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UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Multinational Programming and Operational
Centre (ECA/MULPOC) for Eastern and
Southern African States

First meeting of the Intergovernmental
Committee of Experts

18 - 22 March, 1991
Lusaka, Zambia

REPORT OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS
OF THE LUSAKA-BASED MULPOC, 18-22 MARCH, 1991
LUSAKA, ZAMBIA

A. INTRODUCTION

1. The First meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the Lusaka-based MULPOC was held in Lusaka, Zambia from 18 - 22 March, 1991. It was the first meeting of the Committee convened in accordance with Resolution 702 (XXV) of the ECA Conference of Ministers on Transforming and strengthening the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) of the Economic Commission for Africa.

B. OPENING OF THE MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND PROGRAMME OF WORK

Opening of the meeting (Agenda item 1)

2. The meeting which was officially opened by Hon. John Chizu, Minister of State, National Commission for Development Planning of the Republic of Zambia, was chaired and called to order at 10.10 hours on Monday, 18 March, 1991 by Mr. M.S. Mwale, Assistant Director at the Ministry of Finance and National Commission for Development Planning and leader of the delegation of the Republic of Zambia.

Attendance

3. The meeting was attended by delegates from the following States members of the Lusaka-based MULPOC: Angola, Botswana, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

4. Observers from the following States not members of the Lusaka-based MULPOC were present: Egypt, Libya and Yugoslavia.

5. The following United Nations Agencies and Intergovernmental Organizations attended as observers: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) for Eastern and Southern African States, the Southern Africa Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC), the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI), the Eastern and Southern Africa Trade Promotion and Training Centre (ESATPTC) and the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) of Azania.

Election of Officers (Agenda item 2)

6. The outgoing Chairman introduced the agenda item relating to the bureau. The following officers were elected as proposed and supported by delegates:

Chairman: Mr. M.S. Mwale, Assistant Director,
National Commission for Development
Planning, Republic of Zambia

Vice-Chairman: Mr. B.T. Motlhalamme, Counsellor,
Botswana High Commission, Lusaka

Rapporteur: Mr. J.W. Munyiri, Counsellor,
Kenya High Commission, Lusaka

7. After election, the incoming Chairman and members of his bureau were called to assume office.

8. Upon assuming office, Mr. Mwale congratulated the outgoing Chairman (Zimbabwe) and his bureau for their untiring efforts in promoting the ideals for which the MULPOC was established. He further thanked the delegates for their confidence in electing him personally and his Government to the Chair.

C. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Agenda item 3)

9. The meeting adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the draft agenda:

Part I: Reports on the MULPOC Work Programme

4. Survey of Economic and Social Conditions of member States of the subregion, 1989-1990
5. Implementation of Africa's Priority Programme of the United Nations Programme of Action in the sub-region from 1986-1990
6. Evaluation of Progress in Economic Integration in Eastern and Southern Africa: 10 years after the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) for Eastern and Southern African States

7. Human Resources Development

8. Work of Special Committees, subsidiary organs and other special issues:

- (a) Rationalization and harmonisation of the activities of PTA, SADCC, Lusaka-based MULPOC and other IGOs in Eastern and Southern Africa subregion
- (b) Report on the work of the Committee of Heads of Diplomatic Missions of member States of the Lusaka-based MULPOC accredited to Zambia
- (c) Report on the work of Southern Africa Labour Commission (SALC)
- (d) Report on the work of the Subregional Technical Committee for PADIS

Part II: Issues, studies and reports in support of the formulation of subregional programmes and projects for development in Eastern and Southern Africa

9. Sectoral reports:

- (a) Food and agriculture development
- (b) Industrial development
- (c) Transport and communications
- (d) International trade and development finance
- (e) Energy and development
- (f) Environment and development

Part III: Technical support and operational activities

10. Operational activities

Part IV: Promotion and strengthening of subregional economic co-operation and integration

- 11. Re-organisation of the MULPOC; follow-up on the report of the evaluation mission to review the achievements of the MULPOCs with a view to strengthening them and making them more effective

12. Measures for strengthening the economic integration process among the African subregions

Part V: Programme of work and priorities of the MULPOC

13. Implementation of the Programme of Work and Priorities 1988-1989; 1990-1991
14. Proposed Work Programme of the MULPOC for the biennium 1992-1993
15. ECA Multidisciplinary Regional Advisory Services (MRAG)
16. Preparations for the meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers: May 1991, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
17. Any other business
18. Date and venue of the next meeting
19. Adoption of the report
20. Closure of the meeting

10. The meeting agreed to work from 08.30 hours to 13.00 hours and from 14.30 hours to 18.00 hours; and also agreed on a flexible approach in its business, whereby agenda items were to be tackled as the related reports became available.

ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

11. In his opening remarks, the Hon. J.C. Chizu, Minister of State, National Commission for Development Planning of the Government of the Republic of Zambia welcomed all the delegates to Lusaka and informed the meeting that in accordance with Resolution 702 (XXV) of the ECA Conference of Ministers, the MULPOC would henceforth meet at experts level and report direct to the ECA Conference of Ministers. The Minister further welcomed Namibia as the nineteenth member of the Lusaka-based MULPOC following its independence in March 1990 and hoped that peace would prevail in Angola and Mozambique to create conditions for meaningful economic integration.

12. In referring to the agenda items on economic integration in the subregion Hon. Chizu reminded the meeting of the importance of establishing an African Common Market and noted the benefits which would follow from the economies of scale and the increase in Africa's bargaining power. He further referred to the deteriorating international economic environment which had affected the economies of the Africa region negatively. He noted, in particular, the impact of the Gulf Crisis.

13. The Minister stated that in view of scarce and limited resources, rationalization of activities of PTA, SADCC, the Lusaka-based MULPOC and other IGOs in the subregion was very important and that appropriate recommendations be made thereon. Other important topics for discussion were on the assessment of the implementation of Africa's Priority Programmes for Economic Recovery and Development (APPER) (1986-1990), Human Resources Development, Transport and Communications, International Trade and Development Finance, Natural Resources, Energy and Environment. The meeting was also expected to examine the MULPOC's work programme. Finally, he congratulated the ECA/MULPOC for fulfilling its obligations but hoped that increased manpower would be forthcoming to the MULPOC through the secondment of national civil servants.

14. The Minister wished the delegates fruitful deliberations and declared the meeting open.

15. In his statement read on his behalf by Mr. D.W.M. Mzumara, Officer-in-Charge of the Lusaka-based MULPOC, Prof. Adedeyo Adedeji, Under Secretary-General of the United Nations Organisation and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa expressed appreciation to the Government of Zambia for hosting the meeting at short notice. He further welcomed Namibia which upon independence in March 1990 became the nineteenth member of the Lusaka-based MULPOC and the fifty-first of the ECA.

