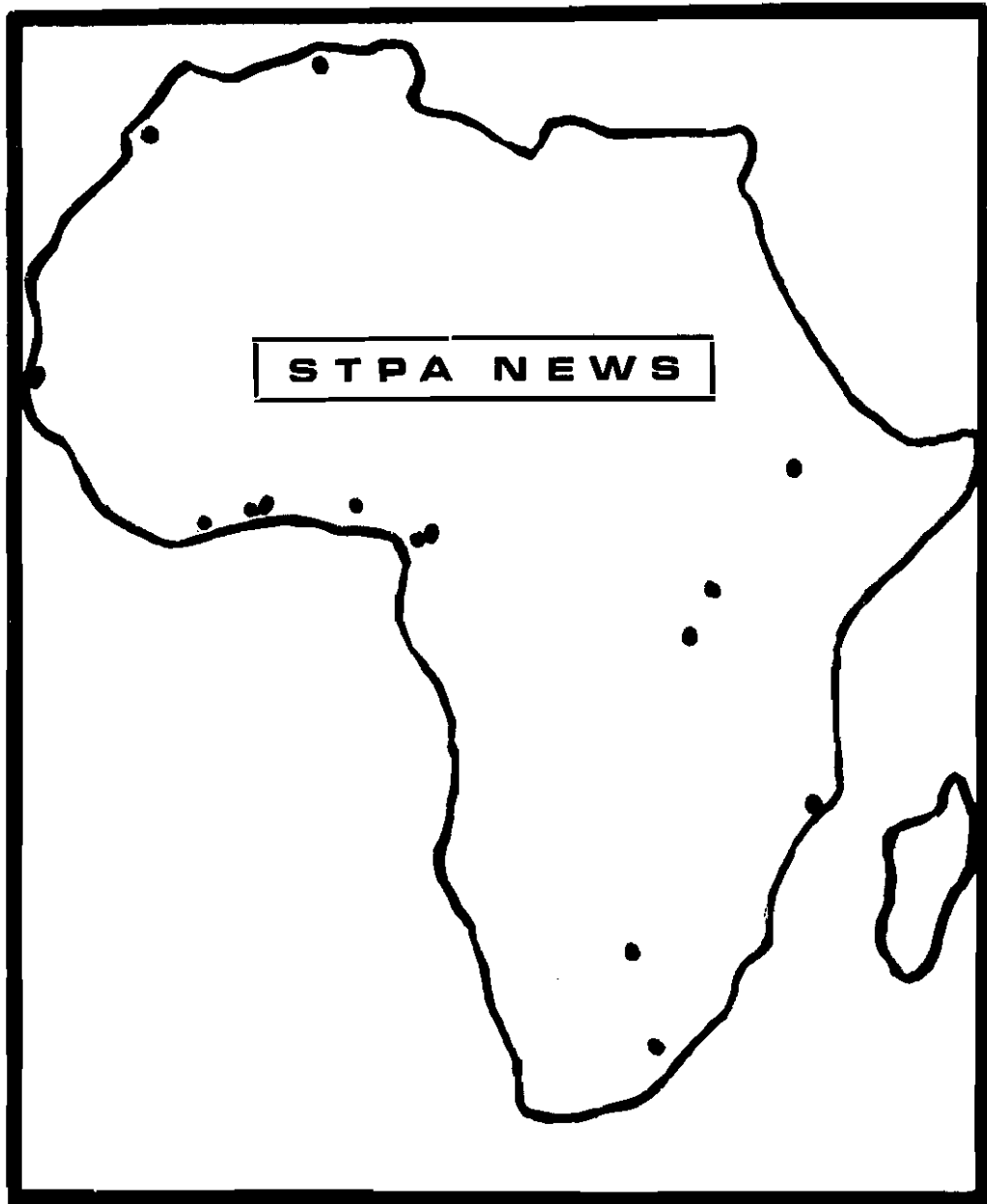


**UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**



**STATISTICAL TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR AFRICA (STPA)  
STATISTICS DIVISION**

STPA NEWS NO. 8

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Addis Ababa

#### NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The eighth issue of STPA News contains in its first part information about the second post of Statistical Training Advisor. The second part gives information on training activities being undertaken by some non-STPA centres. The third part provides information on in-service statistical training activities being undertaken by some national statistical offices in the Africa region, information from six countries in the region is being highlighted. The fourth part contains information on short term statistical training opportunities available outside the region for practising statisticians. The addresses of the organizers of the above courses are given with a view of enabling those persons interested to obtain all the detailed information they may wish directly from them.

