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UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

First Meeting of the General Assembly of the Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations

Tangier, 2 - 6 September 1974

WORK FROGRAMME AND FRIORITIES (1974-1976)
OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN TRADE PROMOTION ORGANIZATIONS

(Submitted by the Ad-Hoc Committee of the Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations to the General Assembly)

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Proposed Man-months Requirements

#### Introduction

- 1. The work programme is drawn up in accordance with the functions of the Association as prescribed under its Constitution. The programme follows the requirements for the orderly development of intra-African trade as a main factor in Africa's economic development. It is drawn up bearing in mind that the basic role of the Association is "to foster contact and a regular flow of information and communication between African countries in trade matters and to assist in the harmonization of the commercial policies of African countries in order to promote intra-African trade",
- 2. To this end, the activities of the Association should be closely linked with those of the Africa Trade Centre of the Economic Commission for Africa, and those of the Organization of African Unity.
- 3. The programme is drawn up on two year basis which will conform with the meetings of the General Assembly. Projections have been made in some projects up to a further period of two years, i.e. 1976-1968 to provide a guideline for the future development of the Association's activities. Priorities are determined by the year as years in which the project is undertaken.

# Broad aims and objectives

- 4. To assist member countries of the Association in the development and expansion of intra-African trade.
- 5. To assist member countries in developing an appropriate external trade policy.

#### Work content

#### 6. Intra-African trade expansion

#### A. 1. Advisory services

- (1) To assist member countries in the establishment of national trade promotion centres (1974-1976) extended to 1978.
- (2) To assist member countries in establishing trade links between them especially the establishment of bilateral trade agreements (1974-1976) extended to 1978.
- (3) To advise member countries on how best intra-African payments arrangements can serve trade between them (1974-1976) extended to 1978.

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- (4) To assist member countries in the harmonization of commercial policy in intra-African trade.
- (5) To assist in the organization of and to participate in trade fairs and group emport activities (especially in relation to certain commodities).

### A. 2. Studies

- (1) Study of African trade policies with a view to formulating an action programme for promoting intra-African trade (1975).
- (2) Study on the establishment and working of national trade promotion centres (1974-1976).
- (3) Study of barriers, fiscal and monetary restrictions to trade, between member countries of the Association (1976).
- (4) Study on product identification for increasing intra-African trade flows (1976) extended to 1978.

### 7. External trade

#### B. 1. Advisory services

- (1) To assist member countries in identifying their external needs and in diversifying external trade contacts (1974-1976) extended to 1978.
- (2) To assist member countries in establishing priorities in external trade development (1974-1976) extended to 1978.

#### B. 2. Studies

- (1) Study of external trade flows of member countries to provide new guidelines for trade promotion activities (1976-1978).
- (2) Study of barriers to external trade of member countries especially with a view to diversifying their external trade relations (1976-1978).

# 8. Conferences, meetings, seminars and working groups

# C. 1. Conferences; meetings

- (1) Preparation of documentation and servicing of meetings of the General Assembly
- (2) Preparation and servicing of subregional conferences (1974-1976).

- (3) Participation in meetings of ECA of interest to the Association (1974-1976).
- C. 2. Seminars and working committees
  - (1) Ad hoc working committee to study the establishment of national association (1974-1975).

# Man-month requirements

- 9. Administrative matters are not provided for in manpower requirements estimates. Separate provision will have to be made for 3 months in 1974 and for the years 1975 and 1976 for:
  - 1 Administrative Finance Officer
  - 3 Secretaries (bilingual)
  - 1 Driver/Messenger
  - 1 Office Cleaner.
- 10. No man-months have been provided for under consultancy. This will depend on the nature of the work that the General Assembly Bureau wants done on an ad hoc basis e.g. shipping, study of customs tariffs, etc.
- 11. It is expected that the regular programme of work will be carried out by two professionals, appointed by the Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations, with the assistance from the Africa Trade Centre. Those duties which involve extensive travelling have been assigned to extra budgetary staff to minimise its incidence on the budget of the Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations. The interim secretariat will endoavour to obtain resources from bilateral and multilateral sources (See Annex).
- 12. Information and publication activities will be carried out by the Africa Trade Centre on behalf of the Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations. They are not shown in the manpower requirements estimates of the Association of African Trade Promotion Organizations.

# Related programmes and activities

13. Close collaboration with the Africa Trade Centre of the Economic Commission for Africa, and the Organization of African Unity.

ANNEX
Proposed Man-month requirements

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XB = Extra Budgetary
GS = Feneral Service

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To be provided by the ECA Africa Trade Centre
24 of which will be provided by the ECA Africa Trade Centre
Does not include 24 man-months fc Administrative Finance Officer and Translator
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