16. Professor Adedeji stated that the meeting was of special significance in the sense that it was the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts which would henceforth directly report to the ECA Conference of Ministers. This followed resolution 702 (XXV) of the 1990 ECA Conference of Ministers which abolished the Council of Ministers as a policy organ of the Lusaka-based MULPOC. He analysed the economic situation in the region and concluded that the prospects for meaningful recovery were bleak. Africa's doldrums were exacerbated by the Gulf Crisis. He stated that overall economic performance in 1990 was encouraging though not satisfactory enough to keep pace with population growth. As a result of the population factor, GDP continued to decline in per capita terms by 0.2 per cent.

17. He also indicated that because of improved weather conditions there was growth in agricultural output of 3.4 per cent in 1990 - the third time the growth rate was above the population growth rate in the past two decades. Accordingly, food imports decreased by 12 per cent from the previous year. Other sectors such as industry and mining also improved their economic performance. Prof. Adedeji stated that if weather conditions continued to prevail the Eastern and Southern African subregion would continue to compare well with other subregions in economic performance.

18. Prof. Adedeji, then referred to the MULPOCs which he said had been the subject of a review which was requested by the United Nations General Assembly. He indicated that in 1990 the ECA Conference of Ministers had considered a report by the review team established for the purpose and adopted a revised mandate for the MULPOCs and recommended an augmentation of their resources. The Executive Secretary was pleased that the General Assembly had accepted the recommendations and indicated that the resources of the MULPOCs would accordingly be increased.

19. Finally, Prof. Adedeji invited the meeting to carefully consider the draft programme of work and priorities for the biennium 1992-1993. He also informed the meeting of the establishment of an ECA Multidisciplinary Regional Advisory Group (ECA-MRAG).

Survey of economic and social conditions of member States of the subregion, 1989-1990 (Agenda item 4)

20. A representative of the secretariat introduced document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/03. He informed the Committee that data for the survey of economic and social conditions had been obtained from as many countries of the subregion as possible, and that as much as possible, the most current data, had been used. The Survey included an overview of the international economic and social situation, the capital formation activities by way of priority sectoral development assessment; monetary and financial sector developments, and human resources and social dimensional status assessment.

21. It was noted that there had been a general recovery in the world economy during 1987/1989 with output growth of 4.1 per cent in relation to 4.2 per cent overall growth in GDP of developing countries which had decelerated to 3.6 per cent in 1989.

22. The subregion had been most severely affected by the Gulf Crisis and that with the exception of Angola, retail oil prices had risen sharply. In combination with falls in prices of coffee, major exports of Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, overall output growth of the subregion declined to 2.5 per cent in 1990. It was further explained that the 2.5 per cent masked disparities and distortions: more so since high output rates were estimated for some countries and negative rates for others.

23. Agricultural production which continued to show signs of recovery since 1988 maintained that trend with output increasing in the order of 3 per cent and food deficiencies were reported in a number of countries.

24. In the field of energy development, animate energy continued to be marginalised with greater emphasis being put on large plant hydro-energy generation and woodfuel energy to the detriment of the environment.

25. High growth rates were recorded in the mining sector, and manufacturing output continued its upward trend with a value added rise of over 5 per cent. Factors for such developments were reviewed and their contribution to the economies of the subregion assessed.

26. Most devastating in the human resources and social dimensions was the conflict situation in Ethiopia, Angola, Mozambique and Somalia; and to some extent Uganda; in all where millions of lives had been lost, other maimed, with children suffering untold psychological trauma and many being displaced and families disrupted. Inadequate resources had not been generated to sustain essential human resources quality enhancing and life sustaining programmes such as population policies and programmes, maternal and child health and preventive and curative physical, mental and environmental/occupational health. The growing addiction to drugs was reviewed with concern.

27. The meeting took note of the report and recommended that the secretariat introduce more macro-economic indicators in the survey and that annexes of country briefs and summary tables pertaining to the Eastern and Southern African countries should, as much as possible be annexed to the report.

Report of the Subregional Workshop on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD) 1986-1990 and African Charter for Popular Participation in Development. (Agenda item 5)

28. In presenting document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/05, a representative of the secretariat informed the meeting that a workshop on assessment of the implementation of UN-PAAERD, and the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development was held in Lusaka, Zambia from 11 to 15 March, 1991.

29. The secretariat informed the meeting that the report of the workshop contained several conclusions and recommendations. The most important recommendation was that UN-PAAERD be extended for a further period of five years. Other recommendations were related to the food and agriculture sector, the development of a network for monitoring implementation of socio-economic adjustment and transformation for Eastern and Southern African countries, policy framework for operationalization of the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-Economic Recovery and Transformation. To this effect, African Governments were urged to use the following policy instruments: Differential Interest Rates Policy and Selective Credit Control (DIRP-SCC), Multiple Exchange Rate System (MERS) and Price Support Policies (PSP). Other recommendations were in respect of the

African Charter for Popular Participation in Development where a wide range of recommendations relating to the strategy to bring about the full involvement of all sections of the population in the development process were made.

30. The meeting considered the recommendations on Popular Participation at length particularly with regard to the responsiveness of the bureaucracy to the changes taking place, public service ethics and productivity, the attitudes and motivation of public servants and the possible dissipation of skills and knowledge.

31. The meeting recommended that the idea of popular participation should be kept alive, that ECA should study the problem of civil service motivation so as to sustain a dynamic and responsive civil service. The meeting then endorsed the report and its recommendations.

Evaluation of Progress in Economic Integration in Eastern and Southern Africa: 10 years after the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area (Agenda item 6)

32. In introducing document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/05, a representative of the secretariat explained that the study examined the origins of and rationale for economic integration in Africa. He traced its origin since the Monrovia Declaration, 1979 and the Lagos Plan of Action and its Final Act of 1980 where specific measures to achieve an African Common Market by the year 2000 had been laid down. He cited the two stages of implementation, namely 1980-1990, and 1990-2000 and outlined the main features of the first phase.

33. The objectives of the evaluation was to draw lessons from the conception, planning and implementation of the process of integration and propose measures for its enhancement. To this effect, the evaluation study examined major objectives of the subregional Intergovernmental Organizations and singled out the PTA as the one established to fulfill the commitment of the LPA and its Final Act.

34. The concepts of "economic integration", "economic co-operation" and the related stages were reviewed and the PTA Treaty analyzed. The following weaknesses of the Treaty were singled out:

- non infringement in the sovereignty of its membership, or non supranationality;

- non restriction of the countries' accession to the Treaty;

- absence of non-market provision and objectives to reduce non-market conflicts; and
- absence of planning provisions.