The fifth part is devoted to news from the training centres participating in the STPA which are urged to send regularly their contributions to ECA secretariat. The sixth part contains information on the assistance to Portuguese-speaking African countries. The seventh part is devoted to a brief description of the current status of the preparation of the draft guide syllabus for professional statistical training. The eighth part is devoted to EEC assistance to STPA under Lome II convention and the ninth part includes miscellaneous news.

We hope that as in the past, the present issue of STPA News will have a wide dissemination within all the countries of the Africa region and interested institutions.

## I. The second post of Statistical Training Adviser

The post of the second Statistical Training Adviser has now been filled by Mr. E.F. Ching'anda, of Malawi nationality. Mr. Ching'anda took up the post on 10 August 1984. Before he joined ECA, he was the Commissioner for Census and Statistics in the National Statistical Office, Malawi.

## II. Non-STPA Centres Training Activities

In STPA News Nos. 4 and 5, information about some African Statistical Training Centres which are not participating in the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) were published. Replies have continued to be received from some centres as follows:

- (1) Department of Mathematics, Division of Statistics  
Nairobi University
- (2) Institute of Statistical Studies and Research,  
Cairo University
- (3) Department of Statistics, Faculty of Economics and  
Political Science, Cairo University.

### Department of Mathematics, Division of Statistics University of Nairobi, Kenya

The Division of Statistics is in the Department of Mathematics and it started operating effectively from 1975. Its first output of graduates in statistics was in 1978.

The Division runs programmes leading to the following qualifications: Diploma, Bachelors, Masters and Doctorate degrees in statistics. The diploma course runs for one academic year, the Bachelors degree course runs for three academic years and the Masters degree courses runs for two academic years. The Ph.D degree course is by research.

The Division of Statistics has one professor, one senior lecturer, one lecturer, two assistant lecturers and one tutorial fellow. This information is as of December 1984.

The general university entrance requirements for the Bachelors degree programme are as follows:

- (a) A school certificate or general certificate of education with passes in five approved subjects obtained prior to the sitting of the high school certificate examination or advanced level of the General Certificate of Education:
- (b) One of the following combination of passes in the higher school certificate examination or advanced level of the General certificate of Education:
  - i) Two principals or advanced level passes obtained at the same sitting.
  - ii) Two principals or advanced level passes obtained at different sittings or the same sitting other than the first provided that both passes are of grade C or higher.

The conditions in (a) and (b) apply to applicants who have prepared themselves by private study in the high school certificate level.

In the Department of Mathematics, there is a requirement of a principal pass in mathematics in the Kenya Advanced Certificate of Education or equivalent. Other passing grades of mathematics in the Kenya Certificate of Education or the Kenya Advanced Certificate Education or equivalent may qualify candidates to study certain courses in the Department.

The entrance requirements for the Masters degree in statistics are the same as those for a Masters degree in mathematics. In general, candidates must have taken mathematics as a major subject in their first degree. The first degree should normally be of at least second class honours (upper division) standard or equivalent. The common regulation for Masters degree applicable to all faculties are also applicable.

Statistics courses offered in the B.Sc. degree programme are as follows:

1st. year: Probability and Statistics I,

2nd. year: Probability and Statistics II, Sample survey, Advanced statistics, Operations Research I, Quality Control and Acceptance sampling,

3rd. year: Operations Research II, Theory of estimation, Time series analysis, Operations Research III, Tests of hypothesis, Design and analysis of Experiments, Non-parametric methods and Statistical Methods of Econometrics.

The above courses are offered in conjunction with other courses in mathematics and other disciplines.

Institute of Statistical Studies and Research  
Cairo University

The Institute is one of the oldest specialised institutes for post-graduate studies in Egypt and the Middle East. It was established in 1947 under the name of the Institute of Statistics and was attached to the Faculty of Commerce, Cairo University. In 1962, it became an independent entity under its present name.

The training programmes are planned to improve the skills and level of performance of works in the field of statistics and its applications. Other activities like special courses, seminars and workshops are also provided. It is also intended that such training should enable trainees to train others in this field, in their respective countries of origin.

Courses offered at the Institute include, Information Systems, Analysis and Design and Computer programming courses in Cobol, Fortran and Basic.

To be admitted, one must be a university graduate. The fees for the first semester of study are 17 Egyptian Pounds and 12 Egyptian Pounds for the second semester.

Department of Statistics, Faculty of Economics and Political Science  
Cairo University

The Department of Statistics is within the Faculty of Economics and Political Science of Cairo University. Students work for the B.Sc., M.Sc. and Ph.D degrees in statistics. In addition, the department offers specialised training programmes tailored to specific organisations but without offering any formal diplomas, if they are asked to do so.

The Faculty of Economics and Political Science was founded in 1980. The Department of Statistics has three full professors, four associate professors and eight assistant professors.

