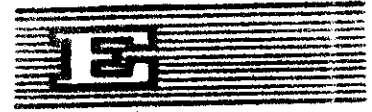




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**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Twenty-third session of the Commission/  
fourteenth meeting of the Conference  
of Ministers

Niamey, Niger, 14-18 April 1988

REPORT OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE  
TECHNICAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
(Niamey, Niger, 6-12 April 1988)

#### A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

1. The ninth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW) was held at the Palais des Congrès, Niamey, the Niger, from 6 to 12 April 1988. The meeting was formally opened by His Excellency Mr. Almoustapha Soumaila, Minister of Planning of the Republic of Niger. Statements were also delivered at the opening ceremony by Mr. Adebayo Adedeji, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, and by H.E. Mr. Abdourahamane Hama, the Chairman of the eighth meeting of the Committee.
2. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following States members of the Commission: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, the Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
3. Observers from the following States Members of the United Nations, not members of the Commission, were present: China, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, India, the Netherlands and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.
4. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) and the African National Congress (ANC) were represented.
5. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were represented: United Nations Regional Commissions Liaison Office, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Food Council (WFC), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), International Labour Organisation (ILO), World Food Programme (WFP), Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), World Health Organization (WHO), International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO).
6. Observers were present from the following intergovernmental organizations: African Development Bank (ADB), African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD), African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT), African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO), Central African Mineral Resources Development Centre (CAMRDC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Eastern and Southern African

Management Institute (ESAMI), Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices affecting the health of women and children (IACTP), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD), Organization of African Unity (OAU), Organization for the Development of the River Senegal (OMVS), Pan-African News Agency (PANA), Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS) and Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS).

7. An observer was present from the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), a non-governmental organization.

8. The Committee unanimously elected the following officers:

Chairman:	The Niger
First Vice-Chairman:	Tunisia
Second Vice-Chairman:	Burundi
Rapporteur:	The United Republic of Tanzania

9. The Committee decided to establish an open-ended resolutions committee to be chaired by the first Vice-Chairman. Two other open-ended committees were also established: one to prepare, under the chairmanship of the second Vice-Chairman, the draft memorandum to ECOSOC in response to ECOSOC resolution 1988/1 on Arrangements for the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole on the review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD); and the other to prepare, under the chairmanship of the Rapporteur, the Niamey Declaration on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Commission.

#### B. AGENDA

10. On 6 April 1988, the Committee adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
4. Biennial report of the Executive Secretary on ECA activities, 1986-1987.
5. Mid-term review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD) and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (APPER):

- (a) Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1986-1987;
- (b) ECA/ADB economic report on Africa, 1980;
- (c) Preliminary mid-term review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD), and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER);
- (d) Financing Africa's recovery: Report and recommendations of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows for Africa;
- (e) Response to ECOSOC resolution 1988/1 - Arrangements for the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole on the review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990.

6. Special studies and reports:

- (a) The situation of food and agriculture in Africa:
  - (i) Subregional co-operation in the production of cereals and tubers with special emphasis on the role of women;
  - (ii) Improvement in the status of sedentary, rural populations and of nomadic societies through the reduction of food waste and losses at the production level;
- (b) Natural resources and energy:
  - (i) Key issues concerning the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan in Africa;
  - (ii) Report on the establishment of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing;
- (c) Industrial development in Africa:
  - (i) Progress report on the implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA);
  - (ii) Report on UNIDO II;
- (d) Transport and communications in Africa:
  - (i) Report on the implementation of the resolutions of the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning;

- (ii) United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa: Report on progress in the implementation of the second phase of the Decade programme;
- (e) Issues in social development:
  - (i) The African social situation, 1982-1987;
  - (ii) Changing socio-economic conditions of women in Africa in the context of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;
- (f) Trade and development:
  - Report on UNCTAD VII.
- 7. Recommendations from the subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies of the Commission:
  - (a) Fifth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers - Recommendations and resolutions;
  - (b) Third meeting of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization - Recommendations and resolutions;
  - (c) Seventh meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries - Recommendations and resolutions;
  - (d) Ninth meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development - Recommendations and resolutions;
  - (e) Fifth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology Development - Recommendations and resolutions;
  - (f) Sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning - Recommendations and resolutions;
  - (g) First meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism - Recommendations and resolutions.

8. Issues in economic co-operation and integration:
  - (a) Report of the meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC - Progress report on the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area for North African countries;
  - (b) Biennial consolidated report on the activities, work programmes and budget of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions;
  - (c) Eighth meeting of the Conference of Chief Executives of the ECA-sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions - Recommendations and resolutions;
  - (d) Progress report on the submissions for the UNDP Fourth Programming Cycle for Africa (1987-1991);
  - (e) Locust Control in North Africa.
9. Proposed UNDP-sponsored management facility as a means of mobilizing additional resources for African development.
10. ECA and African development:
  - Beyond recovery: ECA-revised perspectives of Africa's development, 1988-2008.
11. Statutory issues:
  - (a) Follow-up on resolutions of the Commission and resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and ECOSOC that are of interest to Africa:
    - (i) Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-second session of the Commission and the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers;
    - (ii) Resolutions adopted by ECOSOC at its second session of 1987 and by the General Assembly at its forty-second session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa;
  - (b) Programme of work and priorities of the Commission:
    - (i) Proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget;

(ii) Proposals for the extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-term Plan to 1990-1991.

12. Any other business.
13. Date and venue of the tenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole.
14. Adoption of the report.
15. Closure of the meeting.

#### C. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

##### Opening addresses

11. In his opening address H.E. Mr. Almoustapha Soumaila, Minister of Planning of the Republic of Niger, underlined the importance which his country attached to the ECA meetings being held in Niamey and commended the catalytic and co-ordinating role which the Commission was playing in the development affairs of African countries. The ninth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole was taking place at a critical time in the economic and social development of the continent. Because of severe drought conditions in 1984-1986, the fragility of economic structures, the fall in export earnings and the increasing seriousness of the debt problem, the African economy had not benefited from the temporary improvement in the world economy which began in 1985.

12. In reviewing recent performance in the major economic sectors, the Minister of Planning of Niger noted the general improvement realized in 1986 in the agriculture sector with food production increasing substantially in several parts of the region. In 1987, the return of drought conditions and the proliferation of pests particularly in North and West Africa had virtually wiped out the gains in food production made in the preceding year. There had been an improvement in the availability of domestic raw materials and energy which had led to a slight expansion of the manufacturing sector. Growth in the value of exports was constrained by weak primary commodity prices and low world demand, leading to a deterioration in the terms of trade in the current account of the balance of payments. Those two factors coupled with a fall in capital transfers and high interest rates had worsened the debt problem.

13. Many countries had sought to reschedule their debt and had adopted vigorous programmes of adjustment and reform under the auspices of international financial institutions. On the domestic front, efforts had been made to mobilize all resources. Africa's Priority Programme for Economic

Recovery, 1986-1990 and the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 represented the collective will of African countries for self-reliant development. African countries had every reason to take subregional and regional co-operation as the theoretical and practical basis of development. Member States should enhance their material and financial support to the economic co-operation and integration organizations and institutions. ECA, which had done commendable work in that area, should intensify its efforts so as to bring about the collective harmonious development of African countries.

14. Referring to the agenda before the meeting, the Minister of Planning of the Republic of Niger noted that it covered virtually all problems of socio-economic development of concern to Africa. He reminded the meeting that the relevance of the decisions that the ECA Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning would take would depend to a great extent, on the recommendations that the Committee would submit to it.

15. He wished the participants a successful meeting and declared the meeting open.

16. The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, Mr. Adebayo Adedeji, welcomed the delegates to Niamey and expressed heartfelt thanks, on his own behalf and on that of the Commission, to His Excellency Colonel Ali Saibou, President of the Supreme Military Council, Head of State and Minister of National Defence of the Republic of Niger, and through him to the people of Niger for their generosity and hospitality and for all the efforts they had made in hosting the current session of the Commission. He also thanked H.E. Mr. Almoustapha Soumaila, Minister of Planning of the Republic of Niger, for his inspiring opening statement.

17. The Executive Secretary said that in commemorating the thirtieth anniversary of the Commission, one was also recognizing the important role that TEPCOW had continued to play in the life and functioning of the Commission and congratulated members of the Committee on the occasion of that august anniversary.

18. The twenty-third session of the Commission for which the meeting of the Committee would prepare was taking place at about the half-way mark of the life of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD). The General Assembly would itself be reviewing and appraising the implementation of UN-PAAERD later in the year. The General Assembly had to that end established an Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole entrusted with the task of preparing for the review and appraisal and the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1988/1 had requested all relevant organizations to submit to the Ad Hoc Committee



reports on their contributions and perspectives for the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action. The elaboration of the response by the Commission to that request was accordingly one of the most important tasks of the Committee at its current meeting.

19. The Executive Secretary said that the current trends in the African economy had to be judged against the background of the slump in commodity prices, the level of resource inflows that was far short of actual requirements, and the aggravation of the excruciating debt burden. In addition to those factors which together constituted veritable strangleholds on recovery, growth and development in Africa, there was of course the devastating impact of unfavourable weather conditions.

20. ECA's revised estimate for total regional output was for an average rate of growth of only 0.8 per cent in 1987 compared with 0.5 per cent in 1986 which in the face of the prevailing average rate of population growth of about 3 per cent and high levels of unemployment, implied further deterioration in overall living standards. Performance had been uniformly poor in both groups of oil-exporting and non-oil-exporting countries; and apart from the Eastern and Southern African subregion which had registered an average annual overall growth rate of 2.8 per cent, there had been little differences in the fortunes of the other subregions. A total of 15 countries experienced outright decline in their economies.

21. Development in 1987 in the food and agriculture sector - the number one priority sector - had been particularly saddening, the sector having expanded by only 0.5 per cent which must be taken as a serious set-back in the overall economic recovery process. The excessive dependence of the manufacturing sector on foreign factor inputs, including raw materials, had in the prevailing tight foreign exchange resource situation meant continuing low growth and widespread capacity under-utilization. Because of mandatory production levels and poor demand conditions in the oil sector as well as production difficulties for some non-fuel commodities, developments in the mining sector were no more encouraging.

22. Africa's economic prospects in 1988 and the immediate future, were shrouded in many uncertainties. The general prognosis was the possibility of a recession in the developed-market economies especially of Europe and North America which if it were allowed to occur, would put Africa in a very difficult situation. Under a more optimistic scenario based on favourable assumptions with respect to the weather, the value of the United States dollar, commodity prices, and the continuation of the reform process, the growth rate in overall regional production should be around 2.7 per cent in 1988. Both scenarios pointed to the need to find appropriate solutions to the issue of resource flows to Africa.

23. The Executive Secretary said that the agenda before the meeting was as usual necessarily crowded. The continuing overall poor performance of the African economies as well as the uncertainties and gloom in the immediate outlook underlined the importance of the vigilance and comprehensiveness with which the Commission should continue to monitor and make practical recommendations in respect of the various priority areas. He referred to the documentation before the Committee and hoped that it provided sufficient background for the Committee's examination of progress made in the implementation of the UN-PAAERD at mid-term. The situation of food and agriculture was again placed high on the agenda. The Committee would, of course, also examine major issues in the other sectors that were usually supportive of agriculture namely, the need to rehabilitate and transform the industrial sector, progress in the implementation of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa which would end in 1988, and problems in the area of trade and finance.

24. The other sectoral questions which the Committee would consider on the basis of substantive documents prepared by the secretariat and/or the reports of the various subsidiary organs of the Commission included issues in social development; natural resources and energy; human resources planning, development and utilization; science and technology; and tourism. The meeting would also consider the report of the meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC - the only MULPOC whose policy organ met in 1988. That meeting was significant particularly for its decisions and recommendations on further measures to be taken towards the early establishment of a Preferential Trade Area in North Africa. The Executive Secretary referred to the perennial problem of inadequate resources arising mainly from the non-payment of contributions on the part of member States which still plagued the effectiveness of the ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions and underlined the need for enhanced and sustained government support for, and the effective utilization of, each and every institution.

25. In concluding his statement, the Executive Secretary paid glorious tribute to H.E. Mr. Abdurahamane Hama, Ambassador of Niger to Socialist Ethiopia, outgoing Chairman of the Committee who, throughout his term of office, had worked closely with the secretariat.

26. The representative of Rwanda speaking on behalf of all delegations expressed profound gratitude to H.E. Mr. Almoustapha Soumaila, Minister of Planning of the Republic of Niger, for his opening speech which he said would guide the deliberations of the Committee. The outcome of the Committee's work should be worthy of all the material and financial sacrifices that had been made by the Government of Niger to host the twenty-third session of the Commission. He requested the Minister of Planning of Niger to convey to His Excellency Colonel Ali Saibou, Chairman of the Supreme Military Council,

Head of State and Minister of National Defence and through him, the people of Niger, the appreciation of the Committee for the excellent welcome, hospitality and the facilities provided for the meeting.

Biennial report of the Executive Secretary on ECA Activities, 1986-1987 (agenda item 4)

27. The Executive Secretary introduced his biennial report on ECA activities, 1986-1987 (E/ECA/CM.14/3) which he said was the fifth in the series he had initiated in 1979. ECA activities in the 1986-1987 biennium should be seen against the background of an Africa that was just emerging from the effects of the worst drought in living memory (1983-1985), when hope for economic recovery and development centred on the successful implementation of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER) and the United Nations Programme of Action for Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD). They should also be seen against the serious budgetary crisis of the United Nations, which had resulted inter alia, in a freeze on recruitment with serious consequences for the level of programme implementation. Extrabudgetary resources which had been a significant supplement to regular budgetary resources had also been stagnating while the slide in the value of the United States dollar had also adversely affected the real value of available financial resources.

28. The Executive Secretary explained that although the work programme and priorities of the Commission had been established before APPER and UN-PAAERD were adopted, they were consistent with those programmes and had needed only minor adjustments to bring them effectively to focus on the implementation of the programmes.

29. The Executive Secretary drew the attention of participants to Chapter III of the document which described the activities that had been implemented under each programme in 1986-1987 including the problems encountered and to the annex to the report on the quantitative analysis of programme performance. He said that the future was faced with the prospects of more resource constraints and invited the Committee to consider ways and means by which additional resources could be mobilized to enable the Commission to effectively implement its work programme in the 1988-1989 biennium.

30. In the ensuing discussion, delegates expressed appreciation to the Executive Secretary for the comprehensiveness of the report. One participant commended the work of the secretariat in the field of energy and in doing so called for closer co-operation between ECA and OAU to avoid duplication and to optimize the use of resources. In the population area, the same participant pointed out that there had been an undue emphasis on population control. While population growth in Africa was a problem, it could be contained if greater emphasis were placed on development and growth,

particularly in the agricultural sector. The need to step up activities for the promotion of regional economic co-operation and integration was stressed. Greater co-operation was in particular urgently needed in the area of air transport. The importance of the Commission's work in the area of integration of women in development was underlined and in that regard, it was stressed that there was need to redress the imbalance in the opportunities available to men and women.

31. In his reaction to the issues raised, the Executive Secretary underscored the urgency for greater co-operation and integration. He however believed that development and population were closely interrelated. The Kilimanjaro Programme of Action was precisely based on that close inter-relationship and had guided the work of the secretariat. With respect to the integration of women in development, he noted that while there was no legal discrimination against women, their concerns were seldom fully reflected in decision-making.

32. The observer for India informed the meeting that as part of his Governments' programme of technical assistance for Africa was financing various ECA projects which included the setting up of a Development, Demonstration and Replication Centre for Technologies suitable for rural development in Dakar (Senegal); "Engineering Industry Development Programme for Eastern and Southern Africa", Consultancy Advisory Services project and one that had just been signed with ECA on the "Promotion of Small-scale Industries in Africa" for which part of the technical assistance grant of approximately \$US 400,000 had already been made available to the Commission. He assured the meeting that India would continue that programme of co-operation.

33. The meeting took note of the co-operation between the Commission and the Government of India and acknowledged it as a testimony of India's commitment to South-South co-operation. It urged the Government of India to continue its efforts.

34. The meeting took note of the report, and adopted draft resolution 25 (IX).

Survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1986-1987 [agenda item 5 (a)]

35. A representative of the secretariat presented document E/ECA/CM.14/4. He pointed out that recent economic performance in developing African countries had been disappointing with GDP growing by a mere 0.8 per cent in 1987 compared to 0.5 per cent in 1986. Bad weather conditions had affected several parts of the region, and there had been a deterioration in overall agricultural output, especially food production, in 1987. The momentum of policy reforms in the agricultural sector had however been maintained in the majority of African countries. Increased emphasis had been placed on issues such as food security, marketing services, mechanization, supply of modern inputs,

research and extension services, the efficiency of land use and farming systems, livestock development, conservation of forests and assistance programmes for small holders. Manufacturing value-added had increased by 3.7 per cent in 1987 compared with 2.4 per cent in 1986. Structural factors such as the limited size of the market, poor intersectoral linkages particularly with the other sectors, lack of skilled manpower, inappropriate technology, and the inadequacy of foreign exchange resources had continued to constrain the development of the sector. Developments in the mining sector had been greatly influenced by the world market for minerals and by domestic structural limitations particularly in the non-fuel sectors.

36. With regard to the external sector, the representative of the secretariat pointed out that the current account deficit of the region as a whole was estimated at \$US 11.2 billion in 1987, down from \$US 13.7 billion in 1986. Meanwhile, in real terms, net resource flows to sub-Saharan Africa had declined by 6.7 per cent in 1987. The external debt of developing Africa had grown steeply to an estimated \$US 218.2 billion in 1987, about 54.2 per cent of which had been owed by Sub-Saharan African countries. It was the size of debt obligations in relation to available resources for servicing them that rendered the African debt problem particularly difficult.

37. The representative of the secretariat referred to economic prospects in 1988 and pointed out that GDP was expected to grow by 2.7 per cent. Assumptions for such a development were based on normal weather conditions, an estimated price for oil of not less than 16 dollars per barrel, a more desirable and stable exchange rate for the United States currency and the maintenance of ongoing structural adjustment programmes.

38. In the ensuing discussion, various participants commended the secretariat for the comprehensiveness and high quality of the document. On the basis of the analysis contained in the Survey, a number of issues were taken up by the participants, notably national inward-looking strategies in the economic recovery process, intra-African trade, exchange rate management, and the impact of the structural adjustment programmes particularly on the vulnerable groups in the society.

39. In commenting on paragraph 90 dealing with the key areas of economic reforms, one participant felt that the secretariat should also have emphasized the inward-looking strategies followed by certain African countries when undertaking economic recovery programmes. That was very important as net resource flows to African countries had been falling continuously. Another participant argued that the state and public sector still had an important role to play. The public sector only needed to be reformed. He concluded that agricultural organization and technology should not be overlooked even when justifiable emphasis was put on the key role of incentives in agricultural production.

40. Another participant underscored the fact that the low level of intra-African trade was due more to a lack of information on what goods each respective African country could trade at regional and subregional levels than to a lack of complementary markets. He therefore called upon the ECA to bridge this information gap and endeavour to facilitate increased intra-African trade. This he believed could provide added incentive to member States to improve transport and communication links among them.

41. With regard to the issue of exchange rate, one participant called upon the secretariat to focus on the issue of currency devaluation policies and to assist those countries which had been resisting devaluation measures. He drew the attention of participants to the unsatisfactory results achieved in his own country following those measures and requested the secretariat to make a thorough reassessment of devaluation policies.

42. Participants also referred to the importance attached to structural adjustment programmes in many African countries and the mixed results so far achieved. They urged the ECA secretariat to undertake studies to determine the social and economic implications of structural adjustment programmes on the African economies.

43. A number of participants suggested that amendments should be made to the Survey in order to enhance its technical quality. Some of them commented on the analysis on their respective country profiles and highlighted particular errors and discrepancies in the information that had been provided. Participants promised to provide the secretariat with up-to-date data so that the errors and discrepancies could be corrected. One delegate provided information on the actual situation in her country as against what was stated in paragraph 277. Another participant found the document too long and reminded the secretariat of the need for an executive summary. One participant pointed out that the information on his country's territorial area given in table 1 page A.8 of the Survey was incorrect and should be rectified by a figure he provided to the meeting. Another participant said that the question of territorial boundaries was a political issue which should not be raised at a forum like TEPCOW. He argued that the secretariat had used the information that was internationally recognized.

44. In reacting to the issues raised by the participants, the Executive Secretary assured them that unlike in the past, the document was being presented to the meeting in draft form and urged member States to provide the secretariat soon with up-to-date information so as to enable the secretariat to finalize the Survey. With regard to the thorough evaluation of structural adjustment programmes requested by delegates he informed the Committee that the secretariat was in the process of conducting an in-depth study on the nature and socio-political consequences of such programmes and promised that the results would be submitted to the next meeting of TEPCOW.

ECA/ADB economic report on Africa, 1988 [agenda item 5 (b)]

45. As the report was not available to the meeting, no discussion took place.

Preliminary mid-term review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD), and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER) [agenda item 5 (c)]

46. In introducing document E/ECA/CM.14/6, a representative of the secretariat recalled Commission resolution 603 (XXII) by which *inter alia*, the Executive Secretary was requested to prepare a comprehensive report on the implementation of the UN-PAAERD including an assessment of the contribution of the international community. The document was a response to that request and was a follow-up to an earlier report that had been presented to the thirteenth session of the Conference of Ministers.

47. To prepare the report, the secretariat had distributed a questionnaire to member States in December 1987. Unfortunately at the time of preparing the report (January 1988) only seven countries - Botswana, Burundi, the Comoros, the Niger, Nigeria, Somalia and Swaziland - had responded to the questionnaire. Three more countries namely, Algeria, the Congo and Guinea had returned the questionnaire since the meeting began. Because of the poor response to the questionnaire, the report had been prepared mainly on the basis of data available from international data banks and secondary sources. That was why it was being treated as preliminary.

48. The report had two main parts: Part I which dealt with general issues including an assessment of the economic situation following the adoption of UN-PAAERD and a review of policy measures adopted by countries and their impact on economic performance; and Part II which covered the priority areas identified in UN-PAAERD.

49. The representative of the secretariat outlined the findings of the report and highlighted the fact that Africa had yet to emerge from the economic crisis and that the economic performance of the region gave rise to very serious concern.

50. The report generated a very lively discussion to which several representatives of member States and observers contributed. Many participants felt that the report was incomplete and failed to fully reflect the progress made in the implementation of UN-PAAERD because the number of responses was not representative enough. While acknowledging the fact that inadequate response to the questionnaire contributed to the incompleteness of the report, participants complained that the questionnaire had been sent rather late and that it was too voluminous with many open-ended questions. It was asserted

that some questions, amounted to calling for political statements or commitments. Concern was expressed over poor communication between the ECA secretariat and its member States as evidenced by the inadequacy of the information contained in the report. The point was made that greater effort should have been made by the secretariat to obtain data from the countries.

51. The representative of Benin informed the meeting that his country had transmitted its response to the questionnaire through the UNDP office in his country.

52. With regard to the substance of the report, some members deplored the fact that support from the international community had fallen in the period of UN-PAAERD under review. A question was raised as to why that support had particularly fallen in North Africa. A question was also raised as to whether there had been a comparative study between structural adjustment programmes and UN-PAAERD to show whether they were complementary or contradictory.

53. The meeting generally agreed with the conclusion of the report that there had not been much improvement in the economic situation of African countries during the period under review. Some delegates felt that the situation was in fact getting worse. In that regard, there was need for new and more effective measures aimed especially at promoting intra-African trade, improving communications, information and entrepreneurial capabilities and addressing the root causes of under-development generally.

54. The observer for UNESCO remarked that the two parts of the report should have dealt with the efforts of member States and those of the agencies of the United Nations system respectively. The same observer was of the opinion that the report should also have benefited from the contents of two recent publications by his organization, one entitled "Getting to the Roots of the Problem" and the other, in collaboration with FAO, UNDP, UNFPA and the University of Edinburgh entitled "Beyond the Economic Choice" as those publications were designed with the requirements of APPER and UN-PAAERD in mind.

55. The observer for ILO informed the meeting about many activities carried out by her Organization particularly the organization of a meeting on employment and structural changes which had adopted recommendations and resolutions on the need to take urgent measures to stop the imbalance of the world economy in order to speed up employment-generating programmes and combat unemployment. Her Organization had fully reflected the recommendations of that meeting in its 1988-1989 work programme which envisaged in particular, the organization of a tripartite symposium on structural changes and employment in sub-Saharan Africa.



56. In response to the issues raised, the secretariat reiterated the preliminary nature of the report and emphasized the need for member States to complete and return the questionnaire so as to enable the secretariat to finalize the report. While, secondary sources could be used, they did not always reflect the views of member States. On the question of why support for the implementation of UN-PAAERD had particularly fallen in North Africa, the secretariat promised to look at the data again. With respect to the question on whether a study had been carried out on the relationship between UN-PAAERD and structural adjustment programmes, the secretariat informed the Committee that no such study had been carried out. However, as already indicated during the discussion on the survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, the secretariat was in the process of undertaking a study on the social and political consequences of structural adjustment programmes. The Executive Secretary appealed to member States to fill and return the questionnaire since any deficient analysis from Africa would give a bad impression to the international community in general and the Ad Hoc Committee on the Mid-Term Review in particular.

57. The observer for the Organization of African Unity (OAU) also appealed for the early completion and return of the questionnaire particularly since a review paper which was to be presented jointly by OAU and ECA secretariats to the Permanent Steering Committee would be based on its analysis. After these explanations, the Chairman observed that from the interventions of participants it was clear that the Committee was of the opinion that the report was incomplete and that much more needed to be done to get it up to the required standard and to reflect the true situation of the implementation of UN-PAAERD in Africa. Moreover, it was also clear that without information from member States, no realistic review and appraisal of the implementation of UN-PAAERD could be undertaken. Therefore, he would appeal strongly to member States to ensure that the questionnaire was completed and returned to the secretariat.

58. The Committee also decided that the Vice-Chairman of the meeting should contact the representative of member States at the meeting to urge their governments to respond to the questionnaire without any further delay.

59. The representative of Morocco expressed reservation on the involvement of the OAU Permanent Steering Committee in the review exercise.

Financing Africa's recovery: Report and recommendations of the Advisory Group on financial flows for Africa [agenda item 5 (d)]

60. In introducing this item, a representative of the secretariat pointed out that, by early 1987, it had become clear that the efforts for economic recovery undertaken in many African countries within the framework of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) were being undermined by a deteriorating

financial situation and that additional action was needed to prevent further economic decline and human suffering in those countries.

61. The Secretary-General of the United Nations who had been entrusted with the responsibility for monitoring the process of implementation of the programme had thus decided in April 1987, after consultation with interested governments and the managements of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to set up an advisory group of eminent persons with particular competence in the area of international financial flows and to ask them to recommend specific measures within agreed programmes for alleviating the financial burdens of the affected countries. The Group which had been made up of 13 members, including three Africans acting in their individual capacities, had presented its report to the Secretary-General on 22 February 1988. The report had been made available to the Committee in pursuance of the decision of the Secretary-General to disseminate the report widely and to obtain as many views as possible on the recommendations of the Group to enable him to present a comprehensive report to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly entrusted with the preparation of the mid-term review and appraisal of the Programme of Action.

62. The representative of the secretariat outlined the main contents of the report and drew the attention of the meeting to (i) the assessment made by the Group, of the shortage of financial resources which Africa had experienced and continued to experience; (ii) the rationale of the Group in limiting the study to the countries of sub-Saharan Africa with the exception of Nigeria, thus excluding five countries in North Africa and Nigeria; and (iii) the measures proposed by the Group and which might be taken by the international community to make good the financial resource shortage of the countries covered.

63. A basic finding of the Group was that the need for financial help for the next few years amounted to about \$US 5 billion a year in addition to what, in the middle of 1987, the African countries had been expected to receive over the rest of the decade. That amount was necessary simply to restore the prospects for development and growth as of the early 1980s. The Group hoped that the above sum would be mobilized as follows: (a) 60 per cent through the commitments already made at the end of 1987 namely, \$US 1.5 billion a year from the enhancement of the structural adjustment facility of the IMF, \$US 1.0 billion a year from the World Bank's special facility for Africa, and \$US 0.5 billion a year from the enlarged African Development Fund; (b) 20 per cent through improved debt management which would lead to debt relief and reduction to the tune of \$US 1 billion a year; and (c) 20 per cent (\$US 1 billion) through new flows of resources especially from bilateral sources.

64. The representative of the secretariat finally pointed out that the Group had believed that if its recommendations were ignored or not acted upon, current adjustment policies might be placed at risk. According to the Group,

the international agencies assisting African countries in working out programmes for development and structural changes unanimously held that the risk was very great.

65. The meeting expressed its gratitude to the Secretary-General for the efforts he had deployed in monitoring the process of implementation of UN-PAAERD in general and in finding solutions to the critical financial resource situation in Africa in particular.

66. The commissioning of the Group of eminent persons was generally considered as a positive step towards instituting a dialogue between Africa and its creditors. However, the Committee expressed reservations on the composition of the Group itself. Strong reservations were also expressed on the report which, the meeting felt, did not contain any innovative or imaginative measure to increase actual resource flows to Africa on a sustained and lasting basis. The sources from which the additional resources proposed were to flow were already known and available.