35. The report revealed that despite some modest progress, the implementation of the integration process in the 1980s was constrained by several factors, both external and internal including disappointing economic performance. Apart from the poor performance of the trade sector, the transport and communications sector has not effectively served to promote integration in trade, agriculture, industry and various other support services. This was associated with inter alia, the dismal performance of the UNTACDA. Other issues analysed included the role of direct foreign investment (FDI) in the integration process, the role of member States and the lack of co-ordination and harmonisation in planning among member States of the subregion.

36. In conclusion it was indicated that PTA was still at the stage of establishing a free trade area where tariffs and quotas would be eliminated. There was therefore need to enhance progress towards integration if an African Common Market was to be realized by year 2000. Specific measures to enhance trade expansion and monetary harmonization had been proposed. In addition, major changes involving popular participation were underlined.

37. In the ensuing discussion delegates commended the evaluation as well researched. It was pointed out that African governments should be careful about the role of foreign direct investment. It was proposed that a code of conduct for TNCs should be devised for the PTA subregion. The importance of economic integration and the need to develop indigenous entrepreneurship and focus on production of tradeable goods was stressed.

38. The meeting took note of the report and endorsed the conclusion that popular participation was extremely crucial if integration was to have any spillover effect.

Human Resources Development (Agenda item 7)

39. In introducing document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/22 a representative of the secretariat underscored the already critical importance of human resources and its social dimensions as (i) central focal point in the development agenda,

(ii) the primary resource and wealth of nations, (iii) the object and subject of the development effort, (iv) the ultimate beneficiary of the development process; and whose (v) state is the penultimate measure of success in the development process. Consequently the importance of effective management of the critical functions of (i) planning, (ii) development, (iii) provision of opportunities for wage employment and entrepreneurial self-application, and (iv) utilization audit and protection from impairment, waste and operational paralysis assumed a sense of urgency.

40. He explained what was envisaged in LPA/FAL, UN-PAAERD, and other policy documents and subsidiary human resources development management policy organs of the Commission in the development of a comprehensive human resources and social dimension policy, institutional machineries, the development of professionally trained staff with pre-requisite competencies in each of the four critical areas of human resources development management. He then went on to invite the Committee to reflect on the extent to which this had been attained. He observed that there were gaps and constraints along the way and noted that success varied from country to country; and that success had been constrained by a number of factors including conceptual and definitional issues, programmes scope, organizational and staffing issues and funding limitations.

41. In the afore-mentioned context, the secretariat went on to propose a policy and institutional framework to correct the constraining elements, to serve as a guide for administrative actions in evolving a national view point in developing the required organizational and policy elements as highlighted in the document. In the end, it proposed a plan of action for a consultative framework in the formulation of the required policy and development of mechanisms for member States' consideration and follow up to operationalize; and in which operationalization effort, the MULPOC would technically support, and advise as required as and when called upon. The secretariat then invited the Committee to consider the proposals and endorse for their back home follow-up and operationalization.

42. In subsequent discussions, observers for ESAMI, UNESCO and SADCC stressed the cardinal role of human resources, the importance of effective management of its planning, development, provision of opportunities for wage employment and entrepreneurial self application, and above all protecting it from impairment. They then indicated their readiness to collaborate with the MULPOC in offering technical support and advice to member States in operationalizing the proposals laid in the document.

43. Consequently, the Committee noted with satisfaction and commended the secretariat for the high quality of the document.

44. The meeting endorsed and commended for member States' action, the proposals at pages 36, 37, 38 and 39 for the establishment of new or strengthening, realigning or transforming the existing machineries.

45. The meeting further recommended that:

- (a) the OAU, ECA/MULPOC, ILO and UNESCO, closely co-operate and collaborate in their advisory service and technical support to the concerned IGO's, member States and Governments in their consultations towards the realization of the afore-mentioned institutional transformation, policy analysis and formulations in furtherance of said sectoral integration.
- (b) the transformation process take into consideration, the existing regional and subregional machineries; and the need to fall in line with the related human resources and social planning and development mechanism as provided for in the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community.
- (c) in addition to existing centres of excellence in Technical Training and Research (Nairobi), Social Research (Tripoli), Engineering Design (Ibadan and Dakar), Aerial Survey and Mapping (Nairobi), etc., subregional centres of excellence for Productivity and Entrepreneurship Research and Training should be established.

Report on rationalization and harmonization of the activities of PTA, SADCC, Lusaka-based MULPOC and other IGOs in Eastern and Southern Africa (Agenda item 8 (a))

46. In introducing document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/06, a representative of the secretariat explained that the purpose of the report was to respond to and provide comments to a PTA initiated study on the subject of rationalization and harmonization of the activities of PTA, SADCC, Lusaka-based MULPOC and other IGOs in Eastern and Southern Africa in response to a request of member States on the subject.

47. He stressed the catalytic and technical support role of the MULPOC as an operational arm of the ECA. He emphasized that the MULPOC was not an IGO, not an institution competing with or duplicating the activities of the IGOs, more so since the MULPOC had assisted the member States in the establishment of some of the IGOs, notably PTA.

48. He noted the MULPOC's lack of effectiveness and technical capability and recounted actions taken by ECA to redress the situation by filling the post of an agricultural economist, addition of a new post of a mining engineer, the deployment of a Regional Adviser post in economic co-operation and integration and administrative support service posts.

49. He informed the meeting of the recently intensified inter-secretariat consultations and cited the presence of some of the IGOs at the meeting in way of example.

50. In conclusion, he recognised the existence of duplication between and among IGOs and indicated the MULPOC's position of being able to assist in the establishment or maintenance of a machinery for rationalization, harmonisation, realignment and ensuring complementarity in the activities of the IGOs with a view to sustaining the on-going momentum and efforts towards the establishment of a common market and the envisaged Economic Community.

51. In his report on the subject, the outgoing Chairman recounted his actions and the communications to the Chairpersons and the Chief Executives of the IGOs, and added that subsequent action had to await the outcome and analysis of a PTA study on the subject. Consequently, the meeting of Chief Executives of the IGOs had not taken place. Further, even though the report was on hand, the PTA Council of Ministers had not finalized its discussion.

52. In the ensuing discussion some delegations proposed deferring consideration of the agenda item and others insisted that it be discussed. Delegates stressed that the IGOs in the subregion should avoid duplication and move in the same direction.

53. The observer for OAU cautioned against the proliferation of IGOs and underlined the need to harmonise activities towards the implementation of the African Economic Community. He informed the meeting, in that connection, that the community's treaty would be signed in Abuja, Nigeria in June 1991.