Admission requirements for the B.Sc. degree in statistics are that one must obtain the high school certificate and in addition must pass with adequate grades the examinations of the first general grade in the Faculty of Economics and Political Science. For graduate work leading to M.Sc. degree, a B.Sc. degree in statistics is a requirement and for the Ph.D degree programme an M.Sc. degree in statistics is a requirement.

Courses offered by grade are the following:

First grade (General): Principles of statistics, Principles of mathematics.

Second grade (Political science): Applied statistics, (Economics) Mathematics and Statistics for Economists (Statistics) Applied Statistics and Mathematics.

Third grade (Statistics): Principles of statistical theory, mathematics for statistics, Mathematical and Statistical Laboratory, Electronic Programming, Mathematical Economics and Econometrics and Management and Project Evaluation.

Fourth grade (Statistics): Theory of statistics, Stochastic Processes, Experimental design, Operational Research, Demography, Advanced Statistical Analysis and Sampling.

III. In-service Statistical Training Programmes

During the third Meeting of Directors of STPA centres, there were extensive discussions on practical ways of encouraging National Statistical Offices to launch in-service training programmes. During the Second and Third sessions of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, it was emphasized that existing training centres in Africa should be developed and maintained and that countries should gradually set up permanent structures for in-service training in order to meet the training needs of the increasing numbers of statistical personnel.

Missions with the primary purpose of reviewing the status of in-service training programmes and discussing plans for introduction/improvement of the programmes were undertaken by Mr. E.F. Ching'anda, Statistical Training Adviser to Liberia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe; and by Mr. K.K. Bockor, Statistical Training Adviser to Mauritania, Mali and Niger. Following are the summaries of the conclusions of the above missions:

Liberia (20-26 October 1984)

The in-service statistical training programme of the Bureau of Statistics, Liberia is conducted by the Demographic Unit of the University of Liberia. The programme which lasts one academic year leads to a certificate in Statistics. The programme started in 1980 academic year and the Bureau of Statistics is given a quota of 10 students on the course each year. A maximum of thirty students are admitted to the programme each year. From 1980 to 1982 the Bureau of Statistics made full use of the training opportunities, but due to financial constraints they were unable to utilize their quota during 1983 and 1984 up to the time the University was closed. It is believed that when the University re-opens the Bureau of Statistics will continue taking advantage of the training programme.

The programme is run on a daily part-time basis in that students work in the office from 8.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon and are thereafter released to go for classes at the University. Transport, provided by the Bureau of Statistics, takes the students to school by 2.00 p.m. to allow them to prepare for their classes which begin at 4.00 p.m. and end at 7.00 p.m. Transport back from school is also provided by the Bureau of Statistics. Tuition fees for the course are also paid by the Bureau of Statistics.

The entrance qualifications in the programme are O level certificate and passing of an entrance examination set by the University.

Presently with the assistance of the Liberian - German co-operation Project on Industrial Infrastructure and Planning, a series of training workshops/seminars have been planned. The purpose of these workshops/seminars is to improve the capability of the staff at different levels. Workshops/Seminars were planned to start in June 1984 and to end in March 1985.

Zambia (31 October - 7 November 1984)

The in-service statistical training programme of the Central Statistical Office (CSO) Zambia, is conducted at the CSO premises where classroom and library facilities are provided. The professional staff of the CSO including the Director of Census and Statistics and the Assistant Directors constitute the teaching staff of the programme.

The programme which started in April, 1975 with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is offered at two levels, the primary and intermediate level. Candidates who pass the intermediate level are said to be equivalent to the certificate in statistics. The primary level course is taught for six months while the intermediate level course is taught for ten months. The output from the intermediate level course have been admitted to the diploma course at the Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (EASTC), Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, and others to the B.Stat. degree programme of the Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics (ISAE), Kampala, Uganda.

The training programme is conducted on a full time basis in a formal way. The basic qualification for admission to the programme is O level certificate with a pass in mathematics and English plus at least one year working experience in a statistical office. Nomination of candidate by employer is essential. A training officer for the programme has been appointed. Presently the Zambia Government meets the full cost of the training programme. At the end of the course certificates are issued to the successful participants by the CSO.

Presently the staff of the CSO, who are engaged in teaching courses in the programme, are prepared to continue offering their services to the programme. They find that teaching in the programme is beneficial both to them and the students.

Zimbabwe (7-14 November 1984)

The in-service statistical training programme of the Central Statistical Office (CSO) in Zimbabwe is conducted at the CSO premises where classrooms and library facilities are provided. Two professional staff attached to the training section and section heads constitute the teaching staff of the programme. Presently the computer science course of the programme is taught by the Overseas Development Administration (ODA) computer adviser based at the CSO and the computer training adviser based at the Scientific Computer Centre.

The teaching programme started in July, 1982 with assistance from ODA in the form of an adviser who arrived during 1981. The duties of the adviser included planning the in-service training programme and preparation of lecture materials.