67. The meeting specifically questioned rationale behind the geographical scope of the study. It was noted that UN-PAAERD was concerned with the economic recovery and development of the whole of Africa. The exclusion of the countries of North Africa and Nigeria from the study was also strongly deplored. Excluding some countries such as had been done by the Group, in any consideration of the resource requirements of the region, was therefore divisive and unacceptable. The arguments advanced by the Group for excluding Nigeria from the study were not tenable. Nigeria, with one quarter of the population of Africa and an economy which was about 25 per cent of that of the continent could simply not be excluded from the study. Contrary to what was stated in the report, Nigeria faced considerable difficulties in handling its sizeable debts. The Group had failed to take into account the substantial falls in the value of exports of that country and which would continue to adversely affect its capacity to repay its debts. Moreover the Group had used a 1985 GDP per capita figure of \$US 707 which had since dropped to about \$US 350, placing Nigeria squarely in the income range of the group of countries considered.

68. The meeting also questioned the very narrow view the Group had taken of the resource problem of the region concentrating mainly as it had done on the debt issue. More important was the fact that the report was silent on how Africa could pay her debts. It was felt that the solution to the debt crisis in Africa could not be found in isolation and without due regard being given to the other major components of resource flows to Africa including especially official development assistance (ODA), capital transfers, and export earnings from commodity exports as well as the various factors that influenced such flows namely, interest rates and currency parities. Unless those various factors were considered together in their complex interrelationship, no lasting solution would be found to Africa's financial

resource problems. In any case, in its treatment of the debt issue, the Group had chosen to make no reference to the common position on Africa's external debt which the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity had adopted at its third extraordinary session held in November/December 1987. The meeting felt that that common position represented the framework for international dialogue and action. The representative of Morocco expressed reservation on that.

69. The meeting considered the amount of \$US 5 billion per annum estimated by the Group as a gross underestimation of the additional requirements even for the limited number of countries covered by the Group's study. The figure needed to be revised upward to a more realistic level and to cover all Africa.

70. The Executive Secretary in reacting to the debate, thanked the delegates for their various interventions on the important issue. He reiterated the commitment of the Secretary-General to effectively carry out his mandate regarding the monitoring of the process of implementation of the UN-PAAERD. The report and recommendations of the Group remained the responsibility of the Group as did the scope of the study and the methodologies and approaches used. However, the Secretary-General was very much interested in gathering any reactions and comments on the report and recommendations of the Group to enable him to prepare a comprehensive report to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole entrusted with the review and appraisal of the Programme of Action. In that regard, the Executive Secretary underlined the special importance that the Secretary-General attached to the collective views and position of the Conference of African Ministers responsible for economic development and planning. Accordingly, all member States should forward their respective views to the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

71. The meeting concluded its debate on the report by adopting a draft position paper on it for the consideration of the Conference of Ministers which is attached to the present report as annex I. The meeting also urged delegates to ensure that the views of their respective member States reached the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

Response to ECOSOC resolution 1988/1 - Arrangements for the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole on the review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 [agenda item 5 (a)]

72. The Executive Secretary introduced this item by drawing the attention of the Committee to ECOSOC resolution 1988/1 of 5 February 1988 by which the Economic and Social Council had invited all intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to report to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly which had been entrusted with the task of preparing the mid-term review and appraisal of the Programme of Action on their contribution to, and, on specific aspects and perspectives of the

implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990. He recalled that the meeting had already set up an Ad Hoc Committee under the Chairmanship of the second Vice-Chairman, to prepare a draft memorandum in response to the resolution, which would be considered by TEPCOW for submission to the ECA Conference of Ministers.

73. The meeting took note of the resolution and adopted the draft memorandum addressed to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly (annex II).

Subregional co-operation in the production of cereals and tubers with special emphasis on the role of women [agenda item 6 (a) (i)]

74. In introducing document E/ECA/CM.14/8, a representative of the secretariat explained that Africa which had been self-sufficient in its food requirements in the mid-1950s had since become dependent on food imports and that the situation had continued to deteriorate for a number of reasons. Rural-urban migration had left behind in the rural areas mostly women and children. The role of women was ignored, and girls were not trained in production. Export crops had been promoted at the expense of food crops, and research had favoured export crops against food crops. Besides, public spending had neglected the rural sector. As a consequence, there had been increasing dependency on food imports.

75. Eastern and Southern Africa with a population of about 170 million provided a large market, yet it was one of the poorest subregions, with pronounced food imbalances. Some areas were surplus food producers and others were deficit ones. Yet there was no effective exchange of goods between them. The area had tremendous potential. The representative of the secretariat stressed that it was the rural areas that would help in ensuring food security, and appropriate policies would have to be adopted. A change in consumption habits to reduce imports was one solution probably for the urban areas but it would not help for the rural areas. Special consideration had to be given to the role of women and their contribution to production, and to the strengthening of subregional co-operation among PTA and SADCC member States.

76. In the ensuing discussion, delegates congratulated the secretariat for the report and for the importance it attached to the role of women in agriculture. That role had often not been fully appreciated. The report was timely and its pioneering spirit very commendable, and so also were its attempts at proposing solutions aimed at alleviating the problems of food security. It was hoped that the study was only the beginning of further efforts in the area.

77. Delegates emphasized the long hours women usually put into production, even at the cost of their own health. Many women were not literate, and

in some cases, traditional practices determined the roles women were to play from very early ages. They proposed a number of ways for enhancing production including the commercialization of food production, establishment of special farming programmes for women, and modernization and introduction of new technologies capable of alleviating their daily chores. A proposal for special farming programmes for women received particular attention as it was felt that the programmes would enable women to be gainfully employed, raise productivity and even assist in creating jobs for migrant men workers as they returned to rural areas from neighbouring countries.

78. The need for strengthening subregional co-operation was acknowledged and it was noted that there were regional complementarities which could be exploited. However, there were constraints against co-operation, and the need for feasibility studies was emphasized. Delegates also felt that the role of traditional trading practices in promoting subregional co-operation in food needed to be enhanced.

79. The observer for the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) congratulated the secretariat for its distinctive report and stated that measures had to be taken to increase productivity. She explained that the sexual division of labour was no longer true since as a result of rural-urban migration, women were left to play roles previously reserved for men. She supported the proposal for Special Farming Programmes to increase the access of women to resources and intellectual knowledge.

80. The observer for the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) congratulated the secretariat for the very interesting report, which in many respects echoed the preoccupation of IFAD on the development of small-holders and the rural poor of which women constituted a large proportion. He informed the Committee of his agency's Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries, a major component of which related to the development of drought-resistant food crops. Concerning regional co-operation, he informed the meeting of IFAD's recent programming mission to the SADCC region and of the recommendations on regional co-operation for small-holder development with specific project proposals for women.

81. The observer for the World Food Council noted that the report's accent on economic co-operation and integration with respect to the food sector was in line with UN-PAERD, an area in which the World Food Council (WFC) was already co-operating closely with ECA and some African Intergovernmental Organizations. He noted further that the document contained good project ideas but suggested the addition of agricultural research, training and extension.

82. Responding to the issues raised by the delegates, the representative of the secretariat emphasized that women's programmes would have to be considered at the same level as men's and agreed that women should be given

greater access to inputs, and that women's share of the produce should be proportional to their contribution to production.

Improvement in the status of sedentary, rural populations and nomadic societies through the reduction of food waste and losses at the production level [agenda item 6(a)(ii)]

83. In presenting document E/ECA/CM.14/9, the representative of the secretariat stated that the aim of the document was to focus attention on the general problems of nomads. He referred to the recent decline in production in the Sahelian countries which caused as much havoc by many years of drought as the general deterioration in the economic and social conditions of nomads. He observed that even though some nomadic people had opted for settled life in order to benefit from such amenities as water supply, pasture and secure food supplies, most settlement areas were faced with inadequate and irregular supplies of food.

84. With regard to traditional herding, as practised by the nomadic people in the Sahel, he noted that the practice had been based on ancestral techniques of nomadism, transhumance and collective management of pasture and cattle paths, which depended on the maintenance of critical ecological balance. However, that centuries-old balance had now been disrupted by structural changes in the environment resulting in a significant reduction of available arable and pastoral land. The new situation underlined the need for new strategies that would lead to overall improvement in the well-being of those groups of people through the fullest use of limited space at minimum economic, social and environmental costs. The representative of the secretariat called for greater collaboration between ECA and other United Nations agencies such as FAO, IFAD, WFC and WFP to address the problem. He pointed out that a seminar at which the general problems of nomads would be examined had been scheduled to take place in Mali later in 1968.

85. In the discussion that followed, several delegates expressed satisfaction with the document and commended the secretariat for bringing the issue of nomads to the attention of member States, in view of the very important role that nomads played in the economic life of countries. A number of participants provided figures to underline the substantial contribution of nomads to agricultural production in their own countries. In that light, some participants felt that the study should have covered other areas of the continent as well, such as the Masais, Turkana and Karamojong of East Africa and expressed the hope that those areas would be studied by ECA in the immediate future.

86. Some participants supported settlement programmes for nomads on the grounds that such programmes would benefit nomadic societies by bringing them within the realms of scientific progress and enable them to benefit from technological development. It was also felt that by settling nomads,

the problems of desertification, environmental degradation, social strife and tension would be minimized. It was believed that in any case, the traditional mode of nomadic life would be overtaken by the ongoing modernization of production within Africa and that an alternative way of life should be provided for nomads.

87. Other participants argued however that the nomadic way of life should be protected and preserved since it was best suited and attuned to the harsh environment in which the nomads found themselves and would not wreak greater damage on the environment. The observer for OAU remarked that some of the projects that had been established to help the nomads had ended in creating new problems for them. In that regard, he underscored the need to approach the whole issue of nomads in an interdisciplinary manner as the problems faced embraced all aspects of economic, cultural, ecological, psychological, political as well as social life. If that mode of existence were to be undermined, the people would be put into greater jeopardy and their very survival compromised. The observer for UNIFEM supported that argument, adding that the free movement of nomads did in itself facilitate intra-African economic integration and posed no threat since nomads usually returned to their place of origin after the rains. She further referred to the important problem of displaced persons, created as a result of drought. She observed that those left behind as a result of such phenomena, mainly women, generally suffered and the problem should not be overlooked when the issue was examined at the proposed ECA seminar in Mali.

88. In spite of the two opposing views, the meeting generally agreed on the need to institute long-term programmes to address the problems faced by nomads. In this connection, several ongoing experiences were cited. The representative of Nigeria informed the meeting of the mobile education system that had been started with the assistance of UNESCO in order to provide education to the Fulani children within his country. The representative of Algeria also talked about his country's experience with respect to the sedentarization of nomads which was based on the nomads voluntarily accepting the sedentarization policy which included the establishment of agro-pastoral villages, boarding schools for nomads' children, centres for the distribution of essential foodstuffs and mobile polyclinics. In Burkina Faso, the problem was being addressed through land reform and better rural land management with the assistance of the World Bank and other donors.

89. There was general agreement on finding long-term solutions to the nomadic way of life through national efforts. Given the fact that the problem of nomadic societies became compounded by the problem of refugees, it was stressed that any solution to the problem of nomads could be better achieved within the context of subregional and regional co-operation in Africa. The meeting therefore urged ECA to continue to undertake in-depth studies on the subject and to extend the study coverage to other countries of the region as well.



90. The Committee took note of the document.

Key issues concerning the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan in Africa [agenda item 6 (b) (i)]

91. In presenting document E/ECA/CM.14/10, a representative of the secretariat recalled the United Nations Water Conference held at Mar del Plata, Argentina, in March 1977, which had adopted the Mar del Plata Action Plan (MPAP) and the subsequent designation in 1980 by the United Nations General Assembly of the period 1981-1990 as the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (IDWSSD). He noted that progress in the implementation of the MPAP and IDWSSD in the African region had been and continued to be slow due mainly to financial constraints. That was exemplified by the very low lending of the World Bank to the region for water supply and sewerage. Africa received the lowest loans in the period 1985-1987. Given the high costs involved in the supply of water and sanitation facilities to the urban and rural populations and the present performance, it was evident that most African countries could not achieve the goals set for the IDWSSD. Furthermore, the high rate of urban population growth meant that even where the Decade's targets were met, the results could rapidly be negated.

92. In the light of the implementation situation in Africa and the similar slow progress made in the other developing regions, the United Nations Administrative Co-ordination Committee (ACC), Inter-secretariat Group for Water and the Steering Committee for Co-operative Action for the IDWSSD were already preparing strategies for the 1990s, the post-Decade period. The new strategies would help to establish specific regional priorities and phased programmes to accelerate water resources development. To that end, ECA and other regional commissions would be called upon to provide inputs reflecting their respective regional and subregional perspectives. In order to fulfil that role, the report recommended that the ECA secretariat should strengthen its water resources unit and intensify its operational activities, particularly with regard to inter-country programmes and projects of the river and lake basin organizations. It further recommended that the secretariat should report periodically to the Conference of Ministers on development in those areas.

93. In the discussion that followed, many participants stressed the vital importance of water to life itself and to the social and economic development of the continent. It was therefore regrettable that financial and technical constraints had prevented most countries from achieving the desired progress in the supply of water and sanitation facilities to their people during the Decade. Special attention was drawn to the burdens placed on rural women who had to walk very long distances to fetch water, a situation which seriously hampered their other social and productive activities. In that regard, one participant suggested that the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC) should take measures to

publicize the IDWSSD in its remaining three years. She also suggested that participants in future TEPCOW meetings should be specifically requested to bring country reports on the water situation.

94. Although, several participants did report to the Committee on the considerable efforts their countries were making to increase the supply of water and sanitation facilities, it had been noted that serious problems existed with regard to the financing of water supply and sanitation projects, proper planning of water and sanitation to suit the different needs of the urban and rural populations, water legislation, institutional competence and management, maintenance of water works and sanitation facilities and charging and recovery of costs. Referring to the scientific, technological and human resources development problems raised, the observer from UNESCO informed the meeting of his organization's past and continuing activities in those areas in the African region.

95. The Committee therefore urged member States and donor agencies to intensify their efforts to overcome those problems and requested the ECA secretariat to give greater attention to water resources activities and promote water development programmes in the member States.

96. The Committee took note of the report.

Report on the establishment of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing [agenda item 6 (b)(ii)]

97. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/11 and in doing so explained that the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing (AOCRS) had been established in pursuance of resolution 550 (XX) on the ECA-sponsored institutions by which the Commission, inter alia, had decided to merge the African Remote Sensing Council and the African Association of Cartography. The first meeting of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of AOCRS had been held in February 1988. At that meeting the constitution of the new organization had been signed by 16 member States. The constitution had remained open for signature at the ECA secretariat which was the depository. At that meeting also, the Executive Board of the Organization had been established and its members appointed; Algeria had been selected as host country for the secretariat of the Organization; the 1988 budget of the Organization had been approved; and a Secretary-General had been appointed in an ad interim capacity for a fixed period of one year. A number of administrative and management arrangements had also been established for the transitional period.

98. The representative of the secretariat appealed to member States who had not already done so to join AOCRS and to pay their contributions to ensure that the Organization operated smoothly.

99. In the discussion which followed, the representative of Algeria, the host country of the Organization, said AOCRS was an organization which should be given every support because it was the first concrete example of the implementation of resolution 550 (XX). He assured the meeting that Algeria would fulfil all its obligations under the host country agreement. He recalled resolution 602 (XXII) which requested ECA to provide assistance to AOCRS. He supported the request made by the AOCRS for a single subvention of \$US 100,000. One other delegation enquired about the holding of the next meeting of the United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa and another wished to know whether all the member States of the Commission were obliged to join AOCRS.

100. The representative of the secretariat explained that resolution 602 (XXII) did not request ECA to make available to AOCRS an amount of \$US 100,000; the resolution rather requested the secretariat to take appropriate steps to establish AOCRS. He said that the seventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa was scheduled to take place in November 1989. On the membership of the Organization, he explained that it was desirable that all member States joined the Organization. A total of 25 member States had attended the first meeting of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of AOCRS but to date only 16 of them had signed the constitution of the Organization.

101. The meeting took note of the report and adopted draft resolution 7 (IX).

Industrial Development in Africa [agenda item 6(c)]

(i) Progress report on the implementation of the programme for the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA)

(ii) Report on UNIDO II

102. A representative of the secretariat presented documents E/ECA/CM.14/12 and E/ECA/CM.14/13 on these two agenda items respectively.

103. In introducing document E/ECA/CM.14/12 on the implementation of the programme for the IDDA, which was jointly prepared by the secretariats of ECA, OAU and UNIDO, the ECA representative cautioned that the report was an interim report as it did not contain information on member States' contribution and urged those governments which had not done so to respond to the questionnaire which had been sent to member States so as to enable the secretariats to prepare a more comprehensive progress report which would be submitted to the ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry. He briefed the Committee on the various activities that had been carried out by the ECA, OAU and UNIDO secretariats and highlighted the problems encountered. He also suggested future actions that would be required to accelerate the suggested implementation of the programme. He pointed

out that as in previous review periods, the inadequacy of resources available to ECA and UNIDO for the Decade had continued to be a major obstacle to the full implementation of the programme.

104. At the level of member States, the major constraints that had hampered the speedy achievement of the basic objective of the programme had included inadequacies in overall economic performance, poor industrial policies, limited financial resources, small market size, the inadequacy of domestic factor inputs, including human resources, and difficulties in subregional and regional co-operation. To accelerate the implementation of the programme, industrial policies, strategies, plans and institutional infrastructure needed to be adjusted to prevailing economic needs and priorities. Emphasis must continue to be placed on the development of core and agro-related industries through an integrated programming approach; priority would also have to be accorded to the elaboration and implementation of industrial manpower development plans and programmes, the development and acquisition of technology and energy resources, the development and promotion of small-scale industries and the requisite entrepreneurial capabilities, the mobilization of financial resources, the promotion of intra-African industrial co-operation and integration, and the encouragement of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

105. The observer for the Organization of African Unity (OAU) supplemented the presentation of the ECA secretariat by saying that he endorsed the issues raised. He then appealed to member States to complete and return the questionnaire that had been distributed and to co-operate with the three secretariats in their efforts to enable to finalize the report. The observer for UNIDO expressed his appreciation for the level of co-operation between UNIDO, ECA and OAU secretariats and informed the meeting of the forthcoming mid-term independent evaluation of the Decade programme as well as the steps taken so far by UNDP and UNIDO to have the study undertaken. He further pointed out that UNIDO's activities were then being rearranged in the light of Africa's present priorities within the framework of APPER and UN-PAAERD and that though the exact date had not been fixed, member States had been generally enthusiastic about the proposed proclamation of the African Industrial Day. He concluded by urging member States to consider seriously the suggested actions and thanked ECA and OAU for their respective support.

106. The observer from UNIDO expressed his appreciation for the level of co-operation among the secretariats of UNIDO, OAU and ECA, and informed the meeting that UNIDO's activities in Africa were being reoriented in line with Africa's prevailing priorities within the framework of APPER and UN-PAAERD. He drew the attention of the Committee to the mid-term independent evaluation of the Decade programme and thanked UNDP for contributing to the financing of the evaluation and urged member States and relevant organizations to extend maximum co-operation to the evaluation when it visited their respective

countries and organizations. He further pointed out that although the exact date had not been fixed, member States had enthusiastically welcomed, during a recent mission by a UNIDO consultant, the proposed proclamation of an African Industrialization Day.

107. The representative of the ECA secretariat then introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/13: Report on UNIDO II. In doing so, he said that the report provided an account of both the preparatory activities in Africa for, as well as the main results of, the second General Conference of UNIDO. The special meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry preparatory to the second regular session of the General Conference of UNIDO which was held in October 1987 had focused its deliberations on (i) restructuring and rehabilitation of African industry in the context of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa; (ii) development of human resources and technological capabilities; (iii) financing of industrial development in Africa and external debt; (iv) the UNIDO system of consultations; and (v) UNIDO institutional arrangements with respect to Africa. He indicated that those issues had served as a basis for the preparation and adoption of the African Memorandum on Industrial Development in Africa: Issues, conclusions and recommendations, which the Conference of African Ministers of Industry had adopted at its special meeting.

108. The representative of the ECA secretariat highlighted the main conclusions and recommendations of the second regular session of the General Conference of UNIDO that were of interest to the continent and made an appeal to the delegates to ensure that the follow-up measures were effectively implemented at both national and regional levels. He informed the meeting that the Memorandum adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry had been noted with interest by the General Conference and had been included in its final document. The General Conference had elected 26 new members to the Industrial Development Board including the following six from Africa: Algeria, Botswana, Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea, and the United Republic of Tanzania. Other African members of the Board whose term would end in 1989 were: Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, Tunisia, Zaire and Zambia. New members of the Programme and Budget Committee had also been elected. They included Algeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Morocco, Nigeria and Zimbabwe.

109. He concluded by stressing the need for effective follow-up action to ensure the full implementation of the decisions of the General Conference and that follow-up activities were fully in line with the orientations contained in the African Memorandum. At subregional and regional levels, there was a need to monitor the mid-term evaluation of the programme with the assistance of the joint ECA/OAU/UNIDO Committee in the implementation of the IDDA programme. At international level, there was a need to increase the size of the African Group in Vienna and strengthen its negotiating capability.

110. The presentation by the ECA secretariat was supplemented by the observer from UNIDO who provided information on the measures being taken by UNIDO for the implementation of the decisions of the Conference, especially in respect of the IDDA, institutional arrangements for UNIDO in Africa and of the Memorandum on Industrial Development in Africa.

111. In the discussion that followed, one delegation suggested that since UNIDO was the specialized agency responsible for industrialization, the title of the report should have indicated that it was prepared by UNIDO in collaboration with ECA and OAU instead of indicating that it was prepared jointly.

112. In response, the three secretariats explained that in accordance with the General Assembly resolution which established the IDDA, ECA and UNIDO were jointly made responsible for monitoring its implementation. Similarly, when the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU adopted the programme, it entrusted OAU, ECA and UNIDO secretariats with joint responsibility for monitoring its implementation. In the context of those decisions, the secretariats of the three organizations had been jointly monitoring the implementation and preparing joint reports for consideration by their respective legislative organs and the General Assembly of the United Nations. It was as a result of division of labour that the finalization of each report had been the responsibility on a rotational basis, of each secretariat although they bore joint responsibility for the contents.

113. The representative of Morocco expressed reservation on any reference to the eighth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry.

114. After the explanation, the Committee took note of the reports.

Report on the implementation of the resolutions of the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning  
[agenda item 6 (d) (i)]

115. In introducing document E/ECA/CM.14/14, a representative of the secretariat outlined the various actions taken by the ECA member States, United Nations bodies and other organizations in pursuance of the implementation of the resolutions of the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning which was held in Harare, Zimbabwe, in March 1986 and endorsed by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its twelfth meeting.

116. The resolutions concerned had covered, the implementation of the second phase of the programme of the Decade, implications of the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit on UNTACDA, implementation of the work programme

of the Technical Committee on Air Transport in Africa, co-ordinated network of aircraft maintenance and overhaul centres in Africa, harmonization of measures for the full participation of African countries in maritime transport, telecommunications for socio-economic development, and analysis of new projects submitted for inclusion in the second phase of the Decade programme by the bureau of the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning.

117. In the discussion that followed, several representatives and observers for interested organizations intervened and expressed the importance of transport and communications for the accelerated development of Africa. The observer for ICAO briefly reviewed the constraints to the development and integration of African air transport which were thoroughly discussed during the last session of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning held in Kinshasa. Among those, were difficulties currently experienced by African airlines in transferring their revenues which hinder the opening or the continuation of intra-African air links. In particular, problems confronting air transport in Africa were raised. It was stressed that political and technical co-operation was required if an effective intra-African telecommunications network was to be established.

118. The representative of the secretariat informed the meeting that the issues raised would be discussed further under the next item on the agenda.

119. The meeting took note of the document.

United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa: Report on progress in the implementation of the second phase of the Decade programme [agenda item 6 (2) (ii)]

120. In introducing document E/ECA/CM.14/15, a representative of the secretariat explained that the purpose of the report was to brief delegates on progress made in the implementation of the second phase of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade programme. Altogether, there were 1,048 projects in the second phase at a total cost of \$US 18,322 million. He informed the Committee of the improvement in the flow of information for monitoring, and provided details of completed projects as well as those under implementation. Since the Decade programme was still in progress, the available data had to be considered as provisional. He reported on the progress made in the implementation of PANAFTEL and RASCOM and called upon the representatives of the other participating agencies to provide additional information on the progress attained.

121. The observer for the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) underscored the importance of telecommunications in development and then reported that important achievements had been made in the implementation of PANAFTEL. Ninety-six per cent of the network had been completed in the

Eastern and Southern African subregion, 89 per cent in the West African subregion and 30 per cent in the Central African subregion. He appealed to the countries of the Central African subregion to complete the interconnections. He informed the Committee that UNDP had contributed about \$US 16 million towards the implementation of PANAFTEL and that African countries themselves had contributed about \$US 600 million during the second phase of the Decade programme. The PANAFTEL network was however underutilized, and extra-African transit centres were still being used to route African telecommunications traffic. He appealed to African countries to make use of the completed networks. He then explained the objectives of RASCOM and the importance of the project to Africa. A project office with qualified African experts had already been established. To date 49 African countries were participating in the project study, with most of them having established national multisectoral co-ordination committees which are carrying out the study. He appealed to the Ministries of Economic Planning to be actively involved in the RASCOM studies to ensure co-ordinated national reports.

122. The observer for OAU noted the excellent co-operation between the participating agencies, and explained that the odds against Africa underlined the need for continued political and economic co-operation. The investment in the PANAFTEL network had already been considerable; efforts had therefore to be made to utilize the network. He stressed the unique nature of RASCOM and informed the Committee of his organization's contribution to the project.

123. In the ensuing discussion, delegates questioned the non-developmental approach used in the progress report, and in particular the lack of development indicators. It was necessary, they argued, to show achievement towards the objectives of the Decade programme. They pointed out, further, that the title of the report did not convey the lack of progress which was evident in the contents of the report. It was suggested that the title of the report could have been "Results of the Implementation of the Programme" rather than "Progress". They appealed for the reorientation of African communications traffic so as to utilize the PANAFTEL network. In that connection, they re-emphasized the need to interconnect African airline routes. African solidarity had not only to be talked about, but also to be practised.

124. In responding to the issues raised by the delegates, the representative of the secretariat explained that the progress report pertained to the 1,048 projects of the Second Decade Phase and that the report did not attempt to cover other issues which would be discussed under other items of the agenda and in other fora. He informed the Committee that a report would be presented to the meeting under agenda item 7 on the evaluation of UNTACDA. Furthermore, a colloquium would be taking place in Addis Ababa on problems of integration and development and the role of transport and communications in the integration of Africa would be one of the issues to be discussed. He acknowledged that the implementation rate was indeed low, but that should not be the reason for changing the title of the report since it reflected the progressive nature of the implementation of the Decade programme.



125. The Committee then took note of the report.

Issues in social development: The African social situation, 1982-1987 [agenda item 6 (e) (i)]

126. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/16 entitled "The African Social Situation, 1982-1987" and highlighted the main conclusions of the study. Since the mid-1970s, Africa had been undergoing a human crisis resulting from structural imbalances, ill-conceived policies and growing economic difficulties. The drought of 1982-1985 had worsened the problem, creating an intolerable social situation. Poverty, which had been basically linked to unequal access to income and other social development resources had become widespread. Famine and malnutrition had decimated the population and thousands of Africans were displaced by cyclical ecological disasters. Economic issues overshadowed social concerns in development planning, social needs were not always taken into account in economic policy-making and economic growth had not always led to social improvements. Indeed, the structural adjustment programmes adopted by many African countries were directed at financial stability and speedy economic recovery, often to the detriment of the well-being of the vast majority of people, in particular the rural and urban poor, women and children.

127. The representative of the secretariat stated that the paper contained proposals on policy shifts and measures that would help to solve the particular problems of population, employment, food and nutrition, health, housing, education and literacy as well as social integration. Those proposals had taken into account the Lagos Plan of Action, Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990, the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 and other seminal documents. The proposals focused on strategies that would decentralize decision-making and promote the effective participation of people at all levels of the development process. They also focused on striking a judicious balance between economic and social needs in the action programmes and development plans pursued. Accordingly, the necessary resources should be harmoniously apportioned for the implementation of such programmes while indicating the measures taken to prevent or to reduce, to the minimum, the negative effects on the environment, in particular on the most disadvantaged social strata. That was especially needed for women, the rural and urban poor, unemployed youth and slum children. In other words, it called for research on socially harmonious programmes and policies which governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations and local people themselves would need to institute. It also called for effective management, monitoring and evaluation of social development programmes.

128. The structural adjustment programmes advocated by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund should have an impact that was genuinely social and not only financial. Finally, member States should strengthen

co-operation in the area of research and find solutions to common social problems such as poverty, unemployment, refugees and displaced persons. They should also ask the United Nations organizations, in particular ECA, to help them in formulating their social development policies.

129. During the ensuing debate, representatives congratulated the secretariat for the undisputable quality of the document and also for the very competent manner in which it was presented. The study, it was felt, had brought social issues to the fore, stressing as it did, people as the focus of development. One participant stated that for appropriate resources to be devoted to programmes affecting the most disadvantaged in society, governments should maintain political stability and spend less on military expenditure. The current educational system which generally inculcated the notion that going to school qualified one for doing white colour jobs only needed to be reoriented. Some traditional eating habits also needed to be changed by providing local food that was better balanced nutritionally. One participant pointed out the need for considering the cultural aspects of development, especially in view of the proclamation, by the United Nations General Assembly, of 1988-1997 as the World Cultural Development Decade.

