to 62 of the University of Nairobi.

4. Headed by a Director, appointed by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Nairobi, the IDIS has a training department, a research, publications and conferences department, a library and documentation service, as well as a small administration. It is conceived as a regional institution catering for the needs of African countries and international organizations and maintaining close links with similar institutions all over the world.

5. The principal aim of the Institute is to provide a well-structured professional training requirements for foreign service officers in Africa to enhance their skills to enable them effectively meet the interlocking challenges of the present-day diplomacy. The training offered is therefore divided into five main fields: Law, Economics, Politics, Diplomacy and Languages.

6. Against the background of the varied experience acquired over the years, the Institute decided to offer even higher levels of training. Consequently, a new curriculum leading to the award of Masters degree in International Studies was designed to commence in the 1994/95 academic year. A doctoral programme in the same field was subsequently designed. These programmes are envisaged to enhance the source of trainees in international studies and promote research for the benefit of scholars as well as professionals of both the public and private sectors.

7. The ultimate aim of the Institute is to become a centre of excellence in Africa for research and training in Diplomacy and International Studies and to develop a close network with governments, the private sector, international organizations and NGOs.

8. It is worth stressing that the IDIS is a regional institution whose aim is to serve the whole of Africa while giving priority to the Eastern and Southern African subregion. This regional dimension results from the origins of the IDIS as a successor to the Diplomatic Training Programme of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (1959-1971), its long-time support by the Swiss Government through the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva since 1973, which mainly aimed at guaranteeing the Institute's regional outlook, and the fact that the IDIS is part of a group of 5 institutions, which includes the Geneva Institute, the others being located in Trinidad, Cameroon and Malta.

9. With a view to strengthening this regional dimension, the IDIS is currently seeking consultative status with the OAU, the ADB and the ECA, a position already granted to its sister institution, the International Relations Institute of Cameroon (IRIC) as regards the OAU, and now to be extended to the other two institutions under a joint application. Such a formal recognition of their regional status would allow both institutions to embark on separate as well as joint programmes to be supported from regional funds available under the EC-ACP conventions.

10. At the request of the Director of the Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies of the University of Nairobi, S.K.B. Asante, Senior Regional Adviser in Economic Cooperation and Integration, UNECA Multi-disciplinary Regional Advisory Group (UNECA-MRAG), undertook a mission to Nairobi between February 13 and 24, 1995.

11. The purpose of the mission was three-fold: first, to provide a short-term training workshop to 18 trainee diplomats as part of the diploma training programme of the Institute; second, to collaborate with the Institute in reviewing themes of future workshops for diverse clients in the Kenyan public, private and parastatal sectors; and third, to provide advisory services on means for strengthening the IDIS and enhancing its regional status.

12. The 18 trainee diplomats, who participated in the workshop, had varied experience in relevant government service, the private sector and politics from different African countries. A number of interested professionals from the academic community and administration of the University of Nairobi also participated in the workshop, whenever their respective daily assignments permitted. The list of the 18 trainee diplomats, their nationality and respective institutions is herewith attached as Appendix I.

II. THE TRAINING WORKSHOP

13. The trainee diplomats, who participated in the workshop, had varied experience in relevant government service, the private sector and national politics from different African countries: Kenya, Mali, Ghana, Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire. A number of interested

professionals from the academic community and administration of the University of Nairobi also participated in the workshops, whenever their respective daily assignments permitted.

14. The short-term training workshops covered the following themes:

- (i) The Concept and Evolution of Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration;
- (ii) Africa and the World of Regionalism: Old and New;
- (iii) The Strategy of Regionalism in Africa;
- (iv) Appraisal of African Experience in Regionalism;
- (v) The Challenges of Regionalism in Africa:
 - . Approach,
 - . Management at national subregional levels,
 - . Lack of participation of the private sector and interest groups,
 - . The problem of Rationalisation of IGOs.

- (vi) **Post-1990 New Regional Initiatives:**
 - . The Cross-Border Initiative,
 - . African Economic Community,
 - . COMESA and SADC,
 - . UEMOA and CEMAC.

- (vii) **Regionalism: The Way Forward;**

- (viii) **The European Union - ACP Lomé Convention: Expectations and Reality.**

15. A very brief summary of the themes is herewith attached as Appendix 1.

16. As subsequently requested by the director of the Institute, a special lecture on the UN Economic Commission for Africa and the Challenges of Africa's development, with particular reference to the UN Secretary-General's recent special Initiative was provided.