54. The observer for SADCC informed the Committee of the on-going inter-secretariat consultations aimed at enhancing co-operation and reducing duplication of activities.

55. The meeting commended the secretariats for their collaborative efforts. Delegates observed that the MULPOC should play an enhanced role in those efforts and called for an increase in the MULPOCs' resources.

56. In reply the secretariat observed that member wStates could also contribute to the MULPOCs resources by pledging to UNTFAD.

57. The meeting took note of the report and called for an action oriented resolution to avoid duplication of activities and urged for a further technical study which would examine the role, functions and interests of all IGOs and participating member States.

Report on the work of the Committee of Heads of Diplomatic Missions of member States of the Lusaka-based MULPOC accredited to Zambia (Agenda item 8 (b))

58. Document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/07 was introduced by a representative of the secretariat. He outlined the major issues reviewed by the Committee at its Second meeting held in Lusaka, Zambia from 15 - 16 March, 1990.

59. The main issues which were considered by the Committee included the following: (a) implementation of the 1988/1989 work programme. Under this item the Committee was informed of a 100 per cent implementation rate of all programmed activities; (b) under the harmonization of the activities of the Lusaka-based MULPOC and those of PTA, SADCC and other IGOs in the subregion, it was indicated that progress had been forestalled if not overtaken by PTA's action in commissioning and carrying out a similar study; (c) with regard to actions to strengthen MULPOC's capacity, the Committee was requested to urge their member governments to second civil servants to the Lusaka MULPOC as agreed upon by the March 1989 Council of Ministers meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe; (d) the need to establish focal points in member States of the Lusaka MULPOC for the purpose of enhancing communications was underscored whereby the Committee had urged member States to communicate such contacts to the MULPOC; and finally the Committee reviewed the activities of ECA at sub-regional level and considered the administrative report and offered its counsel as appropriate.

60. In the ensuing discussion the meeting noted with satisfaction the existence of the Committee of Heads of Diplomatic Missions of member States of the Lusaka-based MULPOC which supervised the activities of the MULPOC in between the meetings of the policy organ. The Committee then recommended that the ECA/MULPOC should draw up a programme of its activities in good time for circulation to member States to allow them to prepare in reasonable time, for the secondment of national civil servants.

Report on the activities of the Southern Africa Labour Commission (SALC) (Agenda item 8 (c))

61. In presenting document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/08, a representative of the secretariat gave a brief background on the origins and objectives of SALC. The meeting was informed that although SALC had functioned as an Intergovernmental Organization since 1980, it was changed to a tripartite structure in 1990, where governments', trade unions' and employers' organizations were equal partners in the organisation. Similarly the objectives of SALC had been broadened from purely dealing with issues of migrant workers to a wider spectrum of issues of a socio-economic dimension.

62. The meeting was further informed of the activities of SALC in 1990 and 1991; major issues covered the (a) considerations and consultations for the establishment of an independent SALC secretariat by 1994; (b) the formulation of a tangible short-term and long-term work programme of SALC; and (c) continued consultations in working out modalities of co-operation and collaboration between SALC and SADCC.

63. The meeting was informed of the main cause of brain drain from the subregion, the acute unemployment problem in South Africa and alarming skills shortages, the on-going retrenchment of migrant workers and therefore the need for consultations between Liberation Movements and trade unionists in South Africa on the one hand and the labour supplier States on the other to discuss the future of migrant workers. The meeting was also informed of the need not only for designing contingency employment projects to absorb the thousands school leavers, but, due attention was also being accorded to projects involving women in the informal sector.

64. The secretariat reported that SALC had decided to introduce an expanded priority programme of activities for the period 1991-1995 particularly in the operational activities. This would entail additional resources. A representative of ESAMI informed the meeting that his organization was ready to assist SALC in management and skills training programmes.

65. The meeting noted the report on the activities of SALC and recommended that:

- (a) the problem of unemployment in Southern Africa was so dramatic that it should be brought to the attention of the Ad Hoc Committee of the OAU Heads of State and Government monitoring events in the subregion;

- (b) the ECA and the international donor community should be urged to provide resources for the implementation of SALC operational activities;
- (c) ECA MULPOC and other UN agencies be urged to undertake indepth studies on strategies for improving the unemployment problem in the subregion, particularly youth unemployment.

Report on the work of the subregional technical committee for Pan African Documentation and Information System (PADIS)
(Agenda item 8 (d))

66. A representative of the secretariat presented the report of the PADIS Subregional Technical Committee for Eastern and Southern Africa. He outlined the activities of PADIS in the subregion and the status of ESADIS. PADIS activities during the period 1989-1990 concentrated in the area of training, advisory services and provision of information to various institutions and individuals upon request.

67. Regarding the status of ESADIS, the representative of the secretariat informed the meeting that the Government of Zambia was in the process of identifying suitable staff to make the centre operational. In that connection a computer operator had already undergone training in Addis Ababa in computer networking, the use of MINISIS software and the operation of the HP computer system. The Committee was further informed of the problem of future financing of ESADIS.

68. The representatives of Zambia then assured the meeting that the Zambian Government was committed to making ESADIS operational as soon as possible and that government obligations as per agreement with the ECA were being honoured.

69. In the ensuing discussion, it was agreed that ESADIS was an important project, and that heavy investments had been put into the project by the ECA and the Government of Zambia. The meeting therefore recommended that:

- (a) member States, in collaboration with ECA, should approach the UNDP and other donors, e.g. USAID, EEC, NORAD, etc. to make financial contribution to ESADIS's operation;
- (b) member States and ECA should look into the possibility of accessing the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development and the member States to make pledges for ESADIS during the planned pledging Conference for PADIS;

- (c) efforts be made to sustain the operation of ESADIS and rejected the recommendation of the in-depth evaluation mission of PADIS which was carried out by UNDP, of suspending the establishment of sub-regional centres.

Food and agriculture (Agenda item 9 (a))

70. A representative of the secretariat introduced documents: ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/11, ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/13, ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/12, ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/14, ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/15 and ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/29. All six reports highlighted the precarious conditions obtaining in the food and agriculture sector of countries in Africa in general and of countries in the subregion in particular. The performance of the sector varied from country to country although in absolute terms, the growth rate of food and agriculture in the subregion had been low but positive. However, in per capita terms both food and agricultural production had shown a stagnant or declining trend during the last few years.
71. The declining trends had occurred despite a number of reform measures undertaken by countries in the subregion. These reforms have involved monetary, fiscal, pricing, and institutional policies. The six reports presented at the meeting examined a number of the reform measures with particular emphasis on their institutional aspects.
72. The reports call for more pragmatic reforms in the areas of agrarian transformation, food losses, forestry development, disaster preparedness with regards to food and agriculture, agricultural research, and labour migration. More attention needed to be paid on the positive role which women could play in the development process and efforts should be made to incorporate their requirements in the reform process. Additional effort had also to be made to ensure that policies were harmonized across national boundaries particularly with regards to forestry development, agricultural research and emergency preparedness and the distribution of food and agricultural products.
73. Finally, the reports called for increased co-operation between and among member countries of the subregion in the formulation and implementation of reform measures involving the food and agricultural sector.
74. The meeting took note of the documents and recommendations made.