130. Several participants commented that while it was necessary to undertake macro-economic structural adjustments, those adjustments must be carried out bearing in mind the human factor, so that the new development structures and modes of economic growth were equitable, thus ensuring the full participation of the people and the interests of the poorest socio-economic strata. Thus, short- and medium-term measures must always be linked to long-term development goals and strategies. Other participants suggested that sufficient budgetary allocations must be devoted to the social sectors, and must be regarded as investment with multiplier effects on human development. One participant was, however, of the opinion that the problem was not on the sufficiency of funds; substantial allocations were made in National Development Plans. The problem was on the effectiveness of the social programmes; hence the need for a re-appraisal. It was also urged that donor agencies should be more sensitive to the social needs of African countries in providing their assistance. One participant pointed out that the study had not dealt sufficiently with the question of refugees.

131. In her reaction to the issues raised, the representative of the secretariat stated that structural change affecting equitable social development stemmed from the States' political will and that a more judicious balance between production, employment and education must come first in human resources mobilization, development and utilization. As to the poor, they did not need charity but rather developmental assistance from the other levels of society.

132. The Executive Secretary assured the Committee that ECA would continue to be involved with questions and problems of social development. Current high unemployment rates, rising crime and juvenile delinquency were dominant tendencies which impeded social and economic development. The time was opportune to devote particular attention to social change. He informed the Committee that, as a sign of its concern for the social consequences of structural adjustment programmes, the World Bank, in collaboration with UNDP, had decided to evaluate the social impact of such programmes to the tune of about \$US 45 million. He assured participants that efforts would be made to improve the statistical data in future reports of the social situation which might have to be produced annually.

133. The meeting took note of the document.

Changing socio-economic conditions of women in Africa in the context of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women [agenda item 6(e) (ii)]

134. In presenting document E/ECA/CM.14/17, a representative of the secretariat pointed out that the paper was an attempt to provide a coherent regional picture on the situation of African women since the adoption of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. The document was based on a desk study and on the few responses to a questionnaire sent to member States in December 1987. It reviewed measures that African Governments and the United Nations bodies and agencies had taken to translate the strategies into concrete action as far as the African region was concerned, and the impact those measures had had on the socio-economic conditions of women in Africa.

135. The representative of the secretariat pointed out that at the ECA secretariat level the African Training and Research Centre for Women had been the focal point for the integration of women in development programme, and that most other programmes of the secretariat had a women's component. At the national level, initiatives had been taken by the national machineries and/or structures to sensitize governments and non-governmental bodies on the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies. At the subregional level, a series of conferences had been held to set up machineries to facilitate communications and the dissemination of information on women and women's activities in the region. The MULPOC had also spearheaded and promoted women's activities at the subregional level. At the regional level, the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee (ARCC) had vigorously pursued the goals of integrating women in the mainstream of economic, social and political activities by harmonizing and co-ordinating the subregional programmes on women in development, mobilizing resources for the implementation of programmes agreed upon at the regional and subregional levels and monitoring the programmes on behalf of African women.

136. A large number of governments had taken action to increase and improve the role of women in several areas of economic life. However, the participation of women in national decision-making processes still left much to be desired. There was a need to improve the conditions of work for women in the informal sector not only with respect to increasing their access to improved technologies but, also by bettering their work environment and welfare. Opportunities available to women to participate more fully in the industrial sector also needed substantial improvement. As regards education and training, while women's enrolment at all levels had been increasing in some countries, an equitable balance between the sexes had yet to be reached in many others. There was in particular, a need to increase the number of women and girls entering scientific and technical fields of education. In the areas of health, nutrition, water and sanitation, there had been increased efforts to strengthen the maternal and child health, primary health care, family planning programmes, immunization programmes as well as programmes designed to bring water within women's reach.

137. In the ensuing discussion, a number of participants commended on the quality of the study. It was however pointed out that the coverage of the study could have been more enriched had there been responses to the questionnaire sent to member States. However, there was need for the secretariat to give sufficient time for the completion of questionnaires not only because of the care needed for filling such questionnaires but also because of communications difficulties in Africa. It was also noted that in the future the questionnaires should include a guide on how to complete them. Some delegates promised to provide relevant statistical data on their respective countries to update the study.

138. Some delegates objected to the use of the phrase "Sub-Saharan Africa" since it gave the impression that the African region was made up of two distinct and separate entities.

139. One delegate referred to the experience of his country with regard to the role played by women in agriculture, education and employment. He pointed out that historically women had played prominent role in agricultural production, and indicated that women's productivity and participation in the rural areas could be much more enhanced through the provision of modern inputs. Referring to employment opportunities, the delegate stated that many women were re-employed at the higher echelons of government and occupied responsible positions in universities and other institutions. However, the vast majority were concentrated in the informal sector, particularly in retail trade. He cited the tremendous efforts made by his government to accelerate the participation of women at the three levels of the educational ladder, and emphasized the need for women to organize themselves effectively since their socio-economic transformation depended much on the sharing of political power.

140. A delegate congratulated the Executive Secretary for bringing to fruition the objectives of the Women's Programme within the ECA secretariat and suggested that a motion of appreciation should be adopted in that regard on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Commission. The meeting accepted that suggestion and adopted the motion of appreciation as attached to the report.

141. The observer for UNIFEM suggested that the ECA secretariat should adopt a more dynamic approach to the use of questionnaires and should use formal and informal means to increase the rate of responses. UNIFEM's offices in Dakar and Harare would work more closely with the ECA secretariat in that regard. She stressed the need to send questionnaires well ahead of time.

142. The observer for UNESCO recalled the importance his organization attached to the role of women in development, and emphasized the need for concerted action through the United Nations system in preparing the ground and helping the national planning offices that were best placed to ameliorate the conditions of women. The observer for IFAD suggested that policy pronouncements for effective participation of women should be translated into concrete action through the provision of credit, storage and other ancillary services.

143. The observer for UNIDO underscored the urgent need to promote the participation of women in the process of industrialization in Africa, a task that would require better education and training in science and technology. UNIDO was working in close co-operation with ECA towards that goal.

144. The observer for ILO questioned the various assertions made in the study on the functions of the informal sector and suggested the need to make the necessary corrections. She then gave a brief account of the contribution of ILO in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for Action 1986-1987 and activities to be carried out in 1988-1989 contained in the Medium-term Plan, 1990-1995.

145. In its reaction to the issues raised by participants, the secretariat thanked the participants for their contributions which, when taken into account, would improve the quality of the publication to be undertaken later. It also suggested that there was need to publish a survey at least once every two years to reflect the changing socio-economic conditions particularly in the areas of agriculture, employment, education and training, law and legislation, health and nutrition, water and sanitation and drought and desertification. To enable the secretariat to perform that task properly, there was need to obtain the necessary data. That was why it was important for member States to complete questionnaires and return them in time. With respect to the question of sufficient time for the completion of questionnaires, the secretariat promised to take that point into account in the use of questionnaires in the future.

Trade and development: Report on UNCTAD VII [agenda item 6 (f)]

147. In introducing document E/ECA/CM.14/18, a representative of the secretariat briefed the meeting on the purpose and objectives of UNCTAD VII which was held in Geneva from 3 to 31 July 1987. He outlined what Africa had expected from that Conference and assessed its final outcome. Africa's concerns at the Conference had centred on the trend and pattern of resource flows; the instability in international commodity markets; protectionism in the industrialized countries; and the special problems of the least developed countries.

148. The representative of the secretariat affirmed that there had been no major breakthrough at the Conference. A number of industrialized countries had refused to accept the position adopted by the Group of 77 as a basis for negotiations. There had been a general feeling among the Group of 77 that the developed countries were increasingly regarding UNCTAD not as a forum for negotiation, and as such, had become more reluctant to discuss pertinent issues that were of concern to the developing countries.

149. The observer for UNCTAD pointed out that the assessment made of UNCTAD VII by the ECA was pertinent. He informed the meeting that on the eve of UNCTAD VII, it was the very survival of UNCTAD as an organization that was at stake. He praised the contribution of the African Group to that Conference and noted that the adoption of the Final Act of UNCTAD VII was itself a major step forward. The Final Act provided the international community with a platform for stronger international co-operation and contained a number of important proposals which were of great importance to Africa. In that regard, he referred in particular, to the Conference's concern for a balance between adjustment and growth and the role to be played by the international community in bringing about that balance. He also pointed out that the Conference had endorsed UNCTAD's activities and had given a particular boost to the prospects of operationalizing the Common Fund.

150. The observer for UNCTAD also referred to the planned global activities in preparation for the second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries to be held in 1990. He appealed to African countries to participate actively in those preparations. He finally drew the attention of the meeting to the decision taken to strengthen multilateral co-operation.

151. The observer for OAU thanked the ECA and UNCTAD secretariats for their continued efforts in the area of trade and development and for the co-operation his organization had received from those institutions in that regard. He reaffirmed the assessment made of UNCTAD VII's achievement by the ECA secretariat, and urged member States to be more vigilant in their efforts to ensure the survival and effectiveness of the Conference. He informed the meeting that the OAU Council of Ministers had requested the OAU and ECA secretariats to hold consultations with a view to implementing the decisions

of the Final Act of UNCTAD VII and had requested member States to keep the two secretariats informed of the progress made from time to time.

152. During the discussion, concern was expressed over the coverage of the report. The report would have been more meaningful if it had (i) dealt with the evaluation of the Conference in greater detail; (ii) contained guidelines for strengthening trade and development in Africa; (iii) shown the interrelationship between international trade, the African debt problem, resource flows and commodity prices, all of which had been considered at UNCTAD VII.

153. The representative of Morocco expressed his Government's reservation on any reference to the ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade held in Addis Ababa in March 1987.

154. The Committee took note of the report.

Fifth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers - Recommendations and resolutions [agenda item 7 (a)]

155. The representative of Nigeria whose country was the Vice-Chairman of the fifth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 21 to 28 March 1988 introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/19 Summary.

156. Among the general issues considered by the Joint Conference at its fifth session were progress made with respect to economic recovery, Africa's development perspectives to the year 2000, the debt problem, and the issue of monitoring the social dimensions of structural adjustment.

157. In the field of statistics, the Joint Conference had inter alia considered and made several recommendations on data collection related to development programmes and aid flows. The Conference had expressed satisfaction at the considerable progress made by the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) and had recommended ways by which the programme could be developed further. It had also considered and endorsed the proposed activities of the secretariat in the new field of environment statistics. While appreciation was expressed for the contribution made by various United Nations agencies and by multilateral and bilateral donors in the area of technical and financial assistance in planning, statistics, demography and information science, the Joint Conference had noted the various shortcomings encountered by some African countries in technical assistance co-operation activities.

158. In the field of planning, the Joint Conference had underscored the importance of introducing changes in planning and had urged the ECA secretariat to (i) undertake a comprehensive study on various African planning experiences;

(ii) ensure that planning institutions were closely associated in the preparation of adjustment programmes; (iii) work on a conceptual framework for the optimal allocation of investment resources; (iv) undertake a comprehensive review of on-going adjustment programmes to ascertain their effects; and (v) support modelling efforts on regional level and improve Africa's integration in global models.

159. The Joint Conference had also considered population dynamics; population distribution, redistribution and drought; ECA regional population training and research institutes; and other issues related to the work of the secretariat in the population field. A number of recommendations had been made in this area.

160. In the field of information and documentation, the Conference had examined the study on the use of micro-computers in documentation and information centres in Africa. It had requested the secretariat to prepare a glossary of terms in use in information science and advised PADIS management to engage in a concerted promotional activity using, among other things, national participating centres and national press agencies as well as by producing publicity materials. The following members of the Regional Technical Committee of PADIS namely Algeria, Ethiopia, the Niger, Zaire and Zambia, whose terms of office had expired, had had their terms extended for another period.

161. The Joint Conference had also recommended that the name of the Conference should remain unchanged and that the duration of its meetings should be reduced to six working days.

162. The meeting took note of the report and adopted draft resolutions 1 (IX), 2 (IX), 3 (IX) and 4 (IX).

Third meeting of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization - Recommendations and resolutions [Agenda item 7(b)]

163. The representative of the Republic of Sudan whose country was the Chairman of the third meeting of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization, which took place in Khartoum, the Sudan, on 12 and 13 March 1988 presented document E/ECA/CM.14/20/Summary. He informed the meeting that the Conference had considered and endorsed the Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-Focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa, which had been adopted by the International Conference on the Human Dimension of Africa's Economic Recovery and Development which had also taken place in Khartoum from 5 to 8 March 1988. He added that the Ministerial Conference had been preceded by a meeting of its Committee of Experts and that of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Ten.



164. The representative of the Sudan outlined the basis and objectives of the Khartoum Declaration. That Declaration sought to ensure that the human factor was adequately incorporated into the design and implementation of recovery and structural adjustment processes and programmes, that special attention was given to the social sector and the vulnerable groups in African societies, and that capabilities for developing and utilizing human resources for long-term development were created and sustained. The Conference had decided to submit the Declaration to the ECA Conference of Ministers responsible for economic development and planning for its endorsement and subsequent transmittal to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole set up by the General Assembly to undertake a mid-term review of the implementation of UN-PAAERD, and through it to the forty-third session of the General Assembly.

165. The Conference had also adopted two other resolutions, one on Combating the brain drain and the other on Support for the United Nations Special Action Programme for Administration and Management (SAPAM).

166. In the discussion that followed, one delegate wondered whether in its consideration of the brain drain, the Conference had considered the possibilities for facilitating the return of highly skilled refugees who had settled inside and outside the region but whose skills were badly needed in some African countries.

167. In response, the Executive Secretary explained that the issue was indeed an important one. While the question of the brain drain had been considered at the Conference, that aspect of it relating to the use of qualified African refugees in needy African countries had not. That was probably because ECA was not dealing with refugee problems. However, ECA was much interested in the issue and indeed had a project on the return of African skills to Africa. Work in the area would certainly have to be intensified.

168. The Committee took note of the document and adopted draft resolutions 10 (IX), 11 (IX) and 12 (IX).

Seventh meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries - Recommendations and resolutions [agenda item 7(c)]

169. A representative of Niger in the capacity as the Chairman of the seventh meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/21 -- report of the meeting which had been held from 1 to 4 April 1988 in Niamey, Niger.

170. She said that the meeting had reviewed economic and social conditions in African least developed countries in the 1986-1987 period, and the progress made in implementing the Substantial New Programme of Action for the Least

Developed Countries in the 1980s. It had also assessed the development and utilization of human resources in African least developed countries and had examined ECA activities in the 1986-1987 biennium and those programmed for 1988-1989 biennium in favour of the African least developed countries.

171. She pointed out that the meeting had urged member countries to forward to the secretariat's up-to-date information on their economies so that the secretariat's annual review of the economic and social conditions in African LDCs could be as accurate as possible. It had also considered the difficulties encountered by African LDCs in implementing structural adjustment programmes. The meeting had felt that the major obstacle to the successful realization of the Substantial New Programme of Action had remained the incommensurate level of external funding, especially official development assistance flows.

172. As regards human resources development and utilization, the meeting had underscored the urgent need to develop guidance programmes to integrate primary and secondary school drop-outs into the development circuits.

173. The Committee took note of the report and adopted draft resolution 22 (IX).

Ninth meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC) - Recommendations and resolutions [agenda item 7(d)]

174. The President of the ninth meeting of the Africa Regional Co-ordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/22/Summary.

175. She informed the Committee that the ninth meeting of ARCC was held in Niamey, Niger, from 3 to 5 April 1988. Eleven of the fifteen ARCC member States participated in the meeting and six ECA member States participated in an observer capacity. She informed the Committee that ARCC was established by the ECA Conference of Ministers in 1979 and then outlined the objectives and composition of ARCC. She said that ARCC had been quite successful in creating awareness of women's issues. She briefed the Committee on the recommendations of the meeting and highlighted those which called upon governments and agencies to ensure that the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women were respected and implemented at the national level. She referred to the results of the regional workshop, on integration of women in trade and commerce which was held earlier in Niamey and emphasized the need to improve traditional markets, both rural and urban, by providing shelter, storage, sanitation and other facilities. She also referred to the issue of the women programmes in the MULPOC and the recommendation that ECA and UNDP should ensure that the posts of women co-ordinators were reinstated. She appealed to member States to include in their delegations to the MULPOC statutory meetings, women delegates so that they could

participate in the meetings of their subregional committees and those of the committees of experts and Councils of Ministers of the MULPOCs. That would ensure the functioning of the structures including ARCC for the advancement of women.

176. Two resolutions had been adopted by the meeting. One was on women in development and the other on integration of African women in trade and commerce.

177. She finally paid tribute to the women of Niger for their hospitality and their contribution to the meeting.

178. In the ensuing discussion, delegates emphasized the importance of the findings of the ECA/UNDP/ARCC evaluation mission of August 1987, particularly the finding that there were no other structures that could replace the arrangement of having women co-ordinators in the MULPOC in dealing with women's issues and concerns. Some delegates observed that the title of the first resolution on women and development was too general, and queried the need to include "Nursery centres for infants and children" in an operative paragraph of the second resolution. After some discussion, it was agreed that the title of the first resolution should be made more specific, and that the concern for "nursery centres for infants and children" was a real one and should be retained in the resolution.

179. The Committee took note of the report (E/ECA/CM.14/22/Summary) and adopted draft resolutions 5 (IX) and 6 (IX).

Fifth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology Development - Recommendations and resolutions [agenda item 7(e)]

180. The representative of Zimbabwe, whose country had presided over the fifth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology Development described the main recommendations and resolutions coming out of that meeting which had been held from 2 to 6 November 1987 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Committee's recommendations had focused on the financial support that member States should provide for activities and projects already identified by the working groups. The Committee had also recommended that the ECA/MULPOC should co-ordinate the activities of the working groups in their respective subregions. ECA, in co-operation with OAU, ARCT, FAO, ILO, UNESCO and other competent international organizations was to undertake in-depth studies on the indicators of science and technology development for Africa. The secretariat was to look for funds for the launching of the project ATAS-Africa. Member States were to provide appropriate financial resources for the African Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS).

181. Finally, ECA, OAU and UNESCO secretariats were to devise appropriate modalities of co-operation which would ensure that the activities of the intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology Development and those of the standing conference of Heads of National Science and Technology Policy-making Bodies of African member States were complementary. The Committee had adopted two resolutions, one on the activities of its working groups which should be co-ordinated by the ECA/MULPOC and the other on co-operation among ECA, OAU and UNESCO in following-up CASTAFRICA II.

182. During the discussions which followed, one participant requested that ARCEDEM should be included among the organizations responsible for developing indicators of science and technology development for Africa.

183. After a representative of the secretariat had assured the meeting that the request would be considered, the Committee took note of the report and adopted draft resolutions 8 (IX) and 9 (IX).

Sixth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning - Recommendations and resolutions [agenda item 7(f)]

184. The representative of Zaire, whose country was the Chairman of the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, held at Kinshasa on 23 and 24 March 1988, introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/24/Summary. A number of resolutions were adopted on a broad spectrum of major subsectors of transport and communications; specifically there were resolutions on the need to convene (i) a special Conference of Ministers responsible for Civil Aviation to consider and adopt an African aeronautical policy; (ii) establish a working group on inland water transport to discuss and work out measures for facilitating inland water transport; (iii) establish within the North African MULPOC a committee of countries of North Africa, which in collaboration with international institutions would be responsible for the development of transport in the subregion; (iv) strengthen the capacity of African intergovernmental organizations responsible for implementing transport and communications programmes in Africa; (v) develop trans-African Highways in Africa; (vi) utilize the Pan-African Telecommunications Network (PANAFTEL); (vii) proclaim a second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa; and (viii) to establish a Ministerial Conference on Maritime Transport for Eastern and Southern Africa.

185. The representative of Zaire highlighted the background and justification for the resolution on a special conference of African Civil Aviation Ministers and pointed out the adverse consequences of new civil aviation policies in some industrialized countries on the development of air transport in Africa. He strongly called for the adoption of that resolution and its immediate implementation.

186. Participants sought information on the selection of the members of the ad hoc committee established for the purpose of preparing the special conference and suggested that the conference should be held earlier than planned. The reason for such urgency was that various regulations would become effective in many developed countries by the end of the year.

187. The secretariat informed the committee that discussions were being held to organize the special conference in 1988. The proposed dates were as follows: Meeting of Ad Hoc Committee: 16-17 May 1988; Meeting of Experts in Civil Aviation: 3-5 October 1988; and Meeting of the Special Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Aviation: 6-7 October 1988. The venue would be announced later. He invited all members of the technical committee on Civil Aviation and interested international and intergovernmental organizations to join the preparatory committee of the special conference. He assured participants that the ECA secretariat, in collaboration with OAU, would co-ordinate the activities aimed at preparing the special conference.

188. The committee took note of the document and adopted draft resolution 18 (IX).

First meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism -  
Recommendations and resolutions [agenda item 7(g)]

189. The representative of Benin which served as the Rapporteur of the first meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism held at Kinshasa, Zaire, from 18 to 22 November 1987 introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/25. The Conference had focused its attention on three main issues: (i) joint promotion of African tourism and creation of inter-State tourist circuits; (ii) training and co-operation between African countries in developing human resources for tourism; and (iii) hotel management and the activities of transnational hotel management corporations in Africa. The conclusions and decisions of the Conference on those issues had been summarized in three resolutions and the Kinshasa Declaration on Tourism which the meeting had adopted.

190. With respect to the promotion of tourism, the Conference had decided to establish an African Tourism Fair to be held every two years, proclaim 1989 as African Tourism Year, establish an African Association of Tourism for tourism professionals and strengthen co-operation between ECA and relevant African intergovernmental organizations. In the area of training, the Conference had adopted a project prepared by the ECA and the International Labour Office (ILO). It had also called on ECA to co-ordinate and disseminate information on training and human resources development in tourism. With respect to hotel management and the activities of transnational hotel management corporations, the Conference had expressed concern that African countries did not benefit sufficiently from hotel management contracts. It had therefore requested the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations

and ECA, in co-operation with ILO and the World Tourism Organization (WTO), to provide technical assistance to member States in the revision of unsatisfactory contracts and to prepare model contracts for their use.

191. In the ensuing lively debate, participants confirmed the importance of tourism in the social, cultural and economic development of Africa and noted in particular its contribution to foreign exchange earnings. Some participants described their countries' positive experiences in developing tourism. However, other participants stressed the need to safeguard African cultural traditions, avoid the transfer of bad social habits from other countries to the region, and develop the necessary domestic infrastructure to support tourism. A major emphasis was placed on the promotion of intra-African tourism to encourage Africans to know one another's countries better. Many Africans travelled to other African countries only for conferences and meetings and undertook tourist visits mainly to Europe and other foreign countries.

192. On the question of the biennial African Tourism Fair, participants had divergent views. Some supported it as an important means of promoting tourism in the region. Others expressed doubts as to its objectives and its priority in a period of economic crisis and structural adjustment. Several participants also suggested that the tourism fair could be incorporated quite profitably within existing subregional and regional trade fairs. The Committee concluded that the matter should be left to the Conference of Ministers to decide.

193. The Committee took note of the report and adopted draft resolution 19 (IX).

Report of the meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC - Progress report on the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area for North African Countries [agenda item 8(a)]

194. Under this agenda item, document ECA/MULPOC/Tanqier/P.VIII/3 on the report of the eighth meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC, held in Tanqier on 17 and 18 March 1988 was introduced by the representative of Algeria whose country had served as Vice-Chairman of that meeting of the Council of the Plenipotentiaries. He reviewed the five resolutions that the Council had adopted on (i) desertification and the campaign against migrant locusts; (ii) measures for the establishment of a Preferential Trade Area in North Africa; (iii) proposal for the creation of a Transport Commission for the North African MULPOC subregion; (iv) emigration from member States of the North African countries; and (v) development of industry in North Africa.

195. The representative of Morocco whose country had acted as Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team of Experts to establish a Preferential

Trade Area (PTA) in North Africa introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/26 which contained a progress report on the establishment of the PTA for North African countries. He reviewed the major decisions which had been taken at the inaugural meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team of Experts, held in Tangier from 9 to 11 December 1987 and noted in particular that that meeting had decided that an overall study should be undertaken for a scheme to integrate the subregion. That overall study would be supported by sectoral studies with a view to determining the contents of the various protocols related to the establishment of the PTA. The ECA secretariat would submit a project document to the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab Countries to finance the studies in question following the insertion of that item in the priority aspects considered during the meeting of Arab Ministers and UNDP/Bureau for Arab States, held at Casablanca in March 1988.

196. In the ensuing discussion, the Committee sought clarification on the resolution on emigration adopted by the Council of Plenipotentiaries, particularly with respect to its scope. The Committee was informed that the resolution was based on the need for North African countries to establish mechanisms for solving the problems of North African emigrants both when they were in the receiving country as well as when some of them returned to their countries.

197. The Committee took note of the reports and adopted draft resolutions 14 (IX), 15 (IX), 16 (IX) and 17 (IX).

Report of the Second Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers and Commissioners of State for Planning of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC - Resolutions

198. The Committee decided to consider the report of the Second Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers and Commissioners of State for Planning of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC under this item of the agenda at the request of the member States of that MULPOC.

199. The representative of Rwanda, speaking on behalf of the member States of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC, informed the Committee that although in resolution 611 (XXVI) of 24 April 1987, the Conference of Ministers had decided that henceforth the meetings of the MULPOC policy organs should be held every two years, the Council of Ministers and Commissioners of State of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC had had to meet in an extraordinary session in Gisenyi on 7 and 8 March 1988. The purposes of that session were: (i) to take a decision on steps for speeding up the process of recruiting a co-ordinator for the women activities in the Gisenyi-based MULPOC, probably from Burundi; (ii) to take a decision on measures for accelerating the signing of the project document for the UNDP Fourth Regional Programming Cycle so that the required activities could be put under way as soon as possible; and (iii) to set up a committee to be charged with the responsibility of speeding up the

implementation of the multisectoral assistance project to the CEPGL member States. Accordingly, the Conference had adopted three resolutions one on each of these three issues. He further informed the Committee that the objectives of the resolutions adopted on the first two issues had already been reflected in a general way, in the draft resolutions adopted by the Committee on Integrating Women in Development, [5 (IX) and on the IGOs [28 (IX)]. As far as the resolution on the third issue was concerned, the representative of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC said that he had found it difficult to convince the secretariat to process it.

200. The representative of Zaire, also speaking on behalf of the member States of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC, also recalled resolution 611 (XXII) and informed the Committee that the member States of the Gisenyi-based MULPOC had not meant to, and would not infringe any decision of the Commission. The extraordinary session had been necessitated by the urgency of the issues discussed. The Gisenyi-based MULPOC would henceforth meet in accordance with the decision of the Commission as stipulated in its resolution 611 (XXII).

201. In his intervention, the Executive Secretary said that the secretariat as an organ of the Commission had the responsibility to advise member States whenever proposals emanating from any subsidiary organ of the Commission were contrary to the regulations and rules of the United Nations and/or infringed on the prerogative of the Secretary-General. Since the third resolution presented by the Gisenyi MULPOC appeared to fall under that category, it would be necessary for him to study it more closely and to take it up with the countries of the Gisenyi MULPOC with a view to finding a mutually agreeable solution within the rules and practices of the United Nations.

202. The Committee took note of the report of the Second Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers and Commissioners of State for Planning and of the undertaking made by the Executive Secretary.

Biennial consolidated report on the activities, work programmes and budget of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions [agenda item 8 (b)]

Eighth meeting of the Conference of Chief Executives of the ECA-sponsored Regional and Subregional Institutions - Recommendations and resolutions [agenda item 8 (c)]

203. Under this agenda item, a representative of the secretariat presented documents E/ECA/CM.14/28 and E/ECA/CM.14/27. In introducing document E/ECA/CM.14/28, he recalled resolution 409 (XVI) and (XVII) requiring the preparation and submission of a biennial report on the activities, work programmes and budgets of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions



to the Conference of Ministers. During the biennium 1986-1987, the institutions had helped to strengthen the efforts of the African countries in their economic recovery process in the areas of their competence, namely finance; earth resources development; industrial development; social and economic development planning and management; trade; transport. The institutions had had difficulties in implementing their work programmes due mainly to the late or non-payment of contributions by member States.

204. In supplementing the presentation the representative of the secretariat the Director of ARCT said that in pursuance to commission resolution 550 (XX) on the report and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee set up in 1983 to look into the problems of ECA and OAU-sponsored institutions. The institutions had deployed considerable efforts to mobilize about \$US24 million from extrabudgetary sources and to undertake joint programmes. It has, however, been difficult to leave up to the expectations of member States and to effectively implement work programmes since contributions had been forthcoming. He noted also that member States were not making maximum use of the services available at the institutions and urged them to use such services. He then appealed to member States which have not done so to join the institutions and for all of them to pay their contributions. As a possible source of augmenting resources, he appealed to funding and executing agencies to subcontract consultancy and project execution activities to the institutions.

205. The Director of IDEP in supplementing the statements of the two preceding speakers emphasized the fact that institutional building was a long process. Africa currently had broad subregional and regional institutional base and every effort should be made to consolidate that base for increased measure of self-reliance.