The basic admission requirement to the programme are O level certificate with a pass in mathematics, a working experience at the CSO or other government ministry or department and passing an entrance examination prepared by the CSO.

There are two levels taught in the training programme namely Part A and Part B. Part A is the introductory course and is taught for nine months while Part B is the advanced course and is taught for ten months. When candidates pass Part B of the course programme they are said to be equivalent to the certificate in statistics. It is expected that output from Part B course will be able to pursue the diploma in statistics course at the Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (EASTC) or the B.Stat. degree course at the Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics (ISAE).

The training programme is conducted on a daily part-time basis. Classes are conducted from Monday to Thursday from 8.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. for Part B course and 11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. for Part A course. The rest of the afternoon is for office work. Friday is also for office work and catching up with course materials and homework.

The training programme has a strong link with the Institute of Statisticians (U.K). Part A of the course is said to be equivalent to the preliminary stage of the Institute of Statistician while Part B is said to be equivalent to the 1st. stage of the Institute of Statistician. The Institute of Statisticians also participates in the moderation and marking of the examination papers.

Mauritania (15-21 November 1984)

The Direction of Statistics and National Accounts has no in-service training programme but plans to undertake a middle-level training programme at national level beginning 1985/1986 academic year. At the moment a middle-level training course for the "assistants des travaux statistiques et démographiques" which started in 1983 at the "Centre d'études démographiques et sociales (CEDES)" is in progress for the preparation of the next general population census. This training course is financed by UNFPA under the country project MAU/80/P03. It is planned that the CEDES will be used beyond 1985 for a continuous training programme of middle-level personnel and for the organization of short term training courses for middle-level personnel. To achieve the above objectives, it has been suggested to the Director of statistics and to those responsible for CEDES to undertake the following:

- (1) A study of the training needs of middle-level personnel in the country in order to do better planning of their training.



(ii) Issue an information letter about the CEDES to all ministries, departments and national agencies dealing with statistical activities (education, health, agriculture, national central bank, etc.).

(iii) Issue an information booklet on the teaching programmes, courses contents and the admission requirements.

(iv) Information to be given to the users on the various possibilities of organising short-term training seminars.

After a short visit to some government departments and ministries, it was estimated that there was need to train forty three middle-level personnel during the period 1985-1989.

#### Mali (22-30 November 1984)

The National Statistical Office in Mali started in 1982/1983 a study on the implementation of middle-level statistical training in two national training centres namely the "Centre de formation professionnelle (CFP)" for the training of the "Agents techniques" (certificate level) and the "Ecole centrale pour l'industrie, le commerce et l'administration (ECICA)" for the training of the "Adjoints techniques" (diploma level).

Regarding the opening of the two national training centres within CFP and ECICA, problems relating to the duration of the training programme have to be solved. At the same time the National Statistical Office is requested to complete as soon as possible the study on the training needs of middle-level statistical personnel in the country. These two centres are expected to be opened in October 1985.

According to the new Statutes of the National Statistical Office, as from 1989, the category of clerks is to be abolished. In view of this, the Ministry of Public Service is organising frequent promotion examinations for this category of personnel. The next promotion examinations will be held in February 1985. In preparation for this examination, a special in-service training programme is organized to allow the clerks to have some minimum knowledge of mathematics and statistics. It has been proposed that this in-service training programme be organized on a regular basis within the statistical office.

#### Niger (1-5 December 1984)

In the framework of an Agreement between the Ivory Coast and Niger governments, the National Statistical Office of Niger is undertaking statistical training activities for middle-level personnel, with technical assistance from one STPA training centre namely ENSEA-Abidjan. According to this agreement, ENSEA has already assisted the national statistical office of Niger in the technical organisation of the entry examinations to the "adjoints techniques" (Diploma level) courses which started on the 26 November 1984 and will last two years. At the beginning of January 1985 and in June 1985, two staff members of ENSEA, namely the Director general and the Director of studies will undertake missions to the Statistical Office of Niger with the purpose of (i) studying ways which would assist in improving the training programme and (ii) participating in the end of year board of examiners meeting together with the teaching staff of the National Statistical Office of Niger.

In order to start the "adjoints techniques" training programme, the Niger government has requested financial assistance from the World Bank. The World Bank has accepted to assist in (i) the rehabilitation of the old building of the Statistical Office which are to be used for the training activities, (ii) supply of some equipments such as photocopy machine and typewriter and (iii) monthly subsistence allowances for the students.

The teaching personnel of this training programme include a French Government Expert, some senior staff of the National Statistical Office and some teaching staff of the University of Niger.

Another training programme of "agents techniques" (certificate level) is planned to be conducted from November 1985 and will last one year.