Industrial development (Agenda item 9 (b))

75. A representative of the secretariat introduced three reports. Document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/28 reviewed the existing co-operation arrangements, identified and analysed mechanisms for implementing industrial strategies. It analysed the structure and potential of manufacturing industries in the subregion, and indicated that by international standards, the contribution of the manufacturing sector to total production was very low.

76. It was noted that development of raw materials as a basis for industrialization had been highly subordinated to external interests. Policies and measures for industrial integration and co-operation were reviewed and the main objectives of the PTA highlighted. The report went on to review and cite multinational industrial projects and enterprises in the sub-region that are currently being formulated to constitute the programme of the second IDDA.

77. The experience of both PTA and SADCC had so far demonstrated areas where co-operation was feasible and some modalities for co-operation which had worked.

78. It was recommended that governments of the Eastern and Southern Africa subregion should:

- (i) create confidence building measures and thereby create a conducive atmosphere towards each other to encourage the rate at which integration is realized;
- (ii) step up measures for encouraging and developing entrepreneurship including the use of incentive measures to attract would be entrepreneurs into the industrial sector;
- (iii) create or strengthen mechanisms and modalities for national implementation of projects under a ministerial committee; and that there should be a secretariat for the ministerial committee and the subcommittees should have a mechanism for co-ordination.

79. At the subregional level, measures should be taken to:

- (iv) continuously review and propose measures for reducing use of factor-inputs from outside the subregion;

- (v) co-ordinate further policy measures towards the outside world; and in particular with regard to attracting foreign investment and major factor inputs;
- (vi) establish a mechanism for inter-industry co-ordination; and co-operation;
- (vii) strengthen the co-ordination and exchange ideas and results among research institutions and centres of technology adaptation and ensure the diffusion of capabilities throughout the subregion;
- (viii) undertake an indepth study of the possible consequences of an eventual resolution of the South African question of the consequent entry of RSA in the integration effort of the Southern and Eastern African subregion.

80. Document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/27 reviewed the current status and the future potential for the production of copper semis and finished products in the subregion and the existing facilities for fabrication of wire rod, wire and extruded products. The subregional consumption of fabricated copper semis was estimated at 8,700 tons (in 1985) and a projected demand of 15,000 tons in 1995 and 20,000 tons by the year 2000. These demand figures did not include copper contained in the imported finished goods.

81. The work done by SADCC was noted and so also was the potential for expanding production of continuous cast rod for use by fabricators in the subregion. The market for flat rolled copper products was observed to be considerable in the subregion and it was recommended that capacity for flat products production should be established.

82. Document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/99 reviewed the current status and prospects for the potential development of the iron and steel industry in the subregion. Current co-operation efforts in the iron and steel subsector through the PTA and SADCC programmes and projects were noted. Whereas the problem of utilizing the existing installed capacity had been addressed, the issue of creating a demand for steel by developing steel consuming end - user industries had not been fully addressed. With that in mind, the main conclusion was that the subregion should address the question of diversification of production of other grades of steel which steel intensive subsectors could make use of.

83. The meeting took note of the three documents and the recommendations contained therein.

International trade and development finance (Agenda item 9 (d))

84. In introducing document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/23, the representative of the secretariat informed the meeting that the document was part of an overall review made by ECA on progress made in the gradual liberalization and facilitation of trade by the subregional groupings. This was done with a view to assist in the establishment of subregional common markets and economic communities.
85. Activities of the PTA, SADCC and SACU in liberalization and facilitation of trade in the subregion were reviewed. The approaches of PTA (integration) and SADCC (co-operation) were contrasted. It was stressed that the two were fundamentally different. SADCC was a sectorally programming and project oriented co-operation approach that foresees the increase in trade exchange as expected to result from sectoral co-operation with no liberalization measures but through facilitating intra-regional mobility of goods and services. While SADCC put greater emphasis on transport and communications, PTA undertook to gradually liberalize and eventually eliminate all barriers to trade in the subregion including common external tariffs. The missing gap was how the benefits of division of labour were to be distributed as there were no trade programmes in the SADCC action programme.
86. Trade facilitation measures had been undertaken at national, subregional and international levels with the bilateral measures forming the nucleus of subregional means of facilitating trade movement. All facilitation measures substantially reinforced the links and movement of goods and services between the productive sectors of agriculture, mining and industries.
87. Despite efforts made to facilitate and liberalize trade in the subregion, intra-trade remained insignificant. Reasons for such poor performance were elaborated including the existence of non-complementary industries due to similarities in structures resulting from import substitution policies. To improve intra-trade production needed to be boosted, measures should be undertaken by all concerned including the MULPOC to solicit funds for rehabilitation, revitalization, rejuvenation and rationalization of ailing manufacturing enterprises in the subregion and thus arrest the evident process of de-industrialization and re-orient import substituting industries.
88. A review of the activities of the groupings had revealed certain similarities and some overlapping since all SADCC member States were potentially members of PTA. It was then recommended that the organizations consider rationalizing and harmonizing their activities.

89. In the discussions that followed a number of options on how to avoid duplication of activities were put forward. It was further proposed that a study be undertaken to review the objectives of the institutions with a view to pinpointing whether one institution had encroached on the activities of the other. In this context, the secretariat explained that such a study had already been undertaken and its conclusions and recommendations had been commented upon and clarifications had also been the subject of the committee's first discussion. As they were due to be considered by the PTA Council of Ministers it was then proposed that the committee: (i) endorse the MULPOC's comments and clarifications; (ii) urge the on-going efforts for increased contact and consultations between the IGO's secretariats with the assistance of the MULPOC which should as necessary be given added impetus.

90. The meeting took note of the report and the recommendations.

Energy and development (Agenda item 9 (e))

91. A representative of the secretariat presented document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/16 on the subject of "Economics of Ethanol Production and Utilization in some Eastern and Southern African member States of the Lusaka-based MULPOC as a means of Enhancing Biomass Energy Utilization and curtailing the use of imported oil for Transport". The meeting was informed that ethanol had become an interesting option for direct substitution for petroleum derived fuels in the transport sector. Decreasing energy access had not only eroded economic and social progress but even survival prospects in the most affected countries. The two key factors in the decline were:

- (a) the price of oil imports which remained high up to the mid-1980s. Although the decline thereafter provided a measure of relief, it was not sufficient for a turn around. The Gulf Crisis sent prices of oil back to the high levels;
- (b) the import prices of energy supply and utilization technologies that continue escalating with inflation in the industrial countries given the fact that African countries are importing almost all energy technologies they need. Hence the relevance and interests of the initiatives taken in the early 1980s by Kenya, Malawi and Zimbabwe in turning to a biomass energy resource to alleviate the adverse impact of petroleum imports with particularly notable success in Malawi and Zimbabwe.

92. Ethanol is produced by fermentation and distillation from biomass and particularly cane molasses, a residue of sugar production. Ethanol can be used in standard, in modified car engines, in a blend of up to 20 per cent of petrol fuel. In such substitution, ethanol could be competitive at oil price levels of US\$30/35 per barrel and could offer positive effects on the balance of payments and on economic growth at prices down to US\$18 per barrel. As a result of the ethanol project, Malawi had saved up to US\$4 million and Zimbabwe US\$2.4 million annually in foreign exchange costs of oil products that would have had to be imported in the absence of ethanol production.

93. In conclusion, attention was drawn to the greater interest that the experience of the two countries held for other countries possessing a well established sugar industry that had large surplus of low value molasses such as Swaziland. Countries interested in launching production of fuel ethanol from molasses should, as a first step, visit plant technology suppliers including Zimbabwe which furnished a full 60 per cent of the technology in its plants. Visits should also be arranged to the plants in operation in Malawi and Zimbabwe before a decision on the source and choice of technology.

94. The meeting noted the report and the recommendations contained there in.

Environment and development (Agenda item 9. (f))

95. In introducing document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/17 a representative of the secretariat pointed out that the United Nations Conference on Environment (UNCED) 1992 would mark twenty years after the first World Conference on Human Environment held in Stockholm in 1972, and that UNCED would be a review conference of the achievements between then and now. Whereas the 1972 Conference dealt with the whole environment as an issue, the 1992 one would deal with selected issues that were of emerging priority in sustaining development through sound environmental management. It was within that context that the nine issues of the 1992 conference were chosen.

96. The nine issues for UNCED - 1992 are of concern to Africa, however, not all of them commanded the same priority interest. The UNCED - 1992 would be a negotiating conference on programme priorities for the regions/countries, therefore Africa must participate actively. Africa must come up with a position for the conference which would reflect her understanding of the issues as they affect her and the determination to actively address them.

97. In this regard, the Committee was informed of the Global Environmental Facility Fund (GEFF) which has been set for this purpose with an initial contribution of about one billion US dollars.

98. Information on other cross-cutting agenda themes which were agreed upon by the second preparatory committee held in Nairobi were also reviewed. These included:

- (i) Conventions (especially on climate change, biodiversity and possibly forestry) to be negotiated prior to the conference;
- (ii) An "Earth Charter" - to ensure a sustainable common future;
- (iii) An agenda for action, "Agenda 21" - to provide concrete measures for implementation of programmes following the Conference;
- (iv) Financial resources for financing agenda 21;
- (v) Technology transfer - measures to ensure favourable access to, and transfer of environmentally sound technologies, in particular to developing countries;
- (vi) Institutions - measures for strengthening existing institutions, notably UNEP.

99. Finally, the secretariat urged all African countries, particularly those in the subregion and their intergovernmental organisations to participate fully in the UNCED 1992 preparatory process by reviewing and updating their environmental conservation strategies in order to formulate a stand for presentation at the regional conference to be held in Cairo. Member States should assist ECA in consolidating the African position and strategy for UNCED - 1992.

100. Delegates requested further information on: (i) venue of the remaining UNCED preparatory committees; and (ii) UN agency charged with responsibility for assisting member States in formulating strategies.

101. The observer for OAU wondered why the population issue was not included in the nine UNCED issues. In response it was indicated that all issues were negotiable, and depended on regional priorities.

102. The meeting took note of the document.

Operational Activities (Agenda item 10)

103. A representative of the secretariat introduced document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/24. He explained the background, purpose and objectives of the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD).

104. The Committee was informed that UNTFAD provided member States with a medium for the practical expression of their commitments in supporting the formulation and implementation of strategies for collective self-reliance. It was noted that pledges to the Fund, and the payment of those pledges left a lot to be desired.

105. Countries which had pledged and paid part of the pledged contributions were: Kenya, Lesotho, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia. Countries which had pledged and paid all their pledged contributions were: Botswana, Cape Verde, Ethiopia, Mauritius, Somalia, Swaziland, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Malawi. The following six countries have so far not made any contributions to UNTFAD: Angola, Comoros, Djibouti, Madagascar, Mozambique and Seychelles.

106. The Committee was then informed that their contribution under UNTFAD already supported two projects in the Lusaka-based MULPOC; one for administrative support and another for the secondment of national civil servants.

107. The representative of the secretariat then appealed to member States to make contributions to the Fund.

108. The meeting took note of the document.

Re-organisation of the MULPOC's: follow-up on the report of the evaluation mission to review achievements of the MULPOCs' with a view to strengthening them and making them more effective
(Agenda item 11)

109. In introducing document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/19 a representative of the secretariat informed the meeting that the evaluation stemmed from a resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1988. Consequent upon the resolution, an evaluation team was established to review the structure, organization, functioning and resources of the MULPOCs. The team visited all the five MULPOCs of the region and interviewed people whose functions had a direct bearing on the work of the MULPOCs. The team concluded that the relevance of the MULPOCs remains as valid as ever; however, there was a need for rationalization of activities of IGOs in their respective subregions. It pointed out the gross inadequacy of resources made available to the MULPOCs had contributed to their in-

effectiveness. It therefore recommended that an Intergovernmental Committee of Experts should replace the MULPOC Council of Ministers and that the resources of the MULPOCs should be augmented.

110. The report of the evaluation team was considered and adopted by the Sixteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers in May 1990 and subsequently by the second regular session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council and the United Nations General Assembly.

111. The present meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts was therefore in its new capacity. Further, additional posts for a mining engineer and two local level posts had been programmed for the biennium 1992-1993 following the report's adoption by the General Assembly.