17. The mission prepared examination questions on the topics covered for the June 1996 final examinations.

III. REVIEW OF INSTITUTE'S PROGRAMMES

18. The mission collaborated with the Director and Senior Faculty members of the Institute in reviewing the professional and academic programmes of the Institute with special reference to establishing a centre for Information Technology (IT). The following objectives of the Centre were highlighted as follows:

to become regional centre of excellence in the field of IT and International Relations,

- . to familiarize decision-makers and diplomats with the potential applications and implications of Information Technology in international relations,
- . to support and perform educational activities which increase popular understanding of the opportunities and challenges posed by development in computing and telecommunications,
- . to support the creation of national and regional political, legal and economic structure that will ease the assimilation of Information Technologies by African countries,
- . to provide training and capacity building in Information Technology for students and academic staff of the Institute,
- . to initiate process of the computerization of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kenya and other Ministries of the Foreign Affairs in the region with special emphasis on training and capacity building,
- . to provide training for diplomatic community in Nairobi (foreign missions, UN organisations,
- . to initiate process of the computerization of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs in the region,
- . to initiate creation of regional IT-infrastructure for exchange of information about the regional political, economic and social issues,
- . to create infrastructure that should make the Centre and IT-projects at the Institute self-sustainable,

to support other activities at the Institute.

Areas of Specialization of the Centre

19. The following areas of specialization were identified:

- (i) **Training and Capacity Building**

20. The short-term training workshop covered the following highly topical themes:

- (i) Concept and Evolution of Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration,
- (ii) African Economic Community: inching towards implementation,
- (iii) African Economic Recovery and Development: Challenges and Prospects,
- (iv) The European Union-ACP Lomé Convention: Expectations and Reality.

21. As subsequently requested by the Director of the Institute, a special briefing on the UN Economic Commission for Africa, its historical background, structure, terms of reference and role in African development was also provided.

22. The mission prepared examination questions on the topics covered for the June 1995 final Diploma Examination.

IV. ESTABLISHING ECA PARTNERSHIPS

(a) Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies

23. Mission also held a series of meetings with the Director and the senior academic staff of the Institute the subject of the Institute establishing partnership with the ECA. Discussions were centred on exploration of forms of collaboration between ECA and IDIS such as (a) joint studies or programmes on topical issues; (b) offering of ECA fellowships to senior faculty of IDIS for short-term to one year assignments at the ECA headquarters; and (c) ECA use of IDIS experts to provide short-term advisory services to member States of the Commission.

(b) Institute of Policy Analysis and Research

24. The mission established ECA contact with the Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR), which is an indigenous, non-profit making organization with a mandate to provide a forum for indigenous, objective, policy discourse, with a view to enhancing Kenya's policy analysis capacity and the utilization of that capacity in public policy formulation.

25. the objectives of this non-partisan social sciences policy analysis and research institution are to:

- . undertake social sciences policy research relevant to Kenya's development;
- . develop indigenous capacity in objective policy analysis and formulation;
- . establish and maintain an intellectual environment conducive to free, non-partisan discourse as well as policy oriented research;
- . maintain research talent within the country and reverse the brain drain.

26. The mission took the opportunity to discuss and reinforce a previous ECA-MRAG mission report on the "Review of Policy Analysis, Research and Training Programmes of the Institute of Policy analysis and Research IPAR", prepared by Prof. W.A. Ndongko.

(c) **African Economic Research Consortium (AERC)**

27. The mission visited the African Economic Research consortium (AERC) with a view to enhancing its partnership with the ECA. Established in 1988, the AERC's principal objective is to strengthen local capacity to conduct independent, research into problems pertinent to the management of economies in sub-Saharan Africa.

28. Discussion centred mainly on (a) scholarly exchanges of information with the ECA on challenges of African development; (ii) publications and dissemination of research papers (iii) training programmes of AERC.

Conclusion

29. The mission laid a foundation for ECA's future collaboration with the IDIS, AERC and IPAR. Such networking would enhance, ECA's renewal programme which, among other things, aim at making the Commission a centre of excellence and a major source for meeting the challenges of African development. The contact made with these institutions would have to be sustained.

APPENDIX I:

- I. A brief summary of the main areas covered at the Training Workshop at the Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies, University of Nairobi, Kenya
- A. CONCEPT AND EVOLUTION OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND INTEGRATION
- (a) Historical background
- Regionalism before and after the post-war period: the European experience and its impact on third world countries.
- (b) Regionalism and concept of development
- The linkage between regionalism and economic development, hence developmental regionalism.
- (c) Economic Integration: Conceptual considerations
- Distinction between cooperation and integration in terms of definition; relations between the study of integration and the study of cooperation; types of regional cooperation and integration: Free trade area; customs unions; common market and economic union.
- (d) Rationale for regionalism
- General, economic and political; the specific case of Africa: Problem of balkanization, problem of poverty and problem of population-economic size.
- (e) Establishment of economic cooperation and integration schemes
- Examples from Latin America and Asia; the case of Africa, 1960s-1980s.
- (f) Regionalism: Expectations and reality
- A review of achievements so far.
- (g) Causes of paralysis of regionalism
- Problem of approach; problem of institutional capacities both subregional and national; challenge of implementation; problem of overlapping; and mandates; political and economic insecurity; external orientation of African political leadership; Lome Convention etc.

h) Recent challenges to regionalism

New approaches, e.g., Cross Border Initiative; the challenge of structural adjustment; the challenge of world of trading blocs; the challenge of democratic South Africa.