IV. Some short term statistical training opportunities available outside the region

The following are some short term statistical training opportunities available outside Africa:

1. University of Kent at Canterbury, Applied Statistics Research Unit

The Applied Statistics Research Unit of the University of Kent at Canterbury will be offering two 12 week residential courses during 1985. Both courses will begin on 5 July 1985 and end on 7 September 1985. The first course is on Sample Surveys in Agriculture and Rural Development while the second course is on Crop experimentation in developing countries. The description of each course is as follows:

(a) Sample Surveys in Agriculture and Rural Development

The course aim is to provide a sound theoretical basis on which to plan sample surveys. It provides guidance on land area measurement and sample plot selection for land area and yield estimation and gives insight into the problems of organising sample surveys. It introduces modern computing methods for the analysis of surveys and provides guidance on the interpretation and presentation of result for governmental and international agency planning and development.

The course is intended for statisticians in developing countries who are working or will be working, in a rural context, especially in agriculture, and for statisticians who have, or will have responsibility for the detailed planning and execution of agricultural or related surveys. Planners and Agricultural Economists are also welcomed on the course, provided they have an appropriate statistical background.

(b) Crop Experimentation in Developing Countries

The course aim is to teach methods of experimentation with crops, with practicalities always in view, in as wide a context as possible, and with emphasis on tropical crops. The course is intended for those with responsibility for agricultural experiments in less developed countries. There will be much emphasis on practical matters, such as the application of treatments and the collection of data in the field, and also on tropical crops, such as maize, sorghum, millet, rice, cassava, groundnut, cowpea etc. The course is intended for both Agronomists and Biometricians.

For further details on the above two courses and an application form, please write to:

Dr. Philip M. North  
Director  
Applied Statistics Research Unit  
University of Kent at Canterbury  
Canterbury, Kent, CT2 7NF  
United Kingdom

2. University of Reading - Department of Applied Statistics  
Centre for Overseas Statistical Services, Berkshire, U.K.

The Department of Applied Statistics, University of Reading, United Kingdom, will offer a 10 week course entitled "The Management and Analysis of Statistical Data" from 10 July to 17 September 1985. The aim of the course is to review the most widely used modern statistical techniques concentrating on their practical value. The course content covers Data management, Statistical Computing, Planning statistical investigations, Statistical methods, Surveys and Sampling, Agricultural Surveys, Statistics and Development, Social and Economic Statistics, Design and analysis of experiments and Modern methods.

Participants are expected to have substantial training and/or experience in statistics and to be engaged or in charge of statistical work in a research institution, government office, or similar organisation.

Most candidates are likely to have a university degree or similar qualification, not necessarily in statistics. Participants are expected to be broadly concerned with statistical data analysis as well as with aspects of data collection, storage and handling.

The University of Reading has no funds for providing financial support to participants, but governments that have technical co-operation agreements with United Kingdom can send on behalf of participants applications for Technical Co-operation Training awards. Government sponsored candidates not financed by their own Governments may also apply for training funds made available by United Nations Agencies. Advice may be sought from UNDP Resident Representatives about awards and application procedures. Countries covered by the Lome Convention can apply for funds from the European Economic Community. The local EEC representative in each country should be consulted for details.

More complete details about the course can be obtained from:

Mrs. Alison Ansell  
Centre for Overseas Statistical Services  
Department of Applied Statistics  
University of Reading  
Whiteknights  
Reading RG6 2AN  
United Kingdom

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3. United States Department of Labour, Bureau of Labour Statistics  
Washington, D.C.

The Bureau of Labour Statistics will conduct five seminars during the spring 1985. These seminars will be conducted by the International Labour Statistics Programs Centre. The seminars are meant for statisticians, economists and other professionals from developing and developed countries of the world.

A short description of each seminar is the following:

(a) Occupational Safety, Health Statistics and Programs Seminar, (March 11 - April 12, 1985). This seminar will address techniques for conducting surveys and analysing administrative data on work related injuries and illnesses, as well as the use of such data in developing safety and health programs.

(b) Measurement of Productivity and Technological Change Seminar (April 1 - April 26, 1985). This seminar includes studies of productivity in individual industries as well as for the economy as a whole.

(c) Measurement of Wages, Salaries and other Compensation paid to workers and Determination of Minimum Wages and Compensation Seminar (April 15 - May 24, 1985). This seminar covers techniques for conducting surveys of wages and other compensation, including fringe benefits, as well as the use of such data in setting minimum wages.

(d) Economic Growth, Income Distribution and Poverty Seminar (May 20 - June 28, 1985). This seminar explores the use of input-output models in analysing growth and development, projecting manpower needs and analysing income distribution.

(e) Management of Labour Statistics Programs (May 28 - June 21, 1985). This seminar includes the application of management tools and techniques to the unique problem of administering labour statistics programs.

