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PROJECTS OF REGIONAL INTEREST

- (b) International centres for training in integrated survey  
of natural resources and related recommendations

Note by the secretariat

PROJECTS OF REGIONAL INTEREST

(b) International centres for training in integrated survey  
of natural resources and related recommendations

1. The UNESCO Conference on Principles and Methods of Integrating Aerial Survey Studies of Natural Resources for Development held in Toulouse, France, in September 1964, adopted inter alia a recommendation, the text of which is reproduced below:

"The Conference, conscious of the great importance of an adequate knowledge of natural resources, particularly in developing countries, for the balanced and co-ordinated development of these resources, and noting the need expressed at the Conference by representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) for suitable training for key personnel responsible for the Organization and execution of integrated studies of natural resources for development purposes, recommends that UNESCO, in consultation with FAO, and the other competent international agencies, examine the possibility of establishing, within a developing environment, an international training centre, or centres, to train team leaders and other key personnel for all interested countries, in the concepts, methods techniques and practical operations of resource surveys and assessment programmes, extending to the initial economic and sociological implications of further resource investigations".

2. The recommendation was considered by the ECA Meeting of Experts on Regional Centres for Training in Photogrammetry and Airborne Geophysical Surveys and for Interpreting Aerial Surveys, held in Addis Ababa in October 1964, at which UNESCO was represented. In concluding the discussion, the Meeting recommended<sup>1/</sup> ECA to collaborate with UNESCO to expedite the establishment of such an international centre in Africa.

3. As the careful study of the development of natural resources of a country requires balanced information on individual resources in view of the inter-relationships in their assessment as well as in their

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<sup>1/</sup> See E/CN.14/CART/128 paragraph 11.

utilization, the main purpose of the integrated approach is to make the operations of the surveys and studies more economical and more efficient. The question of training for African countries team leaders and key personnel in integrated surveys would have to be considered on the basis of long-range needs of the continent and in the light of the present status of surveying and mapping as well as national and regional programmes for natural resources development.

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