206. The Director of IFORD made an appeal to member States to comply with Commission resolution 550 (XX) especially its operative paragraph 1ch stated that 25 per cent of the contribution owed to the institutions should be paid immediately and the balance over a period of five years.

207. A representative of the secretariat then briefly introduced document E/ECits operA/CM.14/27. He drew the attention of the meeting to the recommendations and decisions of the Conference at its eighth meeting of Chief executives of the ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions on the following issues: a group insurance scheme; ECA-sponsored institutions and the implementation of UN-PASERD; relations between ECA and ECA-sponsored institutions as regards the execution of bilateral and multilateral projects; harmonization and standardization of documentation and information systems; bulletin of the ECA-sponsored institutions; seminar on programme budgeting; and the date and venue of the ninth meeting of the Conference.

208. In the ensuing discussion, the meeting acknowledged the important role that all the sponsored institutions had been playing in their areas of competence in supplementing the efforts of member States. It also recognized the need to find lasting solutions especially to the financial constraints facing the institutions. It was generally stressed that unless each institution had a large number of members in good financial standing, the institutions would not become viable and credible and would not be capable of producing quality products and services at competitive prices. It was further recognized that unless African countries showed their political will to translate into concrete actions their commitments vis-à-vis their sponsored-institutions by way of budgetary allocation and the use of their services and products, the support expected from the international community would not be forthcoming.

209. While the meeting acknowledged the importance of the institutions and the need to find lasting solutions to their financial problems, it was nevertheless of the opinion that some of their problems derived from the proliferation of the institutions some of which were doing similar things; the lack of awareness of the decision-makers of the existence and the potential use of the institutions and their facilities; the difficulty in paying contributions in foreign currencies; and the fact that the mere adoption of a resolution establishing an institution did not carry any legally binding obligation to member States. A possible solution to the last problem would be for each institute to have legally binding instruments of agreement which must be signed and ratified by every member. That should oblige member States to include their financial obligations to the institute in national budgets. It was pointed out that some member States did not even know to which institute they belonged. In that regard, the Executive Secretary was requested to provide information on the membership of the various institutes.

210. Some representatives suggested that an evaluation of the institutions should be carried out with a view to making proposals for the merger of some institutions, the integration or harmonization of their work programmes and for the abolition of some institutions where necessary. It was suggested that ECA could be requested to carry out a study on these issues. In that connection, the observer for ICAO requested that such a study should include those regional and subregional institutions which were not sponsored by the ECA in particular those in the areas of civil aviation. He informed the meeting that several institutions in the civil aviation group were faced with considerable financial problems and that some might be closed. It was also felt that the Executive Secretary and the Chief Executives should continue to sensitize decision-makers on the role and activities of the institutions especially through exhibitions. The Executive Secretary was in particular urged to take up the question of non-payment of contributions directly with the governments concerned and if necessary with respective Heads of State.

211. In reacting to the discussion, the Executive Secretary expressed appreciation to the delegates for their contribution to the debate. That discussion had indicated that the sponsored institutions were of great interests to member States. On the question of mandating ECA to undertake the above mentioned study, he reminded the Committee that a similar discussion in 1983 led to the adoption of resolution 477 (XVIII) on the Ad Hoc Committee of ten member States to assess the multinational institutions sponsored by ECA and OAU; formulate recommendations concerning their usefulness and effectiveness, and to give their views on how to better rationalize, co-ordinate, harmonize or integrate their activities. But before the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, a study had been undertaken on the same issue by ECA and OAU with the financial support of UNDP.

212. He indicated that the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee as well as those of ECA and OAU notably on rationalization were not given due consideration by member States even though the members of the Ad Hoc Committee had visited, at their own cost, about 80 per cent of the institutions and had made pertinent proposals. Therefore, the need for a new study on that issue did not arise. What was required was the political will to make those institutions viable and operational. In particular, there was a need for member countries hosting institutions identified to be abolished or merged to be co-operative as Algeria and Mali had been in the merger of the African Remote Sensing Council and the African Associations of Cartography.

213. The Executive Secretary estimated the annual budget of all sponsored-institutions to be less than \$US10 million. Therefore if their respective memberships were larger enough, the contributions of individual member States would not be that much and some of the host countries would not be burdened as they were. He took that opportunity to express his appreciation to those host countries (in particular Algeria - AAC; Cameroon - IFORD; Ghana - RIPS; Libyan Arab Jamahiriya - ACARTSOD; and Nigeria - ARCEDEM) which had supporting institutions in their countries both financially and materially.

214. On the issue of payment in foreign currency, he informed the meeting that arrangements had been made with UNDP to get contributions in local currency converted into foreign currency. That issue was therefore no longer a problem.

215. He concluded by appealing to member States to effectively join and become members in good financial standing of the institutions and to those which were already members to comply with resolution 550 (XX) by paying immediately 25 per cent of their arrears and the balance over a period of five years.

216. The meeting concluded by urging member States to join the institutions, in large numbers to pay their contributions and their arrears as spelled out in resolution 550 (XX), and to use the services of the institutions.

The call for a study was unnecessary, in view of the studies already carried out and the decisions of the Conference of Ministers. Instead member States should seek ways and means of implementing the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee as approved by the Commission at its twentieth session.

217. It was pointed out that the word Bire should be deleted from table 2 now C.6 in document E/ECA/CM.14/28.

218. The meeting took note of the two documents and adopted draft resolution 23 (IX).

Progress report on the submissions for the UNDP Fourth Programming Cycle for Africa (1987-1991) - [agenda item 8(d)]

219. Under this agenda item, documents E/ECA/CM.14/29 and Add.1 and E/ECA/CM.14/30 were presented. In presenting document E/ECA/CM.14/29 and Add.1 entitled "Progress Report on UNDP/ECA Co-operation under the UNDP Fourth Cycle Regional Programme for Africa 1987-1991" a representative of the secretariat recalled the circumstances in which the Fourth Cycle Regional Programme for Africa had been prepared. He informed the meeting that the programme reflected fully the order of priorities set by the African States both in terms of sectors and in terms of the allocation of financial resources. Among the 25 multisectoral regional and subregional projects that ECA had submitted to UNDP, 9 had already been approved while the rest had reached an advanced stage of approval. He informed the meeting that an ECA/UNDP/IGO intersecretariat committee had been set up to consider the multisectoral economic integration projects submitted to UNDP by the African IGOs with a view to harmonizing them and avoiding duplication.

220. The representative of the secretariat referred to co-operation between ECA and UNDP's Regional Bureau for Arab States. Such co-operation he said needed to be strengthened because 8 of the 20 countries covered by the Bureau were member States of ECA. They accounted for as much as 80 per cent of the total Arab population. For that reason, ECA had prepared about 10 projects which it had submitted for financing under the Arab regional indicative planning figure (IPF) for 1982-1986. Unfortunately, only two of the 10 projects had been considered favourably. ECA had had occasion to deplore that situation at the Ministerial Conference convened by UNDP in March 1988 at Casablanca to consider the forthcoming regional programme for the Arab States. The Ministerial Conference had exhorted the competent authorities of UNDP to intensify their co-operation with ECA during the next programming cycle (1987-1991). That was all the more important because the Regional Bureau for Africa had decided to discontinue financing out of its IPF, the ECA regional project activities carried out in the eight African countries that belonged to the Regional Bureau for Arab States.

221. In conclusion, the representative of the secretariat conveyed the appreciation of ECA's Executive Secretary to the Regional Bureau for Africa for the diligence with which the projects submitted by ECA had been considered and the close co-operation which existed between the two institutions.

222. Another representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/30 which was the report of the meeting of the intersecretariat committee set up by ECA, UNDP and the African IGOs to consider the multisectoral economic integration projects that the African IGOs had submitted to UNDP.

223. Ten African IGOs and six United Nations specialized agencies along with ECA and UNDP participated in the meeting which was held in Addis Ababa from 29 to 31 March 1988.

224. The multisectoral projects submitted had focused on the following areas: transport and communications; energy; agriculture; animal husbandry; fishing; and industry. The projects were aimed at integrating the markets through the establishment of joint production facilities, the removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers, the establishment of common external tariff and enhanced monetary, fiscal and financial co-operation. The projects had taken into account the need to harmonize within each subregion the sectoral and multisectoral activities of the IGOs.

225. With regard to the modalities for implementing such multisectoral economic integration projects, ECA had with the agreement of the IGOs, been designated by UNDP as the main executing agency for the projects submitted by ECOWAS, CEAO, ECCAS, UDEAC, CEPGL, KBO, CBLT and IOC. Subsequently, arrangements would have to be made to implement and follow-up the projects concerned and determine the respective roles that the IGOs, UNDP and the specialized agencies would play in project implementation.

226. The recommendations put forward by the meeting had included: the recruitment of a co-ordinator for each project; the close association of NGOs in project execution, and the recruitment, as a matter of priority, of subregional and regional experts and consultants to implement the projects. A management committee made up of ECA, UNDP, the specialized agencies and the NGOs concerned had been established to ensure the efficient implementation of each project. The PTA of Eastern and Southern Africa and SADCC has requested that their multisectoral projects be withdrawn and had not taken part in the Addis Ababa meeting.

227. During the discussion which followed the presentations, the observer for UNDP pointed out that the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States had been set up at the request of those countries and that three sub-Saharan African countries were members of the Bureau, namely Djibouti, the Sudan and Somalia.

He referred the meeting to paragraph 1 of document (E/ECA/CM.14/29/Add.1) and initiated that the words "Mediterranean programmes" should be replaced by "European programmes".

228. Delegates expressed satisfaction with the good relations that existed between ECA and the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa. Some participants wanted to know if the project on women in development which the UNDP had approved was a new project. Others expressed concern about the insufficiency of projects for Arab member States of ECA, financed by the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States; and the absence of projects covering some subregional groupings. It was therefore suggested that a resolution be adopted requesting the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States not only to continue its financial support for those projects no longer covered by the Bureau but also to intensify its support to the Programme of Economic Recovery, giving the highest priority to ECA member States in North Africa.

229. The observers for UNIDO and UNESCO stressed the close co-operation which existed between them, ECA, UNDP and relevant African regional and subregional organizations during the various stages of the formulation of some of the projects presented in the ECA document and reiterated the readiness of their organizations to co-operate in the execution of the projects that fell within the spheres of their competence.

230. In his reply to the various points raised, one of the representatives of the secretariat pointed out that the women's programme was not new and that it was one of the priority projects approved by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its extraordinary session of October 1986 in Addis Ababa. On the subject of projects in Arab member States of ECA, he stressed that ECA could only make use of opportunities such as the Conference that was held in Casablanca to urge the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States to co-operate more fully with ECA. He also stated that UNDP had asked ECA to comment on the multisectoral projects submitted by the PTA for Eastern and Southern Africa, but that there were still some problems to resolve concerning that project. In reply to the UNIDO and UNESCO representatives, the representative of the secretariat said that ECA had taken note of the willingness of these organizations to co-operate with ECA in project implementation. He also stressed the necessity for establishing a project management board made up of ECA and interested specialized agencies.

231. The Committee took note of the two reports and adopted draft resolutions 13 (IX) and 28 (IX).

#### Locust control in North Africa [agenda item 8(c)]

232. Under this agenda item, the representative of Algeria introduced the resolution on desertification and the campaign against migrant locusts that

had been adopted by the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC at its eighth meeting held in Tangiers, Morocco from 17 to 18 March 1988. He highlighted the problems of desertification and locust that the North African countries faced. Besides drought and desertification, locusts posed a great threat to agriculture which had been accorded the highest priority within APPER and UN-PAAERD. He stressed that it was imperative to control locusts so as to minimize their devastating effects on agriculture and food security. He also pointed that because of the migrant nature of locusts, a greater co-ordination of the efforts of member States particularly in establishing early warning systems was needed to control the pest. He referred to the problems of insufficient funds and the need to involve institutions and organizations such as FAO in finding appropriate solutions. He finally invited participants to strengthen the resolution and urged ECA to convene a regional conference on locust control.

233. The representative of Morocco reiterated his delegation's support for the draft resolution on locust and grasshopper control. He recalled the considerable efforts that his country was making to stop the advance of the harmful and highly mobile pests which instilled fear not only in the North African States but in the whole of Africa and expressed the hope that African countries affected by that scourge would co-operate with each other.

234. The observer for the FAO pointed out that the current outbreak of locusts had started from the breeding grounds in the Horn of Africa where they could not be brought under control through aerial spraying due to the difficult terrain and civil strife. They had therefore spread to the Sudan, Chad, and much of North-west Africa from where they had spread to other North African countries. FAO had responded to the problem by organizing donor conferences and had provided aircrafts and insecticides for locust control in North Africa. A temporary emergency centre to co-ordinate the campaign against the upsurge of locusts in Africa and grasshoppers in the Sudano-Sahelian area had been set up in August, 1986. He underscored the co-ordinating role of his organization which had been recognized in resolutions adopted by the ECOSOC and General Assembly, and underlined the need for a continental approach in the fight against the pest.

235. The observer for WMO pointed out that since the breeding and movement of the locusts depended upon and were governed by climatic conditions, such as rainfall, windflow and humidity, those meteorological parameters could be monitored and exchanged regionally and internationally by well trained observers stationed in each country. The basic WMO network could form the basis of a regional monitoring system of locust movement. In that regard, he referred to the need to involve national meteorological services in the development of strategies aimed at monitoring locust breeding and displacement. He informed the meeting that his organization had already designated a rapporteur from Algeria on locust control and was in contact with the national

meteorological services for their contribution and with FAO in co-ordination mechanisms. He said that his organization would be happy to participate in the regional conference that had been requested by the Tangiers-based MULPOC.

236. The observer from ICAO said that his organization had made contacts with FAO and some specialized African agencies such as OCLALAV to consider what contribution it could make to the locust control programme in Africa. His organization was prepared to participate in any locust control activities decided by the Commission in the area of aircraft particularly the training of specialized pilots.

237. In the discussion that followed, most delegates commended the North African MULPOC for bringing up a problem that was of interest to all member States. Locusts were a serious problem in many parts of the African continent particularly the Sudano-Sahelian countries. Most participants referred to the problem of financial resources that had hampered the work of the subregional organizations established to control the pest such as the Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCO) and CILSS which had included locust control in its activities. The Centre at Dakar had been closed down altogether for lack of resources. It was pointed out however, that the main difficulty that faced the DLCO in particular was the fact that the breeding areas of locusts were beyond the jurisdiction of that Organization. While the meeting recognized the importance of national efforts, it emphasized that because of the nature of the pest which respected no national boundaries, this effective control could only be achieved through collaborative efforts. Accordingly, the meeting agreed that the scope of work to be done should be extended to the other parts of the continent and requested ECA to co-ordinate such collaborative efforts.

238. The Committee adopted the draft resolution 20 (IX).

Proposed UNDP-sponsored management facility as a means of mobilizing additional resources for African development (agenda item 9)

239. In presenting document E/ECA/CM.14/36, the observer for UNDP stated that the UNDP-sponsored facility was a new initiative to mobilize additional resources in favour of African priority needs to meet the objectives of both the African Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (APPER) and the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD). According to the observer, for UNDP, the main considerations that had led UNDP to propose the creation of the new facility were the need for additional financing in favour of African countries, for policy related technical assistance extended on grant basis, and for the provision of neutral advice related to economic management. In particular, it was pointed out that short-term preoccupation with budget and balance-of-payments deficits



had taken precedence over long-term concern for investment and growth. The proposed Management Facility would be a unique mechanism for the mobilization of additional resources for sub-Saharan countries.

240. Three principles would govern the utilization of the funds of the Management Facility, namely: (a) its financing would be on a grant basis; (b) all countries preparing or implementing a programme of economic reform or adjustment would be eligible for its use, with a priority for low-income countries; and (c) the financing of the facility would not be tied to any conditionality.

241. According to the observer for UNDP, the main areas of intervention of the proposed facility would cover the identification of reform options and the preparation of the corresponding policies, the implementation of the adjustment and economic reform programmes, and the assistance to vulnerable groups adversely affected by structural adjustment.

242. He pointed out that the proposed facility would amount to \$US 150 million initially with the possibility of additional replenishment, and the Economic Commission for Africa would play a significant role in the utilization of the fund. He concluded by stating that if the African Governments supported the concept of a management facility in principle, the Governing Council of UNDP would be encouraged to consider seriously its establishment during its next session in June 1988.

243. In the ensuing discussion, a large number of participants paid tribute to the UNDP for the initiative it had taken and the timeliness of the proposed facility as a means of mobilizing additional resources for African development. However, many participants sought explanation on the modalities of the assistance and the series of assertions made particularly in paragraphs 9 and 10 of the document. Many delegates felt that the document should be revised, taking into account the interests of member States, since its first presentation had aroused certain apprehensions. In any case, there should be no hurry in accepting the proposal. Some representatives felt that the facility should be provided to member States without any condition attached to internal economic reforms.

244. Some other representatives however felt that member States should accept the facility, in principle, but that there was need to examine it in greater detail. The observer for the Organization of African Unity pointed out that African Governments have recognized the need for internal policy reforms in their submission to the UN-PAAERD, and should take advantage of the facility being proposed by UNDP as another alternative to the IMF and World Bank adjustment packages.

245. The meeting expressed its appreciation to UNDP for its efforts at mobilizing additional resources for development programmes in Africa. UNDP was urged to intensify its assistance programme to member States within the framework of expanded indicative planning figures (IPFs). The meeting took note of the proposed new facility but indicated that there was a need for more information to be provided on it.

ECA and African development: Beyond recovery: ECA-revised perspectives of Africa's development, 1988-2008 (agenda item 10)

246. A representative of the secretariat introduced document E/ECA/CM.14/31 "Beyond recovery: ECA-revised perspectives of Africa's development, 1988-2008". The study which was still in draft form was undertaken in response to resolution 470 (XVIII) of the Conference of Ministers which had requested an update every five years of the innovative Silver Jubilee publication, "ECA and Africa's development, 1983-2008". However, the representative of the secretariat noted that even if the Conference of Ministers had not requested the periodic update, the secretariat would have been obliged to revise its perspectives for the continent's future development because of the dramatic changes and unprecedented crisis of the intervening years.

247. Although the present study followed the same analytical approach and qualitative and quantitative methodology as the previous one, its coverage was broader and included issues such as drought, desertification and external indebtedness. The historical overview of the period 1980-1987 showed that Africa underwent a deep recession as a result of escalating oil prices and had lost any opportunity of recovery with the disastrous drought of 1983-1985. The resulting unsustainable socio-economic situation had led to the urgent adoption of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER) which had been supported by the international community in the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD). Despite the commendable efforts made by member States and, to a much lesser extent, the international community in implementing APPER and UN-PAAERD and despite stabilization programmes and the resumption of normal rains in 1985-1986, the African economy remained extremely vulnerable to the fluctuations of weather conditions and an unfavourable external environment.

248. The representative of the secretariat drew attention to the implications of two development scenarios portrayed in the study for Africa from 1988 to 2008. The first was the historical trends scenario which assumed no changes in the prevailing patterns of and constraints on development. Under such conditions, chronic and unsustainable economic difficulties would not only plague Africa, but they and the continued adverse exogenous factors would also nullify any positive results so far attained by African Governments through domestic reforms.

249. By contrast, the second "normative" scenario postulated a better development future based on radical changes and improvements particularly in the structures of production and demand, in rural transformation and human resources mobilization. The normative scenario was based primarily on the objective of doubling per capita income by the year 2008. That implied, among other things, the formulation of a new agricultural policy which would ensure the doubling of food production between 1990 and 2008, establish a balance between food and export crops and provide the impetus for the acceleration of the industrialization process. It also implied a reordering of inter-sectoral priorities to achieve an improved energy balance, an integrated system of infrastructure and accelerated economic and social integration in the continent.

250. During the ensuing discussion, delegates commended the secretariat for the initiative taken in preparing the study as well as for the quality of the document. It was however observed that the document could have been of a greater quality had it contained or elaborated a bit more on a number of issues that were of importance to Africa's development. These included the impact of refugee and displaced persons on the economies of Africa; the place of the human dimension in development; the need for enhancing labour productivity within the development process; the promotion of intra-African trade; the creation of an industrial base in support of agricultural development; the use of broadcasting as an effective communication device; and other impact of scientific and technological observations concerned the underlying assumptions and anticipated targets of the suggested scenarios. Those were not explicitly stated and that could make the evaluation and analysis of the scenarios a rather difficult task. Furthermore, the document did not contain guidelines on how the suggested scenarios could be achieved. The secretariat was therefore requested to take the necessary steps to ensure that the issues raised were adequately reflected in the revised document as well as in future studies of that nature.

251. The observer for ITU said that some of the data in paragraphs 308 and 309 of document E/ECA/CM.14/31 needed correction in line with the information he had provided in his previous intervention. No information on broadcasting had also been given in the document although broadcasting was one of the important components of communications. He also stated that the low utilization of PANAFTEL was not only due to technical but also to operational and management factors.

252. In response, the Executive Secretary said that in order to obtain the widest possible review, the document had been submitted to the Committee as part of the ongoing process towards its finalization. It had already been presented to the Joint Conference of Planners, Statisticians and Demographers for comments during its last meeting held in Addis Ababa from 21 to 28 March 1988. He therefore thanked the Committee for its useful

contribution towards improving the scope of the study and urged members to ensure that their respective national experts who were dealing with perspective studies would critically review the document and send their comments to the secretariat. Plans were underway to bring together a few specialists in their personal capacity to review and synthesize the various comments at a workshop before the finalization of the document. The Executive Secretary noted the comments made on the coverage and indicated that perhaps there was a need for undertaking special studies on some of the issues mentioned, particularly the problem of refugee and displaced persons, the question of regional integration and intra-African trade and the impact of science and technology. He informed the meeting of the on-going study commissioned by the secretariat on the long-term economic impact of destabilization on Southern African States, and assured delegates that the results of the study would be reflected in the final document. The assumptions underlying the projections would be clearly stated.

253. The Chairman congratulated the secretariat and urged member States to respond in time to the request of the secretariat to enable it prepare a more comprehensive and useful document.

254. The Committee took note of the report.

Statutory issues: Follow-up on resolutions of the Commission and resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and ECOSOC that are of interest to Africa: [agenda item 11 (a)]

- (i) Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-second session of the Commission and the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers;
- (ii) Resolutions adopted by ECOSOC at its second session of 1987 and by the General Assembly at its forty-second session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa.

255. A representative of the secretariat stated that the twenty-second session of the Commission/thirteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers held from 23 to 27 April 1987 at the headquarters of the Commission in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia had adopted 34 resolutions concerning most of Africa's economic and social development sectors. Six of those resolutions had been addressed to the General Assembly of the United Nations through the Economic and Social Council. The action on those resolutions was described in document E/ECA/CM.14/33 entitled "Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1987 and by the United Nations General Assembly at its forty-second session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa".

256. The bulk of the remaining resolutions were addressed to member States, the Executive Secretary of ECA, United Nations bodies and other organizations. The ECA secretariat had accordingly initiated action to implement the resolutions contained in document E/ECA/CM.14/32. In respect of resolution 596 (XXII) on the role of the building construction sector in the development process, \$US 349,000 had been secured from UNDP for the preparatory phase of the project that ECA had submitted covering the period May 1987 to May 1988. Pursuant to resolution 597 (XXII) on the Integration of Women in Development in Africa, the secretariat had made it a point to circulate the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to all member States and interested parties. Operative paragraph 8 of that resolution had duly been considered by the United Nations Secretary-General who had consequently made exceptions to the freeze on United Nations recruitment making it possible for the Executive Secretary to recruit some women staff members who were previously on extrabudgetary posts to regular budget posts. The implementation of Commission resolution 613 (XXII) had taken the form of the "International Conference on Africa: The Challenge of Economic Recovery and Accelerated Development" which had been organized jointly by ECA and the Federal Government of Nigeria in collaboration with OAU and ADB from 15 to 19 June 1987 in Abuja, Nigeria. The Conference had been a major sequel to the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to the Critical Economic Situation in Africa held in May and June 1986. The outcome had been the Abuja Declaration on Africa's economic recovery and long-term development. In line with operative paragraph 9 of the same resolution, an International Conference on the Human Dimension to Africa's Economic Recovery and Development had been organized from 5 to 8 March 1988 in Khartoum, the Sudan. The report of that Conference would be submitted to the fourteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers.

257. Also in connection with the implementation of resolution 613 (XXII), the representative of the Niger presented the conclusions and recommendations of the African Symposium on Grass-roots Development organized jointly by ECA and the Government of Niger from 8 to 13 June 1987 in Niamey. That Symposium had evaluated grass-roots development experiments in Africa, identified their prospects, promoted the sharing of views among people involved in development issues and research, and drawn up the outlines of an African approach to grass-roots development. The Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole was being requested in a resolution to recommend the establishment of an African committee for monitoring grass-roots development experiments and a fund for supporting grass-roots development in Africa.

258. Concerning resolution 609 (XXII) on the establishment of an African Institute for Crime Prevention and the Treatment of Offenders, a representative of the secretariat indicated that ECA, serving as the interim secretariat of the proposed Institute, was carrying out a number of activities for the initial phase of the project with UNDP financing. Among those activities,

were those related to the drafting of the statutes of the Institute, the preliminary consultations to identify one host country among the four countries of Djibouti, Morocco, Uganda and Zambia which had applied to host the Institute, and the preparation of a headquarters agreement. The representative of the secretariat asked the Committee to make a ruling on these latter points so that the project could become operational in the near future.

259. Concerning the action taken by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1987 on the resolutions adopted by the Conference of Ministers at its thirteenth meeting and addressed to the Council (E/ECA/CM.14/33), the representative of the secretariat stated that the Economic and Social Council had finally adopted ECA resolutions 586, 597 and 598 (XXII). Other resolutions of interest to Africa and adopted by the Council concerned a Europe-Africa permanent link through the Straits of Gibraltar; assistance to drought-stricken areas of Somalia; the report of the Secretary-General on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa; the venue of the twenty-third session of the Commission/fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers; special economic assistance to certain African countries facing particular problems, namely Benin, the Central African Republic, Djibouti, the Gambia, Madagascar, Chad and the front-line States; the implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification and also in the countries stricken by drought and desertification in Africa. All these resolutions of interest to Africa and adopted by the Council had been transmitted to the forty-second session of the General Assembly for adoption.

260. During the debate which followed, one participant wished to know the criteria used in the choice of countries visited with a view to hosting the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders. Another asked for clarification on the follow-up by ECA, other agencies and United Nations institutions on resolution 620 (XXII), on support to the island countries in the Indian Ocean in their efforts to forecast cyclones and to reduce the adverse effects of such disasters.

261. In reply to the first question, the Chairman of TEPCOW proposed that, as was customary, a committee limited to the members of the Bureau of TEPCOW should be set up to initiate consultations with candidate countries on the criteria for selecting the country which would host the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders. The same bureau would also contact the resolutions Committee to ascertain whether the statutes, as they had been proposed, conformed with those of other ECA-sponsored institutions. The Committee supported this proposal. Regarding resolution 620 (XXII), the observer for the World Meteorological Organization stated that WMO, at its tenth congress held in Geneva in May 1987, had noted with satisfaction ECA's resolution 620 (XXII) to assist the efforts of the islands in the Indian Ocean and had appealed to the appropriate United Nations

agencies and donor countries to increase their assistance to countries adversely affected by cyclones. The Congress had approved the necessary funds to enable WMO Cyclone Committee for the subregion to pursue its co-ordinating and advisory role. The Committee had further developed a regional co-operation programme for the implementation of which the WMO representative called for greater co-ordination.

262. The Executive Secretary of ECA recalled that, at the meeting of African IGOs and United Nations specialized agencies, held in Addis Ababa in March 1988, ECA had submitted resolution 620 (XXII) for discussion through the intermediary of the Indian Ocean Commission represented by the Seychelles. He stated that an ECA mission would be visiting the member States of the Indian Ocean Commission in order to identify projects for UNDP financing.

263. The Committee took note of the reports and adopted draft resolutions 21 (IX), 24 (IX) and 29 (IX).

Programme of work and priorities of the Commission [agenda item 11 (b)]

- (i) Proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget;
- (ii) Proposals for the extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-term Plan 1990-1991

264. A representative of the secretariat introduced documents E/ECA/CM.14/34 and E/ECA/CM.14/35, proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget and proposals for the extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-term Plan to 1990-1991, respectively.

265. He indicated that document E/ECA/CM.14/34 which contained an annex with two parts was in fact a report on the implementation of Commission resolution 616 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 on the proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1988-1989. In that connection, the introductory part contained information on the responses of the different United Nations organs, the representatives of member States in those bodies and of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the appeal made by the Conference of Ministers for support for the programme and the provision of adequate resources for its implementation. Part I of the annex contained additional activities prepared by the secretariat on the basis of the decisions of the conference at its meeting in 1987 and already approved by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) and Part II a new set of activities made possible by new resources from extrabudgetary source and some minor corrections. Part I was for information while Part II was for endorsement to the Secretary-General so that he could present it for consideration by the Committee for Programme Co-ordination (CPC).