112. It was further stated that strengthening of the MULPOCs was consistent with ECA's policy of decentralization and its continued stake in the efficient operation of MULPOCs. The precarious financial situation of the United Nations precluded it from providing all the needed resources to the MULPOCs immediately, however the provision of resources to the MULPOCs was a continuing process moving side by side with the United Nations biennial programming exercise. Attention was also drawn to the newly constituted ECA Multidisciplinary Regional Advisory Group (MRAG) which was also expected to assist in enhancing the performance of the MULPOCs.

113. In the ensuing discussion delegates observed that copies of the paper had not been made available to them. In the discussions, they cited incidents in support of the importance of the agenda item and urged UNECA to do more to increase the flow of resources to the MULPOCs. They referred to their expected resource contribution in making their national experts available for short-term assignments with their MULPOC. They further observed that the exercise would indigenise experts services in the subregion.

114. The meeting took note of the document and hoped copies would be made available before the next ECA Conference of Ministers.

Measures for strengthening economic integration among the African countries (Agenda item 12)

115. A staff member of the secretariat introduced document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/20.

116. He cited the Final Act of Lagos as the main and most recent authority that urged and solicited efforts to be geared towards the promotion of economic integration among the subregions of Africa. He drew attention to the inequitable availability of factor inputs in the various subregions of Africa and described the sacrifices and benefits which would result from an exercise for economic integration of the various subregions of Africa.

117. Various approaches had been taken in furtherance of economic integration among the subregions but without significant success. There was therefore a need for new approaches through rationalization and harmonization in the use of available factor inputs, trade and indigenisation of factor inputs.

118. Principles for promoting and strengthening economic integration among the subregion include the following:

- (i) gradual harmonisation and co-ordination of integration approaches;
- (ii) equal place to be taken towards common integration objectives;
- (iii) sectoral approaches;
- (iv) need for breaking of compartmentalisation;
- (v) need for harmonisation to be based on the endowments, potential and profile of each subregion.

119. The importance of an improved information system for collecting and disseminating information was underscored.

120. The main conclusions were:

- economic integration had not made much progress in Africa inspite of its early commencement;
- some approaches towards economic integration were unsuitable to present African situation with its low levels of industrialization and inefficient structures inherited from colonial times, etc.;

- insufficient political will and commitment of African States; and
- lack of grassroot participation.

121. In subsequent discussions, the meeting observed that the subject was similar to the item on "Evaluation of Progress in Economic Integration in Eastern and Southern Africa", ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/05", which had already been presented and discussed. It was observed that the main orientation was in search of feasible ways and means of strengthening economic integration among the subregions of Africa; and the role which member States could play in such an exercise was to be geared towards facilitating the establishment of an African Economic Community.

122. Delegates commended the study as a move towards strengthening co-operation among subregional economic groupings in Africa. They observed that some measures for promoting economic integration existed in the continent; it was the question of how to make them effective that was yet to be solved. They cited the transport development decade for Africa and Pan African Documentation and Information System (PADIS) as appropriate measures taken to enhance the process of integration in Africa. Some delegates emphasised the need for developing and homogenising human resources in the subregions. It was observed that the recommendations made reflected much pessimism. The observer from OAU informed the meeting that the Treaty establishing an African Economic Community has been drafted, examined by the OAU Ministerial Council and is to be submitted to the next OAU Summit for signing in June 1991. He emphasized the need for popularising the treaty among all segments of the community.

123. The meeting took note of the document and recommended that:

- appropriate staffing of subregional economic groupings should be made;
- OAU should convene regular meetings of chief executives of subregional economic groupings;
- regular collection and dissemination of information on integration matters among the subregions should be undertaken on a sustained basis;
- co-operation in the development and use of human resources needs to be undertaken;
- harmonization and co-ordination of economic integration activities should continue to be examined.

Implementation of the programme of work and priorities 1988-1989;
1990-1991 (Agenda item 13)

Proposed work programme of the MULPOC for the biennium 1992-1993
(Agenda item 14)

124. A representative of the secretariat introduced two documents in respect of agenda items 13 and 14. In introducing document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/21 he informed the Committee that the report on the implementation of the 1988-1989 activities had already been considered by the Committee at various stages and that the final report had been considered by the ECA Conference of Ministers. He went on to explain that while that part of the report was for noting only, the second part, for the period 1990-1991, was for consideration. The representative of the secretariat then reviewed performance during 1990-1991, and observed that 13 of the 15 programmed outputs had already been implemented. In addition, the secretariat was able to assist in the preparation of a technical paper on funding, as also in project formulation for two institutions of a public corporation and a subregional institution. It also serviced a workshop on the UN-PAAERD and Popular Participation Implementation status assessment.

125. In introducing document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/18, he explained that the work programme for the period 1992-1993 arose from the issues and concerns addressed by member States in various mandates including the Medium Term Plan.

126. Delegates welcomed the two reports and requested clarification on the Committee's mandate on the agenda item, and in a wider context the overall mandate of the Inter-governmental Committee of Experts. A representative of the secretariat explained that the Committee was expected to consider the 1990-1991 part of the performance report and the entire draft work programme for 1992-1993. The secretariat further undertook to look into the issue of the Committee's overall terms of reference.

127. The Committee took note of the two reports and endorsed the recommendations contained in document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/21 and endorsed also the programme of work and priorities contained in document ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/18.

ECA Multidisciplinary Regional Advisory Services (Agenda item 15)

128. In introducing this item, a representative of the secretariat referred to the brochure on the ECA Multidisciplinary Regional Advisory Group (ECA-MRAG) which was available to the Committee. The brochure outlined the origin, purpose and operational modalities of the Group.

129. He explained that ECA, through its work on the progressive clarification and modification of development concepts as they related to Africa, had succeeded in spearheading the establishment of a regionally - agreed body of policies and principles which were firmly rooted in multidisciplinary approach to development. There was now need to enhance the linkage between the normative research and analysis that the Commission carried out on the one hand, and the operational activities it undertook for the benefit of member States on the other. It had also become increasingly obvious that in the context of Africa's overriding objectives for structural adjustment and transformation, such operational activities must be carried out with greater coherence and flexibility of response within a multidisciplinary framework which took into account the interlocking requirements for strategy of national, subregional and regional levels.

130. ECA-MRAG had been established as a response to those felt needs. It was a task force composed of senior experts charged with the task of developing practical, flexible and coherent solutions to problems facing member States and their intergovernmental organisations within the priority areas through short-term advisory services. Six of the ten members of the Group present at the meeting were then introduced. The Group would, where possible provide suggestions regarding future programmes of action and investment scenarios. The Group was to be seen as an important supplement to the resources available at the Commission's five MULPOCs. Annual programming sessions would be held with those centres during the meetings of their respective Intergovernmental Committee of Experts. The Group was also to work closely with the specialized agencies of the United Nations operating in Africa.

