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## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION AND THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA REGARDING A JOINT AGRICULTURE DIVISION

The memorandum of understanding between the Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization and the Executive Secretary concluded on 7 September 1966, is circulated herewith for the information of member Governments.

This memorandum is a revision of the original Memorandum of understanding concluded in 1959, as a result of which a joint ECA/FAO Agriculture Division was established as part of the Commission Secretariat. The revisions are based on the experience of the actual working of the original 1959 Memorandum.

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OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION AND THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA  
REGARDING A JOINT AGRICULTURE DIVISION

In order to establish a firm basis for effective collaboration between their respective Organizations, a Memorandum of Understanding was drawn up by the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization and the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa in April 1959. Certain changes became necessary in the light of developments in Africa; and mutual agreement has been reached on the following revised text. The importance of establishing such harmonious working relationships is emphasized by the increasing volume of work which is emerging in fields of common interest and which must be carried out in accordance with the priority requirements of each Organization.

1. Areas of Joint or Common Interest

Work in regard to the economic problems of food and agriculture in Africa is a responsibility of both ECA and FAO. ECA has to study these matters in relation to all other economic matters of Africa including their social aspects, and in relation to other areas of the world which affect the African economy. FAO has to study them because of its general responsibilities for economic, social and technical problems of food and agriculture in all parts of the world. The ECA secretariat has to service its Commission of Member and Associate Member Governments and carry out the Commission's decisions. The FAO secretariat has a similar function in relation to its Conference and Council.

In order to develop a fruitful and comprehensive programme of collaboration, the two Agencies will endeavour to reach agreement on common policies to serve as a basis for the formulation of the programme of the Joint Division and for the harmonization of activities of interest to the two Organizations.

The acceptance of agreed policies will imply not only periodic consultation between the two secretariats, which should normally take place when the FAO and ECA work programmes for the ensuing year, or years, are being formulated, but also regular and continuous exchanges of views and information on matters relating to African agricultural development.

Consultations and agreement will deal with the joint programme as well as with other work projects which are in the main the responsibility of one or the other Agency but which contain elements or sections where the responsibility belongs to the other Agency.

The work programme of the Joint Division will be approved by the Director-General and the Executive Secretary and will be subject to final adoption, where necessary, by the appropriate bodies of both Organizations.

## 2. Joint Staff Arrangements

In order to carry out the joint programme of work to the satisfaction of both Organizations, the Executive Secretary has established a Joint Agriculture Division. The chief of this unit is a senior agricultural economist and a staff member of FAO, nominated by the Director-General in consultation with the Executive Secretary of ECA. He has a dual capacity, for in addition to his responsibility for the joint work of the Agriculture Division, which is under the supervision of the Executive Secretary, he is responsible to the Director-General in his capacity as FAO Regional Economist.

It is understood that the staff member referred to above should have broad authority to make decisions on behalf of FAO on current matters, in accordance with established policies and practices, in order to facilitate the work of the Joint Agriculture Division. His functions, as described above, include the provision of liaison at the working level between the ECA and the Regional Offices and Headquarters of FAO on matters relating to the joint programme of work. He will also be kept informed of other contacts between ECA and FAO with a view to facilitating subsequent action.

In addition to the Chief of the Division, FAO will, after consultation between the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Director-General of FAO, endeavour to provide essential staff for the programme of the Joint Division. ECA will provide a Deputy Chief of the Division and additional staff, primarily agricultural economists, as well as the necessary secretarial and translating assistance, office space and equipment. Both the Director-General of FAO and the Executive Secretary of ECA recognize the importance of the work of this Division and the need for a steady increase in staff commensurate with the increasing work load, and will make every effort to find the necessary resources for this purpose.

Although it is understood that the Chief of the Joint Agriculture Division will devote his time to that assignment, it is recognized that in certain cases the Director-General may wish the Chief of the Joint Agriculture Division, in his capacity of FAO Regional Economist, to undertake certain other duties. Such assignments shall be undertaken only if they do not conflict with the implementation of the joint programme of work of the Division. In all cases the Executive Secretary will be consulted.

FAO will continue to provide the salaries of the FAO staff assigned to the Joint Agriculture Division and any official travel between the headquarters of the Commission and FAO Headquarters as well as some travel undertaken in Africa in furtherance of the work programme of the Joint Division. ECA will continue to provide the salaries of ECA economists and secretaries, office expenses including translation and processing of documents, postage, cables and telephones, and the travel and per diem expenses of ECA staff in connexion with the work of the Joint Division. The cost of printing will be subject to arrangements on an ad hoc basis.

3. Arrangements in fields of common interest

A separate note of understanding to cover agricultural statistics has been exchanged between the Commission and FAO. The Director-General will also consider detailing of subject-matter officers for specific projects and given periods upon notification and consultation with the Executive Secretary of ECA.

In signing this revised Memorandum the Director-General and the Executive Secretary believe that the above arrangements constitute a practical basis for accomplishing their joint tasks and maintaining productive and useful co-operation between their Organizations.

(Signed).....

D.R. Sen  
Director-General  
Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

(Signed).....

R.K.A. Gardiner  
Executive Secretary  
Economic Commission for Africa

Dated: 7 September 1966

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia