

54712

UNITED NATIONS
**ECONOMIC
and SOCIAL
COUNCIL**



Distr.
LIMITED
E / CN.14 / TECO / 7
31 December 1969
Original : ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
Technical Committee of Experts
Addis Ababa, 9-14 February 1970
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

TRADE AND ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION DIVISION

Review of activities undertaken in the implementation
of the Programme of Work and Priorities
of the Commission since the ninth session
(15 February 1969 - 8 February 1970)

TRADE AND ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION DIVISION

The following review has been prepared in response to resolution 188(IX) of the ninth session of the Commission, which establishes a Technical Committee of Experts to inter alia "assist the secretariat in the formulation of its work programme and priorities".

The review is organized on the basis of the project headings used in the programme of work and priorities as adopted by the ninth session (E/4651/Add.1). The activities of the Division have been set out against the headings relevant to the 1969 and 1970 programme. While this arrangement has the advantage of enabling each activity to be described, it creates difficulties in the description of activities that cannot be presented under these headings, such as requests from member States for assistance not included in the original work programme.

On the average 10 professional staff members and 3 regional advisers were engaged in carrying out the work of the Division during 1969.

Projects

5. The development of economic co-operation

(a) West African sub-regional meeting on economic co-operation

The institutional aspects of the West African sub-regional meeting on economic co-operation should be the concern of the West African regional group, while the work programme should be prepared in co-operation with ECA, after the completion of the general survey by the Centre for Development Planning, Projections and Policies (CDPPP).

The meetings at ministerial level and at the level of Heads of State and Government, scheduled for the end of 1968 to adopt a draft treaty for the establishment and organization of the regional group, did not take place.

In point of fact, the survey by the team from the Centre for Development Planning, Projections and Policies (West Africa) is not yet available.

Consequently, the West African sub-regional meeting on economic co-operation was postponed.

(b) Eastern African sub-regional meeting on economic co-operation

The purpose of the Eastern African sub-regional meeting on economic co-operation was to examine the report of the team from the Centre for Development Planning, Projections and Policies (East Africa). As the report is not yet available, the proposed meeting did not take place in 1969.

(c) North African sub-regional meeting on economic co-operation

This meeting should have taken place after the Conference of Ministers of Economic Affairs of the Maghreb Standing Consultative Committee. As that meeting was postponed, the member States of the Maghreb Standing Consultative Committee requested that the meeting on economic co-operation should also be postponed.

(d) Central African sub-regional meeting on economic co-operation

This meeting was held at Kinshasa from 17 to 22 November 1969. The participants adopted a number of resolutions which are available in document E/CN.14/CA/ECOP/13.

Meetings not included in the work programme

(a) The meeting of Heads of State and Government of Eastern and Central African States met at Lusaka in April 1969 and decided that a sectoral meeting on trade and tourism should be held in Kinshasa before the end of 1969, with the technical co-operation of ECA. The meeting took place from 19 to 23 December 1969.

(b) A paper on Multinational Planning, Economic Integration and Co-operation: the African Experience, was presented to the fifth Inter-regional Seminar on Development Planning, in Bangkok, Thailand, in September 1969. A member of the Division attended the seminar.

6. Studies on economic co-operation

(a) Organization of the sub-regions in Africa

A review of the organization and functions of the sub-regional groupings in Africa was presented to the Executive Committee in October 1969 (E/CN.14/ECO/13).

This study is to be completed by a document on the economic justification for the proposed new sub-regional groupings. The document is in course of preparation.

(b) Study of the prerequisites for multinational economic co-operation

The outline of this study is in course of preparation. The work will be carried out in 1970, and it is hoped that the study will be completed by the end of the first quarter.

(c) Study of the forms of institutional machinery suitable for different types and degrees of economic co-operation

This study will be undertaken in 1970.

(d) Manual of criteria for appraisal of gains and losses for an individual country in a multinational grouping

This manual will be prepared in 1970.

Studies not included in the work programme

(a) The ECA and the Centre for Development Planning, Projections and Policies (CDPPP) at the United Nations Headquarters have jointly organized two teams of experts (for West Africa and for Eastern and Southern Africa) to assist the countries of the two sub-regions in their efforts to strengthen their economic co-operation within the framework of the second United Nations Development Decade. The terms of reference of the two teams are:

- (i) To draw up a ten-year projection of development of these sub-regions within the framework of the United Nations second Development Decade, in particular the possible growth of demand for the products of industries which will require multinational co-operation and also probable growth of demand for food and agricultural raw materials;
- (ii) A programme for the development of multinational industries and of specialized agricultural production, the construction of transport links to support the plan for agricultural development, and to meet the problem of manpower requirements;
- (iii) To propose national and multinational measures and policies required to carry out the proposed programme for co-ordinated development.

The first drafts of the reports of the two teams were ready by the middle of 1969. The final studies will be discussed at a technical seminar in 1970, before being submitted to conferences to be held at ministerial level later in the year.

(b) A paper on Economic Co-operation Among African Countries (E/CN.14/WP.1/19) was prepared and presented to the fourth joint meeting of the ECA Working Party on intra-African trade and the OAU Expert Committee on Trade and Development referred to under project 10(a).

(c) A paper on Some Constitutional, Legal and Legislative Aspects of Integration in East Africa 1947-1967 was prepared and presented to the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation seminar in Uppsala in June 1969. The Division was represented at the seminar.

7. Seminar on economic co-operation

Before the reports are submitted at sub-regional meetings on economic co-operation in West and East Africa, this seminar which is scheduled for 1969, should discuss the relations of the two teams from the Centre for Development Planning, Projections and Policies (West and East Africa). As the two reports are not yet available, the seminar could not be held in 1969 and has, therefore, been postponed.

Advisory services on matters relating to economic co-operation

(a) A three-man mission has visited Somalia to assist the Government in the preparations of its negotiations for association with the East African Community.

(b) A member of the ECA secretariat has visited the secretariat of the Permanent Consultative Committee of the Maghreb for consultations on the ECA contribution to the follow-up expected from the signing of the inter-governmental agreement on economic co-operation in the Maghreb.

8. Development and expansion of intra-African trade

(a) Studies of the development of trade in the West African sub-region

A study of existing trade systems in the sub-region was prepared for the joint ECA/CDPPP report referred to under project 6 above. It is hoped that this report will provide the basis for further work in the sub-region, starting in 1970 with identification of products which might be considered for trade concessions.

(b) Studies of the development of trade in the Eastern African sub-region

A study of existing trade systems in the sub-region was prepared for the joint ECA/CDPPP report referred to under project 6 above. It is hoped that this report will provide the basis for further work in the sub-region, starting in 1970 with identification of products which might be considered for trade concessions.

(c) Studies of the development of trade in the North African sub-region

Only preliminary work was undertaken on this project in 1969 on account of the postponement of the inter-governmental meetings in the sub-region.

(d) Studies of development of trade in the Central African sub-region

A Study of Development of Trade in the Central African sub-region (E/CN.14/GA/ECOP/11) was prepared and presented to the sub-regional meeting referred to under project 5(d).

- (e) Study on the means for linking trade liberalization to investment commitments within a multinational grouping

This study will be undertaken in 1970.

Studies not included in the work programme

(a) A Study on the Problems of Trade Promotion in Eastern and Central Africa (WP/ECAS/ECOP/1) and A Study on Problems of Freedom of Access to the Sea by Land-locked States and Transit Problems in Eastern and Central Africa (WP/ECAS/ECOP/2) were prepared and presented to the Eastern and Central African States Sectoral Meeting on Trade and Tourism referred to under project 5.

- 9(a) Studies on trade in commodities or groups of commodities of interest to African countries

A paper on Commodity Problems and Policies: Consultations among Producing Countries (E/CN.14/WP.1/23) was prepared and presented to the fourth joint meeting of the ECA Working Party on Intra-African Trade and the OAU Expert Committee on Trade and Development referred to under project 10(d). An up-to-date study, including proposals for further action, will be submitted to the fifth joint ECA/OAU meeting in 1970.

- 9(b) Identification of manufactured and semi-manufactured goods which are or could be exported by African countries

No work was undertaken on this project in 1969. It is hoped that the project can be started in 1970.

- 9(c) Analysis and assessment of proposals for a general system of preferences

A statistical compendium of African Exports of Manufactures and Semi-manufactures, including Processed and Semi-processed Agricultural Products (E/CN.14/WP.1/22) to provide African Governments with general background data with a view to assisting them in assessing the implications for their trade and development of the introduction of a general system of preferences was prepared and presented to the fourth joint meeting of the ECA Working Party on Intra-African Trade and the OAU Expert Committee on Trade and Development referred to in project 10(a).

The secretariat is now in the process of designing a computer programme with a view to assessing the implications of the offer from the OECD countries on African trade and development. The purpose of the programme will be:

- (i) To enable the secretariat to prepare a general study to be presented to the thirteenth session of the OAU Council of Ministers in February 1970;

- (ii) To put the computer facilities of the ECA at the disposal of individual African countries or groups of countries that might wish to ascertain what benefits or losses they may face as a result of the implementation of the system of global preferences.

A study on the groundrules for the negotiations on the proposed general system of preferences is being prepared. It is hoped that it will be ready in early 1970.

9(d) Proposals for improvement of trade with the developing countries of East Asia

Preparatory work has started on this project, which will be undertaken with the assistance of outside consultants. It is hoped that a study, including proposals for action, will be ready in the latter part of 1970.

10(a) African trade and industrial promotion exhibitions

The Division participated in the seminar of the Union of International Trade Fair in Algiers in June 1969. As a result of the seminar a Standing Committee on Fairs and Exhibitions in Africa has been set up. The ECA is represented on the Committee.

10(b) ECA/GATT courses on commercial policy and trade promotion

Two such courses took place in 1969, one in Tunis for French-speaking participants and one in Nairobi for English-speaking participants. 16 participants from 13 countries attended the French-speaking course, and 17 participants from 11 countries attended the English-speaking course.

Similar courses will be held in 1970.

10(c) Establishment and development of a regional trade promotion centre for Africa

Plans have been finalized with the assistance of a consultant from the UNCTAD/GATT/ITC for the establishment of the centre early in 1970, depending upon the availability of sufficient resources.

While steps were being taken to establish the centre, a number of trade promotion activities were carried out in 1969:

- (i) A paper on the United Nations Export Promotion Programme and Africa (E/CN.14/WP.1/18) was presented to the fourth joint ECA Working Party on Intra-African Trade and the OAU Expert Committee on Trade and Development (project 10 (d));

- (ii) An advisory mission visited Ghana to assist in the preparation of a special fund request for the establishment of national trade promotion machinery;
- (iii) Assistance is provided to the Nigerian Produce Marketing Company for the establishment of a department for commercial research and marketing within the Company.

In view of the uncertainty as regards the availability of resources, the programme of work of the centre for 1970 is not yet finalized. However, the following courses are already envisaged:

- (i) Seminar in export promotion for senior officials from English-speaking countries in February 1970 in co-operation with SIDA and the UNCTAD/GATT/ITC;
- (ii) One training course in trade promotion for English-speaking participants and one for French-speaking participants, each of 18 weeks, during the first half of 1970 in co-operation with UNCTAD/GATT/ITC.

10(d) Meetings of the Working Party on intra-African trade

The third and fourth joint meeting of the ECA Working Party on Intra-African Trade and the OAU Expert Committee on Trade and Development took place in 1969. The reports and the recommendations are published in documents E/CN.14/449 and E/CN.14/459 respectively.

35. Harmonization of fiscal and budgetary procedures and policies with development planning

A final draft of a study has been completed. It is expected that it will be published early in 1970. The study concentrates on the three following sub-projects:

35(a) Study of procedures for the formulation, scrutiny and approval of development projects and their reflection in plans and budgets;

35(b) Study of the formulation of timetables for the preparation of annual development programmes and their reflection in budgets; and

35(c) Study on techniques of revenue forecasting.

35(d) Country studies on the harmonization of fiscal and budgeting procedures and policies with development planning

- (i) Work has started on an analysis of the budgetary procedures of Kenya, Malawi, Sierra Leone and Uganda. The studies will be published early in 1970.

- (ii) Preparation has started on two studies (for Tanzania and Congo (Kinshasa)) on improvement of budgetary and fiscal systems and policies with a view to achieving more effective mobilization of domestic resources for development. Drafts are ready and will be discussed with the Governments concerned before publishing.

35(e) Training course in budget-plan harmonization

The training course will take place in February/March 1970.

35(f) Digest on budgetary administration

This project will be undertaken in 1970.

35(g) Seminar on budget-plan harmonization

The seminar will be held in 1970.

35(h) Study of progress reporting and follow-up of development budgets

The study will be undertaken in 1970.

35(i) Study on accounting and audit structures

This study will be started in 1970 and finalized in 1971.

36(a) Study on patterns of financing public sector investment in selected African countries

This study will be undertaken in 1970.

37(a)(i) Inaugural meeting of the Association of African Central Banks

The inaugural meeting of the Association took place in December 1969. Its report and recommendations will be published in document

37(a)(ii) Study of the possibility of establishing a monetary research centre

This study will be undertaken in 1970 if the Association of African Central Banks so recommends.

37(a)(iii) Comparative study of Central Bank legislation and operations in Africa

Work was started on this study in 1969. It will be published in 1970.

37(b) Study of economic incentives and allied legislation for industrial development and capital investment

Work was started on this study in 1969. It will be published in 1970.

37(c)(i) Study of international assistance to Africa

A Statistical Compendium on Flow of Resources to Africa (E/CN.14/AMA/21) was prepared and submitted to the fourth joint meeting of the ECA Working Party on Intra-African Trade and the OAU Expert Committee on Trade and Development (project 10(d)), the Joint ECA/OAU/ADB/OCAM meeting on Monetary Issues and Finance (project 38(c)), and the Inaugural Meeting of the Association of African Central Banks (project 37(a)(i)).

Work has started on a study with a view to modifying the institutional mechanisms which govern the flow of international assistance to Africa. It is expected that it will be finalized in 1970 and submitted to a Ministerial Meeting (project 37(c)(ii)).

37(c)(ii) Meeting of Ministers of Finance and Economic Affairs for the creation of a special fund for African development

It is hoped that the meeting can be convened in the latter part of 1970.

37(f) Study of the savings' role of co-operatives and insurance companies in selected African countries

Work has started on this study. It will be published in 1970.

37(g) Study of the scope and development of corporate savings in selected African countries

This study will be undertaken in 1970.

37(h) Study of the structure of savings in selected African countries

This study will be undertaken in 1970.

38(a) Payments and clearing systems among African countries

A paper with Suggested General Guidelines on Payments Arrangements in Africa (E/CN.14/AMA/20/Rev.1) was prepared and submitted to the inaugural meeting of the Association of African Central Banks. Further action will be influenced by the recommendations of that meeting.

38(b) International monetary issues

A paper on International Liquidity Creation: Implications for African Countries (E/CN.14/WP.1/20) was presented to the fourth joint meeting of the ECA Working Party on Intra-African Trade and the OAU Expert Committee on Trade and Development (project 10(d)), the joint ECA/OAU/ADB/OCAM meeting on Monetary Issues and Finance (project 38(c)) and the inaugural meeting of the Association of African Central Banks (project 37(a)).

38(c) Joint ECA/OAU meetings on monetary issues and finance

This meeting took place in 1969 in Washington in co-operation with the ADB and OCAM. A similar meeting will be held in 1970.

New project: Study of relations between African currencies and the currencies of the developed countries

This study will be undertaken following a recommendation of the fourth joint meeting of the ECA Working Party on Intra-African Trade and the OAU Expert Committee on Trade and Development. According to this recommendation the study should bring out clearly the effects of such special relationships on the foreign trade of African developing countries, particularly with regard to their export potential. It is hoped that a progress report can be submitted to the fifth joint ECA/OAU meeting in 1970.

69. Studies on the development prospects and the special problems of the least developed African countries and of measures to promote their development

A paper on Special Measures in Favour of the Least Developed Among Developing Countries (E/CN.14/WP.1/21) was prepared and presented to the fourth joint meeting of the ECA Working Party on Intra-African Trade and the OAU Expert Committee on Trade and Development referred to in project 10(d).

As a result of the efforts of African countries in the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board, a resolution (6)(IX) recommending the convening of an expert group to consider this problem within UNCTAD and inviting the General Assembly to consider how other organs of the United Nations system can contribute, was adopted by the Board at its ninth session.

The UNCTAD expert group has met and the ECA was represented on the Group.

It recommended inter alia the establishment of an ad hoc committee to deal with the problem. The General Assembly has adopted a resolution requesting the Secretary-General to carry out, in consultation with the UN specialized agencies, the Regional Economic Commissions, the Committee for Development Planning and the UNCTAD expert group, a comprehensive examination of this problem and to recommend special measures. It is expected that following the above recommendations the joint project of the substantive Divisions of the ECA as envisaged in the work programme adopted by the ninth session of the Commission can be established.

- - - - -

ANNEX

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION 1969

Project Number	Project Title	Status of Implementation				Comments
		Scheduled	Completed	Cancelled	Delayed	
10(a)(i)	African trade and industrial promotion exhibition (1969)	X				
5(a)	West African sub-regional meeting on economic co-operation (1969)				X	CDPPP/ECA Report not ready yet
5(b)	East African sub-regional meeting on economic co-operation (1969)				X	CDPPP/ECA Report not ready yet
5(c)	North African sub-regional meeting on economic co-operation (1969)				X	Postponed at request Maghreb countries
6(b)	Study of the prerequisites for multinational co-operation (1969)				X	Under preparation
7(a)	Seminar on economic co-operation (1969)				X	CDPPP/ECA Report not ready yet
8(a)(i)	Study of existing trade systems in West Africa (1969-1970)		X			
8(b)(i)	Study of existing trade systems in East Africa (1969-1970)		X			
8(c)(i)	Study of existing trade systems in North Africa (1969-1970)		X			
8(d)(i)	Study of existing trade systems in Central Africa (1969-1970)		X			
9(a)(i)	Study of trade in selected commodities (1969)		X			

E/CN.14/TECO/7
Annex

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION 1969 (Cont'd.)

Project Number	Project Title	Status of Implementation			Comments
		AS Scheduled	Completed	Cancelled	
9(b)	Identification of manufactured and semi-manufactured goods which are or could be exported by African countries (1969-1970)	X			
9(c)	Analysis and assessment of proposals for a general system of preference (1969-1970)	X			
10(b)(i)	ECA/GATT course on foreign trade and commercial policy (English: 1969)			December 1969	
10(b)(ii)	ECA/GATT course on foreign trade and commercial policy (French: 1969)			September 1969	
10(c)	Establishment and development of a trade promotion centre for Africa (1969-1970)	X		Jan. 1969 E.CN.14/449	
10(d)(i)	Meeting of the working party on Intra-African trade (1969)			Aug. 1969 E.CN.14/459	Draft completed and circulated
35(a)	Study of procedures for the formulation, scrutiny and approval of development projects and their reflection in plans and budgets (1969)			X	
35(b)	Study on the formulation of time-tables for the preparation of annual development programmes and their reflection in budgets (1969)			X	Draft completed and circulated

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION 1969 (Cont'd.)

Project Number	Project Title	Status of Implementation				Comments
		As Scheduled	Completed	Cancelled	Delayed	
35(c)	Study on techniques of revenue forecasting (1969)		X			Draft completed and circulated
35(d)	Country studies on the harmonization of fiscal and budgeting procedures and policies with development planning (1969-1970)	X				
37(a)(ii)	Study of the possibility of establishing a monetary research centre (1969-1970)				X	Approval by the Association of African Central Banks of the study is needed
37(a)(iii)	Comparative study of central bank legislation and operations in Africa (1969-1970)	X				
37(b)	Study of economic incentives and allied legislation for industrial development and capital investment (1969-1970)	X				
38(a)	Payments and clearing systems among African countries (1969-1970)	X				
5(d)	Central African sub-regional meeting on economic co-operation (1969)				17/22 Nov. 1969	
6(a)	Organization of the Sub-regions in Africa (1969)	X				
9(d)	Proposals for improvement of trade with the developing countries of East Africa (1969-1970)	X				
	Inter-governmental meeting on trade and tourism for East and Central Africa				19/23 Dec. 1969	

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION 1969 (Cont'd.)

Project Number	Project Title	Status of Implementation				Comments
		AS Scheduled	Completed	Cancelled	Delayed	
35(e)	Training course in budget-plan harmonization (1969)				X	No rooms available in Africa Hall or scheduled dates
37(a)(i)	Inaugural meeting of the association of African central Banks (1969)		15/18 Dec. 1969			
37(c)(i)	Study of International assistance to Africa (1969)				X	
37(f)	Study of the savings-role of co-operatives and insurance companies				X	
38(b)	International monetary issues				X	
38(c)	Joint ECA/OAU meeting on monetary issues and finance		Sept. 1969			