In each of the above seminars, emphasis is placed on the practical applications of statistical and analytical techniques to various subject areas in the realm of labour statistics. The seminars afford participants the opportunity to benefit from the experiences of the Bureau of Labour Statistics staff and from fellow participants from other countries in the day-to-day operations of labour statistics programs.

Participants in the above seminars are generally sponsored by their own governments, United Nations or its affiliated agencies such as the UNDP or ILO, other international or regional organisations such as the Organisation of American States, or by private foundations such as the Ford Foundation or Asia Foundation. The Department of Labour regrets that it cannot provide financial assistance.

For additional information about any of the seminars above, please write to:

Mr. John T. McCracken, Director  
International Labour Statistics Programs Centre  
US Department of Labour - Room S-1310  
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C., 20210  
U.S.A.

4. Institute of Development Studies, Sussex, U.K.

The Institute of Development Studies (IDS) will conduct a three months course in Development Statistics beginning 3 June and ending 30 August 1985. The course is aimed at those who are or may be responsible for the compilation and analysis of statistical data and engaged in statistical operations involving the control of staff and resources.

The objectives of the course are to ensure that at the end of the course, participants have developed technical ability, managerial skills and professional approach in the area of compilation and analysis of data for use in policy making.

The course is structured under the following headings: key concepts and measurement, statistical techniques, statistical reports, use of administrative data, surveys, data processing and statistical frameworks. The course centres on practical use of case study materials, class exercises and individual assignments.

The IDS has no funds for providing financial support to study fellows. Applicants seeking a British Government Technical Co-operation Award should approach the department in their Government which is responsible for external technical co-operation. Such Departments will provide details of eligibility.

Other applicants may be eligible for EEC, various United Nations agencies (such as UNDP, UNICEF, etc.) the Ford Foundation or the Rockefeller Foundation scholarships. Enquiries should be made direct to the organisation concerned through the local representative where possible. Candidates from the ACP countries are eligible to apply for EDF awards, the applications must however be endorsed by the national authorities concerned. Further information on the EDF fellowships can be obtained from the local European Economic Commission Delegation.

Further information on the course is available from:

The Chairman  
Teaching Area  
Institute of Development Studies  
at the University of Sussex  
Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9RE  
England

5. University of Strathclyde, Fraser of Allander Institute  
Glasgow, England

The Fraser of Allander Institute of the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow will during 1985 offer two 12 week residential courses in "National Accounting and Development Planning Techniques". The first course is scheduled from April to June 1985, the second course is scheduled from September to November 1985. The course will be offered in the Strathclyde business school which is part of the main campus of the University of Strathclyde.

The course has been designed to provide a sound understanding of the sources and uses of national accounts data in development planning and the appreciation of the techniques involved in the construction and application of development planning models.

The course is suitable for Economists, Statisticians, Planners and similar personnel who work in departments, agencies or institutions concerned with statistics and development planning at national or regional level. Participants would normally come from the Ministries of Planning, Industry, Finance, Agriculture; the Central Statistical Office and State (regional) Planning Agencies. A qualification in economics, statistics, accounting or computing is an advantage though not essential.

The course has three main objectives. These are:

- i) to provide a sound understanding of the concepts and methods of national income accounting and its various extensions including social accounting matrices, input-output tables and regional accounts.
- ii) to provide a basic knowledge of computer hardware and software and the use of computers in the processing and application of national accounts data for development planning.
- iii) to provide instruction in the concepts and methods of macro-economic planning models and techniques, the estimation of such models and the development of programme software to run them.

The organisation of the teaching is in the form of lectures, seminars and practical work including the writing and testing of programs and the estimation and application of models. In addition case study materials will be presented by visiting experts with extensive experience in developing countries.

The course fee for 1985 is £3,700 of which £1,900 is tuition and £1,800 is accommodation including all meals, a number of study visits and some recreational activities.

The outline of the syllabus of the course is as follows:

- i) National income accounts - structure and concepts
- ii) Developments in national income accounting
- iii) Data collection and data processing
- iv) Computer technology and hardware
- v) Software
- vi) National accounts and economic development planning
- vii) Estimation and application of planning models
- viii) Case studies and practical work.

A certificate will be awarded upon successful completion of the course. Participants who may wish to subsequently study this topic in greater depth have the opportunity to apply for admission to the M.Sc. or Diploma courses in Development Planning. These are full time courses with a minimum duration of study of one year.

For further enquiries about the course, please contact:

J.R. Davies  
Fraser of Allander Institute  
University of Strathclyde  
100 Cathedral Street  
Glasgow G4 0LN

#### IV. News from STPA centres

##### "College statistique de Dakar" - Sénégal (CS)

Following a special request received from the "College statistique de Dakar, Senegal" for supply of some equipment under the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA), ECA has provided the above centre with the following equipment: One photocopy machine with a supporting table and field survey equipment mainly used in agricultural statistics.