266. With respect to the responses to the call of the Conference of Ministers, he recalled the favourable reception given by all the organs concerned and the serious negotiations undertaken by the representatives of member States and paid homage to their unalloyed support and commitment. He also referred to the fact that the Chairman of the Bureau of the twenty-second session of the Commission/thirteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers and representatives of the other members of the Bureau did see the Secretary-General of the United Nations in October 1987 and the fact that the Secretary-General had given some exception to ECA with respect to the implementation of economy measures.

267. With respect to the proposals for extending the Medium-term Plan for the period 1984-1989 to 1991, he explained that that approach had become necessary because the Secretary-General had felt that in view of the on-going reforms arising from the decision of the General Assembly to implement the recommendations of the Group of 18, it would be better to submit a new Medium-term Plan after the reforms had been completed. Accordingly, the Secretary-General had proposed through the CPC and the General Assembly had approved that on an exceptional basis the requirement that a Medium-term Plan should be revised twice only should be waived. The new proposals in respect of the programmes - International Trade and Development Finance in Africa and Social Development in Africa would form the basis of the proposed programme budget for the 1990-1991 biennium for the two programmes respectively. They were for endorsement to the Secretary-General for consideration by the CPC.

268. The Chairman reported to the Committee on the implementation of resolution 616 (XXII). He stated that the Chairman of the twenty-second session of the Commission and representatives of the other members of the Bureau - Egypt, Lesotho and Zaire - met the Secretary-General of the United Nations and African delegations at the United Nations to plead ECA's case for special consideration in the implementation of the economy measure being applied by the Secretary-General with the approval of the General Assembly. The Secretary-General had promised that he would do all he could to ensure that ECA was not seriously affected by the economy measures. The Chairman finally appealed to member States to continue to work with their delegations in New York so as to coordinate the African position on issues before the General Assembly.

269. In the ensuing discussion, member States noted with satisfaction the exceptions that had been made by the Secretary-General to enable ECA to recruit externally to fill some posts and expressed their appreciation to the Secretary-General, CPC, ECOSOC and the member States, in particular the African Group for their support. One delegation proposed and the Committee agreed that a resolution expressing the gratitude of members to those organs representatives of member States and the Secretary-General should be adopted.

270. The Committee then endorsed the proposals on the 1988-1989 programme budget and the extension of the Medium-term Plan 1984-1989 respectively and adopted draft resolution 26 (IX) and 27 (IX).



Any Other Business (agenda item 12)

271. Under this item, the ECA Executive Secretary informed the meeting that Mr. J.O. Aiyegbusi, Chief, Policy and Programme Co-ordination Office, was one of the eight ECA senior staff members who would be retiring in 1989. Mr. J.O. Aiyegbusi, who had served the Commission for about twenty years would be retiring at the end of March 1989 and so would not be participating in the 1989 meeting.

272. With that information and on behalf of TEPCOW, the Chairman expressed appreciation to Mr. Aiyegbusi for his contribution to the work of TEPCOW and wished the expression of appreciation to be recorded in the TEPCOW report. Responding, Mr. Aiyegbusi recalled his almost twenty years' involvement in the work of TEPCOW and indicated that his interest in the work of the Commission would continue. He thanked and wished everyone good luck.

273. One delegate requested that copies of the statements made by the Minister of Planning of Niger and the Executive Secretary at the opening ceremony, be made available to delegates.

Date and venue of the tenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (agenda item 13)

274. Under this agenda item, the Committee agreed to refer the matter to the Conference of Ministers for its decision.

Adoption of the report (agenda item 14)

275. The Committee adopted its draft report and resolutions.

276. In addition, the Committee approved three documents for consideration and adoption by the Conference of Ministers. These were: Preliminary Reaction of the Economic Commission for Africa to the Report and Recommendations of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows for Africa: Financing Africa's Recovery (annex I); Memorandum on the Contribution of the Economic Commission for Africa to the Implementation and Mid-term Review of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990: Prospects and Recommendations (annex II); and Niamey Declaration on the occasion of the Thirtieth Anniversary Celebration of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (annex III).

Closure of the meeting (agenda item 15)

277. The Executive Secretary, on behalf of himself and his colleagues in the secretariat, thanked the Chairman and members of the Bureau of the Committee for the high quality of their leadership and sense of dedication. He thanked all members of the Committee for the excellent work done, noting

that no agenda item was passed without discussion. He further expressed his appreciation to the supporting staff, particularly those from the host country, Niger, who had worked tirelessly behind the scenes to facilitate the work of the Committee.

278. The Chairman of the Committee expressed his personal satisfaction and that of the members of the Bureau for the successful conclusion of the work of the Committee. He thanked the Executive Secretary and members of the secretariat for their collaboration and expressed his particular appreciation to the interpreters and the technical team who had diligently assisted the Committee in its work.

279. The Chairman declared the meeting closed.

1(IX). African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP)

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 612 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 in which it noted with satisfaction the conclusions and recommendations of the Evaluation Mission on UNDP Assistance to IDEP and endorsed those recommendations,

Taking note of:

- (a) The efforts made by the Institute in the field of training,
- (b) The fact that member States have continued to demonstrate their interest in the activities of the Institute both directly and indirectly through the nomination of their nationals for different training programmes at the Institute,
- (c) The recent decision of UNDP conveyed to the Governing Council of IDEP at its thirtieth meeting to the effect that UNDP assistance to IDEP's training activities, in other words, funding for management and teaching posts would be terminated at the end of December 1989,
- (d) The fact that many member States have not been paying their contributions regularly,
- (e) The new five-year medium-term plan adopted by the Governing Council for implementation,

Recognizing that the Institute cannot continue without financial support from member States and the implications of UNDP's decision to withdraw assistance on the future of the Institute,

1. Strongly supports IDEP and requests it to continue and strengthen its training programmes and start its expanded research and new advisory/consultancy services as planned;
2. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA, the Governing Council of IDEP and the Director to ensure that efforts are made to implement the new Medium-Term Plan approved by the Governing Council at its thirtieth meeting;
3. Strongly urges all member States to translate their expression of support for the Institute into action by paying their annual contribution regularly;

4. Calls on all member States which owe arrears in their contributions to make every effort to pay these arrears at the rate of at least 10 per cent per year in line with the previous resolution;

5. Expresses sincere gratitude to those member States which have been paying their contributions, urges them to continue, and appeals to those members which can make voluntary contributions to do so;

6. Expresses its appreciation to the Executive Secretary of ECA for already agreeing, as announced to the Governing Council at its recent meeting, to provide funding for some management and research posts at IDEP;

7. Invites:

(a) The UNDP firstly to continue the support it has been giving to IDEP though with a shift in emphasis to research and creation of capacity for IDEP's new advisory and consultancy services in line with the recommendations of the Evaluation Mission as adopted by the Governing Council and the ECA Conference of Ministers and secondly to assist it by way of offering projects for implementation by IDEP for payment;

(b) The ADB, firstly to assist IDEP to develop its capacity for advisory and consultancy services and secondly, to utilize the services of IDEP as a consultant.

8. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA, first to support IDEP in the implementation of the five-year plan especially by way of funding posts at IDEP, and secondly to present as part of his programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 to the General Assembly for approval the request for regular posts for IDEP already approved by ECOSOC and in this connection to begin negotiations immediately as a matter of urgency with the department concerned at the United Nations Headquarters;

9. Calls on member States to support at the Fifth Committee of the United Nations, ECA's request for four regular posts for IDEP as part of ECA programme budget for the 1990-1991 biennium;

10. Requests the Director of IDEP to approach member States in order to mobilize extra funds particularly for research from other extrabudgetary sources both bilateral and multilateral;

11. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Senegal for its continued support to IDEP.

2 (IX). Africa and global modellingThe Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolutions 470 (XVIII) of 2 May 1983 and 501 (XIX) of 26 May 1984,

Taking into consideration the various ongoing efforts at global modelling and their growing applications in analysing and influencing international economic relations,

Conscious of the various advantages that can be derived from Africa's fuller and more accurate representation in global modelling efforts especially as regards the impact of internationally transmitted economic disturbances on individual African countries and the entire region,

Bearing in mind the limited and marginal way in which Africa is generally treated in most of the global models, in terms of individual country, sub-regional and regional coverage, appropriateness and relevance of model specifications that take into account the peculiarities and priorities of the region, and the policy scenarios which emerge from them,

1. Appeals to member States to undertake, at the national level, efforts aimed at widening the scope of national income accounting data, training of required manpower, acquisition of the necessary technical know-how and material such as the necessary computing hardware and software in order to strengthen or initiate the development of modelling capability, including in particular, the initiation of macro-modelling programmes where it does not already exist;

2. Calls upon African research and academic institutions at the national and subregional levels to assist in the realization of modelling by taking concrete steps towards enabling individual countries and subregional groupings to building and maintain macro-economic models on a continuing and sustainable basis;

3. Requests the ECA secretariat to:

(a) Continue, in collaboration with national and subregional institutions which have experience in modelling, to assist individual countries to initiate or strengthen model building capabilities;

(b) Organize an African meeting of experts on global modelling to bring together those involved in global modelling including African planners and statisticians to draw up a plan of action for Africa and the global modelling systems;

(c) Seek necessary initial technical and financial assistance from donor countries and organizations to support the efforts of ECA and collaborating institutions within the region in the area of modelling.

### 3(IX). Multisectoral planning

#### The Conference of Ministers,

Noting the importance and increasing role of the informal sector in the areas of employment creation, income generation, and satisfaction of basic needs of the African population,

Taking note of the recommendation of the Workshop on Multisectoral Planning Models and Short-term Economic Forecasting for Policy Design in Development Planning and Management in Africa held in Moscow, USSR, from 15 to 28 September 1986,

Conscious of the necessity of integrating the informal sector in development planning process in Africa,

Considering the necessity to support macro-economic planning by coherent regional planning at the country level,

1. Requests the ECA secretariat to organize a workshop for African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers on:

(a) The integration of the informal sector in the development planning process;

(b) Regional planning in Africa.

2. Invites donors as well as the agencies of the United Nations system (ILO and UNDP) to provide support and financial assistance for the convening of the Workshop.

#### 4 (IX). African Demographic Training Institutes

##### The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly decision 37/444 of 21 December 1982 which approved the statutes of the two African demographic training institutes: the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS), and the Institut de formation et de Recherche Démographiques (IFORD),

Recalling Conference of Ministers resolution 489 (XIX) of 26 May 1984 which took note of the precarious financial state of IFORD due to the insufficiency and irregularity of contributions received from its member States,

Considering the intention of UNFPA to progressively reduce its financing of the institutes as approved by resolution 84/21 of the Fund's Governing Council,

Recalling further Conference of Ministers resolution 577 (XXI) of 19 April 1986 which recommended that African Governments should progressively take over the financing of the institutes so that by the end of a five-year transition period they will have assumed the financing of a significant part of the institutes' budgets and invited the Executive Secretary to restructure the institutes on the basis of the recommendations of the joint session of the Governing Councils of RIPS and IFORD, including a revision of the statutes and salary scales, as necessitated by this restructuring.

Appreciative of the high quality population specialists trained at IFORD and RIPS as well as the research work undertaken by the institutes and convinced that the requirements of the African countries in this area are far from being satisfied,

Seriously concerned about the present financial problems facing IFORD which have resulted in non-payment of salaries of local staff and other expenses in the first few months of 1988 and which threaten the present and future functioning of the institute,

Concerned also about the non-payment of contributions by the member countries of RIPS and its implications for the Institute' restructuring programme,

Fully convinced that the idea of restructuring RIPS and IFORD as required by resolution 577 (XXI) of 19 April 1986 is highly contingent on the payment of contributions by member States,

1. Urges African Governments to continue their support of the institutes and to strengthen this by paying their arrears as well as paying their future annual contributions, regularly;
2. Further urges the member countries of IFORD to respond urgently to the financial crisis facing the Institute and to manifest their support for its proper and effective functioning by paying their 1987 and 1988 contributions;
3. Approves the new statutes of RIPS as amended by its thirteenth Governing Council;
4. Expresses its profound gratitude to the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund for the continuous and valuable support to the regular programmes of RIPS and IFORD;
5. Appeals to the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund to continue funding the institutes at their present levels in order to ensure their continuous and efficient service to member States;
6. Expresses also its deep appreciation to member States of the institutes and other countries and international organizations who have supported the Institutes' training and research activities administratively and financially and calls upon them to continue their support.



5 (IX). Women's Integration in the Development Process

The Conference of Ministers,

Considering the growing activities of ECA in implementing the Mexico Plan of Action, the Arusha and Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Integration of Women in Development,

Considering the effectiveness of financial support of UNDP in implementing programmes for the integration of women in the development process in the African continent,

Referring to the UNDP/ECA/ARCC evaluation mission of August 1987 related to the programme of integration of women in development at the MULPOC level,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 40/258 of 18 December 1987 which requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with a view to increasing the number of women in posts subject to geographical distribution for achieving, to the extent possible, an overall participation rate of 30 per cent of the total by 1990.

Recognizing that the programmes and structures at subregional and regional levels have served for co-ordinating activities for the advancement of women and for establishing links between national programmes for the integration of women in development, and for promoting technical co-operation between countries of the same region and between subregions,

1. Sends an urgent appeal to the relevant bodies, especially the two UNDP bureaux for Africa and ECA to ensure that the programme for the integration of women in development within the five MULPOCs is maintained;
2. Urges countries to meet their budgetary contributions to international institutions responsible for financing programmes for the integration of women in development in the MULPOCs;
3. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to take all necessary steps for the reinstatement of the posts for the co-ordinators within the MULPOCs;
4. Appeals to bilateral and multilateral funding agencies to co-ordinate their efforts and their interventions in the subregions in order to make the development programmes of the member States more efficient and effective;
5. Recommends to the United Nations that action be taken to ensure that professional women at ECA and especially at ATRCW be given permanent posts and that a genuine policy be established to increase their numbers and their promotion to higher professional levels;

6. Requests interested member governments to encourage and promote direct working relations between NGOs and national machineries for the integration of women in development;

7. Advocates within a multilateral framework, the implementation, jointly with NGOs, of subregional projects in which several countries would be associated;

8. Invites African women to celebrate the tenth anniversary of ARCC during the fourth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women in Development to be held in 1989.

6 (IX). Integration of African Women in Trade and Commerce

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered the report of the African Regional Co-ordination Committee on the Integration of Women in Development on its ninth meeting, including its consideration of the report of the Regional Workshop on the integration of women in trade and commerce held in Niamey from 31 March to 2 April 1988,

Recalling the Lagos Plan of Action, and the Arusha and Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Development which inter alia called for measures to be adopted to enhance the integration of African women in trade, commerce and other critical economic sectors,

Recognizing that African women constitute the backbone of economic and social activities especially in the rural areas where the majority of the populations live and that special measures should be taken urgently in order to improve the working conditions of African women in the commercial sector,

Deeply concerned by the poor conditions in the African traditional markets which lack basic infrastructure and other supporting facilities, taking into account that women constitute the majority of operators in these markets,

1. Endorses the recommendations of the Regional Workshop on the integration of women in trade and commerce;
2. Congratulates the Executive Secretary and his staff for organizing such an innovative workshop in favour of African women traders;
3. Calls upon African Governments and public and local authorities to accord due recognition to the important role women play in trade and commerce and their significant contribution to the economic development process of the African nations and to adopt relevant policies and legislation in support of the role and contribution of women in trade;
4. Urgently appeals to the relevant authorities as a matter of urgency to significantly improve the conditions in the African traditional markets, both in rural and urban areas through the provision of the necessary facilities including adequate transport, storage, water, health and sanitation, appropriate security welfare and day-care and nursery centres;
5. Further appeals to African governments to encourage the granting of loans and credits to African women for the purposes of improving their trade and commercial activities;

6. Requests development financing institutions, especially the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the African Development Bank Group, the World Bank Group, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), the Islamic Development Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to intensify their efforts to encourage the entry and greater participation of African women in trade and commerce and to channel more financial and technical support in this field;

7. Further requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Executive Director of the International Trade Centre and the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research for Women to draw up a joint programme for the training of African business women and traders at all levels, in both rural and urban areas, so as to enhance women's technical and managerial capabilities thereby increasing their role and contribution to Africa's social and economic development.

7 (IX). Establishment of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing (AOCRS)

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling ECA resolution 477 (XVIII) establishing an Ad hoc committee to evaluate the multinational institutions established under the aegis of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Organization of African Unity on their usefulness and effectiveness and ways by which their activities could be better organized, co-ordinated, harmonized and/or merged,

Recalling further ECA resolution 550 (XX) which approved, among others, the recommendation of the ad hoc committee that the African Association of Cartography (AAC) and the African Remote Sensing Council (ARSC) should be merged as the two institutions were performing complementary role of co-ordinating the cartographic and remote sensing activities in African member States,

Noting with satisfaction all measures taken towards the effective establishment of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing including the successful convening of the joint meeting of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the AAC and ARSC in Kinshasa, Zaire in March 1987 and the first Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the AOCRS in February 1988,

1. Welcomes the establishment of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing after the merging of the African Association of Cartography and African Remote Sensing Council;

2. Congratulates the member States which have already joined the Organization and urges the member States which have not joined yet to do so as soon as possible;

3. Expresses appreciation to Algeria on providing ample facilities for the headquarters of the Organization in Algiers;

4. Expresses appreciation also to the Executive Secretary of ECA on the measures taken leading to a successful establishment of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing;

5. Appeals to the former members of AAC and ARSC in arrears with their contributions to these institutions to pay them in as quickly as possible, so that the new organization formed by the merger of the two bodies may be viable;

6. Further appeals to the member States to pay their contributions to the Organization's budget in order for the Organization to take off and function smoothly;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the executive heads of the relevant bodies and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and the Secretary-General of the OAU:

(a) To lend their full support to the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing;

(b) To provide technical and financial assistance to projects in the field of cartography and remote sensing and to the African member States to master the science of cartography and remote sensing.

C (IX). Working Groups of the Intergovernmental Committee for Science and Technology Development

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/218 of 19 December 1979 on the Vienna Programme of Action for Science and Technology Development, the provisions of operative paragraph 4 of the resolution on the Lagos Plan of Action adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990 adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its twenty-first ordinary session, General Assembly resolution S-13/2 on the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990, and ECA resolutions 248 (XI) and 385 (XV) on the mandate of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development,

Aware of the catalytic role played by the Working Group of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development established by Commission resolution 445 (XVII),

Having considered the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development made at its fifth meeting held in Addis Ababa from 2 to 6 November 1987,

1. Approves the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee;
2. Calls upon all member States to give full and active support to the ECA secretariat and its co-operating agencies in the implementation of these recommendation and the activities of the Working Groups;
3. Decides that each MULPOC should co-ordinate the activities of the respective Working Group of the Intergovernmental Committee;
4. Requests the MULPOCs to keep their member States and economic groupings in the subregion fully informed of the tasks and the requirements of the Working Groups,
5. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to take the necessary steps to ensure the implementation of this resolution with the co-operation of the OAU secretariat.

9 (IX). Co-operation between ECA, OAU and UNESCO on the follow-up of CASTAFRICA II

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 34/218 of 19 December 1979 on the Vienna Programme of Action for Science and Technology Development, operative paragraph 4 of the resolution on the Lagos Plan of Action adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its twenty-first ordinary session, General Assembly resolution S-13/2 of 1 June 1986 on the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990, and ECA resolutions 248 (XI) and 385 (XV) on the mandate of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development,

Having considered the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development made at its fifth meeting held in Addis Ababa from 2 to 6 November 1987,

Taking note of the Kilimanjaro Declaration by the second Conference of Ministers Responsible for the Application of Science and Technology to Development in Africa which requested the Director-General of UNESCO to take the necessary measures with a view to the setting up of a Standing Conference of Heads of National Science and Technology Policy-Making Bodies of African member States of UNESCO,

Recommends that the secretariat of ECA in collaboration with the OAU and UNESCO should jointly work out modalities for ensuring that the activities of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development and of the Standing Conference of Heads of National Science and Technology Policy-making Bodies of African member States of UNESCO are complementary.



10 (IX). The Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-Focused Approach to Socio-Economic Recovery and Development in Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered the report of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization on its third meeting held in Khartoum, Sudan from 9 to 13 March 1988, including its resolution on the Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-Focused Approach to Socio-Economic Recovery and Development in Africa,

Convinced of the need for urgent and concerted measures to be embarked upon at the national, subregional, regional and international levels to improve the human condition and sustain human resources development and utilization efforts through the period of recovery and beyond in Africa,

1. Endorses the Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-Focused Approach to Socio-Economic Recovery and Development in Africa;

2. Commends the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Follow-up of Implementation of the UN-PAAERD at the regional level for having successfully convened the International Conference on the Human Dimension of Africa's Economic Recovery and Development;

3. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of the Republic of the Sudan for hosting the Conference so generously and in particular to His Excellency the Honourable Prime Minister of the Sudan for his patronage of the Conference;

4. Urges member States to implement the recommendations of The Khartoum Declaration by making the human dimension an essential focus of their recovery and long-term development programmes;

5. Further urges international financial institutions, bilateral and multilateral donors, organizations of the United Nations System and NGO, to implement urgently the recommendations contained in The Khartoum Declaration, with a view to ensuring that concern for the human dimension is adequately reflected in their programmes of assistance to African countries;

6. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to transmit The Khartoum Declaration to the Ad-hoc Committee of the Whole set up by the General Assembly of the United Nations to undertake the mid-term review of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD and, through it to the forty-third session of the United Nations General Assembly;

7. Urges the Secretary-General of the United Nations to institute the necessary actions required for mobilizing the entire United Nations System and the international community in support of the implementation of the recommendations of The Khartoum Declaration;

8. Calls upon the United Nations Inter-agency Task Force to intensify its efforts aimed at the further strengthening of co-operation between agencies of the United Nations System in search for solutions to Africa's problems of human development within the context of recovery and long-term development;

9. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to disseminate The Khartoum Declaration as widely as possible, particularly to member States, all United Nations agencies and organizations, donor countries and organizations, regional and subregional organizations and NGOs, institutions of higher learning and manpower development institutions in Africa;

10. Further requests the Executive Secretary of ECA and Chairman of the Inter-agency Task Force to follow-up, co-ordinate and monitor the implementation of the recommendations of The Khartoum Declaration and to present a report to the fifteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers on progress in the implementation of The Khartoum Declaration.

11 (IX). Support for the United Nations Special Action Programme for Administration and Management (SAPAM)

The Conference of Ministers,

Conscious of the central importance of administration and management effectiveness in Africa's socio-economic recovery and development process.

Further conscious of the high priority accorded to the improvement of administrative and management capabilities by African Governments and their international development partners,

1. Commends the initiative of the United Nations system, particularly the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (DTCD), with the support of African countries in formulating a Special Action Programme for Administration and Management (SAPAM) for African countries and fully endorses SAPAM;

2. Urges donor countries and funding agencies, and UNDP in particular, to make contributions for the effective and timely implementation of SAPAM;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to report on the progress made in the implementation of SAPAM to the annual meetings of the Ministerial Follow-up Committee of Ten as well as to the Fourth Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization.

12 (IX). Brain drain from AfricaThe Conference of Ministers,

Aware of the seriousness of the brain drain that affects African economies, and of the added constraints this imposed on Africa's prospects for socio-economic recovery and development,

Conscious of the need to arrest and reverse this negative trend by instituting appropriate measures to encourage the voluntary return to and placement of skilled manpower in African countries,

Appreciative of the assistance provided in this regard by the international community, particularly the European Economic Community (EEC) and the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (ICM),

Aware that much more needs to be done to create those conditions that would encourage the voluntary return of skilled manpower to Africa,

1. Urges member States to institute measures for improving the working conditions as well as the political and socio-economic environment in their countries;
2. Further urges African Governments to strengthen their co-operation for the exchange of African experts within the region;
3. Requests the international community and donor organizations, particularly the EEC, to provide direct assistance to the "Return of Skills Programme for Africa", being administered by ECA in co-operation with African Governments;
4. Also requests the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration (ICM) to intensify its support and increase the resources available to the regional programme of the "return of skills to Africa" operated through ECA within the regional framework set by African Governments.

13 (IX). Co-operation between ECA and the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States and European Programmes

The Conference of Ministers,

Considering that the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and its secretariat are at the service of all member States of the region with their principal mission being to promote economic co-operation and integration at the subregional and regional levels,

Noting that the financial resources allocated by UNDP for the implementation of ECA's regional and subregional projects have to date been granted by the Regional Bureau for Africa whose jurisdiction does not cover the following countries: Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Somalia, the Sudan and Tunisia,

Noting also that this dichotomy in the administrative structure of UNDP makes it difficult for ECA to implement regional and subregional project activities for the aforementioned countries which properly fall under the jurisdiction of the Regional Bureau for Arab States and European Programmes,

Reaffirming the preparedness of all member States of ECA to participate actively in all regional or subregional programmes executed by the Commission, for the promotion of economic co-operation and integration of the African continent,

Taking note of the report of the intergovernmental meeting of Arab States on the 1988-1992 UNDP regional programme for Arab States held from 16 to 18 March 1988 in Casablanca, Morocco, more particularly the recommendation on the strengthening of co-operation with the regional commissions, including ECA,

Urges the Administrator of UNDP to take the necessary measures that would enable the Regional Bureau for Arab States and European Programmes to allocate, within the framework of its Fourth Programming Cycle, the resources needed to participate effectively in the above-mentioned programmes and involve ECA in the preparation and implementation of projects concerning those States.

14 (IX). Drought and Desertification

The Conference of Ministers,

Deeply concerned by the impacts of drought and the incidence of desertification and their negative impacts on the African economies notably rural economies,

Aware of the urgency to promote the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Desertification held in November 1977,

Aware also of the need to promote the effective implementation of the Regional Plan of Action to Combat the Impact of Drought in Africa, adopted by ECA resolution 499 (XIX) of 10 April 1984,

1. Urges member States to establish appropriate national mechanism for the implementation of the United Nations Plan of Action to Combat Desertification and the Regional Plan of Action to Combat the Impact of Drought in Africa;
2. Requests the Executive Secretary of the ECA to explore the feasibility of setting in motion a co-operation process between all African countries as envisaged in the Regional Plan of Action to Combat the Impact of Drought in Africa;
3. Further requests ECA to support the already established subregional organizations to combat more effectively and more efficiently the problems of drought and desertification;
4. Also requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to report to the Conference of Ministers at its fifteenth meeting in 1989 on the implementation of this resolution.

15 (IX). Preferential Trade Area for North AfricaThe Conference of Ministers,

Having examined the report of the North African MULPOC on the Preferential Trade Area for North Africa,

Recalling the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos which call for the establishment of subregional economic groupings for the promotion of economic integration in Africa leading towards the establishment of an African Common Market and an African Economic Community by the year 2000,

Further referring to the resolution on trade promotion in North Africa adopted by the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the Tangier MULPOC at its meetings held in 1985, 1986 and 1987,

Reiterating the resolution 593 (XXII) of April 1987 on the commitment of member Governments of the subregion to the establishment of a Preferential Trade Area in North Africa and the need to define actions in view to establishing the Preferential Trade Area,

1. Takes note of the report of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team of Experts on the establishment of the PTA at its inaugural meeting held in December 1987;
2. Invites the countries of the North African MULPOC to participate fully and effectively at the highest level of expertise in the process of negotiations leading to the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area;
3. Endorses the programme of negotiations as proposed by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team of Experts at its inaugural meeting in December 1987 and amended by the Council of Plenipotentiaries of Tangier MULPOC;
4. Urges the Tangier MULPOC countries to establish appropriate national co-ordinating committees to deal with all sectoral issues for negotiations by the national negotiating team of experts;
5. Calls upon member States to provide all necessary data and information to assist the ECA secretariat in the preparation of the studies called for by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Team of Experts and to designate national experts to act as counterparts to the experts and consultants appointed to carry out the required studies;
6. Reiterates its request to the United Nations Development Programme to provide financing support for the successful establishment of the Preferential Trade Area and its secretariat.

16 (IX). Emigration from member countries of the North African MULPOC

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered the report of the North African MULPOC at its eighth session in March 1988 in particular resolution No.4 on the subject,

Recalling resolution No.7 of the sixth meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC and considering the report entitled "Migration from North Africa - Some possibilities of subregional co-operation within the framework of the North African MULPOC",

Aware of the need for North African countries to establish mechanisms for improving knowledge on the problems of emigration and solving it,

Considering the crucial nature of this question which concerns the whole subregion, in particular the need for the emigrant's home countries to make arrangements for the voluntary return of their emigrants and to preserve their rights in case of voluntary or forced return to their home countries,

1. Requests the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with ILO and UNDP, to expand the study submitted to the MULPOC in 1986, particularly the aspects pertaining to emigrants returning voluntarily or by force to their home countries regarding their social re-adaptation and re-integration in their home countries system and labour market;

2. Recommends that member States should hold regional consultations among the appropriate departments in collaboration with the ECA, ILO and the MULPOC in order to exchange information and experience and to define priority regional projects in the area of re-integration of emigrants;

3. Further recommends that member States should organize, in collaboration with the Arab Labour Organization (ALO), ECA, Centre d'études industrielles du Maghreb (CEIM) and the Arab Labour Institute and MULPOC, a seminar to review the question and make conclusions and recommendations which will be submitted to the next meeting of the MULPOC;

4. Requests ECA to make appropriate arrangements for financing the activities called for by this resolution including the mobilization of extrabudgetary resources;

5. Further requests ECA to report to the Council at its next meeting on the implementation of the activities mentioned in this resolution including the study mentioned in paragraph 1 above.



17 (IX). Development of Industry in North AfricaThe Conference of Ministers,

Having examined the report of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the North African MULPOC,

Taking note with satisfaction that the subregional meeting on Industrial Co-operation between North African countries is to be held in Tangier from 30 May to 3 June 1988, according to resolution No. 3 adopted by the Council at its meeting in March 1987,

Referring to the spirit of co-operation so frequently displayed by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in aiding North African countries to achieve the economic objectives and programmes adopted,

Aware of the need to reinforce and promote industrial co-operation between the North African States both in terms of the objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos and in the context of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA) and the establishment of a Preferential Trade Area for North Africa, the aim of which is to promote multisectoral co-operation in general terms and, to strengthen in particular, the elements of complementarity between the industrial sector and other key sectors, to prepare for a self-sustaining African Economic Community,

Thanks the Director-General of UNIDO for his assistance in this regard,

Requests the Director-General of UNIDO to provide all necessary assistance to effect the series of activities and programmes concerning the industrial sector and implement the sectoral study on industry and draw up the protocol on the study within the framework of the treaty on the North African Preferential Trade Area drawn up in collaboration with ECA.

18 (IX). United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling ECA resolution 291 (XIII) of 26 February 1977, resolution 2097 (LXIII) of 29 July 1977 of the Economic and Social Council and resolution 32/160 of 19 December 1977 of the General Assembly on the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Recalling also ECA resolution 341 (XIV) of 29 March 1979 which recommended that member States should give the highest priority to the development of transport and communications,

Appreciative of the financial assistance rendered by the General Assembly, the UNDP and bilateral donor countries to the implementation of the programme of the first Decade,

Taking into account the report of the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade (1978-1988) which concluded that the Decade gave a major boost to the future development of transport and communications by equipping Africa with a strategy and policy as well as institutions and mechanisms for its implementation,

Considering resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.84/44 of the fourth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning recommending that Governments of member States should adopt the principle of launching a Second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Taking note of the progress report on the implementation of the second phase of the Decade programme and the report of the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning,

Recalling further ECA resolution 604 (XXII) which requested the Executive Secretary to urgently reactivate the Trans-African Highways Bureau at ECA and also the UNDP to provide financial assistance during its Fourth Programming Cycle for the establishment and operation of the Bureau,

Conscious that air transport is one of the key factors for economic development and integration in Africa,

Concerned about the adverse consequences for African air transport of the new civil aeronautic policies emanating from outside the continent,

Bearing in mind resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.86/55 of the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and

Planning which, inter alia, called upon ECA to provide support to the various African regional and subregional organizations and to assist them in co-ordinating their transport and communications programmes,

Mindful of the heavy investments made by member States towards the implementation of the Pan-African Telecommunication Network (PANAFTEL), and the substantial achievement made in the establishment of the network,

Noting that the in-depth evaluation of the Decade has revealed great deficiencies of the inland water transport systems in Africa,

Having considered the decisions of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning at its sixth meeting held in Kinshasa, Zaire on 23 and 24 March 1988,

1. Endorses resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.88/73 of 24 March 1988 of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning which recommends that:

(a) A second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa should be declared covering the period 1991-2000 in order to sustain the momentum of the activities commenced during the first Decade;

(b) The expertise and experience acquired during the first Decade should be maintained by retaining and reappointing the statutory and executing agencies of the first Decade namely, the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning as the permanent policy-making body, the Economic Commission for Africa as the "lead agency" responsible, in collaboration with other agencies, for the preparation of the Decade programme and for the harmonization, co-ordination and monitoring of all Decade activities, and the Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee (IACC) as the technical body accountable to the Conference of Ministers;

(c) There should be a two-year preparatory period between the end of the first Decade and the launching of the second;

2. Recommends to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, to declare a second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (1991-2000);

3. Expresses its appreciation to the General Assembly, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and those members of the international community who were able to provide financial and technical assistance for carrying out the activities of the first Decade, for their generous support;

4. Calls upon African Governments, as the primary beneficiaries of the Decade programme, to continue to accord a high priority to the development of transport and communications and, in that connection, to allocate sufficient resources for these sectors and to co-operate with ECA by providing all the information necessary to enable it to discharge its responsibilities;

5. Appeals to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to continue to lend support to the Decade activities not only during the two-year preparatory period (1989-1990) but also during the period of the second Decade (1991-2000);

6. Requests bilateral donor countries and financial institutions to intensify their support for the accelerated development of transport and communications in Africa through the provision of the resources necessary for the successful implementation of the programme of the second Decade;

7. Also endorses the following decisions of the sixth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning:

(a) Convene, as soon as possible, a special meeting of African Ministers responsible for civil aviation with a view to considering and adopting an African aeronautic policy;

(b) Convene a meeting of experts on problems relating to facilitation of inland water transport in Africa;

(c) Establish within the Tangiers MULPOC, a committee comprising representatives of member States, which shall be responsible in collaboration with the Centre for Transport Studies in the Western Mediterranean (CETMO), for the development of transport, including harmonization of transport infrastructure and facilitation of administrative and customs procedures within the North African subregion;

(d) Encourage and promote the use of African intergovernmental organizations as executing agencies for the transport and communications projects in which they have competence;

(e) Reactivate the Trans-African Highway Bureau in ECA and urge African countries to allocate adequate resources for the maintenance and rehabilitation of roads;

(f) Urge African member States to give high priority to the completion of the PANAFTEL links and to make greater use of the existing links for intra-African communications traffic;

(g) Establish Ministerial Conferences on Maritime Transport in African subregions where none now exists and convene in 1988, a Ministerial Meeting of Eastern and Southern African States to consider the recommendations of the meeting of experts;

8. Reiterates its appeal made in resolution 604 (XXII) to UNDP to provide financial assistance to ECA for the re-activation and operation of the Trans-African Highways Bureau at ECA;

9. Appeals to other financial institutions and donor countries lend their financial support to ECA's efforts to re-activate the Trans-African Highways Bureau;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to its next session on the implementation of this resolution.

19 (IX). Promotion of tourism and the development of hotel management and human resources for the tourism sector

The Conference of Ministers,

Having examined the report of the first meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of tourism,

Conscious of the contribution that tourism could make to the economic, social, cultural and political integration of African States,

Reaffirming the importance and need to pursue and strengthen the policy of collaboration at all levels, with a view to harmonizing and maximizing the use of available resources as well as enhancing the effectiveness of all activities aimed at developing tourism in Africa,

Affirming the need to integrate the tourism sector in the overall developmental process in Africa and noting that this cannot be achieved without the sincere desire of member States to co-operate in the harmonization of their policies on measures aimed at facilitating travel and tourism,

Noting with satisfaction the progress made in this sector since the Regional Conference on Intra-African Co-operation in Tourism, as well as the dynamic role played by the ECA in the process of intra-African co-operation in tourism and the development of the initial mechanisms for intra-African co-operation,

Noting further that the intervention of transnational hotel management corporations does not offer African partners the benefits they should justly expect, as well as the fact that African countries lose substantial amounts of foreign exchange through the implementation of many of the existing hotel management contracts,

Commending the existence of a number of professional training establishments in Africa in the field of tourism and hotel management even though some of them are far from adequate to cover the various needs in the development of human resources to meet the constantly increasing demands in training in tourism and hotel industry sector; as well as the fact that States endowed with such training establishments are willing to put them at the disposal of their African partners within the framework of bilateral, multilateral, and technical assistance agreements,

1. Reaffirms that intra-African tourism is a component of the African policy on the economic, social, cultural and political integration of the continent, as well as a determining factor of development, especially within the framework of existing economic groupings in Africa;

2. Encourages the development of mechanisms and programmes for co-operation in particular activities for the joint promotion of the African tourism product and the creation of inter-State circuits;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA within the limits of existing resources and from extrabudgetary resources that may be mobilized to:

(a) Intensify co-operation within international organizations, particularly African intergovernmental organizations, with the view to assisting African countries in developing their programmes relating to tourism as well as to mobilizing and co-ordinating available resources in order to maximize their effects on the development of tourism in Africa;

(b) Undertake a study on the tourism activities of subregional intergovernmental organizations in Africa, so as to reactivate such activities and provide them with appropriate technical assistance;

(c) Establish subregional programmes and structures for joint promotion of inter-State tourism and tourism circuits;

(d) Undertake studies aimed at creating inter-State circuits and assist member States to do so;

(e) Establish the African association of tourism and take appropriate measures to ensure its functioning;

(f) Assist African States in setting up national professional tourism associations and provide technical support to the existing associations involved in the promotion of tourism in Africa;

(g) Draw up in collaboration with the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, the World Tourism Organization and the International Labour Organization, model management or operations contracts for various types of hotel infrastructure, to be submitted as soon as possible to member States for their appraisal, as well as provide effective technical assistance to African States and promoters in the negotiation and monitoring of the execution of the contracts signed with hotel management corporations.

4. Further requests the Executive Secretary of ECA in collaboration with WTO, ILO and other competent organizations operating in Africa to undertake the feasibility studies on the following educational and training projects:

(a) The establishment of subregional and regional tourism and hotel

educational institutes;

(b) The development of training programmes for enhancing and upgrading the tourism and hotel services at various levels;

(c) The updating and publishing at regular intervals of an African Directory for educational and training facilities to ensure co-ordination and mutual co-operation in the fields of education and training.

(d) The organization of periodic African Tourism events alongside existing continental, subregional and national trade fairs.



20 (IX). Campaign against migrant locusts and grasshoppersThe Conference of Ministers,

Aware that the migrant locust constitutes an extremely serious and dangerous scourge for the whole African continent,

Aware also that FAO had established in August 1986 an Emergency Centre for Locust Operations (ECLLO) with a view to mobilizing resources from donors and for co-ordinating various campaigns aimed at combating the upsurge of migratory locusts in various parts of Africa as well as of grasshoppers in the Sahelo-Sudan belt,

Recalling the United Nations General Assembly resolution passed in January 1987 and the ECOSOC resolution passed in July 1987 both commending FAO for the co-ordination provided to the campaigns against locust and urging it to continue its co-ordinating role,

1. Urges ECLLO to intensify the rapid dissemination of information on the movement and biological and climatic developments and on assistance needed in order to help concerned African countries accelerate the establishment of national steering committees in charge of co-ordinating at the country level the campaign against migrant locusts;
2. Expresses appreciation to the international and regional organizations and all countries which have provided material, human and financial resources to the African countries faced with migrant locust and grasshoppers;
3. Recommends that African countries within the subregional framework, to establish a joint programme to help prevent and control the invasion of locust and grasshoppers and reduce or eliminate losses;
4. Requests African countries concerned to co-operate with subregional, regional and international institutions concerned in the control of the locust outbreaks particularly at the breeding stage;
5. Urges the Executive Secretary of ECA in collaboration with the Director General of FAO and the Secretary-General of WMO to help to strengthen and/or set up national and subregional appropriate control capabilities to deal with the locust outbreaks in particular early warning systems at the subregional and regional levels to prevent those outbreaks;
6. Further urges the Executive Secretary of ECA in collaboration with the Director General of FAO and the Secretary-General of World Meteorological Organization and the Secretary-General of ICAO to intensify and co-ordinate their efforts to mobilize funds needed for the campaigns against this scourge and in co-operation with research institutes, to establish intensive research programmes;
7. Appeals to the UNDP and other financial organizations to support financially the campaigns against migrant locusts.

21 (IX). African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling ECA resolution 392 (XV) of April 1980 which requested the Executive Secretary of ECA, in consultation with the relevant international and regional organizations to take the appropriate steps to establish a regional institute for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders,

Recalling further the important role a regional institute is expected to play in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

Conscious of the fact that increased criminality and delinquency has negative consequences and impact on the economic and social development of African countries,

Confirming the pivotal role of a regional Institute in assisting member States in the development of appropriate and practical policies, strategies and programmes in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, with a view to substantially reducing the economic and social costs directly and indirectly related to crime prevention and crime control,

Determined to improve regional and interregional co-operation on issues of crime prevention delinquency and criminal justice,

Acknowledging with satisfaction the activities so far undertaken during the initial operation of the Institute, under the co-ordination efforts of ECA as its interim secretariat,

Having considered the draft Statute of the Institute,

1. Adopts the annexed Statute establishing the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders as a legal entity;

2. Decides that the Headquarters of the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders be located in Kampala, Uganda;

3. Further decides that for the first four years following the adoption of the Statute, the following member States will serve on the Governing Board of the Institute: Botswana, Central African Republic, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana and Uganda provided that one half of them will retire two years after serving and will be replaced by the same number of member States selected in accordance with the provision of Article V paragraphs (i) (b) and (4) of the Statute. The member States to the Governing Board will communicate to the ECA secretariat by 30 June 1988 the name(s) of their representative(s) on the Governing Board;

4. Requests the Governing Board, to establish a work programme and its corresponding budget for the operation of the Institute, the gross financial contribution of the host country, and a formula for the annual contribution of member States, and submit them to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers for consideration;

5. Further requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to finalize the hosting arrangements for the Institute with the host country, in order to allow full operation of the Institute as soon as possible;

6. Urges member States to sign the statute as soon as possible;

7. Takes note with appreciation of the support and co-operation extended to the Institute by the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, the other regional and interregional Institutes for crime prevention and criminal justice, and invites these bodies to continue their assistance to and close co-operation with the Institute;

8. Expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Development Programme for its financial contribution to the activities of the initial phase of the Institute's operation and appeals to it to consider favourably and expeditiously its long-term funding so as to enable the Institute to implement its long-term work programme;

9. Invites governmental, non-governmental, international organizations as well as the United Nations system to support the Institute through technical and financial contributions to enable it to fulfil its objectives;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to submit a report to the Conference of Ministers at its fifteenth session on the implementation of this resolution.

ANNEX

**DRAFT STATUTE OF THE AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR THE PREVENTION OF  
CRIME AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS**

THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA,

Recalling resolution 1979/20 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, requesting the Secretary-General of the United Nations to establish an institute for Africa in crime prevention and the treatment of offenders,

Recalling its own resolution 392 (XV) of April 1980, requesting the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, in consultation with the relevant international and regional organizations, to take all appropriate steps to establish a United Nations Regional Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for Africa,

Noting resolution 19 of the sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders recommending that the Secretary-General should view favourably the establishment in Africa, of a regional body for social defence studies, along the lines of those already set up in the other regions of the world,

Mindful of resolution 4 of the seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, later endorsed by resolution 40/32 of the United Nations General Assembly urgently requesting the Secretary-General of the United Nations to establish, as a matter of the highest priority, in close collaboration with the Organization of African Unity, and with the participation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, an African Regional Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Recalling further its own resolution 609 (XXII) of April 1987 reaffirming the importance and the role the Institute is called upon to play in assisting member States in assessing criminality trends in the region and their impact on national development; in the formulation of policies and programmes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders; in the promotion of criminal justice reforms in the context of development; and in encouraging technical co-operation among African countries in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.

Convinced that the establishment of an African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders would serve these purposes,

NOW THEREFORE and on behalf of the member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, HEREBY AGREES AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE I

Establishment and membership of the Institute

1. The African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (hereinafter referred to as "the Institute"), is hereby established.

2. The member States of the Institute shall be the member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as member States) who have acceded to the statute of the Institute.

ARTICLE II

Objectives of the Institute

1. The objectives of the Institute shall be to:

(a) Assist in the formulation of policies and programmes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders in the context of overall national development planning;

(b) Design and conduct training programmes for different categories and levels of criminal justice and related personnel including policy makers, administrators, judges, prosecutors, lawyers, police and correctional officials, teachers, social workers, researchers, etc., with a focus on the training of trainers, through special inter-disciplinary courses, workshops, seminars, fellowships, internships, study tours, in order to upgrage this public service sector as well as impart new knowledge and skills;

(c) Undertake policy-oriented studies and research on priority problems in the region including the collection of information on crime trends and their impact on development and on crime prevention and criminal justice policies and programmes in the region, in order to provide an impirical basis for policy formulation and decision-making;

(d) Assist in the development of effective policies and programmes for the prevention and control of juvenile crime and delinquency and for the treatment of juvenile offenders;

(e) Establish a framework for a data bank and to promote the exchange and transfer of knowledge, expertise and experience and dissemination of information to governments, scholars, practitioners, researchers and organizations involved in the field;

(f) Assist in the promotion of innovative approaches to crime prevention and criminal justice reforms in accordance with United Nations norms and guidelines, drawing upon African traditions and orientations as well as on new developments in the field;

(g) Promote collaboration among the governments of the region in formulating common policies and undertaking joint action on matters of mutual concern in crime prevention and control, including appropriate legal agreements and practical arrangements, at the regional and subregional levels.

### ARTICLE III

#### Headquarters of the Institute

1. The Headquarters of the Institute shall be determined by the Conference of Ministers of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as the "Conference of Ministers").

2. The Executive Secretary of United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) shall, as soon as practicable, enter, on behalf of the Conference of Ministers and the Institute, into an agreement with the government of the member State where the headquarters of the Institute shall be established, concerning the provision and grant, as the case may be, of such adequate premises, facilities, services, privileges and immunities as may be required for the efficient operation of the Institute.

### ARTICLE IV

#### Organs of the Institute

The Institute shall have the following organs:

- (a) The Governing Board;
- (b) The Secretariat; and
- (c) Such other organs as may be necessary for the efficient discharge of its functions and as may be established by the Conference of Ministers.

### ARTICLE V

#### Governing Board: Composition and functions

1. The Governing Board shall consist of:

(a) The Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (hereinafter referred to as "the Executive Secretary"), or his representative, who shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Governing Board;

(b) A representative each of two member States, from each of the five subregions of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, selected by the Conference of Ministers; each such representative shall be selected on the basis of his or her expertise and experience in crime prevention and criminal justice, to serve as full member;

- (c) A representative of the host country as a full member;
  - (d) A representative of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) without the right to vote;
  - (e) A representative of the United Nations Development Programme without the right to vote;
  - (f) Representatives of other United Nations Institutes for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, by invitation of the Governing Board, as observers without the right to vote;
  - (g) Representatives of international organizations or institutions interested in the activities of the Institute, as well as donor agencies and eminent experts may also attend the meetings of the Governing Board at the invitation of the Board, as observers without the right to vote.
2. The Director of the Institute, who shall be the Secretary of the Governing Board, shall attend the meetings of the Board in a consultative capacity.
3. The members of the Governing Board selected under subparagraph (b) of paragraph 1 of this Article, shall hold office for a period of four years and may be eligible for re-election, provided, however, that in making selections for the first time, the Conference of Ministers shall direct that one-half of the member States selected by them shall retire two years after serving and shall be replaced by the same number of member States selected by the Conference of Ministers for the purpose.
4. Only full members of the Governing Board shall have voting rights.
5. When the office of a member of the Governing Board becomes vacant during the term of the member appointed thereto because of retirement, death, incapacity or any other cause, or when the term expires, the Conference of Ministers may appoint a person for the remainder of the term or for further term in accordance with subparagraph (b) of paragraph (1) of this article.
6. The Governing Board shall:
- (a) Prescribe the general principles, policies and guidelines governing the operation of the Institute and provide directives of a general nature as to the implementation of such principle, policies and guidelines;
  - (b) Propose for the consideration and approval of the Conference of Ministers, the work programmes of the Institute and their corresponding budgets;
  - (c) Review and approval the annual reports of the Director of the Institute on the activities of the Institute, and submit them to the Conference of Ministers for their consideration and approval;

(d) Appoint professionally qualified auditors to audit the accounts of the Institute;

(e) Examine and approve the financial reports and accounts of the Institute;

(f) Prescribe the administrative, financial, staff, and other rules and regulations governing the operation and administration of the Institute;

(g) Propose for the consideration and approval of the Conference of Ministers, the contributions to be paid by member States and by the host country to the Institute;

(h) Appoint the Director and senior staff of the Institute;

(i) Establish such technical, financial, and administrative committees as may be necessary for the efficient discharge of the functions of the Institute;

(j) Convene periodically, meetings of donors to consider the funding of the activities of the Institute;

(k) Perform any other functions as may be necessary for the efficient discharge of the functions of the Institute.

8. The Governing Board shall meet in ordinary sessions once a year and may hold extraordinary sessions at the request of its Chairman or one-third of its members. The first meeting of the Governing Board shall be initiated by the secretariat.

9. The Governing Board shall adopt its own rules of procedure, including procedures for the convening of special or extraordinary sessions.

#### ARTICLE VI

##### The Chairman of the Governing Board

1. The Chairman shall:

(a) Cause to be prepared the draft agenda of the meetings of the Governing Board;

(b) Convene and preside over the meetings of the Board;

(c) With the approval of the Governing Board, solicit financial and other assistance from donors, including individual governments outside the region, the United Nations and its specialized agencies or other interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other sources.



ARTICLE VII

The Director and Secretariat of the Institute

1. The Secretariat of the Institute shall be headed by the Director who shall be the chief executive and administrative officer of the Institute, under the direction of the Governing Board.
2. The Director of the Institute shall be appointed by the Governing Board as provided for in subparagraph (h) paragraph 7 of Article V of this Statute. The Director shall initially be appointed for a period of three years and shall be eligible for renewals for such periods as the Governing Board may decide.
3. The Director shall act as the legal representative of the Institute.
4. Subject to the policy directive and guidance of the Governing Board, the Director shall, in particular:
  - (a) Plan, direct, co-ordinate and manage all the technical and administrative activities of the Institute;
  - (b) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the Governing Board the programme of work, budget, annual reports and audited accounts of the Institute;
  - (c) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the Governing Board the annual contributions and other special fees to be paid by member States;
  - (d) Administer the property and assets of the Institute and cause proper accounts to be kept and ensure their timely auditing and presentation to the Governing Board;
  - (e) Collect and receive contributions and fees and debts due to the Institute;
  - (f) Subject to the staff and administrative rules and regulations of the Institute, and to such direction as the Governing Board may give, recruit and appoint staff other than those provided for under subparagraph (h) of paragraph 7 of Article V of this Statute;
  - (g) Establish and maintain close contact and collaborative ties with governments, the United Nations and its specialized agencies, institutions, professional associations, individuals and other bodies, and represent the Institute in its external and public relations at national, regional and international levels;
  - (h) Maintain ongoing relations with the host Government and ensure that the provisions of the host Agreement are observed;
  - (i) Promote fund-raising by exploring ways and means of ensuring and strengthening the financial base of the Institute;

(j) Prepare and submit for the consideration of the Governing Board, draft rules and regulations governing the financial, administrative and other activities of the Institute;

(k) Prepare, in consultation with the Chairman of the Governing Board, the agenda for the meetings of the Governing Board and attend the meetings as an ex-officio;

(l) Keep abreast of mandates by the relevant legislative bodies and new developments in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice and promote their implementation in accordance with the objectives of the Institute;

(m) Undertake such other assignments and activities as may be mandated by the Governing Board.

4. The Director and other staff of the Institute shall neither seek nor accept any instructions, personal remunerations, or gifts from any government or authority or from any sources external to the Institute and shall refrain from any other action which might reflect on their position as international officials.

5. The member States undertake to respect the international character of the responsibilities of the Director and other staff of the Institute and not to seek to influence any of their nationals and other staff in the discharge of such responsibilities, provided that this shall not preclude the secondment to the Institute of staff by governments, organizations or institutions.

#### ARTICLE VIII

##### Status, capacity, privileges and immunities

1. To enable it to fulfill its objectives and the functions with which it is entrusted, the Institute shall possess, in the territory of each member State of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, juridical personality independent of such States and shall not be considered as forming part of any government. To these ends, the status, privileges, immunities and exemptions set forth in paragraphs 2 to 16 of this Article, shall be accorded to the Institute in the territory of each member State.

2. The Institute shall have the capacity to:

(a) Enter into contract;

(b) Acquire and dispose of immovable and movable property; and

(c) Sue and be sued.

3. The Institute shall enjoy the autonomy and freedom required for the achievement of its objectives and functions, with particular reference to choice of subjects and methods of teaching and research, the selection of persons and institutions to share in its tasks and freedom of expression.

4. The Institute, its property and assets shall enjoy immunity from every form of legal process except, as in any particular case, it has expressly waived its immunity, provided however that no measure of execution shall be taken against the property and assets of the Institute without the consent of the Director of the Institute.

5. The headquarters of the Institute shall be inviolable. The property and assets of the Institute shall be immune from search, requisition, confiscation, expropriation, and any other form of interference whether by executive, administrative, judicial or legislative action.

6. The archives of the Institute, and in general all documents belonging to it or held by it, shall be inviolable.

7. The Institute, its assets, income and other property shall be exempt from all forms of direct taxes, provided however that such tax exemption shall not extend to the owner or lessor of any property rented by the Institute.

8. Articles imported by the Institute for official purposes shall be exempt from customs duties and other levies and from prohibitions and restrictions on imports and exports, it being understood that customs duty may be payable at the appropriate rate on all or any of the articles imported in accordance with this subparagraph, if such articles are sold or disposed of locally, unless they are sold to persons or bodies entitled to purchase such goods without the payment of duty. The Institute however shall not be exempt from the payment of charges of services rendered.

9. The Institute shall, in respect of any transaction to which it is a party, be exempt from taxes, recording fees, and documentary taxes.

10. Members of the Governing Board of the Institute, who are not otherwise officials of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies of the United Nations, attending meetings of, or convened by the Institute, shall, while exercising their functions and during their journey to and from the territories of the member States of the Institute, enjoy the following privileges and immunities:

(a) Immunity from personal arrest or detention and from seizure of their personal and official baggage;

(b) Immunity from legal process of any kind and in respect of words, spoken or written and of acts performed by them in their official capacity;

(c) Inviolability of all papers and documents;

(d) The right to use codes and to receive papers or correspondence by courier or in sealed bags;

(e) Exemption in respect of themselves and their spouses from immigration restrictions, alien registration or national service obligations;

(f) The same facilities in respect of currency or exchange restrictions as are accorded to representatives of foreign governments on temporary official missions; and

(g) the same immunities and facilities in respect of their personal baggage as are accorded to diplomatic envoys.

11. The staff of the Institute who are not otherwise officials of the United Nations or the specialized agencies of the United Nations, shall:

(a) Be immune from legal process in respect of words spoken or written and all acts performed by them in their official capacity;

(b) Be exempt from taxation on salaries and emoluments paid to them by the Institute;

(c) Be immune from national service obligations;

(d) Be immune, together with their spouses and dependent children, from immigration and alien registration;

(e) Be accorded the same privileges in respect of exchange facilities as are accorded to officials of comparable ranks forming part of diplomatic missions;

(f) Be given, together with their spouses and dependent children and relatives, the same repatriation facilities in time of international crisis as diplomatic envoys;

(g) Have the right to import for their personal use free of duty and other levies, prohibitions and restrictions on imports, within the first twelve months of arrival;

(i) Their furniture, household and personal effects;

(ii) One motor vehicle purchased before customs clearance or from bonded warehouse.

12. Officials of the United Nations or specialized agencies of the United Nations performing functions in connection with the Institute, shall enjoy appropriate privileges and immunities provided under the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, and the convention on the privileges and immunities of the specialized agencies as the case may be.

13. Without prejudice to the foregoing provisions, the member States undertake to accord to all representatives of the member States, all the staff of the Institute and experts providing advice or assistance to the Institute, such facilities and courtesies as are necessary for the exercise of their functions in connection with the Institute.

14. The Director of the Institute shall have the right and duty to waive the immunity of any staff of the Institute who is not an official of the United Nations or of a specialized agency of the United Nations, in cases where in his opinion the immunity would impede the cause of justice and can be waived without prejudice to the interests of the Institute.

15. All persons undergoing training or taking part in a scheme for the exchange of personnel at the Institute in pursuance of the provisions of this Statute and who are not nationals of the member States concerned, shall have the right of entry into, sojourn in, transit through and exit from the territory of each member State when such entry, sojourn, transit or exit is necessary for their assignment. They shall be granted facilities for speedy travel: visas, where required, shall be granted promptly and free of charge.

16. The Institute shall co-operate at all times with the appropriate authorities of the member States to facilitate the proper administration of justice, secure the observance of national laws and prevent the occurrence of any abuse in connection with the privileges, immunities and facilities mentioned in this Article.

#### ARTICLE IX

##### Financial resources of the Institute

1. The Institute shall derive its financial resources from annual contributions made by member States as determined by the Conference of Ministers and from voluntary contributions by donors.

2. The Institute may derive further resources in cash or in kind from the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

3. Member States may be required to make special contributions in kind or in cash in respect of programmes or projects carried out in their territories. The nature and extent of such contributions shall be determined and provided for in agreements entered into by the parties concerned.

4. The Director of the Institute shall, after consultation with the Governing Board, have the power to accept gifts, legacies, grants, loans, and other contributions in cash or in kind from governments, organizations, institutions, and from other sources, provided that such gifts, legacies, grants, loans or other contributions are intended for the furtherance of the objectives of the Institute.

5. The Director of the Institute shall submit to the Governing Board at each annual meeting, as report on contributions made and due under paragraphs 1 to 4 of this Article.

6. The funds of the Institute shall be held and administered solely for the purpose of the Institute and in accordance with financial rules and regulations governing the operations of the Institute or directives issued by the Governing Board.