131. In the ensuing discussion, the meeting welcomed the establishment of ECA-MRAG. It urged member States to call for the services of the group which were available to countries and their intergovernmental organizations at no cost. It nonetheless noted that the number of experts (ten) available in the group was far too small to cover the needs of all countries in the region.

132. The secretariat explained that ECA-MRAG was an evolving programme and that the success of the group depended on the number of requests for assistance it received from member States and their intergovernmental organizations. The more the number of requests received the easier it would be to justify requests for additional resources for the group from the General Assembly.

133. The Committee took note of the presentation by the secretariat, commended ECA for establishing the ECA-Multi-disciplinary Regional Advisory Group (ECA-MRAG).

Preparations for the meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers: May 1991, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (Agenda item 16)

134. A representative of the secretariat informed the Committee that the next meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers would meet in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 9 to 13 May, 1991. The Conference would be preceded by its Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TERCOW) which would meet from 29 April to 7 May, 1991. He informed the Committee that the theme of the ECA Conference of Ministers is Africa in the 1990s; meeting the challenges. Most documents for the Conference had already been distributed.

135. The Committee took note of the information.

Any other business (Agenda item 17)

136. Under this agenda item, a representative of the Nairobi-based Eastern and Southern Africa Trade Promotion and Training Centre (ESATPTC) announced a programme of activities of his organisation for 1991.

137. He went on to explain the position of his organisation on the question of harmonization and co-ordination of activities of PTA, SADCC, the Lusaka-based MULPOC and other IGOs in the subregion which was that the Lusaka-based MULPOC was best placed to play the role of a co-ordinating machinery. That would avoid the proliferation of institutions.

138. Concern was raised over the delegations not having received documents early enough for study and also over the lack of simultaneous interpretation facilities. The secretariat explained their outstanding requirement for sending documents to delegates six weeks in advance of the scheduled date of the meetings but regretfully this had not been possible.

139. As for the equipment, the secretariat explained that it had consulted with PTA and any other institution that would have it for hire or use. There was none at all; and that in the last resort the equipment had been requested from ECA headquarters, but due to transport problems, it has been delayed on the way and was due to arrive that evening albeit late.

140. Finally, with understanding, the meeting appealed to the secretariat to avail documents and the related interpretation equipment for its meeting in good time in order to allow for effective participation of member States.

Date and venue of the next meeting (Agenda item 18)

141. Under this agenda item, a representative of the Angolan delegation explained why it had not been possible to host the First meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts in 1991 in Luanda, Angola. He stated that because of the political and economic reform programme being undertaken in his country, it was not possible for Angola to host such meetings even in the near future. He, however, thanked Zambia for hosting the meeting at short notice.

142. There being no country offering to host the next meeting, it was agreed that the Chairman and the secretariat would consult with member States and once a venue was found, member States would be informed accordingly.

Adoption of the report (Agenda item 19)

143. On 22 March, 1991 after making necessary amendments the meeting adopted the present report.

Closure of the meeting (Agenda item 20)

144. During the closing session, the Officer-in-Charge of the Lusaka-based MULPOC appealed once again to the delegates to pledge resources under the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development for use by the Lusaka-based MULPOC during the ECA Conference of Ministers. He also appealed to member States to second their civil servants to the Lusaka MULPOC. A delegate from Angola gave a vote of thanks. On his part, the Chairman expressed gratitude to members of the Committee of Experts as well as observers for their co-operation and the cordial atmosphere that had prevailed throughout the meeting. He commended the secretariat for the good quality of the report and their support.

145. He then declared the meeting closed.

List of Documents

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
1. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/01	Provisional Agenda
2. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/02	Annotated Provisional Agenda
3. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/03	Survey of Economic and Social Conditions in Eastern and Southern Africa: 1989-1990
4. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/04	Implementation of Africa's Priority Programme of the United Nations Programme of Action in the subregion from 1986-1990
5. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/05	Evaluation of Progress in Economic Integration in Eastern and Southern Africa: 10 years after the establishment of the Preferential Trade Area (PTA)
6. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/06	Rationalisation and harmonisation of the activities of PTA, SADCC, Lusaka-based MULPOC and other IGOs in Eastern and Southern Africa
7. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/07	Report on the work of the Committee of Heads of Diplomatic Missions of member States of the Lusaka-based MULPOC accredited to Zambia
8. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/08	Report on the work of the Southern Africa Labour Commission (SALC)
9. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/09	Manufacture of steel products in the Eastern and Southern African subregion
10. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/10	Report on the work of the Subregional Technical Committee for PADIS
11. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/11	Evaluation of existing practices of conservation, management and exploitation of natural forests with a focus on investment projects and fuel-wood requirements in the Lusaka-based MULPOC countries

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
12. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/12	Experts of the Lusaka-based MULPOC progress of subregional activities in application of the results of research on the development of maize production in Eastern and Southern Africa within the context of the Subregional Maize Research Network
13. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/13	Experience on reduction of food losses through insect pest management
14. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/14	Disaster preparedness with emphasis on distribution of food and agricultural inputs
15. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/15	Effects of migrant mining labour on rural development
16. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/16	The economics of ethanol production and utilization in Eastern and Southern African countries
17. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/17	Preparation for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development 1992
18. ECA/LUS MULPOC/MIE/1/18	Proposed work programme of the MULPOC for the biennium 1992-1993
19. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/19	Re-organisation of the MULPOC: Follow-up on the report of the evaluation mission to review the achievements of the MULPOCs with a view to strengthening them and making them more effective
20. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/20	Measures for strengthening the economic integration process among the African subregions
21. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/21	Implementation of the Programme of Work and Priorities: 1988-1989; 1990-1991
22. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/22	Human Resources and social development management: Institutional development framework and action plan

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
23. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/23	Trade facilitation and liberalization within the subregional economic groupings: PTA, SADCC and SACU
24. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/24	United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD)
25. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/25	The role of the national coordination committees in the formulation and implementation of the Second UN Transport and Communications Decade in Africa
26. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/26	Subregional programmes of the Second United Nations Decade for Transport and Communications in Africa, 1991-2000
27. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/27	The potential for the manufacture of copper products
28. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/28	Mechanisms for enhancing industrial integration and co-operation within the subregion
29. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/29	Agrarian transformation in selected countries: policy, methodological and operational issues relating to agrarian structures
30. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/30	Progress report on the programmed activities of the centre covering the period from March 1989 to 1991
31. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/31	ECA Multidisciplinary Regional Advisory Services
32. ECA/LUS/MULPOC/MIE/1/32	Report of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts

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