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For the current course programme of under-graduate statistical training 1984/1987, the CS - Dakar has admitted two new students from Cape Verde and, for the first time, two students from Guinea-Bissau. It is hoped that the centre could also admit students from Sao Tome and Principe in the next course programme 1987/1990.

Institut de statistique, de planification et d'économie appliquée (ISPEA), Yaounde

Mr. R. Nantchouang, lecturer at the Institute who was awarded a two year fellowship under the STPA regional component to do a Masters Degree in Economic Science at the University of Montreal (Canada) has now rejoined ISPEA after completing his training.

Ecole nationale supérieure de statistique et d'économie appliquée (ENSEA) Abidjan

The fellowship awarded to Mr. J.M. Kouadjo, lecturer at the Institute has been extended for another year to enable him to complete his Doctorate degree in statistics and economics at the University Paris I - France.

Institut Africain et Mauricien de statistique et d'économie appliquée (IAMSEA), Kigali, Rwanda

The fellowship of Mr. J.B. Ntamwemezi, lecturer at the institute has at the request of the institute been extended for one year to enable him to complete his course in computer maintenance at the Université Paris IX Dauphine.

Mr. J. Bielecki, Household Survey Specialist, ECA, Statistics Division gave lectures on household surveys at this centre from 26 November to 16 December 1984.

Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (EASTC) Dar-es-Salaam

The 38th Meeting of the Advisory Board of the Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (EASTC) was held in Arusha (Tanzania) from 15 to 17 November, 1984.

During the meeting, it was reported that because of failure in getting a meeting of Plenipotentiaries of the main user countries of the centre on the question of regionalisation, it was decided to explore other possibilities in order to achieve regionalisation of the centre. The Co-ordination Group of the Mediation Agreement of the East African Community which has been established to look into areas of future agreement of the three countries, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, is seen as one possibility of achieving regionalisation of the centre since one of the issues this group is tackling is that of regional centres. The centre is actively exploring its recognition as a regional centre through this group. Should this approach not succeed, the question of the meeting of Plenipotentiaries will continue to be followed.

On country courses, it was proposed that a comprehensive study of training requirements in the user countries should be undertaken and that the centre should play an active role in country courses being mounted in the region. Terms of references for the centre's activities in this area were suggested.

One fellowship of two year duration was awarded to Mr. V.E. Muba, the Acting Director of the centre, for Ph.D study in General Economics at the University of Illinois, U.S.A. His programme begins in January 1985.

Department of Statistics, University College of Botswana, Gaborone

One fellowship of two year duration was awarded to Mr. B.S. Mguni, a lecturer in statistics at the University of Botswana, for Ph.D. study in statistics at Colorado State University, USA. His programme began in August 1984.

Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics,  
Makerere University, Kampala

It was reported at the 38th Advisory Board Meeting of the Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (EASTC) that a one year post-graduate diploma course in statistics will be launched by the Institute beginning January 1985.

Candidates in the programme will specialise in Agricultural Statistics, Demography or National Accounts. When students go through the programme they can after field research earn a Masters degree of the University.

"Institut national de la planification et de la statistique" (INPS - Algiers)

The name of the "Institut des techniques de planification et d'économie appliquée (ITPEA)" has been changed to "Institut national de la planification et de la statistique (INPS)" by an Ordinance dated 26 November 1983. Upto November 1983, the ITPEA offered training courses leading to two degrees:

- the degree of "Ingenieur d'application de la statistique (IAS)"
- the degree of "Analyste de l'économie (A.E)"

According to the above Ordinance, the INPS offers three training courses leading to the following degrees:

- "Techniciens supérieurs"
- "Ingenieurs d'état"
- Magisters (post-graduate)

Therefore, the training course leading to the degree of "techniciens supérieurs" is replacing the training course leading to the degree of "ingenieurs d'application de la statistique".

VI. Assistance to Portuguese-speaking African countries

It should be recalled that, in accordance with the Resolution 415(XVI) of the ECA Conference of Ministers, held at Freetown in April 1981, ECA proposed to put emphasis on statistical training activities, at national level, in the framework of the special assistance to be given to Portuguese-speaking African countries within the STPA. These activities include (i) technical assistance to those Portuguese-speaking African countries wishing to establish/develop in-service statistical training programmes and (ii) preparation of a guide syllabus for in-service statistical training tailored to the requirements of the countries of the group.