(i) Meeting the challenge of regionalism

The Abuja Treaty: African Economic Community; towards a new direction: An alternative approach - infrastructure, production, trade; multi-sectoral planning, financing regionalism; effective institutional mechanisms at national and subregional levels; democracy, development and regionalism; the role of the private sector etc.

(j) Conclusion

Time for Action.

B. PROSPECTS FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THE INDIAN OCEAN ISLAND STATES AND MAINLAND AFRICA, ESPECIALLY SOUTHERN AFRICA

The exposé which focused on economic relations between the African Indian Ocean countries and Southern Africa and subsequent discussion highlighted the following areas of interest:

- (a) The rationale for fostering economic cooperation between the Indian Ocean countries and mainland Africa;
- (b) The existing and proposed cooperative arrangements, i.e., SADC, PTA/COMESA, the Indian Ocean Commission and the Cross Border Initiative: Their objectives, main features and areas of concentration; the overlapping in their membership and the related need for rationalization of their activities.
- (c) The relationships between the SADC and PTA/COMESA in the light of the recent transformation of the SADC into a full economic community;
- (d) Possible implications of South Africa and Mauritius joining the SADC;
- (e) Role and impact of South Africa in the subregional economic integration scheme;
- (f) The peculiar situation of La Réunion island in any cooperative arrangement, given its status as an integral part of France;

- (g) Possible scenarios for future cooperative arrangements:
- SADC becoming the economic community for Southern Africa, the rest of PTA being transformed into an economic community for Eastern Africa. This would mean the current PTA being split into two entities;
 - Indian Ocean countries, with the exception of La Réunion, joining either SADC or the economic community for Eastern Africa;
 - SADC absorbing SACU;
 - Comoros, Madagascar and Seychelles not joining SADC nor the Economic Community for Eastern Africa and concluding special arrangements with these two entities or their individual member States;
 - The member States of the Indian Ocean Commission revising profoundly the instruments of their mutual cooperation with a view to adapting them to the new institutional framework in the subregion, as envisaged above;

II. CURRENT AFRICAN ECONOMIC ISSUES/PROBLEMS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

SECTION I: WHAT IS THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMATIQUE?

SECTION II: MEETING THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

- (i) APPER: AFRICA'S PRIORITY PROGRAMME FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY (1985)
- (ii) UN-PAAERD: UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME FOR AFRICAN ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT 1986-1990 (1986)
- (iii) UN-NADAF: UNITED NATIONAL NEW AGENDA FOR AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE 1990s (1991)

SECTION III: WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED SO FAR?

SECTION IV: STRATEGIC AGENDA FOR AFRICA FOR 1990s AND BEYOND

SECTION V: CONCLUSION - AFRICA AND SOUTH AFRICA: THE WAY FORWARD

III. AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY: INCHING TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION

1. Background to the Abuja Treaty

- The significance of the Treaty
- Main features of the Treaty.

2. Abuja Treaty and Other Subregional Economic Community Treating Treaties

- The approach and central objectives
- Institutional structure
- Provisions of the Treaties
- Decision making process
- Scope of areas covered
- Fundamental principles underlying the Treaties
- Democratic imperatives.

3. Problems of Implementation

- The first Phase: Strengthening of subregional economic communities
- Rationalisation of IGOs
- Rationalisation of mechanisms for implementing the Treaty: Subregional and national
- Ministerial structures required for the management of the integration process
- Provision of core-competency skills to enhance capacity of staff at both subregional and national levels
- Problem of involving the private sector
- Popularization of integration process.

CONCLUSION

IV. THE LOME CONVENTION: EXPECTATIONS AND REALITY

1. Background

- Africa and Europe before the Lome Convention
- Immediate background to Lome Convention
- The Lome Convention: Objectives

2. The Lome Conventions since 1975

- Provisions of the Lome System
- Highlights of the main provisions

3. The Lome IV

- Significance of Lome IV
- Lome IV, regionalism and SAPs

4. Critical Assessment of the Lome System

- Is Lome towards perpetuation of dependence or promotion of inter-dependence?
- What have been the expectations?
- What have been the reality?

CONCLUSION

What next to Lome?