7. Funds administered by and for the Institute shall be subject to audit by an auditor appointed by the Governing Board.

#### ARTICLE X

##### Expenses

1. The Director of the Institute may incur expenses for its administrative and operational purposes in accordance with an approved programme of work and within the limits of the budget of the Institute and in accordance with the financial rules and regulations promulgated from time to time by the Governing Board.

2. Expenses incurred by representatives of member States or co-operating States and organizations and by their alternates and advisers as well as expenses incurred by observers for the purpose of attending meetings of the Governing Board, or other organs of the Institute, shall normally be borne by the respective governments or organizations.

#### ARTICLE XI

##### Obligations of member States

The member States shall co-operate in every way so as to assist the Institute in achieving its objectives. They shall in particular:

(a) Facilitate the timely collection, exchange and dissemination of data and information on crime prevention and the treatment of offenders;

(b) Make available to the Institute training and research facilities, on such terms and conditions as may from time to time be agreed with the appropriate organ of the Institute;

(c) Make available to the Institute national personnel on such conditions as may be agreed upon with the appropriate organs of the Institute;

(d) Accord such facilities, privileges and immunities as may be required under the provision of article VIII of this Statute;

(e) Make timely payment of their annual contributions as may be specified under the provisions of article IX paragraph (1) of this Statute.

#### ARTICLE XII

##### Assistance by the secretariats of the United Nations

1. The Institute shall seek and maintain close working relationships with the secretariat of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations Centre for social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, which shall, within the limits of their resources, assist the Institute in the achievement of its objectives.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Statute, the secretariat of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa shall, as appropriate, be entrusted by the Conference of Ministers with the responsibility of seeking assistance from co-operating States and organizations for the implementation of the approved work programme of the Institute, and acting as the executing agency in respect of which it has been able to obtain assistance.

#### ARTICLE XIII

##### Relationship with other States, institutions and organizations

1. The Institute shall seek and maintain active co-operation with States not member States which are desirous of assisting the Institute in achieving its objectives.
2. The Institute shall collaborate closely with the general secretariat of the Organization of African Unity in furtherance of its objectives.
3. The Institute shall maintain close working relationships with other regional and interregional institutes with similar objectives, United Nations organizations and specialized agencies, academic institutions as well as non-governmental organizations involved in the field of crime prevention and the treatment of offenders.

#### ARTICLE XIV

##### Publications and rights to intellectual property

1. The Institute shall freely publish any results of its research, training and other activities.
2. All rights, including title and copyright in any work or publications shall be vested in the Institute.
3. The Institute shall use its copyright and other rights and any financial or other benefits derived therewith, in furtherance of their objectives of the Institute.

#### ARTICLE XV

##### Settlement of disputes

1. Any dispute that may arise concerning the interpretation or application of any of the provisions of this Statute which cannot be settled by the parties to the dispute shall be submitted to the Conference.
2. If the Conference cannot reach a decision on the dispute, or if the decision of the Conference is not accepted by the parties to the dispute concerned, either party to the dispute may request that the matter be submitted to arbitration by an Arbitral Tribunal composed of three members who shall be nominated as follows:

(a) Each party shall nominate one arbitrator;

(b) The third arbitrator who shall be the Chairman of the Arbitral Tribunal, shall be chosen by agreement between the arbitrators nominated by the parties.

3 If the Arbitral Tribunal is not constituted within a period of three months from the date of the request for arbitration, anyone of the parties to the dispute may request the Chairman of the Conference to make the necessary nominations, except that in cases where the Institute is a party to a dispute, the nominations shall be made by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

4. The decision of the Arbitral Tribunal shall be binding on the parties of the dispute.

5. The provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of this article shall be without prejudice to the choice of any other mode of settlement that the parties concerned may decide upon.

#### ARTICLE XVI

##### Dissolution

1. The Institute may be dissolved by agreement of two thirds of the members of the Conference of Ministers.

2. In the case of dissolution of the Institute in pursuance of the provisions of paragraph 1 of this article, the Governing Board shall make provisions for the orderly liquidation of the Institute.

#### ARTICLE XVII

##### Entry into force

1. This Statute shall enter into force upon its adoption by the Conference of Ministers and signature by ten member States.

#### ARTICLE XVIII

##### Final and transitional provisions

1. This Statute, of which the English, French and Arabic texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

2. Upon the entry into force of this Statute and until the establishment of the permanent Secretariat of the Institute, the functions of the Secretariat shall be performed by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned being accredited by their respective Governments have signed this Statute.



22 (IX). Preparation for the second United Nations Conference of Least Developed Countries

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 42/177 of 11 December 1987 on the United Nations Conference on LDCs,

Further recalling ECA resolution 397 (XV) of 12 April 1980 entrusting the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries with the responsibility for ensuring the co-ordination of efforts, establishing priorities, monitoring and evaluating progress under the comprehensive New Programme of Action and the Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA) in African least developed countries,

Recalling also the Final Act of UNCTAD VII which recommended that a high-level United Nations Conference on LDCs should be convened in 1990 to appraise and review the implementation of the SNPA,

Deeply concerned at the continuing deterioration in the socio-economic situation in African LDCs,

Convinced that the proposed International Conference will make it possible to evaluate the progress made in the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries during the 1980s and to prepare a new strategy to speed up the development of the LDCs during the 1990s,

Noting the series of preparatory meetings to be convened by UNCTAD,

Emphasizing the need for thorough preparations for the United Nations Conference on the LDCs,

1. Approves the devotion of the ninth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African LDCs to the preparation for the United Nations Conference on LDCs in 1990;
2. Calls upon all African LDCs not only to undertake an evaluation of the progress made in the implementation of the SNPA but also to participate actively in the preparatory meetings of the second United Nations Conference on LDCs;
3. Requests African and international organizations especially ECA, UNCTAD and OAU to provide all necessary technical assistance to the African LDCs, in the evaluation of progress made in the implementation of SNPA and in the formulation of the new strategy to be presented to the conference;
4. Urges donor countries and international financial institutions to accord high priority to the preparatory meetings and participate in them at high level.

23 (IX). Strengthening the capabilities of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling that the Ad Hoc Committee of ECA established by resolution 477 (XVIII) of April 1983 endorsed the relevance and usefulness of ECA-sponsored regional and subregional institutions and made recommendations on the rationalization, co-ordination, harmonization and/or the integration of activities of those institutions,

Recalling also ECA resolution 550 (XX) of 29 April 1985 by which the Executive Secretary of ECA was requested to consult with the Governments of African member States of the institutions sponsored by them to ascertain their continuing interest in the institutions, and if so to make a solemn pledge of financial support to these institutions by settling immediately at least 25 per cent of their arrears of contributions and to pay the balance over a five-year period,

Recalling further ECA resolution 569 (XXI) of 19 April 1986 urging member States and African organizations to use to the fullest extent technical and advisory services available in these institutions,

Recognizing that these institutions have continued in spite of serious budgetary constraints confronting them, to provide valuable services to member States in the vital area of human resources development, industrial development, socio-economic development planning and management, financial management, trade and transport, and earth resources development, thanks to the resources obtained from extrabudgetary sources,

Appreciative of the financial support provided to these institutions by the few member States which continue to meet their financial obligations,

Gratefully acknowledging the significant role of multilateral and bilateral agencies within and outside the United Nations system in providing substantial extrabudgetary resources which have enabled the institutions to carry out concrete activities in member States,

Seriously concerned that the non-payment and/or irregular payment of contributions have adversely affected the capacity to meet the demand for services to member States and threaten the present and future functioning of these institutions:

1. Strongly urges subregional and regional ECA-sponsored institutions to study carefully all the alternatives recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee;

2. Further urges all member States to implement ECA resolution 550 (XX) on payment of arrears, and continue to meet on a regular basis their financial obligations to these institutions;

3. Invites all member States that have not joined these institutions to do so and actively participate in their activities;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to continue his efforts in getting member States to implement resolution 550 (XX) by meeting their financial obligations and in mobilizing extrabudgetary resources for these institutions.

24 (IX). Support to the countries of the south-western Indian Ocean affected by tropical cyclones and natural disasters

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 620 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 requesting support for island countries of the south-western Indian Ocean in their efforts to forecast cyclones and to reduce the adverse effects of such disasters,

Also recalling resolution 288 (XIII) of 1 March 1977 which endorses the establishment of a United Nations Trust Fund for African Development,

Recalling also resolution 353 (XIV) of 27 March 1979 on least developed, island and most seriously affected African countries,

Recalling further the principles and guidelines of the Lagos Plan of Action for the implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa, 1980-2000 on the development of African countries, particularly the poorest countries,

Mindful of the serious consequences of natural disasters on the economic and social development of Africa in general and on that of African Least Developed Countries in particular,

Noting with appreciation the actions undertaken by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator (UNDRO), other institutions and international organizations in their efforts to strengthen national institutions and to set up subregional organizations for forecasting cyclones and to reduce the adverse effects of such disasters,

Conscious of efforts by the countries concerned to strengthen their national structures responsible for forecasting tropical cyclones and other natural disasters,

1. Calls upon all the United Nations specialized agencies carrying out activities with respect to the forecasting and control of natural disasters and the preservation of the environment in Africa especially the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the League of Red Cross Societies (LICROSS) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and upon donors to take into account natural disasters and ecological hazards peculiar to the Indian Ocean zone such as cyclones, floods, tidal waves, volcanic eruptions and gas leaks and marine pollution when designing and implementing their programmes;

2. Requests ECA to co-ordinate the activities that other international organizations are conducting in implementation of resolution 620 (XXII);

3. Asks the Executive Secretary of ECA, working in co-operation with the Secretary-General of OAU and the United Nations Disaster Relief Office (UNDRO) to prepare a plan of action for coping with natural disasters and limiting their adverse effects on the economic and social development of Africa in general and of African Least Developed Countries in particular;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the subject to the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of Ministers.

25 (IX). Biennial report of the Executive SecretaryThe Conference of Ministers,

Recalling resolution 616 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 on the proposed programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1988-1989,

Having examined the Biennial Report of the Executive Secretary on the 1986-1987 1/, biennium,

Concerned by the effects of the financial crisis of the United Nations on the Commission's biennial programme 1986-1987,

Appreciative of the efforts of the Executive Secretary to implement mandated outputs under circumstances of such severe resource shortages,

1. Endorses the termination of all outputs which have been deferred, postponed or terminated because of the financial crisis;

2. Appeals to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit the Biennial Report of the Executive Secretary including the annex on the financial crisis and performance by programme to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination.

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1/ E/ECA/CM.14/3.

26 (IX). Proposals for extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-Term Plan to 1990-1991

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling resolution 617 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 on the draft Medium-Term Plan for the period 1990-1995,

Having examined the proposals for the extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-Term Plan to 1990-1991, 1/ prepared on the basis of the decision of the General Assembly to approve as an exceptional measure the continuing through 1991 of the priorities and activities of the Medium-Term Plan for the period 1984-1989,

Conscious of the importance of the ongoing reforms resulting from General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 on review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations,

1. Endorses the proposals for extension of the 1984-1989 Medium-Term Plan to 1990-1991;

2. Appeals to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to endorse the proposals for submission to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination for consideration at its twenty-eighth session in 1988.

27 (IX). Updating of the 1988-1989 programme budgetThe Conference of Ministers,

Recalling resolution 616 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989,

Having examined the proposals for updating the 1988-1989 Programme Budget, 1/

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, the Economic and Social Council, the Second and Fifth Committees of the General Assembly of the United Nations, the representatives of African countries in particular and to all the member States of these Committees for their unequivocal support to the proposals for the programme budget for 1988-1989 and the need for adequate resources to enable the Commission to contribute effectively to the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990, 2/

2. Also expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for exempting the Economic Commission for Africa from the full application of the economy measures,

3. Endorses the proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget;

4. Appeals to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit the proposals for updating the 1988-1989 programme budget to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination.

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1/ E/ECA/CM.14/34

2/ A/S-13/2/annex



28 (IX). Mltisectoral economic integration projects of the African intergovernmental organizations

The Conference of Ministers,

Considering the Lagos Plan of Action and, in particular, the Final Act of Lagos which invites African States to set up subregional economic communities over the entire continent of Africa,

Considering that resolution ES/2/1 adopted by the Special Session of the ECA Conference of Ministers on 30 October 1986 in Addis Ababa requested the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Secretary of ECA to continue working closely in carrying out all activities concerning the preparation, formulation and implementation of the African Regional Programme under UNDP's Fourth Programming Cycle,

Noting with satisfaction the general agreement which has emerged on the concept of and multisectoral approach to the formulation and implementation of the multisectoral projects submitted by the economic integration entities and by the river and lake basin development organizations,

Noting further with satisfaction UNDP's decision to designate ECA as the main executing agency for many of the multisectoral subregional projects formulated by the economic co-operation and integration organizations and by the river and lake basin development organizations with ECA assistance,

Having considered in depth the modalities for implementation of multisectoral economic integration projects as worked out by the meeting with IGOs, including more specifically the appointment of a co-ordinator for each project, the priority to be given to the recruitment of regional and subregional experts and consultants, the close association of IGOs in project implementation and the establishment of a steering committee for each project that would comprise the main executing agency, UNDP, the specialized agencies and the IGO concerned to monitor project implementation and provide the guidance necessary,

Desirous of speeding up the process of economic integration in each African subregion as one of the factors that would hasten the economic development of the African countries,

1. Welcomes the good working relationship existing among UNDP, ECA, the specialized agencies and the IGOs in their formulation and implementation of economic integration projects under the Fourth Programming Cycle;

2. Requests UNDP to do its utmost to speed up the approval of projects during 1988 covering all the subregions in order to expedite the implementation of the priority integration projects by the various agencies and institutions;

3. Invites ECA, OAU and UNDP to consult each other on the joint organization of intersecretariat annual meetings as a way of harmonizing the activities of subregional economic communities aimed at establishing an African common market and regional economic community, monitoring the implementation of those multisectoral projects approved by UNDP and reporting on them periodically to the ECA Conference of Ministers;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to invite African financial institutions to participate regularly in such meetings.

29 (IX). Experiments in grass-root developmentThe Conference of Ministers,

Having noted the principles set forth during the thirteenth special session of the General Assembly of the United Nations devoted to the critical economic situation in Africa,

Recalling the outcome of the International Conference on the challenge of Africa's accelerated economic recovery and development held at Abuja from 15 to 19 June 1987,

Recalling also resolution 507 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 on the seminar on grass-root development,

Taking note of the communication by the National Development Council of the Niger regarding follow-up action on the experiments of African countries presented to the African Symposium on grass-root development held at Niamey from 8 to 13 June 1987,

1. Invites the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organisation of African Unity and in co-operation with the Government of the Niger, to consider ways and means of implementing the recommendations on follow-up action on experiments in grass-root development;

2. Invites international organizations to provide technical and financial assistance to give effect to those recommendations, in particular the "special" recommendation.

Motion of thanks to the ECA Executive Secretary for his role in the success of the programme for the integration of women in development 1974-1988

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the relevance of ECA initiative taken by the Executive Secretary of ECA to establish the African Training and Research Centre for Women in 1974,

Recalling also the importance of the conferences on the establishment of the African Regional Co-ordinating Committee (ARCC) and the setting up of regional, subregional and national machineries for the integration of women in development in Nouakchott in October 1977 and in Rabat in March 1979 under the Chairmanship of the Executive Secretary,

Underlining the timeliness of the Lusaka Conference of 1969 and the Arusha Conference of 1984 which were held under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Africa in preparation for the world conferences on the United Nations Decade for Women held in 1980 in Copenhagen and in Nairobi in 1985,

Welcoming the positive contribution of African women at those gatherings,

Appreciating the eminent role played by the African Training and Research Centre for Women since its establishment in organizing conferences, seminars, training, organizing the sharing of experience, preparing several research projects and studies on women and adopting appropriate programmes for the promotion of women in all areas and the improvement of their living conditions particularly in rural areas,

Bearing in mind the effectiveness of the moral and material support of the Executive Secretary in the implementation of well conceived programmes at the regional, subregional and national levels,

Convinced that the untiring efforts of the Executive Secretary in approaching all institutions, particularly UNDP have resulted in the renewal of the vital assistance of such institutions and in greater awareness of women's programmes,

Considering the consistent endeavours made by the Executive Secretary to maintain, pursue, implement and strengthen those programmes which constitute a considerable contribution to social, cultural and political progress in Africa,

1. Warmly congratulates the Executive Secretary of ECA for his unswerving support which has been instrumental in the ever-growing success of programmes for the integration of women in development;

2. Welcomes the efforts of the Executive Secretary in securing support from UNDP and ensuring that projects for the integration of women in development continue.

Annex I

PRELIMINARY REACTION OF  
THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA  
TO  
THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE  
ADVISORY GROUP ON FINANCIAL FLOWS FOR AFRICA  
FINANCING AFRICA'S RECOVERY

1. The Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, during the twenty-third session of the Commission held in Niamey, Niger, from 14 to 18 April 1988, undertook a preliminary examination of the Report and Recommendations of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows for Africa constituted by the Secretary-General of the United Nations "to assess the critical financial condition of African countries and to propose practical recommendations designed, within agreed programmes, to alleviate the financial burden that they face". The Conference expressed its appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the appropriate and timely initiative, and welcomed the expeditious manner in which the Advisory Group had taken up its assignment.

2. The Conference recognizes that the report constitutes a contribution to the analysis of various aspects of Africa's economic crisis. However, it was noted that the measures proposed fall short of the resource requirements of the African region and made no reference to the African Common Position on Africa's External Debt Crisis adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at their third extraordinary session held in November/December 1987 in Addis Ababa.

3. The geographical scope of the study has been narrowed to exclude North Africa and Nigeria. Since the terms of reference of the Group of Eminent Persons was to address the financial problems of the whole of the African continent, the exclusion of these groups of countries, some of which are low income and debt distressed, detracts from the usefulness of the work of the Group. The Conference underscored the regional dimension of the economic recovery and development process which Africa has embarked upon. The Conference is of the view that the study ought to be expanded to cover all African countries.

4. Furthermore, the report does not give sufficient consideration to the issue of export earnings of African countries. It concentrates exclusively on solutions related to bilateral and multilateral aid flows and temporary debt-relief measures which will not solve the financial crisis of African countries if the latter continue to be confronted with the continuous loss in export earnings because of the collapse of commodity prices and protectionist policies against Africa's exports.

5. The Conference noted that the Group had taken a narrow view in concentrating mainly on the debt issue. Even in doing so, the report was silent on how Africa could pay its debts. It was felt that the solution to the debt crisis in Africa could not be found in isolation and without due regard being given to the other major components of resource flows to

Africa including especially, official development assistance (ODA), capital transfers and export earnings from commodity exports as well as the various factors that influenced such flows namely, interest and exchange rates.

6. The Conference considered that even as a minimum, the resource gap of \$US 5 billion per annum for the period 1988-1990 estimated by the Group represents a gross under-estimation of the additional requirements even for the limited number of countries studied, if such an amount was to meet their long-term development needs. The figure therefore needs to be revised upwards to a more realistic level covering all African countries in line with the concern expressed in paragraph 3 above.

7. The Conference emphasized that in order to provide a lasting solution to the problem of resource flows to Africa, all its components should be dealt with simultaneously. These include external debt, official development assistance, direct transfers and export earnings. In doing so, the objective should be to provide Africa with the resources commensurate with its needs.

8. In conclusion, the Conference of Ministers called upon the Secretary-General to continue his initiative by requesting that the study be expanded to include the whole region, as well as the other elements highlighted in this preliminary reaction.

MEMORANDUM ON THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA  
TO THE IMPLEMENTATION AND MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR AFRICAN ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT,  
1986-1990, PROSPECTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

adopted at the  
Twenty-third session of the Commission/  
Fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers  
held at Niamey, Niger, from 14 to 18 April 1988

for presentation to the  
Ad hoc Committee on the review and appraisal of the  
United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development,  
1986-1990

## I. PREAMBLE

1. We, the African Ministers responsible for Economic Development and Planning, convening in Niamey, Republic of Niger for the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, twenty-third session and thirtieth anniversary of the Commission, from 14 to 18 April 1988, have reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD), adopted by the thirteenth special session of the General Assembly, including the role of the Economic Commission for Africa. This special memorandum was prepared in response to resolution 1988/1 of 5 February 1988 of the Economic and Social Council inviting intergovernmental organizations to report on their contributions, particular perspectives and efforts related to the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990, and to make specific recommendations.

2. We express our appreciation for the initiatives taken by the United Nations Secretary-General on the implementation of the UN-PAAERD. Similarly, we are encouraged by the fact that most organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations have taken measures with the view to reflecting in their respective sectoral programmes of work the priorities contained in the UN-PAAERD and that some of them have mobilized additional resources specifically devoted to the United Nations Programme of Action. We appreciate the efforts made by multilateral financial institutions to mobilize additional resources. We are grateful to bilateral donors that have taken measures in support of the efforts of African countries to implement the UN-PAAERD.

3. We re-iterate that most of the efforts and resources required for implementing the UN-PAAERD and bringing about long-term development in the region will have to come from African countries themselves. However, the sacrifices of our people have not been adequately supported to yield the expected results.

4. In accordance with the mandate of the Economic Commission for Africa in the overall social and economic development of the region, we have reviewed its contribution to the implementation of the programme at the regional level with respect to the priority areas of the Programme. In doing so we have reviewed the prospects for the successful implementation of the UN-PAAERD and made proposals for accelerating the implementation of the UN-PAAERD at national, subregional, regional and international levels.

## II. CONTRIBUTION AND EFFORTS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UN-PAAERD

5. A major task of the Commission, after the adoption of the programme, was therefore to maintain the momentum generated by the special session of the General Assembly. First, it was essential for African countries to adopt the necessary measures required for the full implementation of the programme and for the international community to devise ways and means of providing the necessary financial and technical support to complement Africa's effort.



Secondly, it was important to closely monitor the developments at national, regional and international levels by improving information flows and ascertaining the overall picture in terms of both quantitative and qualitative changes in economic performance. Thirdly, there was need to provide African countries with the necessary support especially in the priority sectors and areas of the UN-PAAERD.

1. Promoting a framework for the accelerated implementation of the UN-PAAERD

6. The Commission authorized the administration of questionnaires based on specific criteria related to each of the priority areas of the UN-PAAERD. The questionnaires provided guidelines for individual countries and intergovernmental organizations for monitoring the implementation of the UN-PAAERD at national, subregional and regional levels. The analysis of the first questionnaire made a major contribution to the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the General Assembly at its forty-second session. The second questionnaire will constitute an input to the Mid-term Review of the UN-PAAERD 1986-1988 scheduled for the forty-third session of the General Assembly.

7. The Commission has continued to monitor the work of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the implementation of the UN-PAAERD, which is headed by its Executive Secretary. Its report on Improving information flows on the follow-up process to African economic recovery and development specifically deals with the types of information required for monitoring the UN-PAAERD at national, subregional, regional and international levels.

8. Soon after the adoption of the UN-PAAERD the Commission was convened at a special session to discuss UNDP's draft orientation paper for the fourth Regional Programme for Africa for the period 1987-1991. This document was aimed at focusing the programme on the priority areas of the UN-PAAERD.

9. The technical assistance activities of the Commission were refocused on the priority areas of the UN-PAAERD. Thus the resources mobilized from extrabudgetary sources were mainly directed to activities in those areas.

2. Monitoring of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD at the regional level

10. The annual session of the Commission and annual meeting of the Conference of Ministers provides a unique opportunity to review and assess the degree of implementation of the UN-PAAERD. Since the twenty-second session, both the annual Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa and the Survey on the Implementation of the UN-PAAERD have made it possible for the Commission to monitor closely not only the economic conditions in African countries but also the progress in achieving the global and sectoral objectives of the programme.

11. The International Conference on Africa: The Challenge of Economic Recovery and Development was held in Abuja, Nigeria, on the initiative of the Economic Commission for Africa in June 1987. It was a direct follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly and constituted a unique forum where the various actors in the implementation of the UN-PAAERD undertook a preliminary assessment, evaluation of the prospects for economic recovery and accelerated development in Africa as well as recommended necessary future actions.
12. The Abuja international conference noted that African countries had undertaken measures that had yielded some positive results, which should be continued and that a number of positive steps had been taken since 1986 by the international community. The conference, however, expressed concern that those efforts may not be adequate to meet the external resource needs of Africa for its recovery programme, particularly in the face of the dramatic fall in commodity prices and the escalation of debt-burden obligations. The conference urgently called for a comprehensive approach to African external resource needs rather than ad hoc and partial actions. Such an approach should take due account of the link between commodity price level, external debt and international resource flows to Africa. The Abuja Statement was submitted to various forums including the General Assembly at its forty-second session.
13. After the Abuja conference, a second international conference was organized in Khartoum, the Sudan in March 1988 to critically assess the central role that the human factor plays, both as a means to and objective of development, in Africa's efforts towards achieving economic recovery and accelerated, self-sustaining and self-reliant development. The conference reviewed the progress in human resources development and utilization in Africa as well as the actions required, in the context of ongoing structural adjustment, efforts including the strengthening and further development of human capabilities and the enhancement of the conditions of human well-being.
14. The Khartoum Declaration entitled Towards a human-focused approach to socio-economic recovery and development in Africa has provided an overall assessment of the human factor in Africa, with respect to such aspects as production of essential items, especially food and provision of basic services. It focused on the human dimension of structural adjustment programmes. In general, the conference was of the view that some programmes, rather than improving the economic and social conditions of the people, have aggravated them.
15. It is in the above context that specific recommendations were made at national, regional and international levels with respect to incorporating the human factor in the recovery and structural adjustment process; paying special attention to the social sector and the vulnerable groups; and devising manpower development and utilization plans for the long term. The conference finally resolved to submit the Khartoum Declaration to the General Assembly of the United Nations at its forty-third session, as an integral part of the follow-up to the UN-PAAERD.

16. The Commission has closely collaborated with the Organization of African Unity and UNDP in monitoring the UN-PAAERD. This collaboration has given the opportunity to the three organizations to assist some member States in increasing their efforts on the implementation of the UN-PAAERD.

3. Activities of the Economic Commission for Africa related to the priority areas of the UN-PAAERD

17. In addition to providing guidelines for the implementation of the UN-PAAERD at national, regional and international levels, and monitoring the overall implementation process, the Economic Commission for Africa and its secretariat have also focused their activities on each of the priority areas of the Programme of Action. It should be pointed out that much more would have been done if the Commission had not been confronted with lack of adequate resources.

a. Food and agriculture

18. Accorded the highest priority, food and agriculture has featured prominently on the agenda for action by the Commission. In this regard, various proposals have been put forward by the Commission to African countries and to the international community with a view to bringing about a major transformation of the agriculture sector and to redress its pervasive structural disequilibria in terms of the balance between food and export crops, as well as rainfed and irrigated agriculture. The proposals include inter alia policy measures and institutional measures for forest conservation management and development; land-use policies and farming systems; mobilization of financial and technological resources for increased food and agriculture production; subregional co-operation in the production of cereals and tubers; agricultural research and training for the development of appropriate technology for food production in Africa; and the reduction of food waste and losses.

19. In the field of agricultural policies, the Commission has repeatedly laid particular emphasis on the need for all African countries to achieve, by 1990, the target of raising the share of agriculture in total public investment to between 20 and 25 per cent. Other measures that have been promoted in the region since the adoption of the UN-PAAERD relate to the adoption of remunerative producer prices and other incentives to farmers such as credit facilities for the acquisition of essential inputs.

20. Various activities were undertaken including training and technical advisory services to countries, in such fields as investment plans and programmes formulation, improvement of agricultural institutions and services, and co-operation in trade in food and agricultural products. A major activity of the African countries has been the formulation and implementation of food strategies integrating the production of cereals and tubers, livestock and fishery products, and providing a framework for greater food security.

21. Another initiative of the Commission was the establishment of a network of maize research centres in some member States through the launching of

pilot maize research and demonstration trials for small-scale farmers. Other activities included the promotion of the integrated development of fishery industries in the region, plant protection and the establishment of an insect control centre.

b. Other sectors in support of agriculture

22. Soon after the adoption of the UN-PAAERD, the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, a subsidiary organ of the Commission, defined priority measures within the programme of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa with a view to accelerating the implementation of the Programme. Specifically African countries were urged to accord high priority to short-term rehabilitation measures of industries directly linked to agriculture such as those processing food products and those producing agricultural inputs. In the framework of preparatory activities, the second General Conference of UNIDO adopted a Memorandum on Industrial Development in Africa <sup>1/</sup> which identifies measures at national, subregional, regional and international levels aimed at making the industrial sector an engine of growth and more supportive to agriculture. In this regard, industries producing widely consumed goods especially in the rural areas as well as agro-related basic industries were given high priority. The Conference of African Ministers of Industry also recommended a review of the first decade and the launching of a second IDDA in the 1990s.

23. Technical advisory services were provided to some African countries for the promotion of food processing technologies, and for the integrated development at subregional level of fertilizers, pesticides and agro-related engineering industries. The Commission has put greater emphasis on policies and institutions for the development of small-scale industries and the improvement of the capabilities of entrepreneurs of small-scale industries.

24. Since the adoption of the UN-PAAERD, the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA) has been refocused on the improvement of transport and communications to production areas, and the development of these infrastructures for increased intra-African trade in agricultural and agro-industrial products. Moreover, the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, a subsidiary organ of the Commission, had undertaken an indepth evaluation of the UNTACDA programme at its sixth meeting held in Kinshasa, Zaire in March 1988. The Kinshasa Conference recommended the launching of a second UNTACDA in view of the vital role of the transport and communications sector in the physical integration of African economies at national, subregional and regional levels, an important element in their recovery and long-term development, in line with the UN-PAAERD.