Missions to the Portuguese-speaking African countries were therefore undertaken by Mr. José Francisco Graca-Costa, recruited as consultant, and one ECA Statistical Training Adviser, in order to carry out a study of the statistical training needs of these countries and to prepare a draft guide syllabus for in-service training adapted to the specific conditions of the countries of the group. Both the report of the study and the draft guide syllabus have been despatched to the countries concerned.

In accordance with the conclusions of the above study, ECA is now planning to provide support to two of these countries, namely Guinea-Bissau and Sao Tome and Principe. A consultant will be recruited to assist these countries in implementing the in-service statistical training programmes.

#### VII. Preparation of Guide Syllabus for Professional Statistical Training

Work on the preparation of the Guide Syllabuses has continued smoothly. It may be recalled that two teams (one for English-speaking and the other for French-speaking countries) were appointed to undertake the assignment following the approval of the third Meeting of Directors of STPA centres which took place in Addis Ababa from October 31 - November 4, 1983.

Both the English- and French-speaking teams have completed their first drafts of the guide syllabus. The draft guide syllabuses will be circulated in February/March 1985 to the African countries, interested agencies and individuals for comments and suggestions before a meeting of both the English and French groups is convened to bridge the gap between the English and French systems. The final revision of the guide syllabus will be undertaken after consideration of the revised draft by the fourth Meeting of Directors of STPA centres.

#### VIII. EEC Assistance to STPA

It should be recalled that a request was submitted in December 1980 by the ACP Council of Ministers to the Commission of the European Communities in order to obtain EEC assistance to STPA from the regional programme of the European Development Fund (EDF). A study of the statistical training needs in Africa was undertaken jointly by EEC, the ACP Secretariat and ECA as a first response to the above request. The results of the study were presented to the third meeting of STPA Directors in November 1983 and to the third Session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers in March 1984 in Addis Ababa.

A meeting was subsequently convened in Brussels, Belgium, on 17 and 18 December 1984 by the Commission of the European Communities to consider the practical modalities for the implementation of the EEC assistance project to STPA during the period 1985-1987 under the Lome II convention as the final response to the above request. Apart from officials from the Commission and the Statistical Office of the European Communities, the meeting was attended by the current Chairman and Vice-chairman of the STPA Directors Meeting, the Director of CESD, the Director of the Munich Centre for advanced training in applied statistics, a representative of the ACP Secretariat and a representative of ECA.

The meeting was informed that a sum of ECU 925,000 or approximately US\$740,000 was available for the project under the Lome II Convention. Therefore, the participants had to make suggestions on the best ways and means of using this amount for the benefit of the STPA centres concerned. Taking into account the limited funds available, it

was agreed to include among the first priority areas the requirements expressed by the STPA centres during the missions organized for the joint study. These priority areas relate to the following:

- i) Technical assistance and twinning
  - Provision of technical assistance through teaching missions for specialized courses (national accounting, external trade statistics, agricultural statistics, etc.).
  - Establishment of mutual co-operation with European statistical institutes in training activities.
  - Training of African teachers by means of visits to the partner European university.
- ii) Assistance directed towards the Africanization of teaching staff
  - Recruitment of trainee lecturers who will work along with lecturers provided by external assistance for a limited and definite duration.
  - Organization of practical training at STPA centres for new lecturers for the centres.
  - Participation in meetings dealing with organization of courses or statistics teaching.
- iii) Study tours
  - Participation of STPA centres academic staff in workshops and international seminars.
- iv) Training of the future heads of computer departments for STPA centres

The objective is to train the EDP teaching staff so that they will have:

  - Sufficient knowledge of data processing to be conversant with all the applications which can be used in statistical training.
  - Sufficient technical knowledge and experience in the use of micro-computers in African countries to be able to cope with routine breakdowns of the equipment.
- v) Organization of seminars involving producers and users of statistics
- vi) Provision of small equipments to the STPA centres

vii) Organization of common competitive examination for admission at the French-speaking STPA centres

viii) Preparatory activities for the transfer of CESD to Africa

Although the question of provision of micro-computers for the STPA centres has not been included in the present project, its importance has been stressed by the participants so that it could be considered at a later stage. In this connection, it was pointed out that a new request could be prepared and submitted to EEC at the beginning of 1986 for assistance to STPA under the Lome III Convention which is expected to be enforced on 1 January 1986 after the procedure of ratification by all the countries considered will have been completed.

As for the procedure for implementing the above project, the Commission and the Statistical Office of the European Communities will get in touch with the individual STPA centres/countries for final consultations. It is most advisable that ECA be kept informed of such consultations and their outcome.

IX. Miscellaneous News

Professor R.M. Loynes of the University of Sheffield has informed the Statistics Division of ECA that the University of Reading may be interested in starting up a link with an institution in less developing countries. Those STPA centres interested in establishing such a link can obtain details from Reading University or Professor R.M. Loynes at the address below:

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