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<sup>1/</sup> ECA/IND/CM7.I.SP/M/1/REV.3, 17 October 1987.

25. In the field of trade, the African Regional Experts Group on Domestic and Intra-African Trade which met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in November 1987 formulated recommendations for the promotion of African products and the improvement of information flows on supply and demand for such products especially foodstuffs. The recommendations of the African Regional Experts Group were translated into concrete actions by the Commission particularly through its assistance to subregional economic groupings such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA) and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS). They were taken into account by the secretariat in the negotiations for the establishment of a Preferential Trade Area for the North African subregion.

26. Issues related to Africa's external sector were the main focus of the deliberations of the Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Trade and Development during its meeting preparatory to the seventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD VII), held in March 1987 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The conference adopted a Declaration on African Common Position for UNCTAD VII 2/ which presents a comprehensive and integrated package of proposals relating, inter alia, to resources for development including financial and monetary questions, commodities and international trade and least developed countries. These proposals were, to some extent, reflected in the outcome of UNCTAD VII and particularly in paragraph 44 of its Final Act with respect to Africa's debt crisis.

c. Drought and desertification

27. The decision of the twenty-second session of the Commission to establish the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) in Niamey, Niger 3/ in response to the severe drought of 1983-1985 was an important measure in the implementation of the UN-PAAERD. The major activities of ACMAD will include the strengthening of member States capabilities in the application and use of meteorological and climatological data; the devising and operation of a meteorological and climatological early warning system for natural disasters including tropical cyclones which regularly affect the African countries of the south-west Indian Ocean and locust invasions; the development of appropriate methodologies of applied meteorology to food crop production, water resources management and the development of alternative renewable sources of energy; collection, analysis, storage and dissemination of data and information; and the provision of training in the application of meteorological data and information to economic and social conditions in the region. At the twenty-third session of the Commission, the Governing Council of ACMAD met to discuss issues relating to the functioning of the Centre.

28. In addition, the Commission, along with other relevant regional organizations, provided assistance to some member States in the area of institution building for combatting drought and desertification. This

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3/ Resolution 621 (XXII) of April 1987 of the ECA Conference of Ministers.

assistance has helped member States to develop and strengthen related national, subregional and regional training machineries, such as training in the fields of formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

29. The Commission has strengthened its programme in environment in order to contribute to the establishment of national and regional data bases for environmental planning. In addition the Commission has been providing assistance in incorporating environmental components in the training programmes of ECA-sponsored institutions.

d. Human resources development, planning and utilization

30. The Khartoum Declaration already referred to was subsequently endorsed by the third ECA Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization which followed immediately. The African ministers for human resources adopted specific measures aimed at putting the vast human resources potential available in Africa at the service of recovery and sustained long-term development through an integrated approach to human resources planning, development and utilization.

31. The human factor is central to economic development. Thus, the Commission provided its full support to the initiative of the Government of the Republic of Niger in convening a symposium on grass root development approaches in the context of African economic recovery and development in June 1987 at Niamey.

32. With respect to higher learning in Africa, the Commission focused its attention on the follow-up to the recommendations of the third meeting of the ECA/Association of African Universities Conference of Vice-Chancellors, Presidents and Rectors of Institutions of Higher Learning in Africa. Specifically the efforts were directed at the mobilization of resources for the training and placement of African trainees in some critical fields, namely science, administration, management and planning. In addition the identification of measures aimed at facilitating the return of African experts living abroad was also given attention.

e. Policy reforms

33. In the field of public administration and finance, the Commission prepared recommendations for member States on the organization of management services systems and the strengthening of government expenditure control. Training was provided in 1986 and 1987 for various individual countries with respect to procurement and supply management; development of modern management skills and techniques; institutional reforms for development management; and the improvement of budgetary and financial management including efficient programming of public expenditure. The Commission, in co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, launched the Special Action Programme in Public Administration, and Management on Africa (SAPAM) which is a major initiative designed to strengthen the capabilities of African countries in those important areas to enable them to better manage their economies and resources.

34. The Commission had established a Working Group on the Study of Structural Adjustment in Africa with a view to providing an African framework for structural adjustment and transformation. The study, which will be available by the end of 1988, will cover such aspects as fiscal and monetary policies; external debt management; pricing policies; public/private sectors programmes; export promotion and diversification; industrial sector rehabilitation; and institutional reforms. Such initiative is supported by an International Advisory Board including high officials of international and national development institutions as well as university scholars in the field of development issues and policies.

35. The implementation of the provisions contained in the UN-PAAERD had been the major focus of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers at its fifth session held in March 1988 in Addis Ababa. Some of the basic issues considered were related to short-term economic management; national accounts statistics; integration of demographic, social and related economic statistics in development planning in Africa; and household survey techniques. Advisory services to some individual member States in above areas were provided.

36. The Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers reviewed the implementation of the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action for African Population and Self-reliant Development (KPA), adopted by the second African Population Conference held in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania in January 1984. In this regard, various activities were undertaken, including training workshop on demographic data estimates and projections; preparation of guidelines for the integration of demographic variables in socio-economic development planning; advisory services to several countries on census survey and vital registration data analysis; and studies on methods for population estimates and projections, mortality levels and integrated maternal and child health family programmes in Africa.

37. In recognition of the importance of the participation of the people in Development, two major issues were addressed by the Commission namely modalities of popular participation in development in Africa and strategies for enhancing popular participation with emphasis on women and youth. In addition a major concern has been the mobilization of youth for its effective participation in development efforts and the provision of adequate opportunities to such vulnerable groups as the disabled, in order to bring those groups into the mainstream of development efforts as active agents.

38. The Africa Regional Co-ordination Committee for the Integration of Women in Development, a subsidiary organ of the Commission, has played a prominent role in highlighting issues relating to women and development. Specifically, the contribution of women to the food and agricultural sector has been accorded high priority. Such a focus was translated into the organization of seminars on preparation, implementation and evaluation of rural development projects; the role of women as traders and especially in the marketing of foodstuffs; the role of co-operatives as a means of integrating women in development.

The need to diversify women's experience in industry, especially agro-industries, was also given due attention. Moreover advisory services were provided to member States for technical backstopping of national machineries for the integration of women in development.

39. The Commission had reviewed social trends and major social development problems in the light of the policy reforms initiated by member States. It may be recalled that in 1986 an intergovernmental committee drafted an African Charter for Social Action which is to be considered in June 1988 by the fifth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs, a subsidiary organ of the Commission.

### III. PROSPECTS FOR THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN-PAAERD

#### 1. Trends in Africa's Economic recovery and development <sup>4/</sup>

40. African countries have individually and collectively made great efforts to implement the UN-PAAERD. Despite these efforts, the economic situation has not improved to the extent to yield the expected results. In 1987, the growth rate of GDP was estimated at 0.8 per cent as compared to a population growth rate of around 3 per cent. This has therefore resulted in the deterioration of the living conditions of the population. Gross fixed capital formation has remained low at 17.3 per cent of total GDP, highlighting the difficulty faced by the region in devoting adequate resources to finance growth and development.

41. Agriculture which is the priority sector of the UN-PAAERD increased by a mere 0.5 per cent in 1987. With respect to food, cereal production declined by 8 per cent while roots and tubers have only increased slightly (about 1.6 per cent). The main reason for the disappointing performance was the recurrence of drought in that year but this was not as severe as in 1983-1984.

42. Although manufacturing value-added increased by about 3.7 per cent in 1987, food processing, which is the largest branch, recorded a lower growth rate (about 2.5 per cent). A major cause of the poor performance of this sector is the under utilization of installed capacity.

43. Overall, the level of Africa's export earnings in 1987 was 12 per cent lower than that of 1985 before the adoption of the UN-PAAERD. That is why, in spite of the drastic reduction in imports in the context of the austerity measures adopted in many countries, the current account deficit remained at \$US 11.2 billion in 1987. Between 1985 and 1987, the terms of trade deteriorated by about 17 per cent. The external debt of the region was estimated at \$US 218.1 billion in 1987. The ratio of debt servicing as a percentage of exports remained high (35.8 per cent).

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<sup>4/</sup> Source: Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Africa, 1986-1987. (E/ECA/CM.14/4).



2. Basic requirements for the successful implementation of the UN-PAAERD

44. The basic requirements for the successful implementation of the UN-PAAERD on the side of African Governments include - policy reforms; rationalization of the public sector; decentralization of decision-making process in socio-economic development; grass root development and democratization of the development process; and economic co-operation and integration. With respect to the international community, these comprise, inter alia, favourable external economic environment; more effective debt relief measures, better commodity prices, and increased external resource flows.

45. To ensure economic recovery, African countries must intensify their efforts in policy reforms, in putting greater emphasis on the rationalization of the public sector, so as to contribute effectively to the recovery process. In addition, it is essential to create favourable conditions for decentralizing the decision-making process in socio-economic development and promoting increased access to development resources so as to broaden the participation of the population in the recovery process.

46. For the successful implementation of the UN-PAAERD, it is essential that the ongoing structural adjustment programmes shall be consistent with the requirements for recovery and long-term development. The policy reforms must take into account the need to minimize the adverse social impact of various measures taken. In this regard budgetary cuts in the framework of austerity measures must not affect the development and operation of social infrastructure, particularly health and education services. Structural adjustment programmes should provide the basis for economic reconstruction and rehabilitation for long-term development.

47. It is increasingly recognized that the successful implementation of the UN-PAAERD will require intensified and comprehensive approach to economic co-operation and integration. The actions required should accelerate the recovery process and bring about the required structural changes. They should focus on such aspects as strengthening of existing subregional economic groupings, the joint planning and development of community project in key economic sectors and intensification of efforts towards the setting up of an African Common Market.

48. The prospects for a successful implementation of the UN-PAAERD depend to a large extent on the external economic environment. The performance of the African external sector has been disappointing in many respects during the past two years of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD. The fall in export earnings has forced most African countries to reduce imports including essential goods required for development projects.

49. The forecast is for exports to grow by a mere 1.3 per cent during the period 1988-1990 in real terms and, if prices continue to be depressed at the same level as in 1986-1988, the value of exports in 1990 will be below that for 1986. To enable African countries to maintain the rate of imports compatible with the needs of economic recovery and development, the resource

flows to Africa must increase appreciably from \$US 18.9 billion in 1986 to \$US 29.7 billion in 1990. <sup>5/</sup> Such a requirement is not likely to materialize in the prevailing economic environment.

50. Africa's outstanding debt is forecast to reach \$US 237 billion in 1990, with a debt-service obligation of about 45 per cent of export earnings.<sup>5/</sup> Interest payments alone will amount to 20 per cent of export earnings in 1990 as compared to 13 per cent in 1985. <sup>5/</sup> Undoubtedly, such drain on resources, if it is allowed to occur, will lead to further worsening of the economic situation of the region, well below its 1985 level before the adoption of the UN-PAAERD.

51. It is important to recall that there should be a link among commodity prices levels, external debt and resources flows. As a matter of fact, increased aid flows will not provide adequate resources for economic recovery and development if, at the same time, Africa's export earnings continue the present decline. Similarly, it has been recognized that continued rescheduling of debt, even at favourable interest rates, will not constitute a lasting solution if African countries cannot generate enough resources to service their debts. Such resources can only come from stabilized export earnings at remunerative levels and substantial increase in aid flows. There should therefore be an integrated package to reverse the situation which has turned Africa into a net exporter of capital.

52. The success of economic reforms in African countries will depend to a large extent on financial and economic policies adopted in industrialized countries such as interest rates and exchange rates. These countries should take measures to facilitate access of African exports to their markets.

#### IV. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

53. From the above review, it is clear that the African Governments are committed to pursuing measures aimed at restructuring and improving their economies; managing their debts; ensuring efficient mobilization and utilization of domestic resources; enhancing economic subregional and regional co-operation and integration, as well as managing natural disasters. They should continue to pursue these measures.

54. The international community has recognized the need to provide African countries with adequate resources with the view to complementing their efforts for the implementation of the UN-PAAERD. Such recognition needs to be translated into concrete actions linking the issues of external debt, export earnings and aid flows.

55. With particular reference to external debt, the international conference on the external debt of the region requested by African Heads of State and Government should be convened without delay. This conference will enable the beginning of a constructive dialogue on the basis of proposals contained in "African Common Position on Africa's External Debt Crisis" adopted by the third extraordinary session of the OAU Summit.

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<sup>5/</sup> Source: Beyond Recovery: ECA-revised Perspectives of Africa's

56. Four issues need to be addressed urgently to reverse the present declining trend in Africa's export earnings. First, the demand for Africa's primary exports should be expanded, especially through growth-oriented policies in the world economy and the removal of protectionist policies. Secondly, current initiatives for bringing the Common Fund for Commodities into operation as soon as possible should be speeded up. Thirdly, consideration must be given to the adoption of a generalized programme of stabilization of export earnings parallel to the existing stabex. Finally, the resources of the IMF Compensating Financing Mechanism should be substantially increased.

57. In addition to recent initiatives in this regard by some bilateral donors, a substantial increase in bilateral aid is required with a view to achieving, by the 1990s the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for ODA, as already realized by some donor countries. Similarly, additional and significant increase in concessional resources through multilateral institutions is also required. In this regard, it is essential to issue new Special Drawing Rights which are commensurate with Africa's development needs and to ensure that contributions to the agreed replenishment of International Development Association and African Development Fund are paid up and that IFAD's Third Replenishment and IDA Ninth Replenishment are successfully and satisfactorily concluded.

#### V. CONCLUSION

58. We, the Ministers responsible for Economic Planning and Development of the Economic Commission for Africa, have prepared this memorandum with the firm conviction that the adoption of the UN-PAAERD is a clear recognition, by the international community, of the need to develop the African region. It is therefore imperative that the commitment thus made be speedily translated into concrete actions. We therefore invite the Ad hoc Committee, to consider very carefully the views and proposals put forward in this Memorandum, on the contribution of the ECA to the review and appraisal of the UN-PAAERD, prospects and recommendations.

59. We trust that the international community, on its part, will join hands with Africa and fulfil its commitment towards the implementation of the UN-PAAERD. The international community must realize that Africa should not remain the weakest link in the world economic system and that the worsening and persistence of the economic crisis throughout the continent could constitute a threat to world peace and stability. We are therefore hopeful that the forthcoming mid-term review of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD will provide the opportunity for the international community to express in concrete terms its full commitment to the programme.

## DRAFT RESOLUTION

Memorandum on the contribution of the Economic Commission for Africa to the implementation and Mid-term review of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD), Prospects and Recommendations

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling resolutions S-13/2 of 1 June 1986 and 42/163 of 8 December 1987 of the General Assembly on the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD),

Further recalling resolution 1988/1 of 5 February 1988 of ECOSOC requesting the governing bodies of all relevant organs of the United Nations system to include an item on the review and appraisal of the Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 in the agenda of their forthcoming meetings; and inviting, inter alia, intergovernmental organizations to report on their contributions, particularly perspectives and efforts related to the implementation of the Programme of Action and to make specific recommendations on further measures that need to be taken for submission to the Ad hoc Committee,

Having considered the report on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development included in the agenda of its meeting that took place in Niamey, Niger, from 14 to 18 April 1988 and having subsequently adopted a memorandum on ECA's contribution to the review and appraisal of the UN-PAAERD, 1986-1990, prospects and recommendations,

Requests the current Chairman of the ECA Conference of Ministers to transmit the said memorandum reference E/ECA/CM.14/38 to the Ad hoc Committee of the Whole on the review and appraisal of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD).

**NIAMEY DECLARATION  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

**NIAMEY**

**April 1988**

1. We, the African Ministers responsible for economic development and planning, assembled at the Palais des Congrès, Niamey, Republic of Niger, from 14 to 18 April 1988, on the occasion of the celebration of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, held during the twenty-third session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa/fourteenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers responsible for economic development and planning, under the Conference theme "Solidarity for African Economic Recovery and Development", acting for and on behalf of the Governments and peoples of Africa, make the Niamey Declaration marking the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Commission.
2. We recall with satisfaction Economic and Social Council resolution 671 A (XXV) of 29 April 1958 by which the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) was established as the first regional organization in Africa. At the time when ECA was established, a large part of Africa was still under colonial rule and Africa was represented by eight independent member States. We have watched that number grow to fifty member States. Subsequently, other regional organizations, notably the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the African Development Bank (ADB), came into being and joined hands with ECA to provide technical support and advisory services to our member States. We further recall General Assembly resolution 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of the New International Economic Order which further strengthened the role of the Commission in international economic relations and General Assembly resolution 32/197 and other resolutions on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations including resolution 32/202 which conferred the status of autonomous executing agency of operational projects on the regional commissions.
3. In the framework of these international decisions and declarations and of the Commission's activities in the past thirty years, we recall with pride and satisfaction the initiatives taken by the Commission and the achievements obtained particularly in the crucial areas of continuous clarification of development and economic growth concepts and issues in the region and means of settling economic and social problems attested to concretely by such epoch-making documents prepared jointly with OAU such as the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa, the Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic and Social Development of Africa and the Final Act of Lagos (1980), Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (1985), Africa's Submission to the Special Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on Africa's Economic Crisis (1986) and the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (1986).
4. We further recall with satisfaction ECA's consistent and persistent championing of the cause of African economic and social development in all international forums; the provision of technical assistance including the integrated development of human resources; the initiation and promotion of specific programmes geared towards the solution of identified problems as attested to by the programmes of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, the United Nations Industrial Development

Decade for Africa, the Arusha Strategies for the Integration of Women in Development, and the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action on Population to name only a few. The Commission has promoted and sponsored the establishment of development institutions for economic co-operation and integration and strengthened its role in the execution of technical co-operation activities and operational projects where the Commission is now in the forefront as the principal executing agency of UNDP multinational and regional projects.

5. During the past 30 years, with the technical support and advisory services of the ECA secretariat and other bilateral, multilateral and international organizations, we have achieved considerable progress in the economic and social fields. We have experienced the evolution of our continent from a relatively insignificant role to the rank of an important voice at the international level in favour of world peace, solidarity and liberty by all peoples. We have played our role in international forums such as the United Nations General Assembly and its specialized agencies, the Organization of African Unity, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Islamic Conference. We played a major role in the creation of the Group of 77 and in sponsoring a large number of conferences on commodities, trade, money and finance, environment and natural resources.

6. One of the main achievements which our Commission would like to cite is in the establishment of development institutions at the national, subregional and regional levels to respond more effectively to the social and economic requirements of the changing times. Among these may be cited the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS); and the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA). Some ECA-sponsored institutions have also been established over the period, among which may be mentioned the African Development Bank (ADB). These institutions have enhanced the articulation of the development objectives and priorities in implementing programmes for collective self-reliance.

7. In many economic sectors, appreciable advancement has been made over the past thirty years. For instance, we have witnessed improvement in the infrastructures - transport and communications; there are better intra-African airlinks and inter-State highways than there were thirty years ago; there are more hospitals and clinics available in both rural and urban areas and there are more schools, colleges, universities and institutions of higher learning. Some progress has also been achieved in agricultural research and productivity including better farming methods; seeds and animal breeding; industrial development and manufacturing has registered higher rates of growth; and the application of science and technology is more responsive to African social and economic conditions than ever before.

8. We are fully aware that this record of achievement could have been better and that the social and economic conditions of our peoples need considerable improvements. For instance, we note with dismay the deterioration in our economic performance. In the 1960s, African economies were characterized by an active export sector and the prices of our primary commodities were relatively remunerative and the balance of payments, in the majority of cases,

was positive; incomes and production grew faster than the rates of population growth and generally standards of living were visibly improving. Africa was also a net exporter of food. The situation turned for the worse in the 1970s with the increase in import bills of energy, manufactures, capital goods and food against a steadily declining trend in export earnings. While our economies were adversely affected by these developments, we were nevertheless able to keep our heads above the water. With the turn of the 1980s, the situation quickly climaxed to a crisis situation. There was a collapse in the prices of primary commodities which reached the lowest levels in fifty years; export earning capacities of our countries were seriously eroded; balance-of-payments deficits became chronic and were aggravated by a hostile international economic environment; import bills mounted to a level that seriously robbed us of the resources for development and, above all, the mounting external debt-servicing obligations thwarted virtually all our efforts towards economic recovery and self-sustaining growth. This was further exacerbated by the advancing desertification, the unprecedented drought of 1983 and 1985, cyclones, hurricanes and floods and recently the locust invasion.

9. To the above development problems should be added the destabilization of our political, social and economic structures by external forces and in some cases the changing political climate in member States, which have acted as a serious obstacle to our efforts to enhance our social and economic advancement. We therefore denounce the continued abhorrent oppression of the people of South Africa under the obnoxious policy of apartheid and resolve individually and collectively to step up the momentum for the immediate accession of the Namibian people to nationhood and the establishment of majority rule in South Africa. We equally denounce the vicious acts of economic, military and political destabilization including the frequent callous acts of outright aggression being meted out by the Pretoria racist regime on the frontline States.

10. We recall with satisfaction the sustained effort which has been undertaken by our respective Governments during the past three decades to improve the standards of living of our people and make man the focal point of economic development. The adverse effects of unfavourable external factors have, however, seriously hampered our efforts and frustrated our ambitions. There is an enormous task facing us in our efforts to reduce the distance that remains to be travelled before we can attain the rank of interdependent partners in the world economic system.

11. We have reviewed progress made so far in the implementation of APPER and the UN-PAAERD and note with satisfaction that across the continent, our countries are taking all possible steps to improve domestic resource mobilization and the management of the economies generally as amplified in the Abuja Statement on Africa's Economic Recovery and Accelerated Development adopted at Abuja, the new capital of Nigeria in June 1987. Substantial efforts are also being made towards economic policy reforms and structural adjustments particularly in the food and agriculture sector. All these reform measures are being implemented at considerable social and political cost so much so that we have now built a common position around a more human-focused approach to socio-economic recovery and development in Africa, as embodied in the



Khartoum Declaration adopted by the International Conference on the Human Dimension of Africa's Economic Recovery and Development which was held in Khartoum, the Sudan, from 5 to 8 March 1988 and whose findings and recommendations we now commend to all concerned including especially the donor countries and regional and international development finance institutions.

12. Moreover, while bearing in mind the various initiatives taken recently by the international community, particularly bilateral donors, international organizations especially multilateral funding agencies as well as the various specialized development funds, we remain gravely concerned at the continuing unfavourable situation in the international economic environment particularly the very dim prospects for the fulfillment of the assurances made by the international community in the UN-PAAERD for adequate financial and technical support as well as the right external environment to support Africa's own domestic efforts at recovery and development.

13. We are particularly concerned at the disproportionately low level of net actual resource flows to Africa; the continuing slump in commodity prices; the aggravation of the excruciating debt burden of African countries which at the end of 1987 amounted to about \$US 218.2 billion for the region as a whole and has reached unsustainable levels in some countries; and the generally deteriorating social and economic conditions in our countries.

14. We reiterate our faith in our own abilities and are now more determined than ever before to redress the economic and social crisis of the 1980s and to enter the 1990s with new hopes, expectations, determination and commitment to not only uplift our economies from the situation but also to ensure true economic recovery and self-sustained growth. To this end, we re-dedicate ourselves to the principles and objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa and the Final Act of Lagos 1/ adopted by our Heads of State and Government at their economic summit held in Lagos, Nigeria, on 28 and 29 April 1980. We resolve to continue to pursue with renewed vigour and with all possible means within our reach the implementation of the provisions of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER) 2/ adopted by our Heads of State and Government at the twenty-first ordinary session of their Assembly held in July 1985 as well as of those of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) 3/ adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its thirteenth special session in June 1986. We are convinced that the full realization of these programmes is the best hope that Africa has for achieving economic recovery and laying the basis for long-term economic growth and development.

15. Indeed, we are convinced more than ever before that in the light of the prevailing observed limitations and constraints to recovery and development and especially the mounting external debt-service obligations and instabilities

1/ A/S-11/14 annex I and annex II.

2/ A/40/666.

3/ A/S-13/2 annex

in our export earnings, the road to national economic survival is inextricably linked to a strategy of regional co-operation and integration. To this end, the establishment and fostering of multilateral organizations and institutions for development, and the promotion of inter-country joint planning and programming within the framework of such organizations and institutions are important.

16. To this end, we resolve to redouble our efforts towards the strengthening of our common development policy organs and our subregional and regional organizations with a view to facilitating further the free movement of resources, goods and peoples; the greater sharing of knowledge; the elimination of inter-country conflicts; and the general enhancement of solidarity for the pursuit of accelerated structural transformation of our economies through more joint planning and programming, joint production, enhanced intra-African trade and the free movement of factor-inputs across our respective national borders.

17. We uphold the principle of enhancing economic co-operation and integration as the most effective formula for resolving our development problems and we resolve to ensure that the subregional and regional approach to the solution of national problems is fully integrated into national decision-making, planning, programming and project execution processes. We therefore pledge to increase our financial and material support to, and make greater use of the services available at each and all our regional and subregional technical institutions which are among the most effective instruments available to us for collective self-reliant growth and development.

18. We fully realize, as we have stated before in other forums, that in a world of economic and social interdependence, the African economic crisis cannot be viewed as an isolated phenomenon but as part of a wider global economic malaise. As such, we are convinced that our present and future national, subregional and regional efforts and programmes towards economic recovery and self-sustained growth need to be fully supported and complimented by similar actions and programmes at the international level. It is with this in mind and in the light of earlier commitments already undertaken towards Africa that we appeal to our partners in the developed countries to continue to lend their helping hand to our efforts.

19. In this regard to recall the main elements of the "Common African Position on Africa's External Debt Crisis" adopted by the Assembly of African Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its third Extraordinary Summit held from 30 November to 1 December 1987 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, which called for:

"(a) contributing effectively to improved international economic environment that will be conducive to economic recovery and accelerated development, through, in particular improved export prices for African primary commodities and removal of protectionism, quota and tariff measures impeding the export of African raw materials, manufactured and semi-processed goods to developed countries and defreezing of African funds in foreign banks;

- (b) increase resource flows to Africa through :
- increase in grants in bilateral assistance;
  - increase in the grant element in the financing of international and regional financial institutions;
  - reduction in interest rates and extension of the repayment period and grace period of financial and commercial loans for all types of new loans;
  - granting 50 years repayment and 10 year grace period for the repayment of all new loans;
- (c) the total amount of the debt service of a debtor country should not exceed a reasonable and bearable percentage of its export earnings;
- (d) conversion of all past official bilateral loans into grants;
- (e) suspension of external debt service payments for a period of 10 years, starting from 1988, the scheduled date for the holding of the International Conference on Africa's External Debt;
- (f) adoption of the following principles within the framework of the renegotiation of Africa's debt:
- Payment of part of official bilateral debt in local currency;
  - Reduction of real interest rates on existing loans, the lengthening of maturity and grace periods for private loans;
- (g) Multi-year rescheduling of a minimum of five years should be the norm, with maturities of at least 50 years, 10 years grace and zero rate of interest."

20. We also reiterate the call made by the Assembly of African Heads of State and Government for an International Conference on Africa's External Debt. At that conference, external debt issues, resource flows and export earnings should be considered in their interrelationships.

22. We reaffirm our confidence in the Economic Commission for Africa for the valuable role it has played and continues to play in the clarification of development concepts, identification of development problems and their solutions, dissemination of information. It has also been instrumental in promoting closer economic links among African Governments, catalysing awareness of the imperatives of regional economic co-operation and integration and particularly in the establishment of our various subregional and regional economic co-operation groupings.

22. We also call upon donor governments, the specialized agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations, regional and international development and financial institutions, to provide all possible technical and financial support to the Commission in its role as the main general economic and social development centre and team leader responsible for fostering development co-ordination and economic co-operation in Africa.

23. We pledge to increase our support to the Commission and particularly to its Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) so that they can intensify their role as catalysts for the accelerated integration of our economies through especially the identification, formulation and the promotion of the implementation of infrastructural and production-integrating programmes and projects. In this regard, we call upon the United Nations General Assembly and the Secretary-General of the United Nations to provide, in spite of the current financial crisis facing the Organization, adequate resources to strengthen the capabilities of the Commission.

24. We call upon the Executive Secretary of the Commission to spare no effort in providing all possible assistance to member States of the North African subregion in their current efforts to establish a preferential trade area. The early establishment of such a preferential trade area is desirable not only because it will complete the coverage of the continent by subregional economic co-operation groupings as explicitly stated in the Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic and Social Development of Africa and the Final Act of Lagos, but also because of the way in which it will help to enhance the process of integration between the countries of the subregion.

25. We warmly commend the spirit of co-operation that has existed between the Commission, the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations Development Programme, the African Development Bank and other regional and international organizations. We now call upon the Executive Secretary of the Commission, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, the President of the African Development Bank and heads of the other institutions, to continue to intensify their joint programmes of technical assistance and advisory services to our member States.

26. We have made this solemn declaration in the absolute faith in mankind and with the firm conviction that through our own efforts, individually and collectively and with the support of our partners in the rest of the world, we can resolve the present African economic and social crisis and lay firm foundations for self-sustained growth and development. We have also made this declaration in the hope and belief that the commitment already made by the developed countries and international development and financial institutions to support our efforts will be implemented to the fullest extent.